

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Amy Tolcin, Tin Commodity Specialist (Acting)
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4940, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: atolcin@usgs.gov

Linda M. White (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7986
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: lwhite@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

TIN IN OCTOBER 2013

Domestic consumption of primary tin in October 2013 was reported to be 1,840 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from that in September 2013 and 15% more than that in October 2012. For the first 10 months of 2013, imports of refined tin were 30,300 t, essentially unchanged from imports in the comparable period of 2012. Peru, Bolivia, Indonesia, and Malaysia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in the first 10 months of 2013.

The Platts Metals Week average composite price of tin for October 2013 was \$14.02 per pound, slightly more than the September 2013 average price and 8% more than the October 2012 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of tin for October 2013 was \$23,123 per metric ton, slightly more than the September 2013 average price and 8% more than the October 2012 average price. During October 2013, global LME stocks of tin decreased by 410 t to 12,830 t.

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2013			
	2012 ^p	September	October	January– October ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	11,000	918	918	9,180
Reported consumption:				
Primary	24,500	1,850 ^r	1,840	18,500
Secondary	3,240	229	229	2,290
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	36,900	1,960	2,690	30,300
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,560	603	436	5,170
Stocks at end of period	6,470	6,580 ^r	6,570	6,570
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week composite ⁵	1,283.37	1,374.22	1,402.22	1,346.52
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	989.60	1,058.56	1,070.72	1,037.15
London Metal Exchange cash	957.26	1,031.43	1,048.85	1,007.14
Kuala Lumpur	958.44	1,027.11	1,052.03	1,007.27

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

⁴Source: Platts Metals Week.

⁵The Metals Week composite price is a calculated formula, not a market price, that includes fixed and finance charges and a risk factor. It is normally substantially higher than other tin prices.

TABLE 2
METALS WEEK COMPOSITE PRICE¹

(Cents per pound)

Period	High	Low	Average
2012	1,719.32	1,020.42	1,283.37
2013:			
January	1,515.09	1,438.85	1,485.79
February	1,506.82	1,405.01	1,471.11
March	1,448.13	1,375.21	1,412.80
April	1,393.02	1,238.56	1,318.70
May	1,293.89	1,210.20	1,261.58
June	1,279.40	1,191.82	1,235.90
July	1,223.65	1,173.38	1,194.01
August	1,338.13	1,247.04	1,308.88
September	1,415.36	1,287.22	1,374.22
October	1,437.20	1,040.05	1,402.22

¹The Metals Week composite price is a calculated formula, not a market price, that includes fixed and finance charges and a risk factor. It is normally substantially higher than other tin prices.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Tinplate (all forms)			
		Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)
		Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2012	16,300	1,160,000 ^r	6,090 ^r	5.2 ^r	1,470,000
2013:					
January	1,440	89,800	506	5.6	120,000
February	1,190	92,500	516	5.6	115,000
March	1,540	89,400	546	6.1	116,000
April	1,730	75,800	513	6.8	130,000
May	1,230	80,900	523	6.5	121,000
June	1,800	75,800	516	6.8	119,000
July	2,350 ^r	69,600 ^r	532 ^r	7.6 ^r	130,000
August	4,360 ^r	91,100 ^r	551 ^r	6.1 ^r	125,000
September	1,370 ^r	82,200 ^r	523 ^r	6.4 ^r	111,000
October	2,200	64,900	495	7.6	106,000

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS¹

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2013			
	2012	September	October	January– October
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	625	--	2	218
Bolivia	5,100	440	557	6,080
Brazil	2,930	116	245	2,530
China	174	19	5	1,300
Indonesia	6,180	382	321	5,260
Malaysia	4,590	60	225	2,760
Peru	14,500	794	1,330	9,760
Singapore	424	--	--	101
Thailand	1,750	150	--	2,230
Other	676	(2)	1	27
Total	36,900	1,960	2,690	30,300
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,480	130	86	1,090
Bars and rods	1,800	162	120	1,340
Foil, tubes, pipes	83	2	17	79
Plates, sheets, strip	60	--	1	75
Waste and scrap	72,500	6,060	4,990	52,900
Miscellaneous ³	2,260	150	99	2,770
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,560	603	436	5,170

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

³Includes tin powders and flakes (HTS code 8007.00.3200) and other articles of tin not elsewhere specified or included (HTS code 8007.00.5000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
REPORTED CONSUMPTION OF TIN IN THE UNITED STATES, BY FINISHED PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2013							
	2012 ^p	September			October			January– October ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,950	670	4	674	661	4	665	6,660
Babbitt	281	18	W	18	17	W	17	690
Bronze and brass	2,460	86	82	168	89	82	171	1,720
Chemicals	9,860	251	W	251	276	W	276	2,570
Solder	4,900	223 ^r	W	223 ^r	225	W	225	3,110
Tinning	467	16	--	16	18	--	18	199
Tinplate ⁴	6,090	523 ^r	W	523 ^r	495	W	495	5,230
Other ⁵	733	60	145	205	60	145	205	648
Total reported	27,700	1,850 ^r	229	2,080 ^r	1,840	229	2,070	20,800

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." -- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes terne metal.

⁴Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁵Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.