

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

Charles S. Anderson, Tin Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4985, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: csanderson@usgs.gov

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

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

## TIN IN DECEMBER 2013

Domestic consumption of primary tin in December 2013 was 1,840 metric tons (t), a slight increase from that in November 2013 and 17% less than that in December 2012. For 2013, imports of refined tin were 34,900 t, 5% less than imports in the comparable period of 2012. Peru, Bolivia, Indonesia, and Malaysia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in 2013.

The Platts Metals Week average composite price of tin for December 2013 was \$13.80 per pound, essentially unchanged from the November 2013 and December 2012 average prices. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of tin for December 2013 was \$22,824 per metric ton, essentially unchanged from the November 2013 and December 2012 average prices. During December 2013, global LME stocks of tin decreased by 1,220 t to 9,660 t.

TABLE 1  
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2013			
	2012 <sup>p</sup>	November	December	January–December <sup>2</sup>
Production, secondary <sup>e,3</sup>	11,000 <sup>r</sup>	931 <sup>r</sup>	931	11,200
Reported consumption:				
Primary	24,500	1,800 <sup>r</sup>	1,840	23,500
Secondary	3,240	226 <sup>r</sup>	207	2,700
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	36,900	2,570	2,120	34,900
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,560	377	316	5,870
Stocks at end of period	6,470	6,480	6,520	6,520
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>4</sup>				
Metals Week composite <sup>5</sup>	1,283.37	1,384.10	1,379.80	1,352.43
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	989.60	1,060.69	1,065.07	1,040.43
London Metal Exchange cash	957.26	1,036.31	1,035.27	1,011.92
Kuala Lumpur	958.44	1,037.61	1,031.88	1,011.85

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

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

<sup>4</sup>Source: Platts Metals Week.

<sup>5</sup>The 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 PRICE<sup>1</sup>

(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
November	1,391.17	1,369.79	1,384.10
December	1,404.65	1,364.38	1,379.80

<sup>1</sup>The 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 STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)				
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Production		Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	Shipments <sup>2</sup> (gross weight)
		Gross weight	Tin content		
2012	16,300	1,160,000	6,090	5.2	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	95,800 <sup>r</sup>	513	5.4 <sup>r</sup>	130,000
May	1,230	101,000 <sup>r</sup>	523	5.2 <sup>r</sup>	121,000
June	1,800	95,900 <sup>r</sup>	516	5.4 <sup>r</sup>	119,000
July	2,350	89,600 <sup>r</sup>	532	5.9 <sup>r</sup>	130,000
August	4,360	111,000 <sup>r</sup>	551	5.0 <sup>r</sup>	125,000
September	1,370	102,000 <sup>r</sup>	523	5.1 <sup>r</sup>	111,000
October	2,200	84,900 <sup>r</sup>	495	5.8 <sup>r</sup>	106,000
November	653	87,200 <sup>r</sup>	505	5.8 <sup>r</sup>	86,400
December	966	89,800	519	5.8	104,000

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4  
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2012	2013		
		November	December	January– December
<b>Imports:</b>				
<b>Metal (unwrought tin):</b>				
Belgium	625	--	--	218
Bolivia	5,100	261	171	6,510
Brazil	2,930	230	340	3,100
China	174	39	271	1,610
Indonesia	6,180	154	145	5,560
Malaysia	4,590	934	495	4,190
Peru	14,500	848	640	11,300
Singapore	424	--	--	101
Thailand	1,750	100	50	2,380
Other	676	1	2	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,900</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>2,120</b>	<b>34,900</b>
<b>Other (gross weight):</b>				
Alloys	1,480	149	143	1,390
Bars and rods	1,800	116	134	1,590
Foil, tubes, pipes	83	5	1	85
Plates, sheets, strip	60	9	17	100
Waste and scrap	72,500	5,630	5,140	63,700
Miscellaneous <sup>2</sup>	2,260	133	173	3,080
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,560	377	316	5,870

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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 PRODUCT<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013						January– December <sup>2</sup>
		November			December			
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	2,950	650 <sup>r</sup>	2	652 <sup>r</sup>	780	2	782	8,280
Babbitt	281	17 <sup>r</sup>	W	17 <sup>r</sup>	17	W	17	731
Bronze and brass	2,460	94	81 <sup>r</sup>	175 <sup>r</sup>	43	61	104	2,000
Chemicals	9,860	232 <sup>r</sup>	W	232 <sup>r</sup>	194	W	194	4,080
Solder	4,900	229 <sup>r</sup>	W	229 <sup>r</sup>	198	W	198	3,830
Tinning	467	16	--	16	23	--	23	238
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	6,090	505	W	505	519	W	519	6,250
Other <sup>5</sup>	733	60	145	205	70	145	215	787
<b>Total reported</b>	<b>27,700</b>	<b>1,800 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>226 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>2,030 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>26,200</b>

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includesterne metal.

<sup>4</sup>Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

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