

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

C. Schuyler Anderson, Tin Commodity Specialist
 National Minerals Information Center
 U.S. Geological Survey
 989 National Center
 Reston, VA 20192
 Telephone: (703) 648-4985, Fax: (703) 648-7757
 Email: csanderson@usgs.gov

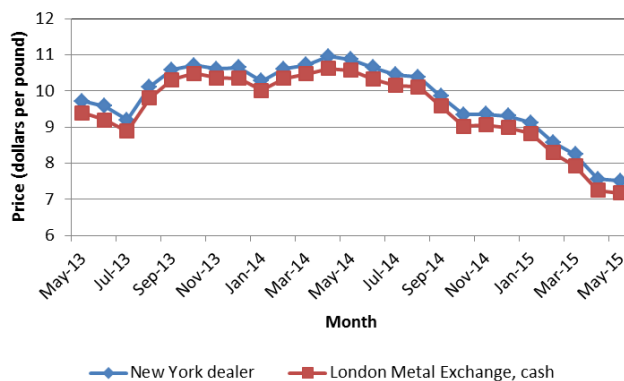
Linda M. Barnes (Data)
 Telephone: (703) 648-7986
 Fax: (703) 648-7975
 Email: lwhite@usgs.gov

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

TIN IN MAY 2015

Domestic reported consumption of primary tin in May 2015 was 1,970 metric tons (t), a slight increase from that in April 2015 but a slight increase from that of May 2014. Bolivia, Peru, Indonesia, and Malaysia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in May 2015.

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for May 2015 was \$7.51 per pound, essentially unchanged from the April 2015 average price of \$7.56 per pound and a 31% decrease from the May 2014 average price of \$10.86 per pound. The monthly average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price for tin was 15,818.55 per metric ton (\$7.18 per pound), slightly less than that in April 2015, and 32% less than that in May 2014. During May 2015, global London Metal Exchange Ltd. stocks of tin decreased by 1,755 t to 7,315 t, based on unrounded data.



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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2014 ^p	2015		
		April	May	January– May ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	11,100	880 ^r	880	3,470
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,300	2,000	1,970	9,810
Secondary	2,920	241	241	1,210
Imports for consumption, refined tin	35,600	3,400	3,200	14,100
Exports, refined tin and tin alloys	5,700	232	508	1,710
Stocks at end of period	6,970	6,960	6,880	6,880
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,023.05	756.00	756.00	820.21
London Metal Exchange cash	993.75	724.80	717.52	789.15
Kuala Lumpur	992.53	NA	NA	NA

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not available.

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.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash	Kuala Lumpur
2014:			
May	1,086.44	1,056.98	1,055.14
June	1,064.38	1,032.72	1,035.47
July	1,044.89	1,014.89	1,018.88
August	1,038.00	1,010.75	1,013.19
September	985.81	957.77	960.81
October	934.36	902.78	902.65
November	936.11	905.46	903.36
December	930.88	899.03	896.34
January–December	1,023.05	993.75	992.53
2015:			
January	912.21	882.38	NA
February	858.03	829.36	NA
March	823.67	791.68	NA
April	756.00	724.80	NA
May	751.13	717.52	NA
January–May	820.21	789.15	NA

NA Not available.

Source: Platts Metals Daily.

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)				Shipments ² (gross weight)
		Production		Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)		
		Gross weight	Tin content			
2014:						
May	2,330	92,500	502	5.4	120,000	
June	2,910	93,600	505	5.4	123,000	
July	2,800	90,200	490	5.4	115,000	
August	2,930	87,400	476	5.4	110,000	
September	3,820	98,900	489	4.9	116,000	
October	4,970	79,500	442	5.6	108,000	
November	4,970	80,200	459	5.7	78,500	
December	4,970	80,800	453	5.6	85,000	
January–December	32,900	1,030,000	5,680	5.5	1,300,000	
2015:						
January	4,970	80,700	458	5.7	110,000	
February	4,970	60,700	450	7.4	85,600	
March	4,970	69,200	482	7.0	103,000	
April	4,970	76,500	500	6.5	106,000	
May	4,970	70,000	491	7.0	95,100	
January–May	24,900	357,000	2,380	6.7	499,000	

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

²Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

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

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2014	2015		
		April	May	January– May
Imports:				
Metal (refined tin):				
Belgium	219	130	175	914
Bolivia	4,550	685	1,380	3,200
Brazil	3,030	315	341	1,140
China	3,470	148	44	649
Indonesia	8,140	535	421	2,090
Malaysia	6,050	945	395	3,440
Peru	9,260	640	442	2,560
Singapore	375	--	--	--
Thailand	291	--	--	25
Other	218	2	--	139
Total	35,600	3,400	3,200	14,100
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,570	309	169	1,050
Bars and rods	1,890	95	106	467
Foil, tubes, pipes	90	20	8	43
Plates, sheets, strip	116	7	8	35
Waste and scrap	49,700	3,820	2,840	15,100
Miscellaneous ²	2,240	84	137	488
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,700	232	508	1,710

-- Zero.

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

²Includes 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	2014 ^p	2015						
		April			May			January– May
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	3,560	218	2	220	217	2	219	1,100
Babbitt	340	22	W	22	22	W	22	128
Bronze and brass	1,710	62	86	148	59	86	145	729
Chemicals	5,440	467	W	467	456	W	456	2,310
Solder	4,160	197	W	197	197	W	197	1,700
Tinning	584	33	--	33	32	--	32	164
Tinplate ³	5,680	500	W	500	491	W	491	2,380
Other ⁴	4,740	498	152	650	498	152	650	2,510
Total reported	26,200	2,000	241	2,240	1,970	241	2,210	11,000

^pPreliminary. 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.

²Includes terne metal.

³Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁴Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.