

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN AUGUST 2015

Domestic reported consumption of primary tin in August 2015 was 2,020 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from that in July 2015 and slightly more than that in August 2014. Total refined tin imports for August were 3,050 t, an increase of 26% from July 2015 (fig. 1). Malaysia, Peru, Indonesia, and Brazil were, in descending order by tonnage, the leading sources of refined tin imports in August 2015 (table 4).

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for August 2015 was \$6.94 per pound, essentially unchanged from the July 2015 price of \$6.99 per pound and a decrease of 33% from the August 2014 average price of \$10.38 per pound (fig. 2, table 2).

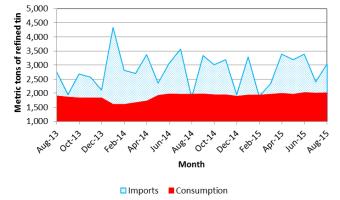


Figure 1. Domestic imports and consumption of refined tin from August 2013 through August 2015. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Geological Survey.

During August 2015, U.S industry stocks of tin decreased by 400 t to 6,970 t, and global London Metal Exchange Ltd. stocks of tin increased by 90 t to 6,730 t.



Figure 2. Average monthly prices for tin from August 2013 through August 2015. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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TABLE 1 SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

		2015		
				January–
	2014 ^p	July	August	August ²
Production, secondary ^{e, 3}	11,100	880	880	6,110
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,300	2,010 r	2,020	16,000
Secondary	2,920	241	241	1,930
Imports for consumption, refined tin	35,600	2,420	3,050	23,000
Exports, refined tin and tin alloys	5,700	389	318	2,680
Stocks at end of period	6,970	7,360 ^r	6,970	6,970
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,020.00	698.89	693.67	776.77
London Metal Exchange cash	993.75	678.30	690.31	749.40
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)

	London				
	Metals Week	Metal			
	New York	Exchange	Kuala		
Period	dealer, Grade A	cash	Lumpur		
2014:					
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		
June	720.56	680.84	NA		
July	698.89	678.30	NA		
August	693.67	690.31	NA		
January-August	776.77	749.40	NA		

NA Not available.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3 TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES $^{\rm 1}$

			Tinpla	te (all forms)	
	-		Production	Shipments ²	
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) Gross		Tin		
Period	(gross weight)	weight	content	(kilograms)	(gross weight)
2014:	_				
August	2,930	70,900 ^r	393 ^r	5.5 ^r	110,000
September	3,820	82,400 r	406 r	4.9	116,000
October	4,970	63,000 ^r	359 ^r	5.7 ^r	108,000
November	3,270 ^r	65,600 r	386 ^r	5.9 ^r	78,500
December	3,110 ^r	65,800 ^r	384 ^r	5.8 ^r	85,000
January-December	29,300 ^r	831,000 ^r	4,710 ^r	5.7 ^r	1,300,000
2015:					
January	4,600 ^r	78,500 ^r	467 ^r	5.9 ^r	110,000
February		57,900 r	463 ^r	8.0 r	85,600
March	4,450 ^r	67,000 ^r	483 ^r	7.2 ^r	103,000
April	4,210 ^r	75,400 ^r	507 ^r	6.7 ^r	106,000
May	4,210 ^r	68,800 ^r	499 ^r	7.3 ^r	95,100
June	3,510 ^r	76,000 ^r	501 ^r	6.6	97,000
July	3,450 ^r	76,200 r	516 ^r	6.8	101,000
August	3,450	79,900	524	6.6	95,400
January-August	31,700	580,000	3,960	6.9	793,000

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

^rRevised.

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)

				January-
Country or product	2014	July	August	August ²
Imports:				
Metal (refined tin):				
Belgium	219	2	2	918
Bolivia	4,550	86	255	4,360
Brazil	3,030	125	324	1,850
China	3,470	140		1,100
Indonesia	8,140	951	340	4,070
Malaysia	6,050	615	1,450	6,280
Peru	9,260	472	580	4,140
Singapore	375		100	125
Thailand	291	20 r		20
Other	218	2 ^r	1	143
Total	35,600	2,420	3,050	23,000
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,570	248	177	1,730
Bars and rods	1,890	147	112	895
Foil, tubes, pipes	90	4	17	83
Plates, sheets, strip	116	12	10	64
Waste and scrap	49,700	3,120	3,170	24,900
Miscellaneous ³	2,240	127	88	933
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,700	389	318	2,680

-- Zero. "Revised.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

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)

		2015						
		July				January-		
Product	2014 ^p	Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	August
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	3,560	217	2	219	218	2	220	1,760
Babbitt	340	23	W	23	22	W	22	204
Bronze and brass	1,710	58 ^r	86	144 ^r	57	86	143	1,160
Chemicals	5,440	439	W	439	436	W	436	3,660
Solder	4,160	228	W	228	228	W	228	2,850
Tinning	584	33		33	32		32	263
Tinplate ⁴	5,680	516 ^r	W	516 ^r	524	W	524	3,960
Other ⁵	4,740	498	152	650	498	152	650	4,020
Total reported	26,200	2,010 r	241	2,250 r	2,020	241	2,260	17,900

^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.