

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 DECEMBER 2016

Domestic reported consumption of primary tin in December 2016 was 1,890 metric tons (t), a slight decrease from that of the revised consumption of November 2016. Total refined tin imports for December 2016 were 2,290 t, a decrease of 35% from those in the previous month (table 4). The leading sources of refined tin in December and for 2016 were, in descending order, Indonesia, Malaysia, Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil.

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for December was \$9.91 per pound, essentially unchanged from the November price of \$9.90 per pound, and an increase of 43% from the December 2015 average price of \$6.92 per pound (figure 1, table 2).

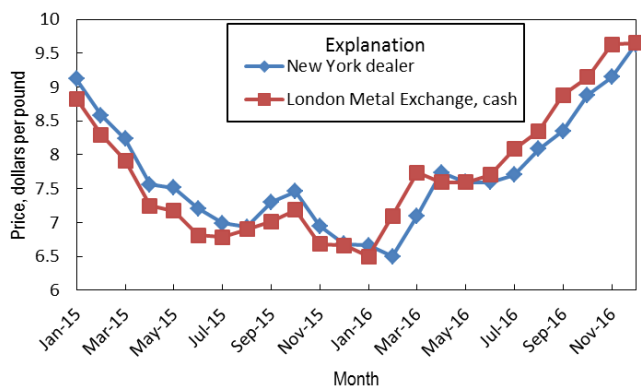


Figure 1. Platts Metals Week average New York dealer and London Metal Exchange cash price for tin from January 2015 through December 2016.

The application of Kasbah Resources Ltd. (Australia) to be acquired by Asian Mineral Resources Ltd. (AMR) (Canada) was dismissed by the Federal Court of Australia owing to objections raised by a minority (8%) of dissenting shareholders after the accounting firm BDO acknowledged a fundamental error calculating the fair value of Kasbah shares, which resulted in a low offer by AMR. Trading of Kasbah shares on the Australian Securities Exchange was suspended, and the court also ordered Kasbah to pay reasonable costs of the objecting shareholders expenses. Kasbah is the majority (75%) owner of the Achmmach Tin project in Morocco (ITRI Ltd., 2016; Kasbah Resources Ltd., 2016).

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References Cited

ITRI Ltd., 2016, Kasbah deal falls through: Frogmore, United Kingdom, ITRI Ltd. news release, December 13. (Accessed January 15, 2017, at <https://www.itri.co.uk/tin-explorers/news-7/kasbah-deal-falls-through.>)
 Kasbah Resources Ltd., 2016, Results of second court hearing: Perth, Western Australia, Australia, Kasbah Resources Ltd. news release, December 12. (Accessed February 28, 2017, at <https://www.kasbahresources.com/index.php/investor-centre/asx-releases?task=document.download&id=363.>)

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2016			
	2015 ^p	November	December	January–December ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	10,100	838	835	10,100
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,700	1,940 ^r	1,880	23,300
Secondary	2,940	225 ^r	227	2,600
Imports for consumption, refined tin	33,600	3,500	2,290	32,200
Exports, refined tin	807	121	115	1,150
Stocks at end of period	7,090	6,480 ^r	6,470	6,470
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	756.43	989.71	990.63	838.76
London Metal Exchange cash	729.18	962.89	964.98	815.41

^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.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2015:		
December	691.67	666.51
January–December	756.43	729.18
2016:		
January	649.63	623.55
February	735.89	709.75
March	799.25	773.78
April	799.25	773.81
May	777.89	759.20
June	789.00	770.24
July	828.00	808.64
August	852.78	834.85
September	912.11	888.22
October	941.00	914.97
November	989.71	962.89
December	990.63	964.98
January–December	838.76	815.41

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)				
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)
		Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2015:					
December	3,010	59,100	364	6.1	74,900
January–December	43,800	812,000	4,650	5.7	1,120,000
2016:					
January	3,010	63,400	474	7.5	76,300
February	3,010	67,300	693	10.3	80,600
March	3,010	66,800	689	10.3	92,500
April	2,310	47,500	687	14.5	88,800
May	2,310	52,000	693	13.3	93,400
June	2,310	50,900	691 ^r	13.6	96,200
July	2,310	52,300	701	13.4	85,100
August	2,310	51,400	705 ^r	13.7	89,400
September	2,310	44,200	684	15.5	80,600
October	2,310	39,900	676	16.9 ^r	74,700
November	2,310	46,700	695	14.9	73,700
December	--	29,200	458	15.7	78,600
January–December	27,500	612,000	7,850	13.3	1,010,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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, gross weight)

Country or product	2015	2016		
		November	December	January– December ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	917	--	(3)	309
Bolivia	6,260	680	235	6,170
Brazil	2,950	200	163	2,120
Canada	32	(3)	2	48
China	1,230	--	10	229
Hong Kong	125	--	--	--
Indonesia	5,210	1,100	902	8,580
Malaysia	9,990	670	475	7,560
Netherlands	35	--	--	33
Peru	6,600	695	443	6,590
Singapore	225	100	--	176
Thailand	20	58	61	392
Other	8	--	--	4
Total	33,600	3,500	2,290	32,200
Other:				
Alloys	2,720	172	177	1,910
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,220	136 ^r	64	1,200
Flakes and powders	238	34	10	202
Foil	96	3	18	86
Plates, sheets, strip	90	8	9	94
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	12	--	--	1
Waste and scrap	32,700	2,150	2,390	27,200
Miscellaneous ⁴	1,250 ^r	50	59	925
Exports:				
Refined tin	807	121	115	1,150
Alloys	2,540	87	116	1,050

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴Includes 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	2015 ^p	2016						January– December ²
		November			December			
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,640	224 ^r	--	224 ^r	218	--	218	2,680
Babbitt	305	21 ^r	W	21 ^r	21	W	21	306
Bronze and brass	1,760	60 ^r	87	147 ^r	55	87	142	1,760
Chemicals	5,440	224	W	224	420	W	420	3,190
Solder	4,200	188 ^r	W	188 ^r	188	W	188	3,630
Tinning	392	29 ^r	--	29 ^r	30	--	30	364
Tinplate ⁴	5,840	695	W	695	458	W	458	7,910
Other ⁵	6,020	495 ^r	137 ^r	632 ^r	495	139	634	6,060
Total reported	26,600	1,940 ^r	225 ^r	2,160 ^r	1,880	227	2,110	25,900

^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.

³Includesterne 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.