

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN FEBRUARY 2017

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in February 2017 was 1,900 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from that in January 2017 (table 1). Total refined tin imports for February 2017 were 1,680 t, a decrease of 34% from those in the previous month (table 4). The leading sources of refined tin in February were, in descending order, Peru, Malaysia, Bolivia, and Indonesia. Imports of refined tin from Indonesia declined by 77% to 250 t in February 2017.

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for February was \$9.10 per pound, a decrease of 6% from the January price of \$9.68 per pound, and an increase of 24% from the February 2016 average price of \$7.36 per pound (fig. 1, table 2).

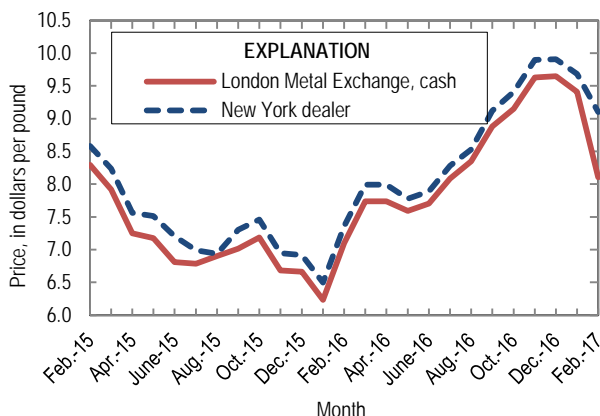


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from February 2015 through February 2017. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2016 ^p	2017		
		January	February	January– February
Production, secondary ^{c,2}	10,100	808	808	1,620
Reported consumption:				
Primary	25,900	1,910	1,900	3,820
Secondary	2,600	227	227	454
Imports for consumption, refined tin	32,200	2,560	1,680	4,230
Exports, refined tin	1,150	132	93	225
Stocks at end of period	6,510	6,490	6,550	6,550
Prices (average cents per pound): ³				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	838.76	968.00	909.88	938.94
London Metal Exchange cash	815.41	940.81	810.32	875.56

^cEstimated. ^pPreliminary.

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

²Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

³Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2016:		
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
2017:		
January	968.00	940.81
February	909.88	810.32
January–February	938.94	875.56

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)	
2016:					
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	13.6	96,200
July	2,310	52,300	701	13.4	85,100
August	2,310	51,400	705	13.7	89,400
September	2,310	44,200	684	15.5	80,600
October	2,310	39,900	676	16.9	74,700
November	2,310	46,700	695	14.9	73,700
December	2,310	41,100	454	11.0	78,600
January–December	29,800	623,000	7,840	12.9	1,010,000
2017:					
January	2,310	41,600	444	10.7	62,500
February	2,310	45,500	449	9.9	67,800
January–February	4,620	87,100	893	10.3	130,000

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, gross weight)

Country or product	2016	2017		
		January	February	January– February
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	309	6	4	10
Bolivia	6,170	452	266	718
Brazil	2,120	75	25	100
Canada	48	11	1	12
China	229	--	20	20
Indonesia	8,580	1,070	250	1,320
Malaysia	7,560	225	320	545
Netherlands	33	--	(2)	(2)
Peru	6,590	679	729	1,410
Singapore	176	--	--	--
Thailand	392	40	20	61
Other	5 ^r	--	41	41
Total	32,200	2,560	1,680	4,230
Other:				
Alloys	1,910	119	83	202
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,200	117	81	198
Flakes and powders	202	2	14	16
Foil	86	1	1	2
Plates, sheets, strip	94	7	3	10
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	1	(2)	--	(2)
Waste and scrap	27,200	3,650	3,720	7,370
Miscellaneous ³	927 ^r	52	59	110
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,150	132	93	225
Alloys	1,050	31	44	75

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

³Includes 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	2016 ^p	2017						
		January			February			January– February
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	2,680	220	--	220	220	--	220	440
Babbitt	306	21	W	21	21	W	21	42
Bronze and brass	1,760	55	87	142	55	87	142	284
Chemicals	3,190	439	W	439	448	W	448	887
Solder	3,640	208	W	208	187	W	187	395
Tinning	364	31	--	31	30	--	30	61
Tinplate ³	7,910	444	W	444	449	W	449	893
Other ⁴	6,060	495	139	634	495	139	634	1,270
Total reported	25,900	1,910	227	2,140	1,900	227	2,130	4,270

^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.