

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN NOVEMBER 2017

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in November 2017 was 1,950 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from the reported consumption in October 2017 (table 1). Apparent consumption of refined tin in November was 3,510 t, a 12% decrease from the October apparent consumption of 4,000 t. Total refined tin imports for November 2017 were 2,800 t, a 14% decrease from those in the previous month (table 4), owing mostly to a decrease in imports from Peru. The leading sources of refined tin in November were, in descending order, Indonesia, Malaysia, Bolivia, Peru, and Brazil.

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for November was \$9.09 per pound, 5% less than the October price of \$9.57 per pound and an 8% decrease from the November 2016 average price of \$9.90 per pound (fig. 1, table 2).

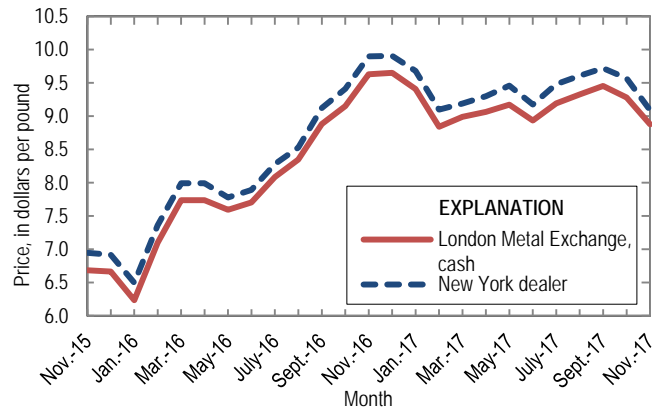


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from November 2015 through November 2017. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2016 ^p	2017		
		October	November	January– November ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	10,300	858	858	9,420
Reported consumption:				
Primary	25,900	1,960	1,950	21,400
Secondary	2,600	227	222	2,430
Imports for consumption, refined tin	32,200	3,250	2,800	31,500
Exports, refined tin	1,150	113	144	1,450
Stocks at end of period	6,510	6,560	6,730	6,730
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	838.76	956.89	908.67	939.67
London Metal Exchange cash	815.41	928.02	887.55	913.96

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary.

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
2016:		
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	884.05
March	919.00	899.00
April	929.88	906.37
May	945.89	917.26
June	917.44	893.42
July	948.00	919.02
August	960.78	932.57
September	972.00	945.44
October	956.89	928.02
November	908.67	887.55
January–November	939.67	913.96

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:					
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	12.6	1,010,000
2017:					
January	2,310	41,600	444	10.7	62,500
February	2,310	45,500	449	9.9	67,800
March	2,310	39,800	455	11.5	78,200
April	2,310	44,100	481	10.9	75,600
May	2,310	40,900	465	11.4	85,400
June	2,310	41,200	455	11.0	82,400
July	2,310	39,800	438	11.0	80,100
August	2,310	41,000	435	10.6	97,300
September	2,310	38,400	448	11.7	94,200
October	2,310	46,200	470	10.2	84,800
November	2,310	41,700	448	10.7	79,600
January–November	25,400	460,000	4,990	10.9	888,000

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/locality, or product	2016	2017		
		October	November	January– November
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	309	--	1	24
Bolivia	6,170	632	522	6,060
Brazil	2,120	90	200	1,490
Canada	48	(2)	1	17
China	229	52	70	460
Indonesia	8,580	978	872	9,010
Malaysia	7,560	629	565	6,440
Netherlands	33	--	--	(2)
Peru	6,590	741	498	6,860
Singapore	176	--	--	40
Thailand	392	20	20	429
Other	5	108	47	665
Total	32,200	3,250	2,800	31,500
Other:				
Alloys	1,910	164	189	1,500
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,200	132	79	1,050
Flakes and powders	219	7	19	159
Foil	86	8	2	77
Plates, sheets, strip	94	7	7	59
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	1	(2)	--	2
Waste and scrap	27,200	2,940	3,430	47,800
Miscellaneous ³	921	61	68	678
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,150	113	144	1,450
Alloys	1,040	107	68	849

-- 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	2017							
	2016 ^p	October			November			January– November
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	2,680	222	--	222	221	--	221	2,430
Babbitt	306	22	W	22	21	W	21	262
Bronze and brass	1,760	57	100	132	61	95	156	1,740
Chemicals	3,190	460	W	460	465	W	465	5,060
Solder	3,640	202	W	202	203	W	203	3,440
Tinning	364	29	--	29	28	--	28	326
Tinplate ³	7,910	470	W	470	448	W	448	5,070
Other ⁴	6,060	498 ^r	127	650	498	127	625	5,510
Total reported	25,900	1,960	227	2,190	1,950	222	2,170	23,800

^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.

²Includes terre 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.