

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TIN IN JANUARY 2019

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in January 2019 was 1,650 metric tons (t), 5% less than that in December 2018. Apparent consumption of refined tin in January 2019 was 4,930 t, 20% more than that in December 2018 (table 1).

**Prices**

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for January 2019 was \$9.50 per pound, 6% more than that in the previous month. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for January 2019 was \$9.29 per pound, 6% more than that in the previous month (fig. 1, table 2).

**U.S. Trade**

Total refined tin imports in January 2019 were 4,120 t, a 25% increase from the 3,300 t of imports in December 2018 (table 4). The leading sources of refined tin in January were, in descending order, Peru and Malaysia (29% each), and Bolivia (14%). Imports from Malaysia and Peru increased by 605 t and 575 t, respectively.

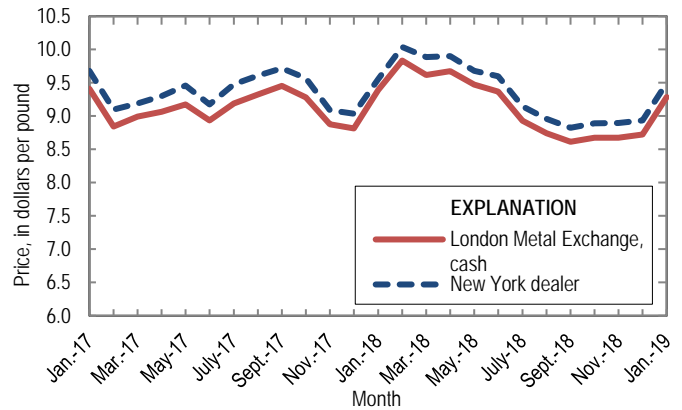


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from January 2016 through January 2018. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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TABLE 1  
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2018		2019
	Year <sup>p</sup>	December	January
Production, secondary <sup>e, 2</sup>	10,300	858	858
Consumption, reported:			
Primary	19,800	1,740	1,670
Secondary	2,400	209	204
Consumption, apparent <sup>3</sup>	46,100	4,100	4,930
Imports for consumption, refined tin	36,800	3,300	4,120
Exports, refined tin	962	51	45
Stocks at end of period	5,610	5,610	5,150
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>4</sup>			
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	935.87	893.57	949.88
London Metal Exchange cash	914.31	872.33	928.55

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

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

<sup>3</sup>Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

<sup>4</sup>Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2  
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2018:		
January	955.56	939.09
February	1003.75	983.43
March	988.67	961.75
April	990.00	967.44
May	968.22	947.44
June	959.63	936.76
July	914.44	893.09
August	895.89	873.96
September	882.38	861.35
October	889.00	867.37
November	889.38	867.72
December	893.57	872.33
January–December	935.87	914.31
2019, January	949.88	928.55

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3  
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)			
	Production			Shipments <sup>2</sup> (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2018:				
January	42,400	390	9.2	74,400
February	35,200	357	10.1	66,600
March	40,100	382	9.5	72,700
April	43,100	388	9.0	76,500
May	42,400	388	9.2	83,500
June	43,800	385	8.8	83,800
July	41,900	387	9.3	80,100
August	44,800	387	8.6	91,600
September	39,800	381	9.6	79,000
October	45,400 <sup>r</sup>	383 <sup>r</sup>	8.5 <sup>r</sup>	94,800 <sup>r</sup>
November	39,800 <sup>r</sup>	386 <sup>r</sup>	9.7 <sup>r</sup>	88,000 <sup>r</sup>
December	40,900 <sup>r</sup>	391 <sup>r</sup>	9.5 <sup>r</sup>	57,900 <sup>r</sup>
January–December	500,000 <sup>r</sup>	4,610 <sup>r</sup>	9.3	949,000 <sup>r</sup>
2019, January	30,600	399	13.0	75,300

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4  
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country/locality, or product	2018		2019
	Year	December	January
<b>Imports:</b>			
Refined tin:			
Belgium	112	--	20
Bolivia	6,310	493	594
Brazil	2,740	414	256
Canada	60	--	--
China	1,310	101	20
Indonesia	10,500	950	390
Malaysia	7,590	571	1,180
Peru	6,660	626	1,200
Singapore	50	--	--
Thailand	422	25	20
Other	1,020	115	443
Total	36,800	3,300	4,120
<b>Other:</b>			
Alloys	1,440	80	116
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,460	112	126
Flakes and powders	189	18	10
Foil	92	23	(2)
Plates, sheets, strip	89	19	6
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	143	66	12
Waste and scrap	47,700	4,030	3,830
Miscellaneous <sup>3</sup>	1,060	138	67
<b>Exports:</b>			
Refined tin	962	51	45
Alloys	885	67	31

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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 PRODUCT<sup>1,2</sup>

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2018				2019		
	2018 <sup>p</sup>	December			January		
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	2,240	193	--	193	169	--	169
Babbitt	231	23	W	23	18	W	18
Bronze and brass	1,720	59	91	150	61	87	147
Chemicals	3,840	315	W	315	343	W	343
Solder	3,180	207	W	207	176	W	176
Tinning	442	70	--	70	24	--	24
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	4,660	389	W	389	399	W	399
Other <sup>5</sup>	5,900	484	118	602	477	117	594
Total reported	22,200	1,740	209	1,950	1,670	204	1,870

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includes terne metal.

<sup>4</sup>Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

<sup>5</sup>Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.