

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN JULY 2021

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in July 2021 was 1,530 metric tons (t), a 4% increase from that in June 2021 and an 11% decrease from that in July 2020. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 10,900 t, a 10% decrease compared with that of the same period of 2020. Apparent consumption of refined tin in July 2021 was 3,320 t, slight increases from those in both June 2021 and July 2020. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 25,000 t, a slight decrease from that of the same period of 2020 (table 1).

Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for July 2021 was \$16.01 per pound, a 4% increase from in June 2021, and a 97% increase from that in July 2020. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for July 2021 was \$15.51 per pound, a 5% increase from that in June 2021, and a 96% increase from that in July 2020 (fig. 1, table 2). For the third consecutive month, New York dealer and London Metal Exchange tin prices reached their highest monthly averages on record. Prices were lifted by expectations that supply constraints would be exacerbated by Covid-19 pandemic related shutdowns in southeast Asia and Africa (Singh, 2021).

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in July 2021 were 2,550 t, a 3% increase from those in June 2021, and a 5% increase from those in July 2020. The leading sources of refined tin in July 2021 were Indonesia (28%), Malaysia (19%), Peru (17%), Bolivia (16%), and Brazil (13%). Year to date, refined tin imports were 19,800 t, a 4% decrease from those in the same period of 2020. Year to date, leading sources of refined tin were Peru (29%), Indonesia (20%), Bolivia (19%), Malaysia (15%) and Brazil (11%). Total refined tin exports in July were 96 t, an increase of 27 t from those in June 2021. Year to date, refined tin exports were 770 t, an increase of 525 t from those of the same period of 2020 (table 4).

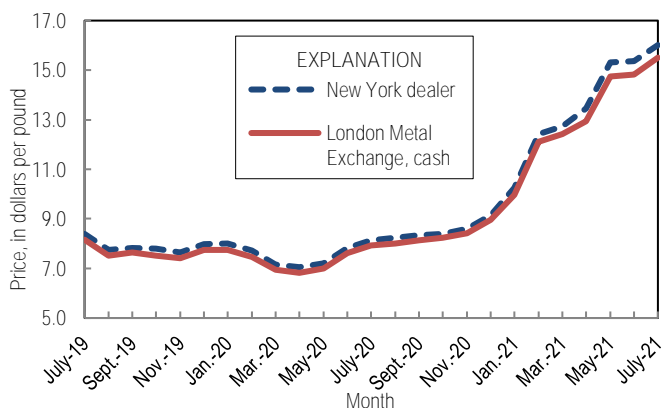


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from July 2019 through July 2021. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

Update

In July 2021, the Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials announced that in June, the agency had sold 60 t of stock-piled tin to an undisclosed buyer for \$2.1 million (Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials, 2021).

In July 2021, Covid-19 pandemic lockdown measures were implemented by the Indonesian and Rwandan governments due to rising corona-virus infections in those countries. These measures are anticipated to reduce the amount of tin production in both countries (International Tin Association Ltd., 2021; O'Sullivan, 2021).

References Cited

- Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials, 2021, DLA Strategic Materials Announces BOA sales for June 2021: Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials, July 1. (Accessed July 15, 2021, at <https://www.dla.mil/Portals/104/Documents/Strategic%20Materials/Announcements/3196%20BOA%20All%20June%202021%20Sales.pdf?ver=g0Mm-sUjxk63g5sXkOFWtQ%3d%3d>.)
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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2021			
	2020	June	July	January- July ²
Production, secondary ^{e, 3}	10,300	858	858	6,010
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	20,800	1,460	1,530	10,900
Secondary	2,340	31	30	552
Consumption, apparent ⁴	41,400	3,260	3,320	25,000
Imports for consumption, refined tin	31,600	2,470	2,550	19,800
Exports, refined tin	519	69	96	770
Stocks at end of period	5,150	4,500	4,460	4,460
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	798.65	1,536.78	1,601.22	1,365.13
London Metal Exchange cash	777.15	1,482.24	1,550.51	1,321.65

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

²May include revisions to previous published data.

³Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

⁴Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

⁵Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

⁵Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2020:		
July	814.22	791.65
August	822.89	801.58
September	834.75	814.01
October	839.56	823.46
November	858.75	842.23
December	914.57	894.82
January–December	798.65	777.15
2021:		
January	1,026.00	995.88
February	1,241.88	1,211.88
March	1,273.33	1,242.68
April	1,345.22	1,293.11
May	1,531.50	1,475.28
June	1,536.78	1,482.24
July	1,601.22	1,550.51
January–July	1,365.13	1,321.65

Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)			
	Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2020:				
July	44,200	469	10.6	101,000
August	43,600	466	10.7	99,800
September	39,200	457	11.7	94,700
October	46,200	482	10.4	99,400
November	41,400	457	11.0	93,300
December	39,300	446	11.4	102,000
January–December	518,000	5,550	10.8	1,130,000
2021:				
January	42,200	459	10.9	90,700
February	39,600	447	11.3	79,800
March	39,200	447	11.4	85,200
April	40,600	455	11.2	82,400
May	43,300	455	10.5	82,700
June	40,000	448	11.2	80,800
July	39,700	449	11.3	87,200
January–July	285,000	3,160	11.1	589,000

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	2020	2021		
		June	July	January- July ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	372	3	20	199
Bolivia	5,060	519	405	3,690
Brazil	3,080	231	323	2,120
Indonesia	9,170	671	727	3,960
Malaysia	3,740	431	475	2,880
Peru	8,850	465	436	5,660
Poland	1,080	112	112	832
Thailand	174	--	--	161
Other	111	42	55	286
Total	31,600	2,470	2,550	19,800
Other:				
Alloys	843	110	80	653
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,160	146	86	893
Flakes and powders	129	27	15	113
Foil	47	2	20	51
Plates, sheets, strip	58	1	6	22
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	10	4	--	26
Waste and scrap	20,700	1,800	1,610	11,400
Miscellaneous ³	1,250	136	189	829
Exports:				
Refined tin	519	69	96	770
Alloys	1,130	76	48	438

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previous published data.

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	2021							
	2020	June			July			January- July ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,470	158	--	158	160	--	160	1,120
Babbitt	102	8	W	8	7	W	7	52
Bronze and brass	1,620	46	24	70	46	22	69	609
Chemicals	4,030	197	--	197	256	--	256	1,850
Solder	2,010	110	W	110	110	W	110	862
Tinning	228	19	--	19	19	--	19	135
Tinplate ⁴	5,530	448	W	448	449	W	449	3,160
Other ⁵	7,130	477	8	484	477	8	485	3,640
Total reported	23,100	1,460	31	1,490	1,530	30	1,560	11,400

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 previous 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.