

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN FEBRUARY 2022

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in February 2022 was 1,520 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from that in January 2022 and an 8% decrease from that in February 2021. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 3,050 t, a 9% decrease compared with that of the same period of 2021. Apparent consumption of refined tin in February 2022 was 3,380 t, a 38% decrease from that in January 2022 and essentially unchanged from that in February 2021. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 8,850 t, a 39% increase from that in the same period of 2021 (table 1).

Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for February 2022 was \$21.24 per pound, a 6% increase from that in January 2022, and a 71% increase from that in February 2021. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for February 2022 was \$20.01 per pound, a 6% increase from that in January 2022, and a 65% increase from that in February 2021 (fig. 1, table 2).

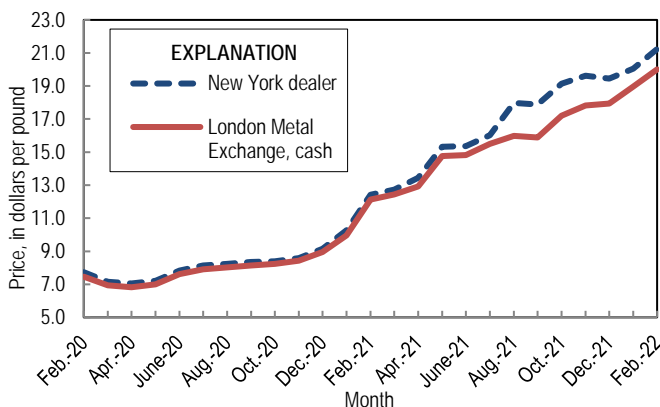


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from February 2020 through February 2022. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in February 2022 were 2,550 t, a 46% decrease from those in January 2022 and essentially unchanged from those in February 2021. The leading sources of refined tin in February 2022 were Bolivia (40%), Peru (30%),

Indonesia (12%), Brazil (11%), and Poland (4%). The decline of refined tin imports in February was owing to decreases from Indonesia (1,290 t), Malaysia (547 t) and Brazil (381 t). Year to date, refined tin imports were 7,270 t, a 50% increase from those in the same period of 2021. Year to date, leading sources of refined tin were Indonesia (26%), Bolivia (23%), Peru (23%), Brazil (13%), and Malaysia (8%). Total refined tin exports in February 2022 were 27 t, a decrease of 82 t from those in January 2022 and a decrease of 51 t from those in February 2021. Year to date, refined tin exports were 136 t, a decrease of 67 t from those in the same period of 2021 (table 4).

Update

In February, Guangxi China Tin Group Co., Ltd., shut down its furnace for routine maintenance to replace the refractory lining. In 2021, the smelter was the world's tenth leading producer of tin (9,200 t). The shut-down was expected to last 45-days likely decreasing the available tin supply (International Tin Association Ltd., 2022a, b).

References Cited

- International Tin Association Ltd., 2022a, China Tin to undergo routine maintenance: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd., February 15. (Accessed April 18, 2022, at <https://www.internationaltin.org/seligdars-solnechnaya-improvements-up-tin-output/>.)
- International Tin Association Ltd., 2022b, Global tin production rebounds in 2021: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd., February 14. (Accessed February 14, 2022, at <https://www.internationaltin.org/global-tin-production-rebounds-in-2021/>.)

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2022			
	2021 ^P	January	February	January– February ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	10,300	858	858	1,720
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	18,400	1,530	1,520	3,050
Secondary	680	21 ^r	22	43
Consumption, apparent ⁴	47,300	5,470	3,380	8,850
Imports for consumption, refined tin	38,300	4,720	2,550	7,270
Exports, refined tin	1,300	109	27	136
Stocks at end of period	4,550	5,040 ^r	5,040	5,040
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,580.06	2,004.89	2,123.63	2,064.26
London Metal Exchange cash	1,478.14	1,895.55	2,000.53	1,948.04

^eEstimated. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2021:		
February	1,241.88	1,211.88
March	1,273.33	1,242.68
April	1345.22	1,293.11
May	1531.50	1475.28
June	1536.78	1482.24
July	1601.22	1550.51
August	1796.78	1599.03
September	1788.22	1589.13
October	1914.25	1721.01
November	1961.25	1782.94
December	1944.29	1794.01
January–December	1580.06	1,478.14
2022:		
January	2,004.89	1,895.55
February	2,123.63	2,000.53
January–February	2,064.26	1,948.04

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)	
2021:				
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
August	37,900	440	11.6	90,700
September	36,300	433	11.9	90,900
October	40,800	457	11.2	95,000
November	30,700	416	13.5	96,100
December	39,300	440	11.2	109,000
January–December	470,000	5,350	11.4	1,070,000
2022:				
January	37,100	439	11.8	72,400
February	33,600	416	12.4	72,900
January–February	70,700	855	12.1	145,000

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	2021 ^p	2022		January- February ²
		January	February	
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	323	35	3	38
Bolivia	6,830	683	1,020	1,710
Brazil	3,470	664	283	947
China	1,560	--	--	--
Indonesia	8,410	1,590	297	1,880
Malaysia	4,040	565	18	583
Peru	11,400	891	761	1,650
Poland	1,290	122	103	225
Thailand	287	50	45	95
Other	684 ^r	119	19	138
Total	38,300	4,720	2,550	7,270
Other:				
Alloys	1,110	59	43	103
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,770	95	127	222
Flakes and powders	299	10	89	98
Foil	110	1	1	2
Plates, sheets, strip	38	1	(3)	1
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	38	(3)	(3)	(3)
Waste and scrap	18,600	702	831	1,530
Miscellaneous ⁴	1,510	250	285	535
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,300	109	27	136
Alloys	630	35	15	50

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previous 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	2021 ^p	2022						
		January			February			January- February ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	1,910	157 ^r	--	155	160	--	160	317
Babbitt	96	8	W	8	7	W	7	15
Bronze and brass	936	51	12	64	73	13	86	150
Chemicals	3,140	263	--	263	248	--	248	510
Solder	1,650	116	W	116	116	W	116	232
Tinning	235	19	--	19	19	--	19	39
Tinplate ⁴	5,370	439	W	439	416	W	416	855
Other ⁵	5,760	478	9 ^r	485	479	8	487	973
Total reported	19,100	1,530	21 ^r	1,550	1,520	22	1,540	3,090

^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 previous published data.

^{3r}Includesterne metal.

⁴Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁵Includes bar tin and anodes, britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal, and white metal.