

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TIN IN MAY 2022

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in May 2022 was 1,530 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from consumption in both April 2022 and May 2021. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 7,630 t, a 3% decrease compared with that of the same period of 2021. Apparent consumption of refined tin in May 2022 was 4,010 t, a 12% increase from that in April 2022 and an 11% increase from that in May 2021. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 20,300 t, a 10% 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 May 2022 was \$18.13 per pound, a 15% decrease from that in April 2022, and an 18% increase from that in May 2021. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for May 2022 was \$16.29 per pound, a 17% decrease from that in April 2022, and a 10% increase from that in May 2021 (fig. 1, table 2).

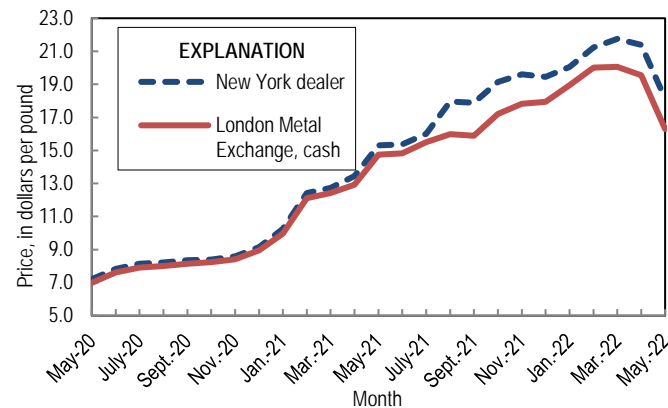


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from May 2020 through May 2022. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

### U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in May 2022 were 3,370 t, a 16% increase from those in April 2022 and an 18% increase from those in May 2021. The leading sources of refined tin in May 2022 were Bolivia (54%), Peru (18%), Indonesia (17%), and Brazil (5%). Year to date, refined tin imports were 16,600 t, a

14% increase from those in the same period of 2021. Year to date, leading sources of refined tin were Bolivia (32%), Peru (24%), Indonesia (21%), and Brazil (12%). Total refined tin exports in May 2022 were 217 t, an increase of 31 t from those in April 2022 and an increase of 89 t from those in May 2021. Year to date, refined tin exports were 637 t, an increase of 32 t from those in the same period of 2021 (table 4).

### News

In May, Exurban Ltd. announced plans to build a \$340 million electronic-waste and non-ferrous metals recycling plant in Fort Wayne, IN. The facility was designed to create zero-waste and will produce refined precious and base metals including tin. At full capacity the plant will recycle up to 45,000 metric tons per year (t/yr) of feedstock. Construction is expected to begin in 2023 and conclude by 2025 (Exurban Limited, 2022; Hotter, 2022; Paben, 2022).

In May, Wieland Group, a copper products manufacturer based in Ulm, Germany, purchased U.S. metals recycling company, Total Metal Recycling, Inc. Located in Granite City, IL, Total Metals processes scrap, including tin, at the rate of 100,000 t/yr of scrap (Wieland Group, 2022).

### References Cited

- Exurban Ltd., 2022, Exurban to build the world's first zero waste smelter to recycle e-waste: London, United Kingdom, Exurban Ltd. press release, May 23. (Access July 24, 2022, at <https://www.exurban.co.uk/news/13494/exurban-to-build-the-worlds-first-zero-waste-smelter-to-recycle-ewaste>.)
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- Wieland Group, 2022, With the acquisition of Total Metal Recycling, Wieland steps ahead towards red metal recycling leadership in North America: Ulm, Germany, Wieland Group press release, May 2. (Accessed July 24, 2022, at <https://www.wieland.com/en/about/news/with-the-acquisition-of-total-metal-recycling-wieland-steps-ahead-towards-red-metal-recycling-leadership-in-north-america>.)

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

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2022			
	2021 <sup>P</sup>	April	May	January– May <sup>2</sup>
Production, secondary <sup>e,3</sup>	10,300	858	858	4,290
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	18,400	1,520	1,530	7,630
Secondary	680	19	26	106
Consumption, apparent <sup>4</sup>	47,100	3,570	4,010	20,300
Imports for consumption, refined tin	38,100	2,900	3,370	16,600
Exports, refined tin	1,290	186	217	637
Stocks at end of period	4,550	4,750	4,710	4,710
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>5</sup>				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,580.06	2,139.00	1,812.78	2,051.08
London Metal Exchange cash	1,478.14	1,954.97	1,629.00	1,897.18

<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>May include revisions to previous published data.

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

<sup>4</sup>Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

<sup>5</sup>Source: 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:		
May	1,531.50	1,475.28
June	1,536.78	1,482.24
July	1,601.22	1,550.51
August	1,796.78	1,599.03
September	1,788.22	1,589.13
October	1,914.25	1,721.01
November	1,961.25	1,782.94
December	1,944.29	1,794.01
January–December	1,580.06	1,478.14
2022:		
January	2,004.89	1,895.55
February	2,123.63	2,000.53
March	2,175.11	2,005.83
April	2,139.00	1,954.97
May	1,812.78	1,629.00
January–May	2,051.08	1,897.18

Source: S&P Global 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)	
<b>2021:</b>				
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
<b>2022:</b>				
January	37,100	439	11.8	72,400
February	33,600	416	12.4	72,900
March	41,000	443	10.8	76,300
April	40,300	380	9.4	85,900
May	44,900	449	10.0	86,100
January–May	197,000	2,130	10.9	394,000

<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	2021 <sup>p</sup>	2022		
		April	May	January- May <sup>2</sup>
<b>Imports:</b>				
<b>Refined tin:</b>				
Belgium	323	21	39	164
Bolivia	6,830	803	1,820	5,330
Brazil	3,470	526	176	1,940
China	1,560	--	(3)	(3)
Indonesia	8,410	654	566	3,560
Malaysia	3,870	--	10	603
Peru	11,400	721	604	4,060
Poland	1,290	90	112	559
Thailand	287	20	--	135
Other	684	62	45	274
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,100</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>3,370</b>	<b>16,600</b>
<b>Other:</b>				
Alloys	1,110	65	45	274
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,770	159	95	632
Flakes and powders	300	19	56	215
Foil	110	(3)	16	21
Plates, sheets, strip	38	(3)	(3)	1
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	38	1	1	2
Waste and scrap	18,600	803	1,090	4,620
Miscellaneous <sup>4</sup>	1,560	145	99	987
<b>Exports:</b>				
Refined tin	1,290	186	217	637
Alloys	630	15	37	134

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. -- 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 previous published data.

<sup>3</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>4</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</sup>

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2022							
	2021 <sup>p</sup>	April			May			January– May <sup>2</sup>
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	1,910	154	--	154	155	--	155	782
Babbitt	96	7	W	7	7	W	7	37
Bronze and brass	936	54	10	65	55	14	69	347
Chemicals	3,140	249	--	249	253	--	253	1,270
Solder	1,650	177	W	177	116	W	116	641
Tinning	235	19	--	19	19	--	19	97
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	5,370	380	W	380	449	W	449	2,130
Other <sup>5</sup>	5,760	479	8	487	479	12	491	2,440
Total reported	19,100	1,520	19	1,540	1,530	26	1,560	7,730

<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 previous published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includesterne metal.

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

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