

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN DECEMBER 2022

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in December 2022 was 1,450 metric tons (t), unchanged from the reported consumption in November 2022 and a slight decrease from that in December 2021. For 2022, annual domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 18,000 t, a 19% decrease from that in 2021. Apparent consumption of refined tin in December 2022 was 3,510 t, a 19% increase from that in November 2022 and a 30% decrease from that in December 2021. For 2022, annual apparent consumption of refined tin was 42,300 t, an 11% decrease from that in 2021 (table 1).

Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for December 2022 was \$11.70 per pound, a 13% increase from that in November 2022, and a 40% decrease from that in December 2021. For 2022, the annual average New York dealer price of Grade A tin was \$15.46 per pound, a slight decrease from that in 2021. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for December 2022 was \$10.92 per pound, a 14% increase from that in November 2022, and a 39% decrease from that in December 2021. For 2022, the annual average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin was \$14.23 per pound, a 4% decrease from that in 2021 (fig. 1, table 2).

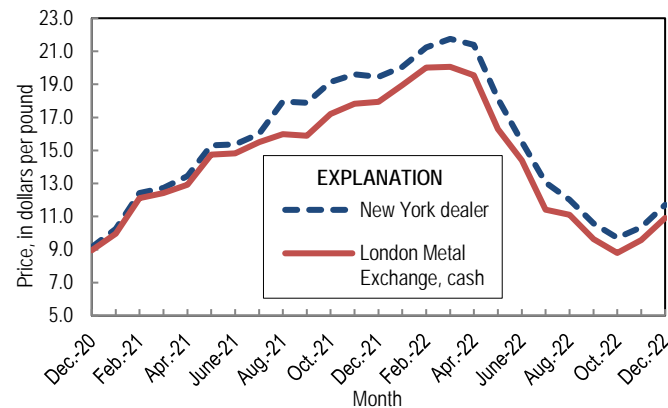


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from December 2020 through December 2022. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in December 2022 were 2,720 t, a 30% increase from those in November 2022 and a 35% decrease from those in December 2021. The leading sources of refined tin in December 2022 were Bolivia (40%), Peru (27%), Brazil (15%), and Indonesia (7%). For 2022, annual refined tin imports were 33,300 t, a 13% decrease from those in the same period of 2021. In 2022, the leading sources of refined tin were Bolivia (32%), Peru (28%), Indonesia (16%), and Brazil (13%). Total refined tin exports in December 2022 were 70 t, an increase of 48 t from those in November 2022 and an increase of 48 t from those in December 2021. For 2022, annual refined tin exports were 1,300 t, an increase of 9 t from those in the same period of 2021 (table 4).

Industry News

In late November, TinOne Resources Inc. (Canada) reported the completion of acquiring a 100% interest in the Rattler Range tin project in northeastern Tasmania, Australia. Rattler Range is located approximately 40 miles east of Launceston. The project is comprised of hard rock greisen and vein mineralization in a cupola zone of highly fractionated, evolved granite, and has exhibited the presence of 47 individually named tin occurrences. With the completion of the acquisition, TinOne controls five out of the seven primary tin occurrences in Northeast Tasmania (TinOne Resources Inc., 2022).

According to the International Tin Association Ltd. (2022), global production by refined tin producers remained unchanged in 2022 from that of 2021. The world's leading refined tin producers and their production in 2022 (in metric tons) were, in descending order:

Company	Production
1. Yunnan Tin Group Co. Ltd. (China)	77,100
2. Minsur S.A. (Peru)	32,700
3. Yunnan Chengfeng Non-ferrous Metals Co. Ltd. (China)	20,600
4. PT Timah (Persero) Tbk (Indonesia)	19,800
5. Malaysia Smelting Corp. (Malaysia)	18,800
6. Guangxi China Tin Group Co. Ltd. (China)	10,900
7. Jiangxi New Nanshan Technology Ltd. (China)	10,800
8. Empresa Metalúrgica Vinto SA (Bolivia)	10,300
9. Thailand Smelting and Refining Co. Ltd. (Thailand)	9,500
10. Aurubis Beerse NV (Belgium)	8,200

The top ten companies in 2022 produced 56% of refined tin worldwide compared with 59% in 2021. The Yunnan Tin Group Co. Ltd. was the top producer in 2022, producing approximately 6% less tin than in 2021. Yunnan Chengfeng Non-ferrous Metals Co. Ltd. experienced the greatest production increase of 21%, to 20,600 t in 2022 from 17,000 t in 2021, while PT Timah (Persero) Tbk had the greatest production decrease of 25%, to 19,800 t in 2022 from 26,500 t in 2021. Chinese and South American smelters maintained overall production through 2022 (International Tin Association Ltd., 2023).

References Cited

- TinOne Resources Inc., 2022, TinOne completes acquisition of the Rattler Range tin project in Tasmania, Australia: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, TinOne Resources Inc. press release, November 23. (Accessed February 23, 2023, at <https://tinone.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2022-11-23-Rattler-Range-News-Release-FINAL-hhas86aw4.pdf>.)
- International Tin Association Ltd., 2023, Global tin production maintains output in 2022: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd., February 13. (Accessed February 24, 2023, <https://www.internationaltin.org/global-tin-production-maintains-output-in-2022/>.)

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2022			
	2021	November	December	January– December ²
Production, secondary ^{e,3}	10,300	858	858	10,300
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	22,300 ^e	1,450	1,450	18,000
Secondary	930 ^e	21	22	311
Consumption, apparent ⁴	47,100	2,940	3,510	42,300
Imports for consumption, refined tin	38,100	2,100	2,720	33,300
Exports, refined tin	1,290	22	70	1,300
Stocks at end of period	5,050	4,710	5,020	5,020
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,580.06	1,035.87	1,170.25	1,545.94
London Metal Exchange cash	1,478.14	957.71	1,092.02	1,422.55

^eEstimated.

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:		
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
June	1,552.75	1,440.15
July	1,305.75	1,140.64
August	1,201.89	1,111.05
September	1,057.78	963.59
October	971.56	879.56
November	1,035.87	957.71
December	1,170.25	1,092.02
January–December	1,545.94	1,422.55

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:				
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
March	41,000	443	10.8	76,300
April	40,300	380	9.4	85,900
May	44,900	449	10.0	86,100
June	42,400	443	10.4	88,100
July	42,100	443	10.5	71,100
August	41,800	430	10.3	78,000
September	36,200	420	11.6	71,600
October	32,700	429	13.1	67,300
November	36,200	400	11.0	69,400
December	31,700	410	13.0	54,900
January–December	460,000	5,100	11.2	894,000

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	2022			
	2021	November	December	January– December ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	323	58	63	433
Bolivia	6,830	514	1,100	10,600
Brazil	3,470	355	399	4,390
Indonesia	8,410	346	196	5,250
Malaysia	3,870	--	50	878
Peru	11,400	653	723	9,470
Poland	1,290	67	134	1,370
Thailand	287	48	26	279
Other	2,240	62	31	617
Total	38,100	2,100	2,720	33,300
Other:				
Alloys	1,110	53	62	735
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,770	107	101	1,510
Flakes and powders	300	10	8	308
Foil	110	15	(3)	90
Plates, sheets, strip	38	(3)	(3)	6
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	38	2	1	19
Waste and scrap	18,600	1,150	897	11,600
Miscellaneous ⁴	1,560	112	94	2,020
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,290	22	70	1,300
Alloys	630	35	8	531

-- 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	2022							
	2021	November			December			January– December ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,150	158	--	158	158	--	158	1,880
Babbitt	164	7	W	7	10	W	10	102
Bronze and brass	1,100	52	11	63	61	12	73	810
Chemicals	4,970	215	--	215	180	--	180	2,800
Solder	3,800	116	W	116	134	W	134	1,550
Tinning	225	19	--	19	19	--	19	233
Tinplate ⁴	5,060	400	W	400	410	W	410	5,100
Other ⁵	5,780	479	10	489	479	9	488	5,870
Total reported	23,200	1,450	21	1,470	1,450	22	1,470	18,400

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