

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2003

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in August was 225,475 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,273 t, slightly lower than that of the previous month and 5% below the rate for August 2002. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased slightly from 67.2 cents per pound in July to 67.25 cents per pound in August, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) trended downward during August. The price range began the month at 50.5–51.5 cents per pound. On August 5, the price range widened to 50.5–52 cents per pound. On August 12, the price range decreased to 48.5–50 cents per pound, and on August 29, it decreased again to 47–49

cents per pound. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs increased slightly from 50.0 cents per pound in July to 50.4 cents per pound in August.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 67.25 cents per pound in August to 66.94 cents per pound in September. On September 15, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs decreased by a penny to 46–48 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2002 ⁵	2,707	1,750	1,170	2,930	2,790	804	3,590	9,230	1,320
2002:									
August	237	155	105	260	279	77	357	854	1,350
September	227	157	102	260	235	70	306	792	1,370
October	235	164	111	276	196	67	263	774	1,360
November	232	148	100	248	264	64	328	808	1,370
December	241	140	91	231	186	61	247	719	1,320
January-August	1,772	1,200	806	2,010	1,910	540	2,450	6,230	1,350
2003:									
January	242	152	96	248	215	69	284	774	1,350
February	220	153	88	241	246	64	310	771	1,390
March	238	143	89	232	350	71	421	891	1,400
April	225	143	99	242	202	69	272	739	1,340
May	228	150	106	256	265	69	335	819	1,390
June	221	139	102	240	261	66	327	789	1,350
July	226	140	97	236	233	74	307	769	1,360
August	225	151	98	249	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-August	1,825	1,170	775	1,940	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

⁵Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
	2002 ²	1,850	1,340	869	752	768	713	123	112	9	9	3,620
2002:												
August	155	115	76	66	75	69	11	10	1	1	317	260
September	153	114	78	68	72	67	11	10	(3)	(3)	315	260
October	167	126	79	68	77	71	11	10	(3)	(3)	334	276
November	149	111	71	61	71	66	11	10	(3)	(3)	302	248
December	146	107	64	55	63	59	10	9	(3)	(3)	284	231
January-August	1,230	919	579	501	540	500	91	83	4	4	2,440	2,010
2003:												
January	147	109	70	60	72	67	12	11	1	1	301	248
February	147	109	66	57	68	64	11	10	(3)	(3)	293	241
March	140	103	59	50	73	69	10	9	1	1	282	232
April	137	102	75	65	71	66	10	9	1	1	294	242
May	143	106	82	71	74	68	11	10	1	1	311	256
June	143	106	74	64	65	60	11	10	1	1	293	240
July	122	89	75	64	78	73	11	10	1	1	286	236
August	133	97	71	62	85	79	12	11	--	--	302	249
January-August	1,110	822	572	493	586	546	88	80	4	4	2,360	1,950

-- Zero.

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

²Includes monthly and annual data.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN AUGUST 2003¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	111,000	133,000	80,800	97,000
Integrated aluminum companies	71,500	71,500	61,700	61,700
Independent mill fabricators	71,000	85,200	66,200	79,400
Foundries	9,710	11,600	8,770	10,500
Other consumers	285	342	285	342
Total	263,000	302,000	218,000	249,000

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

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2003¹

(Metric tons)

	August			January-August ²		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	23,700 ^r	79,600	83,900	19,300	620,000	629,000
Can stock clippings	3,600	17,700	18,500	2,770	149,000	148,000
Other clippings	4,900 ^r	8,620	8,650	4,870	72,300	73,300
Borings and turnings	5,240	16,100	16,100	5,200	136,000	136,000
Dross and skimmings	2,640	32,500	32,500	2,650	259,000	259,000
Total new scrap	40,100 ^r	154,000	160,000	34,800	1,240,000	1,250,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	14,300	30,600	31,100	13,900	257,000	256,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,530	1,650	1,680	1,500	13,100	13,500
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	31,800	62,300	58,800	35,300	462,000	453,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	6,240	10,700	11,200	5,830	94,200	89,500
Total old scrap	53,900	105,000	103,000	56,500	826,000	812,000
Sweated pig	170	879	880	168	7,190	7,190
Total all classes	94,100 ^r	261,000	263,000	91,500	2,070,000	2,060,000

^rRevised.

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

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2003^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	August			January-August ³		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,770	2,660	2,550	3,880	14,600	14,200
380 and variations	6,300	24,800	24,100	7,000	225,000	226,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,260	4,010	4,040	2,220	32,300	32,200
No. 319 and variations	3,420	8,330	8,090	3,660	78,400	79,900
F-132 alloy and variations	1,220	2,200	2,190	1,220	15,600	16,400
Al-Zn alloys	43	74	74	43	612	602
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,350	1,350
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	1,530	1,530
Other ⁴	8,010	5,190	5,190	8,000	55,200	52,700
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,100	17,300	17,300	10,100	140,000	140,000
Total all alloys	35,200	65,000	63,900	36,300	564,000	565,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	7,190	XX	XX	53,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	2,840	XX	XX	25,000	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	578	XX	XX	5,030	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	54,400	XX	XX	481,000	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revised data from previous month(s).

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2003¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Argentina	8,870	43,100	33	599	--	493	8,900	44,200
Australia	--	61,000	3	107	--	9	3	61,100
Bahrain	--	2,930	1,450	9,490	--	--	1,450	12,400
Belgium	--	7	494	5,240	--	--	494	5,250
Brazil	6,900	45,200	837	12,200	1,440	2,260	9,180	59,700
Canada	132,000	1,000,000	39,200	261,000	23,400	159,000	194,000	1,420,000
France	36	530	629	3,600	34	423	699	4,550
Germany	2,440	5,580	5,670	39,700	64	611	8,170	45,900
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	592	--	592
Hungary	--	--	53	960	--	--	53	960
Italy	(2)	(2)	187	1,180	--	--	187	1,180
Japan	17	146	537	4,690	29	290	584	5,130
Korea, Republic of	1	7	806	3,870	--	--	806	3,880
Mexico	96	2,860	1,440	8,850	7,260	43,100	8,790	54,800
Netherlands	56	265	67	1,590	19	238	143	2,090
Norway	5	237	52	113	--	--	57	350
Russia	53,200	440,000	3,410	27,100	--	4,380	56,600	471,000
South Africa	19	4,080	3,170	19,600	--	--	3,190	23,700
Spain	--	71	80	225	--	21	80	317
Sweden	--	(2)	314	1,910	--	276	314	2,180
Switzerland	(2)	2,090	90	2,720	--	--	90	4,810
United Arab Emirates	4,930	29,100	--	2	--	719	4,930	29,800
United Kingdom	105	1,880	451	1,250	1,320	2,650	1,880	5,780
Venezuela	24,500	121,000	4,230	15,100	657	3,630	29,400	139,000
Other	153	11,800	11,200	62,600	3,210	22,600	14,600	96,900
Total	233,000	1,770,000	74,400	483,000	37,500	242,000	345,000	2,500,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2003¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Australia	(2)	63	77	932	--	126	77	1,120
Belgium	(2)	260	358	2,270	--	40	360	2,570
Brazil	1	43	1,620	10,400	--	--	1,620	10,500
Canada	8,350	67,000	39,800	292,000	9,280	89,200	57,400	448,000
China	(2)	98	1,410	14,700	23,200	130,000	24,600	145,000
Czech Republic	--	--	4	177	--	--	4	177
Dominican Republic	--	40	62	665	--	--	62	705
France	1	22	298	2,630	--	3	299	2,650
Germany	74	455	432	2,960	10	96	517	3,510
Hong Kong	10	83	462	2,730	1,400	9,640	1,870	12,500
India	8	10	29	215	477	2,410	515	2,640
Israel	1	4	300	1,520	--	3	301	1,530
Italy	--	7	117	1,240	--	3	117	1,250
Japan	185	1,910	613	3,790	1,160	14,300	1,950	20,000
Korea, Republic of	33	198	1,100	8,640	3,930	25,300	5,060	34,100
Malaysia	7	85	147	593	192	1,200	346	1,880
Mexico	7,740	40,600	9,000	60,500	4,180	29,000	20,900	130,000
Netherlands	20	247	49	398	--	55	69	700
Russia	--	5	16	33	--	--	16	38
Saudi Arabia	--	--	513	8,230	--	--	513	8,230
Singapore	3	66	94	621	16	71	113	757
Spain	1	62	34	1,110	60	131	95	1,310
Sweden	--	3	13	213	--	--	13	216
Taiwan	27	96	1,170	5,530	2,210	16,100	3,400	21,700
Thailand	--	13	523	4,620	237	1,460	760	6,090
United Kingdom	4	208	646	6,160	31	381	682	6,750
Venezuela	--	--	293	1,280	--	16	293	1,290
Ukraine	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
Other	28	190	1,470	10,400	594	2,970	2,090	13,500
Total	16,500	11,700	60,600	445,000	47,000	323,000	124,000	879,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.