

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2014

Domestic primary aluminum production in June 2014 was 140,000 metric tons (t). The average daily production was 4,650 t, slightly less than the daily production during the previous month and 16% less than that in June 2013. Primary aluminum production during the first half of 2014 was 13% less than that of the same period in 2013 owing to the closure of two smelters. (See Aluminum in August 2013 and Aluminum in November 2013.)

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in June 2014 was 306,000 t, essentially the same as the amount recovered in May and slightly more than the amount recovered in June 2013. Of this, 164,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, the same as the amount during the previous month and slightly more than the amount recovered in June 2013, and 143,000 t was recovered from old scrap, essentially the same as the amount in April and in June 2013.

U.S. Trade

Total imports for consumption (table 8) for the first 6 months of 2014 were essentially unchanged compared with those for the same period in 2013. Imports of crude metal and alloys were unchanged, imports of semifabricated materials increased by 11%, and imports of scrap decreased by 8%. Canada remained the leading shipper of total aluminum materials to the United States, supplying 58% of total U.S. imports in the first 6 months of the year, followed by Russia, which supplied 9%, and the United Arab Emirates and China, each supplying 5%. Canada accounted for 66% of crude metal and alloy imports, 26% of semifabricated aluminum products, and 60% of scrap. China was the source of 27% of semifabricated imports.

Total aluminum exports (table 9) for the first half of 2014 decreased by 5% compared with those for the first 6 months of 2013. Exports of crude metal and semifabricated aluminum products were unchanged, but aluminum scrap exports decreased by 10%. China, Mexico, and Canada were, in descending order of shipments, the major recipients of U.S. exports in the first 6 months of 2014.

Update

Century Aluminum Co. (Chicago, IL) announced that it would upgrade its 205,000-metric-ton-per-year (t/yr) smelter in Sebree, KY. The project would increase the smelter's capacity to produce extrusion billet and rolling slab which would be sold to customers supplying the automobile, aerospace, and construction industries. A project schedule was not available (Century Aluminum Co., 2014).

Matalco Inc. (Brampton, Ontario, Canada) announced that it would construct a new secondary smelter in Lordstown, OH. The smelter would produce extrusion billet and have a capacity of about 160,000 t/yr. Construction was expected to start in September and completion was expected in early 2016 (Matalco Inc., 2014).

Prices

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to \$1.020 per pound in June from \$0.977 per pound in May. The monthly average price continued an upward trend to \$1.073 per pound in July.

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References Cited

- Century Aluminum Co., 2014, Century Aluminum to expand Sebree smelter facility in Henderson County: Robards, KY. Century Aluminum Co. news release, July 31. (Accessed August 15, 2014, at <http://www.centuryaluminum.com/CenturyRelease7-31-14.html>.)
- Matalco Inc., 2014, Matalco Inc. announces new aluminum facility in Lordstown, Ohio: Brampton, Ontario, Canada. Matalco Inc. news release, July 23, 2 p. (Accessed August 15, 2014, at http://www.matalco.com/pdf/Matalco_PressReleaseJul232014.pdf.)

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2013 ^P	1,946	1,850	1,630	3,480	3,310	845	4,160	9,580	1,130
2013:									
June	165	162	142	304	267	70	336	806	1,170
July	168	158	142	300	273	71	344	811	1,170
August	163	159	133	292	271	73	344	799	1,210
September	157	155	135	290	242	72	314	761	1,170
October	154	171	155	326	219	79	298	779	1,160
November	149	143	121	264	299	69	368	781	1,140
December	154	147	123	270	220	68	288	713	1,130
January–June	1,002	917	823	1,740	1,790	412	2,200	4,940	1,200
2014:									
January	153	154	132	285	253	67	321	759	1,150
February	139	148	132	280	221	57	278	697	1,230
March	153	161	135	296	439	71	511	961	1,240
April	143	162	146	308	291	78	369	820	1,290
May	147	164	142	307	290	80	370	824	1,270
June	140	164	143	306	294	104	398	844	NA
January–June	875	953	830	1,780	1,790	457	2,250	4,900	NA

^PPreliminary. 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.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		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
	2013 ^p	2,520	1,920	1,610	1,460	117	103	7	7	4,250
2013:										
June	223	167	141	128	10	9	1	1	374	304
July	219	168	135	123	10	9	1	1	365	300
August	207	158	137	125	10	9	1	1	355	292
September	211	162	131	119	10	9	1	1	353	290
October	209	159	174	158	10	9	1	1	394	326
November	207	159	106	96	10	9	1	1	322	264
December	201	154	118	107	10	9	1	1	330	270
January–June	1,260	956	805	729	58	52	3	3	2,130	1,740
2014:										
January	206	158	130	118	10	9	1	1	346	285
February	203	156	127	115	10	9	1	1	341	280
March	212	161	139	126	10	9	1	1	361	297 ^r
April	206	158	155	141	10	9	1	1	372	308
May	210	160	152	138	10	9	1	1	372	307
June	206	157	154	140	10	9	1	1	371	306
January–June	1,240	949	857	779	58	52	4	4	2,160	1,780

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JUNE 2014¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	171,000	206,000	131,000
Independent mill fabricators	139,000	154,000	127,000	140,000
Foundries	8,100	9,730	7,180	8,610
Other consumers	486	583	486	583
Total	319,000	371,000	265,000	306,000

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 JUNE 2014¹

(Metric tons)

	June				January–June ²	
	Stocks, opening ²	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	20,100	51,100	51,100	20,000	291,000	291,000
Can stock clippings	6,800	21,600	22,300	6,120	130,000	131,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	8,980	44,100	43,500	9,660	252,000	256,000
Casting	1,980	6,050	5,960	2,060	35,000	34,900
Borings and turnings	4,870	11,700	11,700	4,820	69,400	69,500
Dross and skimmings	13,100	43,100	43,100	13,100	257,000	257,000
Total new scrap	55,800	178,000	178,000	55,800	1,030,000	1,040,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	8,620	25,100	26,100	7,650	162,000	161,000
Used extrusion	8,810	18,600	18,000	9,350	109,000	108,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	29,700	60,900	60,200	30,500	374,000	374,000
Other wrought products	8,350	28,700	27,900	9,080	128,000	130,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	2,210	9,320	9,340	2,190	51,100	51,100
Total old scrap	57,700	143,000	142,000	58,700	824,000	824,000
Sweated pig	183	143	143	183	861	861
Total all classes	114,000	321,000	319,000	115,000	1,860,000	1,860,000

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN JUNE 2014^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	June				January–June ³	
	Stocks, opening ³	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,610	3,890	4,070	2,430	24,900	25,100
380 and variations	17,100	13,300	13,300	17,100	80,300	80,300
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,610	4,820	4,820	1,610	28,900	28,900
No. 319 and variations	2,600	6,790	6,790	2,590	40,800	40,800
F-132 alloy and variations	602	385	385	602	2,310	2,310
Al-Zn alloys	306	173	173	306	1,040	1,040
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	68	283	283	68	1,700	1,700
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	25	145	145	25	873	873
Other ⁴	2,920	6,840	6,020	3,740	35,900	35,300
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	16,500	42,600	42,900	16,100	258,000	259,000
Total all alloys	44,300	79,200	78,900	44,600	475,000	476,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,840	XX	XX	52,900	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,100	XX	XX	6,240	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	625	XX	XX	3,840	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	67,700	XX	XX	412,000	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

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

³May include revisions to previously published data.

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
AVERAGE PRICE OF ALUMINUM IN THE UNITED STATES
AND ON THE LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Cents per pound)

Period	Midwest U.S. market price	LME cash price Grade A
2013:		
June	93.375	82.374
July	91.750	80.167
August	92.550	82.304
September	89.188	79.838
October	91.550	82.192
November	89.000	79.331
December	89.375	78.857
January–December	94.204	83.717
2014:		
January	95.900	78.301
February	96.188	76.821
March	95.250	77.258
April	99.875	82.072
May	97.650	79.327
June	102.000	83.196
January–June	97.811	79.496

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 7
AVERAGE BUYING PRICES FOR ALUMINUM SCRAP

(Cents per pound)

Month	Used beverage cans	Mixed low copper clips	Old sheet	Old cast	Turnings (clean and dry)
2013:					
June	73.08	72.85	67.95	70.75	69.10
July	71.07	71.68	67.84	70.00	68.00
August	72.27	72.00	68.00	70.00	68.00
September	68.95	71.45	67.18	70.00	67.45
October	69.74	71.00	66.50	70.00	66.17
November	68.16	70.14	66.11	68.92	66.00
December	68.76	69.00	65.87	68.97	65.74
January–December	73.11	73.09	69.24	71.85	69.28
2014:					
January	73.24	72.29	68.10	71.71	68.10
February	76.75	74.65	69.70	73.45	69.70
March	77.52	76.52	71.95	74.86	71.57
April	82.43	75.00	72.00	75.00	71.00
May	79.62	75.19	71.05	74.10	71.05
June	80.40	75.38	70.74	74.48	71.90
January–June	78.33	74.84	70.59	73.93	70.55

Source: American Metal Market.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2014¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January– June	June	January– June	June	January– June	June	January– June
Argentina	5,780	41,000	1	1	--	--	5,780	41,000
Australia	1,230	13,800	97	140	--	--	1,330	14,000
Austria	--	250	2,280	12,500	85	219	2,360	13,000
Bahamas, The	--	--	--	--	148	1,090	148	1,090
Bahrain	3,230	29,900	2,960	14,000	--	--	6,180	43,900
Belgium	57	564	187	1,700	--	30	244	2,300
Brazil	4,890	18,000	82	3,050	179	1,540	5,160	22,600
Canada	197,000	1,180,000	20,700	119,000	31,300	162,000	249,000	1,460,000
Chile	--	--	--	--	621	3,970	621	3,970
China	155	881	43,100	123,000	80	571	43,300	125,000
Colombia	--	94	160	890	147	1,540	307	2,530
Costa Rica	--	--	(2)	(2)	334	1,660	334	1,660
Egypt	--	--	421	2,070	--	--	421	2,070
El Salvador	--	--	--	44	290	1,530	290	1,570
France	658	4,590	613	4,210	--	947	1,270	9,750
Germany	324	658	5,590	30,300	62	608	5,980	31,600
Greece	--	--	1,670	7,480	--	40	1,670	7,520
Guatemala	--	--	--	--	1,180	8,340	1,180	8,340
Honduras	--	--	--	--	175	774	175	774
Hong Kong	--	--	285	1,370	--	--	285	1,370
India	200	211	1,830	14,000	79	80	2,110	14,300
Indonesia	--	--	6,140	29,000	--	32	6,140	29,000
Italy	850	977	769	3,940	36	199	1,660	5,120
Japan	--	(2)	1,170	4,210	231	436	1,400	4,650
Korea, Republic of	1,180	8,470	1,140	4,790	--	--	2,320	13,300
Malaysia	--	416	300	2,300	--	--	300	2,710
Mexico	1,280	7,250	3,240	17,700	9,550	60,000	14,100	84,900
New Zealand	618	4,340	25	54	--	--	643	4,400
Norway	835	4,890	5	60	--	--	840	4,950
Qatar	8,370	52,500	--	--	--	--	8,370	52,500
Romania	--	2	716	2,910	--	--	716	2,910
Russia	28,700	222,000	1,930	8,260	--	332	30,600	230,000
Saudi Arabia	67	1,730	--	1	276	1,500	343	3,230
South Africa	1,090	20,200	4,100	27,000	--	--	5,190	47,200
Sweden	--	--	247	1,440	--	22	247	1,460
Switzerland	--	1,010	128	1,020	--	--	128	2,030
Taiwan	25	306	471	3,020	156	235	652	3,560
United Arab Emirates	21,000	134,000	--	--	218	532	21,200	135,000
United Kingdom	109	302	887	5,230	211	1,240	1,210	6,770
Venezuela	15,300	34,500	--	204	2,770	7,540	18,100	42,200
Other	1,610	8,670	2,490	12,300	1,980	13,800	6,080	34,800
Total	294,000	1,790,000	104,000	457,000	50,100	271,000	448,000	2,520,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2014¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January–	June	January–	June	January–	June	January–
		June		June		June		June
Australia	58	155	169	920	--	--	227	1,080
Belgium	11	171	135	586	159	535	305	1,290
Brazil	41	3,230	473	5,180	19	340	533	8,740
Canada	10,300	62,000	32,800	211,000	7,920	50,700	51,000	324,000
Chile	--	12	211	304	21	108	232	424
China	54	441	3,220	18,600	85,000	501,000	88,200	520,000
Colombia	1	38	123	2,000	--	27	124	2,060
France	468	3,040	1,310	8,550	417	1,340	2,190	12,900
Germany	149	1,290	1,120	6,130	189	2,050	1,460	9,470
Guatemala	--	3	1,400	8,560	--	--	1,400	8,570
Hong Kong	20	77	411	1,220	2,530	14,400	2,960	15,700
India	--	19	118	731	5,800	29,100	5,920	29,800
Indonesia	--	2	38	346	1,640	5,220	1,680	5,570
Ireland	--	--	34	495	--	--	34	495
Israel	--	82	707	4,770	19	19	726	4,870
Italy	7	47	365	1,980	--	75	372	2,100
Japan	68	512	1,820	9,380	1,120	6,220	3,010	16,100
Jordan	--	--	848	3,420	--	--	848	3,420
Korea, Republic of	69	163	3,150	15,300	12,700	85,800	15,900	101,000
Kuwait	--	--	595	3,000	--	--	595	3,000
Malaysia	27	52	165	1,710	421	1,510	613	3,270
Mexico	18,800	107,000	36,400	219,000	11,500	71,900	66,700	398,000
Netherlands	--	19	34	399	82	246	116	664
New Zealand	--	(2)	118	680	1	4	119	684
Norway	--	(2)	224	1,300	--	--	224	1,300
Pakistan	--	(2)	(2)	1	206	2,710	206	2,710
Panama	17	28	379	2,310	9	102	405	2,440
Romania	6	106	95	225	--	--	101	331
Saudi Arabia	--	(2)	4,210	23,400	--	--	4,210	23,400
Singapore	110	848	755	2,490	--	4	865	3,340
Spain	1	10	117	536	18	53	136	599
Taiwan	378	1,310	358	2,060	5,320	38,500	6,060	41,900
Thailand	--	6	127	439	751	2,430	878	2,870
Tunisia	--	--	276	1,630	--	--	276	1,630
Turkey	--	6	278	1,290	18	18	296	1,310
United Arab Emirates	--	2	1,160	7,040	61	169	1,220	7,210
United Kingdom	137	447	1,510	9,370	171	696	1,820	10,500
Vietnam	--	--	18	2,070	577	1,050	595	3,120
Other	219	495	1,830	8,630	216	2,740	2,260	11,900
Total	31,000	182,000	97,100	588,000	137,000	819,000	265,000	1,590,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.