

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JULY 2014

Domestic primary aluminum production in July 2014 was 143,000 metric tons (t). The average daily production was 4,610 t, slightly less than the daily production during the previous month and 15% less than that in July 2013.

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in July 2014 was 307,000 t, essentially the same as the amount recovered in June and slightly more than the amount recovered in July 2013. Of this, 161,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, slightly less than the amount during the previous month but slightly more than the amount recovered in July 2013, and 147,000 t was recovered from old scrap, 3% more than the amount in the previous month and in July 2013.

Update

Bermco Aluminum Co. (Birmingham, AL) completed a new 110,000-metric-ton-per-year (t/yr) secondary smelter in Birmingham. Production from one furnace started in January 2014 and production from the second furnace started in September. The smelter replaces a 55,000-t/yr smelter at a different location in Birmingham that was too small for Bermco's current needs and did not have room to expand (Platts Metals Week, 2012; Davidson, 2014a).

Huntington Aluminum Inc. (Huntington, IN) announced plans to expand its secondary smelter in Huntington. The expansion would double the capacity of the smelter and repair damage from a fire in April, but specific capacity was not reported. The project was projected to be completed in 2017 (Laliberte, 2014).

In September, Toyota Tsusho Corp. started construction of a 48,000-t/yr secondary aluminum smelter in Zacatecas, Mexico. The smelter would produce ingot for automotive parts manufacturers and other consumers in Mexico and for export, including to the United States. Production was expected to start in June 2015 (Davidson, 2014b).

Prices

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to \$1.073 per pound in July from \$1.020 per pound in June. The monthly average price continued an upward trend to \$1.122 per pound in August.

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References Cited

- Davidson, Sean, 2014a, Bermco completes upgrade to Alabama smelting facility: American Metal Market, v. 122, no. 37–5, September 12, p. 7.
Davidson, Sean, 2014b, Toyota Tsusho N. America smelter to lift auto reach: American Metal Market, v. 122, no. 37–3, September 10, p. 1.
Laliberte, Nathan, 2014, Huntington Aluminum plans expansion at Indiana plant: American Metal Market, v. 122, no. 37–3, September 10, p. 7.
Platts Metals Week, 2012, Bermco to build new Alabama facility: Platts Metals Week, v. 83, no. 14, April 2, p. 16–17.

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:									
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–July	1,169	1,080	965	2,040	2,060	484	2,540	5,750	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
July	143	161	147	307	237	83	320	770	NA
January–July	1,018	1,110	976	2,090	2,030	540	2,570	5,670	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	
	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery	Consumption	Metal recovery
2013 ^P	2,520	1,920	1,610	1,460	117	103	7	7	4,250	3,480
2013:										
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	323 ^r	264
December	201	154	118	107	10	9	1	1	330	270
January–July	1,480	1,120	940	851	68	60	4	4	2,490	2,040
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
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
July	208	159	153	139	10	9	1	1	371	307
January–July	1,450	1,110	1,010	918	68	60	4	4	2,530	2,090

^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 JULY 2014¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	173,000	208,000	132,000	159,000
Independent mill fabricators	139,000	153,000	126,000	139,000
Foundries	8,100	9,730	7,180	8,610
Other consumers	486	583	486	583
Total	320,000	371,000	266,000	307,000

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 JULY 2014¹

(Metric tons)

	July			January–July ²		
	Stocks, opening ²	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	20,000	50,200	49,800	20,500	341,000	341,000
Can stock clippings	6,120	22,900	21,600	7,420	153,000	152,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	9,660	43,000	42,500	10,200	295,000	298,000
Casting	2,060	6,050	6,090	2,020	41,000	41,000
Borings and turnings	4,820	11,800	11,800	4,880	81,300	81,300
Dross and skimmings	13,100	42,500	42,500	13,100	300,000	300,000
Total new scrap	55,800	177,000	174,000	58,100	1,210,000	1,210,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	7,650	25,900	25,200	8,350	187,000	186,000
Used extrusion	9,350	17,600	16,800	10,200	127,000	125,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	30,500	65,700	66,100	30,000	440,000	440,000
Other wrought products	9,080	31,300	29,200	11,200	159,000	160,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	2,190	9,340	8,750	2,780	60,400	59,800
Total old scrap	58,700	150,000	146,000	62,600	973,000	970,000
Sweated pig	183	143	143	183	1,000	1,000
Total all classes	115,000	326,000	320,000	121,000	2,190,000	2,180,000

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 JULY 2014^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	July			January–July ³		
	Stocks, opening ³	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,430	3,890	4,050	2,270	28,800	29,100
380 and variations	17,100	13,300	13,300	17,100	93,700	93,700
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,610	4,820	4,820	1,610	33,800	33,800
No. 319 and variations	2,590	6,790	6,800	2,580	47,600	47,600
F-132 alloy and variations	602	385	385	602	2,700	2,700
Al-Zn alloys	306	173	173	306	1,210	1,210
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	68	283	283	68	1,980	1,980
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	25	145	145	25	1,020	1,020
Other ⁴	3,740	6,640	6,190	4,200	42,500	41,500
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	16,100	42,200	42,400	15,900	300,000	302,000
Total all alloys	44,600	78,700	78,600	44,600	553,000	554,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	7,750	XX	XX	60,600	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,090	XX	XX	7,320	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	606	XX	XX	4,440	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	69,200	XX	XX	481,000	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:		
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
July	107.250	88.229
January–July	99.159	80.743

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:					
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
July	83.80	76.18	71.27	75.00	72.95
January–July	79.11	75.03	70.69	74.09	70.90

Source: American Metal Market.

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

(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
Argentina	5,160	46,200	--	1	--	--	5,160	46,200
Australia	6,080	19,900	1	141	--	--	6,080	20,100
Austria	--	250	2,530	15,000	109	328	2,640	15,600
Bahamas, The	--	--	--	--	164	1,250	164	1,250
Bahrain	4,170	34,100	1,730	15,700	--	--	5,900	49,800
Belgium	97	660	264	1,970	--	30	361	2,660
Brazil	3,350	21,400	232	3,280	188	1,730	3,770	26,400
Canada	153,000	1,330,000	19,400	138,000	32,600	195,000	205,000	1,660,000
Chile	--	--	--	--	407	4,370	407	4,370
China	514	1,400	19,900	143,000	226	796	20,700	145,000
Colombia	--	94	148	1,040	377	1,920	525	3,050
Costa Rica	--	--	(2)	(2)	317	1,980	317	1,980
Egypt	--	--	45	2,110	--	--	45	2,110
El Salvador	--	--	9	53	309	1,840	318	1,890
France	813	5,400	1,600	5,810	(2)	947	2,410	12,200
Germany	226	884	6,390	36,700	62	670	6,680	38,300
Greece	--	--	1,930	9,400	--	40	1,930	9,440
Guatemala	--	--	--	--	1,060	9,390	1,060	9,390
Honduras	--	--	--	--	71	845	71	845
Hong Kong	--	--	358	1,730	--	--	358	1,730
India	110	322	2,920	16,900	53	133	3,080	17,400
Indonesia	--	--	6,310	35,300	--	32	6,310	35,300
Italy	1,110	2,080	829	4,770	72	271	2,010	7,120
Japan	--	(2)	1,090	5,310	35	471	1,130	5,780
Korea, Republic of	925	9,390	2,030	6,820	54	54	3,010	16,300
Malaysia	59	475	265	2,560	--	--	324	3,040
Mexico	1,860	9,100	3,540	21,200	10,500	70,600	15,900	101,000
New Zealand	540	4,880	4	58	--	--	544	4,940
Norway	718	5,610	(2)	61	--	--	718	5,670
Qatar	4,210	56,700	--	--	--	--	4,210	56,700
Romania	--	2	671	3,580	--	--	671	3,580
Russia	16,500	238,000	1,200	9,460	--	332	17,700	248,000
Saudi Arabia	--	1,730	--	1	49	1,550	49	3,280
South Africa	1,010	21,200	5,310	32,300	--	--	6,320	53,500
Sweden	--	--	176	1,620	--	22	176	1,640
Switzerland	--	1,010	50	1,070	--	--	50	2,080
Taiwan	31	337	551	3,570	79	314	661	4,220
United Arab Emirates	21,600	156,000	--	--	101	634	21,700	157,000
United Kingdom	20	322	1,130	6,350	382	1,620	1,530	8,300
Venezuela	12,500	47,000	--	204	2,350	9,890	14,900	57,100
Other	2,300	11,000	1,990	14,300	1,820	15,600	6,110	40,900
Total	237,000	2,030,000	82,600	540,000	51,400	322,000	371,000	2,890,000

-- 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 JULY 2014¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January–	July	January–	July	January–	July	January–
		July		July		July		July
Australia	12	167	209	1,130	--	--	221	1,300
Belgium	10	181	106	691	122	657	238	1,530
Brazil	93	3,320	490	5,670	--	340	583	9,330
Canada	9,800	71,800	35,000	246,000	7,720	58,400	52,500	377,000
Chile	--	12	10	314	21	129	31	455
China	6	447	3,670	22,200	97,500	598,000	101,000	621,000
Colombia	40	78	121	2,120	20	48	181	2,240
France	390	3,430	1,100	9,650	249	1,580	1,740	14,700
Germany	469	1,760	1,120	7,260	142	2,190	1,740	11,200
Guatemala	--	3	2,050	10,600	--	--	2,050	10,600
Hong Kong	8	85	253	1,470	2,930	17,300	3,190	18,900
India	--	19	138	868	7,820	36,900	7,960	37,800
Indonesia	--	2	147	493	1,160	6,380	1,310	6,870
Ireland	--	--	63	558	--	--	63	558
Israel	11	94	672	5,440	--	19	683	5,550
Italy	2	49	290	2,270	--	75	292	2,390
Japan	95	607	1,290	10,700	1,330	7,550	2,710	18,800
Jordan	--	--	315	3,740	--	--	315	3,740
Korea, Republic of	16	179	2,300	17,600	12,400	98,200	14,700	116,000
Kuwait	1	1	604	3,600	--	--	605	3,600
Malaysia	12	64	376	2,090	658	2,170	1,050	4,320
Mexico	17,200	125,000	35,600	255,000	12,800	84,700	65,600	464,000
Netherlands	4	23	39	438	--	246	43	707
New Zealand	(2)	(2)	216	896	--	4	216	900
Norway	(2)	(2)	244	1,540	--	--	244	1,540
Pakistan	--	(2)	(2)	1	365	3,080	365	3,080
Panama	33	61	260	2,570	8	111	301	2,750
Romania	2	107	46	271	--	--	48	378
Saudi Arabia	--	(2)	3,270	26,700	--	--	3,270	26,700
Singapore	69	917	292	2,780	19	23	380	3,720
Spain	14	24	124	661	41	95	179	780
Taiwan	249	1,550	506	2,570	7,530	46,000	8,280	50,200
Thailand	--	6	150	589	193	2,620	343	3,210
Tunisia	--	--	208	1,840	--	--	208	1,840
Turkey	16	22	277	1,560	--	18	293	1,600
United Arab Emirates	(2)	2	1,810	8,850	198	367	2,010	9,220
United Kingdom	63	510	1,290	10,700	13	710	1,370	11,900
Vietnam	--	--	943	3,020	18	1,070	961	4,080
Other	44	538	1,600	10,200	291	3,030	1,930	13,800
Total	28,700	211,000	97,200	685,000	153,000	972,000	279,000	1,870,000

-- 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.