

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN JUNE 2011

Domestic consumption of primary tin in June 2011 was estimated to be 2,460 metric tons (t), an increase of 5% from that in May 2011 and an increase of 22% from that in June 2010. For the first 6 months of 2011, imports of refined tin were 19,200 t, an increase of 34% from that in the comparable period of 2010. Peru, Bolivia, and Indonesia, in descending order, were the leading sources of refined tin imports in the first 6 months of 2011.

The Platts Metals Week average composite price of tin in June 2011 was \$15.45 per pound, compared with \$17.53 per pound in May 2011 and \$10.62 per pound in June 2010.

Update

On November 18, 2011, the Platts Metals Week composite price for tin was \$12.99 per pound.

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2011			
	2010 ^p	May	June	January– June
Production, secondary ^{e, 2}	11,100	922	922	5,530
Consumption:				
Primary	26,900	2,340	2,460	13,900
Secondary	6,220	522	523	3,130
Imports for consumption, metal	35,300	2,260	2,650	19,200
Exports, metal	5,630	698	582	3,550
Stocks at end of period	6,920	6,820	6,860	6,860
Prices (average cents per pound): ³				
Metals Week composite ⁴	1,239.64	1,752.83	1,544.58	XX
Metals Week New York dealer	954.13	1,327.17	1,188.94	XX
London, standard grade, cash	925.15	1,300.49	1,159.41	XX
Kuala Lumpur	922.17	1,325.89	1,159.71	XX

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

²Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

³Source: Platts Metals Week.

⁴The Metals Week composite price is a calculated formula, not a market price, that includes fixed and finance charges and a risk factor. It is normally substantially higher than other tin prices.

TABLE 2
METALS WEEK COMPOSITE PRICE¹

(Cents per pound)

Period	High	Low	Average
2010	1,719.49	937.69	1,239.64
2011:			
January	1,802.34	1,583.57	1,644.54
February	1,937.62	1,798.67	1,885.16
March	1,934.68	1,738.66	1,842.63
April	1,982.96	1,884.94	1,942.35
May	1,967.66 ^r	1,615.32 ^r	1,752.83
June	1,673.32	1,492.92	1,544.58

^rRevised.

¹The Metals Week composite price is a calculated formula, not a market price, that includes fixed and finance charges and a risk factor. It is normally substantially higher than other tin prices.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate waste (waste, strips, cobble, etc.) (gross weight)	Tinplate (all forms)			
		Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	Shipments ²
2010	18,200	1,420,000	6,920	4.9	2,030,000
2011:					
January	1,860	101,000	528	5.2	118,000
February	1,840	95,500	502	5.3	117,000
March	1,750	103,000	514	5.0	156,000
April	1,230	90,900	470	5.2	146,000
May	1,400	104,000	512	4.9	141,000
June	2,540	127,000	573	4.5	161,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS¹

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2010	2011		
		May	June	January– June ²
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	--	--	1	255
Bolivia	6,060	131	806	3,000
Brazil	75	50	--	301
Chile	641	--	--	60
China	887	70	224	1,330
Indonesia	3,970	469	325	2,500
Malaysia	4,500	--	26	1,810
Peru	16,500	1,360	991	7,740
Singapore	996	78	51	255
Thailand	1,310	100	225	1,890
Other	327	--	3	10
Total	35,300	2,260	2,650	19,200
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,290	207	167	1,060
Bars and rods	3,190	274	233	1,420
Foil, tubes, pipes	80	4	1	38
Plates, sheets, strip	135	7	5	17
Waste and scrap	57,300	3,480	4,470	25,600
Miscellaneous	3,540	249	420	1,470
Total	65,500	4,220	5,290	29,600
Exports (metal)	5,630	698	582	3,550
-- Zero.				

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

²May include revisions.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
CONSUMPTION OF TIN IN THE UNITED STATES, BY FINISHED PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2010 ^P	2011						January– June ²
		May			June			
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	6,070	563	W	563	562	W	562	3,380
Babbitt	220	16	W	16	16	W	16	113
Bar tin and anodes	239	6	--	6	6	--	6	38
Bronze and brass	2,000	192	69	261	233	69	302	1,350
Chemicals	2,590	216	W	216	238	W	238	1,360
Collapsible tubes and foil	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Solder	3,710	171	142	313	171	142	313	1,880
Tinning	331	22	--	22	22	--	22	144
Tinplate ⁴	6,600	512	--	512	573	W	573	3,110
Tin powder	192	15	W	15	15	W	15	96
White metal ⁵	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Other	416	28	11	39	28	12	39	183
Total reported	22,400	1,740	222	1,960	1,860	223	2,090	11,700
Estimated undistributed consumption ⁶	10,800	600	300	900	600	300	900	5,400
Grand total	33,200	2,340	522	2,860	2,460	523	2,990	17,100

^PPreliminary. 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.

³Includes terne metal.

⁴Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁵Includes pewter, britannia metal, and jewelers' metal.

⁶Estimated consumption of plants reporting on an annual basis.