

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TIN IN SEPTEMBER 2013

Domestic consumption of primary tin in September 2013 was reported to be 1,870 metric tons (t), slightly less than that in August 2013 but 19% more than that in September 2012. For the first 9 months of 2013, imports of refined tin were 27,600 t, essentially unchanged from imports in the comparable period of 2012. Peru, Bolivia, Indonesia, and Malaysia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in the first 9 months of 2013.

The Platts Metals Week average composite price of tin for September 2013 was \$13.74 per pound, 5% more than the August 2013 average price and 9% more than the September 2012 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of tin for September 2013 was \$22,739 per metric ton, 5% more than the August 2013 average price and 10% more than the September 2012 average price. During September 2013, global LME stocks of tin decreased by 1,745 t to 13,240 t.

TABLE 1  
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2013			
	2012 <sup>p</sup>	August	September	January– September
Production, secondary <sup>e, 2</sup>	11,000	918	918	8,260
Reported consumption:				
Primary	24,500	1,910	1,870	16,700
Secondary	3,240	230	229	2,070
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	36,900	2,780	1,960	27,600
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,560	440	603	4,740
Stocks at end of period	6,470	6,680	6,660	6,660
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>3</sup>				
Metals Week composite <sup>4</sup>	1,283.37	1,308.88	1,374.22	1,340.33
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	989.60	1,011.50	1,058.56	1,033.41
London Metal Exchange cash	957.26	980.68	1,031.43	1,002.51
Kuala Lumpur	958.44	976.98	1,027.11	1,002.30

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

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

<sup>3</sup>Source: Platts Metals Week.

<sup>4</sup>The 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 PRICE<sup>1</sup>

(Cents per pound)

Period	High	Low	Average
2012	1,719.32	1,020.42	1,283.37
2013:			
January	1,515.09	1,438.85	1,485.79
February	1,506.82	1,405.01	1,471.11
March	1,448.13	1,375.21	1,412.80
April	1,393.02	1,238.56	1,318.70
May	1,293.89	1,210.20	1,261.58
June	1,279.40	1,191.82	1,235.90
July	1,223.65	1,173.38	1,194.01
August	1,338.13	1,247.04	1,308.88
September	1,415.36	1,287.22	1,374.22

<sup>1</sup>The 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 STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)				
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Production			Shipments <sup>2</sup> (gross weight)
		Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2012	16,300	922,000	6,020	6.5	1,470,000
2013:					
January	1,440	89,800	506	5.6	120,000
February	1,190	92,500	516	5.6	115,000
March	1,540	89,400	546	6.1	116,000
April	1,730	75,800	513	6.8	130,000
May	1,230	80,900	523	6.5	121,000
June	1,800	75,800	516	6.8	119,000
July	1,950	77,100	552	7.2	130,000
August	1,950	85,400	566	6.6	125,000
September	1,950	82,100	547	6.7	111,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4  
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2013			
	2012	August	September	January– September
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	625	2	--	216
Bolivia	5,100	340	440	5,520
Brazil	2,930	278	116	2,280
China	174	23	19	1,300
Indonesia	6,180	671	382	4,940
Malaysia	4,590	355	60	2,540
Peru	14,500	1,060	794	8,430
Singapore	424	--	--	101
Thailand	1,750	50	150	2,230
Other	676	6	-2	26
Total	36,900	2,780	1,960	27,600
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,480	157	130	1,010
Bars and rods	1,800	139	162	1,220
Foil, tubes, pipes	83	14	2	62
Plates, sheets, strip	60	(2)	--	73
Waste and scrap	72,500	6,090	6,060	47,900
Miscellaneous <sup>3</sup>	2,260	204	150	2,670
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,560	440	603	4,740

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>3</sup>Includes tin powders and flakes (HTS code 8007.00.3200) and 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 PRODUCT<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013						
		August			September			January– September
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>2</sup>	2,950	661	4	665	670	4	674	5,990
Babbitt	281	17	W	17	18	W	18	670
Bronze and brass	2,460	89	82	171	86	82	168	1,550
Chemicals	9,860	257	W	257	251	W	251	2,290
Solder	4,900	241	W	241	219	W	219	2,750
Tinning	467	17	--	17	16	--	16	181
Tinplate <sup>3</sup>	6,090	566	W	566	547	W	547	4,780
Other <sup>4</sup>	733	60	145	205	60	145	205	585
Total reported	27,700	1,910	230	2,140	1,870	229	2,100	18,800

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes terre metal.

<sup>3</sup>Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

<sup>4</sup>Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.