

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TIN IN NOVEMBER 2013

Domestic consumption of primary tin in November 2013 was 1,840 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from that in October 2013 and 15% more than that in November 2012. For the first 11 months of 2013, imports of refined tin were 32,800 t, slightly less than 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 11 months of 2013.

The Platts Metals Week average composite price of tin for November 2013 was \$13.84 per pound, slightly less than the October 2013 average price but 10% more than the November 2012 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of tin for November 2013 was \$22,847 per metric ton, slightly less than the October 2013 average price but 10% more than the November 2012 average price. During November 2013, global LME stocks of tin decreased by 1,950 t to 10,880 t.

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

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013		
		October	November	January– November <sup>2</sup>
Production, secondary <sup>6,3</sup>	11,200 <sup>†</sup>	918	918	10,100
Reported consumption:				
Primary	24,500	1,840	1,840	20,400
Secondary	3,240	229	229	2,520
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	36,900	2,690	2,570	32,800
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,560	436	377	5,550
Stocks at end of period	6,470	6,570	6,480	6,480
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>4</sup>				
Metals Week composite <sup>5</sup>	1,283.37	1,402.22	1,384.10	1,349.94
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	989.60	1,070.72	1,060.69	1,039.29
London Metal Exchange cash	957.26	1,048.85	1,036.31	1,009.79
Kuala Lumpur	958.44	1,052.03	1,037.61	1,010.03

<sup>6</sup>Estimated. <sup>P</sup>Preliminary. <sup>†</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

<sup>4</sup>Source: Platts Metals Week.

<sup>5</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
October	1,437.20	1,040.05	1,402.22
November	1,391.17	1,369.79	1,384.10

<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	1,160,000	6,090	5.2	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	2,350	69,600	532	7.6	130,000
August	4,360	91,100	551	6.1	125,000
September	1,370	82,200	523	6.4	111,000
October	2,200	64,900	495	7.6	106,000
November	653	67,100	505	7.5	86,400

<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	October	November	January– November
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	625	2	--	218
Bolivia	5,100	557	261	6,340
Brazil	2,930	245	230	2,760
China	174	5	39	1,340
Indonesia	6,180	321	154	5,410
Malaysia	4,590	225	934	3,700
Peru	14,500	1,330	848	10,600
Singapore	424	--	--	101
Thailand	1,750	--	100	2,330
Other	676	1	1	28
Total	36,900	2,690	2,570	32,800
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,480	86	149	1,240
Bars and rods	1,800	120	116	1,450
Foil, tubes, pipes	83	17	5	84
Plates, sheets, strip	60	1	9	83
Waste and scrap	72,500	4,990	5,630	58,600
Miscellaneous <sup>2</sup>	2,260	99	133	2,900
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,560	436	377	5,550

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</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	2013							
	2012 <sup>p</sup>	October			November			January– November <sup>2</sup>
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	2,950	661	4	665	665	4	669	7,330
Babbitt	281	17	W	17	16	W	16	709
Bronze and brass	2,460	89	82	171	94	82	176	1,900
Chemicals	9,860	276	W	276	253	W	253	2,830
Solder	4,900	225	W	225	227	W	227	3,470
Tinning	467	18	--	18	16	--	16	215
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	6,090	495	W	495	505	W	505	5,730
Other <sup>5</sup>	733	60	145	205	60	145	205	714
Total reported	27,700	1,840	229	2,070	1,840	229	2,070	22,900

<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>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includes terne metal.

<sup>4</sup>Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

<sup>5</sup>Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.