

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN FEBRUARY 2014

Domestic consumption of primary tin in February 2014 was 1,610 metric tons (t), unchanged from that in January 2014 and 34% less than in February 2013. For February 2014, imports of refined tin were 2,830 t, a 35% decrease in imports from the previous month, and a 13% decrease from February 2013. Peru, Malaysia, Indonesia and China were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in February 2014.

The Platts Metals Week New York dealer Grade A price of tin for February 2014 was \$10.61 per pound, a 3% increase from

the January 2014 average price, and a 6% decrease from the February 2013 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of tin for February 2014 was \$22,809 per metric ton, a 3% increase from the January 2014 and a 6% decrease from February 2013 average prices. During January 2014, global LME stocks of tin increased by 195 t to 9,090 t.

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2014			
	2013 ^P	January	February	January–February
Production, secondary ^{e,2}	11,200	931	931	1,860
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,500	1,610	1,610	3,220
Secondary	2,700	209 ^r	208	418
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	34,900	4,340	2,830	7,170
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,870	405	632	1,040
Stocks at end of period	6,520	6,540	6,560	6,560
Prices (average cents per pound): ³				
Metals Week composite ⁴	1,352.43	NA	NA	NA
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,040.43	1,027.50	1,060.69	1,044.09
London Metal Exchange cash	1,011.92	1,000.86	1,034.34	1,017.60
Kuala Lumpur	1,011.85	998.14	1,027.36	1,012.75

^eEstimated. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA not available.

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. Platts discontinued the Metals Week composite price on January 2, 2014.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week composite ¹	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash	Kuala Lumpur
2013:				
February	1,471.11	1,125.50	1,103.16	1,102.99
March	1,412.80	1,089.13	1,058.34	1,059.65
April	1,318.70	1,020.50	983.62	987.74
May	1,261.58	972.00	939.83	942.47
June	1,235.90	957.94	919.04	922.24
July	1,194.01	920.06	888.29	887.70
August	1,308.88	1,011.50	980.68	976.98
September	1,374.22	1,058.56	1,031.43	1,027.11
October	1,402.22	1,070.72	1,048.85	1,052.03
November	1,384.10	1,060.69	1,036.31	1,037.61
December	1,379.80	1,065.07	1,035.27	1,031.88
January–December	1,340.30	1,031.97	1,002.26	1,002.58
2014:				
January	NA	1,027.50	1,000.86	998.14
February	NA	1,060.69	1,034.34	1,027.14
January–February	NA	1,044.09	1,017.60	1,012.64

NA Not available.

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. Platts discontinued the Metals Week composite price on January 2, 2014.

Source: Platts Metals Daily.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Tinplate (all forms)				Shipments ² (gross weight)
		Production		Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)		
		Gross weight	Tin content			
2013:						
February	1,190	92,500	516	5.6	115,000	
March	1,540	89,400	546	6.1	116,000	
April	1,730	95,800	513	5.4	130,000	
May	1,230	101,000	523	5.2	121,000	
June	1,800	95,900	516	5.4	119,000	
July	2,350	89,600	532	5.9	130,000	
August	4,360	111,000	551	5.0	125,000	
September	1,370	102,000	523	5.1	111,000	
October	2,200	84,900	495	5.8	106,000	
November	653	87,200	505	5.8	86,400	
December	966	89,800	519	5.8	104,000	
January–December	19,400	1,040,000	5,740	5.6	1,260,000	
2014:						
January	888	71,700	428	6.0	109,000	
February	452	71,000	444	6.2	102,000	
January–February	1,340	143,000	872	6.1	211,000	

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

²Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

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

(Metric tons)

Country or product	2013	2014		
		January	February	January– February
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	218	2	2	4
Bolivia	6,510	722	253	974
Brazil	3,100	250	40	290
China	1,610	704	385	1,090
Indonesia	5,560	1,020	460	1,480
Malaysia	4,190	515	760	1,280
Peru	11,300	1,130	926	2,060
Singapore	101	--	--	--
Thailand	2,380	--	--	--
Other	31	2	1	3
Total	34,900	4,340	2,830	7,170
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,390	135	85	220
Bars and rods	1,590	129	151	280
Foil, tubes, pipes	85	19	4	22
Plates, sheets, strip	100	22	15	37
Waste and scrap	63,700	5,530	5,320	10,900
Miscellaneous ²	3,080	157	249	406
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,870	405	632	1,040

-- Zero.

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

²Includes 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 PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2013 ^p	2014						
		January			February			January– February
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	8,280	590	2	592	583	2	585	1,180
Babbitt	731	19	W	19	18	W	18	37
Bronze and brass	2,000	48	62	110	51	61	112	222
Chemicals	4,080	241	W	241	230	W	230	471
Solder	3,830	196	W	196	196	W	196	392
Tinning	238	21	--	21	21	--	21	42
Tinplate ³	6,250	428	W	428	444	W	444	872
Other ⁴	787	69	146	215	69	146	215	430
Total reported	26,200	1,610	209^r	1,820	1,610	208	1,820	3,640

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. 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.

²Includes terne metal.

³Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

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