

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN APRIL 2014

Domestic consumption of primary tin in April 2014 was 1,670 metric tons (t), the same as in March 2014 and a decrease of 32% from April 2013. For April 2014, imports of refined tin were 3,370 t, a 25% increase in imports from the previous month, and a 39% increase from April 2013.

Peru, Malaysia, Bolivia, and Indonesia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in April 2014.

The Platts Metals Week New York dealer Grade A price of tin for April 2014 was \$10.95 per pound, a slight increase from

the March 2014 and a 7% increase from the April 2013 average price. During April 2014, global LME stocks of tin decreased by 15 t to 9,540 t.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2013 ^p	2014		
		March	April	January–April
Production, secondary ^{e, 2}	11,200	931	931	3,720
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,500	1,670	1,670	6,560
Secondary	2,700	208	208	835
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	34,900	2,710	3,370	13,300
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,870	552	698	2,290
Stocks at end of period	6,520	6,570	6,490	6,490
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	1,072.33	1,095.19	1,063.93
London Metal Exchange cash	1,011.92	1,047.45	1,061.99	1,036.16
Kuala Lumpur	1,011.85	1,044.18	1,055.08	1,031.13

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. 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:				
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	1,317.71	1,015.23	984.81	985.08
2014:				
January	NA	1,027.50	1,000.86	998.14
February	NA	1,060.69	1,034.34	1,027.14
March	NA	1,072.33	1,047.45	1,044.18
April	NA	1,095.19	1,061.99	1,055.08
January–April	NA	1,063.93	1,036.16	1,031.13

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 (all forms)					Shipments ² (gross weight)
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Production		Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)		
		Gross weight	Tin content			
2013:						
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	16,700	857,000	4,680	5.5	1,030,000	
2014:						
January	888	71,700	428	6.0	109,000	
February	452	71,000	444	6.2	102,000	
March	348	92,300	495	5.4	114,000	
April	1,080	93,900	511	5.4	122,000	
January–April	2,760	329,000	1,880	5.8	447,000	

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		
		March	April	January–April ²
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	218	2	2	7
Bolivia	6,510	345	726	2,050
Brazil	3,100	99	155	545
China	1,610	39	149	1,280
Indonesia	5,560	550	309	2,330
Malaysia	4,190	895	881	3,050
Peru	11,300	777	999	3,830
Singapore	101	--	--	--
Thailand	2,380	--	--	--
Other	31	3	154	160
Total	34,900	2,710	3,370	13,300
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,390	128	137	486
Bars and rods	1,590	188	153	621
Foil, tubes, pipes	85	(3)	1	24
Plates, sheets, strip	100	9	11	57
Waste and scrap	63,700	4,010	3,840	18,700
Miscellaneous ⁴	3,080	171	291	868
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,870	552	698	2,290

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴Includes 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						
		March			April			January–April
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	8,280	582	2	584	155	2	157	1,920
Babbitt	731	18	W	18	18	W	18	90
Bronze and brass	2,000	46	61	107	48	61	109	439
Chemicals	4,080	236	W	236	218	W	218	934
Solder	3,830	196	W	196	195	W	195	1,320
Tinning	238	23	--	23	24	--	24	89
Tinplate ³	6,250	495	W	495	511	W	511	1,880
Other ⁴	787	69	146	215	500	146	646	724
Total reported	26,200	1,670	208	1,870	1,670	208	1,880	7,390

^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.

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.