

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN JUNE 2014

Domestic reported consumption of primary tin in June 2014 was 1,970 metric tons (t), slightly higher than in May 2014 and a decrease of 19% from that of June 2013. Indonesia, Peru, China, and Malaysia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports in June 2014.

Consumption of primary tin for the first 6 months of 2014 was essentially unchanged from that of the same period in the previous year. Note that previously unreported tin consumption had been included, and this comparison excludes those values. Imports of tin for the first 6 months of 2014 were 18,700 t, a drop of 4% from those in the same period of 2013. Peru, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Bolivia were, in descending order, the leading sources of refined tin imports for the first 6 months of 2014.

The Platts Metals Week New York dealer Grade A price of tin for June 2014 was \$10.64 per pound, slightly lower than in May 2014, and an increase of 11% from the June 2013 average price. During June 2014, global London Metal Exchange Ltd. stocks of tin increased by 635 t to 11,485 t.

China's imports of tin for the first half of 2014 were down by 65% compared with those in the first half of 2013. Based on refined tin exports of non-ingot tin products of 587 t, it appears that China's production of tin products exceeded local demand. (ITRI Ltd, 2014a).

In Indonesia, tin solder was granted a permanent exemption from a rule that would have forced all tin exports to trade on the Indonesia Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (ICDX). The exception considers tin solder to be a finished product, and not a raw material. The other products included in this exemption are tin ingots, both pure and impure, and tin in other forms. Cassiterite and concentrate still have to be traded on the ICDX (ITRI Ltd, 2014b).

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References Cited

- ITRI Ltd., 2014a, China refined tin trade reflects local surplus: Frogmore, United Kingdom, ITRI Ltd. news release, June 5. (Accessed September 18, 2014, at www.itri.co.uk/index.php?option=com_zoo&task=item&item_id=3023&category_id=3&Itemid=143.)
- ITRI Ltd., 2014b, Solder to get permanent exemption from Indonesian export rule: Frogmore, United Kingdom, ITRI Ltd. news release, June 17. (Accessed September 18, 2014, at https://www.itri.co.uk/index.php?option=com_zoo&task=item&item_id=3029&category_id=3&Itemid=143)

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2013 ^p	2014		
		May	June	January– June
Production, secondary ^{e, 2}	11,200	931	931	5,590
Reported consumption:				
Primary	23,500	1,930 ^r	1,970	11,700
Secondary	2,700	234 ^r	233	1,400
Imports for consumption, unwrought tin	34,900	2,360	3,060	18,700
Exports, unwrought tin and tin alloys	5,870	672	441	3,400
Stocks at end of period	6,520	6,800 ^r	6,860	6,860
Prices (average cents per pound): ³				
Metals Week composite ⁴	1,352.43	NA	NA	NA
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,041.43 ^r	1,086.44	1,064.38	1,067.75
London Metal Exchange cash	1,001.92 ^r	1,056.98	1,032.72	1,039.06
Kuala Lumpur	1,011.85	1,055.14	1,035.47	1,035.86

^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:				
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	1,352.43 ^r	1,041.43 ^r	1,001.92 ^r	1,011.85 ^r
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
May	NA	1,086.44	1,056.98	1,055.14
June	NA	1,064.38	1,032.72	1,035.47
January–June	NA	1,067.75	1,039.06	1,035.86

^rRevised. 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)				
	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Production		Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	Shipments ² (gross weight)
		Gross weight	Tin content		
2013:					
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	20,800 ^r	1,090,000 ^r	6,030 ^r	5.5	1,380,000 ^r
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	1,510 ^r	87,800 ^r	498 ^r	5.7 ^r	122,000
May	2,330 ^r	92,500 ^r	502 ^r	5.4 ^r	132,000
June	2,910	93,600	505	5.4	136,000
January–June	8,430	509,000	2,870	5.7	715,000

^rRevised.

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		
		May	June	January– June ²
Imports:				
Metal (unwrought tin):				
Belgium	218	--	3	10
Bolivia	6,510	315	211	2,570
Brazil	3,100	366	101	1,010
China	1,610	80	418	1,770
Indonesia	5,560	735	1,190	4,260
Malaysia	4,190	250	250	3,550
Peru	11,300	597	892	5,320
Singapore	101	--	--	--
Thailand	2,380	--	--	--
Other	31	15	4	180
Total	34,900	2,360	3,060	18,700
Other (gross weight):				
Alloys	1,390	151	129	765
Bars and rods	1,590	180	146	947
Foil, tubes, pipes	85	2	2	28
Plates, sheets, strip	100	5	5	67
Waste and scrap	63,700	4,050	4,540	27,300
Miscellaneous ³	3,080	257	386	1,510
Exports (unwrought tin and tin alloys)	5,870	672	441	3,400

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes 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– June
		May			June			
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	8,280	140 ^r	2	142 ^r	198	2	200	2,330
Babbitt	731	25 ^r	W	25 ^r	25	W	25	175
Bronze and brass	2,000	50 ^r	87 ^r	137 ^r	49	87	136	827
Chemicals	4,080	460 ^r	W	460 ^r	445	W	445	2,770
Solder	3,830	220 ^r	W	220 ^r	213	W	213	2,160
Tinning	238	38 ^r	--	38 ^r	39	--	39	201
Tinplate ³	6,250	502 ^r	W	502 ^r	505	W	505	2,870
Other ⁴	787	500	146	646	500	144	644	1,730
Total reported	26,200	1,930 ^r	234 ^r	2,170 ^r	1,970	233	2,210	13,100

^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.