

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ZINC IN JULY 2014

Domestic mine production (recoverable) of zinc in July 2014 was 64,600 metric tons (t). Average daily mine production in July was 2,080 t, slightly more than that in June 2014 and 6% more than that in July 2013.

The Platts Metals Week average price for North American Special High Grade (SHG) zinc for July 2014 was 113.83 cents per pound, 8% more than the June 2014 average price and 23% more than the July 2013 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of SHG zinc for July 2014 was \$2,310.69 per metric ton, 9% more than the

June 2014 average price and 26% more than the July 2013 average price. In July 2014, global LME stocks of SHG zinc decreased by 12,675 t to 655,275 t.

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

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2014		
	January– December	June	July	January– July
<b>Production:</b>				
Mine, zinc content of concentrate <sup>2</sup>	777,000	63,400	66,900	478,000
Mine, recoverable zinc <sup>2</sup>	751,000	61,200	64,600	462,000
Smelter, refined zinc <sup>e</sup>	233,000	17,100 <sup>3</sup>	17,100 <sup>3</sup>	122,000
<b>Consumption of refined zinc:</b>				
Apparent <sup>4</sup>	935,000	69,300	75,600	583,000
<b>Imports for consumption:</b>				
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	2,550	--	--	--
Refined zinc	713,000	52,400	58,700	471,000
<b>Exports:</b>				
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	669,000	12,500	183,000	254,000
Refined zinc	11,500	263	249	9,740
<b>Price:<sup>5</sup></b>				
London Metal Exchange cash, average, dollars per metric ton	1,910.04	2,126.46	2,310.69	2,087.81
Platts Metals Week North American, average, cents per pound	95.57	105.47	113.83	103.89

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>P</sup>Preliminary. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Reported zinc content in both zinc and lead concentrates.

<sup>3</sup>Data are based partially on smelter shipments rather than production

<sup>4</sup>Smelter production plus imports for consumption minus domestic exports.

<sup>5</sup>Special High Grade Zinc.

TABLE 2  
MINE AND SMELTER PRODUCTION OF ZINC  
IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Mine <sup>2</sup>		Smelter <sup>e</sup>
	Zinc content	Recoverable	
<b>2013:</b>			
July	63,000	61,000	20,100
August	64,600	62,400	20,100
September	69,000	66,700	20,100
October	68,700	66,300	18,700
November	62,700	60,600	18,700
December	70,900	68,500	18,700
January–December	777,000	751,000	233,000
<b>2014:</b>			
January	77,100	74,500	18,000
February	65,400	63,100	18,000
March	70,500	68,200	18,000
April	69,200	66,800	17,100 <sup>3</sup>
May	65,500	63,300	17,100 <sup>3</sup>
June	63,400	61,200	17,100 <sup>3</sup>
July	66,900	64,600	17,100 <sup>3</sup>
January–July	478,000	462,000	122,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes the zinc content in both lead and zinc concentrates.

<sup>3</sup>Data are based partially on smelter shipments rather than production.

TABLE 3  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ZINC<sup>1</sup>

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2013		2014			
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	July		January–July	
			Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	2,550	\$4,420	--	--	--	--
Unwrought:						
Refined zinc	713,000	1,420,000	58,700	\$132,000	471,000	\$979,000
Zinc alloys	7,940	16,100	721	1,660	4,740	10,200
Wrought:						
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	2,540	7,360	263	946	1,480	4,630
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	3,570	13,900	213	831	2,330	7,960
Other:						
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	13,000	16,400	1,110	1,250	5,030	7,600
Powders, flakes, dust	24,500	71,400	2,960	9,610	19,200	60,600
Waste and scrap	21,000	25,300	2,350	2,740	14,400	17,700
Chemicals:						
Oxide	97,400	192,000	10,900	23,900	74,600	156,000
Chloride	278	1,900	9	87	111	903
Sulfate	52,600	44,100	7,730	5,430	40,000	29,400
Compounds, other <sup>2</sup>	3,310	11,800	260	938	3,050	8,610

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes zinc sulfide (HTS 2830.90.1000 and 2830.90.1500), chromates of zinc or of lead (HTS 2841.90.4500), and lithopone and other pigments and preparations based on zinc sulfide (HTS 3206.42.000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. International Trade Commission.

TABLE 4  
U.S. IMPORTS OF ZINC, BY TYPE OF MATERIAL AND COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material and country	General imports			Imports for consumption		
	2013	2014		2013	2014	
		July	January–July		July	January–July
<b>Ore and concentrate (zinc content):</b>						
Canada	2,500	--	--	2,500	--	--
Malaysia	52	--	--	52	--	--
Total	2,550	--	--	2,550	--	--
<b>Refined zinc:</b>						
Argentina	1,000	--	--	1,000	--	--
Australia	--	--	24,000	55,100	4,320	78,400
Belgium	--	--	--	--	--	10,100
Brazil	9,390	--	--	2,800	--	--
Canada	480,000	35,200	245,000	480,000	35,200	245,000
China	81	3	21	467	27	623
Japan	--	--	--	74	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	365	507	35,400
Mexico	97,800	8,400	59,400	97,800	8,400	60,900
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	222	1,130
Peru	75,200	2,630	26,600	75,200	2,630	26,600
Spain	--	--	--	23	7,400	12,400
Taiwan	81	1	39	81	1	39
Other	7	--	1	7	--	1
Total	664,000	46,200	355,000	713,000	58,700	471,000
<b>Oxide:</b>						
Australia	1,020	20	217	1,020	20	217
Belgium	265	2	418	265	2	418
Brazil	382	--	--	382	--	--
Canada	54,500	6,640	44,800	54,500	6,640	44,800
China	365	61	217	365	61	217
Congo (Brazzaville)	1,320	--	--	1,320	--	--
Congo (Kinshasa)	895	--	--	895	--	--
France	699	--	(2)	699	--	(2)
Germany	3,190	206	1,620	3,190	206	1,620
India	233	51	234	233	51	234
Indonesia	216	--	--	216	--	--
Italy	185	--	--	185	--	--
Japan	1,170	57	802	1,170	57	802
Malaysia	39	20	214	39	20	214
Mexico	28,000	3,050	21,000	28,000	3,050	21,000
Netherlands	3,280	427	3,120	3,280	427	3,120
Peru	928	262	1,580	928	262	1,580
Taiwan	7	16	16	7	16	16
Trinidad and Tobago	205	--	68	205	--	68
Turkey	405	38	234	405	38	234
Other	109 <sup>r</sup>	(2)	16	109 <sup>r</sup>	(2)	16
Total	97,400	10,900	74,600	97,400	10,900	74,600

<sup>r</sup>Revised. -- 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. International Trade Commission.

TABLE 5  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ZINC<sup>1</sup>

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2013		2014			
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	July		January–July	
			Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	669,000	\$868,000	183,000	\$377,000	254,000	\$472,000
Unwrought:						
Refined zinc	11,500	11,000	249	642	9,740	33,000
Zinc alloys	23,200	58,600	2,480	8,590	18,300	46,800
Wrought:						
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	8,580	16,400	824	1,650	6,180	11,800
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	6,520	22,700	585	2,040	4,080	14,500
Other:						
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	18,600	25,600	3,170	6,100	12,500	19,300
Powders, flakes, dust	10,700	28,900	828	2,660	5,440	16,100
Waste and scrap	88,000	105,000	4,740	7,130	40,200	53,800
Chemicals:						
Oxide	17,500	32,000	349	1,260	3,710	12,800
Chloride	776	1,070	89	89	438	605
Sulfate	525	660	70	79	256	249
Compounds, other <sup>2</sup>	6,720	21,000	146	2,000	1,220	14,100

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes zinc sulfide (Schedule B 2830.90.1000 and 2830.90.1500), chromates of zinc or of lead (Schedule B 2841.90.4500), and lithopone and other pigments and preparations based on zinc sulfide (Schedule B 3206.42.0000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S International Trade Commission.

TABLE 6  
AVERAGE PRICES FOR SPECIAL HIGH GRADE ZINC

Period	North	London Metal Exchange	
	American <sup>1</sup> ¢/lb.	cash <sup>2</sup>	
		¢/lb.	\$/t
2013:			
July	92.28	83.26	1,835.60
August	95.19	85.92	1,894.24
September	93.09	83.83	1,848.17
October	94.65	85.39	1,882.50
November	94.01	84.75	1,868.36
December	98.80	89.53	1,973.88
January–December	95.57	86.64	1,910.04
2014:			
January	101.71	92.45	2,038.11
February	101.57	92.31	2,035.01
March	100.62	91.36	2,014.07
April	101.36	92.09	2,030.28
May	102.65	93.44	2,060.01
June	105.47	96.45	2,126.46
July	113.83	104.81	2,310.69
January–July	103.89	94.70	2,087.81

<sup>1</sup>Platts Metals Week North American price. Based on the London Metal Exchange cash price plus premium.

<sup>2</sup>Average of the cash buyer price and the cash seller and settlement price.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 7  
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (LME) STOCKS OF SPECIAL HIGH GRADE ZINC, END OF PERIOD

(metric tons)

Period	United States				Europe	Other	Total LME
	Detroit, MI	New Orleans, LA	Other	Total			
2013:							
July	113,075	647,125	6,525	766,725	246,575	32,100	1,045,400
August	112,675	605,650	5,750	724,075	244,225	31,900	1,000,200
September	112,675	643,075	5,450	761,200	231,225	31,600	1,024,025
October	112,375	659,850	4,975	777,200	218,675	31,500	1,027,375
November	112,375	619,550	4,350	736,275	192,775	31,200	960,250
December	109,025	635,575	3,750	748,350	151,925	30,900	931,175
2014:							
January	102,175	594,950	3,025	700,150	119,125	30,825	850,100
February	92,250	543,625	2,250	638,125	92,100	27,725	757,950
March	84,275	643,000	2,000	729,275	76,725	27,575	833,575
April	82,025	590,525	1,550	674,100	70,950	26,425	771,475
May	71,325	555,825	1,100	628,250	54,575	25,600	708,425
June	64,100	537,625	750	602,475	40,600	24,875	667,950
July	59,225	539,400	450	599,075	31,550	24,650	655,275

Source: London Metal Exchange, Ltd.