

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TIN IN JULY 2020

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in July 2020 was 1,720 metric tons (t), a slight decrease from that in June 2020, and a 4% increase from that in July 2019. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 12,100 t, 3% more than that of the same period of 2019. Apparent consumption of refined tin in July 2020 was 3,270 t, a 25% increase from that revised in June 2020, and a 12% decrease from that in July 2019. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 26,400 t, a slight increase from that of the same period of 2019 (table 1).

### Prices

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for July 2020 was \$8.14 per pound, a 4% increase from that in June 2020, and a 3% decrease from that in July 2019. Year to date, the average New York dealer price of Grade A tin was \$7.59 per pound, an 18% decrease than that of the same period in 2019. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for July 2020 was \$7.92 per pound, a 4% increase from June 2020, and a 3% decrease from that in July 2019. Year to date, the average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin was \$7.36 per pound, a 19% decrease than that of the same period in 2019 (fig. 1, table 2).

### U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in July 2020 were 2,430 t, a 36% increase from June 2020, and a 17% decrease from those in July 2019. The leading sources of refined tin in July 2020 were Peru (40%), Indonesia (33%), Malaysia (11%), Bolivia (8%), and Brazil (4%). Year to date, refined tin imports were 20,600 t, a 5% decrease from those in the same period of 2019 (table 4).

### Update

In July, Alphamin Resources Corp. announced that the recovery rate at its Bisie Mine in the Congo (Kinshasa), has reached 10,000 metric tons per year (t/yr) of tin in concentrate. The company planned additional efficiencies that will further increase the production rate to 12,000 t/yr in the next two years (Alphamin Resources Corp., 2020).

After a 17-month shut down, the Inner Mongolia Xingye Mining Co., Ltd., will restart the Baiyinchagan Mine. Located in Inner Mongolia, China, the Baiyinchagan Mine was closed after a fatal mining accident in 2019. During 2018, the Baiyinchagan Mine produced 7,000 t of tin concentrate (International Tin Association, 2020).

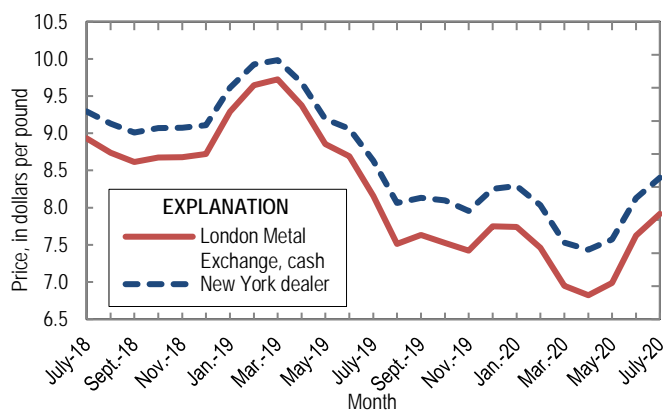


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from July 2018 through July 2020. Source: Platts Metals Week.

### References Cited

- Alphamin Resources Corp., 2020, Alphamin raises tin production by 29%: Grand Baie, Rivière du Rempart, Mauritius, Alphamin Resources Corp. news release, July 16. (Accessed October 19, 2020, at <https://alphaminresources.com/2020/07/16/alphamin-raises-tin-production-by-29/>.)
- International Tin Association Ltd., 2020, Baiyinchagan restart scheduled: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd. news release, July 30. (Accessed August 7, 2020, at <https://www.internationaltin.org/baiyinchagan-restart-scheduled/>.)

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

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2020			
	2019 <sup>p</sup>	June	July	January– July <sup>2</sup>
Production, secondary <sup>e,3</sup>	8,940	858	858	6,010
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	20,100	1,730	1,720	12,100
Secondary	2,330	191	193	1,380
Consumption, apparent <sup>4</sup>	41,800	2,610 <sup>r</sup>	3,270	26,400
Imports for consumption, refined tin	34,100	1,790	2,430	20,600
Exports, refined tin	1,300	29	11	245
Stocks at end of period	5,940	5,080	5,070	5,070
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>5</sup>				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	868.00	783.22	814.22	759.04
London Metal Exchange cash	846.43	762.32	791.65	735.67

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previous 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>Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

<sup>5</sup>Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2  
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2019:		
July	839.50	815.61
August	775.89	751.48
September	783.67	763.33
October	779.56	752.58
November	763.86	742.06
December	797.13	774.85
January–December	868.00	846.43
2020:		
January	801.56	773.91
February	772.63	746.03
March	715.78	694.68
April	705.11	682.17
May	720.75	698.92
June	783.22	762.32
July	814.22	791.65
January–July	759.04	735.67

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)			
	Production			Shipments <sup>2</sup> (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2019: <sup>P</sup>				
July	37,100	384	10.3	75,500
August	40,200	405	10.1	78,800
September	22,400	362	16.1	73,000
October	25,800	381	14.7	79,100
November	20,800	377	11.6	59,300
December	38,100	371	9.7	61,400
January–December	437,000	4,690	10.7	890,000
2020:				
January	40,800	453	11.1	72,900
February	39,900	440	11.0	70,500
March	40,100	450	11.2	98,000
April	48,000	477	9.9	94,400
May	47,600	470	9.9	94,500
June	47,500	478	10.1	108,000
July	46,400	467	10.1	101,000
January–July	311,000	3,240	10.5	639,000

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary.

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

<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, gross weight)

Country/locality, or product	2020			
	2019 <sup>p</sup>	June	July	January- July <sup>2</sup>
<b>Imports:</b>				
<b>Refined tin:</b>				
Belgium	327	42	20	248
Bolivia	5,940	--	184	3,900
Brazil	3,020	152	96	1,680
Indonesia	5,230	871	806	6,570
Malaysia	7,120	101	265	2,340
Peru	7,930	505	975	4,990
Poland	1,080	112	45	672
Thailand	600	--	25	153
Other	2,910	3	11	65
Total	34,100	1,790	2,430	20,600
<b>Other:</b>				
Alloys	1,020	79	35	385
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,450	79	97	610
Flakes and powders	117	11	6	80
Foil	56	1	(3)	21
Plates, sheets, strip	58	5	1	24
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	196	3	1	7
Waste and scrap	30,400	1,050	2,210	13,100
Miscellaneous <sup>4</sup>	970	84	114	693
<b>Exports:</b>				
Refined tin	1,300	29	11	245
Alloys	1,200	99	202	623

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. -- 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 previous published data.

<sup>3</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>4</sup>Includes 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	2020							
	2019 <sup>p</sup>	June			July			January– July <sup>2</sup>
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	2,330	207	--	207	204	--	204	1,440
Babbitt	218	10	--	10	8	--	8	60
Bronze and brass	1,660	56	74	130	56	76	132	950
Chemicals	3,980	324	W	324	324	W	324	2,350
Solder	3,440	156	W	156	156	W	156	1,160
Tinning	277	19	--	19	19	--	19	133
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	4,710	478	W	478	471	W	471	3,240
Other <sup>5</sup>	5,800	477	117	594	477	117	594	4,160
Total reported	22,400	1,730	191	1,920	1,720	193	1,910	13,500

<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 previous 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.