

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN SEPTEMBER 2020

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in September 2020 was 1,720 metric tons (t), a slight decrease from the revised amount in August 2020 and a 5% increase from that in September 2019. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 15,600 t, a 3% increase from that of the same period of 2019. Apparent consumption of refined tin in September 2020 was 2,930 t, a 7% increase from that in August 2020, and a 28% decrease from that in September 2019. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 32,900 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 September 2020 was \$8.35 per pound, a slight increase from that in August 2020, and a 7% increase from that in September 2019. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for September 2020 was \$8.14 per pound, a slight increase from the revised August 2020 price, and a 7% increase from that in September 2019 (fig. 1, table 2).

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in September 2020 were 2,110 t, a 9% increase from August 2020, and a 38% decrease from those in September 2019. The leading sources of refined tin in September 2020 were Peru (38%), Brazil (21%), Indonesia (19%), Malaysia (11%), and Bolivia (4%). Year to date, refined tin imports were 24,700 t, a 7% decrease from those in the same period of 2019 (table 4). Year to date leading sources of refined

tin were Indonesia (29%), Peru (26%), Bolivia (17%), Malaysia (13%), and Brazil (9%).

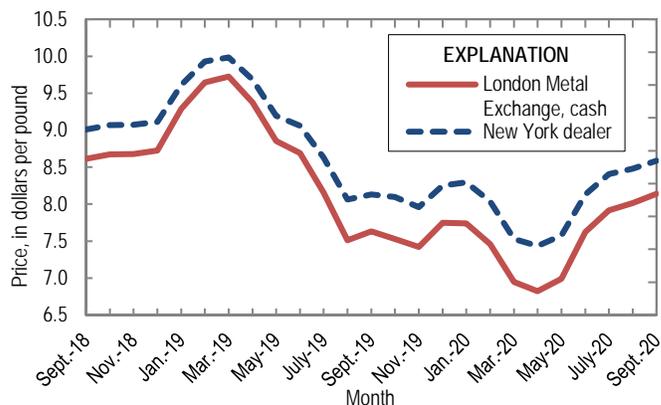


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from September 2018 through September 2020. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2019 ^p	2020		
		August	September	January– September ²
Production, secondary ^{e, 3}	8,940	858	858	7,720
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	20,100	1,750 ^r	1,720	15,600
Secondary	2,330	182	200	1,760
Consumption, apparent ⁴	41,800	2,740	2,930	32,000
Imports for consumption, refined tin	34,100	1,940	2,110	24,700
Exports, refined tin	1,300	60	34	339
Stocks at end of period	5,940	5,090 ^r	5,100	5,100
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	868.00	822.89	834.75	774.55
London Metal Exchange cash	846.43	801.58 ^r	814.01	751.70

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

²May include revisions to previous published data.

³Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

⁴Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

⁵Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2019:		
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
August	822.89	801.58 [†]
September	834.75	814.01
January–September	774.55	751.70

[†]Revised.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)			
	Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2019: ^P				
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	44,200 ^r	469 ^r	10.6 ^r	101,000
August	43,600 ^r	466 ^r	10.7 ^r	99,800
September	39,200	457	11.7	94,700
January–September	391,000	4,160	10.7	833,000

^PPreliminary. ^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, gross weight)

Country/locality, or product	2020			
	2019 ^p	August	September	January–September ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	327	22	42	312
Bolivia	5,940	214	90	4,210
Brazil	3,020	149	440	2,270
Indonesia	5,230	275	395	7,240
Malaysia	7,120	500	235	3,080
Peru	7,930	710	796	6,500
Poland	1,080	45	67	784
Thailand	600	--	21	174
Other	2,910	22	21	108
Total	34,100	1,940	2,110	24,700
Other:				
Alloys	1,020	52	78	515
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,450	82	129	821
Flakes and powders	117	15	6	101
Foil	56	12	(3)	33
Plates, sheets, strip	58	1	23	48
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	196	--	--	7
Waste and scrap	30,400	1,850	1,810	16,700
Miscellaneous ⁴	970	97	110	900
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,300	60	34	339
Alloys	1,200	98	98	819

^pPreliminary. -- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previous published data.

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴Includes 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	2020							
	2019 ^P	August			September			January– September ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,330	204	--	204	207	--	207	1,850
Babbitt	218	9	W	9	9	W	9	78
Bronze and brass	1,660	73	65	138	56	83	139	1,230
Chemicals	3,980	336 ^r	--	336 ^r	325	--	325	3,010
Solder	3,440	176 ^r	W	176 ^r	170	W	170	1,500
Tinning	277	19	--	19	19	--	19	171
Tinplate ⁴	4,710	460 ^r	W	460 ^r	457	W	457	4,140
Other ⁵	5,800	477	117	594	477	117	594	5,350
Total reported	22,400	1,750 ^r	182	1,940 ^r	1,720	200	1,920	17,300

^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.

²May include revisions to previous published data.

³Includes terne metal.

⁴Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁵Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal, and white metal.