

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN OCTOBER 2020

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in October 2020 was 1,780 metric tons (t), a 3% increase from that in September 2020 and a 5% increase from that in October 2019. Year to date, domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin was 17,300 t, a 3% increase from that of the same period of 2019. Apparent consumption of refined tin in October 2020 was 2,870 t, a slight decrease from that in September 2020, and a 5% decrease from that in October 2019. Year to date, apparent consumption of refined tin was 34,900 t, a 3% 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 October 2020 was \$8.40 per pound, a slight increase from that in September 2020, and an 8% increase from that in October 2019. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for October 2020 was \$8.23 per pound, a slight increase from that in September 2020, and a 9% increase from that in October 2019 (fig. 1, table 2).

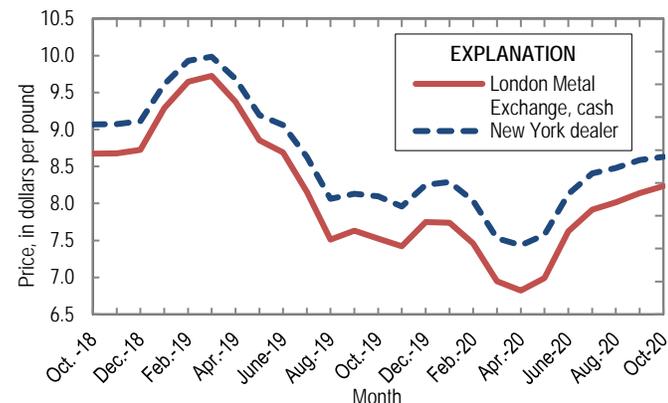


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from October 2018 through October 2020. Source: Platts Metals Week.

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in October 2020 were 2,090 t, a slight decrease from September 2020, and a 7% decrease from those in October 2019. The leading sources of refined tin in October 2020 were Peru (43%), Indonesia (15%), Malaysia (14%), Brazil (13%), and Bolivia (10%). Year to date, refined tin imports were 26,800 t, a 7% decrease from those in the same period of 2019 (table 4). Year to date leading sources of refined tin were Indonesia (28%), Peru (28%), Bolivia (17%), Malaysia (13%), and Brazil (10%).

Update

In August, Rusolovo PJSC, acquired the rights to explore and extract minerals at the Pyrkakay tin mine located in the Chukotka Autonomous District of north-eastern Russia (International Tin Association Ltd., 2020).

Reference Cited

International Tin Association Ltd., 2020, Pyrkakay acquisition boosts Rusolovo's resources: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd. news release, October 1. (Accessed October 8, 2020, at <https://www.internationaltin.org/pyrkakay-acquisition-boosts-rusolovos-resources/>.)

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2019 ^p	2020		
		September	October	January– October ²
Production, secondary ^{e, 3}	8,940	858	858	8,580
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	20,100	1,720	1,780	17,300
Secondary	2,330	200	192	1,950
Consumption, apparent ⁴	41,800	2,930	2,870	34,900
Imports for consumption, refined tin	34,100	2,110	2,090	26,800
Exports, refined tin	1,300	34	81	420
Stocks at end of period	5,940	5,100	5,060	5,060
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	868.00	834.75	839.56	781.05
London Metal Exchange cash	846.43	814.01	823.46	758.87

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary.

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:		
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
October	839.56	823.46
January–October	781.05	758.87

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				
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	469	10.6	101,000
August	43,600	466	10.7	99,800
September	39,200	457	11.7	94,700
October	46,200	482	10.4	99,400
January–October	437,000	4,640	10.7	933,000

^PPreliminary.

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	September	October	January– October ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	327	42	20	332
Bolivia	5,940	90	215	4,420
Brazil	3,020	440	276	2,540
Indonesia	5,230	395	321	7,560
Malaysia	7,120	235	300	3,380
Peru	7,930	796	890	7,390
Poland	1,080	67	67	852
Thailand	600	21	--	174
Other	2,910	21	1	109
Total	34,100	2,110	2,090	26,800
Other:				
Alloys	1,020	78	102	617
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,450	129	131	952
Flakes and powders	117	6	13	114
Foil	56	⁽³⁾	1	34
Plates, sheets, strip	58	23	1	49
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	196	--	--	7
Waste and scrap	30,400	1,810	2,220	18,900
Miscellaneous ⁴	970	110	147	1,050
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,300	34	81	420
Alloys	1,200	98	89	908

^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	September			October			January– October ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	2,330	207	--	207	207	--	207	2,060
Babbitt	218	9	W	9	8	W	8	86
Bronze and brass	1,660	56	83	139	56	75	131	1,360
Chemicals	3,980	325	--	325	358	--	358	3,370
Solder	3,440	170	W	170	170	W	170	1,670
Tinning	277	19	--	19	19	--	19	190
Tinplate ⁴	4,710	457	W	457	482	W	482	4,630
Other ⁵	5,800	477	117	594	477	117	594	5,940
Total reported	22,400	1,720	200	1,920	1,780	192	1,970	19,300

^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.

²May include revisions to previous published data.

³Includesterne 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.