

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

C. Schuyler Anderson, Tin Commodity Specialist
 National Minerals Information Center
 U.S. Geological Survey
 989 National Center
 Reston, VA 20192
 Telephone: (703) 648-4985, Fax: (703) 648-7757
 Email: csanderson@usgs.gov

Linda M. Barnes (Data)
 Telephone: (703) 648-7986
 Fax: (703) 648-7975
 Email: lbarnes@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>

TIN IN FEBRUARY 2018

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in February 2018 was 1,630 metric tons (t), slightly less than the revised reported consumption of 1,670 t in January 2018. Apparent consumption of refined tin in February was 3,310 t, a 5% decrease from the January 2018 apparent consumption of 3,490 t (table 1).

Total refined tin imports in February 2018 were 2,580 t, a 5% decrease from imports in January 2018 (table 4), owing to a decrease in imports from Brazil, Indonesia, and Peru. The leading sources of refined tin in February were, in descending order, Bolivia, Indonesia, Peru, Malaysia, and Brazil.

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for February 2018 was \$10.04 per pound, a 5% increase from the January 2018 price of \$9.56 per pound. The London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for February 2018 was \$9.83 per pound, a 5% increase from the January 2018 price of \$9.39 per pound (fig. 1, table 2).

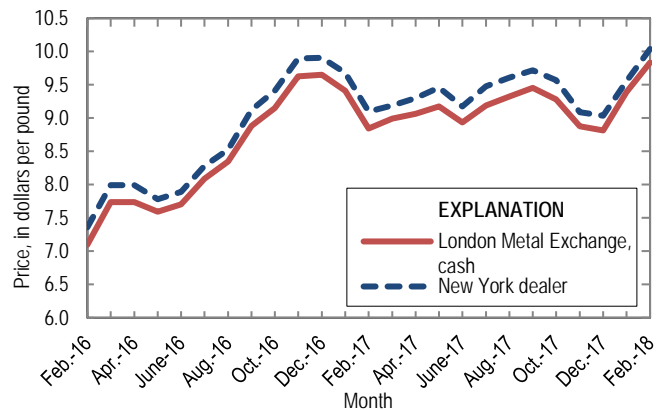


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from February 2016 through February 2018. Source: Platts Metals Week.

List services and web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>.

TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2017 ^p	2018		
		January	February	January– February
Production, secondary ^{e, 2}	10,300	858	858	1,720
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	22,100	1,670 ^r	1,630	3,290
Secondary	2,640	200	202	402
Consumption, apparent ³	42,800	3,490	3,310	6,790
Imports for consumption, refined tin	34,100	2,720	2,580	5,300
Exports, refined tin	1,560	93	131	224
Stocks at end of period	6,570	6,300 ^r	6,330	6,330
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	936.65	955.56	1,003.75	979.65
London Metal Exchange cash	911.24	939.09	983.43	961.26

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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.

³Calculated from secondary production plus imports minus exports.

⁴Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2017:		
February	909.88	884.05
March	919.00	899.00
April	929.88	906.37
May	945.89	917.26
June	917.44	893.42
July	948.00	919.02
August	960.78	932.57
September	972.00	945.44
October	956.89	928.02
November	908.67	887.55
December	903.43	881.43
January–December	936.65	911.24
2018:		
January	955.56	939.09
February	1,003.75	983.43
January–February	979.65	961.26

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate waste production (strips, cobbles, etc.) (gross weight)	Tinplate (all forms)				
		Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)	
		Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)		
2017:						
February	2,310	45,500	449	9.9	67,800	
March	2,310	39,800	455	11.5	78,200	
April	2,310	44,100	481	10.9	75,600	
May	2,310	40,900	465	11.4	85,400	
June	2,310	41,200	455	11.0	82,400	
July	2,310	39,800	438	11.0	80,100	
August	2,310	41,000	435	10.6	97,300	
September	2,310	38,400	448	11.7	94,200	
October	2,310	46,200	470	10.2	84,800	
November	2,310	41,700	448	10.7	79,600	
December	2,310	36,200	352	9.7	90,300	
January–December	27,700	496,000	5,340	10.8	978,000	
2018:						
January	NA	42,400 ^r	390 ^r	9.2 ^r	74,400	
February	NA	35,200	357	10.1	66,600	
January–February	NA	77,600	747	10	141,000	

^rRevised. NA Not available.

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	2017	2018		
		January	February	January– February
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	26	2	(2)	3
Bolivia	6,250	541	686	1,230
Brazil	1,720	149	75	224
Canada	17	1	--	1
China	510	51	--	51
Indonesia	9,910	811	681	1,490
Malaysia	7,050	442	506	948
Peru	7,350	700	541	1,240
Singapore	40	--	--	--
Thailand	449	--	25	25
Other	750	23	67	90
Total	34,100	2,720	2,580	5,300
Other:				
Alloys	1,590	64	136	200
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,130	114	94	209
Flakes and powders	171	8	13	21
Foil	98	(2)	1	1
Plates, sheets, strip	74	7	(2)	7
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	11	(2)	31	32
Waste and scrap	52,100	3,310	4,420	7,730
Miscellaneous ³	732	89	56	145
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,560	93	131	224
Alloys	965	60	70	130

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

³Includes 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	2017 ^p	2018						
		January			February			January– February
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	2,580	182	--	182	181	--	181	363
Babbitt	285	23	W	23	22	W	22	45
Bronze and brass	2,110	59	78	137	61	79	140	277
Chemicals	5,350	332	W	332	326	W	326	658
Solder	3,690	163	W	163	163	W	163	326
Tinning	312	22	--	22	22	--	22	44
Tinplate ³	4,380	390 ^r	W	390 ^r	357	W	357	747
Other ⁴	6,010	494	122	616	493	123	616	1,230
Total reported	24,700	1,670 ^r	200	1,870 ^r	1,630	202	1,830	3,690

^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.