

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN APRIL 2023

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in April 2023 was 1,480 metric tons (t), a 3% decrease from the reported consumption in both March 2023 and April 2022. Apparent consumption of refined tin in April 2023 was 2,460 t, a 12% increase from that in March 2023 and a 31% decrease from that in April 2022 (table 1).

Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for April 2023 was \$12.69 per pound, an 8% increase from that in March 2023, and a 41% decrease from that in April 2022. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for April 2023 was \$11.73 per pound, an 8% increase from that in March 2023, and a 40% decrease from that in April 2022 (fig. 1, table 2).

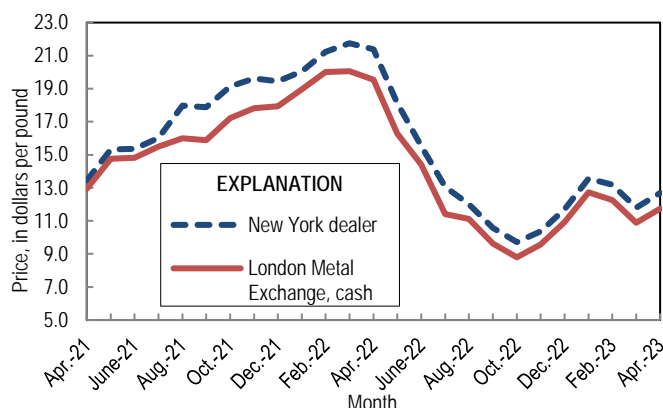


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from April 2021 through April 2023. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in April 2023 were 1,670 t, a 10% increase from those in March 2023 and a 42% decrease from those in April 2022. The leading sources of refined tin in April 2023 were Malaysia (22%), Indonesia (19%), Bolivia (14%), Peru (13%), and Brazil (12%). Total refined tin exports in April 2023 were 68 t, a decrease of 108 t from those in March 2023 and a decrease of 118 t from those in April 2022 (table 4).

Industry News

In April, Burma's self-administered Wa State announced that beginning in August it would halt mining operations in areas under its control. The suspension was being implemented to protect mineral resources until new mining regulations were implemented. Most of Burma's tin was mined within areas administered by the Wa State. In 2022, Burma mined an estimated 10% of tin concentrate's worldwide supply, while China imported two-thirds of its tin concentrate from Burma (International Tin Association Ltd., 2023; Reuters, 2023).

References Cited

- International Tin Association Ltd., 2023, Myanmar's Wa State announces tin mining suspension from August: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd., April 17. (Accessed June 22, 2023, <https://www.internationaltin.org/notice-circulating-that-myanmars-wa-state-mine-operations-are-to-be-suspended/>.)
- Reuters, 2023, Myanmar's Wa militia to suspend mining in its zone from Aug, tin prices jump: Reuters, April 17. (Accessed June 22, 2023, at <https://www.reuters.com/article/tin-myanmar-idUSKBN2WE0KH>.)

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2023			
	2022	March	April	January–April ²
Production, secondary ^{e, 3}	10,300	858	858	3,430
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	18,000	1,520	1,480	6,050
Secondary	311	25	26	109
Consumption, apparent ⁴	42,200 ^r	2,200	2,460	11,200
Imports for consumption, refined tin	33,200 ^r	1,520	1,670	8,160
Exports, refined tin	1,310 ^r	176	68	348
Stocks at end of period	5,020	4,800	4,740	4,740
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁵				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,545.94	1,178.89	1,269.38	1,281.07
London Metal Exchange cash	1,422.55	1,088.50	1,173.24	1,190.32

^eEstimated. ^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: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2022:		
April	2,139.00	1,954.97
May	1,812.78	1,629.00
June	1,552.75	1,440.15
July	1,305.75	1,140.64
August	1,201.89	1,111.05
September	1,057.78	963.59
October	971.56	879.56
November	1,035.87	957.71
December	1,170.25	1,092.02
January–December	1,545.94	1,422.55
2023:		
January	1,356.78	1,272.70
February	1,319.25	1,226.84
March	1,178.89	1,088.50
April	1,269.38	1,173.24
January–April	1,281.07	1,190.32

Source: S&P Global 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)	
2022:				
April	40,300	380	9.4	85,900
May	44,900	449	10.0	86,100
June	42,400	443	10.4	88,100
July	42,100	443	10.5	71,100
August	41,800	430	10.3	78,000
September	36,200	420	11.6	71,600
October	32,700	429	13.1	67,300
November	36,200	400	11.0	69,400
December	31,700	410	13.0	54,900
January–December	460,000	5,100	11.1	894,000
2023:				
January	29,900	405	13.5	62,400
February	28,300	399	14.1	54,800
March	31,400	418	13.3	59,500
April	33,300	416	12.5	57,200
January–April	123,000	1,640	13.3	234,000

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	2022 ^p	2023		
		March	April	January–April ²
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	433	45	40	148
Bolivia	10,600	726	240	2,460
Brazil	4,390	194	198	1,190
Canada	281	23	31	103
Indonesia	5,250	100	315	1,030
Malaysia	878	60	365	735
Peru	9,400 ^r	171	212	1,760
Poland	1,370	112	135	381
Switzerland	70	40	81	121
Thailand	279	25	50	126
Other	265 ^r	25 ^r	5	108
Total	33,200 ^r	1,520	1,670	8,160
Other:				
Alloys	735	53	71	349
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,510	133	122	489
Flakes and powders	308	2	4	20
Foil	90	2	14	17
Plates, sheets, strip	6	(3)	1	1
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	19	1	(3)	5
Waste and scrap	11,600	903	833	3,180
Miscellaneous ⁴	2,010 ^r	70	34	335
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,310 ^r	176	68	348
Alloys	531	40	84	200

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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	2022 ^p	2023						
		March			April			January– April ²
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ³	1,910	152	--	152	152	--	152	612
Babbitt	112	13	W	13	13	W	13	49
Bronze and brass	810	44	9	53	44	9	53	251
Chemicals	2,800	245	--	245	223	--	223	954
Solder	1,600	145	W	145	124	W	124	566
Tinning	233	28	--	28	28	--	28	113
Tinplate ⁴	5,120	418	W	418	416	W	416	1,640
Other ⁵	5,770	480	16	496	480	17	497	1,980
Total reported	18,400	1,520	25	1,550	1,480	26	1,510	6,160

^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 bar tin and anodes, britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers’ metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal, and white metal.