

# Mineral Industry Surveys

## For information, contact:

Chad A. Friedline, Tin Commodity Specialist  
National Minerals Information Center  
Telephone: (703) 648-7715  
Email: cfriedline@usgs.gov

Samuel Oldham (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7945

Email: soldham@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys>

## TIN IN OCTOBER 2023

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in October 2023 was 1,470 metric tons (t), essentially unchanged from the reported consumption in September 2023, and a slight decrease from that in October 2022. Apparent consumption of refined tin in October 2023 was 2,580 t, a 22% decrease from that in September 2023, and a 34% decrease from that in October 2022 (table 1).

## Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for October 2023 was \$11.73 per pound, a 5% decrease from that in September 2023, and a 21% increase from that in October 2022. The average London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of Grade A tin for October 2023 was \$11.16 per pound, a 4% decrease from that in September 2023, and a 27% increase from that in October 2022 (fig. 1, table 2).

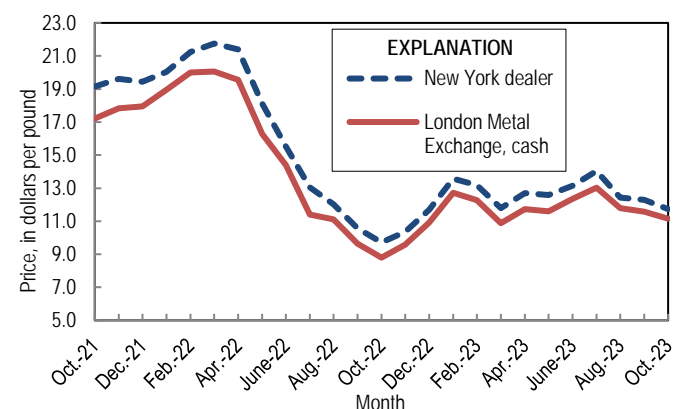


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from October 2021 through October 2023. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

## U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in October 2023 were 1,790 t, a 28% decrease from those in September 2023 and a 44% decrease from those in October 2022. The leading sources of refined tin in October 2023 were Peru (44%), Bolivia (26%), Indonesia (14%), and Brazil (8%). Total refined tin exports in October 2023 were 69 t, an increase of 52 t from those in September

2023 and a decrease of 82 t from those in October 2022 (table 4).

## Industry News

In October, Alphamin Resources Corp. (Mauritius) announced a delay in the commission of the new processing plant at its Mpama South Project located in the North Kivu Province of Congo (Kinshasa). The delay was reported to be caused by poor road conditions and a damaged bridge along the primary transport route to Mpama South. Upon project completion, Alphamin's annual tin production was expected to increase from the current 12,000 t to approximately 20,000 t (Alphamin Resources Corp., 2023).

## Reference Cited

Alphamin Resources Corp., 2023, Alphamin announces Q3 operational and financial update/Mpama South development progress: Grand Baie, Mauritius, Alphamin Resources Corp. press release, October 9. (Accessed January 2, 2024, at <https://www.alphaminresources.com/2023/10/09/alphamin-announces-q3-operational-and-financial-update-mpama-south-development-progress/>.)

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

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2022	2023		
		September	October	January– October <sup>2</sup>
Production, secondary <sup>e, 3</sup>	10,300	858	858	8,580
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	18,000	1,480	1,470	14,900
Secondary	311	24	29	256
Consumption, apparent <sup>4</sup>	42,200	3,310	2,580	31,800
Imports for consumption, refined tin	33,200	2,470	1,790	24,100
Exports, refined tin	1,310	17	69	812
Stocks at end of period	5,020	5,080	5,180	5,180
Prices (average cents per pound): <sup>5</sup>				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,545.94	1,229.63	1,173.44	1,274.67
London Metal Exchange cash	1,422.55	1,158.47	1,115.70	1,191.61

<sup>e</sup>Estimated.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously 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: 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:		
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	1,176.35
May	1,257.67	1,160.57
June	1,314.11	1,235.74
July	1,404.25	1,303.07
August	1,243.33	1,178.19
September	1,229.63	1,158.47
October	1,173.44	1,115.70
January–October	1,274.67	1,191.61

Source: S&P Global 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)	
2022:				
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
May	33,300	415	12.4	63,100
June	31,600	417	13.2	62,300
July	25,700	385	15.0	56,600
August	28,500	392	13.8	65,000
September	29,400	397	13.5	54,900
October	28,800	396	13.7	50,700
January–October	300,000	4,040	13.5	586,000

<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	2022	2023		
		September	October	January– October <sup>2</sup>
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	433	--	60	342
Bolivia	10,600	477	472	6,100
Brazil	4,390	197	151	2,380
Canada	281	11	16	201
Congo (Kinshasa)	--	234	--	234
Indonesia	5,250	237	251	3,170
Japan	66	10	10	34
Malaysia	878	--	--	1,960
Peru	9,400	1,120	786	7,960
Poland	1,370	135	--	943
Thailand	279	50	45	370
Other	269	(3)	(3)	375
Total	33,200	2,470	1,790	24,100
Other:				
Alloys	735	32	86	781
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,510	105	61	1,210
Flakes and powders	308	9	2	53
Foil	90	16	(3)	49
Plates, sheets, strip	6	(3)	(3)	1
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	19	14	70	325
Waste and scrap	11,600	890	1,350	8,400
Miscellaneous <sup>4</sup>	2,010	39	58	662
Exports:				
Refined tin	1,310	17	69	812
Alloys	531	20	65	565

-- 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 previously 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	2022	2023						
		September			October			January– October <sup>2</sup>
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) <sup>3</sup>	1,910	164	--	164	160	--	160	1,580
Babbitt	112	13	W	13	12	W	12	116
Bronze and brass	810	44	9	53	44	9	53	571
Chemicals	2,800	225	--	225	215	--	215	2,280
Solder	1,600	133	W	133	131	W	131	1,360
Tinning	233	28	--	28	28	--	28	282
Tinplate <sup>4</sup>	5,120	397	W	397	396	W	396	4,040
Other <sup>5</sup>	5,770	480	16	496	480	20	500	4,950
Total reported	18,400	1,480	24	1,510	1,470	29	1,490	15,200

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 previously published data.

<sup>3</sup>Includesterne metal.

<sup>4</sup>Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

<sup>5</sup>Includes bar tin and anodes, britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal, and white metal.