Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN MARCH 2025

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in March 2025 was 1,200 metric tons (t) a slight increase compared with 1,170 t in February 2025, and a 6% decrease from that in March 2024. Apparent consumption of refined tin in March 2025 was 3,350 t, a 15% increase from that in February 2025, and a 22% increase from that in March 2024 (table 1).

Prices

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for March 2025 was $15.94 per pound, a 6% increase from that in February 2025, and a 22% increase from that in March 2024. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for March 2025 was $15.93 per pound, a 10% increase from that in February 2025, and a 28% increase from that in March 2024 (fig. 1, table 2).

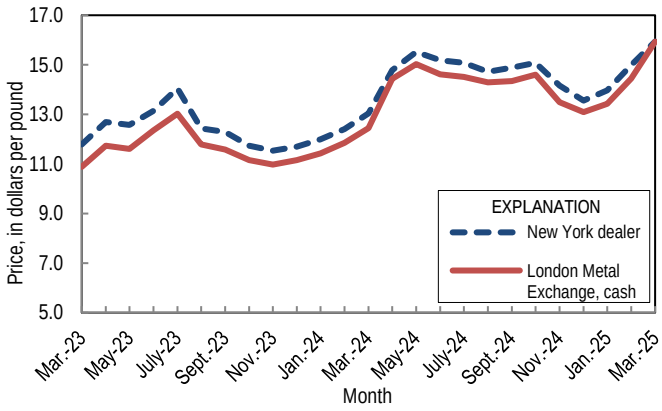

Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from March 2023 through March 2025. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in March 2025 were 2,540 t, a 20% increase from those in February 2025, and a 33% increase from those in March 2024. The leading sources of refined tin in March 2025 were Peru (41%), Bolivia (27%), Malaysia (11%), and Thailand (7%). Total refined tin exports in March 2025 were 52 t, a decrease of 13 t from those in February 2025 and an increase of 19 t from those in March 2024 (table 4).

Industry News

In March, Alphamin Resources Corp. (Mauritius) announced the temporary suspension of operations at its underground Bisie tin mine in North Kivu Province, Congo (Kinshasa). The decision was made owing to security concerns, as insurgent groups advanced toward the mine site and took control of the nearby towns of Nyabiondo and Kashebere. All mining personnel were expected to evacuate, except for essential staff required for care, maintenance, and security operations. Alphamin indicated that it would monitor the situation and was expected to resume operations once safety conditions improved (Alphamin Resources Corp., 2025).

According to the International Tin Association Ltd., authorities in Wa State, Burma, were expected to announce the lifting of the mining ban imposed in August 2023. The Wa Economic Planning Committee would allow mining and processing operations to resume, but companies would have to apply for new licenses under recently established licensing and permitting procedures. Additionally, the government would retain ownership of all existing aboveground stockpiles. Following the resumption of mining activities, exports of tin concentrates were not expected to return to typical levels for at least an additional two months owing to expected licensing and logistical issues (International Tin Association Ltd., 2025).

Industry Participation

The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) National Minerals Information Center canvasses the nonfuel mining and mineral processing industry in the United States for data on mineral production, consumption, recycling, stocks, and shipments. The data that companies provide are the foundation upon which the USGS builds its minerals information publications. Unless authorization is granted for release, the data furnished are aggregated to avoid disclosing company proprietary data and are treated as confidential by the Department of the Interior.

Companies may report on a monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and (or) annual basis, depending on the frequency of the surveys. Canvass forms are mailed shortly after the end of the reporting period and are requested to be returned within 15 to 30 days. In addition to reporting by paper canvass forms, companies can electronically submit data to contribute to this valuable effort.

Companies already registered with the USGS can sign up to report electronically by selecting the "Sign up" link at https://mids.er.usgs.gov. To notify the USGS of a new operation, or for further information on registering for electronic submissions, visit https://mids.er.usgs.gov. The surveys that collect data for tin materials include the USGS tin survey, which has canvas codes of C56, C58, C60, C62, C63, and C93. Each survey targets specific participants in the tin supply chain: C56 and C60 for detinners and smelters; C58 for secondary smelters and consumers of lead-base and tin-base scrap; C62 for consumers of tin; C63 for agents, brokers, dealers, importers, and jobbers; and C93 for tin producers. For more information on how to participate in the tin surveys, please contact Chad Friedline using the contact information listed above.

References Cited

Alphamin Resources Corp., 2025, Alphamin temporarily ceases mining operations: Grand Baie, Mauritius, Alphamin Resources Corp. press release, March 13. (Accessed June 4, 2025, at https://www.alphaminresources.com/2025/03/13/alphamin-temporarily-ceases-mining-operations/.)

International Tin Association Ltd., 2025, Wa authorities to lift mining ban in Myanmar: Frogmore, United Kingdom, International Tin Association Ltd. news release, March 25. (Accessed June 4, 2025, at https://www.internationaltin.org/wa-authorities-to-lift-mining-ban-in-myanmar/.)

A worksheet has been added to the excel table files that includes a macro to remove text from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled RemoveTextButton for instructions on how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file in order to use the tool.

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 https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/minerals-information-publication-list-services.

Table 1. Salient tin statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices. Data are in metric tons unless otherwise noted. Estimated and revised data are marked with a superscript "e" and "r", respectively].

Product	2024	2025		
		February	March	January–March
Production				
Secondary[e, 1]	10,300	858	858	2,570
Consumption				
Primary, reported	14,300 [r]	1,170	1,200	3,560
Secondary, reported	399 [r]	29	25	76
Apparent[2]	35,100	2,900	3,350	10,700
Imports for consumption				
Refined tin	25,400	2,110	2,540	8,330
Exports				
Refined tin	594	65	52	206
Stocks				
End of period	4,670	4,620	4,530	4,530
Prices (average cents per pound)[3]				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	1,420.22	1,498.38	1,594.11	1,496.46
London Metal Exchange cash	1,367.87	1,445.17	1,593.47	1,460.48

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

[2]Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

[3]Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

Table 2. Average tin prices.
[Data are in cents per pound. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.]

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange Cash
2024		
March	1,303.75	1,244.24
April	1,478.44	1,443.74
May	1,552.22	1,503.49
June	1,517.75	1,461.31
July	1,507.38	1,450.92
August	1,472.33	1,428.81
September	1,488.67	1,434.49
October	1,508.22	1,460.64
November	1,416.86	1,349.57
December	1,356.13	1,309.12
January–December	1,420.22	1,367.87
2025		
January	1,396.89	1,342.81
February	1,498.38	1,445.17
March	1,594.11	1,593.47
January–March	1,496.46	1,460.48

Table 3. Tinplate production and shipments in the United States.

[Data are in metric tons unless otherwise noted. Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, may not add to totals shown. NA, not available.]

Period	Tinplate (all forms)			
	Production			Shipments[1] (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin Content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2024				
March	37,300	124	3.3	40,600
April	29,000	122	4.2	35,500
May	31,700	136	4.3	0
June	28,700	133	4.6	0
July	31,200	143	4.6	0
August	33,900	153	4.5	0
September	34,600	142	4.1	0
October	36,100	145	4.0	0
November	33,900	131	3.9	0
December	27,200	126	4.6	0
January–December	392,000	1,700	4.4	147,000
2025				
January	26,000	147	5.7	NA
February	23,100	131	5.7	NA
March	33,200	148	4.4	NA
Total	82,300	425	5.2	NA

[1]Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

Table 4. U.S. tin imports for consumption and exports.

[Data are in metric tons, gross weight. Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, may not add to totals shown. Preliminary data are marked with a superscript "p". Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Product and country or locality	2024[p]	2025		
		February	March	January– March[1]
Imports, refined tin				
Belgium	313	9	20	55
Bolivia	8,430	997	698	2,520
Brazil	2,350	200	93	451
Canada	137	37	1	58
Congo (Kinshasa)	0	100	0	125
Indonesia	2,090	196	95	436
Malaysia	425	0	275	425
Peru	9,130	428	1,050	3,670
Poland	1,350	64	0	109
Rwanda	150	0	0	25
Thailand	525	65	170	303
Other	468	12	136	148
Total	25,400	2,110	2,540	8,330
Imports, other				
Alloys	731	89	83	261
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,520	104	136	385
Flakes and powders	62	6	9	20
Foil	68	13	1	14
Plates, sheets, strip	3	18	46	123
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	771	36	1	37
Waste and scrap	8,210	1,190	646	2,810
Miscellaneous[2]	738	26	37	102
Exports				
Refined tin	594	65	52	206
Alloys	1,330	85	75	267

[1]May include revisions to previously published data.

[2]Includes other articles of tin not elsewhere specified or included (Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code 8007.00.5000).

Table 5. Reported consumption of tin in the United States, by finished product.

[Data are in metric tons of contained tin. Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Preliminary and revised data are marked with a superscript "p" and "r", respecitvely. W, withheld to avoid closing company proprietary data; included with "other"].

Product	2024[p]	2025						
		February			March			January–March[1]
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous)[2]	1,700 [r]	139	0	139	138	0	138	417
Babbitt	168 [r]	9	W	9	13	W	13	31
Bronze and brass	638	43	10	53	44	10	54	161
Chemicals	2,840	231	0	231	229	0	229	699
Solder	1,630 [r]	117	W	117	126	W	126	364
Tinning	231	19	0	19	19	0	19	58
Tinplate[3]	1,720 [r]	131	W	131	148	W	148	425
Other[4]	5,790 [r]	480	19	499	480	15	495	1,480
Total	14,700 [r]	1,170	29	1,200	1,200	25	1,220	3,640

[1]May include revisions to previously published data.
[2]Includes terne metal.
[3]Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.
[4]Includes bar tin and anodes, britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal, and white metal.