

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2004

Domestic primary aluminum production in August was 209,995 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 6,774 t, slightly higher than that of the previous month but 7% below that for August 2003. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 84.0 cents per pound in July to 83.0 cents per pound in August, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during August. The price range began the month at 60–62 cents per pound. On August 3, the price range decreased to 59.5–61.0 cents per pound before rebounding to the 60–62 cents per pound level on August 17. On August 30, the price range again decreased, falling to 59–61 cents per pound.

### Publication of Interest

The Aluminum Association Inc. released its Aluminum Statistical Review for 2003. The text, tables, and charts provide yearend and historical data on shipments, markets, supply, and foreign trade. Copies of the review may be obtained by contacting the Aluminum Association's publications department at 301-645-0756 or by visiting their Web site at URL <http://www.aluminum.org/bookstore>.

### Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased in September to 84.4 cents per pound. On September 8, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs decreased to 58–60 cents per pound. The price range held steady at this level until September 29, when it rose to 61–63 cents per pound.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery <sup>2</sup>			Imports for consumption			Total new supply <sup>3</sup>	Total stocks, end of period <sup>4</sup>
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2003 <sup>p</sup>	2,703	1,770	1,160	2,930	2,870	822	3,690	9,320	1,400
2003:									
August	225	153	100	253	194	67	261	739	1,470
September	217	152	98	249	215	70	284	751	1,400
October	224	154	105	259	210	72	281	765	1,380
November	215	147	99	246	233	67	301	761	1,390
December	221	139	86	226	243	64	306	753	1,400
January-August	1,825	1,170	776	1,950	1,970	550	2,520	6,290	1,470
2004:									
January	216	151	94	245	211	64	274	735	1,430
February	202	155	83	238	288	69	356	797	1,430
March	217	161	100	261	248	76	324	801	1,420
April	209	152	102	253 <sup>r</sup>	254	72	326	788 <sup>r</sup>	1,440
May	217	156	102 <sup>r</sup>	258 <sup>r</sup>	282	76	357	832 <sup>r</sup>	1,430
June	204	142 <sup>r</sup>	102	244 <sup>r</sup>	309	80	389	838 <sup>r</sup>	1,440 <sup>r</sup>
July	209	152	100	252	297	80	377	837	1,460
August	210	157	106	263	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-August	1,684	1,230	789	2,010	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

<sup>3</sup>Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

<sup>4</sup>Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM  
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
	2003 <sup>p</sup>	1,660	1,230	859	741	897	836	131	118	6	6	3,550
2003:												
August	137	101	71	62	85	79	12	11	(2)	(2)	306	253
September	135	100	70	60	84	79	12	10	(2)	(2)	302	249
October	145	107	80	70	76	71	12	11	(2)	(2)	314	259
November	138	102	75	64	75	70	11	10	(2)	(2)	299	246
December	126	93	61	52	76	71	10	9	(2)	(2)	274	226
January-August	1,120	826	573	495	585	545	87	78	4	4	2,370	1,950
2004:												
January	133	99	57	51	90	84	11	10	(2)	(2)	292	245
February	133	98	50	45	90	85	11	10	1	1	285	238
March	146	108	64	57	92	86	11	10	(2)	(2)	313	261
April	141	105	65	57	89 <sup>r</sup>	83 <sup>r</sup>	9	8	(2)	(2)	304	253 <sup>r</sup>
May	140	103	68	60	93	87	8	7	1	1	310	258 <sup>r</sup>
June	135	100	62	55	88	82 <sup>r</sup>	8	7	(2)	(2)	294 <sup>r</sup>	244 <sup>r</sup>
July	137	101	66	58	91	85	8	7	(2)	(2)	302 <sup>r</sup>	252
August	146	107	67	60	95	89	8	7	(2)	(2)	316	263
January-August	1,110	821	499	443	728	681	74	66	2	2	2,420	2,010

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN AUGUST 2004<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	121,000	146,000	89,500
Integrated aluminum companies	67,100	67,100	59,500	59,500
Independent mill fabricators	79,200	95,000	73,900	88,700
Foundries	6,980	8,380	6,170	7,400
Other consumers	358	430	358	430
Total	275,000	316,000	230,000	263,000

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

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN AUGUST 2004<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	August			January-August <sup>2</sup>		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed
<b>New scrap:</b>						
Solids	26,700 <sup>r</sup>	78,000	81,900	22,800	630,000	626,000
Can stock clippings	3,450	25,500	25,400	3,590	203,000	202,000
Other clippings	3,260 <sup>r</sup>	8,030	8,080	3,210	61,600	62,500
Borings and turnings	5,250 <sup>r</sup>	16,100	16,300	5,020	137,000	137,000
Dross and skimmings	4,920	34,000	34,000	4,890	258,000	258,000
Total new scrap	43,600 <sup>r</sup>	162,000	166,000	39,500	1,290,000	1,290,000
<b>Old scrap:</b>						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	12,700 <sup>r</sup>	31,400	32,800	11,300	244,000	244,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,860 <sup>r</sup>	1,630	2,040	1,450	14,300	14,400
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	9,730 <sup>r</sup>	63,100	63,900	8,900	476,000	479,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	2,790	8,600	9,760	1,630	68,400	69,000
Total old scrap	27,000 <sup>r</sup>	105,000	108,000	23,300	802,000	806,000
Sweated pig	86	729	714	101	5,900	5,860
Total all classes	70,700 <sup>r</sup>	267,000	275,000	62,900	2,100,000	2,100,000

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes revised data from previous month(s).

<sup>3</sup>Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2004<sup>1,2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	August				January-August <sup>3</sup>	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
<b>Die-cast alloys:</b>						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,300 <sup>f</sup>	1,270	1,520	3,050	11,800	12,300
380 and variations	6,870	23,900	23,800	6,970	184,000	183,000
<b>Sand and permanent mold:</b>						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,870	3,940	4,080	2,730	33,200	33,100
No. 319 and variations	4,420 <sup>f</sup>	10,800	10,900	4,340	84,000	85,300
F-132 alloy and variations	1,200	2,300	2,220	1,290	18,400	18,600
Al-Zn alloys	216	151	139	228	1,130	1,130
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	39	3	3	39	25	25
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	50	381	381	50	3,050	3,050
Other <sup>4</sup>	4,360 <sup>f</sup>	6,650	6,550	4,460	49,400	49,500
<b>Wrought alloys:</b>						
Extrusion billets	9,770 <sup>f</sup>	21,300	21,300	9,770	165,000	165,000
Total all alloys	33,100 <sup>f</sup>	70,800	71,000	32,900	550,000	551,000
<b>Less:</b>						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,560	XX	XX	81,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,060	XX	XX	26,400	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	807	XX	XX	5,920	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot <sup>5</sup>	XX	57,400	XX	XX	436,000	XX

<sup>f</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revised data from previous months.

<sup>4</sup>Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

<sup>5</sup>No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2004<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January-	July	January-	July	January-	July	January-
		July		July		July		July
Argentina	20,400	47,300	31	317	--	204	20,500	47,900
Australia	2,090	32,900	2	43	--	35	2,090	33,000
Bahrain	199	996	715	6,470	--	--	914	7,470
Belgium	--	688	862	6,810	--	--	862	7,500
Brazil	20,100	122,000	3,160	14,600	200	650	23,500	137,000
Canada	131,000	1,010,000	42,100	280,000	31,800	203,000	205,000	1,500,000
China	210	2,710	4,850	28,200	12	89	5,070	31,000
France	2,170	2,400	1,110	4,370	40	157	3,320	6,930
Germany	249	4,090	6,610	43,300	112	237	6,970	47,600
Hungary	--	--	546	1,590	--	--	546	1,590
Italy	426	450	113	1,160	--	--	538	1,610
Japan	229	697	791	5,620	71	245	1,090	6,560
Korea, Republic of	15	36	187	1,710	--	29	202	1,780
Mexico	20	1,260	1,650	12,200	7,070	53,800	8,740	67,300
Netherlands	149	440	226	1,320	39	191	413	1,950
Norway	2	544	--	92	--	--	2	636
Russia	100,000	500,000	3,380	20,100	2,910	7,790	106,000	528,000
South Africa	4,010	21,500	1,760	20,700	--	--	5,760	42,200
Spain	20	90	63	406	--	--	83	496
Sweden	--	3	245	1,730	--	188	245	1,920
Switzerland	--	--	368	2,340	--	--	368	2,340
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	44	44	44	44
United Arab Emirates	5,470	32,300	1	1	--	167	5,470	32,500
United Kingdom	31	523	181	1,750	116	2,870	328	5,140
Venezuela	8,110	81,200	1,660	12,200	832	10,800	10,600	104,000
Other	2,180	21,800	8,970	48,900	5,120	32,900	16,300	104,000
Total	297,000	1,890,000	79,600	516,000	48,400	314,000	425,000	2,720,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2004<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Australia	5	48	218	1,280	1	5	224	1,330
Belgium	18	366	413	3,250	19	59	451	3,670
Brazil	1	232	582	7,380	--	(2)	583	7,610
Canada	8,710	75,600	46,300	316,000	10,200	84,500	65,200	476,000
China	5	173	2,540	17,900	24,700	158,000	27,300	176,000
Czech Republic	--	1	26	105	--	--	26	106
Dominican Republic	--	4	41	379	--	--	41	383
France	4	45	478	3,810	(2)	23	482	3,880
Germany	18	295	407	2,470	17	241	441	3,010
Hong Kong	7	61	1,030	4,020	341	7,910	1,380	12,000
India	--	110	22	142	960	3,890	982	4,140
Israel	42	759	128	1,310	--	19	171	2,080
Italy	4	27	44	1,160	42	42	90	1,230
Japan	698	3,650	569	3,890	2,390	13,600	3,660	21,100
Korea, Republic of	37	273	1,290	11,200	3,800	25,700	5,130	37,200
Malaysia	1	10	118	782	--	--	120	792
Mexico	11,800	78,800	14,400	85,800	2,790	21,300	28,900	186,000
Netherlands	67	168	36	400	35	161	138	729
Russia	2	5	1	23	--	--	4	28
Saudi Arabia	--	20	942	8,080	--	--	942	8,100
Singapore	1	149	145	932	19	362	166	1,440
Spain	15	96	42	470	269	859	325	1,430
Sweden	--	--	17	129	--	--	17	129
Taiwan	118	389	520	3,890	2,560	21,200	3,200	25,400
Thailand	7	75	301	1,810	335	1,060	642	2,950
Ukraine	--	--	--	(2)	--	--	--	(2)
United Kingdom	45	557	1,090	6,560	8	116	1,140	7,230
Venezuela	--	14	40	1,190	--	3	40	1,200
Other	2,110	2,830	1,600	11,300	2,310	11,800	6,010	25,900
Total	23,700	165,000	73,300	495,000	50,800	351,000	148,000	1,010,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.