

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JULY 2009

Domestic primary aluminum production in July was 135,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 4,350 t, slightly lower than that for the previous month and 40% lower than that for July 2008.

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in July 2009 was 261,000 t, slightly lower than the total of the previous month and 6% lower than the total in July 2008. Of this, 155,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, slightly lower than the amount in the previous month and 11% lower than that of July 2008. Aluminum recovered from old scrap in July 2009 totaled 106,000 t, which was essentially unchanged from that in June 2009 and slightly higher than the amount in July 2008.

U.S. Trade

Total imports for consumption (table 6) for the first 6 months of 2009 decreased by 5% compared with those for the same period in 2008. Imports of metal and alloys increased by 7% whereas imports of semifabricated materials decreased by 28%,

and imports of scrap decreased by 29% compared with those for the same period in 2008. Canada remained the leading shipper of materials to the United States, supplying 61% of total U.S. imports in the first 6 months of the year, followed by Russia with 11%.

Total aluminum exports (table 7) for the first half of 2009 decreased by 33% compared with those for the first 6 months of 2008. Exports of metal and alloys decreased by 36%, exports of semifabricated material decreased by 26%, and aluminum scrap exports decreased by 36% compared to the amount exported in the first half of 2008. China, Canada, and Mexico, in descending order of shipments, were the major recipients of United States exports in the first 6 months of 2009.

In July, the monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to \$0.797 per pound from \$0.746 per pound in June, and in August it rose to \$0.921 per pound.

Used beverage can prices, cents per pound¹

July 2	52-54
July 10	49-51
July 17	53-55
July 24	57-59
July 31	58-60
August 7	62-64
August 14	63-65
August 21	60-62
August 28	57-59

¹Source: American Metal Market.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2008 ^p	2,658	2,020	1,190	3,210	2,790	914	3,710	9,580	1,400
2008:									
July	225	175	104	279	227	82	309	813	1,310
August	222	173	98	272	204	77	281	775	1,330
September	214	166	96	262	229	78	307	784	1,290
October	217	168	99	268	249	75	324	808	1,270
November	202	142	80	221	219	69	289	712	1,260
December	204	138	89	227	233	65	297	729	1,220
January-July	1,598	1,230	729	1,960	1,660	549	2,210	5,770	XX
2009:									
January	193	149	102	251	270	64	334	777	1,210
February	149	145	95	240	204	39	244	633	1,150
March	154	154	98	252	333	54	387	794	1,020
April	145	144	96	240	233	55	288	673	952
May	147	149 ^r	98	247 ^r	292	68	361	755	997
June	132	156	107	263	200	57	256	651	947
July	135	155	106	261	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-July	1,055	1,050	702	1,750	NA	NA	NA	NA	XX

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

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

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

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory 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 SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Independent mill fabricators ²		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
	2008 ^P	1,600	1,240	2,130	1,880	93	81	9	8	3,830
2008:										
July	134	104	189	168	7	7	(3)	(3)	332	279
August	133	103	182	162	7	7	(3)	(3)	323	272
September	130	100	175	155	7	7	(3)	(3)	313	262
October	131	101	180	160	7	7	(3)	(3)	319	268
November	126	97	134	117	7	7	(3)	(3)	268	221
December	122	92	148	128	7	7	(3)	(3)	278	227
January-July	959	745	1,310	1,160	55	49	6	5	2,330	1,960
2009:										
January	124	94	174	150	7	7	(3)	(3)	306	251
February	123	93	161	139	7	7	(3)	(3)	293	240
March	125	95	174	150	7	7	(3)	(3)	307	252
April	116	90	165	142	7	7	(3)	(3)	289	240
May	115	89	174	151	7	7	(3)	(3)	297	247
June	115	89	191	166	7	7	(3)	(3)	315	263
July	115	89	188	164	7	7	(3)	(3)	312	261
January-July	833	640	1,230	1,060	52	46	6	5	2,120	1,750

^PPreliminary.

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

²Includes plants previously categorized as "Integrated aluminum companies."

³Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JULY 2009¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	96,000	115,000	74,500
Independent mill fabricators ²	169,000	188,000	147,000	164,000
Foundries	6,240	7,490	5,450	6,540
Other consumers	693	831	612	735
Total	272,000	312,000	228,000	261,000

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

²Includes plants previously categorized as "Integrated aluminum companies."

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN JULY 2009¹

(Metric tons)

	July			January-July ²		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	26,700	78,200	73,100	31,900	510,000	502,000
Can stock clippings	4,450	23,000	23,000	4,440	135,000	135,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	5,010	18,300	18,200	5,090	128,000	129,000
Casting	1,120	4,950	5,010	1,060	34,900	34,800
Borings and turnings	2,940	8,820	8,890	2,870	63,200	62,900
Dross and skimmings	6,200	34,300	34,300	6,200	254,000	254,000
Total new scrap	46,500	168,000	162,000	51,500	1,130,000	1,120,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	7,070	16,800	16,800	7,050	118,000	121,000
Used extrusion	2,760	12,800	12,800	2,760	46,800	46,800
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	7,870	56,600	55,700	8,830	389,000	387,000
Other wrought products	4,680	19,900	19,900	4,680	144,000	144,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	1,000	9,540	4,030	1,130	26,500	26,600
Total old scrap	23,400	110,000	109,000	24,500	725,000	725,000
Sweated pig	96	151	151	96	1,060	1,060
Total all classes	69,900	278,000	272,000	76,100	1,850,000	1,840,000

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

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2009^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	July			January-July ³		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,930	892	1,090	1,730	8,300	7,990
380 and variations	1,890	5,020	5,020	1,890	35,200	35,200
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,490	1,300	1,300	1,490	9,080	9,080
No. 319 and variations	1,740	2,810	2,840	1,710	19,800	19,700
F-132 alloy and variations	341	404	404	341	2,830	2,830
Al-Zn alloys	209	136	136	209	949	949
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	141	1,570	1,570	141	11,000	11,000
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	11	43	43	11	304	304
Other ³	9,920	29,900	29,900	9,900	208,000	206,000
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	18,800	53,300	53,300	18,800	375,000	376,000
Total all alloys	36,400	95,400	95,600	36,200	671,000	669,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	17,000	XX	XX	126,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	811	XX	XX	5,900	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	570	XX	XX	4,150	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁴	XX	76,900	XX	XX	535,000	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

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

³Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁴No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2009¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January-	June	January-	June	January-	June	January-
		June		June		June		June
Argentina	18,900	76,100	--	1	--	--	18,900	76,100
Australia	274	6,990	2	39	--	--	275	7,030
Bahrain	--	1,690	325	6,380	--	--	325	8,080
Belgium	--	133	172	1,280	--	7	172	1,420
Brazil	5,650	67,500	1,120	4,570	--	--	6,770	72,100
Canada	162,000	1,010,000	22,200	120,000	26,300	127,000	210,000	1,260,000
China	19	1,190	17,100	92,800	--	4	17,200	94,000
France	169	1,020	94	1,160	--	17	263	2,190
Germany	10	183	3,100	30,500	4	132	3,120	30,900
Hungary	--	--	3	29	--	--	3	29
Italy	--	(2)	383	2,400	37	48	420	2,440
Japan	56	182	558	5,050	5	115	619	5,350
Korea, Republic of	186	2,260	56	726	38	71	279	3,060
Mexico	2,390	8,410	960	5,810	8,010	44,600	11,400	58,800
Netherlands	--	77	153	757	57	1,080	210	1,920
Norway	--	49	3	12	--	--	3	61
Russia	5,400	226,000	1,380	9,200	--	630	6,770	236,000
South Africa	--	49,000	2,130	13,100	--	27	2,130	62,100
Spain	14	52	1	53	--	--	15	105
Sweden	--	1,050	32	346	--	--	32	1,400
Switzerland	--	1	186	1,910	--	--	186	1,920
Tajikistan	--	6,590	--	--	--	--	--	6,590
Ukraine	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
United Arab Emirates	2,460	20,200	--	--	--	16	2,460	20,200
United Kingdom	30	191	563	2,320	642	3,890	1,240	6,400
Venezuela	2,570	37,800	55	731	--	628	2,620	39,100
Other	198	14,100	5,900	37,700	1,740	7,630	7,840	59,400
Total	200,000	1,530,000	56,600	337,000	36,800	185,000	293,000	2,060,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JUNE 2009¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	June	January- June	June	January- June	June	January- June	June	January- June
Australia	19	83	60	718	20	41	99	841
Belgium	--	46	49	390	--	--	49	436
Brazil	4	47	601	6,260	609	1,300	1,210	7,600
Canada	5,870	29,300	24,500	143,000	9,000	53,600	39,400	226,000
China	4,420	16,900	2,280	14,800	83,100	451,000	89,800	483,000
Czech Republic	--	--	18	62	--	--	18	63
Dominican Republic	--	118	42	223	--	--	42	341
France	30	403	719	4,850	--	--	749	5,250
Germany	452	2,610	799	4,410	--	20	1,250	7,040
Hong Kong	1	1,620	453	3,630	7,850	40,500	8,300	45,800
India	--	99	122	471	1,940	17,100	2,070	17,700
Israel	18	58	373	1,700	--	--	391	1,760
Italy	1,080	1,150	325	1,450	--	--	1,410	2,600
Japan	364	1,780	910	4,550	2,870	7,520	4,150	13,900
Korea, Republic of	2	39	923	5,320	15,700	67,700	16,600	73,100
Malaysia	101	103	451	973	331	751	882	1,830
Mexico	10,500	49,200	21,800	115,000	4,760	26,200	37,000	190,000
Netherlands	48	72	56	399	2	245	106	716
Russia	--	2	2	56	--	--	2	59
Saudi Arabia	--	238	1,800	15,100	--	--	1,800	15,300
Singapore	2	140	53	418	--	156	55	713
Spain	9	9	113	868	--	--	122	878
Sweden	(²)	6	18	82	--	--	18	88
Taiwan	1,220	1,840	233	1,010	7,260	28,800	8,710	31,600
Thailand	--	107	595	3,720	964	2,090	1,560	5,920
Ukraine	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	5
United Kingdom	55	433	669	6,160	22	269	746	6,860
Venezuela	(²)	33	13	153	--	304	13	490
Other	759	2,390	7,080	35,200	2,870	22,000	10,700	59,500
Total	24,900	109,000	65,100	371,000	137,000	720,000	227,000	1,200,000

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.