

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2007

Domestic primary aluminum production in October was 224,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 7,213 t, slightly higher than that of the previous month and 18% higher than the rate for October 2006. Total aluminum recovered from scrap in October 2007 was 302,000 t. Of this, 177,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, and 125,000 t was recovered from old scrap.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to \$1.135 per pound in October from \$1.113 per pound in September and continued to increase to \$1.164 per pound in November.

U.S. Trade

Total imports for consumption of aluminum for the first 3 quarters of 2007 decreased by 15% compared with those for the same period in 2006. During the first 3 quarters of 2007, imports

of crude metal and alloys decreased by 17%, imports of semifabricated materials and of scrap decreased by 10% each compared with imports during the first 9 months of 2006. Canada remained the leading supplier of aluminum materials to the United States, supplying 59% of total U.S. imports in the first 9 months of the year, followed by Russia with 12%.

Total aluminum exports in the first 3 quarters of 2007 decreased by 5% compared with those for the first 9 months of 2006. Exports of crude metal and alloys decreased by 2%, exports of semifabricated material decreased by 7%, and exports of scrap decreased by 4% compared with those for the same period in 2006. China, Canada, and Mexico, in descending order of shipments, were the major recipients of U.S. aluminum materials, accounting for 72% of total U.S. exports in the first 9 months of 2007.

Used beverage can prices, cents per pound¹

October 5	79-81
October 12	75-77
October 19	79-81
October 26	81-83
November 2	81-83
November 9	83-86
November 16	82-84
November 23	81-83
November 30	81-83

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		
2006 ⁵	2,284	2,310	1,200	3,510	3,440	1,220	4,660	10,400	1,410
2006:									
October	190	161	80	241	259	100	359	790	1,410
November	188	163	84	247	233	99	332	766	1,400
December	196	153	89	242	241	89	330	768	1,410
January-October	1,900	1,590	910	2,530	2,970	1,030	3,990	8,430	11,600
2007:									
January	202	193	113	307	251	98	349	827	1,460
February	185	165	97	262	258	86	344	761	1,460
March	217	185	120	305	238	93	332	823	1,410
April	209	171	108	279	259	94	353	810	1,430
May	210	176	115	292	220	97	317	788	1,400
June	209	179	111	289	255	92	347	845	1,330
July	219	189	104	292	236	102	337	848	1,370
August	220	171	124	295	267	91	358	873	1,390
September	216	166	106	272	268	84	352	841	1,350
October	224	177	125	302	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-October	2,111	1,770	1,120	2,900	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

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.

⁵Includes annual reports.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(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
	2006 ²	2,260	1,640	901	807	1,040	974	87	76	10	9	4,300
2006:												
October	130	94	69	62	83	78	8	7	(3)	(3)	289	241
November	139	103	76	61	81	76	8	7	(3)	(3)	304	247
December	134	98	82	66	76	71	8	7	(3)	(2)	299	242
January-October	1,390	918	743	666	833	779	80	70	5	5	3,040	2,530
2007:												
January	184	143	81	73	89	83	8	7	(3)	(3)	363	307
February	148	110	69	62	89	83	8	7	(3)	(3)	314	262
March	181	138	90	81	85	79	8	7	(3)	(3)	365	305
April	160	120	80	72	86	80	8	7	(3)	(3)	334	279
May	155	116	94	84	90	84	8	7	(3)	(3)	347	292
June	148	110	88	79	99	92	8	7	(3)	(3)	344	289
July	158	118	77	69	104	98	8	7	(3)	(3)	347	292
August	154	115	93	83	96	90	8	7	(3)	(3)	352	295
September	155	116	75	66	88	82	8	7	(3)	(3)	325	272
October	160	120	91	80	100	94	8	7	(3)	(3)	359	302
January-October	1,600	1,210	838	749	926	865	80	70	5	5	3,450	2,900

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

²Includes annual reports.

³Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN OCTOBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	134,000	160,000	100,000
Integrated aluminum companies	90,800	90,800	80,500	80,500
Independent mill fabricators	83,400	100,000	78,000	93,600
Foundries	6,600	7,920	5,800	6,960
Other consumers	321	386	321	386
Total	315,000	359,000	265,000	302,000

¹Data 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 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	October			January-October		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	24,300	81,700	81,700	24,200	804,000	811,000
Can stock clippings	2,690	16,300	17,200	1,730	224,000	223,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	4,190	25,100	25,200	4,060	236,000	236,000
Casting	1,270	7,870	7,950	1,190	65,700	67,300
Borings and turnings	2,590 ^r	14,400	14,700	2,290	147,000	147,000
Dross and skimmings	3,580	36,500	36,600	3,530	361,000	361,000
Total new scrap	38,600 ^r	182,000	183,000	37,000	1,840,000	1,850,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	2,000 ^r	12,900	12,500	2,350	138,000	139,000
Used extrusion	2,110	4,220	4,220	2,110	43,300	43,300
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	440	63,000	60,500	3,000	563,000	564,000
Other wrought products	3,150	41,600	41,600	3,150	298,000	298,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	966	12,300	12,100	1,130	120,000	121,000
Total old scrap	8,660 ^r	134,000	131,000	11,700	1,160,000	1,170,000
Sweated pig	--	582	582	--	6,040	6,040
Total all classes	47,200 ^r	316,000	315,000	48,800	3,010,000	3,020,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	October			January-October		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,900 ^r	1,930	2,080	2,750	20,600	20,700
380 and variations	3,440 ^r	12,700	13,500	2,680	156,000	158,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,720 ^r	2,890	2,740	1,860	27,700	27,800
No. 319 and variations	2,940 ^r	4,450	4,780	2,620	55,600	55,900
F-132 alloy and variations	851	1,530	1,500	882	14,600	14,500
Al-Zn alloys	308	207	202	313	1,960	1,950
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	177	213	213	177	2,130	2,130
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	4,110	4,110
Other ³	4,640 ^r	11,100	10,900	4,830	107,000	107,000
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	11,200	42,200	42,800	10,600	422,000	422,000
Total all alloys	28,400 ^r	77,700	79,100	27,000	812,000	813,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	14,300	XX	XX	141,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	2,240	XX	XX	23,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	690	XX	XX	7,820	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁴	XX	60,500	XX	XX	639,000	XX

^rRevised. 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 SEPTEMBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	September	January- September	September	January- September	September	January- September	September	January- September
Argentina	3,890	45,500	--	56	--	--	3,890	45,600
Australia	7,570	46,700	8	85	--	2,730	7,580	49,500
Bahrain	3,420	32,600	1,700	13,900	--	--	5,120	46,500
Belgium	--	76	968	9,400	--	14	968	9,490
Brazil	7,270	64,400	920	21,400	--	1	8,190	85,800
Canada	177,000	1,440,000	37,200	343,000	26,100	242,000	240,000	2,020,000
China	2,390	32,500	11,700	136,000	--	40	14,100	168,000
France	8	388	280	2,600	--	34	288	3,030
Germany	85	1,720	7,870	77,200	95	359	8,050	79,300
Hungary	--	--	12	119	--	--	12	119
Italy	--	513	414	6,360	(2)	59	414	6,930
Japan	1	141	980	11,400	113	531	1,090	12,100
Korea, Republic of	113	2,250	339	2,490	--	58	452	4,800
Mexico	3,120	15,900	1,490	15,400	7,610	76,800	12,200	108,000
Netherlands	79	629	302	2,130	--	--	381	2,760
Norway	351	3,570	--	139	--	--	351	3,710
Russia	36,100	352,000	4,490	42,800	--	1,660	40,600	396,000
South Africa	7,550	47,500	2,320	36,600	--	--	9,860	84,100
Spain	26	100	44	480	19	19	90	599
Sweden	--	--	177	1,290	--	--	177	1,290
Switzerland	3	118	439	4,310	--	--	442	4,430
United Arab Emirates	6,720	81,300	--	--	--	18	6,720	81,300
United Kingdom	502	3,340	565	3,960	15	410	1,080	7,710
Venezuela	6,250	46,700	799	6,470	--	313	7,050	53,500
Other	5,550	37,100	11,300	100,000	2,520	30,000	19,400	167,000
Total	268,000	2,250,000	84,300	838,000	36,500	355,000	388,000	3,440,000

-- 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 SEPTEMBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September	September	January-September
Australia	36	249	186	1,250	23	126	245	1,620
Azerbaijan	--	--	--	9	--	--	--	9
Belgium	29	386	156	2,310	--	--	185	2,700
Brazil	205	598	1,570	9,060	556	3,370	2,330	13,000
Canada	10,100	85,700	35,900	324,000	12,500	121,000	58,500	530,000
China	93	358	2,750	15,700	73,600	568,000	76,400	584,000
Czech Republic	--	2	26	201	--	--	26	203
Dominican Republic	--	23	75	365	--	--	75	387
France	73	386	727	8,160	101	106	900	8,650
Germany	221	2,420	783	7,400	188	841	1,190	10,700
Hong Kong	21	579	1,780	15,000	2,880	25,600	4,680	41,200
India	1	159	178	1,020	1,060	11,700	1,240	12,900
Israel	86	1,010	566	4,240	--	--	652	5,250
Italy	36	3,990	284	2,940	138	896	457	7,820
Japan	609	13,100	1,700	14,000	3,030	30,000	5,340	57,000
Korea, Republic of	13	351	1,520	13,600	15,100	151,000	16,600	165,000
Malaysia	--	13	1,400	8,040	42	7,710	1,440	15,800
Mexico	16,100	147,000	21,200	188,000	6,080	61,300	43,300	396,000
Netherlands	3	1,580	111	1,110	202	1,130	317	3,820
Russia	--	516	1	180	101	139	102	835
Saudi Arabia	--	18	1,780	20,700	--	--	1,780	20,700
Singapore	1	295	240	2,180	165	290	406	2,760
Spain	4	583	145	1,220	--	460	148	2,260
Sweden	--	30	18	351	18	1,260	37	1,640
Taiwan	8	334	420	4,700	17,500	96,900	17,900	102,000
Thailand	--	526	931	9,440	1,560	11,700	2,490	21,700
Ukraine	--	--	--	55	--	--	--	55
United Kingdom	17	194	2,540	13,500	200	1,790	2,760	15,500
Venezuela	--	1	236	1,250	--	80	236	1,330
Other	898	4,680	3,950	40,000	3,040	15,900	7,890	60,600
Total	28,500	265,000	81,100	709,000	138,000	1,110,000	248,000	2,080,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.