

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN DECEMBER 2007

Domestic primary aluminum production in December was 230,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 7,430 t, slightly higher than that of the previous month and 17% higher than the rate for December 2006. The average daily primary aluminum production in the fourth quarter was 3% higher than that of the third quarter and 17% higher than that of the fourth quarter of 2006. Primary aluminum production for 2007 was 12% higher than that in 2006. Total aluminum recovered from

scrap in December 2007 was 288,000 t. Of this, 167,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, and 121,000 t was recovered from old scrap.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased to \$1.107 per pound in December from \$1.164 per pound in November but increased to \$1.136 per pound in January 2008.

Used beverage can prices, cents per pound¹

December 7	79-81
December 14	79-81
December 21	78-80
December 28	78-80
January 4	81-83
January 11	82-84
January 18	83-85
January 25	82-84

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:									
December	197	153 ⁶	96 ⁶	249 ⁶	241	89	330	775	1,410
2007:									
January	202	194 ^r	136 ^r	331 ^r	251	98	349	881 ^r	1,460
February	185	182 ^r	120 ^r	302 ^r	258	86	344	831 ^r	1,460
March	217	201 ^r	143 ^r	344 ^r	238	93	332	892 ^r	1,410
April	209	188 ^r	131 ^r	319 ^r	259	94	353	881 ^r	1,430
May	210	194 ^r	138 ^r	332 ^r	220	97	317	859 ^r	1,400
June	209	196 ^r	134 ^r	329 ^r	255	92	347	885 ^r	1,330
July	219	205 ^r	127 ^r	332 ^r	236	102	337	888 ^r	1,370
August	220	188 ^r	148 ^r	336 ^r	267	91	358	914 ^r	1,390
September	216	183 ^r	129 ^r	312 ^r	268	84	352	881 ^r	1,350
October	224	194 ^r	148 ^r	342 ^r	243	86	330	896 ^r	1,350
November	220	186 ^r	135 ^r	321 ^r	238	76	314	855 ^r	1,350
December	230	167	121	288	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-December	2,561	2,280	1,610	3,890	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^rRevised. 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.

⁶Monthly data for 2006 exclude approximately 15,000 tons per month from new scrap, 17,000 tons per month from old scrap, and 32,000 tons per month from total scrap reported on an annual basis but not distributed into the individual months.

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	2,260	1,640	901	807	1,040	974	87	76	10	9	4,300
2006:												
December ²	134	98	82	73	76	71	8	7	(3)	(3)	299	249
2007:												
January	203 ^r	159 ^r	81	73	98 ^r	91 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	391 ^r	331 ^r
February	183 ^r	142 ^r	69	62	98 ^r	91 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	359 ^r	302 ^r
March	216 ^r	168 ^r	90	81	94 ^r	88 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	408 ^r	344 ^r
April	196 ^r	152 ^r	80	72	94 ^r	88 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	379 ^r	319 ^r
May	191 ^r	148 ^r	94	84	99 ^r	92 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	392 ^r	332 ^r
June	185 ^r	142 ^r	88	79	108 ^r	100 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	389 ^r	329 ^r
July	194 ^r	151 ^r	77	69	113 ^r	106 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	392 ^r	332 ^r
August	191 ^r	147 ^r	93	83	105 ^r	98 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	397 ^r	336 ^r
September	191 ^r	148 ^r	75	66	96 ^r	90 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	370 ^r	312 ^r
October	196 ^r	153 ^r	91	80	109 ^r	102 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	404 ^r	342 ^r
November	190 ^r	147 ^r	68 ^r	60 ^r	115 ^r	107 ^r	8	7	(3)	(3)	381 ^r	321 ^r
December	178	138	67	60	89	83	8	7	(3)	(3)	342	288
January-December	2,310	1,800	973	869	1,220	1,140	96	84	6	6	4,600	3,890

^rRevised.

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

²Monthly data for 2006 exclude approximately 36,000 tons per month of scrap consumption and 32,000 tons per month of aluminum recovered from scrap reported on an annual basis but not distributed into the individual months.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

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

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	148,000	178,000	115,000
Integrated aluminum companies	66,800	66,800	59,500	59,500
Independent mill fabricators	74,400	89,300	69,400	83,200
Foundries	6,640	7,970	5,840	7,010
Other consumers	360	432	360	432
Total	296,000	342,000	250,000	288,000

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)

	December			January-December		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	26,800 ^r	75,500	79,200	23,000	1,010,000	1,020,000
Can stock clippings	2,960	13,400	13,900	2,410	279,000	277,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	4,310 ^r	25,800	25,900	4,150	329,000	329,000
Casting	1,190	5,220	5,170	1,240	82,200	83,700
Borings and turnings	2,230 ^r	17,500	15,000	4,690	205,000	203,000
Dross and skimmings	3,630	34,200	33,800	4,110	433,000	433,000
Total new scrap	41,100^r	172,000	173,000	39,600	2,340,000	2,350,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	2,510 ^r	15,000	14,800	2,710	215,000	216,000
Used extrusion	2,370 ^r	7,080	7,640	1,810	91,500	92,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	3,460 ^r	49,200	47,800	4,870	690,000	689,000
Other wrought products	3,150	34,600	32,900	4,840	394,000	392,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	6,090 ^r	20,900	19,900	7,050	256,000	255,000
Total old scrap	17,600^r	127,000	123,000	21,300	1,650,000	1,640,000
Sweated pig	198	138	254	82	8,340	8,460
Total all classes	58,900^r	298,000	296,000	61,000	4,000,000	4,000,000

^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)

	December			January-December		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,670	1,920	1,370	3,230	24,500	24,100
380 and variations	5,310 ^r	17,000	16,900	5,410	266,000	267,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,730	2,710	3,010	1,430	33,200	33,700
No. 319 and variations	1,900	5,400	4,960	2,340	65,400	65,900
F-132 alloy and variations	888	1,090	1,240	740	17,000	17,100
Al-Zn alloys	306	195	193	308	2,320	2,320
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	177	213	304	86	2,560	2,650
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	4,940	4,940
Other ³	5,050 ^r	10,300	7,910	7,470	127,000	125,000
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	13,900 ^r	52,600	51,100	15,400	642,000	641,000
Total all alloys	32,200^r	91,900	87,400	36,700	1,190,000	1,180,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	17,400	XX	XX	215,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	5,210	XX	XX	35,700	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	587	XX	XX	9,730	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁴	XX	68,700	XX	XX	924,000	XX

¹Revised. XX Not applicable.

²Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

³Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

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

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN NOVEMBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	November	January- November	November	January- November	November	January- November	November	January- November
Argentina	5,680	55,300	(2)	56	--	--	5,680	55,400
Australia	99	50,000	3	98	--	2,730	102	52,800
Bahrain	626	35,100	1,520	17,000	--	--	2,150	52,100
Belgium	--	94	573	11,000	--	14	573	11,100
Brazil	1,900	74,500	807	24,500	--	1	2,710	99,000
Canada	167,000	1,760,000	33,800	414,000	26,400	299,000	228,000	2,480,000
China	1,460	35,800	10,300	156,000	--	58	11,700	192,000
France	8	424	386	3,290	9	43	403	3,760
Germany	505	2,280	6,570	92,800	35	434	7,110	95,600
Hungary	--	--	7	135	--	--	7	135
Italy	--	513	381	6,970	17	77	398	7,560
Japan	36	189	894	13,900	73	656	1,000	14,700
Korea, Republic of	107	2,490	135	2,790	11	69	253	5,350
Mexico	2,410	20,500	1,430	18,400	9,850	96,500	13,700	135,000
Netherlands	83	787	448	2,800	--	79	531	3,670
Norway	427	4,420	1	140	--	--	428	4,560
Russia	30,500	417,000	4,560	51,500	--	1,660	35,000	470,000
South Africa	7,530	55,000	3,880	43,700	--	--	11,400	98,800
Spain	--	101	9	492	--	19	9	612
Sweden	--	--	48	1,630	--	--	48	1,630
Switzerland	--	137	625	5,510	--	--	625	5,640
United Arab Emirates	6,790	103,000	--	--	--	18	6,790	103,000
United Kingdom	153	3,840	555	5,220	441	977	1,150	10,000
Venezuela	9,810	59,700	771	8,010	23	486	10,600	68,200
Other	2,550	46,500	8,640	120,000	3,080	35,500	14,300	202,000
Total	238,000	2,730,000	76,300	1,000,000	39,900	438,000	354,000	4,170,000

-- 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 NOVEMBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	November	January-	November	January-	November	January-	November	January-
		November		November		November		November
Australia	4	262	198	1,700	--	146	202	2,110
Azerbaijan	--	--	--	9	--	--	--	9
Belgium	1	388	248	2,730	--	--	250	3,110
Brazil	377	1,490	1,340	11,300	421	4,260	2,140	17,100
Canada	11,300	108,000	34,200	397,000	12,700	148,000	58,200	652,000
China	437	947	2,330	21,100	84,000	735,000	86,800	757,000
Czech Republic	--	2	16	245	--	--	16	247
Dominican Republic	1	23	27	470	2	20	30	514
France	151	722	630	9,500	38	198	819	10,400
Germany	160	2,620	697	8,770	58	1,130	915	12,500
Hong Kong	9	657	1,220	18,600	4,260	33,400	5,480	52,700
India	(2)	159	89	1,200	1,110	14,000	1,200	15,400
Israel	52	1,200	614	5,150	--	1	667	6,350
Italy	1,810	5,800	388	3,610	2,070	3,160	4,270	12,600
Japan	425	13,800	1,520	17,100	5,830	39,900	7,780	70,800
Korea, Republic of	19	411	1,850	17,200	16,300	184,000	18,200	201,000
Malaysia	--	14	645	9,950	49	7,780	694	17,700
Mexico	13,600	178,000	18,800	231,000	6,420	75,700	38,900	484,000
Netherlands	3	1,610	77	1,280	74	1,260	154	4,150
Russia	--	516	1,290	1,480	--	139	1,290	2,140
Saudi Arabia	--	18	4,110	27,200	--	--	4,110	27,300
Singapore	38	334	197	2,700	--	329	235	3,360
Spain	6	588	86	1,420	63	582	155	2,590
Sweden	--	30	16	378	--	1,270	16	1,680
Taiwan	2	356	412	5,590	9,400	123,000	9,810	129,000
Thailand	--	526	1,000	11,300	4,070	20,700	5,070	32,500
Ukraine	397	573	266	322	--	--	663	895
United Kingdom	8	204	2,600	18,800	10	1,820	2,620	20,900
Venezuela	99	113	639	2,590	--	80	738	2,780
Other	680	5,530	5,020	49,900	1,640	19,200	7,340	74,600
Total	29,600	325,000	80,500	879,000	149,000	1,410,000	259,000	2,620,000

-- 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.