

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ZINC IN JUNE 2007

Domestic mine production (recoverable) of zinc in June 2007 was 64,100 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily mine production in June was 2,140 t, 8% higher than that in May 2007 and 7% higher than that in June 2006. Year-to-date mine production for 2007 was 7% higher than that of the first half of 2006.

The Platts Metals Week average price for North American Special High Grade Zinc for the month of June was 170.92 cents per pound, 6% lower than the May average price but an increase of 8% from the June 2006 average price. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price of zinc for June decreased to \$3,602.85 per metric ton, 6% lower than the average price in May but a 12% increase compared with the average price in June 2006. During June 2007, global LME zinc stocks fell by 3,100 t to 72,400 t.

The Defense National Stockpile Center aggregated cash disposal (sale) of zinc in June, under the monthly Basic Ordering Agreement DLA-Zinc-004, was approximately 440 t (485 short tons), with an approximate value of \$1.6 million (Defense National Stockpile Center, 2007a). Negotiated sales of zinc in June, under Solicitation of Offers DLA-Zinc-006, was 3,200 t (3,527 short tons), with a provisional market value of approximately \$11.6 million (Defense National Stockpile Center, 2007b).

References Cited

- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2007a, Stockpile announces BOA sales for June 2007: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, July 5, 1 p.
- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2007b, Stockpile awards zinc: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, July 3, 1 p.

TABLE 1
SALIENT ZINC STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2006	2007		
	January- December	May	June	January- June
Production:				
Mine, zinc content of concentrate	727,000	63,600 ^r	66,500	381,000
Mine, recoverable zinc	699,000	61,200 ^r	64,100	363,000
Smelter, refined zinc ^{e, 2}	252,000 ^r	22,000 ^r	22,000	128,000
Consumption:				
Refined zinc, reported	419,000 ^r	22,700 ^r	23,500	154,000
Ores ^e (zinc content)	732	61	61	366
Zinc-base scrap ³ (zinc content)	187,000	15,600 ^e	15,600 ^e	93,500 ^e
Copper-base scrap ³ (zinc content)	159,000	13,300 ^e	13,300 ^e	79,500 ^e
Aluminum-and magnesium-base scrap ^{3, 4} (zinc content)	520	43 ^e	43 ^e	258 ^e
Total ^e	766,000	51,700 ^r	52,500	327,000
Apparent consumption, metal ⁵	1,130,000 ^r	76,700	NA	407,000 ⁶
Stocks of refined (slab) zinc, end of period:				
Producer and consumer ⁷	XX	33,200	34,000	XX
Shipments of zinc metal from Government stockpile	33,000	957	3,660	6,570
Imports for consumption:				
Refined (slab) zinc	851,000	55,000	NA	302,000 ⁶
Oxide (gross weight)	125,000	8,350	NA	54,600 ⁶
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	383,000	53,600	NA	237,000 ⁶
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	14,200	1,680	NA	9,630 ⁶
Exports:				
Refined (slab) zinc	2,530	144	NA	6,460 ⁶
Oxide (gross weight)	28,800	2,700	NA	14,100 ⁶
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	825,000	34,100	NA	117,000 ⁶
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	83,800 ^r	10,400	NA	42,500 ⁶
Price:				
London Metal Exchange, average, dollars per metric ton	3,274.42	3,829.39	3,602.85	3,559.06
Platts Metals Week North American Special High Grade, average, cents per pound	158.89	182.45	170.92	171.16

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

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

²Includes zinc metal used to manufacture zinc oxide.

³Monthly estimates are based on reported annual data from the prior year.

⁴Aluminum-and magnesium-base scrap data have fallen due to a change in assumption on the estimated zinc content of magnesium-base scrap

⁵Smelter production plus imports minus exports plus shipments from Government stockpile plus stock change.

⁶Includes data through May only.

⁷Does not include an estimate for companies that report annually.

TABLE 2
REFINED ZINC PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

Month	Production ^f	Shipments ^f
2006: ³		
June	22,900	23,100
July	20,500	21,600
August	20,500	21,600
September	20,500	21,600
October	19,500	18,100
November	19,500	18,100
December	19,500	18,100
January-December	252,000	256,000
2007:		
January	20,600	22,400
February	20,600	22,400
March	20,600	22,400
April	22,000	23,400
May	22,000	23,400
June	22,000	23,400
January-June	128,000	137,000

^fRevised.

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

²Includes zinc metal used to manufacture zinc oxide.

³Partially estimated.

TABLE 3
APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF REFINED ZINC ACCORDING TO
INDUSTRY USE AND PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons)

Industry and product	2006	2007		
	January-December ^f	April ^f	May	January-May
Galvanizing:				
Sheet and strip	477,000	33,800	33,700	178,000
Other	159,000	11,700	11,700	60,900
Total	636,000	45,500	45,400	239,000
Brass and bronze	172,000	13,700	13,400	68,400
Zinc-base alloy	238,000	11,100	10,700	63,800
Other uses ²	85,600	7,100	7,200	35,200
Grand total	1,130,000	77,400	76,700	407,000

^fRevised.

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

²Includes zinc used in making zinc dust, desilvering lead, powder, alloys, anodes, chemicals, castings, light metal alloys, rolled zinc, and miscellaneous uses not elsewhere specified.

TABLE 4
AVERAGE ZINC PRICES¹

Period	North American	LME ² cash	
	¢/lb.	¢/lb.	\$/t
2006:			
June	157.93	146.27	3,224.66
July	163.73	151.45	3,338.80
August	163.83	151.77	3,346.00
September	166.60	154.32	3,402.25
October	186.07	173.37	3,822.07
November	210.78	198.73	4,381.27
December	211.83	199.79	4,404.51
January-December	158.89	148.53	3,274.42
2007:			
January	183.47	171.74	3,786.21
February	161.17	150.08	3,308.59
March	158.48	148.36	3,270.82
April	170.47	161.32	3,556.53
May	182.45	173.70	3,829.39
June	170.92	163.42	3,602.85
January-June	171.16	161.44	3,559.06

¹Special High Grade.

²London Metal Exchange.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF ZINC¹

Material	2006		2007			
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	May		Year to date	
			Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Refined (slab) zinc	2,530	\$3,800	144	\$187	6,460	\$4,840
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	825,000	1,060,000	34,100	36,200	117,000	144,000
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	83,800 ^r	95,800 ^r	10,400	11,400	42,500	44,000
Powders, flakes, dust (zinc content)	16,400	33,300	2,680	5,030	8,970	18,000
Oxide (gross weight)	28,800	47,900	2,700	4,780	14,100	27,000
Chloride (gross weight)	1,510	1,930	140	217	913	1,130
Sulfate (gross weight)	42,800	22,500	15	38	83	233
Compounds, other (gross weight) ²	1,740	3,750	249	512	2,510	3,940

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Includes zinc sulfide (Schedule B 2830.90.1000 and 2830.90.1500), chromates of zinc or of lead (Schedule B 2841.90.4500), and lithopone and other pigments and preparations based on zinc sulfide (Schedule B 3206.42.0000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ZINC¹

Material	2007					
	2006		May		Year to date	
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Refined (slab) zinc	851,000	\$2,050,000	55,000	\$172,000	302,000	\$999,000
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	383,000	183,000	53,600	32,900	237,000	100,000
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	14,200	18,700	1,680	3,360	9,630	15,500
Powders, flakes, dust (zinc content)	30,100	107,000	3,310	15,200	12,700	59,900
Oxide (gross weight)	125,000	243,000	8,350	24,200	54,600	143,000
Chloride (gross weight)	1,260	1,780	68	342	227	1,380
Sulfate (gross weight)	44,400	34,100	3,140	3,270	13,500	14,100
Compounds, other (gross weight) ²	7,980	9,620	478	609	3,390	4,510

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Includes zinc sulfide (HTS 2830.90.1000 and 2830.90.1500), chromates of zinc or of lead (HTS 2841.90.4500), and lithopone and other pigments and preparations based on zinc sulfide (HTS 3206.42.0000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
SHIPMENTS OF ZINC METAL FROM THE NATIONAL
DEFENSE STOCKPILE¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Shipments	Ending inventory ²
2006:		
June	3,380	25,500
July	994	24,500
August	3,690	20,800
September	5,460	15,300
October	1,900	13,400
November	NA ³	15,500
December	237	15,300
January-December	33,000	XX
2007:		
January	472	14,800
February	590	14,200
March	375	13,900
April	516	13,300
May	957	12,400
June	3,660	8,720
January-June	6,570	XX

NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

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

²Includes excess material and material committed for sale/pending shipment.

³Monthly shipments are not reflected by changes in inventory due to an inventory adjustment or shipment delay.

Source: Defense National Stockpile Center.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS OF ZINC, BY TYPE OF MATERIAL AND COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons)

Material and country	General imports			Imports for consumption		
	2006	2007		2006	2007	
		May	Year to date		May	Year to date
Ore and concentrate (zinc content):						
Australia	2,850	--	--	2,850	--	--
Canada	2,750	--	31	2,750	--	31
Ireland	17,000	44,800	94,600	17,000	44,800	94,600
Mexico	88,100	--	452	88,100	--	452
Peru	273,000	8,810	142,000	273,000	8,810	142,000
Total	383,000	53,600	237,000	383,000	53,600	237,000
Blocks, pigs, or slab:						
Australia	15,000	--	7,000	47,100	--	7,920
Brazil	8,790	--	1,000	13,000	--	1,000
Canada	535,000	47,600	204,000	535,000	47,600	204,000
China	2,000	17	2,840	57,300	64	7,990
Finland	--	--	--	51	--	374
India	12,200	--	4,150	12,200	--	4,150
Japan	251	--	--	6,200	--	--
Kazakhstan	6,000	--	28,000	6,000	--	28,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	66,800	--	9,120
Mexico	103,000	7,350	39,400	103,000	7,350	39,400
Norway	--	--	--	1,160	--	25
Peru	1,080	--	--	1,360	--	--
Other	21	--	--	1,740	--	--
Total	683,000	54,900	287,000	851,000	55,000	302,000
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)						
	31,100	1,170	9,490	31,100	1,170	9,490
Grand total	1,100,000	110,000	534,000	1,270,000	110,000	549,000
Oxide (gross weight):						
Canada	49,100	4,360	19,900	49,100	4,360	19,900
China	277	18	213	277	18	213
Germany	800	18	503	800	18	503
Italy	24,500	--	5,050	24,500	--	5,050
Japan	1,290	131	481	1,290	131	481
Mexico	31,900	2,980	13,700	31,900	2,980	13,700
Netherlands	7,820	782	9,390	7,820	782	9,390
Spain	1,150	--	979	1,150	--	979
Sweden	7,500	--	3,800	7,500	--	3,800
Other	618	57	550	618	57	550
Total	125,000	8,350	54,600	125,000	8,350	54,600
Other (gross weight):						
Waste and scrap	14,200	1,680	9,630	14,200	1,680	9,630
Sheets	2,050	56	383	2,050	56	383
Powders, flakes, dust (zinc content)	30,100	3,310	12,700	30,100	3,310	12,700

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.