

# Mineral Industry Surveys

---

**For information, contact:**

E. Lee Bray, Aluminum Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4979, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: lbray@usgs.gov

Paula R. Neely (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7949  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: pneely@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2008

Domestic primary aluminum production in August was 222,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 7,160 t, a slight decline compared to the rate of the previous month and slightly higher than the rate for August 2007. Total aluminum recovered from scrap in August 2008 was 290,000 t, slightly less than that of the previous month and 14% lower than the total in August 2007. Of this, 178,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, essentially unchanged from that in July, and 5% less than the amount recovered in August 2007.

Aluminum recovered from old scrap in August 2008 totaled 112,000 t, which was 4% lower than that in July and 24% less than that in August 2007.

In August, the monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot declined to \$1.29 per pound from \$1.426 per pound. In September, the monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot declined to \$1.192 per pound.

### Used beverage can prices, cents per pound<sup>1</sup>

<b>August 1</b>	<b>91-93</b>
<b>August 8</b>	<b>91-92</b>
<b>August 15</b>	<b>88-90</b>
<b>August 22</b>	<b>86-88</b>
<b>August 29</b>	<b>84-86</b>
<b>September 5</b>	<b>82-84</b>
<b>September 12</b>	<b>80-82</b>
<b>September 19</b>	<b>77-79</b>
<b>September 26</b>	<b>76-78</b>

<sup>1</sup>Source: American Metal Market

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		
2007 <sup>p</sup>	2,554	2,280	1,610	3,890	2,950	1,070	4,020	10,500	1,400
2007:									
August	220	188	148	336	267	91	358	914	1,390
September	216	183	129	312	268	84	352	881	1,350
October	224	194	148	342	243	86	330	896	1,350
November	220	186	135	321	238	76	314	855	1,350
December	225	167	122	288	215	70	285	798	1,400
January-August	1,670	1,550	1,080	2,630	1,980	753	2,740	7,030	XX
2008:									
January	233	189	125	315	240	78	318	865	1,380
February	219	180	109	289	208	74	282	790	1,350
March	233	183	116	299	247	77	324	856	1,320
April	228	180	114	295	238	78	316	839	1,320
May	235	179	123	302	237	81	318	855	1,320
June	224	177	115	292	263	80	343	859	1,310
July	225	179	117	296	227	82	309	831	1,310
August	222	178	112	290	204	77	281	793	1,330
January-August	1,820	1,450	933	2,380	1,860	626	2,490	6,690	XX

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. XX Not applicable.

<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		Independent mill fabricators <sup>2</sup>		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
	2007 <sup>p</sup>	2,310	1,800	2,190	2,010	95	83	5	5	4,600
2007:										
August	191	147	198	181	8	7	(3)	(3)	397	336
September	191	148	171	156	8	7	(3)	(3)	370	312
October	196	153	199	182	8	7	(3)	(3)	404	342
November	190	147	183	167	8	7	(3)	(3)	381	321
December	178	138	157	143	8	7	(3)	(3)	343	288
January-August	1,560	1,210	1,480	1,360	63	55	(3)	(3)	3,110	2,630
2008:										
January	168	133	195	174	8	7	(3)	(3)	372	315
February	150	117	185	164	8	7	(3)	(3)	343	289
March	148	116	197	175	8	7	(3)	(3)	354	299
April	150	118	190	169	8	7	(3)	(3)	349	295
May	150	117	200	177	8	7	(3)	(3)	358	302
June	150	117	189	167	8	7	(3)	(3)	347	292
July	149	117	194	173	7	7	(3)	(3)	352	296
August	148	116	188	167	7	7	(3)	(3)	344	290
January-August	1,210	952	1,540	1,370	63	55	(3)	(3)	2,820	2,380

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes plants previously categorized as "Integrated aluminum companies."

<sup>3</sup>Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN AUGUST 2008<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	124,000	148,000	96,900
Independent mill fabricators <sup>2</sup>	168,000	188,000	150,000	167,000
Foundries	6,230	7,480	5,450	6,530
Other consumers	608	730	522	626
Total	299,000	344,000	253,000	290,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes plants previously categorized as "Integrated aluminum companies."

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN AUGUST 2008<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
New scrap:						
Extrusion	24,400	88,300	88,700	24,100	717,000	718,000
Can stock clippings	3,450	17,200	17,700	2,950	143,000	144,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	5,510	24,800	24,900	5,380	200,000	199,000
Casting	803	5,600	5,630	776	47,100	47,300
Borings and turnings	4,480	11,600	11,600	4,480	94,100	94,100
Dross and skimmings	3,670	34,700	34,700	3,670	278,000	279,000
Total new scrap	42,300	182,000	183,000	41,300	1,480,000	1,480,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	5,690	20,700	20,800	5,640	146,000	149,000
Used extrusion	2,000	6,300	6,300	2,000	50,400	50,400
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	4,320	55,500	56,300	3,500	476,000	478,000
Other wrought products	3,270	17,000	17,000	3,270	162,000	162,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	5,750	15,500	15,300	5,940	130,000	130,000
Total old scrap	21,000	115,000	116,000	20,400	965,000	968,000
Sweated pig	82	246	246	82	1,970	1,970
Total all classes	63,500	297,000	299,000	61,800	2,450,000	2,450,000

<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 2008<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	August			January-August <sup>3</sup>		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,440	1,870	1,970	3,350	15,900	15,800
380 and variations	4,190	13,200	13,200	4,190	111,000	112,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,360	2730	2,730	1,360	21,800	21,900
No. 319 and variations	1,940	3,380	3,410	1,920	27,800	28,300
F-132 alloy and variations	508	482	482	508	9,200	9,430
Al-Zn alloys	292	168	168	292	1,370	1,390
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	86	213	213	86	1,710	1,710
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	3,290	3,290
Other <sup>3</sup>	10,700	37,700	40,600	7,780	178,000	178,000
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	18,700	54,500	54,100	19,100	441,000	441,000
Total all alloys	41,400	115,000	117,000	38,900	811,000	813,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	20,200	XX	XX	154,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,460	XX	XX	14,400	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	642	XX	XX	5,120	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot <sup>4</sup>	XX	92,500	XX	XX	637,000	XX

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

<sup>4</sup>No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2008<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Argentina	4,460	45,300	--	--	--	--	4,460	45,300
Australia	2,620	26,100	6	55	--	--	2,620	26,100
Bahrain	499	4,470	1,660	9,960	--	--	2,160	14,400
Belgium	18	73	465	2,790	--	--	483	2,860
Brazil	5,990	46,200	1,010	11,100	6	360	7,000	57,700
Canada	163,000	1,160,000	33,600	237,000	30,600	200,000	227,000	1,590,000
China	6,150	18,100	14,500	82,200	25	33	20,600	100,000
France	8	232	522	2,540	198	772	728	3,540
Germany	19	1,270	8,280	51,800	22	248	8,320	53,300
Hungary	--	--	22	113	--	--	22	113
Italy	--	32	371	3,250	--	18	371	3,300
Japan	45	440	919	6,770	77	534	1,040	7,740
Korea, Republic of	35	174	196	1,330	34	103	266	1,610
Mexico	2,270	16,800	1,580	11,700	12,900	75,300	16,700	104,000
Netherlands	108	854	117	1,560	--	77	225	2,490
Norway	340	2,240	(2)	9	--	--	340	2,250
Russia	19,300	191,000	3,190	28,900	220	551	22,700	220,000
South Africa	--	6,440	2,630	21,800	--	500	2,630	28,800
Spain	36	94	18	109	--	8	54	212
Sweden	1	4	270	1,280	--	--	271	1,280
Switzerland	--	3	343	3,890	--	--	343	3,890
Tajikistan	--	782	--	--	--	--	--	782
United Arab Emirates	8,240	48,600	--	19	90	278	8,330	48,900
United Kingdom	71	1,170	570	4,800	488	2,290	1,130	8,250
Venezuela	10,600	66,400	492	2,940	503	2,000	11,600	71,300
Other	3,410	27,400	11,300	63,100	4,000	25,000	18,700	116,000
Total	227,000	1,660,000	82,000	549,000	49,100	308,000	358,000	2,520,000

-- 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 ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2008<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	--	1,590	201	1,220	40	82	241	2,890
Azerbaijan	--	--	(2)	(2)	--	--	(2)	(2)
Belgium	526	776	163	926	287	435	977	2,140
Brazil	4	332	944	5,470	675	2,630	1,620	8,430
Canada	7,180	65,700	36,300	256,000	13,900	101,000	57,400	423,000
China	166	952	2,900	27,000	93,200	551,000	96,300	578,000
Czech Republic	--	13	4	166	--	--	4	180
Dominican Republic	--	357	36	292	--	3	36	652
France	21	425	994	6,750	--	5	1,020	7,180
Germany	186	1,760	1,040	6,180	192	693	1,410	8,630
Hong Kong	2	176	1,190	10,200	11,700	57,800	12,900	68,200
India	--	197	38	927	3,590	17,400	3,630	18,600
Israel	31	175	691	3,320	--	--	722	3,500
Italy	(2)	28	363	1,850	--	414	363	2,300
Japan	65	9,140	978	12,300	3,940	36,400	4,980	57,800
Korea, Republic of	16	567	1,330	9,410	27,500	144,000	28,800	154,000
Malaysia	(2)	11	737	5,160	64	613	801	5,780
Mexico	16,900	109,000	29,600	151,000	7,560	57,300	54,000	318,000
Netherlands	104	355	187	1,310	198	679	488	2,340
Russia	--	--	20	35	--	--	20	35
Saudi Arabia	70	199	3,660	28,400	--	18	3,730	28,600
Singapore	84	138	82	834	28	658	195	1,630
Spain	1	12	199	1,020	81	474	280	1,500
Sweden	--	1	17	130	--	--	17	131
Taiwan	7	52	1,030	5,860	37,900	283,000	38,900	289,000
Thailand	--	17	1,180	6,410	9,440	61,700	10,600	68,100
Ukraine	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
United Kingdom	106	384	2,160	15,600	22	582	2,290	16,600
Venezuela	--	--	71	532	--	5	71	537
Other	446	3,650	6,340	36,500	4,870	23,600	11,700	63,800
Total	25,900	196,000	92,400	595,000	215,000	1,340,000	334,000	2,130,000

-- 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 ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.