

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ZINC IN FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL 2008

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, domestic mine production (recoverable) of zinc in metric tons (t) for the months of February, March, and April 2008 was as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Production (month)</u>	<u>Production (average daily)</u>
February 2008	67,300 t	2,320 t
March 2008	72,100 t	2,330 t
April 2008	65,600 t	2,190 t

Total stocks of zinc held in global London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) warehouses at the end of February, March, and April 2008 were as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Stocks</u>
February 2008	122,525 t
March 2008	123,975 t
April 2008	126,775 t

There were no aggregated cash disposals (sales) of zinc in February, March, or April 2008 from the National Defense Stockpile (Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008a–c).

Monthly average prices for Special High Grade Zinc (North American and LME cash) can be found in table 7.

References Cited

- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008a, Stockpile announces BOA sales for April 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, May 5, 1 p.
- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008b, Stockpile announces BOA sales for February 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, March 5, 1 p.
- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008c, Stockpile announces BOA sales for March 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, April 7, 1 p.

TABLE 1
SALIENT ZINC STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2007	2008				Year to date
	January-December	January	February	March	April	
Production:						
Mine, zinc content of concentrate ²	803,000	74,400	69,100	74,800	70,800	289,000
Mine, recoverable zinc ²	769,000	72,400	67,300	72,100	65,600	277,000
Smelter, refined zinc ^{e, 3}	278,000	24,100 ^r	24,100	24,100	24,200	96,400
Consumption:						
Apparent, refined zinc ⁴	1,050,000	78,200	88,400	88,500	85,700	341,000
Reported:						
Refined zinc	484,000	19,700 ^r	19,800	21,600	18,100	79,200
Ores ^e (zinc content)	732	61	61	61	61	244
Zinc-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	178,000	14,800	14,800	14,800	14,800	59,300
Copper-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	148,000	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	49,400
Aluminum- and magnesium-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	603	50	50	50	50	200
Total ^e	811,000	47,000 ^r	47,000	48,900	45,400	188,000
Stocks of refined zinc, end of period:						
Producer and consumer ⁶	XX	36,600	35,100	33,500	29,700	XX
Shipments of zinc metal from Government stockpile	10,100	12	NA	89	--	101
Imports for consumption:						
Refined zinc ⁷	758,000	58,400	65,600	67,600	61,100	253,000
Oxide (gross weight)	117,000	13,000	9,600	7,930	7,680	38,200
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	271,000	11,700	9,000	2,730	127	23,600
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	21,800	1,090	928	969	1,540	4,520
Exports:						
Refined zinc	8,070	240	69	265	344	919
Oxide (gross weight)	34,900	2,990	3,060	3,050	3,580	12,700
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	816,000	15,800	17,600	17,200	29,700	80,300
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	102,000	3,650	6,710	8,880	9,120	28,400
Price:⁸						
London Metal Exchange cash, average, dollars per metric ton	3,241.54	2,339.81	2,437.60	2,511.01	2,263.16	2,387.89
Platts Metals Week North American, average, cents per pound	154.40	110.49	114.60	117.67	106.43	112.30

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

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

²Partially estimated.

³Includes zinc metal used to manufacture zinc oxide.

⁴Smelter production plus imports minus exports plus shipments from Government stockpile plus stock change.

⁵Monthly estimates are based on reported annual data from the prior year.

⁶Does not include an estimate for companies that report annually.

⁷Revised to include casting-grade zinc (HTS 7901.12.1000).

⁸Special High Grade Zinc.

TABLE 2
APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF REFINED ZINC ACCORDING
TO INDUSTRY USE AND PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons)

Industry and product	2007	2008				Year to date
	January-December	January	February	March	April	
Galvanizing:						
Sheet and strip	438,000	33,800	38,000	38,800	36,300	147,000
Other	163,000	12,500	14,600	14,200	14,400	55,700
Total	601,000	46,300	52,600	53,000	50,700	203,000
Brass and bronze	174,000	13,700	15,100	15,200	14,400	58,500
Zinc-base alloy	189,000	11,700	13,600	13,200	13,300	51,800
Other uses ²	84,500	6,540	7,060	7,090	7,210	27,900
Grand total	1,050,000	78,200	88,400	88,500	85,700	341,000

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 3
SHIPMENTS OF ZINC METAL FROM THE NATIONAL
DEFENSE STOCKPILE¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Shipments	Ending inventory ²
2007:		
April	516	13,300
May	957	12,400
June	3,660	8,720
July	NA ³	11,300 ⁴
August	3,190	8,100 ⁴
September	174	7,920 ⁴
October	77	7,850 ⁴
November	111	7,730 ⁴
December	--	7,730 ⁴
January-December	10,100	XX
2008:		
January	12	7,720 ⁴
February	NA ³	7,730 ⁴
March	89	7,640 ⁴
April	--	7,640 ⁴
January-April	101	XX

NA Not available. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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.

⁴Total uncommitted inventory. As of July 2007, the Defense National Stockpile Center no longer maintains its inventory by class.

Source: Defense National Stockpile Center.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ZINC¹

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2007		2008									
			January		February		March		April		Year to date	
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	271,000	\$170,000	11,700	\$17,800	9,000	\$14,200	2,730	\$4,750	127	\$160	23,600	\$37,000
Unwrought:												
Refined (slab) zinc ²	758,000	2,400,000	58,400	149,000	65,600	141,000	67,600	168,000	61,100	151,000	253,000	626,000
Zinc alloys	9,900	35,000	600	1,490	620	1,630	825	2,100	682	1,750	2,730	6,970
Wrought:												
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	2,250	8,900	111	440	278	893	190	587	200	706	779	2,630
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	2,160	12,700	270	1,370	155	724	267	1,160	381	1,910	1,070	5,160
Other:												
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	18,600	32,300	1,360	1,560	1,360	1,770	2,390	3,530	2,370	3,320	7,480	10,200
Powders, flakes, dust	31,300	141,000	2,500	8,460	1,950	6,320	2,650	8,310	2,830	8,770	9,920	31,900
Waste and scrap	21,800	32,500	1,090	1,630	928	1,280	969	1,600	1,540	2,430	4,520	6,940
Chemicals:												
Oxide	117,000	299,000	13,000	23,100	9,600	19,200	7,930	18,400	7,680	15,600	38,200	76,400
Chloride	685	3,110	33	241	32	154	41	109	34	175	141	678
Sulfate	31,900	34,300	2,100	2,420	2,710	3,190	4,600	5,000	3,430	4,230	12,800	14,800
Compounds, other ³	7,320	11,000	416	739	501	779	514	683	418	733	1,850	2,930

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

²Revised to include casting-grade zinc (HTS 7901.12.1000).

³Includes 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 5
U.S. IMPORTS OF ZINC, BY TYPE OF MATERIAL AND COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material and country	General imports						Imports for consumption					
	2007	2008					2007	2008				
		January	February	March	April	Year to date		January	February	March	April	Year to date
Ore and concentrate (zinc content):												
Canada	2,960	2,220	--	--	127	2,350	2,960	2,220	--	--	127	2,350
Ireland	99,200	--	--	--	--	--	99,200	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	3,600	--	--	2,730	--	2,730	3,600	--	--	2,730	--	2,730
Peru	166,000	9,480	9,000	--	--	18,500	166,000	9,480	9,000	--	--	18,500
Total	271,000	11,700	9,000	2,730	127	23,600	271,000	11,700	9,000	2,730	127	23,600
Refined (slab) zinc:²												
Australia	7,000	--	--	--	--	--	8,040	--	--	--	--	--
Brazil	1,000	--	--	--	--	--	1,000	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	563,000	47,600	51,000	56,900	48,100	204,000	563,000	47,600	51,000	56,900	48,100	204,000
China	2,850	--	203	--	2	205	8,120	--	203	--	2	205
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	374	--	--	--	--	--
India	4,190	--	--	--	--	--	4,190	--	--	--	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	24	24	25	--	--	--	24	24
Kazakhstan	49,500	4,190	8,380	--	5,030	17,600	49,500	4,190	8,380	--	5,030	17,600
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	--	9,470	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	109,000	5,850	4,160	5,910	6,210	22,100	109,000	5,850	4,160	5,910	6,210	22,100
Norway	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	--	--	--	--	--
Peru	1,080	749	1,860	4,820	1,750	9,180	1,080	749	1,860	4,820	1,750	9,180
Russia	4,670	--	--	--	--	--	4,670	--	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	16	2	2	2	2	9	16	2	2	2	2	9
United Kingdom	(3)	--	--	--	--	2	(3)	--	2	--	--	2
Total	742,000	58,400	65,600	67,600	61,100	253,000	758,000	58,400	65,600	67,600	61,100	253,000
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	18,600	1,360	1,360	2,390	2,370	7,480	18,600	1,360	1,360	2,390	2,370	7,480
Grand total	1,030,000[†]	71,400	76,000	72,800	63,600	284,000	1,050,000[†]	71,400	76,000	72,800	63,600	284,000
Oxide:												
Belgium	430	592	962	877	1,460	3,890	430	592	962	877	1,460	3,890
Canada	47,500	3,840	3,360	4,100	3,290	14,600	47,500	3,840	3,360	4,100	3,290	14,600
China	341	18	33	16	--	67	341	18	33	16	--	67
Germany	1,150	61	182	50	133	424	1,150	61	182	50	133	424
Italy	15,600	5,010	--	1	--	5,020	15,600	5,010	--	1	--	5,020
Japan	1,190	187	44	143	215	588	1,190	187	44	143	215	588
Mexico	31,100	2,660	2,930	2,410	1,730	9,730	31,100	2,660	2,930	2,410	1,730	9,730
Netherlands	14,300	615	710	287	850	2,460	14,300	615	710	287	850	2,460
Peru	298	10	1,070	--	--	1,080	298	10	1,070	--	--	1,080
Spain	979	--	190	--	--	190	979	--	190	--	--	190
Sweden	3,800	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	3,800	--	--	--	(3)	(3)
Other	735	36	118	48	(3)	203	735	36	118	48	(3)	203
Total	117,000	13,000	9,600	7,930	7,680	38,200	117,000	13,000	9,600	7,930	7,680	38,200

[†]Revised. -- Zero.

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

²Revised to include casting-grade zinc (HTS 7901.12.1000).

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF ZINC¹

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2007		2008									
			January		February		March		April		Year to date	
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	816,000	\$1,170,000	15,800	\$15,000	17,600	\$21,100	17,200	\$21,700	29,700	\$18,900	80,300	\$76,700
Unwrought:												
Refined (slab) zinc	8,070	6,420	240	274	69	70	265	262	344	325	919	931
Zinc alloys	22,500	58,900	801	2,690	727	2,390	630	1,960	995	2,740	3,150	9,780
Wrought:												
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	26,700	39,400	1,950	3,270	1,640	2,460	2,240	3,400	3,060	4,570	8,890	13,700
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	4,310	20,600	385	1,850	319	1,500	443	1,810	415	1,910	1,560	7,060
Other:												
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	14,200	13,200	1,010	325	2,960	1,090	1,350	676	1,950	741	7,280	2,830
Powders, flakes, dust	19,400	36,600	1,270	2,720	1,070	2,200	1,370	3,030	1,220	2,910	4,930	10,900
Waste and scrap	102,000	103,000	3,650	4,710	6,710	10,400	8,880	10,000	9,120	9,140	28,400	31,300
Chemicals:												
Oxide	34,900	64,200	2,990	4,870	3,060	5,560	3,050	5,170	3,580	6,510	12,700	22,100
Chloride	1,700	2,320	257	281	238	219	131	162	146	168	773	830
Sulfate	398	708	6	14	224	257	15	14	80	51	324	336
Compounds, other ²	5,830	9,750	624	942	501	855	538	905	474	833	2,140	3,540

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 7
AVERAGE PRICES FOR SPECIAL HIGH GRADE ZINC

Period	North American ¹	London Metal Exchange	
	¢/lb.	cash ²	
	¢/lb.	¢/lb.	\$/t
2007:			
April	170.47	161.32	3,556.53
May	182.45	173.70	3,829.39
June	170.92	163.42	3,602.85
July	167.11	160.82	3,545.58
August	152.67	147.44	3,250.58
September	135.70	130.67	2,880.76
October	139.68	134.91	2,974.25
November	119.43	115.24	2,540.66
December	111.23	106.70	2,352.29
January-December	154.40	147.03	3,241.54
2008:			
January	110.49	106.13	2,339.81
February	114.60	110.57	2,437.60
March	117.67	113.90	2,511.01
April	106.43	102.66	2,263.16
January-April	112.30	108.31	2,387.89

¹Platts Metals Week North American price. Based on the London Metal Exchange cash price plus premiums or discounts, depending on market conditions.

²Average of the cash buyer price and the cash seller and settlement price.

Source: Platts Metals Week.