

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Amy C. Tolcin, Zinc Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4940, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: atolcin@usgs.gov

Barbara J. McNair (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7952
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: bmcnair@usgs.gov

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

ZINC IN MAY, JUNE, AND JULY 2008

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

<u>Month</u>	<u>Production (month)</u>	<u>Production (average daily)</u>
May 2008	68,700 t	2,220 t
June 2008	72,100 t	2,400 t
July 2008	72,400 t	2,330 t

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

<u>Month</u>	<u>Stocks</u>
May 2008	144,850 t
June 2008	153,200 t
July 2008	158,375 t

There were no aggregated cash disposals (sales) of zinc in May, June, and July 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 July 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, August 5, 1 p.
- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008b, Stockpile announces BOA sales for June 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, July 7, 1 p.
- Defense National Stockpile Center, 2008c, Stockpile announces BOA sales for May 2008: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, June 5, 1 p.

TABLE 1
SALIENT ZINC STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2007	2008						
	January-December	February	March	April	May	June	July	Year to date
Production:								
Mine, zinc content of concentrate ²	803,000	69,100	74,800	70,800	71,300	74,700	75,100	510,000
Mine, recoverable zinc ²	769,000	67,300	72,100	65,600	68,700	72,100	72,400	491,000
Smelter, refined zinc ^{e, 3}	278,000	24,100	24,100	24,200	24,200	24,200	24,600	169,000
Consumption:								
Apparent, refined zinc ⁴	1,050,000	88,000 ^r	90,400 ^r	85,600 ^r	83,600	86,000	93,000	605,000
Reported:								
Refined zinc	484,000	19,800	21,000 ^r	18,600 ^r	21,600	21,400	20,500	143,000
Ores ^e (zinc content)	732	61	61	61	61	61	61	427
Zinc-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	178,000	14,800	14,800	14,800	14,800	14,800	14,800	104,000
Copper-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	148,000	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,400	86,500
Aluminum- and magnesium-base scrap ^{e, 5} (zinc content)	603	50	50	50	50	50	50	350
Total ^e	811,000	47,100	48,300 ^r	45,900 ^r	48,900	48,700	47,800	334,000
Stocks of refined zinc, end of period:								
Producer and consumer ⁶	XX	36,900 ^r	35,800 ^r	36,400 ^r	35,400	37,200	36,400	XX
Shipments of zinc metal from Government stockpile	10,100	NA	89	--	41	--	101	243
Imports for consumption:								
Refined zinc	758,000	65,600	67,600	61,100	60,400	60,000	69,300	442,000
Oxide (gross weight)	117,000	9,600	7,930	7,680	12,900	11,400	8,120	70,700
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	271,000	9,000	2,730	127	980	7,720	--	32,200
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	21,800	928	969	1,540	1,410	1,980	1,890	9,810
Exports:								
Refined zinc	8,070	69	265	344	137	100	147	1,300
Oxide (gross weight)	34,900	3,060	3,050	3,580	2,390	2,920	4,600	22,600
Ore and concentrate (zinc content)	816,000	17,600	17,200	29,700	16,100	22,100	148,000	266,000
Waste and scrap (gross weight)	102,000	6,710	8,880	9,120	11,100	6,920	10,200	56,600
Price:⁷								
London Metal Exchange cash, average, dollars per metric ton	3,241.54	2,437.60	2,511.01	2,263.16	2,181.63	1,893.89	1,851.88	2,211.28
Platts Metals Week North American, average, cents per pound	154.40	114.60	117.67	106.43	102.80	89.93	88.02	104.28

^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.

⁷Special High Grade Zinc.

TABLE 2
 APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF REFINED ZINC ACCORDING
 TO INDUSTRY USE AND PRODUCT¹
 (Metric tons)

	2007	2008			Year to date ²
	January-December	May	June	July	
Galvanizing:					
Sheet and strip	438,000	36,300	37,600	42,100	261,000
Other	163,000	13,900	14,500	16,100	103,000
Total	601,000	50,100	52,100	58,200	364,000
Brass and bronze	174,000	14,500	14,300	13,200	101,000
Zinc-base alloy	189,000	12,200	12,700	14,300	91,200
Other uses ³	84,500	6,710	6,910	7,340	48,500
Grand total	1,050,000	83,600	86,000	93,000	605,000

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

²May include revisions to prior months' data.

³Includes zinc used in making zinc dust, desilvering lead, powder, alloys, anodes, chemicals, casting, 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:		
July	NA ³	11,300
August	3,190	8,100
September	174	7,920
October	77	7,850
November	111	7,730
December	--	7,730
January-December	10,100	XX
2008:		
January	12	7,720
February	NA ³	7,730
March	89	7,640
April	--	7,640
May	41	7,600
June	--	7,600
July	101	7,500
January-July	243	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 only uncommitted inventory.

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

Source: Defense National Stockpile Center.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ZINC¹

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2007		2008							
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	May		June		July		Year to date	
			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	980	\$1,250	7,720	\$8,810	--	--	32,200	\$47,000
Unwrought:										
Refined (slab) zinc	758,000	2,400,000	60,400	140,000	60,000	131,000	69,300	\$136,000	442,000	1,030,000
Zinc alloys	9,900	35,000	444	1,010	642	1,340	423	831	4,240	10,200
Wrought:										
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	2,250	8,900	182	583	197	603	235	699	1,390	4,510
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	2,160	12,700	265	1,480	203	1,310	448	2,440	1,990	10,400
Other:										
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	18,600	32,300	1,160	1,150	802	1,210	997	1,240	10,400	13,800
Powders, flakes, dust	31,300	141,000	2,430	7,910	2,810	8,530	2,280	6,980	17,400	55,300
Waste and scrap	21,800	32,500	1,410	1,950	1,980	2,390	1,890	2,250	9,810	13,500
Chemicals:										
Oxide	117,000	299,000	12,900	22,000	11,400	17,300	8,120	16,000	70,700	132,000
Chloride	685	3,110	48	169	85	199	31	163	306	1,210
Sulfate	31,900	34,300	5,390	5,690	3,730	4,190	3,440	3,640	25,400	28,400
Compounds, other ²	7,320	11,000	475	803	320	631	400	527	3,050	4,900

-- Zero.

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 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			
		May	June	July	Year to date		May	June	July	Year to date
Ore and concentrate (zinc content):										
Canada	2,960	385	--	--	2,730	2,960	385	--	--	2,730
Ireland	99,200	--	--	--	--	99,200	--	--	--	--
Mexico	3,600	--	--	--	2,730	3,600	--	--	--	2,730
Peru	166,000	594	7,720	--	26,800	166,000	594	7,720	--	26,800
Total	271,000	980	7,720	--	32,200	271,000	980	7,720	--	32,200
Refined (slab) zinc:										
Australia	7,000	--	--	--	--	8,040	--	--	--	--
Brazil	1,000	--	251	24	275	1,000	--	251	24	275
Canada	563,000	47,300	52,100	51,200	354,000	563,000	47,300	52,100	51,200	354,000
China	2,850	1	2	--	208	8,120	603	2	125	935
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	374	--	--	--	--
India	4,190	--	--	--	--	4,190	--	--	--	--
Italy	--	18	--	--	18	--	18	--	--	18
Japan	--	--	--	299	323	25	--	--	299	323
Kazakhstan	49,500	1,490	--	8,110	27,200	49,500	1,490	--	8,110	27,200
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	9,470	--	25	677	702
Mexico	109,000	8,090	6,000	7,180	43,400	109,000	8,090	6,000	7,180	43,400
Norway	--	--	--	--	--	25	--	--	--	--
Peru	1,080	2,890	1,670	1,610	15,300	1,080	2,890	1,670	1,610	15,300
Russia	4,670	--	--	--	--	4,670	--	--	--	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	25
Sweden	--	1	1	--	2	--	1	1	--	2
Taiwan	16	(2)	3	3	15	16	(2)	3	3	15
United Kingdom	(2)	--	--	--	--	(2)	--	--	--	--
Total	742,000	59,800	60,000	68,400	441,000	758,000	60,400	60,000	69,300	442,000
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	18,600	1,160	802	997	10,400	18,600	1,160	802	997	10,400
Grand total	1,030,000	62,000	68,500	69,400	484,000	1,050,000	62,600	68,500	70,300	485,000
Oxide:										
Belgium	430	1,270	--	1,070	6,220	430	1,270	--	1,070	6,220
Canada	47,500	3,710	3,350	3,550	25,200	47,500	3,710	3,350	3,550	25,200
China	341	3	25	34	128	341	3	25	34	128
Germany	1,150	47	103	197	772	1,150	47	103	197	772
Italy	15,600	5,010	5,610	2	15,600	15,600	5,010	5,610	2	15,600
Japan	1,190	118	106	197	1,010	1,190	118	106	197	1,010
Mexico	31,100	2,320	1,400	2,680	16,100	31,100	2,320	1,400	2,680	16,100
Netherlands	14,300	362	537	224	3,580	14,300	362	537	224	3,580
Peru	298	--	--	17	1,100	298	--	--	17	1,100
Spain	979	98	263	130	681	979	98	263	130	681
Sweden	3,800	--	--	--	(2)	3,800	--	--	--	(2)
Other	735	8	8	20	242	735	8	8	20	242
Total	117,000	12,900	11,400	8,120	70,700	117,000	12,900	11,400	8,120	70,700

-- 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 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF ZINC¹

(Gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2007		2008							
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousands)	May		June		July		Year to date	
			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	16,100	\$22,000	22,100	\$21,000	148,000	\$102,000	266,000	\$221,000
Unwrought:										
Refined (slab) zinc	8,070	6,420	137	142	100	136	147	151	1,300	1,360
Zinc alloys	22,500	58,900	865	2,380	675	1,760	581	1,520	5,270	15,400
Wrought:										
Bars, rods, profiles, wire	26,700	39,400	2,460	4,610	3,330	5,700	2,910	4,680	17,600	28,700
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	4,310	20,600	487	2,130	609	2,560	336	1,310	2,990	13,100
Other:										
Dross, ashes, fume (zinc content)	14,200	13,200	1,450	850	709	449	194	271	9,630	4,400
Powders, flakes, dust	19,400	36,600	1,350	3,160	1,440	3,320	1,250	2,470	8,970	19,800
Waste and scrap	102,000	103,000	11,100	10,900	6,920	7,560	10,200	11,300	56,600	61,100
Chemicals:										
Oxide	34,900	64,200	2,390	4,630	2,920	5,400	4,600	5,910	22,600	38,000
Chloride	1,700	2,320	116	147	168	175	58	71	1,120	1,220
Sulfate	398	708	3	4	43	86	--	--	370	426
Compounds, other ²	5,830	9,750	592	848	578	944	911	1,380	4,220	6,710

-- Zero.

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 cash ²	
	¢/lb.	¢/lb.	\$/t
2007:			
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
May	102.80	98.96	2,181.63
June	89.93	85.91	1,893.89
July	88.02	84.00	1,851.88
January-July	104.28	100.30	2,211.28

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.