

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## LEAD IN APRIL 2025

Domestic mine production (recoverable) of lead in April 2025 was 22,200 metric tons (t). Average daily mine production in April was 739 t, 1% less than that in the previous month and 2% less than production in April 2024. Secondary refined lead production in April 2025 was 89,000 t, 4% more than that in the previous month and 1% more compared with 88,600 t in April 2024 (fig. 1; tables 1, 2).

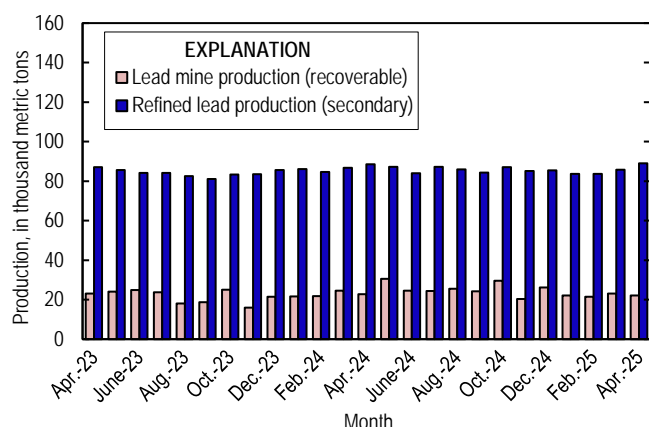


Figure 1. U.S. production of lead from April 2023 through April 2025.

The United States is a significant exporter of lead concentrates because there are no domestic primary lead refineries. Through April 2025, U.S. exports of lead in ores and concentrates were 43,400 t, 18% less than that for the same period in 2024. The destinations of exports in April were Canada (73%) and China (27%) (table 8). U.S. imports of unwrought lead through April were 173,000 t, 33% more than those for the same period in 2024. Leading import sources in April 2025 were Canada (40%), Mexico (29%), and the Republic of Korea (14%) (table 10).

## Prices and Stocks

The S&P Global Platts Metals Week (Platts) average North American Market price for lead in April 2025 was \$1.02 per pound, a 4% decrease from that in the previous month and a 9%

decrease from that in April 2024. The average London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price for lead in April 2025 was 86.6 cents per pound, a 6% decrease from that in the previous month and a 10% decrease from that in April 2024 (table 3).

The North American premium to the LME cash price in April 2025 averaged 15.3 cents per pound, 9% more than that in the previous month and 2% more than that in April 2024 (fig. 2, table 3).

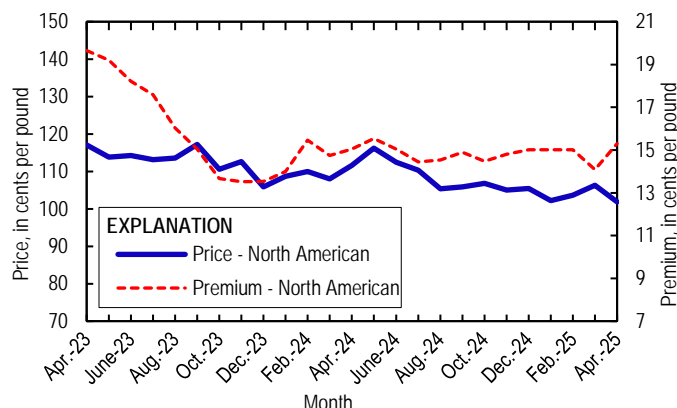


Figure 2. Average monthly North American price and premium for refined lead metal from April 2023 through April 2025. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

The Platts average U.S. used lead-acid batteries (Midwest) price in April 2025 was 29.9 cents per pound, 4% less than that in March 2025 and 32% higher than that in April 2024. Most secondary lead is recovered from used lead-acid batteries (table 3).

Global LME lead stocks at the end of April 2025 were 264,225 t, 14% more than those at the end of March but 2% less than those at the end of April 2024 (table 11).

*A worksheet has been added to the excel table files that includes a macro to remove text from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled "RemoveTextButton" within the file for instructions on how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file to use the tool.*

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**Table 1.** Salient lead statistics in the United States.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons, lead content, unless otherwise specified. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r." Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e."]

Product	2024 <sup>1</sup>		2025		
	January–December	January–April	March	April	January–April
<b>U.S. production</b>					
Mine (recoverable)	296,000	90,500	23,100 <sup>r</sup>	22,200	88,900
Secondary refinery, reported by smelters/refineries	1,030,000	346,000	85,800	89,000	342,000
<b>U.S. consumption</b>					
Refined lead, apparent <sup>e, 2</sup>	1,420,000	470,000	154,000	114,000	508,000
<b>U.S. imports for consumption</b>					
Ore and concentrate	239	61	28	40	127
Bullion	3	0	0	0	200
Unwrought	410,000	130,000	70,500	27,200	173,000
<b>U.S. exports</b>					
Ore and concentrate	260,000	53,100	15,700	4,070	43,400
Bullion (metric tons, gross weight)	311	0	172	0	172
Unwrought (metric tons, gross weight)	24,700	6,350	1,970 <sup>r</sup>	2,010	6,870
<b>U.S. price (cents per pound)</b>					
S&P Global Platts Metals Week North American Market	108.81	109.57	106.30	101.87	103.51

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>2</sup>Secondary refinery production plus imports for consumption of unwrought lead minus domestic exports of unwrought lead.

**Table 2.** Mine and secondary refinery production of lead in the United States.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r." Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e."]

Period	Mine		Secondary refinery <sup>e</sup>
	Lead in concentrate	Recoverable	
2024			
April	23,300	22,700	88,600 <sup>r</sup>
May	31,500	30,600	87,200 <sup>r</sup>
June	25,300	24,600	84,000 <sup>r</sup>
July	25,100 <sup>r</sup>	24,400 <sup>r</sup>	87,200 <sup>r</sup>
August	26,300	25,600	85,900 <sup>r</sup>
September	25,000	24,300	84,400 <sup>r</sup>
October	30,300	29,500	87,000 <sup>r</sup>
November	20,900	20,300	85,200 <sup>r</sup>
December	26,900	26,200	85,500 <sup>r</sup>
January–December	304,000	296,000	1,030,000 <sup>r</sup>
2025			
January	22,800 <sup>r</sup>	22,200 <sup>r</sup>	83,600 <sup>r</sup>
February	22,000	21,400	83,600 <sup>r</sup>
March	23,700 <sup>r</sup>	23,100 <sup>r</sup>	85,800
April	22,800	22,200	89,000
January–April	91,300	88,900	342,000

**Table 3.** Monthly average lead prices.  
[Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.]

Period	North American	London Metal Exchange		Used lead-acid
	Market <sup>1</sup>	(LME) cash		batteries <sup>2</sup>
	Price (£/lb)	Price (£/lb)	Price (\$/t)	Price (£/lb)
<b>2024</b>				
April	111.62	96.58	2,129.20	22.60
May	116.26	100.73	2,220.64	25.00
June	112.45	97.40	2,147.20	26.63
July	110.32	95.88	2,113.78	29.70
August	105.33	90.80	2,001.81	30.88
September	105.91	91.02	2,006.73	31.81
October	106.78	92.32	2,035.24	31.20
November	104.98	90.17	1,987.80	31.38
December	105.45	90.43	1,993.54	31.40
January–December	108.81	93.98	2,071.91	26.92
<b>2025</b>				
January	102.17	87.15	1,921.23	31.50
February	103.69	88.67	1,954.74	30.81
March	106.30	92.22	2,033.10	31.00
April	101.87	86.57	1,908.53	29.85
<b>January–April</b>	103.51	88.65	1,954.40	30.79

<sup>1</sup>S&P Global Platts Metals Week North American Market price. Reflects the LME lead cash price plus the Platts premium for 99.97% lead.

<sup>2</sup>S&P Global Platts Metals Week assessment for used lead-acid automotive batteries (50% lead) picked up in U.S. Midwest, suitable for delivery to secondary smelters within 30 days.

**Table 4.** Consumption of purchased lead-base scrap in April 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons, gross weight. W, withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total;" —, not applicable.]

Item	Stocks, March 31, 2025	Net receipts	Consumption	Stocks, April 30, 2025
Battery-lead	W	80,000	80,200	W
Other <sup>1</sup>	W	2,340	2,330	W
<b>Total</b>	6,200	82,300	82,500	6,030
Percent change from preceding month <sup>2</sup>	—	2.6	2.8	-2.9

<sup>1</sup>Includes soft lead, solder, drosses and residues, common babbitt, antimonial lead, cable covering, type metals, and other lead-base scrap.

<sup>2</sup>Based on unrounded data; preceding monthly data may have been revised.

**Table 5.** Lead, tin, and antimony recovered from lead-base scrap in April 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. W, withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in “Total.”]

Product recovered	Secondary metal content		
	Lead	Tin	Antimony
Soft and calcium lead	75,600	W	0
Remelt lead	W	0	0
Antimonial lead	12,900	W	W
Other <sup>1</sup>	W	0	0
<b>Total lead-base</b>	<b>89,000</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>W</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes cable lead, lead-base babbitt, solder, type metals, and other products.

**Table 6.** U.S. apparent consumption of lead.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r." Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e."]

Period	Production <sup>e</sup>	Imports <sup>1,2</sup>	Exports <sup>1,2</sup>	Apparent consumption <sup>3</sup>
<b>2024</b>				
April	88,600 <sup>r</sup>	21,800	1,670	109,000 <sup>r</sup>
May	87,200 <sup>r</sup>	30,900	3,120	115,000 <sup>r</sup>
June	84,000 <sup>r</sup>	21,800	2,930	103,000 <sup>r</sup>
July	87,200 <sup>r</sup>	42,200	1,530	128,000 <sup>r</sup>
August	85,900 <sup>r</sup>	35,000	2,270	119,000 <sup>r</sup>
September	84,400 <sup>r</sup>	50,900	1,530	134,000 <sup>r</sup>
October	87,000 <sup>r</sup>	37,400	1,990	122,000 <sup>r</sup>
November	85,200 <sup>r</sup>	27,700	2,860	110,000 <sup>r</sup>
December	85,500 <sup>r</sup>	34,200	2,140	118,000 <sup>r</sup>
January–December	1,030,000 <sup>r</sup>	410,000	24,700	1,420,000 <sup>r</sup>
<b>2030</b>				
January	83,600 <sup>r</sup>	47,100	1,350	129,000 <sup>r</sup>
February	83,600 <sup>r</sup>	28,300	1,540	110,000
March	85,800	70,500	1,970	154,000
April	89,000	27,200	2,010	114,000
<b>January–April</b>	342,000	173,000	6,870	508,000

<sup>1</sup>Import and export data are for Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) codes 7801.10.0000, 7801.91.0000, 7801.99.9030, 7801.99.9050.

<sup>2</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>3</sup>Smelter production plus imports for consumption minus domestic exports.



**Table 7.** U.S. export of lead, by class.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified. Source: U.S. Census Bureau

(<https://usatrade.census.gov/>.)]

Class	2024 <sup>1</sup>		2025		
	January–December	January–April	March	April	January–April
<b>Unwrought</b>					
Refined lead	6,360	535	335	320	928
Refined lead containing antimony as the principal alloying element	1,940	399	203	58	537
Lead alloys	16,200	5,300	1,370	1,610	5,220
Other	239	114	58	26	185
<b>Total</b>	24,700	6,350	1,970	2,010	6,870
<b>Wrought</b>					
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	512	172	48	81	579
Pipes and tubes, including fittings	3	3	0	0	0
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	10,200	3,610	824	1,510	4,380
Other	1,210	526	90	49	303
<b>Total</b>	11,900	4,310	962	1,640	5,260
<b>Waste and scrap</b>					
Spent lead-acid storage batteries for starting engines (units)	28,700,000	10,300,000	3,090,000	2,980,000	11,300,000
Lead waste and scrap obtained from lead-acid storage batteries	43,200	12,700	152	271	2,950
Other lead waste and scrap	47,200	16,300	4,910	4,850	16,600
<b>Other</b>					
Bullion	311	0	172	0	172
Ores and concentrate (lead content)	260,000	53,100	15,700	4,070	43,400
Powders and flakes	204	38	27	15	71
Tetraethyl lead and tetramethyl lead	92	51	17	10	48

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

**Table 8.** U.S. exports of lead ores and concentrate, by country or locality.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons, lead content. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>).]

Country or locality	2024 <sup>1</sup>		2025		
	January–December	January–April	March	April	January–April
Belgium	22,400	14,600	0	0	0
Canada	38,500	11,400	3,240	2,980	11,700
China	107,000	8,760	7,030	1,100	8,130
Colombia	3	0	0	0	0
Germany	7,580	0	0	0	0
India	57	57	0	0	0
Japan	20,300	0	0	0	0
Korea, Republic of	33,900	10,700	1,880	0	2,760
Mexico	18,600	7,620	3,520	0	3,520
Switzerland	10,800	0	0	0	17,300
Vietnam	12	12	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>260,000</b>	<b>53,100</b>	<b>15,700</b>	<b>4,070</b>	<b>43,400</b>

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

**Table 9.** U.S. imports for consumption of lead, by class.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified. Source: U.S. Census Bureau]

Class	2024 <sup>1</sup>		2025		
	January–December	January–April	March	April	January–April <sup>1</sup>
<b>Unwrought</b>					
Refined lead	342,000	108,000	60,200	20,900	139,000
Refined lead containing antimony as the principal alloying element	26,000	7,710	4,240	1,490	12,100
Lead alloys (lead content)	26,400	7,940	4,080	3,710	16,000
Other (lead content)	16,200	6,660	1,940	1,130	6,010
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>70,500</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>173,000</b>
<b>Wrought</b>					
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	938	368	28	65	188
Pipes and tubes, including fittings	45	5	2	2	12
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	1,970	594	179	208	680
Other	2,290	801	156	102	557
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,250</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>1,440</b>
<b>Waste and scrap</b>					
Spent lead-acid storage batteries for starting engines (units)	1,220,000	337,000	17,900	7,960	185,000
Lead waste and scrap obtained from lead-acid storage batteries (lead content)	2,360	605	331	352	946
Other lead waste and scrap (lead content)	4,530	1,580	216	126	889
<b>Other</b>					
Bullion (lead content)	3	0	0	0	200
Ores and concentrate (lead content)	239	61	28	40	127
Powders and flakes	117	39	60	39	118
Tetraethyl lead and tetramethyl lead	99	25	0	7	39

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

**Table 10.** U.S. imports for consumption of unwrought lead, by country or locality.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Includes refined lead (Quantity 1) of Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) code 7801.10.0000 and the lead content (Quantity 2) of HTS codes 7801.91.0000, 7801.99.9030, 7801.99.9050. Excludes bullion. Data are in metric tons, lead content. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>).]

Country or locality of origin	2024 <sup>1</sup>		2025		
	January–December	January–April	March	April	January–April <sup>1</sup>
Australia	60,100	20,000	20,200	122	20,900
Brazil	3,900	1,970	0	388	388
Canada	146,000	49,300	16,300	11,000	60,200
China	619	1	0	0	27
Colombia	301	100	729	25	1,160
Cote d'Ivoire	0	0	0	402	402
Ecuador	4,990	1,520	350	250	1,350
Ghana	14,500	4,400	2,030	1,730	5,270
India	337	174	18	0	526
Italy	2	2	0	0	0
Kazakhstan	7,000	0	5,000	0	11,000
Korea, Republic of	49,300	16,200	12,800	3,890	29,800
Mexico	81,100	23,300	8,750	7,960	34,200
Netherlands	0	0	( <sup>2</sup> )	0	( <sup>2</sup> )
Nigeria	34,300	11,300	246	616	1,350
Panama	0	0	99	0	99
Peru	202	92	0	50	75
South Africa	71	10	3,050	21	3,070
Spain	17	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	298	0	0	0	0
Thailand	0	0	0	0	20
Turkey	19	19	0	0	0
United Kingdom	7,300	1,550	891	806	3,080
Venezuela	0	0	0	0	175
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>70,500</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>173,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>2</sup>Less than ½ unit.

**Table 11.** London Metal Exchange (LME) stocks of lead, end of period.  
[Data are in metric tons. Source: London Metal Exchange, Ltd.]

<b>Period</b>	<b>Asia</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2024</b>			
April	263,200	7,025	270,225
May	177,250	6,400	183,650
June	217,100	7,100	224,200
July	234,125	5,825	239,950
August	177,025	2,350	179,375
September	196,675	2,450	199,125
October	187,275	2,325	189,600
November	269,600	2,075	271,675
December	240,150	2,050	242,200
<b>2025</b>			
January	218,575	2,050	220,625
February	210,675	1,975	212,650
March	229,950	1,975	231,925
April	262,750	1,475	264,225