

Mineral Industry Surveys

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U.S. PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MINERAL COMMODITIES IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2025

U.S. mine and plant production data for 16 selected mineral commodities are provided on a monthly (or quarterly) basis by the U.S. Geological Survey to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System (FRS), for use in preparing its index of industrial production and the related capacity indexes and capacity utilization rates. These measures cover manufacturing, mining, and electric and gas utilities, and they are among the key economic indicators monitored by the FRS for guidance in determining national monetary policy.

Construction Materials

The combined production of construction-related materials (cement, construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and gypsum) in the first quarter of 2025 decreased by 24% compared with that in the fourth quarter of 2024 following the typical seasonal trend (fig. 1, tables 1, 2). Production of gypsum, cement, crushed stone, and construction sand and gravel in the first quarter of 2024 were 8%, 7%, 6%, and 5% lower, respectively, than that in the first quarter of 2024. (fig. 1, table 1).

Base Metals

Production of base metals except for secondary aluminum decreased in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the fourth quarter of 2024 (fig. 2, table 1). Comparing the first quarter of 2025 with the first quarter of 2024, production increased for lead (3%), but production decreased for zinc (14%) and copper (7%). Production for iron ore was slightly less, and secondary aluminum production was unchanged (fig. 2, tables 1, 2).

Precious Metals

During the first quarter of 2025, silver production increased by 8%, compared with production in the fourth quarter of 2024. Gold, platinum, and palladium production decreased by 18% each compared with production in the fourth quarter of 2024. In the first quarter of 2025, silver production was 7% more compared with production in the first quarter of 2024. Platinum, palladium, and gold decreased by 41%, 41%, and 9%, respectively, than that in the first quarter of 2024 (fig. 3, table 1).

Other Mineral Materials

Molybdenum production was 3% higher in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the fourth quarter of 2024 and was 14% higher in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the first quarter of 2024. Phosphate rock production was 6% higher in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the fourth quarter of 2024 and was 2% higher in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the first quarter of 2024. Soda ash production was unchanged in the first quarter of 2025 compared with that in the fourth quarter of 2024 and was 2% less in the first quarter of 2025 compared with the same time period in 2024 (tables 1, 2).

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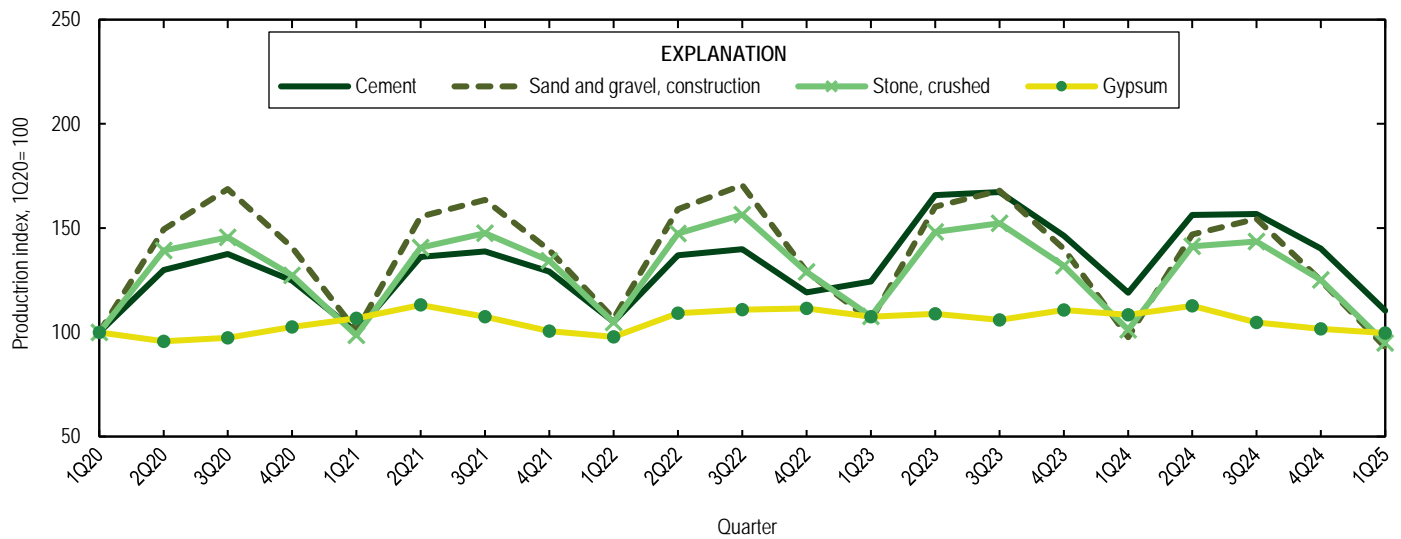


Figure 1. U.S. production of selected construction-related mineral commodities from the first quarter of 2020 through the first quarter of 2025, indexed to the first quarter of 2020.

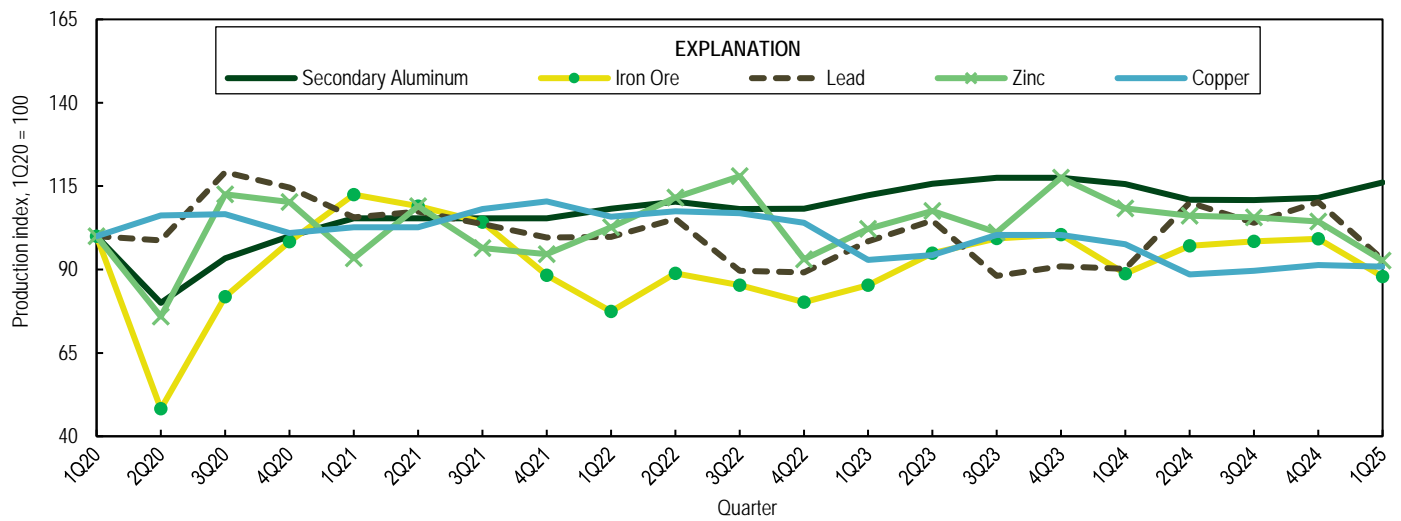


Figure 2. U.S. production of selected base metals from the first quarter of 2020 through the first quarter of 2025, indexed to the first quarter of 2020.

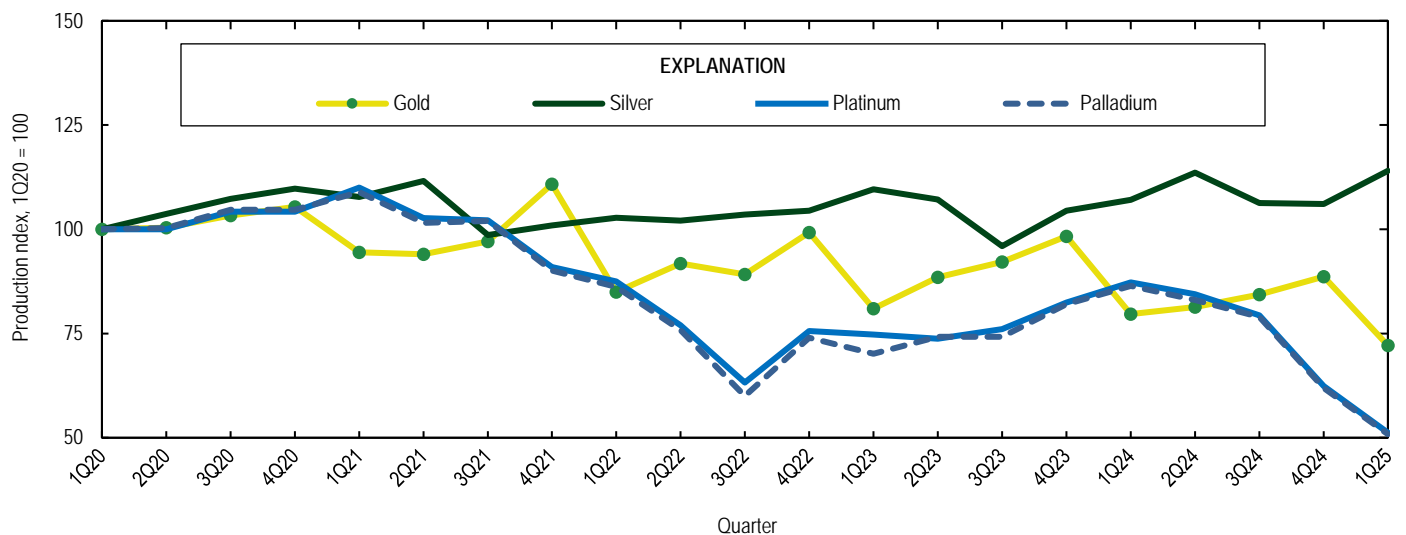


Figure 3. U.S. mine production of gold and silver from the first quarter of 2019 through the first quarter of 2024, indexed to the first quarter of 2019.

Table 1. Production trends for selected mineral commodities

[Based on data available through September 3, 2025. Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e."]

Mineral commodity	Percent change	Percent change
	1st quarter 2025 vs. 4th quarter 2024	YTD 2025 vs. YTD 2024
Aluminum (secondary)	4	(¹)
Cement ^e	-21	-7
Copper	-1	-7
Gold	-19	-9
Gypsum	-2	-8
Iron ore	-11	-1
Lead	-16	3
Molybdenum	3	14
Palladium	-18	-41
Phosphate rock ^e	6	2
Platinum	-18	-41
Sand and gravel, construction	-26	-5
Silver	8	7
Soda ash	(¹)	-2
Stone, crushed	-24	-6
Zinc	-11	-14

¹Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 2. U.S. production of selected mineral commodities, by quarter

[Based on data available through September 3, 2025. Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.
Estimated and revised data are marked with a superscript "e" and "r".]

Commodity	2024				2025	
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter
Aluminum [thousand metric tons] ^{e, 1}	230	220	220	222	892	231
Cement [million metric tons] ^{e, 2}	21.4 ^r	28.2 ^r	28.3 ^r	25.3 ^r	103	19.9
Copper [thousand metric tons] ³	284	257	260	265	1,070	264
Gold [metric tons] ³	37.7	38.5	39.9	41.9	158	34.1
Gypsum [million metric tons] ⁴	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.4	18.6	4.3
Iron ore [million metric tons] ⁵	10.4	11.4	11.6	11.7	45.1	10.3
Lead [thousand metric tons] ³	62.0	75.7	71.5	75.8	285	63.9
Molybdenum [thousand metric tons] ³	8.6	7.9	7.9	9.5	34.0	9.8
Palladium [metric tons] ³	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.1	10.6	1.7
Phosphate rock, marketable [million metric tons] ^{e, 6}	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.6	19.3	4.8
Platinum [metric tons] ³	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	3.1	0.5
Sand and gravel, construction [million metric tons] ⁷	165 ^r	248 ^r	260 ^r	210 ^r	883 ^r	156
Silver [metric tons] ³	261	278	260	259	1,060	279
Soda ash [million metric tons] ⁵	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.9	11.7	2.9
Stone, crushed [million metric tons] ⁷	291 ^r	407 ^r	413 ^r	360 ^r	1,470	273
Zinc [thousand metric tons] ³	190	186	185	183 ^r	743 ^r	162

¹Aluminum alloys produced at secondary smelters in the United States, less primary aluminum consumed, primary silicon consumed, and other alloying ingredients consumed.

²Shipments of domestically produced portland and blended cement, including cement made from imported clinker, as a proxy for actual domestic cement production.

³Recoverable mine production.

⁴Calcined production.

⁵Mine production.

⁶Marketable mine production. First to fourth quarter 2024 total may not add to quarterly data owing to annual adjustments that are not broken out by quarter.

⁷Sold or used; quarterly survey based on sample survey.