



LEAD in February 2026

This workbook includes 11 tables.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This publication is provided by the National Minerals Information Center (NMIC), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Includes data available through August 26, 2026, unless otherwise noted.

NMIC data included in Excel tables of the Minerals Yearbook Chapters and Minerals Industry Surveys are considered preliminary, for informational purposes only.

Comprehensive data releases and list services for NMIC publications are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center>.

Data in these tables may not include granular footnotes.

Unless otherwise noted, totals, United States (U.S.) data, and estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices and unit values; may not add to totals shown. Data may include revisions to previously published data.

FOOTNOTES AND TERMINOLOGY

Year-to-date indicates the sum of all months or quarters for the given year to the given period.

Estimated data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript “e.” Preliminary data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript “p.”

Do, ditto. NA, not available. No., number. W, withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. —, not applicable. <0.5, less than half a unit.

TRADE DATA

Trade data are sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>). "HTS" indicates the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code.

"Schedule B" indicates the Schedule B of the United States number.

Mineral Industry Surveys Data Release (Provisional) - ScienceBase-Catalog.

Imports refers to "imports for consumption." Import valuation is customs value, free-alongside-ship basis.

Exports refers to "domestic exports." Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

CONTACT

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If you are an industry producer or consumer and would like to contribute to NMIC industry surveys, please contact Tiffany Lin, tlin@usgs.gov

Table 1. Salient lead statistics in the United States.

[Data are in metric tons, lead content, unless otherwise specified.]

Product	2025 ¹		2026		
	January–December	January-February	January ¹	February	Year-to-date
U.S. production					
Mine (recoverable)	268,000	44,200	20,000	21,600	41,500
Secondary refinery, reported by smelters/refineries	1,060,000	173,000	87,900	88,200	176,000
U.S. consumption					
Refined lead, apparent ^{e, 2}	1,550,000	283,000	117,000	166,000	283,000
U.S. imports for consumption					
Ore and concentrate	349	60	16	0	16
Bullion	217	200	0	0	0
Unwrought	510,000	75,400	31,600	79,700	111,000
U.S. exports					
Ore and concentrate	242,000	23,700	11,100	9,990	21,100
Bullion (metric tons, gross weight)	345	0	25	45	70
Unwrought (metric tons, gross weight)	24,200	2,890	2,030	2,170	4,200
U.S. price (cents per pound)					
S&P Global Platts Metals Week North American Market	106.69	102.93	113.09	109.41	111.25

¹May include revisions to previously published data.²Secondary 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 in metric tons.]

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Period	Mine		Secondary refinery ^e
	Lead in concentrate	Recoverable	
2025			
February	22,200	21,700	86,500
March	24,100	23,500	88,700
April	23,000	22,400	91,900
May	23,100	22,500	89,200
June	28,200	27,500	86,300
July	23,500	22,900	88,500
August	25,900	25,200	87,700
September	23,200	22,600	88,600
October	23,900	23,200	89,400
November	16,600	16,200	91,100
December	18,300	17,800	89,000
January–December	275,000	268,000	1,060,000
2026			
January	20,500	20,000	87,900
February	22,100	21,600	88,200
Year-to-date	42,700	41,500	176,000

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

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

Period	North American Market ¹	London Metal Exchange (LME) cash		Used lead-acid batteries ²
	Price (¢/lb)	Price (¢/lb)	Price (\$/t)	Price (¢/lb)
2025				
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
May	105.65	88.80	1,957.64	29.25
June	107.32	89.46	1,972.31	29.00
July	109.07	90.46	1,994.34	30.20
August	106.98	88.21	1,944.63	30.75
September	107.59	88.63	1,953.96	30.00
October	108.78	88.63	1,953.96	30.25
November	110.80	90.77	2,001.20	30.75
December	110.01	88.08	1,941.75	31.80
January–December	106.69	88.97	1,961.45	30.43
2026				
January	113.09	90.61	1,997.54	32.38
February	109.41	86.89	1,915.56	33.50
Year-to-date	111.25	88.75	1,956.55	32.94

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

²S&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 February 2026.

[Data are in metric tons,]

Item	Stocks, January 31, 2026	Net receipts	Consumption	Stocks, February 28, 2026
Battery-lead	W	79,300	79,100	W
Other ¹	W	2,210	2,250	W
Total	6,240	81,500	81,400	6,360
Percent change from preceding month ²	0.0	-0.7	0.0	2.1

¹Includes soft lead, solder, drosses and residues, common babbitt, antimonial lead, cable covering, type metals, and other lead-base²Based on unrounded data; preceding monthly data may have been revised.

Table 5. Lead, tin, and antimony recovered from lead-base scrap in February 2026.
[Data are in metric tons.]

Product recovered	Secondary metal content		
	Lead	Tin	Antimony
Soft and calcium lead	76,200	W	0
Remelt lead	W	0	0
Antimonial lead	11,700	W	W
Other ¹	W	0	0
Total lead-base	88,200	209	W

¹Includes cable lead, lead-base babbitt, solder, type metals, and other products.

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

[Data are in metric tons.]

Period	Production^e	Imports¹	Exports¹	Apparent consumption²
2025^p				
February	86,500	28,300	1,540	113,000
March	88,700	70,500	1,970	157,000
April	91,900	27,200	2,010	117,000
May	89,200	46,000	1,780	133,000
June	86,300	52,300	1,680	137,000
July	88,500	38,500	2,000	125,000
August	87,700	36,700	2,620	122,000
September	88,600	46,500	2,540	133,000
October	89,400	42,700	2,360	130,000
November	91,100	38,200	2,540	127,000
December	89,000	36,400	1,850	124,000
January–December	1,060,000	510,000	24,200	1,550,000
2026				
January	87,900	31,600	2,030	117,000
February	88,200	79,700	2,170	166,000
Year-to-date	176,000	111,000	4,200	283,000

¹Import 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.

²Smelter production plus imports for consumption minus domestic exports.

Table 7. U.S. exports of lead, by class.

[Data are in metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified.]

Class	2025 ¹		2026		
	January–December	January–February	January	February	Year-to-date
Unwrought					
Refined lead	3,140	274	372	184	556
Refined lead containing antimony as the principal alloying element	5,550	276	739	862	1,600
Lead alloys	15,100	2,240	914	1,120	2,040
Other	442	102	7	1	8
Total	24,200	2,890	2,030	2,170	4,200
Wrought					
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	738	449	4	23	27
Pipes and tubes, including fittings	6	0	0	<0.5	<0.5
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	14,200	2,040	600	735	1,330
Other	1,340	165	151	36	187
Total	16,300	2,650	755	793	1,550
Waste and scrap					
Spent lead-acid storage batteries for starting engines (units)	36,700,000	5,220,000	3,570,000	3,040,000	6,610,000
Lead waste and scrap obtained from lead-acid storage batteries	4,310	2,520	129	482	611
Other lead waste and scrap	58,600	6,840	4,670	4,670	9,330
Other					
Bullion	345	0	25	45	70
Ores and concentrate (lead content)	242,000	23,700	11,100	9,990	21,100
Powders and flakes	199	29	38	10	49
Tetraethyl lead and tetramethyl lead	178	20	16	17	33

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

Table 8. U.S. exports of lead ores and concentrate, by country or locality.
[Data are in metric tons, lead content.]

Country or locality	2025 ¹		2026		
	January–December	January–February	January	February	Year-to-date
Australia	10,700	0	0	0	0
Belgium	6,690	0	0	6,160	6,160
Canada	39,800	5,510	2,990	2,830	5,820
China	44,400	0	3,980	0	3,980
Germany	7,100	0	0	1,000	1,000
Japan	23,900	0	0	0	0
Korea, Republic of	50,200	885	4,090	0	4,090
Malaysia	3,510	0	0	0	0
Mexico	15,700	0	0	0	0
Spain	5,580	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	34,500	17,300	0	0	0
Thailand	190	0	0	0	0
Total	242,000	23,700	11,100	9,990	21,100

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

Table 9. U.S. imports of lead, by class.

[Data are in metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified.]

Class	2025 ¹		2026		
	January–December		January	February	Year-to-date
Unwrought					
Refined lead	414,000	57,900	16,000	68,000	84,000
Refined lead containing antimony as the principal alloying element	30,500	6,410	2,420	2,050	4,460
Lead alloys (lead content)	39,700	8,180	5,250	3,270	8,520
Other (lead content)	25,900	2,940	7,900	6,380	14,300
Total	510,000	75,400	31,600	79,700	111,000
Wrought					
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	640	95	92	45	137
Pipes and tubes, including fittings	33	8	0	<0.5	<0.5
Plates, sheets, strip, foil	1,950	293	142	70	212
Other	2,220	300	176	239	415
Total	4,840	696	410	354	764
Waste and scrap					
Spent lead-acid storage batteries for starting engines (units)	261,000	159,000	5,550	5,760	11,300
Lead waste and scrap obtained from lead-acid storage batteries (lead content)	2,160	264	82	89	171
Other lead waste and scrap (lead content)	978	547	4	18	22
Other					
Bullion (lead content)	217	200	0	0	0
Ores and concentrate (lead content)	349	60	16	0	16
Powders and flakes	446	19	101	59	160
Tetraethyl lead and tetramethyl lead	100	32	7	7	14

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

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

[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.]

Country or locality of origin	2025 ¹		2026		
	January–December	January–February	January	February	Year-to-date
Australia	69,600	525	0	24,200	24,200
Brazil	437	0	0	0	0
Canada	181,000	32,900	15,800	14,400	30,200
China	28	27	0	0	0
Colombia	1,640	401	0	102	102
Cote d'Ivoire	1,560	0	0	201	201
Ecuador	2,350	750	275	25	300
France	<0.5	0	0	0	0
Germany	138	0	76	0	76
Ghana	9,830	1,510	0	0	0
Hungary	3	0	3	0	3
India	550	508	<0.5	0	<0.5
Kazakhstan	11,000	6,000	0	0	0
Korea, Republic of	63,200	13,100	1,010	27,500	28,500
Mexico	144,000	17,500	13,800	11,600	25,400
Netherlands	<0.5	0	0	0	0
Nigeria	3,040	493	0	0	0
Panama	99	0	0	0	0
Peru	322	25	0	0	0
Russia	16	0	0	40	40
South Africa	3,530	0	0	0	0
Thailand	20	20	0	0	0
Turkey	12	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	17,800	1,380	618	1,590	2,210
Venezuela	175	175	0	0	0
Total	510,000	75,400	31,600	79,700	111,000

¹May include revisions to previously published data.

Table 11. London Metal Exchange (LME) stocks of lead, end of period.

[Data are in metric tons. Source: London Metal Exchange, Ltd.]

Period	Asia	Europe	Total
2025			
February	210,675	1,975	212,650
March	229,950	1,975	231,925
April	262,750	1,475	264,225
May	282,825	1,325	284,150
June	268,750	1,325	270,075
July	274,000	1,325	275,325
August	258,225	1,325	259,550
September	226,875	1,325	228,200
October	215,550	1,250	216,800
November	259,675	1,200	260,875
December	238,150	1,175	239,325
2026			
January	203,525	550	204,075
February	285,350	750	286,100