

Mineral Industry Surveys

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COPPER IN DECEMBER 2020

In December 2020, U.S. mine production of recoverable copper was 100,000 metric tons (t). The average daily mine production was 3,230 t, a slight increase from that in November and a slight decrease compared with that in December 2019 (fig. 1). Total recoverable mine output in 2020 was 1.20 million metric tons, 5% less than that in 2019 (table 2). At the Bingham Canyon Mine in Utah, owned and operated by Rio Tinto Kennecott (South Jordan, UT), production of mined copper declined by 46,800 t compared with that in 2019 because of planned pit sequencing and optimization of molybdenum production during an extended shutdown of the smelter (Rio Tinto plc, 2021, p. 12, 26). Combined output from Freeport-McMoRan Inc.'s (Phoenix, AZ) mines in Arizona and New Mexico decreased by about 17,700 t from that in 2019, primarily owing to the suspension of mining operations at the Chino Mine in April after multiple workers tested positive for COVID-19 (Freeport-McMoRan Inc., 2021, p. 4, II; Scheyder, 2020). The eight mines operated by these two companies accounted for 75% of mined U.S. copper production in 2020.

Owing to temporary closures of ASARCO LLC's (Tucson, AZ) smelter in Arizona and electrolytic refinery in Texas, smelter and electrolytic refinery production reported to the U.S. Geological Survey in December 2020 were withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. Smelter and electrolytic refinery output in tables 3 and 4 are estimates based on information in quarterly company reports. The facilities shut down in October 2019 because of a worker strike and did not operate in 2020 even though the strike reportedly ended in July (Grupo México, S.A.B. de C.V., 2021, p. 113–114; Wichner, 2021). As of yearend 2020, ASARCO had not announced when operations were expected to resume or a reason for the continued closures.

Estimated smelter production in the United States was 30,000 t in December 2020, and the estimated average daily output was 968 t. Total estimated smelter production in 2020 was 315,000 t, 32% lower than that in 2019 (table 3). Operations at Rio Tinto Kennecott's facility in Utah were affected by a required rebuild of the flash converting furnace after an earthquake in March and a delayed restart of the smelter following planned major maintenance in May and June (Rio Tinto plc, 2021, p. 12).

In December 2020, total domestic refinery production was 81,700 t; data for electrolytic and electrowon output, as well as refined production from scrap, are reported in table 4. Average daily total refinery output was 2,640 t, a slight decrease compared with that in November (fig. 1). Total output of refined copper in 2020 was 918,000 t, a decline of 11% from that in 2019 (table 4).

Prices

The average December 2020 COMEX spot copper price was \$3.53 per pound, an increase of 10% from \$3.20 per pound in November and 28% higher than \$2.77 per pound in December 2019. The COMEX price rose for the eighth consecutive month and was 53% greater than the 2020 monthly minimum of \$2.31 per pound in April (fig. 2, table 11). Contributing factors to the steady price increase included strong demand for refined copper in China and a weakening U.S. dollar (CRU International Ltd., 2020, p. 1, 6). The average COMEX spot price for all of 2020

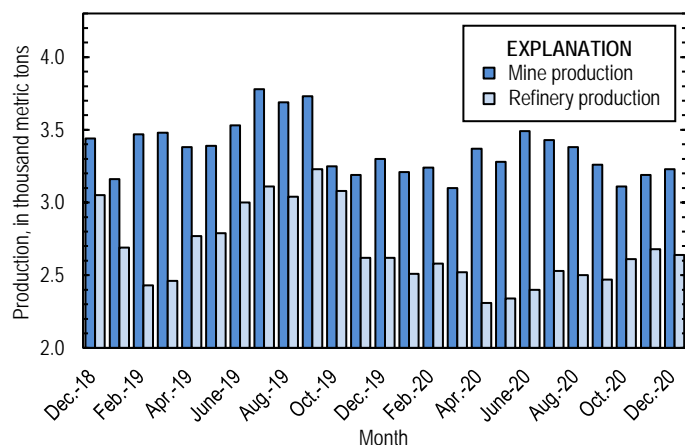


Figure 1. Average daily U.S. copper mine (recoverable) and refinery (primary and secondary) production from December 2018 through December 2020. Refinery production in November and December 2019 were withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; the values shown reflect the daily average for cumulative production over this period rather than production in each month.

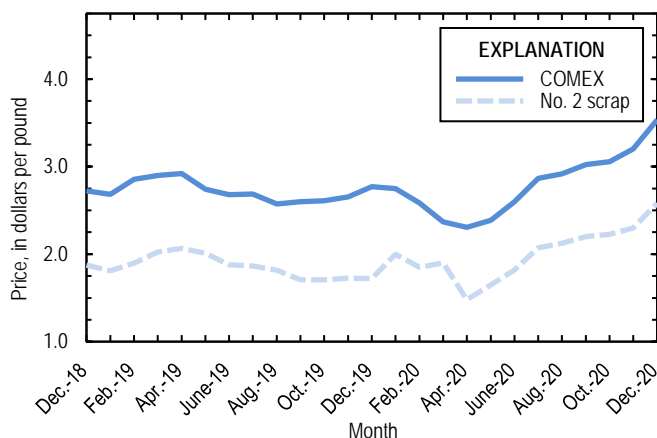


Figure 2. Monthly average COMEX copper price and no. 2 copper scrap dealers buying price from December 2018 through December 2020. As of January 2020, no. 2 prices were available only for the entire United States, whereas no. 2 prices were available only for individual domestic markets prior to January 2020. Prices shown prior to January 2020 are for New York dealers no. 2 scrap. Sources: Fastmarkets-AMM, S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

was \$2.80 per pound, 3% higher than \$2.72 per pound in 2019. The average U.S. dealers buying price of number 2 copper scrap in December 2020 was \$2.58 per pound, an increase of 12% compared with \$2.30 per pound in November (fig. 2, table 12).

Stocks

Refined copper stocks in the United States totaled 118,000 t at the end of December 2020, a decrease of 9% from those in November and 7% greater than those in December 2019. COMEX stocks fell by 5%, London Metal Exchange Ltd. stocks in U.S. warehouses declined by 13%, and wire-rod mill stocks decreased by 34% from those at the end of November (fig. 3, table 10).

Industry News

United States.—On December 21, Excelsior Mining Corp. (Phoenix, AZ) announced that copper cathode production had begun at its Gunnison Mine in Arizona. The company planned to ramp up to the full annual production capacity of about 11,000 t of copper by yearend 2021 (Excelsior Mining Corp., 2020).

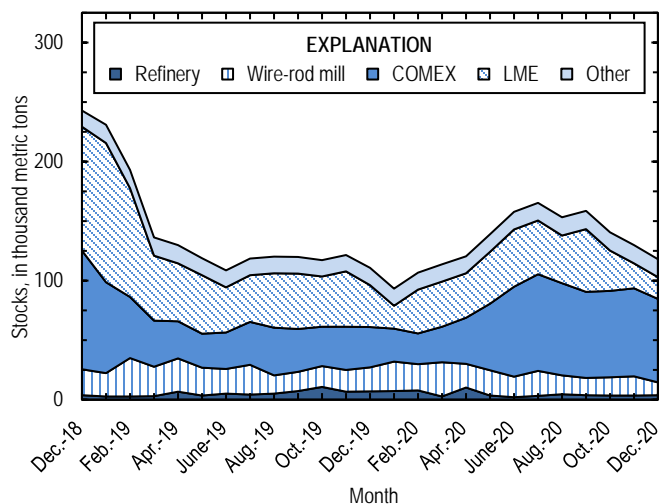


Figure 3. Monthly domestic refined copper stocks, by type, from December 2018 through December 2020. Sources: Fastmarkets-AMM, London Metal Exchange Ltd., and U.S. Geological Survey.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT STATISTICS OF THE COPPER INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons of copper content, unless otherwise specified)

	Source table ²	2019 ^p	2020			
			October	November	December	January– December
Production:						
Primary:						
Mine, recoverable	(2)	1,260,000	96,500 ^r	95,700 ^r	100,000	1,200,000
Smelter	(3)	464,000	30,000 ^e	30,000 ^e	30,000 ^e	315,000 ^e
Refinery:						
Electrolytic, domestic and foreign	(4)	457,000	30,000 ^e	30,000 ^e	30,000 ^e	315,000 ^e
Electrowon	(4)	527,000	47,600	47,100	48,400	559,000
Total	(4)	985,000	77,600	77,100	78,400	874,000
Secondary recoverable copper: ³						
Refineries	(5)	44,400	3,220	3,290	3,300	43,200
Ingot makers ⁴	(5)	57,900	4,820	4,820	4,820	57,900
Brass and wire-rod mills	(5)	653,000	57,200	55,900	58,400	670,000
Foundries, etc. ⁴	(5)	36,700	3,060	3,060	3,060	36,700
Consumption:						
Apparent, primary refined and copper from old scrap	(8)	1,810,000	163,000	150,000	154,000	1,650,000
Reported, refined copper	(7)	1,830,000	147,000	145,000	140,000	1,710,000
Purchased copper-base scrap (gross weight)	(9)	923,000	79,200	77,900	80,500	938,000
Stocks at end of period:						
Total refined	(10)	111,000	140,000	130,000 ^r	118,000	118,000
Blister and anode	(10)	16,400	15,200	12,500 ^r	9,380	9,380
Price, U.S. producers cathode (cents per pound) ⁵	(11)	279.596	312.495	327.338	360.470	286.745
Imports:⁶						
Ore and concentrates	(13)	27,000	864	--	--	2,170
Refined	(13)	663,000	57,300	53,300	57,400	676,000
Exports:⁶						
Ore and concentrates	(14)	363,000	30,500	35,400	27,000	384,000
Refined	(14)	125,000	2,930	3,090	5,150	41,500

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. --Zero.

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

²Numbers in parentheses refer to the tables where these data are located.

³Copper recovered from copper-base scrap only.

⁴Estimated based on the monthly average of 2018 annual data.

⁵Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

⁶Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 2
MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE COPPER IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Recoverable copper			Contained copper		
	Arizona	Others ²	Total	Electrowon	Concentrates ³	Total
2019: ^p						
December	71,900	30,500	102,000	43,200	61,400	105,000
January–December	859,000	398,000	1,260,000	527,000	758,000	1,290,000
2020:						
January	70,800 ^r	28,800	99,600 ^r	44,600 ^r	57,200 ^r	102,000 ^r
February	65,400	28,600	94,000	41,000	55,100	96,100
March	67,600 ^r	28,400	96,000 ^r	44,900	53,100 ^r	98,000 ^r
April	76,400	24,700	101,000	44,600	58,800	103,000
May	75,500	26,200	102,000	48,200	55,700	104,000
June	77,800 ^r	26,800	105,000	48,300 ^r	58,600	107,000
July	79,500 ^r	26,700	106,000	49,600 ^r	58,900	109,000 ^r
August	78,900 ^r	25,900 ^r	105,000	49,100 ^r	57,900	107,000
September	72,600 ^r	25,300	97,900 ^r	45,700	54,300 ^r	100,000 ^r
October	71,000 ^r	25,500	96,500 ^r	47,600	50,800 ^r	98,500 ^r
November	69,900 ^r	25,800	95,700 ^r	47,100	50,600 ^r	97,700 ^r
December	75,000	25,100	100,000	48,400	53,800	102,000
January–December	880,000	318,000	1,200,000	559,000	665,000	1,220,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Includes production from Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

³Includes copper content of precipitates and other metal concentrates.

TABLE 3
COPPER PRODUCED AT SMELTERS IN
THE UNITED STATES^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, copper content)

Period	Anode production
2019: ^P	
December	W
January–December	464,000
2020: ^{E, 3}	
January	30,000
February	30,000
March	30,000
April	20,000
May	20,000
June	20,000
July	25,000
August	25,000
September	25,000
October	30,000
November	30,000
December	30,000
January–December	315,000

^EEstimated. ^PPreliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Includes blister and copper anode from primary or secondary sources.

³To avoid disclosing company proprietary data, monthly smelter production data in 2020 are estimates based on information in quarterly public company reports and do not reflect actual production reported to the U.S. Geological Survey.

TABLE 4
U.S. PRODUCTION OF REFINED COPPER, BY SOURCE AND METHOD OF RECOVERY¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Primary materials			Scrap	Total refined
	Electrolytically refined ²	Electrowon	Total		
2019: ^P					
December	W	43,200	W	3,240	W
January–December	457,000	527,000	985,000	44,400	1,030,000
2020:					
January	30,000 ^{e, 3}	44,600 ^r	74,600 ^r	3,260	77,900 ^r
February	30,000 ^{e, 3}	41,000	71,000	3,820	74,800
March	30,000 ^{e, 3}	44,900	74,900	3,220	78,100
April	20,000 ^{e, 3}	44,600	64,600	4,530	69,100
May	20,000 ^{e, 3}	48,200	68,200	4,380	72,600
June	20,000 ^{e, 3}	48,300 ^r	68,300 ^r	3,620	71,900 ^r
July	25,000 ^{e, 3}	49,600 ^r	74,600 ^r	3,720	78,400 ^r
August	25,000 ^{e, 3}	49,100 ^r	74,100 ^r	3,380	77,500 ^r
September	25,000 ^{e, 3}	45,700	70,700	3,490	74,200
October	30,000 ^{e, 3}	47,600	77,600	3,220	80,900 ^r
November	30,000 ^{e, 3}	47,100	77,100	3,290	80,400
December	30,000 ^{e, 3}	48,400	78,400	3,300	81,700
January–December	315,000 ^{e, 3}	559,000	874,000	43,200	918,000

^eEstimated. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²From domestic and foreign source materials.

³To avoid disclosing company proprietary data, monthly electrolytically refined production data in 2020 are estimates based on information in quarterly public company reports and do not reflect actual production reported to the U.S. Geological Survey.

TABLE 5
COPPER RECOVERABLE IN UNALLOYED AND ALLOYED FORM FROM PURCHASED COPPER-BASE SCRAP
IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, copper content)

Period	Refineries ²		Ingot makers ³		Brass and wire-rod mills		Foundries, etc. ³		Total ⁴
	New scrap ^e	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	
2019: ^p									
December	1,680	1,560	768	4,060	51,800	2,290	2,150	913	65,200
January–December	20,100	24,200	9,220	48,700	617,000	36,500	25,800	11,000	792,000
2020:									
January	1,680	1,590	768	4,060	53,400	3,760	2,150	913	68,300
February	1,680	2,140	768	4,060	52,400	3,580	2,150	913	67,700
March	1,680	1,540	768	4,060	52,100	3,370	2,150	913	66,600
April	1,680	2,850	768	4,060	51,800	2,950	2,150	913	67,100
May	1,680	2,700	768	4,060	51,300	2,600	2,150	913	66,200
June	1,680	1,940	768	4,060	51,700 ^r	3,030	2,150	913	66,300 ^r
July	1,680	2,040	768	4,060	53,400	3,290	2,150	913	68,300
August	1,680	1,700	768	4,060	52,200	3,120	2,150	913	66,600
September	1,680	1,810	768	4,060	50,700	3,300	2,150	913	65,400
October	1,680	1,540	768	4,060	53,600	3,540	2,150	913	68,300
November	1,680	1,620	768	4,060	52,900	3,000	2,150	913	67,100
December	1,680	1,620	768	4,060	55,800	2,590	2,150	913	69,600
January–December	20,100	23,100	9,220	48,700	631,000	38,100	25,800	11,000	807,000

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Electrolytically refined and fire refined from scrap based on source of material at smelter or refinery level.

³Monthly data estimated based on the monthly average of 2018 annual data.

⁴Does not include an estimate, based on reported 2018 annual data, of 3,380 tons per month from new scrap and 2,710 tons per month from old scrap of copper recovered from scrap other than copper-base.

TABLE 6
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF BRASS AND WIRE-ROD SEMIFABRICATES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period	Production		Shipments		Stocks, end of period	
	Brass mills	Wire-rod mills	Brass mills	Wire-rod mills	Brass mills	Wire-rod mills
2019: ^p						
December	72,700	93,500	72,200	94,100	29,900	24,000
January–December	880,000	1,300,000	880,000	1,320,000	29,900	24,000
2020:						
January	73,700	110,000	74,200	106,000	29,400	27,800
February	73,900	110,000	73,600	106,000	29,700	31,800
March	74,500	108,000	74,100	112,000	30,100	27,800
April	72,500	94,600	73,500	96,200	29,000	26,100
May	73,400	95,300	73,400	91,400	29,000	30,000
June	73,700	89,400	73,600	96,100	29,200	23,400
July	73,500	108,000	73,300	104,000	29,300	27,000
August	73,700	104,000	73,600	111,000	29,400	20,000
September	73,800	107,000 ^r	73,700	108,000 ^r	29,500	18,600
October	74,400	108,000	74,900	110,000	29,000	16,400
November	73,600	106,000 ^r	73,600	106,000 ^r	29,000	16,000 ^r
December	73,700	101,000	74,000	97,800	28,700	19,000
January–December	884,000	1,240,000	885,000	1,240,000	28,700	19,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

TABLE 7
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF REFINED COPPER¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Brass mills	Wire-rod mills	Other plants ²	Total
2019: ^p				
December	33,100	104,000	5,450	142,000
January–December	413,000	1,360,000	65,400	1,830,000
2020:				
January	34,500	109,000 ^r	5,450	149,000 ^r
February	33,600	109,000 ^r	5,450	148,000 ^r
March	33,600	97,900 ^r	5,450	137,000 ^r
April	34,500	102,000 ^r	5,450	142,000 ^r
May	34,100	94,500 ^r	5,450	134,000 ^r
June	34,700	88,200 ^r	5,450	128,000 ^r
July	34,300	107,000	5,450	147,000
August	34,700	103,000	5,450	143,000
September	34,600	106,000 ^r	5,450	146,000 ^r
October	34,600	106,000	5,450	147,000
November	34,600	105,000	5,450	145,000
December	34,800	99,900	5,450	140,000
January–December	413,000	1,230,000	65,400	1,710,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Monthly consumption data by ingot makers, chemical plants, foundries, and miscellaneous manufacturers are estimated based on the monthly average of 2018 annual data.

TABLE 8
U.S. APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF COPPER¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Primary refined copper production	Copper in old scrap ²	Refined imports for consumption ³	Refined exports ³	Stock change during period	Apparent consumption
2019: ^p						
December	W	11,500	59,500	7,830	-10,900	W
January–December	985,000	153,000	663,000	125,000	-132,000	1,810,000
2020:						
January	74,600 ^r	13,000	62,300	4,170	-17,300	163,000 ^r
February	71,000	13,400	34,400	2,470	13,400	103,000
March	74,900	12,600	70,500	4,000	6,860	147,000
April	64,600	13,500	74,300	1,580	6,790	144,000
May	68,200	13,000	66,200	540	18,600	128,000
June	68,300 ^r	12,700	63,300	1,220	18,900	124,000
July	74,600 ^r	13,000	37,300	5,300	7,430	112,000
August	74,100 ^r	12,500	59,800	6,470	-12,100	152,000
September	70,700	12,800	39,900	4,570	5,410	113,000
October	77,600	12,800	57,300	2,930	-18,100	163,000
November	77,100	12,300	53,300	3,090	-10,800 ^r	150,000
December	78,400	11,900	57,400	5,150	-11,700	154,000
January–December	874,000	153,000	676,000	41,500	7,370	1,650,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Copper recovered from old scrap and converted to refined metal and alloys. Includes reported monthly production of copper from old scrap of copper-base, an estimate for annual reporters, and a monthly average of copper from non-copper-base materials based on 2018 annual data.

³Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF PURCHASED COPPER-BASE SCRAP¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period	Smelters and refineries		Ingot makers ²		Brass and wire-rod mills ³		Foundries, etc. ²		Total scrap used
	New scrap ^c	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	
2019: ^p									
December	1,730	1,610	2,050	4,790	59,900	2,460	2,570	1,010	76,100
January–December	20,700	25,100	24,600	57,500	714,000	38,800	30,800	12,100	923,000
2020:									
January	1,730	1,660	2,050	4,790	61,600	3,960	2,570	1,010	79,400
February	1,730	2,180	2,050	4,790	60,500	3,790	2,570	1,010	78,700
March	1,730	1,590	2,050	4,790	60,300	3,590	2,570	1,010	77,600
April	1,730	2,940	2,050	4,790	59,900	3,150	2,570	1,010	78,100
May	1,730	2,790	2,050	4,790	59,500	2,760	2,570	1,010	77,200
June	1,730	2,000	2,050	4,790	59,800 ^r	3,160	2,570	1,010	77,100 ^r
July	1,730	2,100	2,050	4,790	61,400 ^r	3,340	2,570	1,010	79,000 ^r
August	1,730	1,750	2,050	4,790	60,200 ^r	3,200	2,570	1,010	77,300 ^r
September	1,730	1,870	2,050	4,790	58,700 ^r	3,410	2,570	1,010	76,100 ^r
October	1,730	1,590	2,050	4,790	61,700	3,710	2,570	1,010	79,200
November	1,730	1,670	2,050	4,790	60,900	3,130	2,570	1,010	77,900
December	1,730	1,670	2,050	4,790	64,000	2,750	2,570	1,010	80,500
January–December	20,700	23,800	24,600	57,500	729,000	39,900	30,800	12,100	938,000

^cEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Monthly data estimated based on the monthly average of 2018 annual data.

³Consumption at brass and wire-rod mills assumed equal to receipts.

TABLE 10
COPPER STOCKS IN THE UNITED STATES AT END OF PERIOD¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Blister and anode ²	Refined copper						Total refined
		Refineries	Wire-rod mills	Brass mills	Other ³	Comex	LME ⁴	
2019: ^p								
December	16,400	7,010	20,000	7,520	7,070	34,100	35,000	111,000
2020:								
January	9,590	7,200	24,800	7,330	7,070	27,600	19,300	93,300
February	17,900	7,810	21,900	7,250	7,070	26,000	36,700	107,000
March	7,940	2,750	28,600	7,290	7,070	29,800	38,100	114,000
April	7,430	10,300	19,900	7,210	7,070	38,700	37,200	120,000
May	11,900	3,550	21,200	7,730	7,070	55,900	43,500	139,000
June	11,000	2,070	17,200	7,900	7,070	75,600	48,000	158,000
July	11,300	3,090	21,200	7,770	7,070	81,000	45,200	165,000
August	15,700	4,490	15,900	8,210	7,070	77,400	40,200	153,000
September	13,500	3,730	14,500	8,200	7,070	72,400	52,700	159,000
October	15,200	3,460	15,300	8,170	7,070	72,500	34,000	140,000
November	12,500 ^r	3,420	16,200 ^r	8,100	7,070	74,000	20,900	130,000 ^r
December	9,380	3,850	10,700	7,850	7,070	70,200	18,300	118,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Copper content.

³Monthly estimates based on 2018 annual data, comprising stocks at ingot makers, chemical plants, foundries, and miscellaneous manufacturers.

⁴London Metal Exchange Ltd., U.S. warehouses.

TABLE 11
AVERAGE PRICE OF COPPER IN THE UNITED STATES
AND ON THE LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Cents per pound)

Period	U.S. producers cathode ¹	Comex first position ²	LME cash price Grade A
2019:			
December	284.342	277.029	274.970
Year	279.596	272.267	272.364
2020:			
January	282.467	274.967	274.362
February	265.695	258.382	257.907
March	243.464	236.714	234.886
April	236.881	230.631	228.985
May	245.090	238.715	237.402
June	266.305	259.805	260.470
July	293.300	286.600	288.202
August	298.377	291.752	294.685
September	309.052	302.302	304.470
October	312.495	305.695	304.033
November	327.338	320.338	320.392
December	360.470	353.470	351.772
January–December	286.745	279.948	279.797

¹Sum of "Comex high grade first position" and "NY dealer premium cathode."

²Listed as "Comex high grade first position."

Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 12
AVERAGE BUYING PRICES FOR COPPER SCRAP IN THE UNITED STATES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Brass mills No. 1 scrap	Refiners No. 2 scrap	Dealers (United States) ¹	
			No. 2 scrap	Red brass turnings and borings
2019:				
December	264.76	236.19	172.12	127.00
Year	262.76	233.19	185.19	136.53
2020:				
January	262.29	234.76	200.00	139.00
February	244.87	218.26	185.00	115.00
March	223.75	197.73	190.00	139.00
April	219.33	196.05	148.00	125.00
May	230.18	208.95	165.00	111.00
June	253.82	232.41	182.09	120.55
July	279.55	258.32	207.09	130.00
August	282.05	258.79	212.52	124.76
September	291.05	262.19	220.00	128.86
October	291.93	261.84	222.73	130.00
November	306.26	277.53	230.00	139.47
December	339.98	314.75	258.18	165.45
January–December	268.76	243.47	201.72	130.67

¹As of January 2020, domestic dealers prices were available only for the entire United States, whereas dealers prices were available only for individual domestic markets prior to January 2020. Dealers prices in 2019 are for New York, and dealers prices in 2020 are for the entire United States.

Source: Fastmarkets-AMM.

TABLE 13
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF COPPER (UNMANUFACTURED), BY CLASS¹

(Metric tons, copper content)

Country or locality	Ore and concentrates ²			Matte, ash, and precipitates ³			Blister and anodes ⁴			Refined ⁵		
	2020			2020			2020			2020		
	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December
Belgium	--	--	--	228	--	354	--	--	--	2,300	--	--
Bolivia	--	--	--	13	--	--	--	--	--	1,510	576	1,030
Canada	(6)	--	2,170	451	80	459	(6)	--	(6)	138,000	8,110	149,000
Chile	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	422,000	36,900	411,000
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	191	--	275	38	--	--
Germany	--	--	--	(6)	--	--	--	(6)	(6)	2,010	139	1,910
Japan	--	--	--	295	50	176	(6)	(6)	(6)	2,540	53	2,060
Mexico	27,000	--	--	138	(6)	(6)	(6)	--	(6)	82,300	8,380	95,200
Netherlands	--	--	--	120	3	11	4	--	(6)	(6)	--	(6)
Peru	(6)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10,000	3,150	14,500
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	98	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Spain	--	--	--	540	--	49	1	--	--	(6)	--	654
Tunisia	--	--	--	--	--	--	35	--	--	--	--	--
Zambia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	689	--	--
Other	27	--	--	76	2	11	5	(6)	5	1,160	78	771
Total	27,000	--	2,170	1,960	134	1,060	236	(6)	281	663,000	57,400	676,000

-- Zero.

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

²Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) code 2603.00.0010. Includes copper ore and concentrates only; excludes copper contained in ore and concentrates of other metals.

³HTS codes 2620.30.0010 and 7401.00.0000. Includes copper matte, ash, and precipitates only; excludes the copper content of mattes and ashes of other metals.

⁴HTS code 7402.00.0000.

⁵HTS codes 7403.11.0000, 7403.12.0000, 7403.13.0000, and 7403.19.0000.

⁶Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 14
U.S. EXPORTS OF COPPER (UNMANUFACTURED), BY CLASS¹

(Metric tons, copper content)

Country or locality	Ore and concentrates ²			Matte, ash, and precipitates ³			Blister and anodes ⁴			Refined ⁵		
	2020			2020			2020			2020		
	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December
Austria	--	--	--	--	--	--	127	--	--	--	--	--
Belgium	161	18	230	3,290	407	6,110	359	35	190	129	--	64
Brazil	5,370	--	--	--	--	--	39	2	22	1	--	4
Bulgaria	15,900	--	4,350	--	--	(6)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	14,400	4,180	36,100	14,700	380	13,000	2,600	127	1,690	32,100	2,650	12,900
China	7	6,120	52,100	97	15	62	200	21	148	13	142	233
Germany	--	--	--	597	20	288	286	--	128	1	--	22
Hong Kong	--	--	9	19	--	--	279	--	86	20	--	18
India	--	--	20	--	19	37	259	38	247	36	--	--
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	--	208	62	197	26	--	86
Japan	27,400	687	13,100	48	78	251	26	--	24	11	(6)	4
Korea, Republic of	15,500	--	7,660	74	--	1	1,520	133	1,390	682	3	1,160
Malaysia	35	--	--	--	--	3	188	20	218	1	--	--
Mexico	248,000	15,900	250,000	1,210	--	2,720	32	273	848	92,100	2,350	26,800
Philippines	11,900	--	6,250	--	--	--	56	--	10	2	--	--
Slovakia	--	--	--	1,080	98	1,050	--	--	--	--	--	--
Spain	22,700	--	8,990	259	102	1,820	61	--	35	--	--	--
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	463	--	135	(6)	--	--
Other	1,950	31	4,630	763	1	429	564	38	836	181	6	175
Total	363,000	27,000	384,000	22,200	1,120	25,700	7,270	749	6,200	125,000	5,150	41,500

-- Zero.

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

²Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) code 2603.00.0010. Includes copper ore and concentrates only; excludes copper contained in ore and concentrates of other metals.

³HTS codes 2620.30.0000, 7401.00.0010, and 7401.00.0050. Includes copper matte, ash, and precipitates only; excludes the copper content of mattes and ashes of other metals.

⁴HTS code 7402.00.0000.

⁵HTS codes 7403.11.0000, 7403.12.0000, 7403.13.0000, and 7403.19.0000.

⁶Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 15
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF COPPER SCRAP¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country or locality	Unalloyed ²			Alloyed ³		
	2020			2020		
	2019	December	January– December	2019	December	January– December
Bahamas	--	--	--	736	88	681
Canada	16,700	873	14,500	49,900	3,490	41,300
Chile	--	59	76	1,300	21	81
Colombia	251	--	60	1,050	141	808
Costa Rica	473	56	619	1,160	112	934
Dominican Republic	610	62	876	2,120	153	1,150
El Salvador	--	--	--	695	30	294
Germany	188	11	179	111	--	108
Guatemala	17	--	--	603	20	289
Honduras	63	1	54	679	80	844
Japan	1,040	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	11,500	1,190	9,450	42,100	4,210	37,100
Pakistan	151	--	--	--	--	--
Panama	736	92	714	483	38	335
Suriname	124	--	43	100	4	54
Venezuela	28	--	--	554	--	147
Vietnam	114	14	121	17	2	22
Other	519	27	854	3,850	242	2,360
Total	32,600	2,380	27,600	105,000	8,630	86,500

-- Zero.

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

²Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) codes 7404.00.3020 and 7404.00.6020.

³HTS codes 7404.00.3045, 7404.00.3055, 7404.00.3065, 7404.00.3090, 7404.00.6045, 7404.00.6055, 7404.00.6065, and 7404.00.6090.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 16
U.S. EXPORTS OF COPPER SCRAP¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country or locality	Unalloyed ²							Alloyed ³				
	2020							2020				
	2019	No. 1		No. 2		Other		2019	Segregated		Unsegregated	
		December	January– December	December	January– December	December	January– December		December	January– December	December	January– December
Belgium	23,600	549	6,470	1,030	12,800	274	1,650	14,300	137	1,140	414	10,000
Canada	49,200	--	--	--	--	3,660	51,800	42,000	--	--	3,530	32,200
China	74,800	1,660	26,600	3,040	20,500	6,720	34,500	13,100	1,380	12,300	2,310	23,300
Germany	29,400	670	13,900	344	3,910	149	4,420	14,300	58	809	1,410	15,200
Greece	8,180	1,400	7,760	39	3,010	425	2,210	973	50	606	--	842
Hong Kong	19,900	219	6,090	47	454	43	1,290	30,500	16	1,230	212	6,680
India	14,400	182	3,010	105	3,680	80	2,930	45,500	1,010	20,400	1,210	14,500
Japan	22,600	98	3,820	742	8,850	230	3,640	20,300	368	2,410	746	11,500
Korea, Republic of	46,900	1,740	24,300	435	7,660	1,000	13,200	25,000	172	5,860	957	12,900
Malaysia	65,300	556	4,490	1,800	15,700	3,850	34,200	156,000	2,090	21,000	8,020	101,000
Netherlands	4,300	117	2,620	211	1,370	65	1,490	1,010	19	56	27	589
Pakistan	882	--	26	--	671	--	--	19,800	--	184	1,170	14,400
Poland	5,450	--	2,030	271	1,850	--	1,120	45	--	19	849	6,550
Spain	1,510	38	894	4	1,540	122	1,640	8,510	217	3,060	160	4,550
Taiwan	20,300	680	6,380	18	3,440	404	7,110	20,300	190	2,610	209	13,900
Thailand	4,120	41	1,200	4	753	510	2,820	16,300	120	3,200	2,240	17,800
Other	31,200	721	13,400	884	14,800	530	7,240	21,300	356	4,240	605	15,800
Total	422,000	8,670	123,000	8,970	101,000	18,100	171,000	450,000	6,180	79,100	24,100	302,000

-- Zero.

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

²Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) codes 7404.00.0010 and 7404.00.0015 (no. 1), 7404.00.0025 (no. 2), and 7404.00.0030 (other).

³HTS codes for segregated alloyed copper scrap are 7404.00.0041, 7404.00.0046, 7404.00.0051, 7404.00.0056, 7404.00.0061, 7404.00.0066, and 7404.00.0075. HTS codes for unsegregated alloyed copper scrap are 7404.00.0085 and 7404.00.0095.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.