

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## COPPER IN MARCH 2022

In March 2022, domestic mine output of recoverable copper was 108,000 metric tons (t). The average daily mine production was 3,490 t, a decrease of 5% from that in February (revised) and an increase of 4% compared with that in March 2021 (fig. 1). Year-to-date recoverable mine production was 321,000 t, 8% higher than that through March 2021 (table 2).

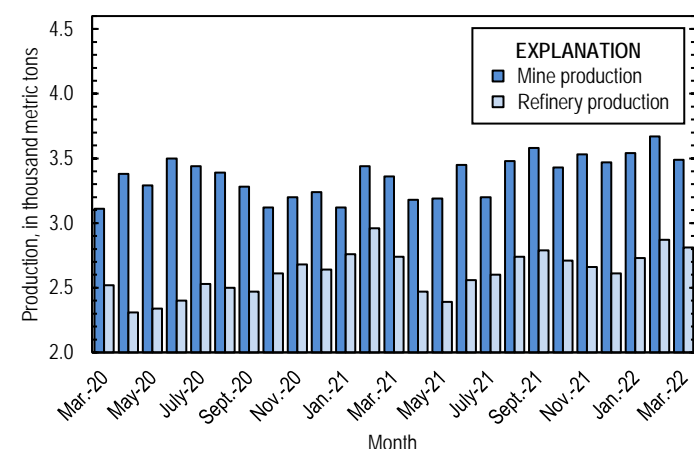


Figure 1. Average daily copper mine (recoverable) and refinery (primary and secondary) production in the United States from March 2020 through March 2022.

Owing to indefinite closures of ASARCO LLC's smelter in Arizona and electrolytic refinery in Texas since October 2019, smelter and electrolytic refinery production reported to the U.S. Geological Survey in March 2022 were withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. Smelter and electrolytic refinery output in tables 3 and 4 are estimates based on information in annual and quarterly company reports. As of March 2022, ASARCO had not publicly announced when operations were expected to resume. The company's three copper mines and two electrowon refineries in Arizona continued to operate during the smelter and electrolytic refinery stoppages (Grupo México, S.A.B. de C.V., 2021, p. 83).

Estimated smelter output in the United States was 35,000 t in March 2022. Year-to-date estimated smelter production was 105,000 t, unchanged from that through March 2021 (table 3).

Total U.S. refinery production was 87,100 t in March 2022; data for electrolytic and electrowon output, as well as refined production from scrap, are reported in table 4. Average daily refinery production was 2,810 t, a slight decline compared with that in February (revised) and slightly greater than that in March 2021 (fig. 1). Year-to-date refinery output was 252,000 t, essentially unchanged relative to the same period in 2021.

## Prices

In March 2022, the average Commodity Exchange Inc. (COMEX) copper price was \$4.68 per pound, higher than the previous monthly record of \$4.64 per pound in May 2021. The March 2022 COMEX price rose by 4% from \$4.50 per pound in February and was 15% greater than \$4.09 per pound in March 2021 (fig. 2, table 11). The increase in price from that in February was attributed by analysts primarily to recent actions by Russia in Ukraine and mined copper supply issues in Peru (Esmen, 2022; Soares, 2022). The average U.S. dealers buying price of number 2 copper scrap was \$3.42 per pound in March 2022, essentially unchanged from \$3.37 per pound in February and an increase of 15% compared with \$2.97 per pound in March 2021 (fig. 2, table 12).

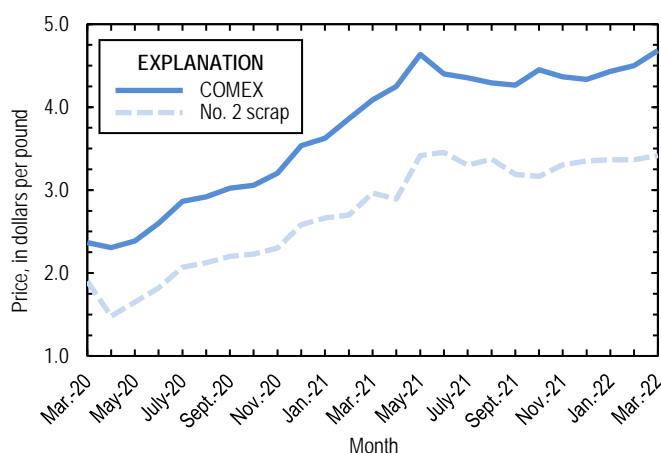


Figure 2. Monthly average COMEX copper price and no. 2 copper scrap U.S. dealers buying price from March 2020 through March 2022. Sources: Fastmarkets-AMM and S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

## Stocks

Refined copper stocks in the United States totaled 129,000 t at the end of March 2022, essentially unchanged from those in February (revised) and 20% more than those in March 2021. COMEX stocks rose by 3,580 t (6%), and London Metal Exchange Ltd. stocks in U.S. warehouses fell by 1,050 t (3%) compared with those at the end of February (fig. 3, table 10).

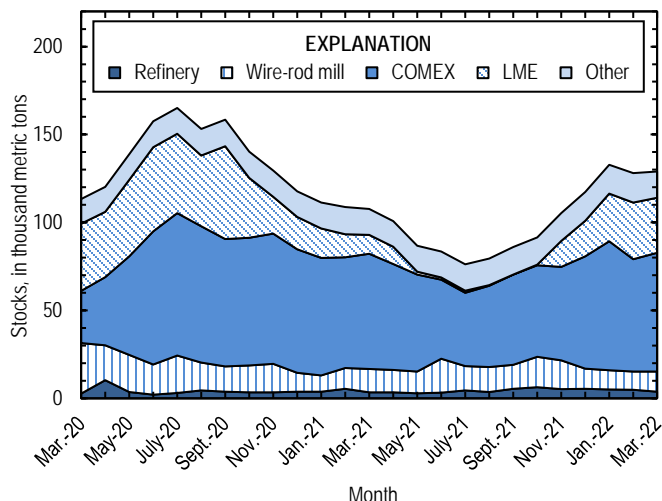


Figure 3. Domestic refined copper stocks at end of month, by type, from March 2020 through March 2022. Sources: London Metal Exchange Ltd. and U.S. Geological Survey.

## Industry News

**Peru.**—Southern Copper Corp. suspended production at its Cuajone Mine at the end of February owing to protests by the local community. The demonstrators blocked roads, damaged a railroad used to transport copper concentrates, and took control of the water reservoir used for mining operations. According to Fastmarkets, Southern Copper Corp. informed its customers that the disruption would significantly affect copper output. In 2021, the Cuajone Mine produced 169,000 t of copper in concentrates, equivalent to about 1% of global mined copper output. Operations at the Ilo smelter were also halted for one week in late March because of a lack of concentrate supply resulting from the closure of Cuajone (Grupo México, S.A.B. de C.V., 2022, p. 202; Luk, 2022; Zhang and Luk, 2022).

**United States.**—Revere Copper Products Inc., a producer of refined copper semimanufactures in Rome, NY, announced two projects to expand the company's capacity by approximately 27,200 t. The first phase would increase copper bar output by 13,600 t and was expected to be completed by yearend 2022. The second phase, with an anticipated completion date in the first quarter of 2023, would increase production of copper sheet, strip, and plate by an additional 13,600 t (Daily Sentinel, 2022).

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TABLE 1  
SALIENT STATISTICS OF THE COPPER INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, copper content, unless otherwise specified)

	Source table <sup>2</sup>	2021 <sup>P</sup>	2022			
			January	February	March	January– March
<b>Production:</b>						
Primary (from ore):						
Mine, recoverable <sup>3</sup>	(2)	1,230,000	110,000	103,000 <sup>r</sup>	108,000	321,000
Smelter <sup>e, 4</sup>	(3)	360,000	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	35,000	105,000
Refinery:						
Electrolytic <sup>c</sup>	(4)	360,000	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	35,000	105,000
Electrowon	(4)	563,000	45,600	42,000 <sup>r</sup>	48,600	136,000
Total	(4)	923,000	80,600 <sup>r</sup>	77,000 <sup>r</sup>	83,600	241,000
Secondary (from copper-base scrap): <sup>5</sup>						
Refineries <sup>6</sup>	(5)	48,900	3,990	3,280	3,490	10,800
Ingot makers <sup>e, 7</sup>	(5)	51,600	4,300	4,300	4,300	12,900
Brass and wire-rod mills	(5)	655,000	56,300	54,500	54,800	166,000
Foundries, etc. <sup>e, 7</sup>	(5)	38,800	3,230	3,230	3,230	9,690
<b>Consumption:</b>						
Reported, refined copper	(7)	1,770,000	151,000	145,000	144,000	440,000
Apparent, primary refined and copper from old scrap <sup>8</sup>	(8)	1,960,000	218,000 <sup>r</sup>	126,000 <sup>r</sup>	143,000	487,000
Reported, purchased copper-base scrap (gross weight)	(9)	919,000	78,000	75,600	76,500	230,000
<b>Stocks at end of period:</b>						
Refined <sup>9</sup>	(10)	117,000	133,000	128,000 <sup>r</sup>	129,000	129,000
Blister and anodes	(10)	16,100	11,800	13,300	12,200	12,200
Price, U.S. producers cathode (cents per pound) <sup>10</sup>	(11)	432.264	451.613	458.711	477.228	462.517
<b>Imports for consumption:<sup>11</sup></b>						
Ore and concentrates	(13)	11,000	--	936	1,950	2,880
Refined	(13)	919,000	140,000	34,300	48,700	223,000
<b>Exports:<sup>11</sup></b>						
Ore and concentrates	(14)	347,000 <sup>r</sup>	25,600	27,500	26,100	79,100
Refined	(14)	47,600	2,530	3,110	2,590	8,230

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>P</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Numbers in parentheses refer to the tables where these data are located.

<sup>3</sup>Includes the recoverable copper content of concentrates (of copper and other metals), copper produced by solvent extraction and electrowinning, and copper recovered as precipitates.

<sup>4</sup>May contain small quantities of copper from scrap.

<sup>5</sup>Copper recovered from copper-base scrap and converted to refined metal, alloys, and other forms. Does not include copper recovered from scrap other than copper-base.

<sup>6</sup>Electrolytically refined and fire-refined copper.

<sup>7</sup>Plants are surveyed by the U.S. Geological Survey on an annual basis; data after 2020 not yet available. Monthly data are estimated based on the monthly average of 2020 annual data.

<sup>8</sup>Primary refined copper production plus copper recovered from old scrap (of copper-base and non-copper-base) plus refined imports for consumption minus refined exports, including adjustments for changes in refined stocks. Old scrap consists of copper items used by consumers.

<sup>9</sup>Stocks of refined copper at brass mills, exchanges, refineries, wire-rod mills, and other manufacturers.

<sup>10</sup>Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week. Sum of the monthly average COMEX price and New York dealer cathode premium; reflects the delivered spot price of copper cathode to U.S. consumers by U.S. producers.

<sup>11</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 2  
MINE PRODUCTION OF COPPER IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Recoverable copper <sup>2</sup>			Contained copper		
	Arizona	Others <sup>3</sup>	Total	Electrowon	Concentrates <sup>4</sup>	Total
2021: <sup>p</sup>						
January–March	218,000	78,800	297,000	137,000	166,000	304,000
March	76,200	27,900	104,000	46,500	59,900	106,000
April	66,900	28,600	95,500	44,000	53,600	97,600
May	68,400	30,600	99,000	44,400	56,800	101,000
June	74,200	29,200	103,000	46,600	59,000	106,000
July	68,200	31,000	99,200	47,200	54,100	101,000
August	76,000	31,800	108,000	51,300	58,800	110,000
September	75,400	32,100	107,000	49,000	60,800	110,000
October	73,100	33,200	106,000	50,400	57,900	108,000
November	73,500	32,300	106,000	45,800	62,300	108,000
December	75,000	32,400	107,000	46,900	63,000	110,000
January–December	869,000	360,000	1,230,000	563,000	692,000	1,260,000
2022:						
January	75,700	34,100	110,000	45,600	66,700	112,000
February	69,000 <sup>r</sup>	33,700	103,000 <sup>r</sup>	42,000 <sup>r</sup>	67,400 <sup>r</sup>	109,000 <sup>r</sup>
March	74,900	33,300	108,000	48,600	62,000	111,000
January–March	220,000	101,000	321,000	136,000	196,000	332,000

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes the recoverable copper content of concentrates (of copper and other metals), copper produced by solvent extraction and electrowinning, and copper recovered as precipitates.

<sup>3</sup>Includes production from Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

<sup>4</sup>Includes the contained copper content of concentrates (of copper and other metals) and copper recovered as precipitates.

TABLE 3  
COPPER PRODUCED AT SMELTERS IN  
THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, copper content)

Period	Anode production <sup>e, 3</sup>
2021: <sup>p</sup>	
January–March	105,000
March	35,000
April	25,000
May	25,000
June	25,000
July	30,000
August	30,000
September	30,000
October	30,000
November	30,000
December	30,000
January–December	360,000
2022:	
January	35,000 <sup>r</sup>
February	35,000 <sup>r</sup>
March	35,000
January–March	105,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Primary production. May contain small quantities of copper from scrap.

<sup>3</sup>To avoid disclosing company proprietary data, monthly smelter production data are estimated based on information in annual and 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<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	From primary materials			From scrap <sup>3</sup>	Total refined
	Electrolytic <sup>e,2</sup>	Electrowon	Total primary		
2021: <sup>p</sup>					
January–March	105,000	137,000	242,000	10,900	253,000
March	35,000	46,500	81,500	3,460	85,000
April	25,000	44,000	69,000	5,190	74,200
May	25,000	44,400	69,400	4,560	74,000
June	25,000	46,600	71,600	5,060	76,700
July	30,000	47,200	77,200	3,340	80,500
August	30,000	51,300	81,300	3,750	85,000
September	30,000	49,000	79,000	4,590	83,500
October	30,000	50,400	80,400	3,540	84,000
November	30,000	45,800	75,800	3,990	79,800
December	30,000	46,900	76,900	4,060	80,900
January–December	360,000	563,000	923,000	48,900	972,000
2022:					
January	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	45,600	80,600 <sup>r</sup>	3,990	84,600 <sup>r</sup>
February	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	42,000 <sup>r</sup>	77,000 <sup>r</sup>	3,280	80,300 <sup>r</sup>
March	35,000	48,600	83,600	3,490	87,100
January–March	105,000	136,000	241,000	10,800	252,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>To avoid disclosing company proprietary data, monthly electrolytically refined production data are estimated based on information in annual and quarterly public company reports and do not reflect actual production reported to the U.S. Geological Survey.

<sup>3</sup>Electrolytically refined and fire-refined copper.

TABLE 5  
COPPER RECOVERED AS REFINED COPPER AND IN ALLOYS AND OTHER FORMS FROM PURCHASED  
COPPER-BASE SCRAP IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Refineries <sup>3</sup>		Ingot makers <sup>e, 4</sup>		Brass and wire-rod mills		Foundries, etc. <sup>e, 4</sup>		Total <sup>5</sup>
	New scrap <sup>c</sup>	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	
2021: <sup>p</sup>									
January–March	5,030	5,830	1,180	11,700	158,000	11,300	2,290	7,400	203,000
March	1,680	1,780	394	3,910	53,000	3,790	763	2,470	67,800
April	1,680	3,510	394	3,910	51,700	3,740	763	2,470	68,200
May	1,680	2,890	394	3,910	50,600	3,600	763	2,470	66,300
June	1,680	3,390	394	3,910	50,100	3,430	763	2,470	66,100
July	1,680	1,660	394	3,910	50,400	3,330	763	2,470	64,600
August	1,680	2,080	394	3,910	50,500	3,540	763	2,470	65,400
September	1,680	2,910	394	3,910	51,300	3,130	763	2,470	66,500
October	1,680	1,860	394	3,910	51,900	3,490	763	2,470	66,400
November	1,680	2,320	394	3,910	50,900	3,080	763	2,470	65,500
December	1,680	2,380	394	3,910	48,500	2,480	763	2,470	62,600
January–December	20,100	28,800	4,730	46,900	614,000	41,100	9,160	29,600	795,000
2022:									
January	1,680	2,310	394	3,910	51,800	4,470	763	2,470	67,800
February	1,680	1,600	394	3,910	50,900	3,530	763	2,470	65,300
March	1,680	1,810	394	3,910	50,900	3,950	763	2,470	65,900
January–March	5,030	5,720	1,180	11,700	154,000	12,000	2,290	7,400	199,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary.

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

<sup>2</sup>New scrap refers to material generated during the manufacturing process. Old scrap consists of copper items used by consumers.

<sup>3</sup>Electrolytically refined and fire refined from scrap based on source of material at smelter or refinery level.

<sup>4</sup>Plants are surveyed by the U.S. Geological Survey on an annual basis; data after 2020 not yet available. Monthly data are estimated based on the monthly average of 2020 annual data.

<sup>5</sup>Does not include an estimate, based on 2020 annual data, of 2,670 tons per month from new scrap and 1,870 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 SEMIFABRICATES<sup>1</sup>

(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
2021: <sup>P</sup>						
January–March	223,000	339,000	223,000	340,000	28,800	17,800
March	74,700	125,000	74,500	123,000	28,800	17,800
April	75,000	115,000	75,300	117,000	28,500	15,200
May	73,200	120,000	73,300	117,000	28,400	18,300
June	74,200	119,000	74,000	119,000	28,600	19,100
July	74,600	112,000	74,800	114,000	28,400	17,000
August	74,600	117,000	74,500	113,000	28,600	21,200
September	74,000	118,000	74,300	120,000	28,300	18,800
October	74,600	115,000	74,400	110,000	28,600	23,400
November	74,500	115,000	74,300	110,000	28,800	29,200
December	74,400	86,100	74,200	95,100	29,100	20,200
January–December	892,000	1,360,000	892,000	1,360,000	29,100	20,200
2022:						
January	74,300	117,000	74,300	114,000	29,100	25,400
February	76,000	110,000	75,800	112,000	29,300	20,400
March	76,900	118,000	77,000	116,000	29,300	22,300
January–March	227,000	345,000	227,000	343,000	29,300	22,300

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary.

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



TABLE 7  
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF REFINED COPPER<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Brass mills	Wire-rod mills	Other plants <sup>6, 2</sup>	Total
2021: <sup>P</sup>				
January–March	105,000	318,000	15,500	438,000
March	35,300	119,000	5,180	159,000
April	34,300	108,000	5,180	147,000
May	34,100	119,000	5,180	158,000
June	34,200	112,000	5,180	151,000
July	34,400	108,000	5,180	147,000
August	34,500	113,000	5,180	153,000
September	34,700	112,000	5,180	152,000
October	34,700	109,000	5,180	148,000
November	34,300	110,000	5,180	150,000
December	34,700	81,800	5,180	122,000
January–December	415,000	1,290,000	62,100	1,770,000
2022:				
January	34,900	111,000	5,180	151,000
February	34,800	105,000	5,180	145,000
March	36,600	102,000	5,180	144,000
January–March	106,000	318,000	15,500	440,000

<sup>6</sup>Estimated; <sup>P</sup>Preliminary.

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

<sup>2</sup>Chemical plants, foundries, ingot makers, and miscellaneous manufacturers. These plants are surveyed by the U.S. Geological Survey on an annual basis; data after 2020 not yet available. Monthly data are estimated based on the monthly average of 2020 annual data.

TABLE 8  
U.S. APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF COPPER<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Primary refined copper production	Copper in old scrap <sup>2</sup>	Refined imports for consumption <sup>3</sup>	Refined exports <sup>3</sup>	Refined stock change during period	Apparent consumption <sup>4</sup>
2021: <sup>p</sup>						
January–March	242,000	41,900	214,000 <sup>r</sup>	10,700	-10,000	498,000 <sup>r</sup>
March	81,500	13,800	98,900 <sup>r</sup>	3,360	-935	192,000 <sup>r</sup>
April	69,000	15,500	85,900 <sup>r</sup>	5,280	-7,000	172,000 <sup>r</sup>
May	69,400	14,700	66,600	5,600 <sup>r</sup>	-14,100	159,000
June	71,600	15,100	69,600	6,880	-3,100	152,000
July	77,200	13,200	57,100	5,270	-7,320	150,000
August	81,300	13,900	105,000	1,830	3,260	195,000
September	79,000	14,300	90,700	2,300	6,480	175,000
October	80,400	13,600	92,300	3,490	5,550	177,000
November	75,800	13,600	60,000	2,630	13,900	133,000
December	76,900	13,100	77,300	3,630	11,900	152,000
January–December	923,000	169,000	919,000	47,600	-513	1,960,000
2022:						
January	80,600 <sup>r</sup>	15,000	140,000	2,530	15,500	218,000 <sup>r</sup>
February	77,000 <sup>r</sup>	13,400	34,300	3,110	-4,670 <sup>r</sup>	126,000 <sup>r</sup>
March	83,600	14,000	48,700	2,590	909	143,000
January–March	241,000	42,400	223,000	8,230	11,700	487,000

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Copper recovered from old scrap (of copper-base and non-copper-base) and converted to refined metal, alloys, and other forms. Includes reported monthly production and estimates for annual reporters based on the monthly average of 2020 annual data. Old scrap consists of copper items used by consumers.

<sup>3</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Primary refined copper production plus copper in old scrap plus refined imports for consumption minus refined exports minus refined stock change during period.

TABLE 9  
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF PURCHASED COPPER-BASE SCRAP<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period	Smelters and refineries		Ingot makers <sup>e, 3</sup>		Brass and wire-rod mills <sup>4</sup>		Foundries, etc. <sup>e, 3</sup>		Total
	New scrap <sup>c</sup>	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	New scrap	Old scrap	
2021: <sup>p</sup>									
January–March	5,190	6,010	3,150	13,800	182,000	11,700	2,690	8,690	234,000
March	1,730	1,830	1,050	4,600	61,100	3,970	897	2,900	78,100
April	1,730	3,620	1,050	4,600	60,000	4,010	897	2,900	78,800
May	1,730	2,980	1,050	4,600	58,800	3,820	897	2,900	76,700
June	1,730	3,490	1,050	4,600	58,200	3,680	897	2,900	76,600
July	1,730	1,710	1,050	4,600	58,500	3,520	897	2,900	74,900
August	1,730	2,140	1,050	4,600	58,700	3,750	897	2,900	75,800
September	1,730	3,000	1,050	4,600	59,300	3,260	897	2,900	76,800
October	1,730	1,920	1,050	4,600	59,900	3,630	897	2,900	76,700
November	1,730	2,390	1,050	4,600	59,000	3,240	897	2,900	75,800
December	1,730	2,450	1,050	4,600	56,500	2,610	897	2,900	72,800
January–December	20,700	29,700	12,600	55,200	711,000	43,200	10,800	34,800	919,000
2022:									
January	1,730	2,380	1,050	4,600	59,800	4,610	897	2,900	78,000
February	1,730	1,650	1,050	4,600	59,000	3,720	897	2,900	75,600
March	1,730	1,870	1,050	4,600	59,200	4,250	897	2,900	76,500
January–March	5,190	5,900	3,150	13,800	178,000	12,600	2,690	8,690	230,000

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary.

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

<sup>2</sup>New scrap refers to material generated during the manufacturing process. Old scrap consists of copper items used by consumers.

<sup>3</sup>Plants are surveyed by the U.S. Geological Survey on an annual basis; data after 2020 not yet available. Monthly data are estimated based on the monthly average of 2020 annual data.

<sup>4</sup>Consumption at brass and wire-rod mills assumed equal to receipts.

TABLE 10  
COPPER STOCKS IN THE UNITED STATES AT END OF PERIOD<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, copper content)

Period	Blister and anodes	Refined copper						Total refined
		Refineries	Wire-rod mills	Brass mills	Other <sup>e, 2</sup>	COMEX <sup>3</sup>	LME <sup>4</sup>	
2021: <sup>p</sup>								
March	15,300	3,410	13,200	7,900	6,850	65,500	10,900	108,000
April	12,400	3,330	12,800	7,550	6,850	60,200	9,950	101,000
May	13,100	2,860	12,400	7,850	6,850	55,100	1,630	86,600
June	10,300	3,230	19,300	7,950	6,850	45,000	1,180	83,500
July	12,300	4,410	14,000	8,190	6,850	41,600	1,180	76,200
August	12,000	3,620	14,200	8,330	6,850	46,100	400	79,500
September	10,200	5,400	13,700	8,670	6,850	51,200	125	86,000
October	15,700	6,400	17,200	8,640	6,850	52,100	325	91,500
November	15,900	5,250	16,300	9,080	6,850	53,200	14,700	105,000
December	16,100	5,440	11,500	9,500	6,850	63,800	20,200	117,000
2022:								
January	11,800	5,000	10,900	9,530	6,850	73,300	27,200	133,000
February	13,300	4,870 <sup>r</sup>	10,300	9,860	6,850	63,900	32,300	128,000 <sup>r</sup>
March	12,200	3,690	11,600	8,160	6,850	67,400	31,300	129,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Chemical plants, foundries, ingot makers, and miscellaneous manufacturers. These plants are surveyed by the U.S. Geological Survey on an annual basis; data after 2020 not yet available. Monthly data are estimated based on yearend 2020 stocks.

<sup>3</sup>Commodity Exchange Inc.

<sup>4</sup>London Metal Exchange Ltd., U.S. warehouses.

TABLE 11  
AVERAGE PRICES FOR REFINED COPPER IN THE UNITED STATES  
AND ON THE LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Cents per pound)

Period	COMEX	U.S. producers	LME
	first position <sup>1</sup>	cathode <sup>2</sup>	grade A cash
2021:			
March	408.828	416.141	408.459
April	424.783	432.183	423.453
May	463.535	471.410	461.937
June	439.832	448.082	436.012
July	435.479	443.779	427.900
August	429.230	437.543	424.435
September	426.538	434.888	422.916
October	445.112	453.612	443.497
November	436.574	445.074	442.914
December	433.320	441.820	433.140
Year	424.306	432.264	422.496
2022:			
January	443.113	451.613	443.364
February	450.211	458.711	450.870
March	468.228	477.228	464.329
January–March	453.851	462.517	452.854

<sup>1</sup>Listed as “COMEX high grade first position.”

<sup>2</sup>Sum of “COMEX high grade first position” and “NY dealer premium cathode.”  
Reflects the delivered spot price of copper cathode to U.S. consumers by U.S. producers.

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	
			No. 2 scrap	Red brass turnings and borings
2021:				
March	392.04	351.52	296.50	185.50
April	406.52	365.52	289.00	186.50
May	444.95	405.23	341.50	239.00
June	421.77	381.68	345.50	230.50
July	417.36	374.12	330.00	227.00
August	410.36	368.41	337.50	238.00
September	409.62	368.38	319.00	229.00
October	430.88	390.64	316.50	222.00
November	423.05	383.05	330.50	222.00
December	420.45	380.45	335.00	230.00
Year	408.14	369.04	314.79	212.63
2022:				
January	433.10	393.50	336.50	235.00
February	440.32	399.84	336.50	225.00
March	459.30	423.17	341.50	217.00
January–March	444.24	405.50	338.17	225.67

Source: Fastmarkets-AMM.

TABLE 13  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF UNMANUFACTURED COPPER<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, copper content)

Country or locality	Ore and concentrates <sup>2</sup>			Matte, ash, and precipitates <sup>3</sup>			Blister and anodes <sup>4</sup>			Refined <sup>5</sup>		
	2022			2022			2022			2022		
	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March
Belgium	--	--	--	236	--	97	--	--	--	29	(6)	2
Bolivia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	763	--	--
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5,720	--	--
Canada	11,000	1,950	2,880	651	47	58	(6)	--	--	141,000	6,780	22,500
Chile	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	613,000	22,100	161,000
China	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	654 <sup>r</sup>	53	120
Congo (Kinshasa)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	22,200	4,440	5,290
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	371	30	59	35	--	(6)
Germany	--	--	--	155	--	94	(6)	--	--	2,150	204	661
Japan	1	--	--	483	--	--	1	(6)	(6)	1,440	110	343
Mexico	--	--	--	8	--	1	(6)	--	--	87,300 <sup>r</sup>	10,900	21,500
Peru	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	28,500	3,880	11,600
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3,900	--	--
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	277	--	--
Zambia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11,400	216	501
Other	10	(6)	(6)	49	--	(6)	12	(6)	1	155 <sup>r</sup>	5	22
Total	11,000	1,950	2,880	1,580	47	249	384	30	59	919,000	48,700	223,000

<sup>r</sup>Revised. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Harmonized 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.

<sup>3</sup>HTS 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.

<sup>4</sup>HTS code 7402.00.0000.

<sup>5</sup>HTS codes 7403.11.0000, 7403.12.0000, 7403.13.0000, and 7403.19.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 14  
U.S. EXPORTS OF UNMANUFACTURED COPPER<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, copper content)

Country or locality	Ore and concentrates <sup>2</sup>			Matte, ash, and precipitates <sup>3</sup>			Blister and anodes <sup>4</sup>			Refined <sup>5</sup>		
	2022			2022			2022			2022		
	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March
Belgium	246	--	--	6,120	657	1,540	1,490	18	36	--	--	--
Canada	39,500	1,560	7,910	16,200	648	4,070	18,800 <sup>r</sup>	188	355	24,700	1,460	3,930
China	65,600	7,880	10,100	548	--	--	171	--	--	3,190	38	1,340
Dominican Republic	202	13	44	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	(6)	(6)
Finland	783	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	784	--	--	430	--	19	190	--	20	20	--	(6)
Hong Kong	2	--	--	44	--	(6)	310	11	11	9	--	--
India	--	--	--	30	--	--	433	51	117	--	--	(6)
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	--	113	24	65	22	1	4
Japan	6,350	--	--	760	--	27	17	--	1	11	(6)	1
Korea, Republic of	2,370	--	38	171	60	60	1,320	60	322	30	--	--
Malaysia	5	--	--	47	--	48	188	20	40	13	--	1
Mexico	228,000 <sup>r</sup>	16,600	57,200	33	--	--	258	46	140	19,100	1,010	2,820
Philippines	2,350	--	2,320	1	--	--	39	--	--	--	--	29
Singapore	--	--	--	300	--	--	92	--	39	22	2	4
Slovakia	--	--	--	1,450	62	340	--	--	--	--	--	--
Spain	--	--	--	1,130	136	465	20	22	22	(6)	--	(6)
Taiwan	1,490	--	--	19	16	16	291	20	20	282	2	22
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	--	--	--	--	157	--	--	--	--	--
Other	92	34	1,580	208	66	76	499	15	69	125 <sup>r</sup>	68	76
Total	347,000 <sup>r</sup>	26,100	79,100	27,500	1,650	6,660	24,400 <sup>r</sup>	473	1,260	47,600	2,590	8,230

<sup>r</sup>Revised. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Schedule B of the United States code 2603.00.0010. Includes copper ore and concentrates only; excludes copper contained in ore and concentrates of other metals.

<sup>3</sup>Schedule B 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.

<sup>4</sup>Schedule B code 7402.00.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Schedule B codes 7403.11.0000, 7403.12.0000, 7403.13.0000, and 7403.19.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.



TABLE 15  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF COPPER SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country or locality	Unalloyed <sup>2</sup>			Alloyed <sup>3</sup>		
	2022			2022		
	2021	March	January– March	2021	March	January– March
Bahamas	--	--	--	608	74	133
Bolivia	114	--	--	442	38	38
Canada	19,900	2,570	5,300	48,200	3,810	10,200
Cayman Islands	--	--	--	219	20	53
Colombia	174	--	20	643	13	54
Costa Rica	729	28	140	1,480	90	245
Dominican Republic	1,550	128	298	2,720	156	629
Ecuador	88	12	12	277	3	42
El Salvador	--	--	--	583	154	212
Germany	210	16	49	191	1	2
Guatemala	--	--	--	484	35	79
Honduras	75	5	7	907	71	123
Jamaica	7	--	3	159	--	81
Mexico	12,600	1,180	2,990	43,800 <sup>r</sup>	3,940	10,600
Panama	1,040 <sup>r</sup>	106	364	496 <sup>r</sup>	24	105
Peru	19	--	--	439	23	95
Suriname	254	47	112	58	4	23
Uruguay	481	12	33	58	10	10
Venezuela	--	--	--	675	--	11
Vietnam	114	23	38	64	17	33
Other	301 <sup>r</sup>	8	59	2,060	196	726
Total	37,700	4,130	9,430	105,000	8,690	23,500

<sup>r</sup>Revised. -- Zero.

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

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

<sup>3</sup>HTS 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 SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country or locality	Unalloyed <sup>2</sup>							Alloyed <sup>3</sup>				
	2022							2022				
	No. 1		No. 2		Other			Segregated		Unsegregated		
	January–		January–		January–			January–		January–		
	2021	March	March	March	March	March	March	2021	March	March	March	March
Austria	1,250	--	--	--	177	--	--	193	--	--	--	--
Belgium	20,700	1,380	3,400	797	2,430	362	1,750	8,520 <sup>r</sup>	119	315	413	1,040
Canada	61,000 <sup>r</sup>	--	--	--	--	6,200	15,600	53,900	--	--	3,540	11,100
Chile	2,380	--	21	--	--	--	--	345	--	--	--	--
China	195,000 <sup>r</sup>	5,950	18,200	5,790	14,900	12,200	38,100	43,300 <sup>r</sup>	1,940	5,060	915	2,450
Germany	19,100 <sup>r</sup>	1,040	2,330	149	305	255	325	15,300	118	468	1,240	3,210
Greece	15,000 <sup>r</sup>	641	1,450	42	42	235	1,100	2,140	--	131	97	583
Hong Kong	23,100 <sup>r</sup>	109	241	1,290	3,360	445	2,020	7,570 <sup>r</sup>	58	120	514	2,280
India	12,800 <sup>r</sup>	814	2,110	184	430	568	1,840	39,600 <sup>r</sup>	1,590	4,510	2,490	7,200
Japan	19,900 <sup>r</sup>	269	757	1,900	5,510	398	878	7,490	141	400	663	1,620
Korea, Republic of	47,200 <sup>r</sup>	1,390	4,040	1,020	3,360	1,160	3,510	17,100	509	1,450	1,330	3,230
Malaysia	63,900 <sup>r</sup>	273	1,430	115	530	1,340	5,610	88,200 <sup>r</sup>	635	3,480	2,150	8,530
Mexico	3,590	223	678	--	--	21	45	4,640	174	546	889	1,370
Netherlands	2,950	458	1,380	--	277	258	519	569 <sup>r</sup>	--	20	429	800
Pakistan	476	182	338	21	46	--	--	24,400	92	273	1,670	5,580
Poland	11,300 <sup>r</sup>	98	332	38	38	867	2,490	2,280	--	39	134	231
Russia	1,410 <sup>r</sup>	--	--	--	39	19	77	766 <sup>r</sup>	--	--	--	38
Slovakia	1,850 <sup>r</sup>	97	373	--	--	--	--	1,760	233	557	--	120
Spain	2,960	723	801	20	20	99	348	7,070	160	441	252	854
Sweden	1,080	--	--	--	--	56	149	2,480	--	--	141	444
Taiwan	13,800	410	979	376	876	1,020	2,610	6,310 <sup>r</sup>	77	229	251	553
Thailand	9,750 <sup>r</sup>	393	889	62	82	1,890	4,940	35,900 <sup>r</sup>	231	561	2,800	9,910
United Arab Emirates	1,770 <sup>r</sup>	279	294	21	21	--	--	3,320 <sup>r</sup>	--	--	405	1,220
Other	6,440 <sup>r</sup>	142	447	61	196	38	186	5,020 <sup>r</sup>	38	111	628	991
Total	539,000	14,900	40,500	11,900	32,600	27,500	82,100	378,000 <sup>r</sup>	6,120	18,700	20,900	63,300

<sup>r</sup>Revised. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Schedule B of the United States codes 7404.00.0010 and 7404.00.0015 (no. 1), 7404.00.0025 (no. 2), and 7404.00.0030 (other).

<sup>3</sup>Schedule B 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. Schedule B codes for unsegregated alloyed copper scrap are 7404.00.0085 and 7404.00.0095.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.