

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## LEAD IN JULY 2006

Domestic mine production of lead, based on the net quantity of lead recovered from concentrate, was 36,600 metric tons (t) in July, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate in July was 1,180 t, about 5% greater than that in June but 7% below that in July 2005. Mine production for the first 7 months of 2006 was about 1% greater than that of January through July 2005. Secondary refinery production of lead was 95,200 t in July, slightly lower than that of June.

According to Platts Metals Week published quotations, the average North American producer price for lead increased slightly from that of the previous month to 76.05 cents per pound. The London Metal Exchange Ltd. (LME) cash price

partially rebounded in July and averaged \$1,051.74 per metric ton, a 9% increase from the June 2006 average price. During July, global LME lead stocks decreased by 12,475 t to 99,200 t at month's end.

There were no sales of lead from the National Defense Stockpile in July (Defense National Stockpile Center, 2006).

### Reference Cited

Defense National Stockpile Center, 2006, Stockpile announces lead BOA sales for July 2006: Fort Belvoir, VA, Defense National Stockpile Center news release, August 7, 1 p.

TABLE 1  
SALIENT LEAD STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, lead content, unless otherwise specified)

	2005		2006		
	Year	January - July	June	July	January - July
<b>Production:</b>					
Mine (recoverable)	426,000	244,000 <sup>r</sup>	33,900	36,600	246,000
Primary refinery	143,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Secondary refinery:</b>					
Reported by smelters/refineries	1,110,000 <sup>p</sup>	647,000 <sup>r</sup>	93,500	93,000	665,000
Estimated	11,200 <sup>p</sup>	6,540	945	939	6,720
Recovered from copper-base scrap <sup>e</sup>	15,000 <sup>p</sup>	8,750	1,250	1,250	8,750
Total secondary	1,140,000 <sup>p</sup>	662,000 <sup>r</sup>	95,700	95,200	681,000
<b>Stocks, end of period:</b>					
Secondary smelters and consumers	61,400 <sup>p</sup>	61,500	60,100 <sup>r</sup>	59,800	59,800
<b>Imports for consumption:</b>					
Ore and concentrate	29	10	249	NA	249 <sup>2</sup>
Refined metal	298,000	168,000	19,800	NA	180,000 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Consumption:</b>					
Reported	1,460,000 <sup>p</sup>	854,000 <sup>r</sup>	124,000	123,000	866,000
Undistributed <sup>e</sup>	45,300 <sup>p</sup>	26,400 <sup>r</sup>	3,840	3,800	26,800
Total	1,510,000 <sup>p</sup>	880,000 <sup>r</sup>	128,000	126,000	892,000
<b>Exports:</b>					
Ore and concentrate	390,000	98,800	5,360	NA	66,400 <sup>2</sup>
Bullion	198	94	24	NA	153 <sup>2</sup>
Wrought and unwrought lead	64,600	34,500	4,590	NA	38,500 <sup>2</sup>
TEL/TML preparations, based on lead compounds	1,270	1,060	681	NA	3,240 <sup>2</sup>
Exports (gross weight): Scrap	67,300	40,900	10,400	NA	45,600 <sup>2</sup>
Platts Metals Week North American producer price (cents per pound)	61.03	60.69	75.69	76.05	75.19

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes data for January - June only; July data were not available at time of publication.

TABLE 2  
MONTHLY AVERAGE LEAD PRICES

	North American producer price cents/lb	LME		Sterling exchange rate dollars/£
		\$/metric ton	£/metric ton	
<b>2005:</b>				
July	60.36	854.07	487.83	1.750745
December	64.78	1,123.51	643.55	1.745805
Year	61.03	975.98	537.10	1.817133
<b>2006:</b>				
May	76.44	1,166.18	624.05	1.868714
June	75.69	963.34	522.55	1.843536
July	76.05	1,051.74	570.25	1.844345

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF PURCHASED LEAD-BASE SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Item	Stocks	Net	Consumption	Stocks
	June 30, 2006 <sup>r</sup>			receipts
Battery-lead	28,300	103,000	103,000	28,100
Soft lead	W	W	W	W
Drosses and residues	W	W	W	W
Other <sup>2</sup>	1,720	9,140	8,970	1,890
Total	30,000	112,000	112,000	30,000
Percent change from preceding month	XX	-4.2	-4.0	0.1

<sup>r</sup>Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." XX Not applicable.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes solder, common babbitt, antimonial lead, cable covering, type metals, and other lead-base scrap not elsewhere classified.

TABLE 4  
LEAD, TIN, AND ANTIMONY RECOVERED FROM  
LEAD-BASE SCRAP IN JULY 2006<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Product recovered	Secondary metal content		
	Lead	Tin	Antimony
Soft and calcium lead	70,300	--	--
Remelt lead	W	--	--
Antimonial lead	22,400	(2)	(2)
Other <sup>3</sup>	353	(2)	(2)
Total lead-base	93,000	137	293

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other."  
-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

<sup>3</sup>Includes cable lead, lead-base babbitt, solder, type metals, and other products.

TABLE 5  
CONSUMPTION OF LEAD IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, lead content)

Use	2005 <sup>p</sup>		2006		
	January - December	January - July	June	July	January - July
<b>Metal products:</b>					
Ammunition, shot and bullets	60,000	35,000 <sup>r</sup>	6,970	5,980	45,300
Brass and bronze, billet and ingots	3,700	2,160 <sup>r</sup>	385	382	2,800
Cable covering, power and communication and cabling lead, building construction	6,840	3,990 <sup>r</sup>	708	541	4,900
Casting metals	17,900	10,500 <sup>r</sup>	1,630	1,630	11,400
Sheet lead, pipes, traps and other extruded products	32,700	19,100 <sup>r</sup>	2,450	2,450	17,500
Solder	7,130	4,160 <sup>r</sup>	652	652	4,780
Storage batteries, including oxides	1,280,000	745,000 <sup>r</sup>	107,000	107,000	752,000
Terne metal, type metal, and other metal products <sup>2</sup>	2,210	1,290 <sup>r</sup>	144	144	1,040
<b>Total metal products</b>	<b>1,410,000</b>	<b>821,000 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>119,000</b>	<b>839,000</b>
Other oxides and miscellaneous	56,400	32,900	3,800	3,800	26,500
<b>Total reported</b>	<b>1,460,000</b>	<b>854,000 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>124,000</b>	<b>123,000</b>	<b>866,000</b>
Undistributed <sup>c</sup>	45,300	26,400 <sup>r</sup>	3,840	3,800	26,800
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,510,000</b>	<b>880,000 <sup>r</sup></b>	<b>128,000</b>	<b>126,000</b>	<b>892,000</b>

<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>Includes lead consumed in foil, collapsible tubes, annealing, plating, galvanizing, and fishing weights.

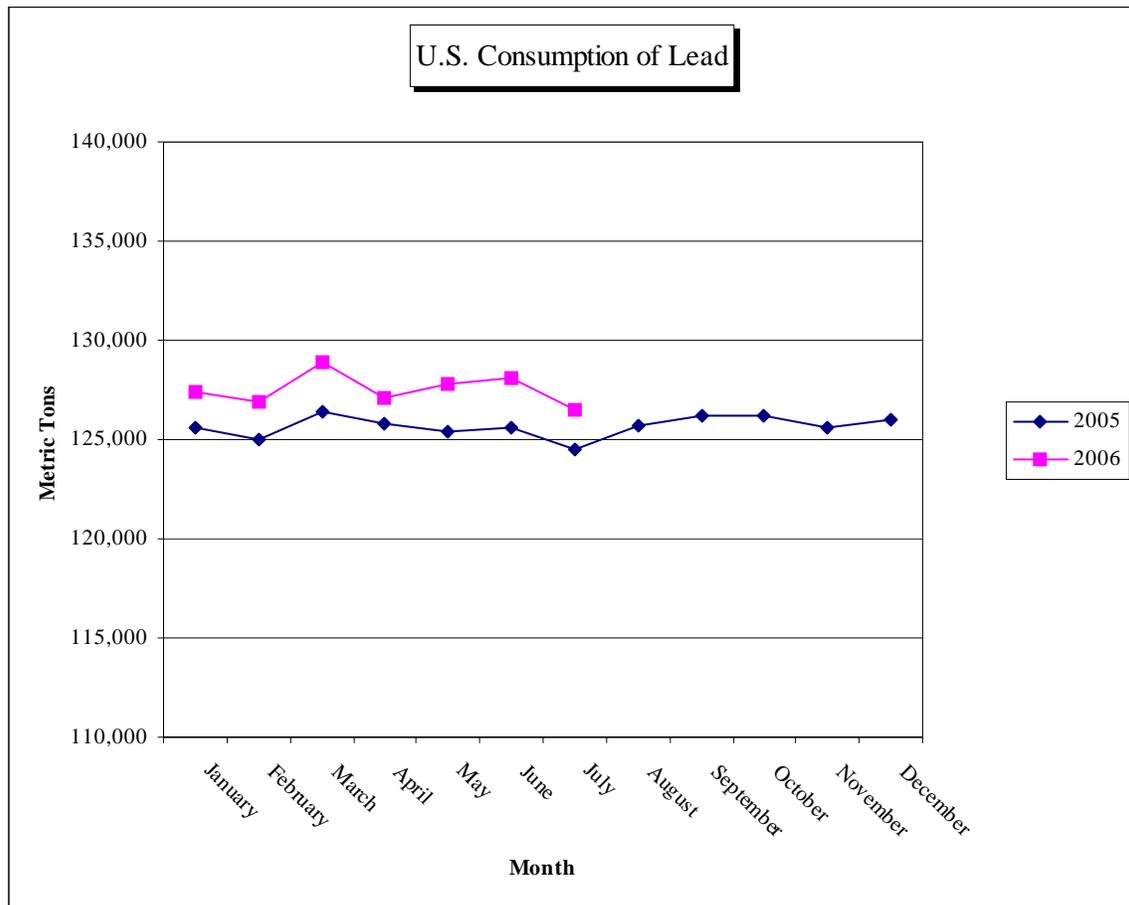


TABLE 6  
CONSUMER AND SECONDARY SMELTER STOCKS, RECEIPTS, AND CONSUMPTION  
OF LEAD<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, lead content)

Type of material	Stocks		Consumption	Stocks
	June 30, 2006	Net receipts		July 31, 2006
Soft lead	34,500	68,600	69,300	33,700
Antimonial lead	8,840	26,800	26,300	9,390
Lead alloys	W	W	W	W
Copper-base scrap	W	W	W	W
Total	60,100 <sup>r</sup>	122,000	123,000	59,800

<sup>r</sup>Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

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

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF LEAD, BY CLASS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2005		2006		
	June	Year	May	June	January - June
	Lead content:				
Ore and concentrates	4,440	390,000	19,300	5,360	66,400
Bullion	12	198	23	24	153
Materials excluding scrap	3,220	64,600	7,430	4,590	38,500
TEL/TML preparations, based on lead compounds	140	1,270	1,540	681	3,240
Total	7,810	456,000	28,300	10,700	108,000
Gross weight: Scrap	6,400	67,300	7,990	10,400	45,600

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8  
U.S. IMPORTS OF LEAD BY TYPE OF MATERIALS AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, lead content)

Country of origin	General imports					Imports for consumption				
	2005		2006			2005		2006		
	Year	January - June	May	June	January - June	Year	January - June	May	June	January - June
Base bullion:										
Canada	18	--	--	249	249	18	--	--	249	249
Other	10	10	--	--	--	10	10	--	--	--
Total	29	10	--	249	249	29	10	--	249	249
Pigs and bars:										
Australia	19,300	18,800	--	--	478	39,600	18,800	--	--	478
Canada	190,000	101,000	19,800	15,000	119,000	190,000	101,000	19,800	15,000	119,000
Mexico	15,200	3,990	1,210	1,710	6,630	15,200	3,990	1,210	1,710	6,630
Peru	23,900	7,440	3,760	1,660	16,300	23,900	7,440	3,760	1,660	16,300
Other	28,300	9,180	9,900	1,450	37,500	29,000	9,180	9,900	1,450	37,500
Total	277,000	140,000	34,700	19,800	180,000	298,000	140,000	34,700	19,800	180,000
Grand total	277,000	140,000	34,700	20,000	180,000	298,000	140,000	34,700	20,000	180,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.