BAUXITE AND ALUMINA[1]

(Data in thousand metric dry tons unless otherwise specified)

Domestic Production and Use: In 2025, a limited amount of bauxite and bauxitic clay was produced for nonmetallurgical use in Alabama, Arkansas, and Georgia. Production statistics were withheld for bauxite and estimated for alumina to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. In 2025, the reported quantity of bauxite consumed was estimated to be 1.7 million tons, 4% more than that reported in 2024, with an estimated value of $54 million. An estimated 63% of the bauxite consumed was refined by the Bayer process for alumina or aluminum hydroxide, and the remainder went to products such as abrasives, cement, chemicals, proppants, and refractories, and as a slag adjuster in steel mills. Alumina production was estimated to be 710,000 tons, slightly more than that in 2024. About 70% of the alumina produced went to primary aluminum smelters, and the remainder went to nonmetallurgical products, such as abrasives, ceramics, chemicals, and refractories.

Salient Statistics—United States:	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025[e]**
Bauxite:					
Production, mine	W	W	W	W	W
Imports for consumption[2]	3,880	3,630	3,160	2,920	3,000
Exports[2]	13	10	14	18	74
Stocks, industry, yearend[e, 2]	200	200	240	250	240
Consumption:					
Apparent[3]	W	W	W	W	W
Reported	2,790	2,170	2,050	1,640	1,700
Price, average unit value of imports, free alongside ship (f.a.s.), dollars per metric ton	31	32	31	31	32
Net import reliance[4] as a percentage of apparent consumption	>75	>75	>75	>75	>75
Alumina:					
Production, refinery[e, 5]	1,000	920	850	700	710
Imports for consumption[5]	1,550	1,880	1,360	1,340	1,900
Exports[5]	180	174	139	145	130
Stocks, industry, yearend[5]	202	194	190	184	200
Consumption, apparent[3]	2,410	2,640	2,080	1,900	2,500
Price, average unit value of imports, f.a.s., dollars per metric ton	462	518	481	580	590
Net import reliance[4] as a percentage of apparent consumption	58	65	59	63	71

Recycling: None.

Import Sources (2021–24): Bauxite:[2] Jamaica, 60%; Turkey, 16%; Guyana, 9%; Australia, 8%; and other, 7%. Alumina:[5] Brazil, 71%; Jamaica, 7%; Australia, 6%; Canada, 5%; and other, 11%.

Tariff: Item	**Number**	**Normal Trade Relations 12–31–25**
Bauxite, calcined (refractory grade)	2606.00.0030	Free.
Bauxite, calcined (other)	2606.00.0060	Free.
Bauxite, crude dry (metallurgical grade)	2606.00.0090	Free.
Aluminum oxide (alumina)	2818.20.0000	Free.
Aluminum hydroxide	2818.30.0000	Free.

Depletion Allowance: 22% (domestic), 14% (foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

Events, Trends, and Issues: In 2025, one domestic alumina refinery produced alumina from imported bauxite. A 1.2-million-ton-per-year alumina refinery in Gramercy, LA, produced alumina for aluminum smelting and specialty-grade alumina. A 500,000-ton-per-year alumina refinery in Burnside, LA, was temporarily shut down in August 2020 and remained idle in 2025. No plans were announced regarding its reopening. The average prices, f.a.s., for U.S. imports for consumption of crude dry bauxite and metallurgical-grade alumina during the first 8 months of 2025 were $31 per ton and $595 per ton, respectively, 4% and 9% more than those in the same period in 2024.

In January, an Austrian multinational aluminum refractories producer acquired full control of a United States manufacturer of monolithic alumina refractories serving the aluminum, cement, petrochemical, and steel industries. In April, a 1-million-ton-per-year alumina refinery in Mempawah, Indonesia, shipped its first alumina to an aluminum smelter in North Sumatra, Indonesia. The additional capacity may support an increase in bauxite production, which

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declined sharply following Indonesia's 2023 ban on bauxite exports. Mining began in June within expanded boundaries at a bauxite mine near Boddington, Australia, to supply feedstock to a 4.7-million-ton-per-year alumina refinery near Collie, Australia. In August, the Guinean Government, following a dispute over the construction of an alumina refinery, revoked bauxite mining licenses from a subsidiary of a United Arab Emirates-based aluminum producer and reallocated the concessions to a state-backed mining company.

World Alumina Refinery and Bauxite Mine Production and Bauxite Reserves: Significant revisions were made to the 2024 production of alumina for Germany and of bauxite for Greece and Indonesia based on company and Government reports. Reserves for Australia, Brazil, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, and Russia were revised based on company and Government reports.

	Alumina production[5]		Bauxite production		Bauxite reserves[6]
	2024	2025[e]	2024	2025[e]	
United States	[e]700	710	W	W	20,000
Australia	17,100	17,000	100,000	97,000	[7]3,700,000
Brazil	[e]10,600	11,000	[e]33,000	33,000	1,700,000
Canada	1,460	1,500	—	—	—
China	85,500	93,000	[e]80,500	87,000	710,000
Germany	[e]450	460	—	—	—
Greece	865	850	[e]970	960	—
Guinea	351	360	142,000	150,000	7,400,000
India	[e]8,000	8,200	25,000	25,000	650,000
Indonesia	[e]1,200	1,500	[e]9,900	10,000	2,900,000
Ireland	1,720	1,700	—	—	—
Jamaica	1,480	1,500	5,890	6,200	2,000,000
Kazakhstan	[e]1,400	1,500	4,780	4,800	160,000
Russia	2,840	2,900	5,470	5,700	650,000
Saudi Arabia	1,870	1,900	[e]5,500	5,700	180,000
Spain	[e]800	810	—	—	—
Turkey	[e]300	310	3,660	3,800	69,000
United Arab Emirates	2,540	2,300	—	—	—
Vietnam	1,410	1,500	[e]3,710	3,800	3,100,000
Other countries	1,260	1,300	7,780	8,000	5,300,000
World total (rounded)	142,000	150,000	[8]428,000	[8]440,000	29,000,000

World Resources:[6] Bauxite resources are estimated to range from 55 billion to 75 billion tons, distributed in Africa (32%), Oceania (23%), South America and the Caribbean (21%), Asia (18%), and elsewhere (6%). Domestic resources of bauxite are inadequate to meet long-term U.S. demand, but the United States and most other major aluminum-producing countries have essentially inexhaustible subeconomic resources of aluminum in materials other than bauxite.

Substitutes: Bauxite is the only raw material used in the production of alumina on a commercial scale in the United States. Although currently not economically competitive with bauxite, vast resources of clay are technically feasible sources of alumina. Other raw materials, such as alunite, anorthosite, coal wastes, and oil shales, offer additional potential alumina sources. Synthetic mullite, produced from kaolin, bauxitic kaolin, kyanite, and sillimanite, substitutes for bauxite-based refractories. Silicon carbide and alumina zirconia can substitute for alumina and bauxite in abrasives but cost more.

[e]Estimated. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. — Zero.

[1]See also the Aluminum chapter. As a general rule, 4 tons of dried bauxite is required to produce 2 tons of alumina, which, in turn, can be used to produce 1 ton of aluminum.

[2]Includes all forms of bauxite, expressed as dry equivalent weights.

[3]Defined as production + imports – exports ± adjustments for industry stock changes.

[4]Defined as imports – exports ± adjustments for industry stock changes.

[5]Calcined equivalent weights.

[6]See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.

[7]For Australia, Joint Ore Reserves Committee-compliant or equivalent reserves were 1.7 billion tons.

[8]Excludes U.S. production.