



## Copper: Release of Yearbook 2005

The International Copper Study Group released its 2005 Yearbook covering world copper supply and demand data for a 10-year period (1995 – 2004).

According to ICSG data, world mine production rose by 44% during the 10-year period, from 10.1 million metric tonnes (Mt) in 1995 to 14.5 Mt in 2004. Copper in concentrates rose by 31% while SX-EW production rose by 150%. The most notable changes in mine production occurred in Chile, where its share of world production rose to 37% in 2004 from 25% in 1995, and in the United States, where its share decreased to 8% from 19%. Also notable was the revival of production in Zambia and Congo, the entry of Argentina as a significant producer, and the significant growth of production from expansions and new projects in Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru.

World refined production rose by 33% over the 10-year period to 15.8 Mt from 11.8 Mt. Primary production increased by 42% while secondary production declined by 6%. The share of secondary production in total refined production decreased to 14% from 22%. Chile's and China's production nearly doubled to 2.9 Mt and 2.04 Mt, respectively, and their shares of total refined production rose to 18% (+5%) and 13% (+4%), respectively. U.S. production declined by about 1Mt with its production share fell to 8% (-11%). South Korea nearly doubled its production over this 10-year period to 500,000 metric tonnes (t), and India, which experienced a nearly 10-fold increase in production, became a major producer of refined copper. Significant increases also occurred in Australia, Kazakhstan, Peru and Russia. Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand became new producers of refined copper.

Refined copper usage increased by 37% during the 10-year period. In 2002, China became the leading world copper consumer, its usage increasing by more than 2 Mt (+181%) and its share of total world usage increasing to 19% in 2004 from only 9% in 1995. U.S. and Japanese usage fell by 5% and 9%, respectively, and their world share decreased to 15% (-6%) and 8% (-4%), respectively. Russian use increased by about 400,000 t (238%) and India, Indonesia and Mexico doubled their usage. The EU-15 increased usage by 14%.

Total world copper stocks gradually increased from 943,000 t in 1995 to a peak of 2.084 Mt in 2002. Stocks began to decline in 2003, and by yearend 2004 had fallen by more than 1 Mt to only 923,000 t.

This ICSG 2005 Yearbook is part of the ICSG monthly Bulletin subscription and is also available for sale separately. Please contact the ICSG Secretariat.

### World Refined Copper Usage and Supply Trends, 1995-2004

Thousand metric tonnes, copper

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
										p/
World Mine Production	10,095	11,107	11,537	12,250	12,787	13,211	13,626	13,579	13,676	14,529
World Mine Capacity	11,256	11,913	12,346	13,059	13,760	14,201	14,443	15,097	15,227	15,821
Mine Capacity Utilization (%)	89.7	93.2	93.4	93.8	92.9	93.0	94.3	89.9	89.8	91.8
Primary Refined Production	9,737	10,677	11,375	12,012	12,443	12,635	13,718	13,422	13,460	13,802
Secondary Refined Production	2,095	2,000	2,103	2,055	2,103	2,125	1,862	1,846	1,774	1,967
Refined Production (Secondary+Primary)	11,832	12,677	13,478	14,067	14,545	14,760	15,580	15,268	15,234	15,769
World Refinery Capacity	13,476	14,246	15,499	16,123	16,946	17,046	17,719	18,325	18,841	19,337
Refineries Capacity Utilization (%)	87.8	89.0	87.0	87.3	85.8	86.6	87.9	83.3	80.9	81.5
World Refined Usage 1/	12,059	12,637	13,092	13,468	14,278	15,130	14,896	15,160	15,644	16,529
Four Weeks of World Refined Usage	928	972	1,007	1,036	1,098	1,164	1,146	1,166	1,203	1,271
Refined Stocks End of Period	943	817	1,189	1,509	1,634	1,291	1,992	2,048	1,780	923
Period Stock Change	2	-126	373	319	126	-344	702	55	-267	-857
Refined Balance 2/	-227	40	386	600	267	-370	684	108	-409	-760
LME Copper Price 3/	2,930	2,294	2,276	1,653	1,574	1,814	1,578	1,558	1,780	2,868

Due to the nature of statistical reporting, the published data should be considered as preliminary since some figures are currently based on estimates and could change.

1/ Based on EU apparent usage

2/ Surplus or deficit is calculated using total refined production minus refined usage

3/ Seasonally adjusted for the months