Bismuth

Metals

A heavy, low-melting metal recovered mostly as a by-product of processing lead, tungsten and zinc ores and used in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, alloys and as a replacement for lead.

Key facts

World production, 2025
16,280 tonnes

Top producer
China, 86%

Top exporter, bismuth of more than 99.99% purity, including waste and scrap (HS 810610), 2024
China, 52% of export value

HS code
810610 Bismuth, more than 99.99% bismuth, including waste and scrap

USGS MCS item
Refinery production Refinery production (refined bismuth)

Also called
Bi, bismuth metal

Top producers, 2025

Country	Tonnes	Share
China	14,000	86%
South Korea	1,000	6.1%
Japan	500	3.1%
Laos	500	3.1%

Country	Tonnes	Share
Kazakhstan	180	1.1%

USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries, MCS 2026.

Top exporters, 2024

Country	Export value	Share
China	26.8 million USD	52%
South Korea	9.6 million USD	19%
United States	4.1 million USD	8%
Netherlands	3.7 million USD	7.1%
Belgium	1.8 million USD	3.5%

CEPII BACI international trade database (HS22, V202601).

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