Copper

Metals

A conductive red metal mined as ore, concentrated, smelted and refined into cathode for wiring, motors and pipes.

Key facts

World production, 2025
23 million tonnes

Top producer
Chile, 23%

Top exporter, copper ores and concentrates (HS 2603), 2024
Chile, 29% of export value

Benchmark price, September 2026
$14,474/t
LME cash, grade A cathode; +45% over 12 months

Where it's traded
London Metal Exchange LME Copper (CA); COMEX (CME Group) Copper (HG)

HS code
2603 Copper ores and concentrates

USGS MCS item
Mine production Mine production (copper content)

Also called
copper ore, copper concentrate, refined copper, copper cathode, Cu

Top producers, 2025

Country	Tonnes	Share
Chile	5.3 million	23%
DR Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo)	3.2 million	14%

Country	Tonnes	Share
Peru	2.7 million	12%
China	1.8 million	7.8%
Russia	1.3 million	5.7%

USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries, MCS 2026.

Top exporters, 2024

Country	Export value	Share
Chile	31 billion USD	29%
Peru	20.5 billion USD	19%
Indonesia	8.4 billion USD	8%
Australia	4.6 billion USD	4.3%
Brazil	4.2 billion USD	3.9%

CEPII BACI international trade database (HS22, V202601).

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