

UNITED STATES AND ARIZONA LEAD STATISTICS FOR 1955 AND FIRST QUARTER, 1956

Their Relation To The Favorable Conditions of 1949-1951

Compiled By Arizona Department of Mineral Resources From U.S.B.M. Reports

Output of recoverable lead during the period 1949-1951, when the U. S. lead industry was enjoying good conditions, amounted to 34,136 tons monthly, which was 36.4% of the monthly domestic consumption of 93,901 tons. To have attained this favorable figure of 36.4% of the 100,475 tons of monthly domestic consumption in 1955 and 100,800 tons in the first quarter of 1956, U. S. mines would have had to produce 36,573 tons monthly in 1955 and 36,691 tons monthly in the first quarter of 1956. Actually they produced only 27,786 tons and 28,444 tons respectively in those periods. A total of over 80 lead mines producing 100 tons of lead monthly could have re-opened and restored the U. S. lead industry to its favorable conditions of former years.

The Government stockpiling policy, while it has improved lead prices, has at the same time encouraged importation of lead from foreign low-cost producers. A more favorable effect would have resulted if the recommendation of the Tariff Commission for a moderate increase in the lead tariff had been adopted.

Arizona's output of recoverable lead during the favorable period of 1949-1951 amounted to 2,148 tons monthly. In 1955, the monthly output was only 788 tons, and for the first quarter of 1956, it was 1,029 tons. To have attained the favorable figure of 36.4% of domestic consumption, Arizona mines would have had to produce 1,036 tons monthly in 1955, and 1,328 tons monthly in the first quarter of 1956. This would have permitted the re-opening of at least a half-dozen mines capable of producing 50 tons of lead per month.

The domestic market experienced only two price changes in 1955, an advance from 15¢ to 15½¢ on Sept. 26 and another from 15½¢ to 16¢ on Dec. 29th. The 16 cent price has been in effect since the first of this year.

SALIENT STATISTICS OF THE LEAD INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES

For Years 1949-51, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 (Preliminary), and 1st Quarter 1956

Source: U.S.B.M.

Unit - Short Tons.

PERIOD	SUPPLY				DISTRIBUTION		
	TOTAL	RECOVER- ABLE MINE PRO- DUCTION	RECOVER- ABLE SECONDARY	IMPORTS 1/	TOTAL	CONSUMP- TION 2/	EX- PORTS
1949-1951:	3,828,221	1,228,899	1,412,568	1,186,754	3,386,700	3,380,448	6,252
Avg. Yrly.	1,276,074	409,633	470,856	395,585	1,128,900	1,126,816	2,084
Avg. Mo'ly.	106,339	34,136	39,238	32,965	94,075	93,901	174
1952	1,484,193	390,162	471,294	622,737	1,133,470	1,130,795	2,675
1953	1,372,853	341,804	486,787	544,262	1,203,206	1,201,604	1,602
1954	1,241,676	325,427	480,925	435,324	1,095,467	1,094,871	596
1955 (Pre.)	1,266,201	333,428	500,000	432,773	1,206,103	1,205,700	403
1956: Jan.	105,241	26,526	33,500	45,215	107,915	107,800	115
Feb.	98,631	27,754	37,900	32,977	98,467	98,000	467
Mar.	97,180	31,164	37,100	28,916	97,680	96,600	1,080
1st Qtr.	301,052	85,444	108,500	107,108	304,062	302,400	1,662
Yearly Rate	1,204,208	341,776	434,000	428,432	1,216,248	1,209,600	6,648

1/ Factored to include 95% of the lead content of ores, mattes and concentrates, 100% of pigs, bars etc.

2/ Includes primary and secondary metal.

UNITED STATES MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE LEAD AND IT'S RELATION TO DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

Monthly Averages For Years 1949-51, '52, '53, '54,
1955 (Preliminary) and 1st Quarter 1956

Source: U. S. B. M.

Unit- Short Tons

	Mine Prod.Avg. Monthly	Reported Consumption Avg.Monthly	Mine Prod. % of Cons.	Imports Avg. Monthly	Exports Avg. Monthly	Avg.E&MJ Price in Cts/lb./
1949-50-51	34,136	93,901	36.4%	32,965	174	15,387
1952	32,514	94,233	34.5%	51,895	223	16,467
1953	28,484	100,134	28.4%	45,355	134	13,489
1954	27,119	91,239	29.7%	36,277	50	14,054
1955 (Pre.)	27,786	100,475	27.7%	36,064	34	15,138
1956 - Jan.	26,526	107,800	24.6%	45,215	115	16,151
Feb.	27,754	98,000	28.3%	32,977	467	16,000
Mar.	31,051	96,600	32.1%	28,916	1,080	16,000
kst Qtr.	28,444	100,800	28.2%	35,703	554	16,050

LEAD STATISTICS FOR 1955 AND FIRST QUARTER 1956

U. S. AND ARIZONA MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE LEAD

Source: U. S. B. M.

Unit - Short Tons

	Year 1955 p	January 1956	February 1956	March 1956
Stocks at Smelters & Refineries at beginning of period.	201,850	150,822	149,587	158,981
U. S. Mine Production Recoverable Lead.	333,428	26,526	27,754	31,051
Secondary lead recovered from old and new scrap.	500,000	33,450	37,894	37,047
Imported lead in ores and matte.	177,499	19,394	11,235	10,900
Imported lead in pigs, bars and bullion.	264,149	24,555	20,416	16,053
Imported lead in reclaimed, scrap, etc.	20,484	2,236	1,888	2,500
TOTAL SUPPLY	1,497,410	256,983	248,774	256,645
Stocks at Smelters & Refineries at end of period.	150,822	149,587	158,981	170,319
Exported lead (pigs, bars & anodes)	403	100	467	1,080
Sub-Total	151,225	149,687	159,448	171,399
NET APPARENT CONSUMPTION	1,346,185	107,296	89,326	85,246
REPORTED CONSUMPTION	1,205,700	107,800	98,000	96,600
UNACCOUNTED FOR (Stockpiles, etc.)	140,485	-	-	-
U. S. MINE PRODUCTION	333,428	26,526	27,754	31,051
ARIZONA MINE PRODUCTION	9,450	959	1,004	1,125
ARIZONA % OF U. S. PRODUCTION	2.83%	3.24%	3.62%	3.62%