



Local Bauxite/Alumina Monthly Statistical Bulletin

Release Date: March 31, 2026

Prepared by: Economics Division, JBI

FEBRUARY 2026

BAUXITE/ALUMINA INDUSTRY

Y-o-Y (kt)			Feb-26	Feb-25
Production				
Total Bauxite	↓	20.3%	426	538
Crude Bauxite	↓	27.9%	133	184
Alumina	↓	22.7%	94	122
Exports				
Total Bx. Disposed	↓	58.7%	243	589
Crude Bauxite	↓	40.3%	123	206
Alumina	↓	71.8%	38	135
Capacity Utilization (%)				
ACU (%)	↓	22.8%	33.1	42.9
Y-T-D (kt)			2026	2025
Production				
Total Bauxite	↓	27.0%	797	1,093
Crude Bauxite	↓	35.8%	246	384
Alumina	↓	29.0%	178	250
Exports				
Total Bx. Disposed	↓	33.3%	682	1,022
Crude Bauxite	↓	34.6%	237	362
Alumina	↓	37.8%	145	233
Capacity Utilization (%)				
ACU (%)	↓	28.9%	29.7%	41.8%

Production

In February 2026, **total bauxite⁽¹⁾ production** fell sharply by 20.3% year-over-year (YoY) to ~426 kt, reflecting significantly weaker alumina output alongside lower crude bauxite production amid persistent post-Hurricane Melissa disruptions. For year-to-date (YTD) 2026, total bauxite production reached ~797 kt, representing a 27.0% downturn when compared to the identical period of 2025.

Crude bauxite⁽²⁾ production totalled ~133 kt in February and was 27.9% lower YoY than the ~184 kt produced in February 2025. Output improved month-over-month, reflecting gradual recovery following hurricane-related disruptions, though production remained well below historical norms. Despite recent gains, YTD crude bauxite production declined 35.8% YoY to ~246 kt, underscoring that operating capacity has yet to fully rebound.

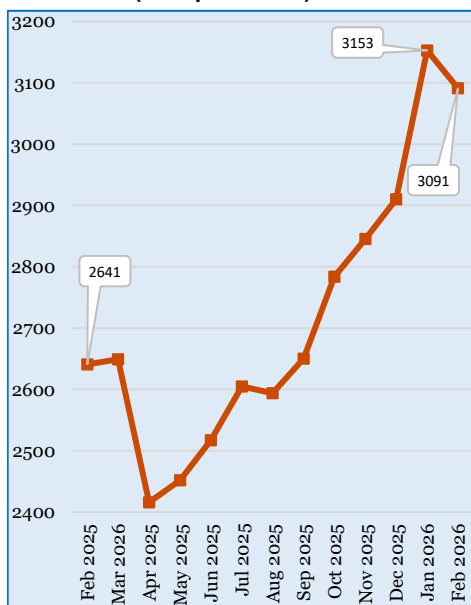
Smelter-grade alumina⁽³⁾ output amounted to ~94 kt in February, down 22.7% YoY, as both refineries operated below pre-Hurricane Melissa capacity, reducing YTD production by 29.0% to ~178 kt.

For February 2026, the alumina refineries operated at an **average capacity utilization⁽⁴⁾** rate of 33.1%, down from 42.9% when compared to the corresponding period of 2025.

Exports

Total bauxite disposed of, which includes both crude bauxite exports and bauxite refined into alumina before being shipped, declined by 58.7% YoY to ~243 kt in February. The weaker outturn reflected lower shipments of both commodities (alumina exports down 71.8% to ~38 kt; crude bauxite shipments down 40.3% to ~123 kt with no third-party sales), amid constrained refinery output and shipping schedules. During the reporting period, Europe was the dominant market for exports as 83% of the alumina shipped was consigned to that region.

LME ALUMINIUM 3-M PRICE (US\$ per tonne)



Contact Us

Jamaica Bauxite Institute

Hope Gardens
Kingston 6
(876)-927-2070-3
info@jbi.org.jm

Next Release date: April 30, 2026

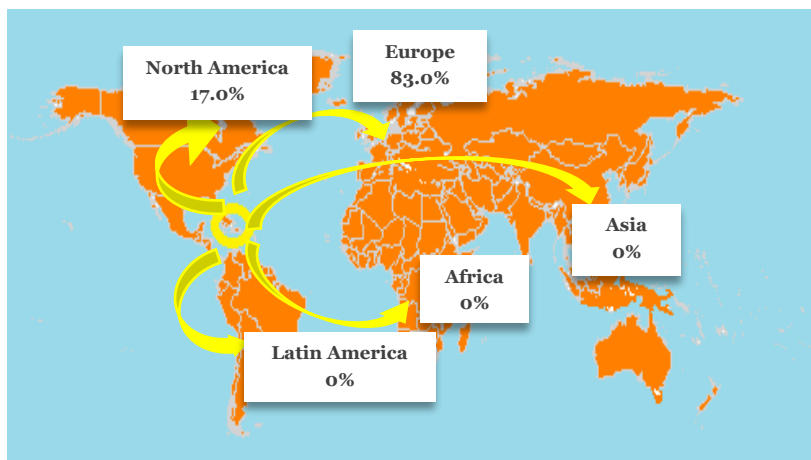


Figure 1: Jamaica's Alumina Export Volumes to Regional Markets in February 2026

Aluminium Prices

The **London Metal Exchange (LME) aluminium 3-month price** fell in February after January highs, marking the first monthly average decline in several months. Early price weakness arose from a stronger US dollar, Chinese holiday-related demand softness and tariff uncertainty. Meanwhile, late-month geopolitical tensions, supply disruptions and tight physical availability gave some fillip to prices. During the coverage period (February 2026), the contract price averaged US\$3,090/mt, decreasing by 2.0% (US\$63/mt) compared to January 2026, but was up by 17.0% (US\$450/mt) YoY.

Crude Oil Prices

Average crude benchmarks (Brent, OPEC, WTI) extended their recovery in February. Oil prices increased as escalating US–Iran tensions raised fears of disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz, a chokepoint for roughly a quarter of seaborne supply. Uncertainty over tanker security, reinforced by past Houthi attacks, amplified risk premiums.

In February, the OPEC basket averaged US\$67.90/bbl, up by 9.0% month-over-month but down by 11.6% YoY. Brent crude traded at US\$71.09/bbl, increasing by 6.5% from January's average. It declined by 5.4% with respect to the corresponding period a year ago. Meanwhile, at US\$64.42/bbl, the WTI benchmark was up by 6.9% compared to the preceding month but fell by 9.5% vis-a-vis February 2025.

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects Brent crude to remain above US\$95/bbl through May 2026, supported by Middle East disruptions and restricted flows through the Strait of Hormuz. Prices are projected to average ~US\$91/bbl in Q2 before easing as supply conditions normalize. Over the medium term, supply growth is expected to exceed demand, driving inventory builds of ~1.9 mb/d in 2026 and weighing on prices. Brent is forecast to average US\$79/bbl in 2026, declining to ~US\$70/bbl by year-end and US\$64/bbl in 2027. The outlook, however, remains highly uncertain and dependent on the duration of the conflict and related supply disruptions.

NOTES:

- (1) Crude Bauxite = Bauxite mined for export
- (2) Total Bauxite = Crude bauxite + bauxite converted to alumina
- (3) Smelter-grade alumina = High-purity form of alumina used to produce aluminium
- (4) Average Capacity Utilization = Percentage of total production capacity that was used

APPENDIX:

BAUXITE/ALUMINA PRODUCTION & EXPORT STATISTICS - FEBRUARY 2026						
PERIOD	PRODUCTION			SALES		
	ALUMINA	CRUDE BAUXITE	TOTAL BAUXITE**	ALUMINA	CRUDE BAUXITE	TOTAL BAUXITE
<u>MONTH</u>						
2026	93,957	132,994	425,719	38,095	122,957	243,190
2025	121,579	184,455	533,797	135,256	205,911	589,417
% Chg 2026/25	-22.72	-27.90	-20.25	-71.83	-40.29	-58.74
2024	122,813	148,469	504,602	133,731	144,752	532,317
% Chg 2025/24	-1.00	24.24	5.79	1.14	42.25	10.73
<u>Y-T-D</u>						
2026	177,552	246,173	797,289	145,070	236,514	681,843
2025	249,974	383,535	1,092,578	233,356	361,549	1,021,810
% Chg 2026/25	-28.97	-35.81	-27.03	-37.83	-34.58	-33.27
2024	259,669	314,373	1,046,037	247,457	325,967	1,023,479
% Chg 2025/24	-3.73	22.00	4.45	-5.70	10.92	-0.16