Jamaica Bauxite Institute

Local Bauxite/Alumina Monthly Statistical Bulletin

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Prepared by: Economics Division, JBI

BAUXITE/ALUMINA INDUSTRY				
Y-o-Y (kt)			**Jul-26**	**Jul-25**
Production				
Total Bauxite	⇩	22.5%	363	469
Crude Bauxite	⇩	55.7%	66	148
Alumina	⇩	18.1%	97	118
Exports				
Total Bx. Disposed	⇩	3.5%	473	490
Crude Bauxite	⇩	54.8%	53	117
Alumina	⇧	0.9%	137	136
Capacity Utilization (%)				
ACU (%)	⇩	18.0%	30.9	37.7
Y-T-D (kt)			**2026**	**2025**
Production				
Total Bauxite	⇩	19.5%	2,971	3,689
Crude Bauxite	⇩	16.0%	995	1,185
Alumina	⇩	28.8%	616	866
Exports				
Total Bx. Disposed	⇩	13.0%	3,237	3,720
Crude Bauxite	⇩	17.6%	941	1,142
Alumina	⇩	18.5%	725	890
Capacity Utilization (%)				
ACU (%)	⇩	28.8%	28.7%	40.3%

JULY 2026

Production

In July 2026, **total bauxite(1) production** fell by 22.5% year-on-year (YoY) to ~363 kt, reflecting weaker output from both the crude bauxite and alumina segments. For year-to-date (YTD) 2026, total bauxite output aggregated to ~2.97 million tonnes, representing a 19.5% decrease compared with the corresponding period of 2025.

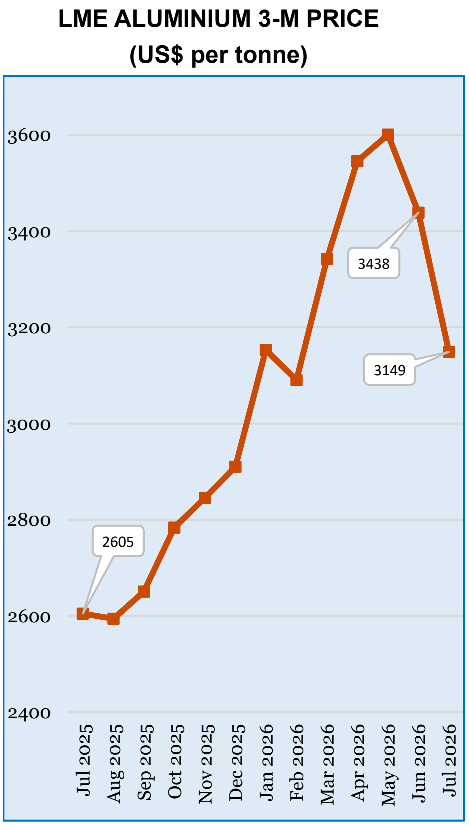
Crude bauxite(2) production totalled ~66 kt in July, down 55.7% YoY from ~148 kt produced in July 2025. The downturn reflects the continued impact of operational challenges on mining activity. YTD output amounted to ~995 kt (-16.0% YoY), although recent trends suggest that mining activity is gradually stabilizing.

Smelter-grade alumina(3) output amounted to **~97 kt** in July, a decline of **18.1% YoY**. While production improved relative to June, refinery operations continued to face constraints that limited a full recovery in output. For the first seven months of 2026, production amassed to ~616 kt, representing a 28.8% decline compared with the identical period of 2025.

For July 2026, the alumina refineries operated at an **average capacity utilization(4)** rate of 30.9%, down from 37.7% 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 3.5% YoY to ~473 kt in July. The outturn was primarily attributable to a sharp fall in crude bauxite exports (-54.8% to ~53 kt) due to lower uptake from the Gramercy refinery and the absence of third-party shipments, despite a modest increase in alumina exports (+0.9% to ~137 kt). During the reporting period, Europe was the dominant market for exports as 69% of the alumina shipped was consigned to that region.



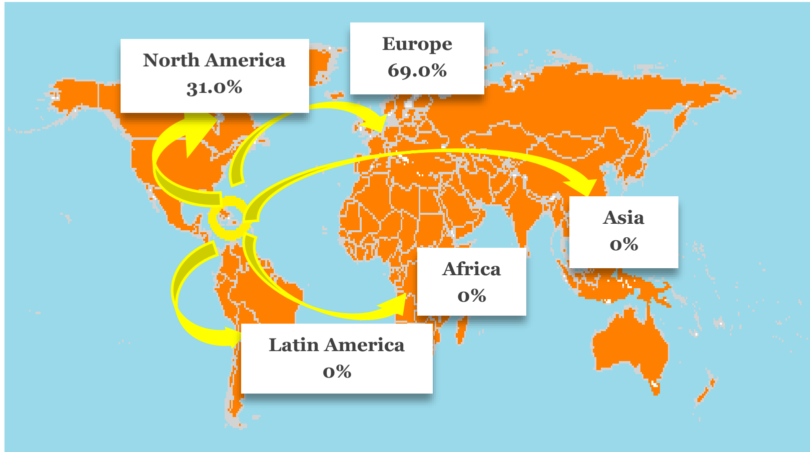


Figure 1: Jamaica's Alumina Export Volumes to Regional Markets in July 2026

Aluminium Prices

The **London Metal Exchange (LME) aluminium 3-month price** remained subdued in July as expectations of rising global supply, supported by smelter restarts, capacity expansions in Asia, and strong Chinese output, continued to weigh on market sentiment. However, historically low inventory levels and ongoing supply disruptions provided some support. At the same time, weaker seasonal demand and softer regional premiums signalled that market tightness was gradually easing. During the coverage period (July 2026), the contract price averaged US$3,149/mt, decreasing by 8.4% (US$289/mt) compared to June 2026, but was up by 20.9% (US$544/mt) YoY.

Crude Oil Prices

Average crude benchmarks (Brent, OPEC, WTI) remained highly volatile in July as shifting geopolitical developments alternately eased and intensified supply concerns. Prices fell early in the month following a temporary U.S.-Iran agreement that partially restored tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, but rebounded sharply after the deal collapsed, renewed attacks disrupted regional shipping, and threats emerged against key Saudi export routes. Despite tighter supply conditions, prices averaged lower over the month as expectations of a renewed diplomatic breakthrough helped contain risk premiums and temper market sentiment.

In July, the OPEC basket averaged US$82.99/bbl, down by 7.5% month-over-month but up by 16.9% YoY. Brent crude traded at US$83.39/bbl, decreasing by 2.1% from June's average. It rose by 17.5% with respect to the corresponding period a year ago. Meanwhile, at US$78.97/bbl, the WTI benchmark was down by 3.3% compared to the preceding month and expanded by 17.2%vis-a-vis July 2025.

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects oil prices to remain elevated in the near term as ongoing supply disruptions and inventory drawdowns continue to tighten global market conditions. Brent crude is forecast to average US$85/bbl in Q3 2026, before easing to US$78/bbl in Q4 as transit through the Strait of Hormuz improves and shut-in production gradually returns. Looking ahead to 2027, continued recovery in global oil supply and rebuilding inventories are expected to place further downward pressure on prices, with Brent projected to average US$69/bbl for the year.

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Next Release date: September 30, 2026

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 - JULY 2026						
PERIOD	PRODUCTION			SALES		
	ALUMINA	CRUDE BAUXITE	TOTAL BAUXITE**	ALUMINA	CRUDE BAUXITE	TOTAL BAUXITE
MONTH						
2026	96,940	65,717	363,407	137,496	52,761	473,176
2025	118,288	148,475	468,956	136,312	116,596	490,393
% Chg 2026/25	-18.05	-55.74	-22.51	0.87	-54.75	-3.51
2024	100,012	153,607	448,848	104,966	142,696	453,340
% Chg 2025/24	18.27	-3.34	4.48	29.86	-18.29	8.17
Y-T-D						
2026	615,933	994,817	2,971,268	725,176	940,975	3,236,708
2025	865,550	1,184,642	3,688,684	889,745	1,141,517	3,719,949
% Chg 2026/25	-28.84	-16.02	-19.45	-18.50	-17.57	-12.99
2024	878,032	1,080,424	3,590,670	885,512	1,108,392	3,640,422
% Chg 2025/24	-1.42	9.65	2.73	0.48	2.99	2.18