

National

Cable Specialists

Raw Materials Update April 2025

COPPER - Price of Copper: What's Next After Peak?

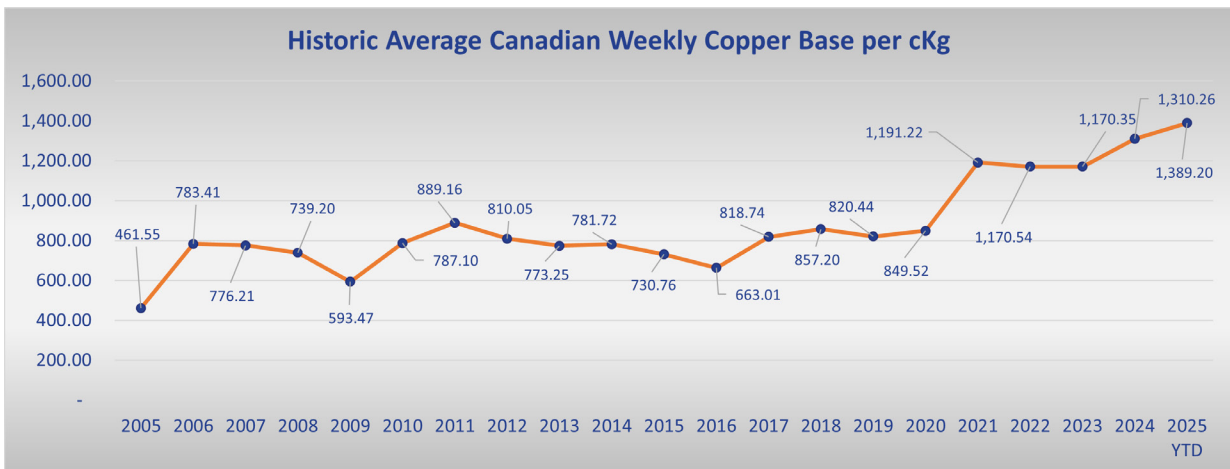
Copper prices spiked in early 2025 on tariff fears but lost momentum as exemptions were announced, leaving the market volatile and uncertain. [Click here to read more](#)



Below is a graph that shows monthly copper averages since April 2025:



Below is a graph that shows copper annual averages on an annual basis over the past 20 years:

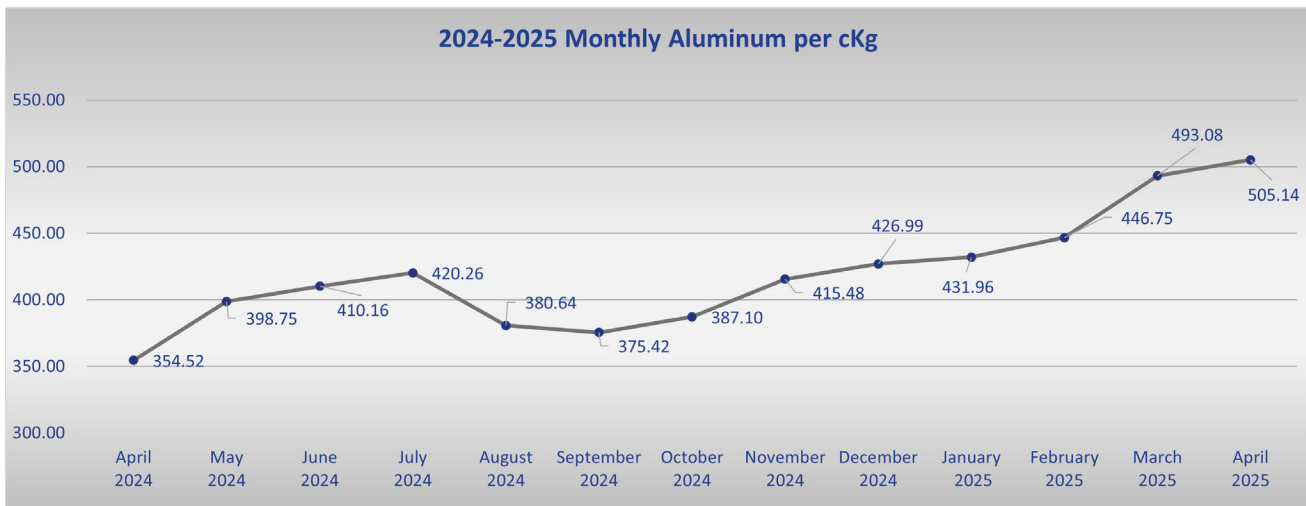


ALUMINUM - Alcoa expects \$90 million tariff hit in second quarter, sees duties on China raising annual costs

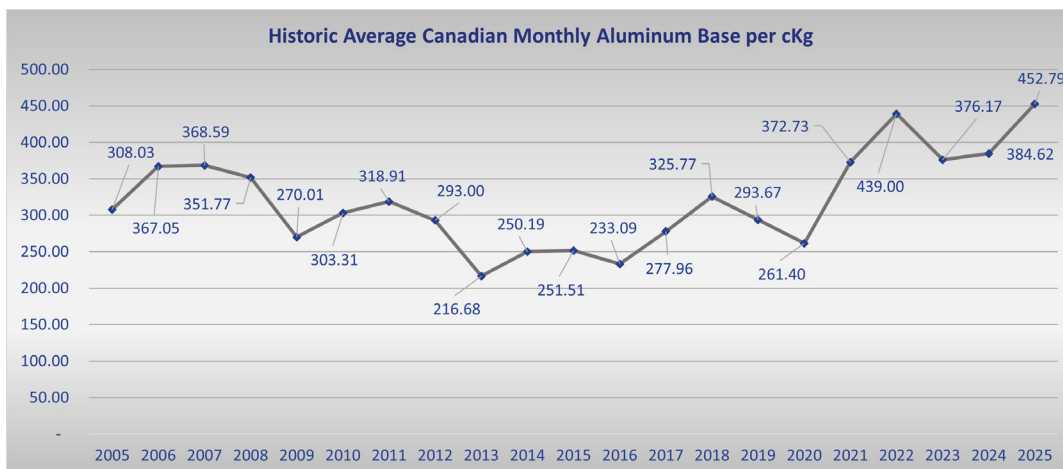
Alcoa announced it expects a \$90 million hit in Q2 2025 from U.S. tariffs on Canadian aluminum imports, after already incurring \$20 million in losses during Q1. With about 70% of its Canadian aluminum exported to the U.S., Alcoa warned that even restarting idle U.S. smelters would still leave a significant domestic production shortfall. [Click here to learn more](#)



Below is a graph that shows monthly aluminum averages since April 2025:



Below is a graph that shows aluminum annual averages on an annual basis over the past 20 years:



RESIN/PLASTIC RESIN PRICE REPORT: DOMESTIC PE MARKET FACES STRONG HEADWINDS AS TARIFFS ROIL SUPPLY CHAINS

In April 2025, the U.S. polyethylene (PE) market faced major disruptions after a 104% tariff on Chinese imports triggered global trade retaliation, threatening to push operating rates below 80%. Without a reopening of export markets or a sharp rise in domestic demand, the industry risks oversupply and downward price pressure.

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LUMBER - U.S. trade policies cast shadow of uncertainty over Canadian forestry industry

U.S. President Donald Trump's shifting trade policies are creating uncertainty for Canada's forestry sector, with industry leaders warning that tariffs could suppress future demand. Although some Canadian lumber exports are exempt under USMCA, a new investigation could double duty rates for most producers, heightening financial pressures

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OIL & GAS - Trump threat vaults energy policy to center stage in Canada election

An unusual consensus around energy policy has emerged in the campaign ahead of Canada's April 28 election, with the two main candidates both promising to fast track energy projects to diversify oil exports away from the United States.

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