



ALUMINIUM: KEY FACTS & FIGURES

Current trends

Aluminium use has increased dramatically in recent decades. In 1980, it was just 14kg per capita in Europe. Today, that figure has climbed to almost 22kg per capita and continues to rise. The European aluminium industry already provides more than a quarter of a million jobs in a variety of manufacturing domains.

2004	Plants		Production (1000 tonnes)	
	EU25	Europe	EU25	Europe
Mining (bauxite)	4	6	3315	4580
Refining (alumina)	7	12	6627	7821
Metal production	24	38	3012	5158
Production of semies(e):				
Extrusions	250	333	2700	3000
Rolled	45	64	3900	4350
Sugs*	10	12	100	140
Casters**	2500	2600	2400	2700
Rollers/converters/container manufacturers***	n.a.	121	n.a.	820
Wire rods*	8	n.a.	300	n.a.
Powder/flakes*	n.a.	n.a.	80	n.a.
Deoxidised aluminium*	n.a.	n.a.	217	n.a.
Anodisers*	226	n.a.	645	690
Lacquers*	228	n.a.	1100	1150
Recycling (e)				
Remelters	108	123	4260°	4330°
Refiners	147	150		

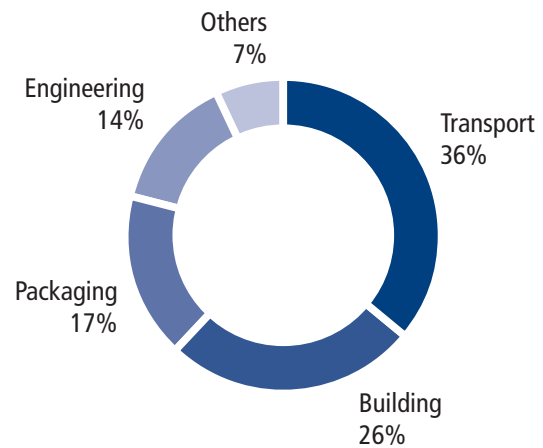
Europe: Western and Central Europe (former CIS excluded) + Turkey

(e) estimation * 2003 data ** CAEF *** Armenia and Russia included

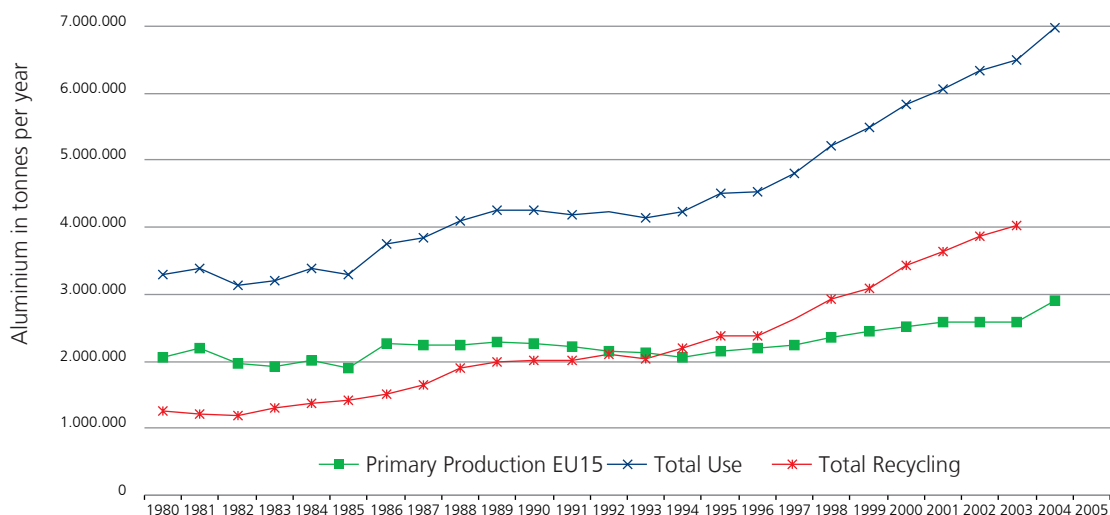
° Total recycling includes refining production + tolled and purchased scrap intake of remelters

The largest end-use market for aluminium products in Europe is presently transport, followed closely by building, with the packaging and engineering sectors also accounting for significant market share.

Main end-use markets for aluminium products in Europe in 2004



Evolution of aluminium recycling in Western Europe (EU15, Turkey, Switzerland and Norway)



Growing demand in an exacting and competitive world can only be met by a combination of primary aluminium production and recycling, both of which are thriving. It is important to remember that the more aluminium is utilised in the first place, the more there is available for future recycling. In other words, the more is used, the more can be reused.

As the recycling process can save up to 95% of the energy needed for primary production, it also yields environmental and cost benefits. Hence, while primary aluminium production has continued to rise steadily, recycling figures have shot up dramatically in the last 25 years.

For further information, please contact us or go to our website:

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Thanks to its unique properties, aluminium is able to provide intelligent solutions for present and future generations. It is lightweight yet strong, durable and corrosion-resistant, formable, highly conductive, aesthetically pleasing and, above all, recyclable. The European Aluminium Association, founded in 1981, represents the European aluminium industry, from alumina and primary production, to manufacture of semi-finished and end-use products, right through to recycling. This industry currently employs around 255 000 people in Western Europe.