

## Authors

Daria Efanova  
Head of Research

Viktoria Kuszak  
Research Associate

TUE 29 JULY 2025 00:10

DAILY BASE METALS REPORT

# Risk Mood Improves as Trade Deals Roll In

## Summary

- US-EU trade agreement boosted sentiment, with equities rising and EUR weakening.
- Chile is seeking exemptions from US copper tariffs, which has led to a sell-off in COMEX while LME remains stable.
- Gold slipped on stronger dollar and risk appetite.

## Macro

US equity markets opened higher on Monday, supported by easing geopolitical tensions after Washington and Brussels reached a trade deal over the weekend. The agreement imposes a 15% tariff on most EU goods, half of the initially threatened rate, helping to ease tensions between the two trading blocs. In return, the EU has pledged to purchase roughly \$750 billion in US energy products and military equipment over the next three years and invest around \$600 billion in other American ventures. The euro weakened on the news, with the EUR/USD exchange rate falling below 1.164, while the dollar index advanced above 98.3. US Treasury yields remained steady, with the 10-year yield hovering around 4.40%.

## Base Metals

The upside pressure continues to fade in the base metals complex, and a slight bearish bias is emerging. The dollar is strengthening, putting pressure on prices. Aluminium edged lower as prices struggled above \$2,650/t, prompting the metal to soften into \$2,631.50/t. Lead held its nerve above \$2,000/t, as zinc is seen approaching the key \$2,800/t level.

Copper remains in focus following news that Chile – the US's top copper supplier, accounting for 70% of country imports – is seeking an exemption from forthcoming tariffs. If granted, this could significantly ease delivery pressures into US inventories. COMEX prices have responded to the news by falling over 5% to \$2,700/mt premium over LME, reflecting reduced urgency in securing domestic supply.

Markets will closely watch trade developments between the two countries, and in case of an exemption, this could unwind the COMEX/LME arb that has been widening since early 2025. This dynamic is unlikely to be reflected on the LME, with copper prices being volatile but rangebound today, hovering below \$9,800/t to settle at \$9,793/t.

## Precious Metals and Oil

Gold extended its decline, edging closer to \$3,300/oz amid renewed investor appetite for risk and a stronger dollar. Silver held broadly steady, trading near \$38.10/oz. Oil prices firmed, with WTI and Brent last seen just below \$66.50 and 70.00/bbl, respectively.

								Spreads	Conversion	
	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	C-3M	USc/lb	
Aluminium	2637	2642	2624	2631.5	2631	12785	686727	1.99	119.36	
Copper	9800	9857	9759	9793.0	9796	13680	269658	-54.34	444.03	
Lead	2020	2038	2014	2017.0	2021	5299	141082	-23.42	91.56	
Nickel	15255	15335	15160	15269.0		3968	240298	-208.46	691.96	
Tin	33940	34190	33600	33713.0	34140	652	20253	-20.00	1531.80	
Zinc	2834	2844	2803	2817.5	2829	9232	188773	-1.95	127.48	
					Total:	45616	1546791			
Official Prices								Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2		PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M	
Aluminium	2632.5	2632	2676.43	2699.43		2636.57	2635.5	2604.775	2605.6	
Copper	9783	9835	9900.339844	9950.339844		9715.82	9769.5	9793	9796.325	
Lead	2007.5	2030	2079.65	2127.9		1990.58	2014	1999.125	2027.025	
Nickel	15050	15240	16061.69	16736.69		15115.3	15320	15044.75	15234.5	
Tin	34100	34000	33522			34126	34061	33737.75	33715.5	
Zinc	2816	2818	2823.08	2768.33		2821.54	2823.5	2754.925	2764.025	
LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets		
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	450825	3500	50	3450	454275	14975	439300	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	128475	500	1575	-1075	127400	17275	110125	'JUL 25	577.7 -0.31	
Lead	266275	0	2625	-2625	263650	72925	190725	'SEP 25	580.15 -0.31	
Nickel	203922	504	390	114	204036	9822	194214	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	1740	100	20	80	1820	330	1490	01-Jul	0 0.00	
Zinc	115775	0	275	-275	115500	54950	60550	01-Aug	79260 -0.58	
Global Markets				Currencies		Precious Metals		Previous Day's Fix		
Last	% Change			Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	23970	-1.02	GBP	1.3380	-0.4316	Gold	3313.08	-0.7257	3346.6	3343.50
DJI	44937	0.08	JPY	148.5100	-0.5522	Silver	38.15	-0.0377		3873.5
S&P500	6394	0.08	EUR	1.1603	-1.1838	Gold Comex	3368.4	-0.710		
SSE	3598	0.12	CNY	7.1779	-0.1170	Platinum	1395.01	-0.7972		
Hg Seng	25562	0.68	AUD	0.6514	-0.7920	Palladium	1245.38	1.6936		
Brent	70	1.94	CAD	1.3724	-0.1530					
Source:	Bloomberg									
Updated:	28/07/2025 17:30									

All price data is from 28.07.2025 as of 17:30

Risk warning

This is a marketing communication. The information in this report is provided solely for informational purposes and should not be regarded as a recommendation to buy, sell or otherwise deal in any particular investment. Please be aware that, where any views have been expressed in this report, the author of this report may have had many, varied views over the past 12 months, including contrary views.

A large number of views are being generated at all times and these may change quickly. Any valuations or underlying assumptions made are solely based upon the author's market knowledge and experience.

Please contact the author should you require a copy of any previous reports for comparative purposes. Furthermore, the information in this report has not been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research. All information in this report is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and we make no representation as to its completeness or accuracy.

This report is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research. Accordingly, the information may have been acted upon by us for our own purposes and has not been procured for the exclusive benefit of customers. Sucden Financial believes that the information contained within this report is already in the public domain. Private customers should not invest in these products unless they are satisfied that the products are suitable for them and they have sought professional advice. Please read our full risk warnings and disclaimers ([www.sucdenfinancial.com/en/risk-warning-and-disclaimers](http://www.sucdenfinancial.com/en/risk-warning-and-disclaimers)).