Data, Insight, Strategy & Communities

Analysis & Outlook of Molybdenum Market in the US

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DEMAND

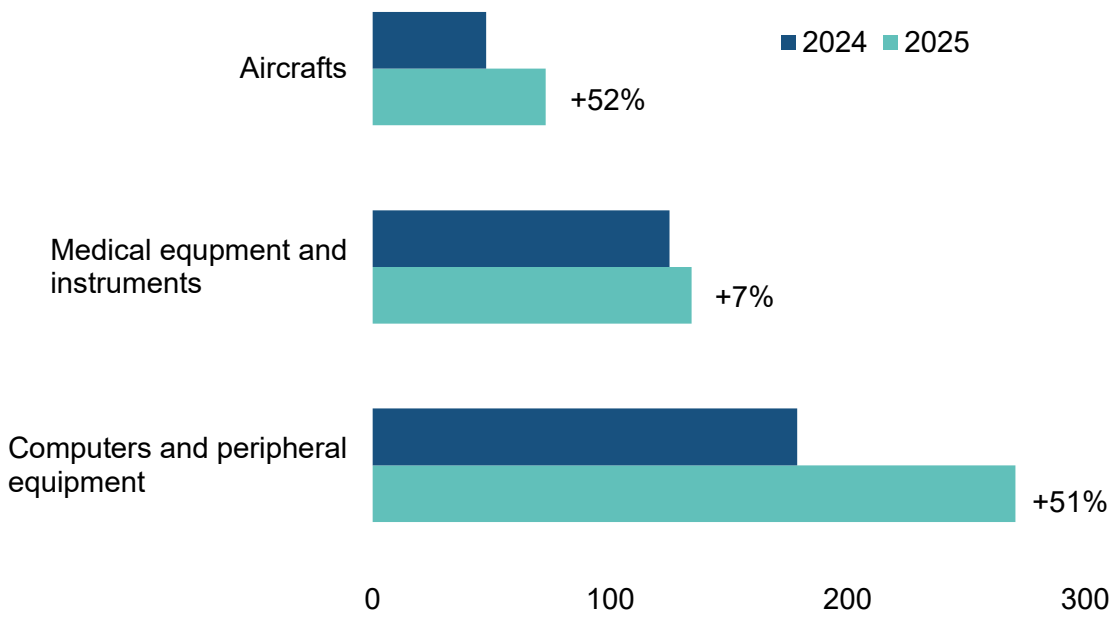
Strong growth in emerging industries will support demand growth for molybdenum

Underlying demand has remained resilient throughout 2026, led by strong demand from the aerospace and defence industries, oil and gas, and data centre construction projects.

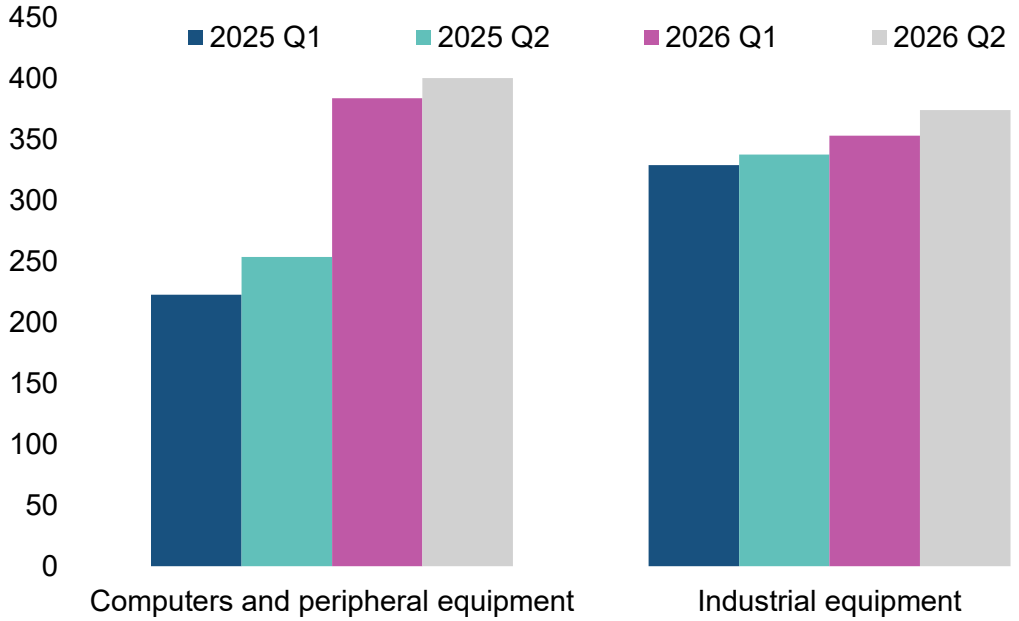
Investments in key end-uses are driving molybdenum demand in the US

Strong performance in aerospace and defense sectors, paired with the emergence of data centre construction

US private fixed investment in equipment by type, billion USD



US total private fixed investment by type, billion USD

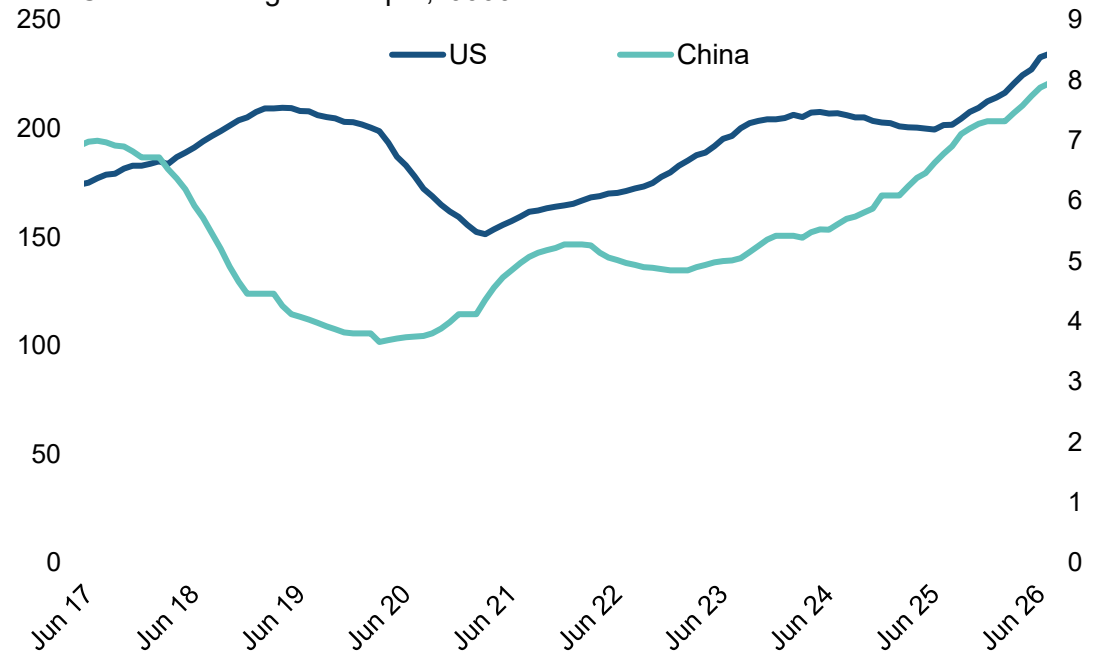


DATA: US Bureau of Economic Analysis, CRU

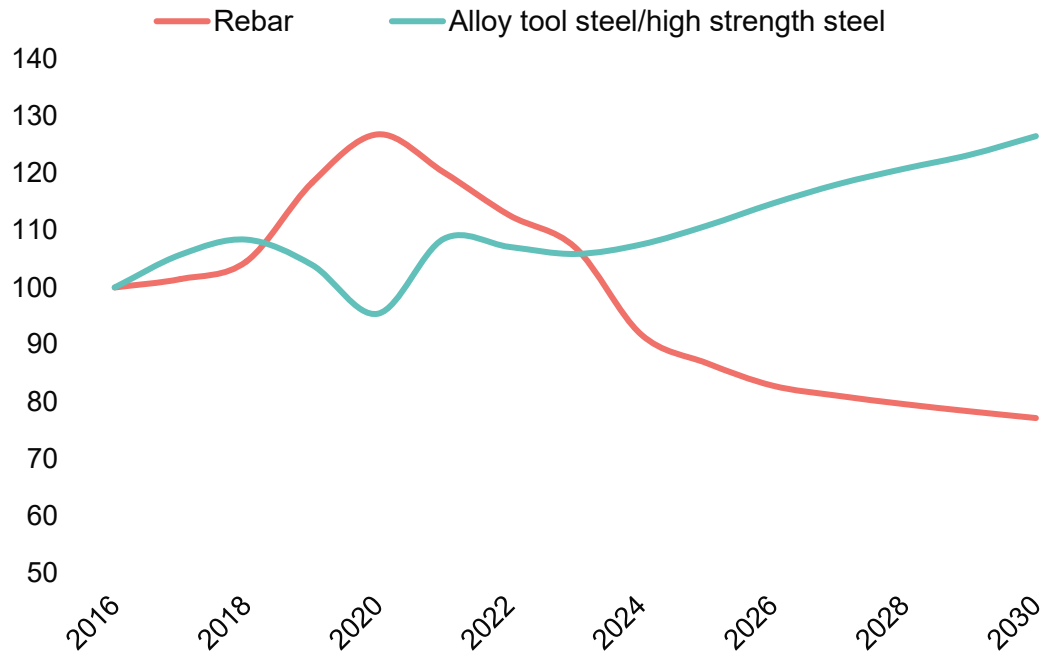
Molybdenum demand from specialty steels to rise at a CAGR of 4% by 2031

Demand from specialty steels will rise strongly due to industrial upgrading

LHS: 12-month rolling average of US cutting tool orders, million USD
RHS: Chinese cutting tool output, '0000 units



Demand index of specialty steel and rebar, 2016=100

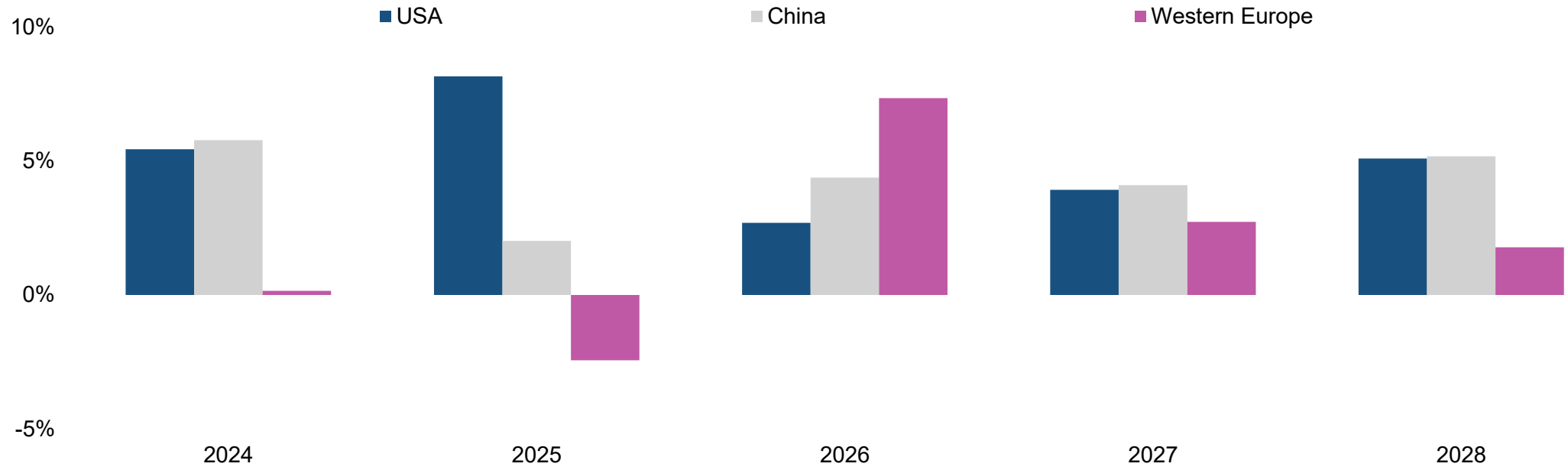


DATA: CRU, US Cutting Tools Institute, National Bureau of Statistics China

Section 232 tariffs has restricted imports, lifting stainless production

Tightened trade measures has boosted domestic stainless production in the US

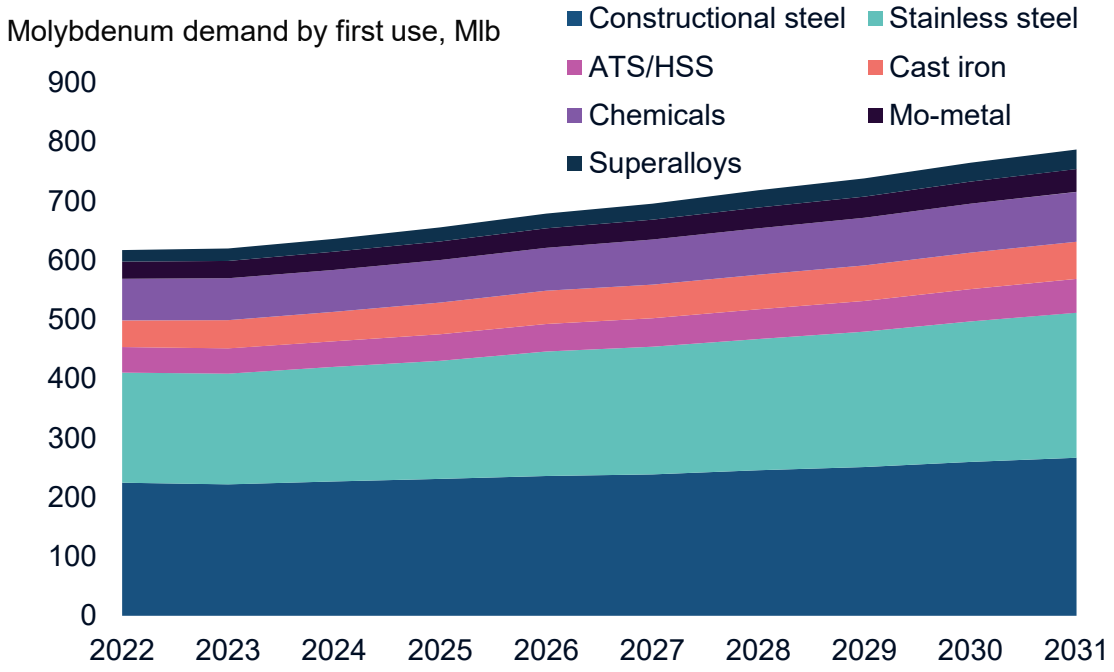
Crude stainless production by region, y/y change, %

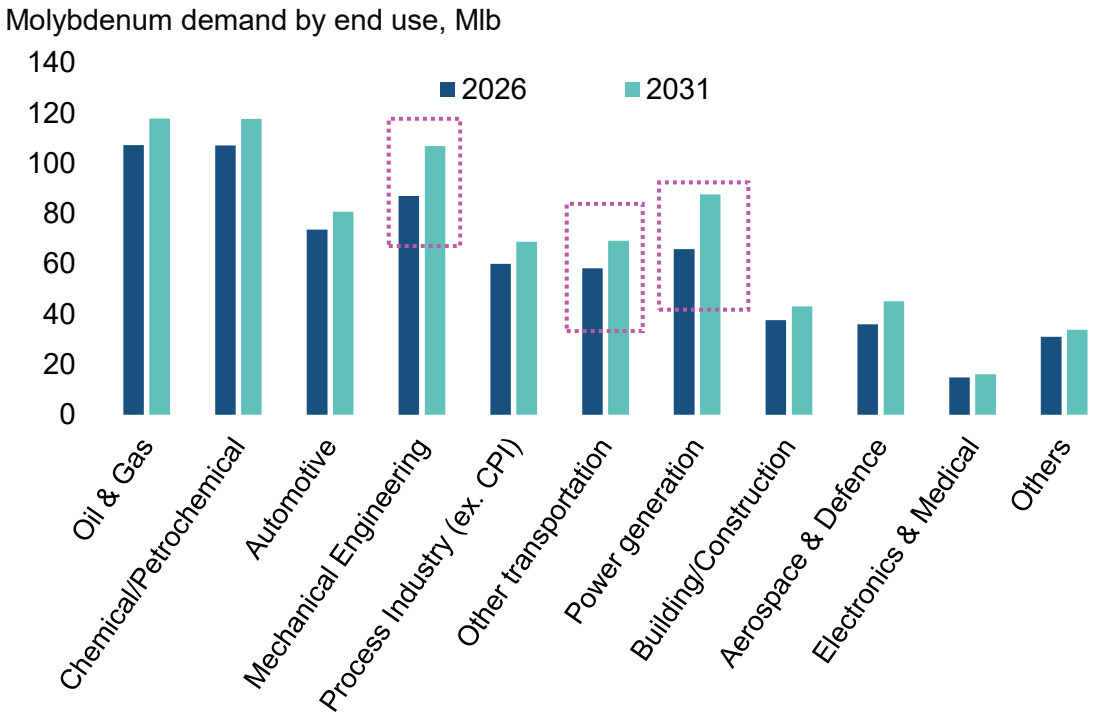


DATA: CRU

Mechanical engineering, energy related activity, will drive demand growth

High-end applications will drive demand growth through the outlook





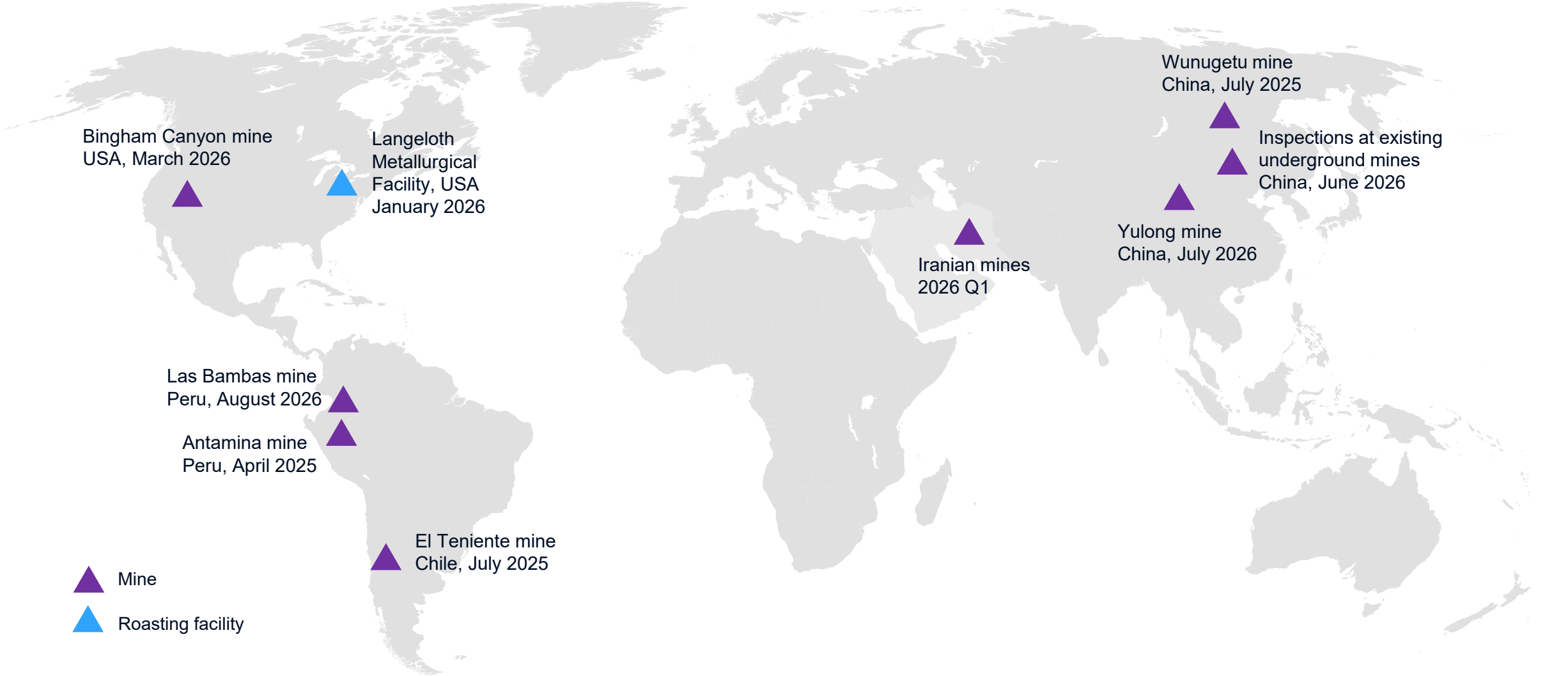
DATA: CRU

SUPPLY

Supply availability remains constrained despite robust demand

Despite ongoing supply tightness concerns, mine production in South America has been muted. As demand for imports rises in key markets, we do not expect the supply response will be sufficient from key exporting countries such as Chile and Peru.

Global mine supply has experienced continuous disruptions in 2026

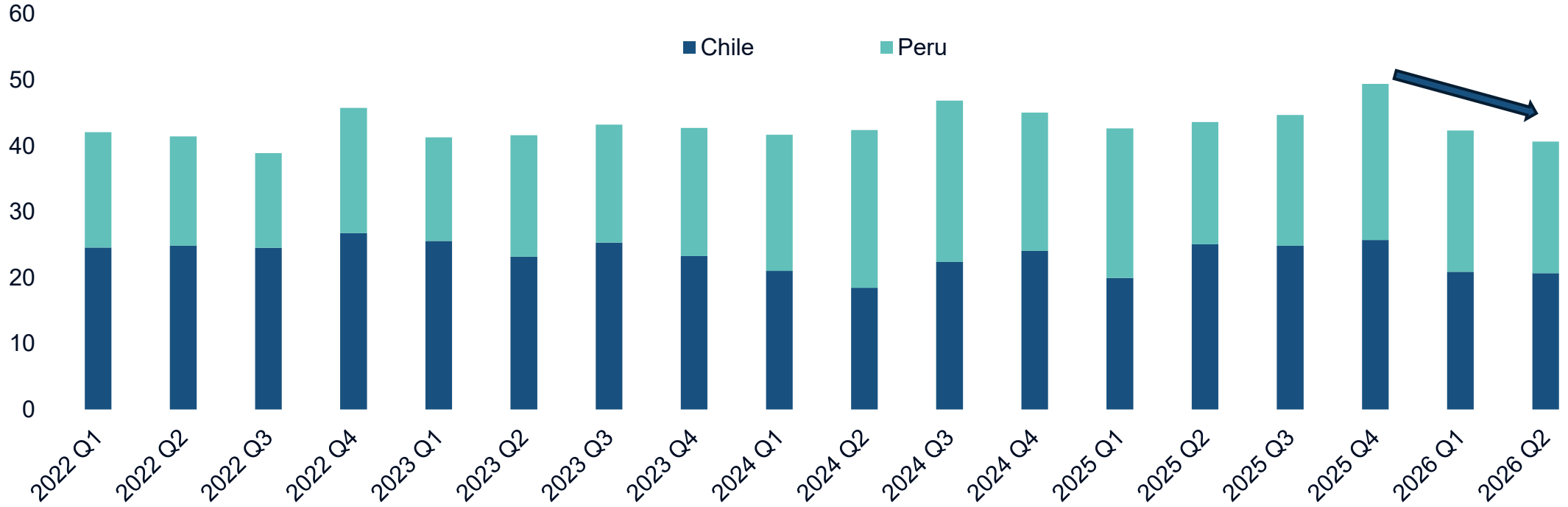


SOURCE: Company reports, CRU

South American mine output has been soft despite strong global demand

By-product molybdenum output has slowed through the first half of 2026

Quaterly mine production in South America, Mlb Mo

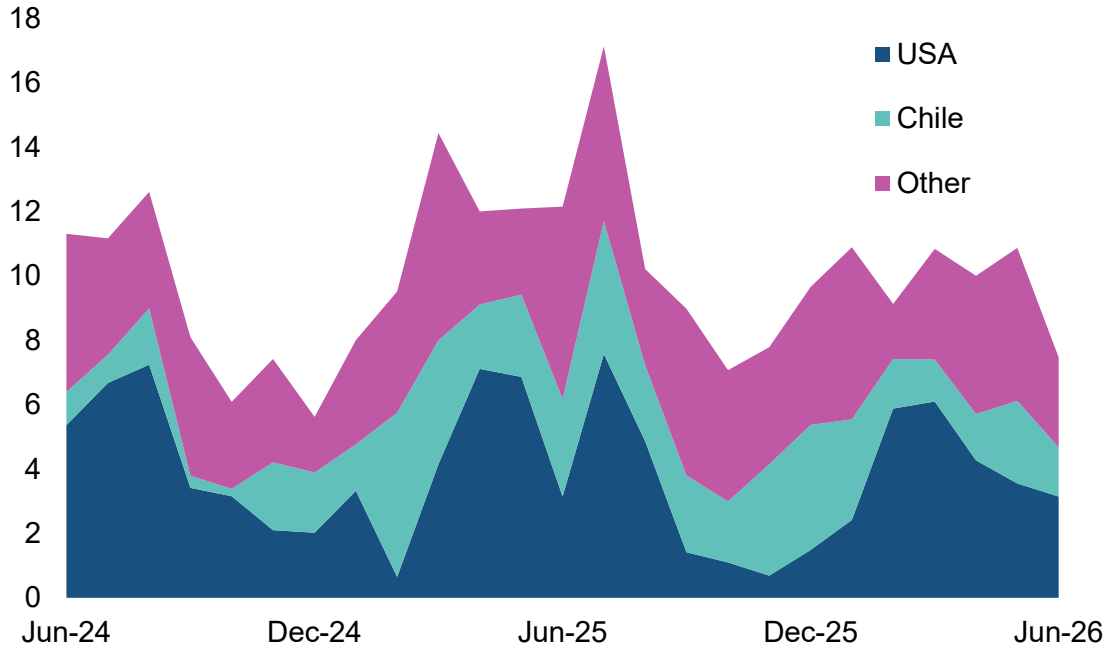


DATA: Cochilco, Peruvian Ministry of Mines, company reports, CRU

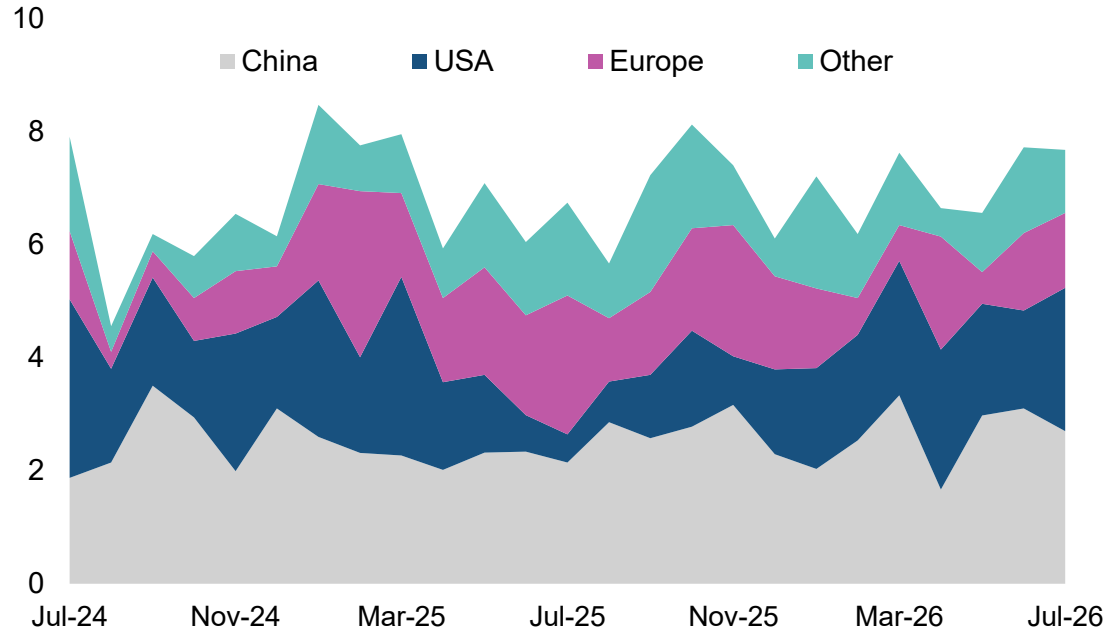
Higer volumes from the US increased concentrate imports in Europe

South American exports have expanded y/y to the US, while declining to Europe

European imports of unroasted molybdenum concentrate, Mlb Mo



Exports of unroasted molybdenum ore and concentrates from Peru and Chile, kt

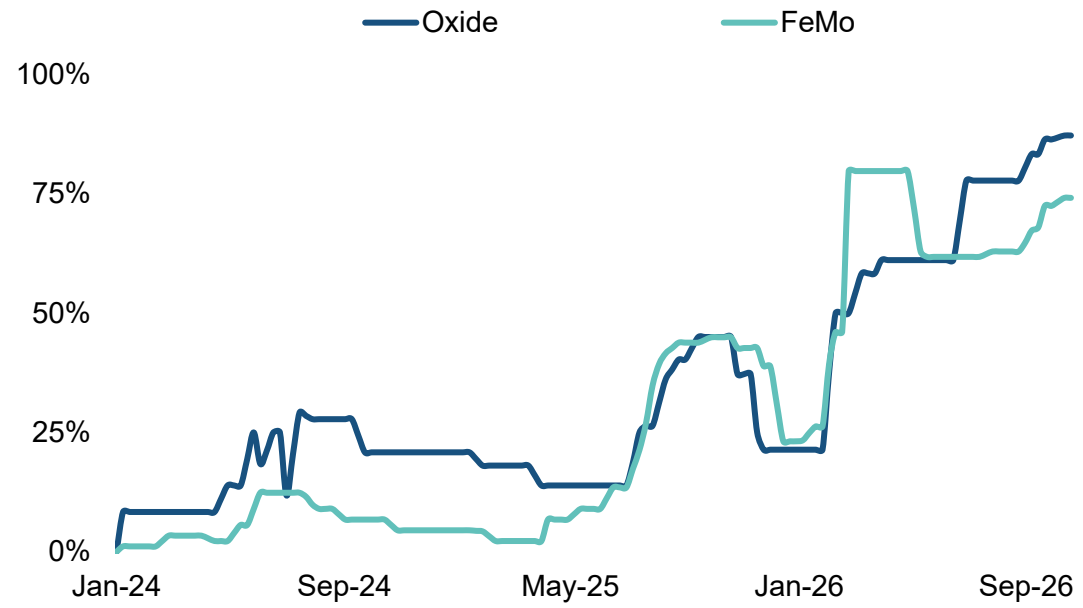


DATA: Global Trade Tracker

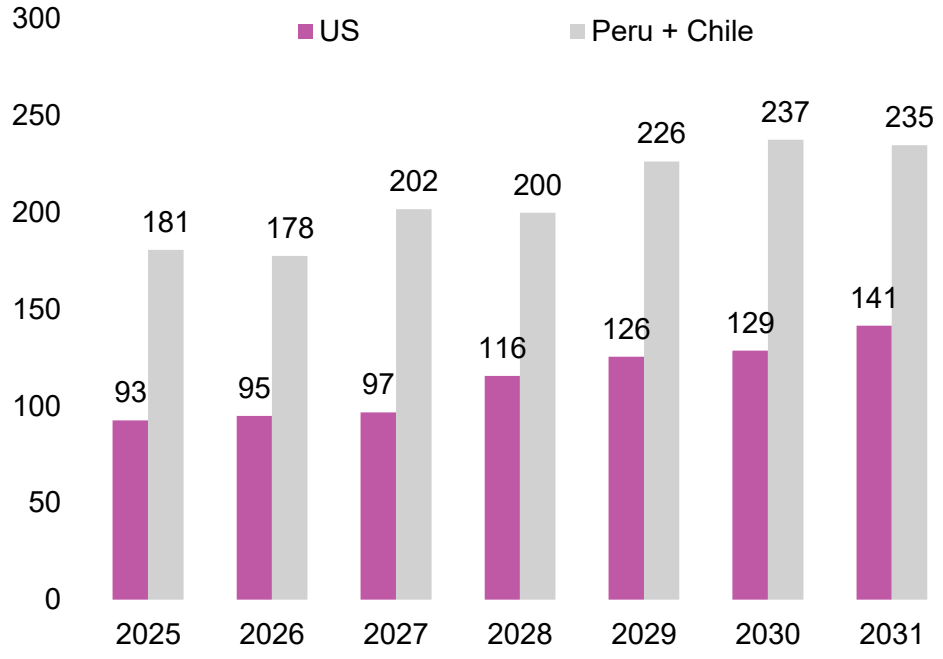
Tight supply has kept molybdenum prices in the US elevated into 2026 H2

Mine supply could rise from next year in South America, with the US to follow

US oxide and ferromolybdenum price, percentage change since January 2024



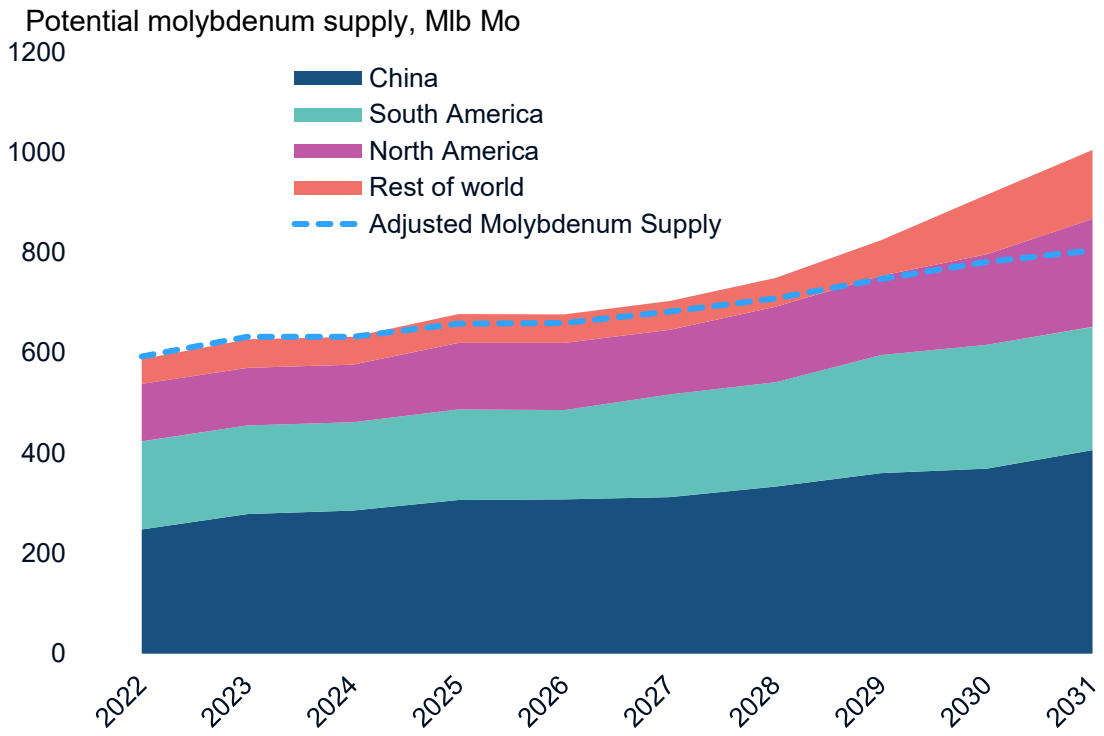
Potential molybdenum mine supply, Mlb Mo

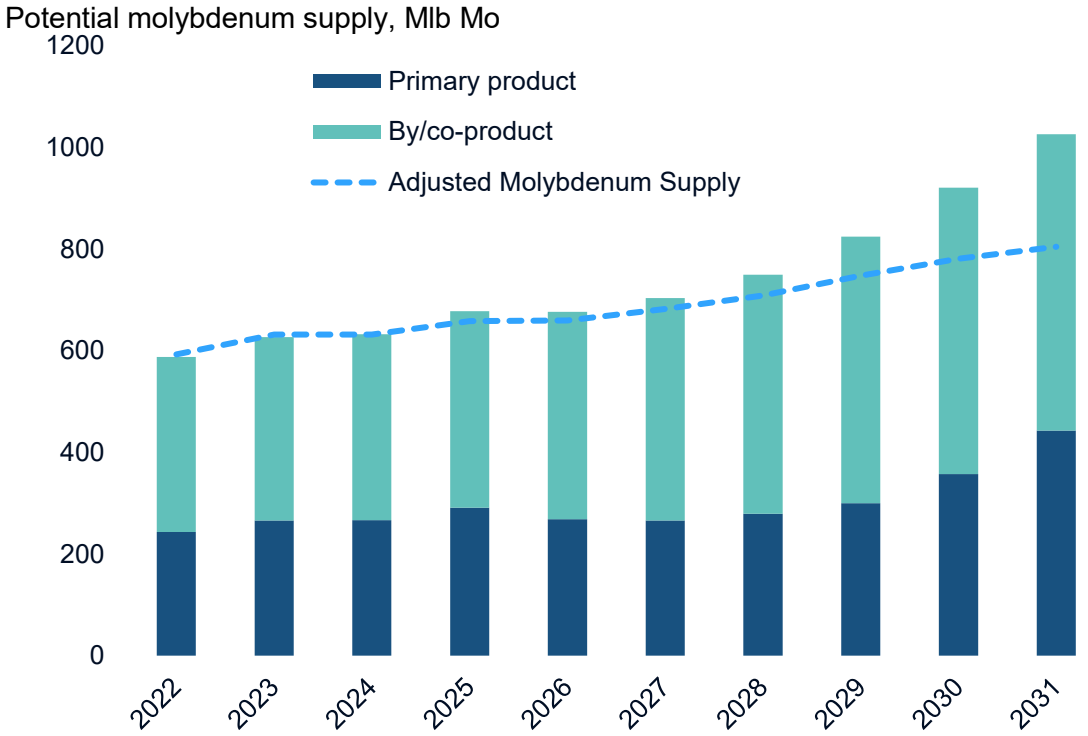


DATA: CRU, Cochilco, Peruvian Ministry of Mines, company reports

Mine supply growth will continue to rely on by-product output

Global supply growth will be muted over the near-term





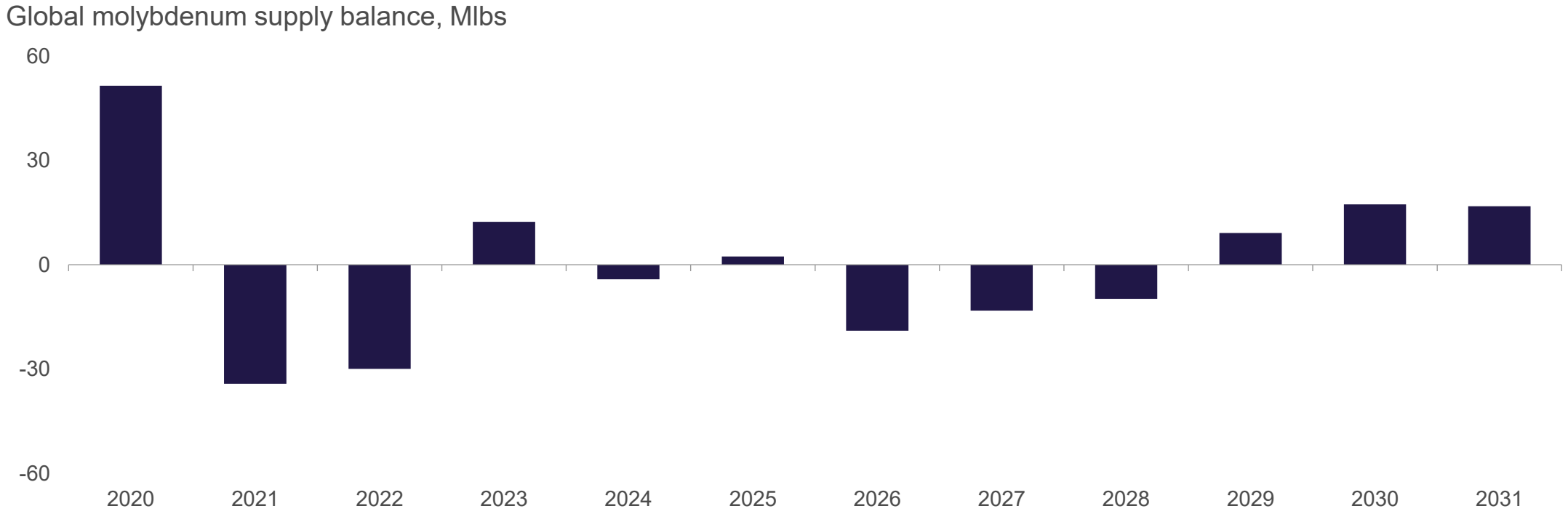
DATA: CRU
NOTE: Adjusted supply accounts for production disruption allowance

Prices will remain elevated amid strong demand and constrained supply

The global molybdenum market is expected to stay in a large deficit this year, underpinned by stronger demand growth and constrained mine supply. Over the medium term, the market is forecast to be in tightness as demand growth outpaces supply.

Robust demand, paired with constrained mine supply, will keep supply tight

Market to be tight through the medium term before shifting into surplus in 2029



DATA: CRU

Supply disruption is the major upside risk to the outlook

Downside *risks* revolve around economic uncertainty and geopolitical tensions

- A prolonged Middle East conflict has the potential to have a significantly negative impact on the global economy through high energy prices and inflation.
- It is unlikely the US-China tariff rates could return to their previous sky-high levels, though this remains a downside risk to the global economy.
- If Chinese consumption declines – as indicated by some concerns around economic growth – we could see a more significant drop in prices.

Upside *risks* revolve around supply disruption and stricter mining regulations in China

- Upside risks in the short term are mostly related to supply disruption. Given inventories are estimated at 74 days of consumption in Q3, the market remains vulnerable to supply disruptions in the near term.
- Stricter mining regulations in China could force the closure of additional existing mines, creating further upside risk for prices.
- In the long run, energy-importing countries will likely accelerate deployment of renewables, including wind power to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. This means stronger demand for molybdenum.

Thank you

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