PRECIOUS APPRAISAL

No. 28

4th August 2025

PRECIOUS METALS REVIEW

Gold

	CLOSE	WEEKLY CHANGE	HIGH	DATE	LOW	DATE
$/oz	3,349	0.63%	3,355	01/08/2025	3,268	30/07/2025
€/oz	2,898	2.16%	2,904	01/08/2025	2,838	28/07/2025

China joins India in reducing gold jewellery consumption as prices remain high. The Chinese Gold Association reports that total gold consumption was down 3.5% year-on-year in the first half of the year, to 505 tonnes. The largest decline was in the jewellery sector which contracted 26% year-on-year to just below 200 tonnes. This was partially offset by a strong resurgence in bar and coin physical investment demand, plus low single-digit growth in industrial demand. According to the World Gold Council, H1'25 Chinese gold jewellery demand was the weakest since 2009 (excluding 2020). As in India (see last week's Market Spotlight), for Chinese jewellery demand to pick up in the second half, gold prices will have to moderate. For jewellery demand in these markets, price and perceived value are the key drivers.

Although physical investment in China has been strong so far this year, more recently ETFs reversed to net redemptions in July. As the gold price has been trapped in a narrow range, the domestic stock market has risen by more than 5.5%, potentially encouraging investors chasing momentum to rotate back into equities.

As mentioned, gold has been trading in a narrow $200 range since the end of May. A narrow trading range can often precede a breakout. Gold remained rangebound last week, recovering to $3,349/oz by Friday's close after a midweek fall.

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Silver

	CLOSE	WEEKLY CHANGE	HIGH	DATE	LOW	DATE
$/oz	36.94	-2.94%	38.34	28/07/2025	36.22	31/07/2025
€/oz	31.97	-1.46%	33.22	29/07/2025	31.66	31/07/2025

Clouds are gathering over Europe's solar demand. The European Union is expected to install less solar capacity in 2025 than it did in 2024, marking the first annual decline in nearly 10 years (source: SolarPower Europe). The group forecasts 64.2 GW of new solar installations this year, down 1.4% from last year's 65.1 GW, and this represents a risk to regional solar PV silver demand. The decline is driven largely by a sharp contraction in the residential rooftop segment, with installations down over 60% in some countries and more than 40% in major markets such as Poland, Spain and Germany. The European energy crisis following the invasion of Ukraine spurred investment into solar power but falling electricity prices and reduced policy support are key factors behind the slowdown. China is the global hub for silver consumption in solar panel manufacturing, so a slowdown in European installations is not likely to directly impact demand for the metal in the short term. The largest factor expected to impact silver solar demand this year is thrifting efforts to reduce the silver content per solar cell. Rising silver prices add to the incentive to reduce silver usage, and this is currently expected to outpace installation growth, thus threatening to stop all growth in solar silver demand this year.

The silver price fell back last week to finish trading below $37/oz.

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Platinum

	CLOSE	WEEKLY CHANGE	HIGH	DATE	LOW	DATE
$/oz	1,312	-5.70%	1,427	28/07/2025	1,263	01/08/2025
€/oz	1,136	-4.29%	1,224	28/07/2025	1,107	01/08/2025

As expected, diesel demand continues to disappoint. The diesel powertrain segment continues to take heavy losses in the European passenger car market, and the heavy-duty sector is also under pressure this year. ACEA figures show EU registrations of diesel cars were 28% lower year-to-date. Losses in diesel powertrain sales appear to be largely offset by hybrids (plug-in, full and mild). Diesel market share was 9.4% in the year to June, versus 12.8% over the same period last year. Western European platinum demand from diesel passenger cars is forecast to fall nearly 20% year-on-year in 2025 as a result of this contraction. The trucking sector is also facing headwinds that could add downside risk to platinum autocatalyst demand. New registrations of trucks in the EU were 15.4% lower year-on-year in H1'25 as economic headwinds inhibit demand for new vehicles. In Western Europe, platinum diesel autocatalyst demand is split approximately 60:40 in favour of passenger vehicles (vs. commercial vehicles), so declines in both sectors could have a significant impact on regional platinum demand.

Platinum fell through support at $1,345/oz last Thursday, around the same time as the Fed meeting. No cuts yet set the tone for selling in metals, as gold and silver also fell, though to a lesser extent. The US copper price also plummeted following US trade policy clarifications over the types of copper that will be tariffed, which also undermines support for metals such as platinum and silver that have a significant industrial demand component. By Friday, platinum closed 5.7% lower at $1,312/oz.

PRECIOUS METALS REVIEW

Palladium

	CLOSE	WEEKLY CHANGE	HIGH	DATE	LOW	DATE
$/oz	1,210	-0.19%	1,279	30/07/2025	1,175	01/08/2025
€/oz	1,048	1.39%	1,107	30/07/2025	1,029	01/08/2025

European countries on track to miss BEV target is good for palladium demand. Halfway through the year, the EU is lagging behind its target for BEV sales, despite having sold an additional 157,000 units year-on-year (source: ACEA). H1'25 market share of BEVs stands at 15.6%. By the end of 2025, it should be at 17.5% to meet targets. Automotive OEMs have been consistently pushing the EU to relax emissions and BEV market share legislation, as well as extend timelines for compliance. The lag in BEV sales means that the market share of catalysed vehicles (ICE/hybrids) could remain higher for longer, supporting a longer tail for palladium autocatalyst demand.

Russian palladium could face anti-dumping duties in the US. Sibanye-Stillwater and the United Steelworkers Union are petitioning the US government to consider placing import duties on Russian palladium imports to ensure the survivability of the Stillwater mine in Montana. The press release from the mining company claims that palladium imported to the US from Russia is being sold at a discount to market prices, risking the viability of Stillwater. Russian imports have grown by 42% year-on-year in January-May 2025 to more than 500 koz. Although placing duties on Russian metal would not necessarily impact the market balance of palladium, it could result in the rerouting of global physical metal flows, leading to price volatility. Any decision on the imposition of duties will take approximately 13 months. To date, the PGMs have avoided any tariffs under the Trump regime, but uncertainty remains elevated over the future of trade barriers.

The palladium price declined for a third straight week last week as it looks to find support, having reached a high of $1,375/oz in the middle of July. Friday's close was $1,210/oz, having dipped below $1,200/oz earlier in the day.

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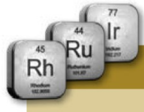
Rhodium, Ruthenium, Iridium



	RHODIUM	RUTHENIUM	IRIDIUM
Reporting Week	$7,325/oz	$885/oz	$5,150/oz
Previous Edition	$6,750/oz	$860/oz	$4,950/oz

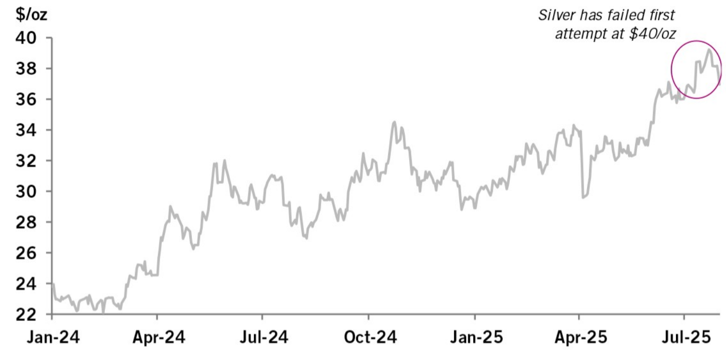
Two major players exit the hydrogen business. Australian resource companies Woodside and Fortescue have both recently announced the cancellation of significant green hydrogen projects, despite their relatively advanced stages of development. The energy company Woodside has cancelled a liquid green hydrogen project in the US that was intended to produce fuel for heavy-duty mobility. High costs and lower than expected demand were the key motivators for the cancellation, despite having already completed engineering studies and awarded construction contracts. Miner Fortescue also stepped away from its Arizona ‘PEM50’ green hydrogen project, having made a positive Final Investment Decision in 2023. Both of these projects directly used PGMs and supported wider adoption for green hydrogen in mobility. They are now casualties of the Congressional decision to shorten the life of the 45V clean hydrogen production tax credit, which would have made US green hydrogen production more cost-competitive.

The small PGMs saw big price rises last week. Rhodium was the leader, despite dropping back by over $500/oz after Wednesday, rising by more than 8% week-on-week to $7,325/oz – the highest price in more than two years and taking year-to-date gains to 44%. The rhodium price last peaked at more than $30,000/oz in 2021 when supply was constrained in South Africa by the metal lock-up at Anglo American Platinum (now Valterra Platinum) which meant the market was tight. Rhodium is in a similarly sized deficit this year, which is supporting the price. The iridium and ruthenium prices also appreciated during the week.

Gold price

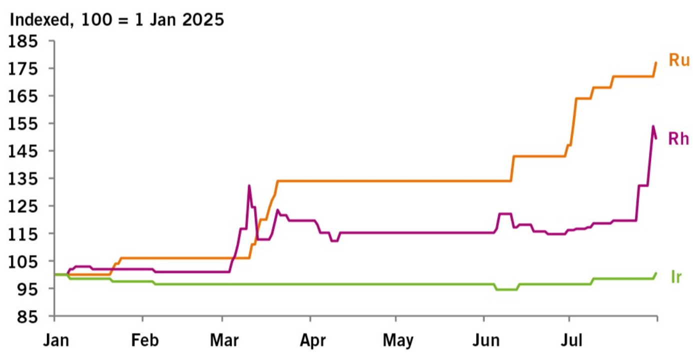
Source: SFA (Oxford), Bloomberg Finance LP

Silver price



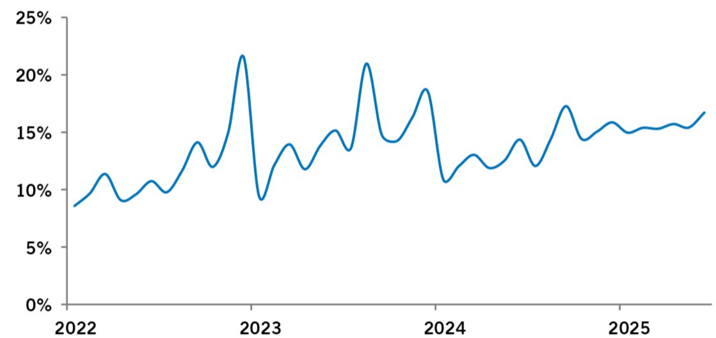
Source: SFA (Oxford), Bloomberg Finance LP

Small PGMs price performance, indexed



Source: SFA (Oxford), Heraeus

EU BEV market share



Source: SFA (Oxford), ACEA

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