New research commissioned by the International Copper Association (ICA) has found that copper demand from the Chinese transport sector could rise to 3.3 million tonnes by the year 2030. Such a rise would mean a 2.13 million tonne increase from 2018 levels. The change, driven by overall increases in China’s transport infrastructure, will primarily come from the automotive and rail sectors.

### Copper demand forecast for Chinese transport sectors 2018 – 2030

**Copper demand forecast (neutral case)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Train &amp; Railway</th>
<th>Ship &amp; Port</th>
<th>Aircraft &amp; Airport</th>
<th>Motorcycle &amp; Bike</th>
<th>Auto &amp; Road</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3,308</td>
<td>2,422</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025E</td>
<td>2,422</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3,308</td>
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<td>500</td>
<td>3,308</td>
<td>2,422</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit: thousand tonnes copper

From 2008 - 2018, per capita GDP in China increased from $1,000 to $10,000. The result was increased urbanization, investment in transport infrastructure and individuals, demands for better logistics. Due to the large land area and high population density in China, high-speed rail is a suitable solution for future transportation requirements at a national level. This network will support regional and cross-regional economic development. Change has been driven by electrification, autonomy, connected, sharing and environmental friendliness within all modes of transport.

### Development of China’s transportation system

**Distance for daily traveling**

- 100Km: $400 - $1,000
- 1,000Km: $400 - $10,000

**Distance for traveling and logistics**

- National-wise 1,000Km
- Region-wise 100Km
- Country-wise

**Per Capita GDP**

- $1,000
- $10,000
- $400

**Copper intensity increase 2009 – 2019 in Chinese transport sectors**

- Electric bike:
  - 0.7–1.0 kg/electric bike (2009)
  - 1.4–1.7 kg/electric bike (2019)

- Vehicle:
  - 8.4–12.1 kg/vehicle (2009)
  - 9.3–19.5 kg/vehicle (2019)

- Train:
  - 353 kg/train (2009)
  - 377 kg/train (2019)

For more information on copper demand or ICA, visit www.copperalliance.org. For details of copper’s sustainable credentials, visit www.sustainablecopper.org. Follow us on @ThinkCopper. For enquiries, email colin.bennett@copperalliance.org or Simon.Rendell@hkstrategies.com