

# The economic contribution of Europe's innovative, low carbon lead battery industry



Europe is a global centre of excellence for lead battery technology. The industry provides skilled jobs and underpins many other essential industries and services.

It is fundamental to supporting the delivery of Europe's industrial and energy transformation agendas through electrification.

## The industry generates economic value across the EU:



**+184K**  
jobs

The industry supports a total of (direct and indirect) over **184,000 jobs**.



**30 lead battery** manufacturers across operate **14 member states**<sup>2</sup> and there are **42 lead battery** recyclers across **16 member** states.<sup>3</sup>

**€14.7**  
billion



In 2019, the European lead battery industry generated about **€14.7 billion** of value added or gross domestic product (GDP) across Europe.<sup>4</sup>



**+€2**  
billion

Lead battery technology development has contributed to the EU battery industry's collective spend of **over €2 billion on research and innovation**<sup>5</sup>, contributing to future **growth and productivity**.

**39%**  
SMEs

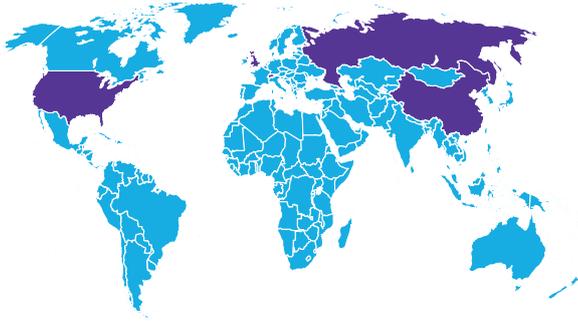


39% of companies are small and medium enterprises (SMEs).<sup>6</sup>

**€7.3**  
trillion GDP



€7.3 trillion of GDP of downstream industry activity relies on the use of lead batteries, covering **telecoms, transport, retail, construction, renewable energy and healthcare applications.**<sup>7</sup>



**€2**  
billion  
exports

Approximately **€2 billion of EU-27 country exports** of lead batteries are consumed by non-EU countries such as the **United Kingdom, United States, Russia, Switzerland, and China.**<sup>8</sup>

## One of the best examples of the circular economy in action

The circular economy gives us the tools to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss together, while addressing important social needs. It is often talked about but currently not easily delivered. The lead battery is a shining example of a circular economy in action TODAY:

**+99%**  
recycled



Nearly all lead batteries that are available for collection are recycled in the EU by a comprehensive infrastructure of highly regulated facilities.<sup>9</sup>

**>90%**  
recycling efficiency



The recycling efficiency of the process to recover materials from waste lead batteries is highly efficient. Almost all the lead, plastics and electrolytes can be recovered to make new batteries.<sup>10</sup>

**80%**  
recycled material



The average lead battery is made from over 80% recycled material.<sup>11</sup>

For more information, visit <https://chargethefuture.org>

#### REFERENCES:

1, 4, 6, 8 EBP 2021: Economic contribution of the European lead battery industry. A report by EBP, commissioned by ILA and EUROBAT  
2, 3, 5, 7, 9-11 Charge the Future, <https://chargethefuture.org/>