

# Mineral Industry Surveys

**For information, contact:**

Vanessa Londono, Fluorspar Commodity Specialist  
National Minerals Information Center  
Telephone: (703) 648-7736  
Email: vlondono@usgs.gov

Michelle B. Blackwell (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7943

Email: mblackwell@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys>

## FLUORSPAR IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2025

Fluorspar imports in the first quarter of 2025 were 98,900 metric tons (t), of which 96,200 t were acid grade and 2,750 t were metallurgical grade (fig. 1, table 1). In terms of quantity, acid-grade imports increased slightly compared with those in the previous quarter and decreased by 24% compared with imports in the first quarter of 2024. The leading sources of acid-grade imports during the first quarter of 2025 were Mexico (55%) and Vietnam (41%). Imports of metallurgical-grade fluorspar decreased by 63% compared with those in the previous quarter and decreased by 76% compared with imports in the first quarter of 2024. In the first quarter of 2025, 90% of metallurgical-grade imports were from Mexico and the remainder were from Mongolia (<10%) (table 2).

In the first quarter of 2025, imports of other fluorine-containing materials produced directly from fluorspar were 16,600 t of hydrofluoric acid, 4,910 t of aluminum fluoride, and 4,370 t of cryolite (table 1). Mexico and Taiwan were leading suppliers of hydrofluoric acid imports, accounting for 77% and 8%, respectively (table 3). Exports of acid- and metallurgical-grade fluorspar, aluminum fluoride, and cryolite were likely re-exports as there is no domestic production (table 1).

In the first quarter of 2025, the quarterly average unit value of acid-grade imports was \$446 per metric ton, a decrease of 3% compared with the 2024 annual average unit value of \$461 per metric ton. The quarterly average unit value of acid-grade imports from Mexico was \$476 per metric ton, a 3% increase compared with the annual average unit value of \$461 per metric ton in 2024. The quarterly average unit value of acid-grade imports from Vietnam was estimated to be \$393 per metric ton, an increase of 8% compared with the annual estimated average import value of \$365 per metric ton in 2024. The quarterly average unit value of acid-grade imports from China was \$558 per metric ton, an 11% increase compared with the annual average import value of \$502 per metric ton in 2024 (table 2).

The quarterly average unit value of metallurgical-grade imports was \$440 per metric ton, a 3% decrease compared with the 2024 annual average unit value of \$451 per metric ton. The quarterly average unit value of metallurgical-grade

imports from Mexico was \$190 per metric ton, a 41% increase compared with the annual average unit value of \$135 per metric ton in 2024. The quarterly average unit value of metallurgical-grade imports from Mongolia was \$615 per metric ton, a 12% decrease compared with the annual average unit value of \$698 per metric ton in 2024 (table 2).

### Updates

In January, the Department of Defense invested \$90 million to enable the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to stockpile hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), a critical component in air conditioning systems, fire suppression, and refrigeration for military applications. The inventory of HFCs would be managed by DLA's Ozone Depleting Substances - Program Office. An HFC storage facility would initially be located at a vacant DLA Distribution facility in Richmond, VA, but a new repository would be added in the future (Perry, 2025).

### Reference Cited

Perry, Amy, 2025, DOD invests \$90M in hydrofluorocarbons to support military operations: Richmond, VA, Defense Logistics Agency press release, January 7. (Accessed May 20, 2025, at <https://www.dla.mil/About-DLA/News/News-Article-View/Article/4023283/dod-invests-90m-in-hydrofluorocarbons-to-support-military-operations/>.)

*A worksheet has been added to the Excel table files that includes a button to remove text and numerical footnotes from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled "RemoveTextButton" for instructions on how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file to use the tool.*

*List services and web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/minerals-information-publication-list-services>.*

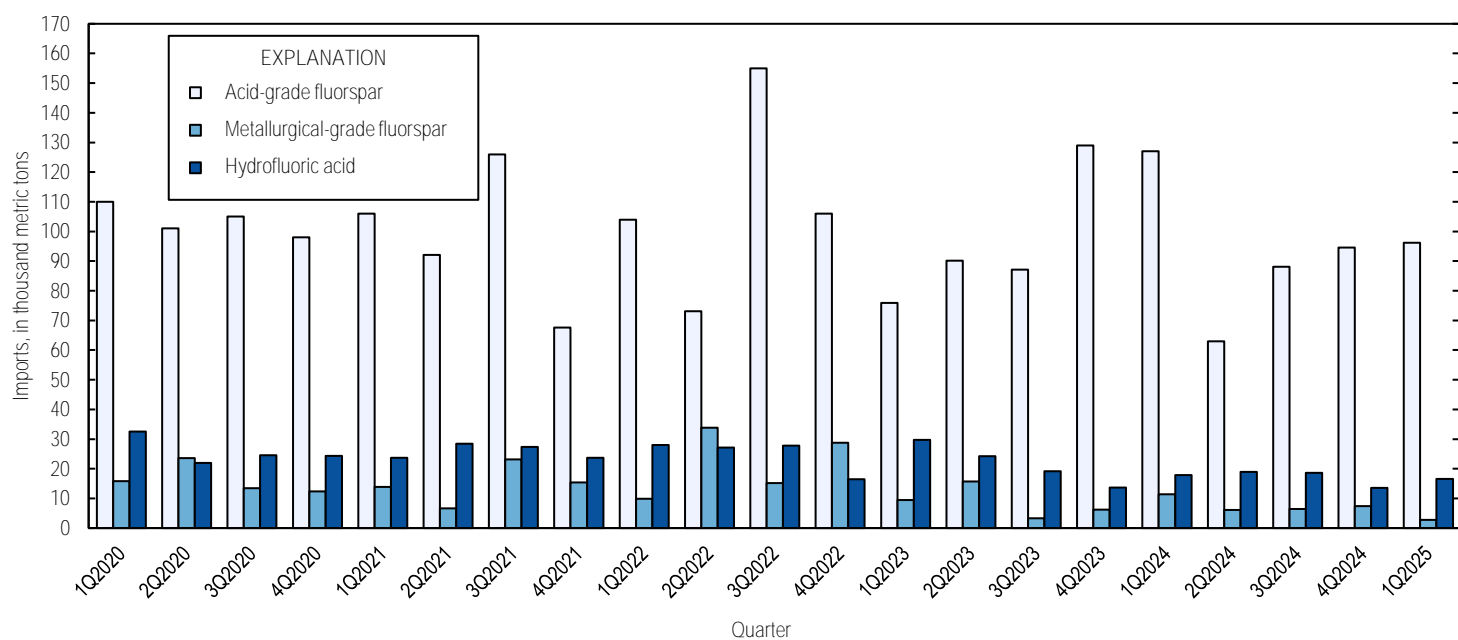


Figure 1. Acid-grade fluorspar, metallurgical-grade fluorspar, and hydrofluoric acid imports from the first quarter of 2020 through the first quarter of 2025. Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Geological Survey.

**Table 1.** Salient fluorspar statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons.]

Fluorspar statistics	2024				2025	
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter
Production, fluorspar	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Imports for consumption<sup>1</sup></b>						
Acid grade, more than 97% calcium fluoride	127,000	63,000	88,100	94,600	373,000	96,200
Metallurgical grade, not more than 97% calcium fluoride	11,400	6,140	6,440	7,420	31,400	2,750
<b>Total</b>	138,000	69,200	94,500	102,000	404,000	98,900
Hydrofluoric acid	17,900	19,000	18,600	13,600	69,000	16,600
Aluminum fluoride	4,630	6,020	7,760	3,390	21,800	4,910
Cryolite	5,130	6,180	6,470	3,850	21,600	4,370
<b>Exports<sup>2</sup></b>						
Acid grade, more than 97% calcium fluoride	2,200	2,610	3,450	2,160	10,400	2,170
Metallurgical grade, not more than 97% calcium fluoride	705	1,090	772	523	3,090	556
<b>Total</b>	2,900	3,700	4,220	2,680	13,500	2,730
Hydrofluoric acid	4,320	3,730	2,920	2,650	13,600	4,730
Aluminum fluoride	6	22	53	35	116	55
Cryolite	1,260	1,540	1,680	1,420	5,890	612
<b>Apparent consumption<sup>3</sup></b>						
Acid grade, more than 97% calcium fluoride	125,000	60,400	84,600	92,500	362,000	94,000
Metallurgical grade, not more than 97% calcium fluoride	10,700	5,050	5,670	6,890	28,300	2,190
<b>Total</b>	135,000	65,500	90,300	99,400	391,000	96,200

<sup>1</sup>Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Trade Mining, LLC; data may be adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.<sup>2</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>3</sup>Defined as imports minus exports.

**Table 2.** U.S. imports for consumption of fluorspar, by country and value.

[Imports for consumption include imports of immediate entry and warehouse withdrawals. Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Cost, insurance, and freight at U.S. ports. Estimated and revised data are marked with a superscript "e" and "r." Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Trade Mining, LLC; data may be adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.]

Country or locality	2024 <sup>1</sup>								2025 <sup>1</sup>			
	1st quarter		2d quarter		3d quarter		4th quarter		1st quarter–4th quarter		1st quarter	
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)
<b>Acid grade, more than 97% calcium fluoride</b>												
Canada	0	0	142	76	710	381	0	0	852	456	300	158
China	23,800	11,800	546	321	337	245	886	469	25,500	12,800	3,340	1,870
Germany	73	42	63	40	72	40	79	50	287	173	76	61
India	21	12	84	53	57	27	0	0	162	92	0	0
Mexico	76,500	36,700	42,600	19,100	64,300	29,000	69,800	32,100	253,000	117,000	52,900	25,200
Mongolia	0	0	302	181	0	0	0	0	302	181	0	0
Namibia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
South Africa	26,400	13,200	0	0	10,200	5,290	10,800	5,050	47,400	23,500	0	0
Spain	0	0	0	0	11,000	5,240	0	0	11,000	5,240	0	0
Sweden	142	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	142	76	0	0
United Kingdom	58	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	35	5	18
Vietnam	0	0	19,300	6,900 <sup>r,e</sup>	1,410	530 <sup>r,e</sup>	13,100	4,900 <sup>r,e</sup>	33,700	12,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	39,500	16,000 <sup>e</sup>
<b>Total</b>	127,000	61,800	63,000	27,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	88,100	41,000	94,600	43,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	372,000	170,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	96,200	43,000 <sup>e</sup>
<b>Metallurgical grade, not more than 97% calcium fluoride</b>												
Canada	0	0	0	0	22	17	0	0	22	17	0	0
China	7,310	3,870	1,350	661	4,520	2,700	0	0	13,200	7,230	0	0
Mexico	2,770	459	4,700	617	1,800	341	7,270	813	16,500	2,230	2,480	471
Mongolia	202	144	0	0	101	69	71	48	374	261	271	167
Pakistan	0	0	90	92	0	0	0	0	90	92	0	0
South Africa	1,100	639	0	0	0	0	50	49	1,150	687	0	0
Zambia	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	16	24	16	0	0
<b>Total</b>	11,400	5,120	6,140	1,370	6,440	3,130	7,420	926	31,400	10,500	2,750	638
<b>Grand total</b>	138,000	66,900	69,100	28,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	94,540	44,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	102,000	44,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	403,000	180,000 <sup>r,e</sup>	99,000	44,000 <sup>e</sup>

**Table 3.** U.S. imports for consumption of hydrofluoric acid.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Cost, insurance, and freight at U.S. ports. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.]

Country or locality	2024								2025			
	1st quarter		2d quarter		3d quarter		4d quarter		1st quarter–4th quarter		1st quarter	
	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Quantity (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)
Belgium	( <sup>1</sup> )	22	( <sup>1</sup> )	22	( <sup>1</sup> )	29	1	31	2	103	( <sup>1</sup> )	15
Canada	120	232	92	176	64	138	143	242	419	788	136	234
China	202	251	161	256	411	581	359	598	1,130	1,690	406	523
Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	0	( <sup>1</sup> )	5	( <sup>1</sup> )	5	0	0
France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	( <sup>1</sup> )	2
Germany	166	540	278	899	185	599	297	928	927	2,970	152	492
India	234	301	110	248	172	347	167	347	682	1,240	527	932
Japan	568	1,350	668	1,380	639	1,400	557	1,370	2,430	5,500	437	1,090
Korea, Republic of	220	546	229	545	229	516	229	544	906	2,150	211	485
Mexico	14,600	35,600	15,500	39,800	14,600	37,900	10,000	27,800	54,700	141,000	12,700	31,800
Norway	( <sup>1</sup> )	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	( <sup>1</sup> )	8	0	0
Singapore	81	309	97	371	81	312	113	444	370	1,440	48	191
Spain	419	676	612	834	1,360	2,030	925	1,390	3,320	4,930	486	801
Taiwan	951	3,350	774	2,260	861	3,000	821	2,470	3,410	11,100	1,340	4,140
United Kingdom	260	431	424	726	0	0	0	0	684	1,160	148	248
<b>Total</b>	17,900	43,600	19,000	47,600	18,600	46,900	13,600	36,100	69,000	174,000	16,600	41,000

<sup>1</sup>Less than ½ unit.