Mineral Industry Surveys

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

Sidney DeLoach-Overton (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-4927
Email: sdeloach-overton@usgs.gov
Internet: https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys

MAGNESIUM METAL IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2026

Total magnesium imports for consumption in the first quarter of 2026 were 20,300 metric tons (t), 20 percent more than those in the fourth quarter of 2025 (table 1). In the first quarter of 2026, imports of magnesium alloys, scrap, and semifabricated products increased by 39 percent, 24 percent, and 16 percent, respectively, compared with those in the previous quarter. Imports of magnesium metal decreased by 6 percent compared to those in the previous quarter. Magnesium metal accounted for 19 percent of the total imports, with Israel (45 percent), Turkey (34 percent), and Brazil (10 percent) as the leading sources. Alloys accounted for 29 percent of total imports, with the Republic of Korea (56 percent), Taiwan (14 percent), and Germany (10 percent) as the leading sources. Scrap accounted for 46 percent of total magnesium imports, with China (22 percent), Canada (20 percent), Czechia (17 percent), and Mexico (12 percent) as the leading sources. Semifabricated products accounted for 6 percent of total imports, with Mexico (57 percent), Austria (18 percent), and China (7 percent) as the leading sources (fig. 1, table 1).

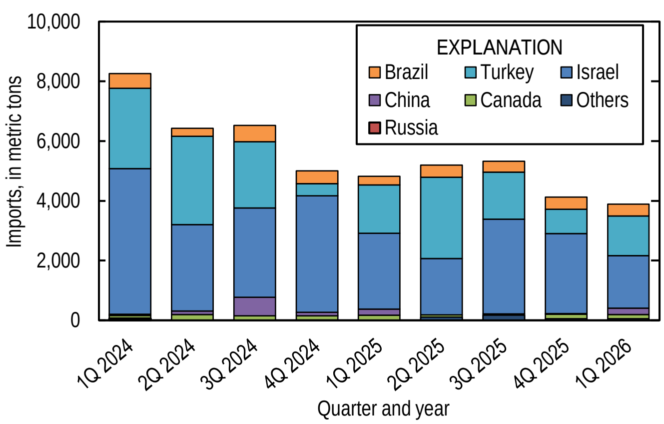

Figure 1. Quarterly imports of magnesium metal from the first quarter of 2024 through the first quarter of 2026. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, adjusted by USGS.

Total magnesium exports in the first quarter of 2026 were 373 t, 8 percent more than those in the fourth quarter of 2025 (table 1). In the first quarter of 2026, magnesium metal exports accounted for 5 percent of total magnesium exports and totaled 18 t, with Mexico receiving 81 percent. Magnesium scrap accounted for 37 percent of total magnesium exports in the first quarter of 2026, with Mexico receiving 45 percent. Alloys accounted for 15 percent of total magnesium exports, with Canada receiving 83 percent. Semifabricated products accounted for 44 percent of total magnesium exports, with the United Kingdom (47 percent), Canada (12 percent), Czechia (8 percent), and Israel (6 percent) as the leading destinations.

The average U.S. spot dealer import price for magnesium increased by 3 percent at the end of the quarter compared with that at the beginning of the quarter. At the beginning of the first quarter of 2026, the U.S. spot dealer import price range was $3.00 to $3.25 per pound and increased to $3.15 to $3.30 per pound. In Europe, the average price also increased by 3 percent at the end of the quarter compared with that at the beginning of the quarter. At the beginning of the quarter, the European free market price range was $2,500 to $2,550 per metric ton. By the end of the first quarter, the price range was $2,580 to $2,600 per metric ton (table 2).

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GENERAL INFORMATION

This publication is provided by the National Minerals Information Center (NMIC), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Includes data available through May 22, 2026, unless otherwise noted.

NMIC data included in Excel tables of the Minerals Yearbook Chapters and Minerals Industry Surveys are considered preliminary, for informational purposes only.

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Unless otherwise noted, totals, United States (U.S.) data, and estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices and unit values; may not add to totals shown. Data may include revisions to previously published data.

FOOTNOTES AND TERMINOLOGY

Year-to-date indicates the sum of all months or quarters for the given year to the given period.

Estimated data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript "e." Preliminary data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript "p."

Do, ditto. NA, not available. No., number. W, withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. —, not applicable. <0.5, less than half a unit.

Mg - Chemical symbol and abbreviation for magnesium.

TRADE DATA

Trade data is sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/). "HTS" indicates the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code. "Schedule B" indicates the Schedule B of the United States number.

Imports refers to "imports for consumption." Import valuation is customs value, free-alongside-ship basis.

Exports refers to "domestic exports." Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

CONTACT

For questions on this report, please contact Vanessa Londono, vlondono@usgs.gov.

If you are an industry producer or consumer and would like to contribute to NMIC industry surveys, please contact Samuel Oldham, soldham@usgs.gov.

Table 1. U.S. imports for consumption and exports of magnesium.
[Data are in metric tons.]

Product	2025	2026			
		January	February	March	Year-to-date
Imports for consumption					
Metal	19,800	1,410	1,330	1,210	3,940
Waste and scrap	34,400	2,840	2,730	3,810	9,380
Alloys (magnesium content)	20,500	1,550	1,610	2,650	5,810
Sheet, tubing, ribbons, wire, powder, and other (magnesium content)	3,730	325	368	424	1,120
Total	78,400	6,120	6,040	8,100	20,300
Exports					
Metal	59	7	5	6	18
Waste and scrap	413	64	47	27	137
Alloys (gross weight)	698	34	20	1	55
Sheet, tubing, ribbons, wire, powder, and other (gross weight)	1,230	53	53	57	163
Total	2,400	158	125	90	373

Table 2. Magnesium prices in the first quarter of 2026.

Product	Beginning of Quarter	End of Quarter
U.S. spot dealer import (dollars per pound)	3.00-3.25	3.15-3.30
European free market (dollars per metric ton)	2,500-2,550	2,580-2,600

Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.