

Mineral Industry Surveys

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BAUXITE AND ALUMINA IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2014

Imports of crude and dried bauxite in the first quarter of 2014 were 2.75 million metric tons (Mt), 3% greater than those in the fourth quarter of 2013 and 4% greater than those in the first quarter of 2013. Jamaica (42%), Guinea (29%), and Brazil (27%) were the leading sources of crude dry bauxite imports in the first quarter of 2014. Imports of crude and dried bauxite from Brazil during the first quarter of 2014 increased by 34% compared with those in the fourth quarter of 2013. This increase was partially offset by 8% and 6% declines, respectively, from Guinea and Jamaica.

Imports of alumina during the first quarter of 2014 were 450,000 metric tons (t), 6% less than those in the fourth quarter 2013 and 28% less than those in the first quarter of 2013. The leading sources of imported alumina during the first quarter of 2014 were Australia (42%), Suriname (33%), and Brazil (14%).

Decreased alumina imports from Jamaica of 21,600 t and Suriname of 21,500 t accounted for most of the decrease in alumina imports compared with those in the fourth quarter of 2013.

Exports of alumina during the first quarter of 2014 were 620,000 t, 6% more than those in the fourth quarter of 2013 and 31% more than those in the first quarter of 2013. The leading destinations of alumina exported during the first quarter of 2014 were Canada (22%), Egypt (20%), Iceland (19%), and Norway (15%). Increased alumina exports to China of 45,100 t, Georgia of 31,000 t, Egypt of 17,800 t, and Iceland of 15,800 t accounted for most of the increase in alumina exports compared with those in the fourth quarter of 2013, but were partially offset by decreased alumina exports to Russia of 61,800 t and Canada of 23,700 t.

TABLE 1
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF CRUDE AND DRIED BAUXITE¹

(Metric tons)

Country	2013				1st quarter– 4th quarter	2014 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Imports (for consumption):						
Brazil	658,000	577,000	697,000	549,000	2,480,000	736,000
Guinea	775,000	638,000	236,000	863,000	2,510,000	798,000
Jamaica ²	1,210,000	1,150,000	1,130,000	1,220,000	4,710,000	1,140,000
Other	16,000	35,100	29,800	45,500	126,000	74,700
Total	2,660,000	2,400,000	2,090,000	2,680,000	9,830,000	2,750,000
Exports:						
Canada	842	1,190	916	614	3,560	478
Mexico	--	--	--	14	14	21
Other	187	214	272	106	779	119
Total	1,030	1,400	1,190	734	4,350	618

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Source: Jamaica Bauxite Institute.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF CALCINED BAUXITE, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons)

Country	2013										2014	
	1st quarter		2d quarter		3d quarter		4th quarter		1st quarter–4th quarter		1st quarter	
	Refrac- tory	Other	Refrac- tory	Other	Refrac- tory	Other	Refrac- tory	Other	Refrac- tory	Other	Refrac- tory	Other
Imports (for consumption):												
Australia	--	43,100	--	--	--	73,500	--	11,800	--	128,000	--	50,800
Brazil	6,550	45,000	3,040	--	--	--	--	43,900	9,590	88,900	--	--
China	6,830	5,370	15,800	2,140	21,100	1,230	20,600	4,290	64,300	13,000	7,780	1,540
Greece	--	--	--	--	--	28,100	--	22,500	--	50,500	--	39,800
Guyana	15,400	18,200	11,800	67,900	11,400	18,100	18,300	65,300	56,900	169,000	--	5,270
Other	18	983	72	202	--	522	19	705	109	2,410	33	221
Total	28,800	113,000	30,700	70,200	32,500	121,000	38,900	148,000	131,000	453,000	7,820	97,600
Exports:												
Canada	487	--	1,420	--	1,670	--	3,060	--	6,630	--	2,000	--
India	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Malaysia	--	60	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	60	--	--
Mexico	122	--	193	--	278	--	38	--	631	--	171	140
United Arab Emirates	--	--	228	--	--	--	--	--	228	--	--	--
Other	499	--	174	--	--	55	222	--	895	55	401	67
Total	1,110	60	2,010	--	1,940	55	3,320	--	8,390	115	2,570	207

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF ALUMINA¹

(Metric tons, calcined equivalent)

Country	2013				1st quarter– 4th quarter	2014 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Imports (for consumption):²						
Australia	239,000	144,000	188,000	189,000	760,000	189,000
Brazil	62,600	52,600	73,000	52,600	241,000	62,300
Jamaica ³	61,000	44,600	26,300	30,100	162,000	8,520
Suriname	220,000	184,000	149,000	171,000	724,000	150,000
Other	45,700	42,100	35,100	36,900	160,000	40,800
Total	628,000	468,000	471,000	480,000	2,050,000	450,000
Exports:⁴						
Canada	208,000	232,000	194,000	158,000	792,000	134,000
China	1,140	1,110	2,870	1,110	6,230	46,200
Egypt	52,600	104,000	129,000	105,000	391,000	123,000
Georgia	59,000	31,500	65,600	52	156,000	31,100
Iceland	61,100	62,100	67,600	101,000	292,000	117,000
Mexico	15,900	21,100	21,400	20,700	79,100	27,100
Norway	41	49,100	86,200	88,100	223,000	95,000
Russia	59,700	31,000	30,400	93,600	215,000	31,800
Other	14,900 ^r	15,100 ^r	46,000 ^r	15,700 ^r	92,800 ^r	15,200
Total	473,000	547,000	643,000	583,000	2,250,000	620,000

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes imports of aluminum hydroxide reported in calcined equivalent. As shipped, aluminum hydroxide: 193,000 metric tons (t) in 2013; 58,200 t in the first quarter of 2014.

³Source: Jamaica Bauxite Institute.

⁴Includes exports of aluminum hydroxide reported in calcined equivalent. As shipped, aluminum hydroxide: 113,000 t in 2013; 36,400 t in the first quarter of 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.