

Imports of Minerals and Metals to Mexico, 1994 US \$

Commodity	World	USA	Canada	Canada's share (percentage)
Salt	5,874,027	5,750,960	290	<1.0
Sulphur	10,940,935	5,202,041	5,735,854	52.4
Graphite	2,003,860	923,599	198,605	9.9
Sands, including silica and quartz	12,675,608	12,501,468	0.0	0.0
Kaolinic clays	23,223,625	22,439,889	1,337	<1.0
Other clays	23,174,542	22,903,829	0.0	0.0
Andalusite, kyanite, sillimanite, mullite	1,474,251	1,369,351	0.0	0.0
Natural calcium phosphates	48,162,793	6,020	1,118	<1.0
Natural barium sulphate and carbonate	2,338,631	1,044,744	8	0.0
Natural abrasives including emery, corundum and garnet	1,274,918	1,142,627	83,045	6.5
Slate, marble, granite and other building stone	3,750,444	1,151,065	0.0	0.0
Gravel, pebbles, chippings, powder etc.	897,822	812,873	0.0	0.0
Dolomite	2,878,155	2,529,833	273,767	9.5
Magnesium carbonate	1,442,883	960,720	96,169	6.7
Magnesia	8,311,185	4,498,642	0.0	0.0
Plasters, gypsum, limestone	4,855,098	4,150,030	0.0	0.0
Portland cement	11,971,367	11,795,546	376	<1.0
Aluminous cement	4,997,606	4,513,596	0.0	0.0
Other hydraulic cements	746,332	688,932	1,280	<1.0
Asbestos	20,807,462	312,183	15,125,415	72.7
Steatite and talc	7,465,011	5,639,845	0.0	0.0
Borates and concentrates thereof	518,728	463,101	0.0	0.0
Feldspar	1,931,820	1,925,280	0.0	0.0
Flourspar	2,995,133	2,989,424	0.0	0.0
Leucite, nepheline and nepheline syenite	2,119,484	1,432,827	683,107	32.2
Vermiculite, perlite and chlorites	926,186	909,235	12,972	1.4
Other mineral substances	8,687,402	5,605,325	187,397	2.2
Iron ores including iron pyrites	2,316,474	1,061,098	103	<1.0
Manganese ores and concentrates	5,279,435	68,837	0.0	0.0
Copper ores and concentrates	31,391,729	497	20,235,699	64.5
Aluminum ores and concentrates	2,351,036	1,144,075	0.0	0.0
Lead ores and concentrates	12,683,290	926,044	0.0	0.0
Tin ores and concentrates	1,499,567	62,704	0.0	0.0
Chromium ores and concentrates	1,118,329	382,971	0.0	0.0
Molybdenum ores and concentrates	6,853,562	6,853,321	0.0	0.0
Titanium ores and concentrates	14,762,041	3,658,713	0.0	0.0
Zirconium ores and concentrates	306,914	125,029	0.0	0.0
Antimony ores and concentrates	212,537	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slag and dross	7,567,034	3,348,936	0.0	0.0
Ash and residue	1,173,698	1,173,698	0.0	0.0
Bituminous coal	15,818,478	5,614,845	10,203,633	64.5
Anthracite coal	1,236,553	1,218,669	0.0	0.0
Lignite	581,769	511,986	0.0	0.0
Peat	218,748	97,610	121,095	55.4
Coke and semi-coke	48,252,418	24,414,498	10,421,947	21.6
Other	3,586,836	2,934,529	2,155	<1.0
Totals	373,655,756	177,261,045	63,385,372	17.0

Source: *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development.

totalled 358,953 tonnes, almost 6 percent of world production of newly-mined zinc. Approximately half of Mexico's zinc production is exported to the United States, Japan and Belgium in the form of either zinc metal or zinc concentrates.

Lead

Mexico is a major supplier of lead to the world market and ranks seventh amongst world producers. Production volume was 163,836 tonnes in 1994, a drop of about 10 percent from the year before. The industry exports more than 60 percent of lead production. Mexico's smelter and refinery capacity is the largest in Latin America. About 60 percent of domestic consumption of lead is for the manufacture of batteries and 14 percent is for pigments.

NON-METALLIC MINERALS

Production of non-metallic minerals continues to grow as both domestic and international demand increase. The growth of this sector has also been bolstered by extensive reserves, the relatively small investments required, and the labour-intensive nature of this type of mining.

Mexico is the world's top producer of celestite. This mineral is used primarily to produce strontium carbonate for the manufacture of colour television picture tubes, x-ray equipment and ceramic magnets.

Although Mexico remains among the world's top ten sulphur producers, output has fallen steadily for the past decade, and significant quantities are now imported from Canada and the United States. Production in 1994 was 876,897 tonnes, compared with a 1987 peak of 2.3 million tonnes.

Mexico is the world's eighth largest producer of salt, with about 4 percent of world production. Output in 1994 was about 7.5 million tonnes.