The U-factor criteria for walls depend on the class of construction. U-factors used for compliance must be selected from Joint Appendix IV. There are six classes of wall constructions: wood frame, metal frame, metal building walls, medium mass, high mass, and other (Figure 3-13). The “other” category is used for any wall type that does not fit into one of the other five wall classes. The following bullets give more information.

- **Wood-framed walls.** As defined by the International Building Code, Type IV buildings typically have wood-framed walls. Framing members typically consist of 2x4 or 2x6 framing members spaced at 24 in. or 16 in. OC. Composite framing members and engineered wood products also qualify as wood-framed walls if the framing members are non-metallic. Structurally insulated panels (SIPS) are another construction type that qualifies as wood framed. SIPS panels typically consist of rigid foam insulation sandwiched between two layers of oriented strand board (OSB). Joint Appendix IV, Table IV.9 has data for conventional wood-framed walls and Table IV.10 has data for SIPS panels.