

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Robert D. Crangle, Jr., Gypsum Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-6410, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: rcrangle@usgs.gov

Paula R. Neely (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7949
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: pneely@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

GYPSUM IN THE FOURTH QUARTER 2011

Producers mined 2.18 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the fourth quarter of 2011 (table 1). This amount was slightly less than that of the third quarter of 2011 and 8% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2010. Synthetic gypsum production was 1.77 Mt in the fourth quarter of 2011 (table 1), which was slightly less than that of the third quarter of 2011 and 4% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2010. During the fourth quarter of 2011, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 37% of the 4.81 Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum.

Sales of uncalcined gypsum in the fourth quarter of 2011, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 376,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which was 5% more than those of the third quarter of 2011 and 52% less than those of the fourth quarter of 2010.

Sales of calcined gypsum for the fourth quarter of 2011 (table 1) was 2.93 Mt, which was slightly less than that of the third quarter of 2011 and 8% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2010. Sales of board products (table 2) were 3.73 Mt, equivalent to approximately 416 million square meters (4.48 billion square feet), which was 4% more than those of the third quarter of 2011 and 14% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2010.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the fourth quarter of 2011 were 864,000 t (table 3),

an increase of 12% from those of the third quarter of 2011 and slightly more than those of the fourth quarter of 2010. The United States imported crude gypsum from ten countries in the fourth quarter of 2011. Of these imports, Mexico accounted for 40%, followed by Canada with 38%, and Spain with 22%. Imports from China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom were negligible.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the fourth quarter of 2011 were 72,000 t, equivalent to 8.0 million square meters (85.6 million square feet). These imports were 15% greater than those of the third quarter of 2011 and 37% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2010. The United States imported wallboard products from five countries in the fourth quarter of 2011. Mexico accounted for 59% of these imports, followed by Canada with 41%. Imports from China, Colombia, and Denmark were negligible.

Wallboard exports to 38 countries and territories in the fourth quarter of 2011 were 212,000 t, equivalent to 23.6 million square meters (254 million square feet). This amount was 6% more than that of the third quarter of 2011 and 18% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2010. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 28 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 93%.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2010		2011				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter ³
Crude:							
Mined ⁴	2,020,000	8,580,000	2,240,000	2,250,000	2,230,000	2,180,000	8,900,000
Imported ⁵	844,000	3,330,000	799,000	892,000	773,000	864,000	3,330,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	1,700,000	7,320,000	1,790,000	1,740,000	1,780,000	1,770,000	7,080,000
Total supply	4,570,000	19,200,000	4,830,000	4,880,000	4,780,000	4,810,000	19,300,000
Crude, exported ⁵	88,000	360,000	70,100	59,000	94,700	92,700	316,000
Consumption	4,480,000	18,900,000	4,760,000	4,820,000	4,690,000	4,720,000	19,000,000
Calcined:							
Produced	2,710,000	12,200,000	3,060,000	2,930,000	2,980,000	2,930,000	11,900,000
Imported ⁷	3,520	15,100	3,060	3,790	3,910	3,290	14,000
Total supply	2,710,000	12,200,000	3,060,000	2,940,000	2,990,000	2,940,000	11,900,000
Exported ⁷	37,900	190,000	54,900	72,200	90,100	89,800	307,000
Consumption	2,670,000	12,000,000	3,000,000	2,860,000	2,900,000	2,850,000	11,600,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁵Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁶Reported production only.

⁷Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2010		2011				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter ³
Uncalcined:⁴							
Portland cement	387,000	1,510,000	148,000	233,000	232,000	251,000	863,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	393,000	1,500,000	115,000	148,000	128,000	126,000	517,000
Total	781,000	3,020,000	263,000	381,000	360,000	376,000	1,380,000
Calcined:							
Board products ⁵	3,290,000	14,200,000	3,490,000	3,490,000	3,600,000	3,730,000	14,300,000
Plaster	18,200	80,200	19,100	19,400	19,100	17,400	75,100
Total	3,300,000	14,300,000	3,510,000	3,510,000	3,610,000	3,750,000	14,400,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁶							
Regular board	2,180,000	9,570,000	2,270,000	2,270,000	2,390,000	2,440,000	9,380,000
Type X board	1,320,000	5,560,000	1,430,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,510,000	5,740,000
Other	445,000	1,930,000	483,000	522,000	520,000	526,000	2,050,000
Total supply	3,940,000	17,100,000	4,190,000	4,190,000	4,310,000	4,480,000	17,200,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁵Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁶One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2010		2011				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter ²
Canada	549,000	1,980,000	383,000	445,000	315,000	327,000	1,470,000
China	15	15	209	11	3	19	242
France	42	50	--	40	--	80	120
Germany	--	39	21	40	85	2	148
Hong Kong	--	1	5	1	--	73	79
Italy	--	10	--	--	--	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	--	5	5
Mexico	247,000	1,140,000	306,000	332,000	245,000	346,000	1,230,000
Morocco	6	6	8	--	--	--	8
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	19	19
South Africa	--	8,010	--	--	--	--	--
Spain	48,400	198,000	109,000	116,000	213,000	191,000	629,000
Switzerland	1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	8	--	284	--	--	--	284
Thailand	--	--	20	40	--	--	60
United Kingdom	12	33	10	--	12	15	37
Total	844,000	3,330,000	799,000	892,000	773,000	864,000	3,330,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption ³	Production ⁴	Imports ⁵	Exports ⁵
2010:				
4th quarter	2,770	2,020	844	88
1st quarter–4th quarter	11,500	8,580	3,330	360
2011:				
1st quarter	2,970	2,240	799	70
2d quarter	3,090	2,250	892	59
3d quarter	2,910	2,230	773	95
4th quarter	2,950	2,180	864	93
1st quarter–4th quarter	11,900	8,900	3,330	316

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

⁴Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

⁵Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS IN 2011^{1,2}

(Thousand square feet)³

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
4th quarter:											
Veneer base	24,900	3,940	10,400	794	6,830	24	73	196	1,440	6	48,700
Sheathing	3,000	6,930	6,970	8,070	17,700	5,170	17,900	5,850	15,000	10,800	97,300
Regular gypsum board	63,800	258,000	291,000	187,000	556,000	186,000	377,000	188,000	200,000	137,000	2,440,000
Type X gypsum board	46,300	179,000	187,000	122,000	238,000	70,800	204,000	145,000	261,000	52,800	1,510,000
Liner Panel	1,080	4,690	2,390	1,180	10,200	718	2,770	1,520	2,020	689	27,300
Predecorated board	680	1,790	2,210	1,150	3,110	931	1,710	822	1,560	390	14,300
5/16 Mobile home board	--	2,800	3,330	27	1,260	12,300	1,680	1,160	270	266	23,100
Water/moisture resistant board	15,100	72,100	36,800	17,300	58,000	16,100	32,300	15,200	32,900	19,800	315,000
Total	155,000	530,000	541,000	337,000	891,000	292,000	637,000	358,000	514,000	222,000	4,480,000
1st quarter–4th quarter:											
Veneer base	103,000	14,800	36,900	3,750	26,400	91	490	756	6,380	305	193,000
Sheathing	10,400	24,500	24,900	23,200	62,400	17,900	65,400	20,100	51,400	44,700	345,000
Regular gypsum board	250,000	974,000	1,130,000	689,000	2,150,000	684,000	1,550,000	677,000	830,000	479,000	9,410,000
Type X gypsum board	195,000	711,000	725,000	455,000	907,000	254,000	798,000	511,000	997,000	188,000	5,740,000
Liner Panel	4,680	19,300	8,340	3,960	40,100	2,650	10,300	5,340	7,740	3,950	106,000
Predecorated board	3,270	6,690	8,260	4,580	12,600	3,880	8,080	3,120	6,480	1,030	58,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	12,400	11,600	27	4,500	50,800	5,700	2,740	1,420	2,890	92,100
Water/moisture resistant board	60,700	259,000	152,000	71,400	231,000	58,200	136,000	58,600	137,000	81,200	1,250,000
Total	626,000	2,020,000	2,090,000	1,250,000	3,440,000	1,070,000	2,570,000	1,280,000	2,040,000	802,000	17,200,000

-- Zero.

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

²Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

³One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.