

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN THE THIRD QUARTER 2012

Producers mined 2.51 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the third quarter of 2012 (table 1). This amount was 8% more than that of the second quarter of 2012 and 12% more than that of the third quarter of 2011. Synthetic gypsum production was 2.21 Mt in the third quarter of 2012 (table 1), which was 5% more than that of the second quarter of 2012 and 24% more than that of the third quarter of 2011. During the third quarter of 2012, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 39% of the 5.64 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 third quarter of 2012, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 445,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which was 12% more than those of the second quarter of 2012 and 24% more than those of the third quarter of 2011.

Sales of calcined gypsum for the third quarter of 2012 (table 1) were 3.37 Mt, which was 9% more than that of the second quarter of 2012 and 13% more than that of the third quarter of 2011. Sales of board products (table 2) were 4.14 Mt, equivalent to approximately 462 million square meters (4.97 billion square feet), which was 11% more than those of the second quarter of 2012 and 15% more than those of the third quarter of 2011.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the third quarter of 2012 were 921,000 t (table 3), an increase of 8% from those of the second quarter of 2012 and 19% more than those of the third quarter of 2011. Canada accounted for 38% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 34%, and Spain with 28%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the third quarter of 2012 were 79,000 t, equivalent to 8.8 million square meters (94.5 million square feet). These imports were 11% more than those of the second quarter of 2012 and 27% more than those of the third quarter of 2011. Mexico accounted for 54% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 44%.

Wallboard exports to 41 countries and territories in the third quarter of 2012 were 197,000 t, equivalent to 21.9 million square meters (235 million square feet). This amount was 9% less than that of the second quarter of 2012 and slightly less than that of the third quarter of 2011. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 29 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)

	2011			2012			
	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	1st quarter– 3d quarter ³
Crude:							
Mined ⁴	2,230,000	2,180,000	8,900,000	2,380,000	2,330,000	2,510,000	7,210,000
Imported ⁵	773,000	864,000	3,330,000	751,000	857,000	921,000	2,530,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	1,780,000	1,770,000	7,080,000	1,880,000	2,100,000	2,210,000	6,190,000
Total supply	4,780,000	4,810,000	19,300,000	5,010,000	5,280,000	5,640,000	15,900,000
Crude, exported ⁵	94,700	92,700	316,000	171,000	80,200	76,000	327,000
Consumption	4,690,000	4,720,000	19,000,000	4,840,000	5,200,000	5,570,000	15,600,000
Calcined:							
Produced	2,980,000	2,930,000	11,900,000	2,990,000	3,080,000	3,370,000	9,440,000
Imported ⁷	3,910	3,290	14,000	3,930	4,670	4,390	13,000
Total supply	2,990,000	2,940,000	11,900,000	3,000,000	3,080,000	3,370,000	9,450,000
Exported ⁷	90,100	89,800	307,000	35,100	30,300	43,300	109,000
Consumption	2,900,000	2,850,000	11,600,000	2,960,000	3,050,000	3,330,000	9,340,000

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)

	2011			2012			
	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	1st quarter– 3d quarter ³
Uncalcined: ⁴							
Portland cement	232,000	251,000	863,000	223,000	233,000	297,000	752,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	128,000	126,000	517,000	128,000	166,000	148,000	442,000
Total	360,000	376,000	1,380,000	351,000	398,000	445,000	1,190,000
Calcined:							
Board products ⁵	3,600,000	3,730,000	14,300,000	3,580,000	3,730,000	4,140,000	11,400,000
Plaster	19,100	17,400	75,100	21,700	17,900	18,800	58,400
Total	3,610,000	3,750,000	14,400,000	3,600,000	3,750,000	4,160,000	11,500,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) ⁶							
Regular board	2,390,000	2,440,000	9,380,000	2,340,000	2,440,000	2,760,000	7,530,000
Type X board	1,400,000	1,510,000	5,740,000	1,430,000	1,500,000	1,610,000	4,540,000
Other	520,000	526,000	2,050,000	521,000	538,000	599,000	1,660,000
Total supply	4,310,000	4,480,000	17,200,000	4,290,000	4,470,000	4,970,000	13,700,000

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 powerplants.

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	2011			2012			
	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	1st quarter– 3d quarter ²
Brazil	--	--	--	1	--	1	2
Canada	315,000	327,000	1,470,000	168,000	205,000	348,000	721,000
China	3	19	242	653	189	--	842
France	--	80	120	76	152	--	228
Germany	85	2	148	23	91	19	133
Hong Kong	--	73	79	--	--	2	2
Japan	--	5	5	1	1	2	4
Mexico	245,000	346,000	1,230,000	335,000	398,000	310,000	1,040,000
Morocco	--	--	8	--	--	--	--
Netherlands	--	19	19	--	--	--	--
Spain	213,000	191,000	629,000	248,000	254,000	262,000	763,000
Taiwan	--	--	284	--	--	--	--
Thailand	--	--	60	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	12	15	37	5	--	--	5
Total	773,000	864,000	3,330,000	751,000	857,000	921,000	2,530,000

-- 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
2011:				
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
2012:				
1st quarter	2,960	2,380	751	171
2d quarter	3,100	2,330	857	80
3d quarter	3,350	2,510	921	76
1st quarter–3d quarter	9,410	7,210	2,530	327

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. Quarterly 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 quarterly 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 2012^{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
3d quarter:											
Veneer base	26,200	3,130	13,200	1,020	6,940	33	21	118	1,390	11	52,000
Sheathing	3,790	6,950	6,650	6,800	17,300	5,070	18,300	6,000	14,000	12,500	97,400
Regular gypsum board	54,900	262,000	308,000	209,000	643,000	200,000	463,000	223,000	241,000	154,000	2,760,000
Type X gypsum board	49,700	184,000	192,000	133,000	261,000	70,700	215,000	156,000	298,000	52,500	1,610,000
Liner panel	1,830	6,240	2,630	1,150	13,500	697	3,080	1,760	2,600	362	33,900
Predecorated board	677	1,800	2,460	1,140	3,450	1,010	2,290	961	1,810	517	16,100
5/16 Mobile home board	--	3,360	3,970	55	1,620	14,800	1,700	483	244	36	26,300
Water/moisture resistant board	15,900	75,600	51,000	21,300	75,600	21,300	37,700	14,800	36,700	23,100	373,000
Total	153,000	542,000	580,000	374,000	1,020,000	314,000	741,000	403,000	596,000	243,000	4,970,000
1st quarter–3d quarter:											
Veneer base	79,100	9,710	30,200	2,640	18,400	47	153	500	4,530	100	145,000
Sheathing	8,570	18,900	18,200	16,600	48,600	13,400	49,600	15,300	40,300	35,800	265,000
Regular gypsum board	168,000	754,000	864,000	567,000	1,710,000	528,000	1,240,000	574,000	643,000	479,000	7,530,000
Type X gypsum board	146,000	526,000	551,000	379,000	723,000	192,000	606,000	428,000	816,000	174,000	4,540,000
Liner panel	4,500	17,200	6,600	3,000	35,900	2,140	9,290	4,720	7,210	1,500	92,100
Predecorated board	2,090	4,820	6,570	3,000	9,920	2,740	6,280	2,400	5,000	1,060	43,900
5/16 Mobile home board	--	7,830	12,000	108	4,060	41,900	4,970	2,010	609	146	73,600
Water/moisture resistant board	44,200	217,000	136,000	63,200	202,000	54,000	107,000	43,400	104,000	67,200	1,040,000
Total	452,000	1,560,000	1,620,000	1,030,000	2,760,000	833,000	2,030,000	1,070,000	1,620,000	759,000	13,700,000

-- 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.