

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JUNE 2009

Producers mined 833,000 metric tons (t) of gypsum in June 2009 (table 1). Output increased by 8% from that of May 2009 and was 57% less than the revised output data for June 2008. Synthetic gypsum production was 565,000 t in June 2009 (table 1), which was 3% more than that of May 2009 and 19% less than that of June 2008. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum. During June 2009, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 32% of the 1.8 million-metric-ton (Mt) total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in June 2009, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 407,000 t (table 2), 6% more than those of May 2009 and 12% more than those of June 2008.

Output of calcined gypsum for June 2009 (table 1) was 1.14 Mt, 12% more than that of May 2009 and 26% less than that of June 2008. Sales of board products (table 2) were 1.56 Mt, equivalent to approximately 145 million square meters (1.56 billion square feet), an increase of 12% from those of May 2009 and 30% less than those of June 2008.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in June 2009 were 364,000 t (table 3), slightly less than those of May 2009 and 42% less than those of June 2008. The United States imported crude gypsum from three countries in June 2009. Of these imports, Canada accounted for 58%,

followed by Mexico with 42%. Imports from China were negligible.

Gypsum wallboard imports for June 2009 were 17,200 t, equivalent to 1.9 million square meters (21 million square feet). These imports were unchanged from those of May 2009 and 40% less than those of June 2008. The United States imported wallboard products from five countries in June 2009. Mexico accounted for 54% of these imports, followed by Canada with 45%. Imports from Brazil, Colombia, and Italy were negligible. Wallboard exports to 25 countries and territories in June 2009 were 44,700 t, equivalent to 5.0 million square meters (53 million square feet). These exports were 10% less than those of May 2009 and 387% more than the reported June 2008 level. An adjustment by the U.S. Census Bureau in the calculation of 2009 monthly wallboard exports to Canada resulted in the large year-over-year increase. Consequently, the sizeable increase should not be interpreted as an actual rise in exports. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 19 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 91%, followed by the Bahamas, Costa Rica, and Mexico, each with 1%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2008		2009	
	January-June	May	June	January-June
Crude:				
Mined ³	6,360,000 ^r	772,000	833,000	4,780,000
Imported ⁴	3,660,000	370,000	364,000	2,200,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	3,940,000	551,000	565,000	3,560,000
Total supply	14,000,000 ^r	1,690,000	1,760,000	10,500,000
Crude, exported ⁴	80,200	7,270	7,350	56,800
Consumption	13,900,000 ^r	1,690,000	1,760,000	10,500,000
Calcined:				
Produced	9,500,000 ^r	1,010,000	1,140,000	6,950,000
Imported ⁶	7,070	1,960	926	8,120
Total supply	9,510,000 ^r	1,020,000	1,140,000	6,960,000
Exported ⁶	68,600	10,900	13,700	61,800
Consumption	9,440,000 ^r	1,000,000	1,130,000	6,900,000

^rRevised.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

³Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁴Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁵Reported production only.

⁶Import 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)

	2008		2009	
	January-June	May	June	January-June
Uncalcined: ³				
Portland cement	990,000	121,000	133,000	747,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	1,140,000	263,000	273,000	1,530,000
Total	2,130,000	383,000	407,000	2,270,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	11,200,000	1,160,000	1,300,000	7,730,000
Plaster	56,900	6,610	7,820	43,600
Total	11,300,000	1,170,000	1,310,000	7,770,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) ⁵				
Regular board	7,080,000	697,000	792,000	4,610,000
Type X board	4,950,000	531,000	580,000	3,570,000
Other	1,410,000	167,000	186,000	1,100,000
Total supply	13,400,000	1,390,000	1,560,000	9,280,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

³Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁴Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁵One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2008		2009	
	January-June	May	June	January-June
Brazil	-- ^r	--	--	1
Canada	2,400,000 ^r	213,000	213,000	1,370,000
China	42,200 ^r	--	3	3
Dominican Republic	39,900 ^r	--	--	--
France	--	--	--	18
Germany	--	--	--	64
India	1	--	--	--
Italy	6	--	--	--
Jamaica	12,800	--	--	--
Korea, Republic of	5 ^r	--	--	10
Mexico	907,000	134,000	152,000	735,000
Spain	259,000	23,100	--	94,000
United Kingdom	15	--	--	--
Total	3,660,000	370,000	364,000	2,200,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

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
2008:				
June	2,370	1,040	632	12
July	2,630	1,150	762	13
August	2,440	1,020	794	12
September	2,230	1,040	441	12
October	2,350	1,020	645	15
November	1,710	764	451	8
December	1,820	686	571	8
January-December	27,100	12,000	7,330	149
2009:				
January	1,210	836	381	7
February	1,020	806	233	14
March	1,190	806	394	12
April	1,180	723	461	9
May	1,140	772	370	7
June	1,190	833	364	7
January-June	6,920	4,780	2,200	56

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 the 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 2009^{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
June:											
Veneer base	8,360	1,170	3,770	296	2,620	25	3	140	1,040	1	17,400
Sheathing	501	2,500	2,320	2,080	6,530	1,530	8,260	2,270	6,090	2,790	34,900
Regular gypsum board	18,900	80,700	92,900	56,800	179,000	62,900	144,000	59,400	75,900	21,200	792,000
Type X gypsum board	16,800	65,700	66,800	40,300	95,600	26,700	95,000	56,100	108,000	9,200	580,000
Liner Panel	504	2,050	918	347	4,680	312	1,150	657	919	513	12,000
Predecorated board	225	604	728	440	1,590	518	939	335	509	123	6,010
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,050	1,560	--	760	5,210	1,060	78	128	39	9,880
Water/moisture resistant board	5,050	23,100	11,700	5,860	20,700	5,420	12,300	5,220	11,600	4,390	105,000
Total	50,300	177,000	181,000	106,000	311,000	103,000	263,000	124,000	204,000	38,300	1,560,000
January-June:											
Veneer base	50,800	7,470	19,200	1,770	16,000	155	165	727	5,100	257	102,000
Sheathing	5,000	16,300	13,200	11,300	43,700	11,300	50,800	16,400	33,700	15,200	217,000
Regular gypsum board	121,000	499,000	566,000	339,000	1,020,000	362,000	788,000	331,000	432,000	147,000	4,610,000
Type X gypsum board	101,000	399,000	400,000	233,000	607,000	170,000	576,000	384,000	646,000	58,500	3,570,000
Liner Panel	2,660	11,100	5,090	2,150	22,300	1,800	6,920	4,360	6,000	2,070	64,400
Predecorated board	1,270	3,240	3,860	2,110	6,850	1,970	5,100	2,080	2,870	646	30,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	4,350	6,340	--	7,280	31,200	8,530	880	603	77	59,300
Water/moisture resistant board	31,600	132,000	71,600	36,000	122,000	30,800	71,900	32,600	73,500	23,800	626,000
Total	313,000	1,070,000	1,090,000	625,000	1,850,000	609,000	1,510,000	771,000	1,200,000	247,000	9,280,000

-- 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.