

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JULY 2009

Producers mined 783,000 metric tons (t) of gypsum in July 2009 (table 1). Output decreased by 6% from that of June 2009 and was 53% less than the revised output data for July 2008. Synthetic gypsum production was 657,000 t in June 2009 (table 1), which was 16% more than that of June 2009 and 9% less than that of July 2008. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum. During July 2009, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 36% of the 1.82 million-metric-ton (Mt) total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in July 2009, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 466,000 t (table 2), 15% more than those of June 2009 and 35% more than those of July 2008.

Output of calcined gypsum for July 2009 (table 1) was 1.19 Mt, 4% more than that of June 2009 and 28% less than that of July 2008. Sales of board products (table 2) were 1.4 Mt, equivalent to approximately 156 million square meters (1.69 billion square feet), an increase of 8% from those of June 2009 and 23% less than those of July 2008.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in July 2009 were 381,000 t (table 3), an increase of 4% from those of June 2009 and 50% less than those of July 2008. The United States imported crude gypsum from three countries

in July 2009. Of these imports, Canada accounted for 73%, followed by Mexico with 18%, and Spain with 9%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for July 2009 were 17,400 t, equivalent to 1.93 million square meters (21 million square feet). These imports were up slightly from those of June 2009 and 34% less than those of July 2008. The United States imported wallboard products from four countries in July 2009. Canada accounted for 56% of these imports, followed by Mexico with 44%. Imports from Colombia and Denmark were negligible. Wallboard exports to 27 countries and territories in July 2009 were 53,915 t, equivalent to 6.0 million square meters (64 million square feet). These exports were 21% more than those of June 2009 and 478% more than the reported July 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 22 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 93%, followed by Singapore with 2%, and the Bahamas 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-July	June	July	January-July
Crude:				
Mined ³	7,510,000 ^r	833,000	783,000	5,560,000
Imported ⁴	4,420,000	364,000	381,000	2,590,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	4,650,000 ^r	565,000	657,000	4,210,000
Total supply	16,600,000 ^r	1,760,000	1,820,000	12,400,000
Crude, exported ⁴	92,800	7,350	10,300	67,100
Consumption	16,500,000 ^r	1,760,000	1,810,000	12,300,000
Calcined:				
Produced	11,200,000 ^r	1,140,000	1,190,000	8,150,000
Imported ⁶	8,090	926	1,260	9,380
Total supply	11,200,000 ^r	1,140,000	1,190,000	8,150,000
Exported ⁶	83,300	13,700	14,000	75,800
Consumption	11,100,000 ^r	1,130,000	1,180,000	8,080,000

^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-July	June	July	January-July
Uncalcined:³				
Portland cement	1,120,000	133,000	158,000	904,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	1,350,000	273,000	308,000	1,840,000
Total	2,470,000	407,000	466,000	2,740,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	13,000,000	1,300,000	1,400,000	9,130,000
Plaster	66,700	7,100 ^r	7,540	50,400 ^r
Total	13,100,000	1,310,000	1,410,000	9,180,000 ^r
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁵				
Regular board	8,230,000	792,000	891,000	5,500,000
Type X board	5,750,000	580,000	593,000	4,170,000
Other	1,640,000	186,000	198,000	1,300,000
Total supply	15,600,000	1,560,000	1,680,000	11,000,000

^rRevised.

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-July	June	July	January-July
Brazil	-- ^r	--	--	1
Canada	2,850,000 ^r	213,000	276,000	1,650,000
China	42,200 ^r	3	--	3
Dominican Republic	53,100 ^r	--	--	--
France	--	--	--	18
Germany	--	--	--	64
India	1	--	--	--
Italy	6	--	--	--
Jamaica	12,800	--	--	--
Korea, Republic of	5 ^r	--	--	10
Mexico	1,110,000	152,000	68,700	804,000
Netherlands	32	--	--	--
Spain	352,000	--	36,500	131,000
United Kingdom	15	--	--	--
Total	4,420,000	364,000	381,000	2,590,000

^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:				
July	1,900 ^r	1,150	762	13
August	1,800 ^r	1,020	794	12
September	1,470 ^r	1,040	441	12
October	1,650 ^r	1,020	645	15
November	1,210 ^r	764	451	8
December	1,250 ^r	686	571	8
January-December	19,200 ^r	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
July	1,150	783	381	10
January-July	8,080	5,560	2,590	66

^rRevised.

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
July:											
Veneer base	9,080	1,720	3,860	270	3,040	29	11	74	808	15	18,900
Sheathing	1,010	3,130	2,740	1,870	6,330	1,790	6,310	2,550	6,170	2,560	34,500
Regular gypsum board	21,300	95,700	103,000	65,600	201,000	71,600	159,000	66,900	81,300	25,700	891,000
Type X gypsum board	16,500	71,100	68,600	42,500	98,700	26,200	95,800	54,100	111,000	8,490	593,000
Liner Panel	455	2,540	878	415	5,160	178	908	592	893	276	12,300
Predecorated board	213	680	836	516	1,280	414	1,280	387	544	48	6,190
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,240	1,860	--	706	7,430	1,340	136	38	--	12,800
Water/moisture resistant board	5,660	26,000	13,900	6,790	22,300	5,310	11,400	4,930	12,700	3,880	113,000
Total	54,300	202,000	195,000	118,000	339,000	113,000	276,000	130,000	213,000	40,900	1,680,000
January-July:											
Veneer base	59,800	9,190	23,100	2,040	19,000	184	176	801	5,910	272	121,000
Sheathing	6,020	19,400	15,900	13,200	50,000	13,100	57,100	18,900	39,900	17,800	251,000
Regular gypsum board	142,000	595,000	668,000	404,000	1,220,000	434,000	947,000	398,000	513,000	172,000	5,500,000
Type X gypsum board	117,000	471,000	469,000	275,000	705,000	196,000	671,000	438,000	757,000	67,000	4,170,000
Liner Panel	3,110	13,600	5,970	2,570	27,500	1,980	7,820	4,950	6,890	2,350	76,700
Predecorated board	1,480	3,920	4,690	2,630	8,130	2,390	6,380	2,470	3,410	693	36,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	5,600	8,200	--	7,990	38,600	9,870	1,020	641	77	72,000
Water/moisture resistant board	37,200	158,000	85,600	42,800	144,000	36,100	83,400	37,600	86,200	27,700	739,000
Total	367,000	1,280,000	1,280,000	743,000	2,190,000	722,000	1,780,000	901,000	1,410,000	288,000	11,000,000

-- 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.