

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN AUGUST 2010

Producers mined 708,000 metric tons (t) of gypsum in August 2010 (table 1). This amount was slightly more than that of July 2010 and 4% less than that for August 2009. Synthetic gypsum production was 658,000 t in August 2010 (table 1), which was 13% more than that of July 2010 and 12% more than that of August 2009. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum. During August 2010, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 41% of the 1.62-million-metric-ton (Mt) total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in August 2010, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 279,000 t (table 2), which was 5% more than those of July 2010 and 42% less than those of August 2009.

Output of calcined gypsum for August 2010 (table 1) was 1.06 Mt, which was 13% more than that of July 2010 and 4% less than that of August 2009. Sales of board products (table 2) were 1.28 Mt, equivalent to approximately 142 million square meters (1.53 billion square feet), which was 17% more than those of July 2010 and 6% more than those of August 2009.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in August 2010 were 255,000 t (table 3), an increase of

13% from those of July 2010 and 30% less than those of August 2009. The United States imported crude gypsum from two countries in August 2010. Of these imports, Canada accounted for 80%, followed by Mexico with 20%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for August 2010 were 18,800 t, equivalent to 2.0 million square meters (23 million square feet). These imports were down 8% from those of July 2010 and 5% more than those of August 2009. The United States imported wallboard products from four countries in August 2010. Canada accounted for 50% of these imports, followed by Mexico with 49%. Imports from Colombia and Italy were negligible.

Wallboard exports to 22 countries and territories in August 2010 were 66,200 t, equivalent to 7.4 million square meters (79 million square feet). This amount was 14% more than that of July 2010 and 16% more than that of August 2009. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 16 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 95%. Much smaller quantities went to Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, and Honduras.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2009		2010	
	January-August	July	August	January-August ³
Crude:				
Mined ⁴	6,300,000	698,000	708,000	5,840,000
Imported ⁵	2,950,000	225,000	255,000	2,210,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	4,840,000 ^r	580,000	658,000	5,040,000
Total supply	14,100,000 ^r	1,500,000	1,620,000	13,100,000
Crude, exported ⁵	77,100	29,300	44,500	230,000
Consumption	14,000,000 ^r	1,470,000	1,580,000	12,900,000
Calcined:				
Produced	9,250,000	940,000	1,060,000	8,430,000
Imported ⁷	10,800	1,040	1,960	10,100
Total supply	9,260,000	941,000	1,060,000	8,440,000
Exported ⁷	98,300	16,500	22,200	141,000
Consumption	9,160,000	924,000	1,040,000	8,300,000

^rRevised.

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 from previous month(s) 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)

	2009		2010	
	January-August	July	August	January-August ³
Uncalcined:⁴				
Portland cement	1,080,000	137,000	153,000	996,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	1,070,000 ^r	129,000	126,000	982,000
Total	2,150,000 ^r	267,000	279,000	1,980,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁵	10,300,000	1,090,000	1,280,000	9,810,000
Plaster	57,200	6,530	7,350	55,400
Total	10,400,000	1,100,000	1,280,000	9,870,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁶				
Regular board	6,280,000	730,000	867,000	6,640,000
Type X board	4,660,000	428,000	483,000	3,810,000
Other	1,460,000	151,000	181,000	1,330,000
Total supply	12,400,000	1,310,000	1,530,000	11,800,000

^rRevised.

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 from previous month(s) 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	2009	2010		January-August ²
	January-August	July	August	
Brazil	1	--	--	--
Canada	1,820,000	78,500	204,000	1,320,000
China	3	--	--	--
France	18	--	--	8
Germany	64	19	--	39
Hong Kong	--	1	--	1
Italy	--	--	--	10
Korea, Republic of	10	--	--	--
Mexico	995,000	147,000	51,300	769,000
South Africa	--	--	--	8,010
Spain	131,000	--	--	116,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	21
Total	2,950,000	225,000	255,000	2,210,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions from previous month(s) 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
2009:				
August	1,090	739	362	10
September	960	738	239	17
October	1,100	797	330	23
November	1,030	632	418	25
December	904	634	284	14
January-December	13,200	9,100	4,220	156
2010:				
January	789	610	202	23
February	941	679	287	25
March	1,160	826	365	32
April	1,020	780	259	19
May	1,060	766	324	28
June	1,040	775	291	30
July	894	698	225	29
August	918	708	255	45
January-August	7,820	5,840	2,210	230

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 2010^{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
August:											
Veneer base	10,900	1,350	3,810	289	2,360	17	24	143	697	106	19,700
Sheathing	837	3,210	2,500	1,970	5,860	1,730	6,050	2,310	4,680	3,160	32,300
Regular gypsum board	22,300	96,400	106,000	66,400	200,000	64,500	140,000	60,000	78,500	32,200	867,000
Type X gypsum board	16,100	67,200	60,700	38,100	76,800	19,300	62,800	42,400	83,600	15,600	483,000
Liner Panel	388	1,840	884	297	3,810	185	734	424	508	259	9,330
Predecorated board	237	654	1,050	396	1,200	464	1,390	298	555	74	6,310
5/16 Mobile home board	--	2,010	954	2	315	5,740	760	224	--	37	10,000
Water/moisture resistant board	6,010	21,200	14,400	5,690	19,300	4,770	9,650	4,460	12,500	4,930	103,000
Total	56,800	194,000	190,000	113,000	310,000	96,800	222,000	110,000	181,000	56,400	1,530,000
January-August:											
Veneer base	74,600	9,960	29,400	2,600	19,500	176	185	660	5,560	705	143,000
Sheathing	5,330	17,500	14,600	13,300	41,200	12,300	41,700	14,200	30,400	25,500	216,000
Regular gypsum board	170,000	686,000	797,000	484,000	1,510,000	509,000	1,110,000	503,000	624,000	243,000	6,640,000
Type X gypsum board	119,000	477,000	472,000	302,000	599,000	174,000	515,000	365,000	664,000	121,000	3,810,000
Liner Panel	3,340	14,300	5,360	2,290	29,300	1,770	4,800	3,800	4,800	2,560	72,300
Predecorated board	1,620	4,320	6,590	2,720	8,910	2,920	7,040	2,130	4,220	685	41,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	10,800	6,240	2	3,960	45,400	10,600	1,330	860	111	79,300
Water/moisture resistant board	46,300	169,000	98,700	43,000	150,000	38,400	77,000	34,100	87,900	35,900	780,000
Total	421,000	1,390,000	1,430,000	850,000	2,360,000	784,000	1,760,000	925,000	1,420,000	429,000	11,800,000

-- 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.