

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN NOVEMBER 2010

Producers mined 606,000 metric tons (t) of gypsum in November 2010 (table 1). This amount was 19% less than that of October 2010 and 4% less than that for November 2009. Synthetic gypsum production was 636,000 t in November 2010 (table 1), which was 8% more than that of October 2010 and 46% more than that of November 2009. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum. During November 2010, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 43% of the 1.50-million-metric-ton (Mt) total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in November 2010, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 257,000 t (table 2), which was 4% less than those of October 2010 and 30% less than those of November 2009.

Output of calcined gypsum for November 2010 (table 1) was 952,000 t, which was 4% less than that of October 2010 and 9% more than that of November 2009. Sales of board products (table 2) were 1.17 Mt, equivalent to approximately 126 million square meters (1.36 billion square feet), which was 3% more than those of October 2010 and 8% more than those of November 2009.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in November 2010 were 254,000 t (table 3), a decrease of 16% from those of October 2010 and 39% less than those of November 2009. The United States imported crude gypsum from four countries in November 2010. Of these imports, Canada accounted for 78%, followed by Mexico with 22%. Imports from China and the United Kingdom were negligible.

Gypsum wallboard imports for November 2010 were 18,900 t, equivalent to 2.1 million square meters (22.6 million square feet). These imports were up 22% from those of October 2010 and 18% more than those of November 2009. The United States imported wallboard products from three countries in November 2010. Canada accounted for 57% of these imports, followed by Mexico with 40%, and Columbia with 3%.

Wallboard exports to 27 countries and territories in November 2010 were 60,300 t, equivalent to 6.7 million square meters (72 million square feet). This amount was 5% less than that of October 2010 and 12% less than that of November 2009. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 22 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 96%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2009		2010	
	January-November	October	November	January-November ³
Crude:				
Mined ⁴	8,460,000	750,000	606,000	7,920,000
Imported ⁵	3,930,000	302,000	254,000	3,040,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	6,520,000	588,000	636,000	6,840,000
Total supply	18,900,000	1,640,000	1,500,000	17,800,000
Crude, exported ⁵	142,000	33,000	35,600	340,000
Consumption	18,800,000	1,610,000	1,460,000	17,500,000
Calcined:				
Produced	12,400,000	988,000	952,000	11,400,000
Imported ⁷	14,400	954	1,630	14,100
Total supply	12,400,000	989,000	954,000	11,400,000
Exported ⁷	141,000	14,200	11,400	178,000
Consumption	12,300,000	975,000	942,000	11,200,000

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 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-November	October	November	January-November ³
Uncalcined:⁴				
Portland cement	1,470,000	136,000	128,000	1,390,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	1,510,000 [†]	132,000	129,000	1,370,000
Total	2,990,000 [†]	268,000	257,000	2,760,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁵	14,000,000	1,130,000	1,170,000	13,200,000
Plaster	76,800	6,240	6,400	74,600
Total	14,000,000	1,140,000	1,170,000	13,300,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁶				
Regular board	8,720,000	756,000	782,000	8,930,000
Type X board	6,080,000	442,000	466,000	5,150,000
Other	1,960,000	157,000	152,000	1,800,000
Total supply	16,800,000	1,360,000	1,400,000	15,900,000

[†]Revised.

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-November	October	November	January-November ²
Brazil	1	--	--	--
Canada	2,550,000	144,000	198,000	1,770,000
China	3	6	1	1
France	18	--	--	8
Germany	65	--	--	39
Hong Kong	--	--	--	1
Italy	--	--	--	10
Korea, Republic of	10	--	--	--
Mexico	1,220,000	109,000	56,600	1,060,000
Sinagapore	5	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	--	8,010
Spain	164,000	48,400	--	198,000
Sweden	1	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	1	--	1
United Kingdom	10	--	12	13
Total	3,930,000	302,000	254,000	3,040,000

-- 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:				
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
September	954	718	278	41
October	1,020	750	302	33
November	824	606	254	36
January-November	10,600	7,920	3,040	340

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
November:											
Veneer base	8,290	1,330	3,870	308	1,870	16	--	87	553	2	16,300
Sheathing	959	2,300	2,450	2,280	4,250	1,460	6,840	1,820	3,060	2,730	28,100
Regular gypsum board	19,000	87,100	105,000	66,400	169,000	58,200	124,000	52,300	66,100	34,400	782,000
Type X gypsum board	13,800	62,100	59,200	41,900	75,500	20,700	62,200	38,700	74,500	17,600	466,000
Liner Panel	371	1,390	590	300	1,890	160	603	690	427	205	6,630
Predecorated board	209	517	667	247	928	288	585	162	459	109	4,170
5/16 Mobile home board	--	903	890	--	337	2,400	442	114	8	71	5,170
Water/moisture resistant board	4,560	20,000	12,100	5,590	17,200	4,450	9,030	3,510	9,950	5,190	91,600
Total	47,100	176,000	185,000	117,000	271,000	87,600	204,000	97,400	155,000	60,300	1,400,000
January-November:											
Veneer base	99,000	13,600	39,800	3,560	24,900	235	217	857	6,880	859	190,000
Sheathing	8,040	24,700	22,000	19,900	56,000	16,400	61,000	19,300	40,100	34,300	302,000
Regular gypsum board	230,000	934,000	1,090,000	658,000	2,030,000	683,000	1,480,000	659,000	820,000	346,000	8,930,000
Type X gypsum board	162,000	648,000	645,000	412,000	823,000	231,000	697,000	478,000	886,000	171,000	5,150,000
Liner Panel	4,430	18,600	7,180	3,120	36,700	2,220	6,610	5,390	6,120	3,200	93,500
Predecorated board	2,260	5,990	9,040	3,530	11,800	3,800	10,000	2,720	5,650	877	55,700
5/16 Mobile home board	--	15,100	8,790	2	5,100	55,400	11,900	1,740	932	221	99,100
Water/moisture resistant board	60,500	227,000	136,000	59,000	203,000	52,300	105,000	45,200	119,000	51,700	1,060,000
Total	566,000	1,890,000	1,960,000	1,160,000	3,190,000	1,040,000	2,370,000	1,210,000	1,880,000	608,000	15,900,000

-- 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.