

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

Robert D. Crangle, Jr., Gypsum Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-6410, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: rcrangle@usgs.gov

Paula R. Neely (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7949  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: pneely@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## GYPSUM IN THE SECOND QUARTER 2011

Producers mined 2.25 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the second quarter of 2011 (table 1). This amount was slightly more than that of the first quarter of 2011 and 3% less than that of the second quarter of 2010. Synthetic gypsum production was 1.74 Mt in the second quarter of 2011 (table 1), which was 3% less than that of the first quarter of 2011 and 10% less than that of the second quarter of 2010. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum.

During the second quarter of 2011, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 36% of the 4.88 Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. As a result of the 2008 coal-ash impoundment failure in Kingston, Tennessee, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed to regulate coal combustion residuals, including synthetic gypsum, as special wastes subject to regulation (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011).

Sales of uncalcined gypsum in the second quarter of 2011, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 381,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which was 45% more than those of the first quarter of 2011 and 51% less than those of the second quarter of 2010.

Sales of calcined gypsum for the second quarter of 2011 (table 2) was 3.51 Mt, which was unchanged from that of the first quarter of 2011 and 6% less than that of the second quarter of 2010. Sales of board products (table 2) were 3.49 Mt, equivalent to approximately 389 million square meters (4.19 billion square feet), which was unchanged from those of the first quarter of 2011 and 6% less than those of the second quarter of 2010.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the second quarter of 2011 were 892,000 t (table 3), an increase of 12% from those of the first quarter of 2011 and slightly more than those of the second quarter of 2010. The United States imported crude gypsum from eight countries in the second quarter of 2011. Of these imports, Canada accounted for 50%, followed by Mexico with 37%, and Spain with 13%. Imports from China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, and Taiwan were negligible.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the second quarter of 2011 were 52,800 t, equivalent to 5.87 million square meters (63.2 million square feet). These imports were up 10% from those of the first quarter of 2011 and 26% less than those of the second quarter of 2010. The United States imported wallboard products from three countries in the second quarter of 2011. Mexico accounted for 57% of these imports, followed by Canada with 42%, and Colombia with 1%.

Wallboard exports to 40 countries and territories in the second quarter of 2011 were 229,000 t, equivalent to 25.4 million square meters (274 million square feet). This amount was 19% more than that of the first quarter of 2011 and 13% more than that of the second quarter of 2010. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 27 western hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 94%.

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

### Reference Cited

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2011, Coal combustion residuals. (Accessed November 7, 2011 at <http://www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/industrial/special/fossil/coalashletter.htm>.)

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1,2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2010				2011		
	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	First–Fourth quarter	First quarter	Second quarter	First–Second quarter <sup>3</sup>
Crude:							
Mined <sup>4</sup>	2,320,000	2,120,000	2,020,000	8,580,000	2,240,000	2,250,000	4,490,000
Imported <sup>5</sup>	874,000	758,000	844,000	3,330,000	799,000	892,000	1,690,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup>	1,930,000	1,810,000	1,700,000	7,320,000	1,790,000	1,740,000	3,530,000
Total supply	5,130,000	4,690,000	4,570,000	19,200,000	4,830,000	4,880,000	9,710,000
Crude, exported <sup>5</sup>	76,600	115,000	88,000	360,000	70,100	59,000	129,000
Consumption	5,050,000	4,580,000	4,480,000	18,900,000	4,760,000	4,820,000	9,590,000
Calcined:							
Produced	3,270,000	3,030,000	2,710,000	12,200,000	3,060,000	2,930,000	5,990,000
Imported <sup>7</sup>	3,920	4,430	3,520	15,100	3,060	3,790	6,840
Total supply	3,270,000	3,030,000	2,710,000	12,200,000	3,060,000	2,940,000	6,000,000
Exported <sup>7</sup>	68,000	50,600	37,900	190,000	54,900	72,200	127,000
Consumption	3,210,000	2,980,000	2,670,000	12,000,000	3,000,000	2,860,000	5,870,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>5</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>7</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1,2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2010				2011		
	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	First–Fourth quarter	First quarter	Second quarter	First–Second quarter <sup>3</sup>
Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>							
Portland cement	400,000	421,000	387,000	1,510,000	148,000	233,000	380,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	384,000	384,000	393,000	1,500,000	115,000	148,000	263,000
Total	784,000	805,000	781,000	3,020,000	263,000	381,000	644,000
Calcined:							
Board products <sup>5</sup>	3,700,000	3,490,000	3,290,000	14,200,000	3,490,000	3,490,000	6,980,000
Plaster	19,700	20,400	18,200	80,200	19,100	19,400	38,500
Total	3,720,000	3,510,000	3,300,000	14,300,000	3,510,000	3,510,000	7,020,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup>							
Regular board	2,520,000	2,350,000	2,180,000	9,570,000	2,270,000	2,270,000	4,540,000
Type X board	1,420,000	1,350,000	1,320,000	5,560,000	1,430,000	1,400,000	2,830,000
Other	501,000	489,000	445,000	1,930,000	483,000	522,000	1,000,000
Total supply	4,440,000	4,190,000	3,940,000	17,100,000	4,190,000	4,190,000	8,380,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>5</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>6</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2010				2011		
	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	First–Fourth quarter	First quarter	Second quarter	First–Second quarter <sup>2</sup>
Canada	561,000	398,000	549,000	1,980,000	383,000	445,000	828,000
China	--	--	15	15	209	11	220
France	8	--	42	50	--	40	40
Germany	19	19	--	39	21	40	61
Hong Kong	--	1	--	1	5	1	6
Italy	10	--	--	10	--	--	--
Mexico	305,000	326,000	247,000	1,140,000	306,000	332,000	638,000
Morocco	--	--	6	6	8	--	8
South Africa	8,010	--	--	8,010	--	--	--
Spain	--	34,000	48,400	198,000	109,000	116,000	225,000
Switzerland	--	--	1	1	--	--	--
Taiwan	--	--	8	--	284	--	284
Thailand	--	--	--	--	20	40	60
United Kingdom	21	--	12	33	10	--	10
Total	874,000	758,000	844,000	3,330,000	799,000	892,000	1,690,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2010:				
Second quarter	3,120	2,320	874	77
Third quarter	2,770	2,120	758	115
Fourth quarter	2,770	2,020	844	88
First–Fourth quarter	11,500	8,580	3,330	360
2011:				
First quarter	2,970	2,240	799	70
Second quarter	3,090	2,250	892	59
First–Second quarter	6,050	4,490	1,690	129

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production 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.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS IN 2011<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
Second quarter:											
Veneer base	27,200	3,330	7,370	854	6,380	15	277	231	1,710	256	47,600
Sheathing	2,820	6,350	5,810	5,000	15,100	4,820	16,400	4,290	11,900	12,800	85,300
Regular gypsum board	63,900	233,000	255,000	152,000	527,000	158,000	399,000	161,000	213,000	113,000	2,270,000
Type X gypsum board	49,800	180,000	166,000	107,000	219,000	60,900	202,000	119,000	246,000	45,900	1,400,000
Liner Panel	1,250	5,200	2,080	892	10,200	717	2,220	1,130	2,130	919	26,800
Predecorated board	657	1,710	1,830	1,160	3,020	1,050	2,180	792	1,590	197	14,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	3,390	2,860	--	1,110	14,400	1,500	523	110	943	24,800
Water/moisture resistant board	15,800	63,400	44,500	18,700	57,300	16,800	36,500	14,100	34,600	21,200	323,000
Total	161,000	497,000	485,000	285,000	839,000	256,000	659,000	301,000	510,000	195,000	4,190,000
First-Second quarter:											
Veneer base	52,200	7,440	16,200	2,200	13,300	64	358	504	3,730	247	96,200
Sheathing	4,560	11,100	11,100	9,220	28,600	8,310	33,600	9,650	23,700	21,500	161,000
Regular gypsum board	124,000	475,000	545,000	323,000	1,050,000	314,000	773,000	326,000	420,000	199,000	4,540,000
Type X gypsum board	98,900	354,000	352,000	222,000	450,000	122,000	418,000	245,000	483,000	83,300	2,830,000
Liner Panel	2,240	9,550	3,690	1,830	19,100	1,280	5,170	2,410	3,790	1,740	50,800
Predecorated board	1,330	3,200	3,740	2,210	5,990	1,980	4,130	1,670	3,240	340	27,800
5/16 Mobile home board	--	6,070	4,620	--	2,080	24,100	2,550	886	710	1,670	42,700
Water/moisture resistant board	30,200	122,000	82,900	38,100	115,000	30,100	71,300	28,500	69,600	38,000	626,000
Total	313,000	989,000	1,020,000	598,000	1,680,000	502,000	1,310,000	614,000	1,010,000	346,000	8,380,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Sales 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).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.