

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2013

Producers mined 3.41 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the first quarter of 2013 (table 1). This was 30% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 43% more than that of the first quarter of 2012. Synthetic gypsum production was 1.79 Mt in the first quarter of 2013 (table 1), which was 12% less than that of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 5% less than that of the first quarter of 2012. During the first quarter of 2013, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 30% of the 6.05 Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum.

Sales of uncalcined gypsum in the first quarter of 2013, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 403,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which were 35% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 15% more than those of the first quarter of 2012.

Sales of calcined gypsum for the first quarter of 2013 (table 1) were 2.91 Mt, which were 13% less than those of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 3% less than those of the first quarter of 2012. Sales of board products (table 2) were 3.50 Mt, equivalent to approximately 390 million square meters (4.20 billion square feet), which were 19% less than those of the fourth quarter of 2012 and slightly less than those of the first quarter of 2012.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the first quarter of 2013 were 852,000 t (table 3), an increase of 18% from those of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 13% more than those of the first quarter of 2012. Mexico was the source of 40% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Canada with 32%, and Spain with 28%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the first quarter of 2013 were 71,000 t, equivalent to about 7.9 million square meters (84.9 million square feet). These imports were 15% less than those of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 12% more than those of the first quarter of 2012. Mexico was the source of 57% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 42%.

Wallboard exports to 39 countries and territories in the first quarter of 2013 were 203,000 t, equivalent to 22.6 million square meters (243 million square feet). This was slightly less than that of the fourth quarter of 2012 and 15% less than that of the first quarter of 2012. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 27 Western Hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 93%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2012				1st quarter– 4th quarter ³	2013 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Crude:						
Mined ⁴	2,380,000	2,330,000	2,510,000	2,620,000	9,840,000	3,410,000
Imported ⁵	751,000	857,000	921,000	721,000	3,250,000	852,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	1,880,000	2,100,000	2,210,000	2,030,000	8,230,000	1,790,000
Total supply	5,010,000	5,280,000	5,640,000	5,380,000	21,300,000	6,050,000
Crude, exported ⁵	171,000	80,200	76,000	80,700	408,000	71,300
Consumption	4,840,000	5,200,000	5,570,000	5,300,000	20,900,000	5,980,000
Calcined:						
Produced	2,990,000	3,080,000	3,370,000	3,330,000	12,800,000	2,910,000
Imported ⁷	3,930	4,670	4,390	3,560	16,600	4,010
Total supply	3,000,000	3,080,000	3,370,000	3,330,000	12,800,000	2,910,000
Exported ⁷	35,100	30,300	43,300	30,800	140,000	28,700
Consumption	2,960,000	3,050,000	3,330,000	3,300,000	12,600,000	2,890,000

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 to previously published 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)

	2012				1st quarter– 4th quarter ³	2013 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Uncalcined:⁴						
Portland cement	223,000	233,000	297,000	255,000	1,010,000	220,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	128,000	166,000	148,000	42,800	485,000	183,000
Total	351,000	398,000	445,000	298,000	1,490,000	403,000
Calcined:						
Board products ⁵	3,580,000	3,730,000	4,140,000	4,330,000	15,800,000	3,500,000
Plaster	21,700	17,900	18,800	17,100	75,500	19,000
Total	3,600,000	3,750,000	4,160,000	4,340,000	15,800,000	3,520,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁶						
Regular board	2,340,000	2,440,000	2,760,000	2,840,000	10,400,000	2,350,000
Type X board	1,430,000	1,500,000	1,610,000	1,700,000	6,240,000	1,310,000
Other	521,000	538,000	599,000	650,000	2,310,000	550,000
Total supply	4,290,000	4,470,000	4,970,000	5,190,000	18,900,000	4,200,000

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 to previously published data.

⁴Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric powerplants.

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	2012					2013
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter ²	1st quarter
Brazil	1	--	1	--	2	--
Canada	168,000	205,000	348,000	299,000	1,020,000	272,000
China	653	189	--	--	842	--
France	76	152	--	57	285	38
Germany	23	91	19	19	152	38
Hong Kong	--	--	2	--	2	--
Japan	1	1	2	1	5	--
Mexico	335,000	398,000	310,000	376,000	1,420,000	341,000
Spain	248,000	254,000	262,000	45,400	809,000	238,000
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	5
United Kingdom	5	--	--	--	5	1
Total	751,000	857,000	921,000	721,000	3,250,000	852,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published 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
2012:				
1st quarter	2,960	2,380	751	171
2d quarter	3,100	2,330	857	80
3d quarter	3,350	2,510	921	76
4th quarter	3,260	2,620	721	81
1st quarter–4th quarter	12,700	9,840	3,250	408
2013, 1st quarter	4,190	3,410	852	71

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

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

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting exports shown in this table. Quarterly 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 quarterly 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 2013^{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
1st quarter:											
Veneer base	24,300	3,170	7,600	844	5,130	18	6	108	1,460	65	42,700
Sheathing	1,860	5,430	4,430	5,550	14,800	4,190	17,400	5,150	12,800	11,100	82,700
Regular gypsum board	49,800	263,000	256,000	174,000	511,000	149,000	394,000	197,000	223,000	129,000	2,350,000
Type X gypsum board	49,800	152,000	141,000	100,000	206,000	47,200	189,000	119,000	251,000	53,400	1,310,000
Liner panel	1,830	6,120	1,800	997	11,800	806	3,800	1,610	2,460	1,050	32,300
Predecorated board	721	1,340	1,830	911	2,870	773	1,670	774	1,510	230	12,600
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,320	3,310	27	1,610	8,290	936	372	161	72	16,100
Water/moisture resistant board	16,400	83,300	43,900	21,100	73,600	17,100	37,600	15,500	36,700	18,400	364,000
Total	145,000	516,000	459,000	303,000	827,000	228,000	644,000	339,000	529,000	214,000	4,200,000

-- 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.

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Source: Gypsum Association.