

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN THE FOURTH QUARTER 2013

Producers mined 3.11 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the fourth quarter of 2013 (table 1). This was 12% more than that of the third quarter of 2013 and 19% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2012. Synthetic gypsum production was 2.23 Mt in the fourth quarter of 2013 (table 1), which was 5% more than that of the third quarter of 2013 and 9% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2012. During the fourth quarter of 2013, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 36% of the 6.25 Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw materials for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum.

Sales of uncalcined gypsum in the fourth quarter of 2013, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 476,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which was 7% more than those of the third quarter of 2013 and 60% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012. Uncalcined gypsum represents a lower amount of U.S. apparent consumption and is subject to large fluctuations in terms of percentage.

Sales of calcined gypsum for the fourth quarter of 2013 (table 1) were 3.98 Mt, which were 11% more than those of the third quarter of 2013 and 20% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012. Sales of board products (table 2) were 5.16 Mt, equivalent to approximately 576 million square meters (6.20 billion square feet), which were 15% more than those of the

third quarter of 2013 and 19% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the fourth quarter of 2013 were 912,000 t (table 3), an increase of 16% from those of the third quarter of 2013 and 27% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012. Mexico was the source of 36% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Canada with 35%, and Spain with 28%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the fourth quarter of 2013 were 91,200 t, equivalent to about 10.1 million square meters (109.1 million square feet). These imports were 10% more than those of the third quarter of 2013 and 9% more than those of the fourth quarter of 2012. Mexico was the source of 60% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 40%.

Wallboard exports to 35 countries and territories in the fourth quarter of 2013 were 203,000 t, equivalent to 22.5 million square meters (243 million square feet). This was slightly less than that of the third quarter of 2013 and the fourth quarter of 2012. Canada accounted for 93% of wallboard exports, with most of the remainder shipped to 28 countries in the Western Hemisphere.

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

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

(Metric tons)

	2012		2013				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>3</sup>	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>3</sup>
Crude:							
Mined <sup>4</sup>	2,620,000	9,840,000	3,410,000	2,610,000	2,770,000	3,110,000	11,900,000
Imported <sup>5</sup>	721,000	3,250,000	852,000	735,000	788,000	912,000	3,290,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup>	2,030,000	8,230,000	1,790,000	2,100,000	2,130,000	2,230,000	8,250,000
Total supply	5,380,000	21,300,000	6,050,000	5,450,000	5,690,000	6,250,000	23,400,000
Crude, exported <sup>5</sup>	80,700	408,000	71,300	32,600	23,300	14,700	142,000
Consumption	5,300,000	20,900,000	5,980,000	5,410,000	5,660,000	6,230,000	23,300,000
Calcined:							
Produced	3,330,000	12,800,000	2,910,000	3,440,000	3,590,000	3,980,000	13,900,000
Imported <sup>7</sup>	3,560	16,600	4,010	4,490	3,740	3,770	16,000
Total supply	3,330,000	12,800,000	2,910,000	3,440,000	3,590,000	3,990,000	13,900,000
Exported <sup>7</sup>	30,800	140,000	28,700	34,600	33,700	24,000	121,000
Consumption	3,300,000	12,600,000	2,890,000	3,410,000	3,560,000	3,960,000	13,800,000

<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)

	2012		2013				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>3</sup>	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>3</sup>
Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>							
Portland cement	255,000	1,010,000	220,000	273,000	275,000	274,000	1,040,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	42,800	485,000	183,000	170,000	169,000	202,000	725,000
Total	298,000	1,490,000	403,000	444,000	445,000	476,000	1,770,000
Calcined:							
Board products <sup>5</sup>	4,330,000	15,800,000	3,500,000	4,240,000	4,500,000	5,160,000	17,400,000
Plaster	17,100	75,500	19,000	20,300	20,300	19,300	78,900
Total	4,340,000	15,800,000	3,520,000	4,260,000	4,520,000	5,180,000	17,500,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup>							
Regular board	2,840,000	10,400,000	2,350,000	2,810,000	3,050,000	3,450,000	11,700,000
Type X board	1,700,000	6,240,000	1,310,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	2,020,000	6,680,000
Other	650,000	2,310,000	550,000	623,000	649,000	729,000	2,550,000
Total supply	5,190,000	18,900,000	4,200,000	5,090,000	5,400,000	6,200,000	20,900,000

<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 powerplants.

<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	2012		2013				
	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>2</sup>	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter– 4th quarter <sup>2</sup>
Brazil	--	2	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	299,000	1,020,000	272,000	228,000	256,000	321,000	1,080,000
China	--	842	--	--	30	8	38
France	57	285	38	38	76	19	171
Germany	19	152	38	19	--	--	57
Hong Kong	--	2	--	--	--	--	--
Japan	1	5	--	19	1	1	21
Mexico	376,000	1,420,000	341,000	342,000	394,000	332,000	1,410,000
Morocco	--	--	--	--	263	16	279
Spain	45,400	809,000	238,000	165,000	138,000	260,000	800,000
Switzerland	--	--	--	1	--	--	1
Thailand	--	--	5	9	--	--	14
United Kingdom	--	5	1	--	2	--	3
Total	721,000	3,250,000	852,000	735,000	788,000	912,000	3,290,000

-- 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>
2012:				
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
2d quarter	3,310	2,610	735	33
3d quarter	3,540	2,770	788	23
4th quarter	4,010	3,110	912	15
1st quarter–4th quarter	15,000	11,900	3,290	142

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

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

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting exports shown in this table. Quarterly 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 quarterly 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 2013<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
<b>4th quarter:</b>											
Veneer base	32,500	3,430	14,100	806	7,850	29	19	245	1,650	22	60,600
Sheathing	3,040	9,270	11,200	10,800	26,200	6,750	36,700	9,290	17,900	12,700	144,000
Regular gypsum board	58,800	287,000	376,000	244,000	898,000	269,000	602,000	289,000	261,000	167,000	3,450,000
Type X gypsum board	60,700	200,000	231,000	153,000	336,000	89,700	327,000	214,000	336,000	68,500	2,020,000
Liner panel	1,640	7,960	2,900	1,300	17,100	944	6,060	3,020	2,450	654	44,100
Predecorated board	677	1,900	1,930	1,040	3,570	846	2,030	746	1,720	264	14,700
5/16 Mobile home board	--	2,370	3,070	26	686	8,940	1,450	500	158	37	17,200
Water/moisture resistant board	19,500	85,400	59,900	25,200	94,600	28,700	54,600	19,900	40,300	20,800	449,000
Total	177,000	597,000	700,000	436,000	1,380,000	405,000	1,030,000	537,000	661,000	271,000	6,200,000
<b>1st quarter–4th quarter:</b>											
Veneer base	119,000	12,600	44,200	3,070	27,000	99	65	621	6,430	225	213,000
Sheathing	10,700	30,400	32,800	31,900	85,400	24,300	114,000	28,000	62,300	46,900	467,000
Regular gypsum board	221,000	1,100,000	1,280,000	849,000	2,960,000	959,000	2,210,000	988,000	1,020,000	603,000	12,200,000
Type X gypsum board	221,000	717,000	781,000	549,000	1,100,000	306,000	1,170,000	675,000	1,210,000	245,000	6,970,000
Liner panel	7,200	28,700	9,820	4,830	60,100	3,840	21,800	8,920	10,800	2,970	159,000
Predecorated board	3,000	6,590	7,780	4,390	13,000	3,470	7,590	3,340	6,670	1,050	56,900
5/16 Mobile home board	--	9,400	13,800	80	5,260	40,300	5,380	2,320	628	217	77,400
Water/moisture resistant board	71,000	334,000	211,000	93,600	342,000	97,600	201,000	70,900	160,000	84,000	1,660,000
Total	653,000	2,240,000	2,380,000	1,540,000	4,590,000	1,430,000	3,730,000	1,780,000	2,470,000	983,000	21,800,000

-- 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.