

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2014

Producers mined 3.82 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum during the first quarter of 2014 (table 1). This was 23% more than that of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 14% less than that of the first quarter of 2013. Synthetic gypsum production was 1.91 Mt in the first quarter of 2014 (table 1), which was 14% less than that of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 6% more than that of the first quarter of 2013. During the first quarter of 2014, synthetic gypsum accounted for about 29% of the 6.50 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 2014, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 466,000 metric tons (t) (table 2), which were slightly less than those of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 16% more than those of the first quarter of 2013.

The supply of calcined gypsum for the first quarter of 2014 (table 1) was 3.06 Mt, which was 23% less than that of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 5% more than that of the first quarter of 2013. Sales of board products (table 2) were 3.66 Mt, equivalent to approximately 408 million square meters (4.39 billion square feet), which were 29% less than those of the

fourth quarter of 2013 and 4% more than those of the first quarter of 2013.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in the first quarter of 2014 were 783,000 t (table 3), a decrease of 14% from those of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 8% less than those of the first quarter of 2013. Mexico was the source of 50% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Canada with 27%, and Spain with 23%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for the first quarter of 2014 were 75,600 t, equivalent to about 8.4 million square meters (90.5 million square feet). These imports were 17% less than those of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 7% more than those of the first quarter of 2013. Mexico was the source of 60% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 39%.

Wallboard exports to 34 countries and territories in the first quarter of 2014 were 190,000 t, equivalent to 21.1 million square meters (227 million square feet). This was 6% less than that of the fourth quarter of 2013 and 6% less than that of the first quarter of 2013. Most wallboard exports were shipped to 26 Western Hemisphere countries, with Canada accounting for 92%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2013				1st quarter– 4th quarter ³	2014 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Crude:						
Mined ⁴	3,410,000	2,610,000	2,770,000	3,110,000	11,900,000	3,820,000
Imported ⁵	852,000	735,000	788,000	912,000	3,290,000	783,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁶	1,790,000	2,100,000	2,130,000	2,230,000	8,250,000	1,910,000
Total supply	6,050,000	5,450,000	5,690,000	6,250,000	23,400,000	6,500,000
Crude, exported ⁵	71,300	32,600	23,300	14,700	142,000	17,700
Consumption	5,980,000	5,410,000	5,660,000	6,230,000	23,300,000	6,490,000
Calcined:						
Produced	2,910,000	3,440,000	3,590,000	3,980,000	13,900,000	3,060,000
Imported ⁷	4,010	4,490	3,740	3,770	16,000	4,300
Total supply	2,910,000	3,440,000	3,590,000	3,990,000	13,900,000	3,060,000
Exported ⁷	28,700	34,600	33,700	24,000	121,000	24,900
Consumption	2,890,000	3,410,000	3,560,000	3,960,000	13,800,000	3,040,000

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)

	2013				1st quarter– 4th quarter ³	2014 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Uncalcined: ⁴						
Portland cement	220,000	273,000	275,000	274,000	1,040,000	175,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	183,000	170,000	169,000	202,000	725,000	291,000
Total	403,000	444,000	445,000	476,000	1,770,000	466,000
Calcined:						
Board products ⁵	3,500,000	4,240,000	4,500,000	5,160,000	17,400,000	3,660,000
Plaster	19,000	20,300	20,300	19,300	78,900	20,000
Total	3,520,000	4,260,000	4,520,000	5,180,000	17,500,000	3,680,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) ⁶						
Regular board	2,350,000	2,810,000	3,050,000	3,450,000	11,700,000	2,430,000
Type X board	1,310,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	2,020,000	6,680,000	1,390,000
Other	550,000	623,000	649,000	729,000	2,550,000	562,000
Total supply	4,200,000	5,090,000	5,400,000	6,200,000	20,900,000	4,390,000

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	2013				1st quarter– 4th quarter ²	2014 1st quarter
	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter		
Canada	272,000	228,000	256,000	321,000	1,080,000	215,000
China	--	--	30	8	38	--
France	38	38	76	19	171	114
Germany	38	19	--	--	57	--
Japan	--	19	1	1	21	30
Mexico	341,000	342,000	394,000	332,000	1,410,000	391,000
Morocco	--	--	263	16	279	9
Spain	238,000	165,000	138,000	260,000	800,000	177,000
Switzerland	--	1	--	--	1	--
Thailand	5	9	--	--	14	--
United Kingdom	1	--	2	--	3	18
Total	852,000	735,000	788,000	912,000	3,290,000	783,000

-- 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
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
2014, 1st quarter	4,580	3,820	783	18

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 2014^{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	26,300	3,260	5,320	7,790	34	697	37	28	1,460	90	45,000
Sheathing	2,310	5,550	19,800	4,960	4,020	5,070	19,400	6,530	14,400	11,700	93,800
Regular gypsum board	51,600	235,000	556,000	250,000	157,000	175,000	435,000	196,000	246,000	130,000	2,430,000
Type X gypsum board	46,200	150,000	223,000	144,000	42,400	106,000	206,000	133,000	285,000	58,600	1,390,000
Liner panel	1,480	5,420	12,000	2,050	878	1,140	3,600	2,800	2,090	929	32,400
Predecorated board	648	1,410	2,750	2,060	802	826	1,800	842	1,480	143	12,800
5/16 Mobile home board	--	342	525	3,020	8,630	54	1,540	311	358	39	14,800
Water/moisture resistant board	16,800	71,300	77,900	44,100	16,200	22,100	40,800	16,500	39,100	18,600	364,000
Total	145,000	472,000	897,000	458,000	230,000	311,000	708,000	356,000	590,000	220,000	4,390,000

-- 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.