Sheet-Metal Gages.—Thicknesses of steel sheets given in Table 2 are based upon a weight of 41.82 pounds per square foot per inch of thickness, which is known as the Manufacturers' Standard Gage for Sheet Steel. This gage differs from the older United States Standard Gage for iron and steel sheets and plates, established by Congress in 1893, based upon a weight of 40 pounds per square foot per inch of thickness which is the weight of wrought-iron plate.

Table 2. Sheet-Metal Gages in Approximate Decimals of an Inch

Gage No.	Steel Gage[a]	B.G.[b]	Galvanized Sheet	Zinc Gage	Gage No.	Steel Gage[a]	B.G.[b]	Galvanized Sheet	Zinc Gage
15/0	…	1.000	…	…	20	0.0359	0.0392	0.0396	0.070
14/0	…	0.9583	…	…	21	0.0329	0.0349	0.0366	0.080
13/0	…	0.9167	…	…	22	0.0299	0.03125	0.0336	0.090
12/0	…	0.8750	…	…	23	0.0269	0.02782	0.0306	0.100
11/0	…	0.8333	…	…	24	0.0239	0.02476	0.0276	0.125
10/0	…	0.7917	…	…	25	0.0209	0.02204	0.0247	…
9/0	…	0.7500	…	…	26	0.0179	0.01961	0.0217	…
8/0	…	0.7083	…	…	27	0.0164	0.01745	0.0202	…
7/0	…	0.6666	…	…	28	0.0149	0.01562	0.0187	…
6/0	…	0.6250	…	…	29	0.0135	0.01390	0.0172	…
5/0	…	0.5883	…	…	30	0.0120	0.01230	0.0157	…
4/0	…	0.5416	…	…	31	0.0105	0.01100	0.0142	…
3/0	…	0.5000	…	…	32	0.0097	0.00980	0.0134	…
2/0	…	0.4452	…	…	33	0.0090	0.00870	…	…
1/0	…	0.3964	…	…	34	0.0082	0.00770	…	…
1	…	0.3532	…	…	35	0.0075	0.00690	…	…
2	…	0.3147	…	…	36	0.0067	0.00610	…	…
3	0.2391	0.2804	…	0.006	37	0.0064	0.00540	…	…
4	0.2242	0.2500	…	0.008	38	0.0060	0.00480	…	…
5	0.2092	0.2225	…	0.010	39	…	0.00430	…	…
6	0.1943	0.1981	…	0.012	40	…	0.00386	…	…
7	0.1793	0.1764	…	0.014	41	…	0.00343	…	…
8	0.1644	0.1570	0.1681	0.016	42	…	0.00306	…	…
9	0.1495	0.1398	0.1532	0.018	43	…	0.00272	…	…
10	0.1345	0.1250	0.1382	0.020	44	…	0.00242	…	…
11	0.1196	0.1113	0.1233	0.024	45	…	0.00215	…	…
12	0.1046	0.0991	0.1084	0.028	46	…	0.00192	…	…
13	.0897	0.0882	0.0934	0.032	47	…	0.00170	…	…
14	0.0747	0.0785	0.0785	0.036	48	…	0.00152	…	…
15	0.0673	0.0699	0.0710	0.040	49	…	0.00135	…	…
16	0.0598	0.0625	0.0635	0.045	50	…	0.00120	…	…
17	0.0538	0.0556	0.0575	0.050	51	…	0.00107	…	…
18	.0478	0.0495	0.0516	0.055	52	…	0.00095	…	…
19	0.0418	0.0440	0.0456	0.060	…	…	…	…	…

[a] Manufacturers' Standard Gage for Sheet Steel
[b] B.G. is the Birmingham Gage for sheets and hoops.

The United States Standard Gage (not shown above) for iron and steel sheets and plates was established by Congress in 1893 and was primarily a *weight* gage rather than a thickness gage. The equivalent thicknesses were derived from the weight of wrought iron. The weight per cubic foot was taken at 480 pounds, thus making the weight of a plate 12 inches square and 1 inch thick, 40 pounds. In converting weight to equivalent thickness, gage tables formerly published contained thicknesses equivalent to the basic weights just mentioned. For example, a No. 3 U.S. gage represents a wrought-iron plate having a weight of 10 pounds per square foot; hence, if the weight per square foot per inch thick is 40 pounds, the plate thickness for a No. 3 gage = 10 ÷ 40 = 0.25 inch, which was the original thickness equivalent for this gage number. Because this and the other thickness equivalents were derived from the weight of wrought iron, they are not correct for steel.