

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN AUGUST 2007

Producers mined 2.06 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in August 2007 (table 1). Output was slightly less than that of July 2007 and 22% more than that of August 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 775,000 metric tons (t) in August 2007 (table 1), which was 17% more than that of July 2007 and 12% more than that of August 2006. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the leading domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through August 2007, synthetic gypsum accounted for 5.41 Mt, or about 20%, of the 27.7-Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in August 2007, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 455,000 t (table 2), 9% less than those of July 2007 and 23% less than those of August 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for August 2007 (table 1) was 1.95 Mt, 4% more than that of July 2007 and slightly less than that of August 2006. Sales of board products were about 2.78 billion square feet (257 million square meters), 8% more than those of July 2007 and 5% less than those of August 2006.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in August 2007 were 761,000 t (table 3), 10% less than that of July 2007 and 26% less than that of August 2006. Canada accounted for 70% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 30%. Gypsum wallboard imports for August 2007 were 37,600 t, equivalent to 4.19 million square meters (45.1 million square feet). These imports were 4% more than those of July 2007 and 74% less than those of August 2006. Mexico accounted for 49% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 43% and China with 8%. Wallboard exports to 29 countries and territories in August 2007 were 8,690 t, equivalent to 968,000 square meters (10.40 million square feet). These exports were about 42% less than those of July 2007 and 15% less than those of August 2006. Most of these wallboard exports went to 23 western hemisphere countries, with Mexico accounting 39% of total exports, followed by Canada with 11%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007			2006
	August	July	January-August	January-August
Crude:				
Mined ³	2,060,000	2,080,000	15,900,000	12,800,000
Imported ⁴	761,000	844,000	6,340,000	8,100,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	775,000	662,000	5,410,000	5,870,000
Total supply	3,600,000	3,590,000	27,700,000	26,800,000
Crude, exported⁴				
Consumption	3,580,000	3,580,000	27,600,000	26,700,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,950,000	1,880,000	14,700,000	17,000,000
Imported ⁶	1,770	1,070	9,360	5,780
Total supply	1,960,000	1,880,000	14,700,000	17,000,000
Exported⁶				
Consumption	1,940,000	1,870,000	14,600,000	16,800,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

³Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁴Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁵Reported production only.

⁶Import 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)

	2007			2006
	August	July	January-August	January-August
Uncalcined:³				
Portland cement	315,000	358,000	2,340,000	2,480,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	140,000	140,000	1,140,000	1,650,000
Total	455,000	498,000	3,480,000	4,230,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	2,310,000	2,140,000	17,400,000	20,700,000
Plaster	10,800	10,500	88,300	99,400
Total	2,320,000	2,150,000	17,500,000	20,800,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁵				
Regular board	1,590,000	1,470,000	12,200,000	15,100,000
Type X board	914,000	859,000	6,960,000	7,500,000
Other	268,000	243,000	1,990,000	2,220,000
Total supply	2,780,000	2,570,000	21,100,000	24,800,000

¹Revised.

²Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

³Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

⁴Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

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	2007				2006
	August	July	June	January-August	January-August
Austria	--	--	--	--	27
Brazil	--	--	--	5	14,000
Canada	536,000	595,000	514,000	4,240,000	5,180,000
China	--	--	37	61	26,200
Dominican Republic	--	13,000	--	61,500	53,600
France	--	--	--	--	983
Germany	--	--	--	5	14,100
India	--	--	--	--	1
Italy	--	--	--	1	--
Jamaica	--	--	--	--	3,940
Jordan	--	--	--	--	13
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	5
Mexico	225,000	149,000	318,000	1,680,000	2,160,000
Spain	--	86,100	34,300	363,000	654,000
Sweden	--	--	--	--	20
Turkey	--	--	--	2	--
United Kingdom	--	21	--	62	41
Total	761,000	844,000	867,000	6,340,000	8,100,000

-- Zero.

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

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
2006:				
August	2,700	1,690	1,030	12
September	2,330	1,490	848	15
October	2,230	1,490	752	13
November	2,120	1,370	759	12
December	2,270	1,370	910	11
January-December	29,800	18,600	11,400	139
2007:				
January	2,640	1,950	714	25
February	2,480	1,800	694	13
March	2,910	2,050	869	11
April	2,420	1,720	706	11
May	3,050	2,170	885	10
June	2,920	2,070	867	13
July	2,920 ^r	2,080 ^r	844	13
August	2,810	2,060	761	15
January-August	22,100	15,900	6,340	110

^rRevised.

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly 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 monthly 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 2007^{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
August:											
Veneer base	19,600	2,050	7,400	679	5,870	43	10	319	1,270	4	37,300
Sheathing	1,930	3,970	5,220	3,680	14,700	3,020	9,630	7,770	9,180	2,560	61,600
Regular gypsum board	34,700	130,000	167,000	105,000	433,000	135,000	231,000	162,000	161,000	34,900	1,590,000
Type X gypsum board	29,900	94,700	112,000	63,800	156,000	41,100	108,000	105,000	191,000	11,400	914,000
Predecorated board	374	1,100	1,080	631	1,580	441	1,090	600	805	2	7,710
5/16 Mobile home board	--	862	3,810	--	4,540	13,400	5,370	104	338	68	28,500
Water/moisture resistant board	6,170	26,200	14,500	6,480	28,400	6,300	12,400	10,400	17,700	4,880	133,000
Total	92,700	259,000	311,000	180,000	645,000	199,000	367,000	286,000	381,000	53,800	2,780,000
January-August:											
Veneer base	155,000	15,100	43,200	4,160	49,400	141	203	2,180	10,400	431	280,000
Sheathing	12,800	30,800	37,200	21,100	114,000	18,400	54,200	39,300	53,200	18,900	400,000
Regular gypsum board	270,000	920,000	1,030,000	605,000	2,800,000	672,000	1,280,000	993,000	1,060,000	305,000	9,940,000
Type X gypsum board	227,000	751,000	947,000	492,000	1,740,000	580,000	1,100,000	900,000	1,420,000	75,900	8,230,000
Predecorated board	2,610	37,900	178,000	91,800	128,000	61,400	210,000	138,000	243,000	751	1,090,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	5,110	23,700	--	31,100	85,500	42,400	778	1,940	143	191,000
Water/moisture resistant board	45,300	172,000	95,600	40,800	204,000	32,500	68,900	69,300	117,000	37,400	884,000
Total	713,000	1,930,000	2,360,000	1,260,000	5,060,000	1,450,000	2,760,000	2,140,000	2,910,000	439,000	21,000,000

-- 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.