

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN SEPTEMBER 2007

Producers mined 1.96 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in September 2007 (table 1). Output was 5% less than that of August 2007 and 32% more than that of September 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 704,000 metric tons (t) in September 2007 (table 1), which was 9% less than that of August 2007 and 4% more than that of September 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 September 2007, synthetic gypsum accounted for 6.12 Mt, or about 20%, of the 31.1-Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in September 2007, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 464,000 t (table 2), slightly more than those of August 2007 and 18% less than those of September 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for September 2007 (table 1) was 1.76 Mt, 10% less than that of August 2007 and slightly more than that of September 2006. Sales of board products were about 2.31 billion square feet (215 million square meters), 17% less than those of August 2007 and 11% less than those of September 2006.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in September 2007 were 726,000 t (table 3), 5% less than that of August 2007 and 14% less than that of September 2006. Canada accounted for 62% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 19%, Spain with 18% and the Dominican Republic with 2%. Gypsum wallboard imports for September 2007 were 26,500 t, equivalent to 2.94 million square meters (31.7 million square feet). These imports were 30% less than those of August 2007 and 66% less than those of September 2006. Mexico accounted for 59% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 39% and China with 2%. Wallboard exports to 29 countries and territories in September 2007 were 7,020 t, equivalent to 7,810 square meters (8.42 million square feet). These exports were about 19% less than those of August 2007 and 16% less than those of September 2006. Most of these wallboard exports went to 23 western hemisphere countries, with Mexico accounting 37% of total exports, followed by Canada with 26%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007			2006
	September	August	January-September	January-September
Crude:				
Mined ³	1,960,000	2,060,000	17,900,000	14,300,000
Imported ⁴	726,000	761,000	7,060,000	8,950,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	704,000	775,000	6,120,000	6,550,000
Total supply	3,390,000	3,600,000	31,100,000	29,800,000
Crude, exported ⁴	12,200	14,600	122,000	105,000
Consumption	3,380,000	3,580,000	30,900,000	29,700,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,760,000	1,950,000	16,400,000	18,700,000
Imported ⁶	1,290	1,770	10,600	7,140
Total supply	1,760,000	1,960,000	16,500,000	18,700,000
Exported ⁶	11,400	17,200	156,000	172,000
Consumption	1,750,000	1,940,000	16,300,000	18,500,000

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
	September	August	January-September	January-September
Uncalcined: ³				
Portland cement	322,000	315,000	2,660,000	2,820,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	142,000	140,000	1,290,000	1,880,000
Total	464,000	455,000	3,950,000	4,690,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	1,930,000	2,310,000	19,300,000	22,800,000
Plaster	9,180	10,800	97,500	110,000
Total	1,940,000	2,320,000	19,400,000	22,900,000
Board products: (thousand square feet) ⁵				
Regular board	1,310,000	1,590,000	13,500,000	16,700,000
Type X board	769,000	914,000	7,730,000	8,270,000
Other	227,000	268,000	2,210,000	2,460,000
Total supply	2,310,000	2,780,000	23,400,000	27,400,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

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

³Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric powerplants.

⁴Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁵One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2007				2006
	September	August	July	January-September	January-September
Austria	--	--	--	--	27
Brazil	--	--	--	5	14,000
Canada	446,000	536,000	595,000	4,680,000	5,180,000
China	--	--	--	61	26,200
Dominican Republic	13,000	--	13,000	74,500	53,600
France	--	--	--	--	983
Germany	--	--	--	5	14,100
India	--	--	--	--	1
Italy	--	--	--	1	--
Jamaica	--	--	--	--	3,940
Jordan	--	--	--	--	13
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	5
Mexico	139,000	225,000	149,000	1,810,000	2,160,000
Spain	127,000	--	86,100	490,000	654,000
Sweden	--	--	--	--	20
Turkey	--	--	--	2	--
United Kingdom	--	--	21	62	41
Total	726,000	761,000	844,000	7,060,000	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:				
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	2,080	844	13
August	2,810	2,060	761	15
September	2,680	1,970	726	12
January-September	24,800	17,900	7,070	122

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
September:											
Veneer base	17,100	1,920	5,220	402	4,550	16	26	237	901	23	30,400
Sheathing	1,780	4,050	5,540	3,430	14,000	2,560	9,240	5,510	7,660	2,360	56,100
Regular gypsum board	30,900	107,000	143,000	81,700	353,000	110,000	199,000	126,000	129,000	34,800	1,310,000
Type X gypsum board	23,500	86,000	99,700	50,900	136,000	32,200	93,100	90,100	149,000	8,330	769,000
Predecorated board	211	701	975	328	1,240	438	826	380	516	80	5,700
5/16 Mobile home board	--	651	3,000	--	3,150	9,100	5,240	264	443	470	22,300
Water/moisture resistant board	5,450	22,100	13,500	5,170	24,700	4,550	10,400	8,510	13,800	4,500	113,000
Total	78,900	223,000	271,000	142,000	537,000	159,000	317,000	232,000	301,000	50,500	2,310,000
January-September:											
Veneer base	172,000	16,900	47,600	4,540	53,900	157	229	2,420	11,300	454	310,000
Sheathing	14,600	34,600	42,100	23,800	127,000	20,300	60,900	44,100	59,100	21,200	447,000
Regular gypsum board	301,000	1,020,000	1,150,000	675,000	3,090,000	747,000	1,430,000	1,100,000	1,170,000	340,000	11,000,000
Type X gypsum board	251,000	838,000	1,050,000	546,000	1,920,000	641,000	1,220,000	998,000	1,570,000	84,100	9,120,000
Predecorated board	2,820	42,400	199,000	102,000	141,000	68,600	234,000	154,000	269,000	966	1,210,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	5,760	26,700	--	34,200	94,600	47,700	1,040	2,380	613	213,000
Water/moisture resistant board	50,700	194,000	107,000	45,200	227,000	35,600	76,800	77,100	129,000	41,900	985,000
Total	792,000	2,150,000	2,630,000	1,400,000	5,600,000	1,610,000	3,070,000	2,370,000	3,210,000	489,000	23,300,000

-- 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.