

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Robert D. Crangle, Jr., Gypsum Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
983 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-6410, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: rcrangle@usgs.gov

Lin Shi (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7994
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: lshi@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

GYPSUM IN DECEMBER 2007

Producers mined 1.63 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in December 2007 (table 1). Output was 8% less than that of November 2007 and 27% more than that of December 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 563,000 metric tons (t) in December 2007 (table 1), which was 5% less than that of November 2007 and 7% less than that of December 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 December 2007, synthetic gypsum accounted for 7.98 Mt, or about 20%, of the 40.8-Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in December 2007, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 403,000 t (table 2), 5% less than those of November 2007 and 27% less than those of December 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for December 2007 (table 1) was 1.45 Mt, 8% less than that of November 2007 and 7% less than that of December 2006. Sales of board products (table 2) were about 1.9 billion square feet (177 million square meters), 16% less than those of November 2007 and 17% less than those of December 2006.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in December 2007 were 723,000 t (table 3), 2% less than that of November 2007 and 5% less than that of December 2006. Canada accounted for 69% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 29%, and the Dominican Republic with 2%.

Gypsum wallboard imports for December 2007 were 16,500 t, equivalent to 1.83 million square meters (19.8 million square feet). These imports were 26% less than those of November 2007 and 58% less than those of December 2006. Mexico accounted for 63% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 37%. Wallboard exports to 31 countries and territories in December 2007 were 6,290 t, equivalent to 701,000 square meters (7.58 million square feet). These exports were about 29% less than those of November 2007 and 25% less than those of December 2006. Most of these wallboard exports went to 23 western hemisphere countries, with Mexico accounting for 40% of total exports, followed by Canada with 17%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007			2006
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Crude:				
Mined ³	1,630,000	1,770,000	23,400,000	18,500,000
Imported ⁴	723,000	735,000	9,390,000	11,400,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	563,000	593,000	7,980,000	8,490,000
Total supply	2,920,000	3,100,000	40,800,000	38,300,000
Crude, exported ⁴	5,920	8,510	147,000	143,000
Consumption	2,910,000	3,090,000	40,600,000	38,200,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,450,000	1,580,000	21,400,000	23,800,000
Imported ⁶	683	1,160	13,700	11,500
Total supply	1,450,000	1,590,000	21,400,000	23,800,000
Exported ⁶	9,860	11,200	188,000	209,000
Consumption	1,440,000	1,570,000	21,200,000	23,600,000

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
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Uncalcined: ³				
Portland cement	248,000	237,000	3,320,000	3,820,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	155,000	147,000	1,740,000	2,520,000
Total	403,000	384,000	5,070,000	6,340,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	1,580,000	1,880,000	25,300,000	29,600,000
Plaster	7,190	8,820	125,000	143,000
Total	1,590,000	1,890,000	25,400,000	29,700,000 [†]
Board products: (thousand square feet) ⁵				
Regular board	1,040,000	1,260,000	17,400,000	21,200,000
Type X board	664,000	769,000	10,200,000	10,600,000
Other	197,000	230,000	2,920,000	3,150,000
Total supply	1,900,000	2,260,000	27,800,000	35,000,000

[†]Revised.

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
	December	November	October	January-December	January-December
Argentina	--	0	2	--	2
Austria	--	--	--	--	27
Brazil	--	--	--	5	14,000
Canada	500,000	559,000	663,000	6,410,000	7,370,000
China	--	--	36,800	36,900	39,100
Dominican Republic	13,500	--	--	88,000	92,900
France	--	--	--	--	983
Germany	--	--	--	5	14,300
India	--	1	--	1	112
Italy	--	--	--	1	--
Jamaica	--	--	--	--	3,940
Jordan	--	--	--	--	50
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	5
Mexico	209,000	136,000	121,000	2,280,000	2,930,000
Morocco	--	--	--	1	--
Spain	--	40,000	45,300	575,000	899,000
Sweden	--	--	--	--	20
Turkey	--	--	--	2	--
United Kingdom	--	19	--	81	41
Total	723,000	735,000	866,000	9,390,000	11,400,000

-- 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:				
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	2,690	1,970	726	12
October	2,890	2,040	866	10
November	2,490	1,770	735	9
December	2,350	1,630	723	6
January-December	32,600	23,300	9,390	146

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
December:											
Veneer base	13,900	1,420	4,590	359	4,100	61	6	267	789	--	25,500
Sheathing	1,550	4,330	4,050	2,690	13,100	2,590	10,800	4,860	6,520	1,450	52,000
Regular gypsum board	28,500	95,900	124,000	72,300	264,000	81,600	152,000	90,900	93,800	36,600	1,040,000
Type X gypsum board	21,800	72,500	86,400	46,700	118,000	28,800	84,100	77,600	120,000	8,120	664,000
Predecorated board	173	512	974	309	1,160	429	591	448	498	18	5,110
5/16 Mobile home board	--	221	1,220	--	2,220	6,620	3,730	249	265	--	14,500
Water/moisture resistant board	4,910	20,100	11,400	4,940	21,300	3,840	9,790	7,230	13,000	3,010	99,400
Total	70,800	195,000	232,000	127,000	424,000	124,000	261,000	182,000	235,000	49,200	1,900,000
January-December:											
Veneer base	218,000	22,800	72,800	5,870	69,000	292	249	3,250	14,100	545	407,000
Sheathing	18,200	47,700	55,400	37,700	172,000	34,100	117,000	67,800	92,800	26,700	669,000
Regular gypsum board	389,000	1,430,000	1,830,000	1,050,000	4,710,000	1,420,000	2,520,000	1,650,000	1,710,000	453,000	17,200,000
Type X gypsum board	318,000	1,060,000	1,250,000	668,000	1,790,000	422,000	1,180,000	1,170,000	2,000,000	115,000	9,980,000
Predecorated board	3,540	8,610	11,600	5,580	17,100	4,810	10,200	5,240	7,890	688	75,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	7,450	33,200	--	42,900	122,000	61,300	1,680	3,210	613	273,000
Water/moisture resistant board	64,900	262,000	161,000	67,300	310,000	62,300	135,000	107,000	186,000	52,600	1,410,000
Total	1,010,000	2,840,000	3,420,000	1,830,000	7,110,000	2,070,000	4,030,000	3,000,000	4,010,000	649,000	30,000,000

-- 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.