

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN NOVEMBER 2007

Producers mined 1.77 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in November 2007 (table 1). Output was 13% less than that of October 2007 and 29% more than that of November 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 593,000 metric tons (t) in November 2007 (table 1), which was 16% less than that of October 2007 and 10% less than that of November 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 November 2007, synthetic gypsum accounted for 7.41 Mt, or about 20%, of the 37.8-Mt total supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in November 2007, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 384,000 t (table 2), 3% less than those of October 2007 and 28% less than those of November 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for November 2007 (table 1) was 1.58 Mt, 14% less than that of October 2007 and 3% less than that of November 2006. Sales of board products (table 2) were about 2.26 billion square feet (210 million square meters), 15% less than those of October 2007 and 10% less than those of November 2006.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in November 2007 were 735,000 t (table 3), 15% less than that of October 2007 and 3% less than that of November 2006. Canada accounted for 76% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 19%, and Spain with 5%. Gypsum wallboard imports for November 2007 were 22,400 t, equivalent to 2.49 million square meters (26.9 million square feet). These imports were 21% less than those of October 2007 and 53% less than those of November 2006. Mexico accounted for 60% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 40%. Wallboard exports to 34 countries and territories in November 2007 were 8,880 t, equivalent to 989,000 square meters (10.7 million square feet). These exports were about 6% more than those of October 2007 and 6% more than those of November 2006. Most of these wallboard exports went to 23 western hemisphere countries, with Mexico accounting for 37% of total exports, followed by Canada with 22%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007			2006
	November	October	January-November	January-November
Crude:				
Mined ³	1,770,000	2,040,000	21,800,000	17,200,000
Imported ⁴	735,000	866,000	8,660,000	10,500,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	593,000	705,000	7,410,000	7,880,000
Total supply	3,100,000	3,610,000	37,800,000	35,500,000
Crude, exported ⁴	8,510	10,100	141,000	132,000
Consumption	3,090,000	3,600,000	37,700,000	35,400,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,580,000	1,850,000	20,000,000	22,200,000
Imported ⁶	1,160	1,240	13,000	10,500
Total supply	1,590,000	1,850,000	20,000,000	22,200,000
Exported ⁶	11,200	11,400	179,000	197,000
Consumption	1,570,000	1,840,000	19,800,000	22,000,000

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
	November	October	January-November	January-November
Uncalcined:³				
Portland cement	237,000	250,000	3,080,000	3,450,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	147,000	147,000	1,590,000	2,330,000
Total	384,000	398,000	4,660,000	5,780,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	1,880,000	2,210,000	23,700,000	27,300,000
Plaster	8,820	10,400	118,000	133,000
Total	1,890,000	2,220,000	23,800,000	27,400,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁵				
Regular board	1,260,000	1,480,000	16,400,000	19,900,000
Type X board	769,000	908,000	9,540,000	9,700,000
Other	230,000	255,000	2,730,000	2,950,000
Total supply	2,260,000	2,650,000	28,700,000	32,500,000

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
	November	October	September	January-November	January-November
Argentina	2	--	--	2	--
Austria	--	--	--	--	27
Brazil	--	--	--	5	14,000
Canada	559,000	663,000	446,000	5,910,000	6,680,000
China	--	36,800	--	36,900	39,100
Dominican Republic	--	--	13,000	74,500	92,900
France	--	--	--	--	983
Germany	--	--	--	5	14,300
India	1	--	--	1	1
Italy	--	--	--	1	--
Jamaica	--	--	--	--	3,940
Jordan	--	--	--	--	50
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	5
Mexico	136,000	121,000	139,000	2,070,000	2,770,000
Morocco	--	--	--	1	--
Spain	40,000	45,300	127,000	575,000	852,000
Sweden	--	--	--	--	20
Turkey	--	--	--	2	--
United Kingdom	19	--	--	81	41
Total	735,000	866,000	726,000	8,660,000	10,500,000

-- 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:				
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	2,690	1,970	726	12
October	2,890	2,040	866	10
November	2,490	1,770	735	9
January-November	30,200	21,700	8,670	142

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 canvasses 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
November:											
Veneer base	16,500	1,560	5,460	423	4,070	41	2	299	928	67	29,400
Sheathing	1,640	4,420	4,980	3,110	13,600	2,440	12,700	5,540	7,110	2,080	57,500
Regular gypsum board	33,200	118,000	145,000	85,400	321,000	103,000	196,000	108,000	108,000	40,500	1,260,000
Type X gypsum board	24,200	81,800	96,600	52,500	136,000	33,300	98,200	91,900	144,000	10,400	769,000
Predecorated board	303	652	816	322	1,480	382	827	420	710	38	5,950
5/16 Mobile home board	--	656	1,870	--	3,010	9,070	4,930	159	400	--	20,100
Water/moisture resistant board	5,860	23,400	13,200	5,600	25,200	4,880	11,800	7,990	14,900	4,410	117,000
Total	81,700	230,000	268,000	147,000	504,000	153,000	324,000	214,000	276,000	57,500	2,260,000
January-November:											
Veneer base	208,000	20,900	58,100	5,440	63,600	231	243	2,990	13,300	545	373,000
Sheathing	18,100	43,200	52,100	29,200	154,000	24,300	77,600	54,900	73,000	26,400	552,000
Regular gypsum board	370,000	1,260,000	1,400,000	823,000	3,700,000	894,000	1,760,000	1,310,000	1,370,000	420,000	13,300,000
Type X gypsum board	305,000	1,030,000	1,290,000	673,000	2,310,000	776,000	1,490,000	1,200,000	1,870,000	107,000	11,000,000
Predecorated board	3,440	52,500	241,000	125,000	172,000	82,100	284,000	183,000	322,000	1,170	1,470,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	7,230	32,000	--	41,400	116,000	58,900	1,430	3,030	613	261,000
Water/moisture resistant board	61,700	238,000	130,000	54,600	272,000	42,400	95,400	92,300	154,000	50,900	1,190,000
Total	966,000	2,650,000	3,200,000	1,710,000	6,710,000	1,930,000	3,760,000	2,850,000	3,810,000	607,000	28,200,000

-- 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.