

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JULY 2007

Producers mined 2.08 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in July 2007 (table 1). Output was slightly more than that of June 2007 and 34% more than that of July 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 662,000 metric tons (t) in July 2007 (table 1), which was 3% less than that of June 2007 and slightly less than that of July 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 July 2007, synthetic gypsum accounted for 4.64 million metric tons (Mt), or about 19%, of the 24.1-Mt total apparent consumption (defined as mine plus synthetic production plus imports minus exports) supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum in July 2007, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 498,000 t (table 2), 3% less than those of June 2007 and 9% less than those of July 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for July 2007 (table 1) was 1.88 Mt, 2% less than that of June 2007 and 7% less than that of July 2006. Sales of board products were about 2.57 billion square feet (239 million square meters), 2% less than those of June 2007 and 10% less than those of July 2006.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in July 2007 were 844,000 t (table 3), 3% less than that of June 2007 and 17% less than that of July 2006. Canada accounted for 71% of crude gypsum imports, followed by Mexico with 18% and Spain with 10%. A small amount of crude gypsum was also imported from the Dominican Republic and the United Kingdom. Gypsum wallboard imports for July 2007 were 36,100 t, equivalent to 43.3 million square feet (4.02 million square meters). These imports were 7% less than those of June 2007 and 75% less than those of July 2006. Mexico accounted for 53% of wallboard imports, followed by Canada with 43% and China with 4%. Wallboard exports to 34 countries and territories in July 2007 were 15,000 t, equivalent to 18.0 million square feet (1,670,000 square meters). These exports were about 119% more than those of June 2007 and 83% more than those of July 2006. These large increases in the monthly export quantities are due to larger than usual exports to Ireland during July. Most of these wallboard exports went to 25 western hemisphere countries, with Mexico accounting 23% of total exports, followed by Canada with 7%.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007			2006
	July	June	January-July	January-July
Crude:				
Mined ³	2,080,000	2,070,000	13,900,000	11,100,000
Imported ⁴	844,000	867,000	5,580,000	7,080,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	662,000	681,000	4,640,000	5,180,000
Total supply	3,590,000	3,610,000	24,100,000	23,400,000
Crude, exported ⁴	13,300	13,000	95,500	77,800
Consumption	3,580,000	3,600,000	24,000,000	23,300,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,880,000	1,920,000	12,700,000	15,000,000
Imported ⁶	1,070	1,020	7,590	4,270
Total supply	1,880,000	1,920,000	12,700,000	15,000,000
Exported ⁶	11,600	13,000	127,000	136,000
Consumption	1,870,000	1,910,000	12,600,000	14,900,000

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
	July	June	January-July	January-July
Uncalcined:³				
Portland cement	358,000	361,000	2,020,000	2,070,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	140,000	154,000	1,000,000	1,430,000
Total	498,000	515,000	3,030,000	3,600,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	2,140,000	2,180,000	15,100,000	18,200,000
Plaster	10,500	10,800	77,500	87,200
Total	2,150,000	2,190,000	15,200,000	18,300,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁵				
Regular board	1,470,000	1,490,000	10,600,000	13,300,000
Type X board	859,000	882,000	6,040,000	6,600,000
Other	243,000	247,000	1,720,000	1,960,000
Total supply	2,570,000	2,610,000	18,300,000	21,900,000

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
	July	June	May	January-July	January-July
Austria	--	--	--	--	27
Brazil	--	--	--	5	10,000
Canada	595,000	514,000	693,000	3,700,000	4,540,000
China	--	37	--	61	26,200
Dominican Republic	13,000	--	19,900	61,500	53,600
France	--	--	--	--	983
Germany	--	--	--	5	14,100
India	--	--	--	--	1
Italy	--	--	1	1	--
Jamaica	--	--	--	--	3,940
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	5
Mexico	149,000	318,000	173,000	1,450,000	1,850,000
Spain	86,100	34,300	18	363,000	574,000
Sweden	--	--	--	--	20
Turkey	--	--	--	2	--
United Kingdom	21	--	--	62	40
Total	844,000	867,000	885,000	4,690,000	7,080,000

-- 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:				
July	2,560	1,550	1,020	9
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	2,910	2,080	844	13
January-July	19,300	13,800	5,580	95

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
July:											
Veneer base	17,200	1,660	7,070	572	5,400	45	19	268	1,130	111	33,500
Sheathing	1,750	4,380	4,910	3,110	16,800	3,200	8,760	5,830	8,470	2,600	59,800
Regular gypsum board	30,300	116,000	155,000	84,600	402,000	128,000	207,000	143,000	157,000	46,800	1,470,000
Type X gypsum board	26,800	90,800	107,000	54,200	148,000	32,800	99,600	105,000	185,000	10,900	859,000
Predecorated board	507	637	1,230	495	1,850	436	1,090	462	621	68	7,390
5/16 Mobile home board	--	656	4,070	--	2,510	10,000	5,390	95	348	--	23,100
Water/moisture resistant board	5,260	22,000	13,600	5,320	26,500	5,140	11,600	9,770	16,100	3,680	119,000
Total	81,800	236,000	293,000	148,000	603,000	180,000	333,000	265,000	369,000	64,200	2,570,000
January-July:											
Veneer base	135,000	13,400	43,400	3,530	44,700	98	193	1,870	9,120	427	252,000
Sheathing	10,900	29,800	32,800	22,500	110,000	22,000	68,300	40,300	56,700	16,300	409,000
Regular gypsum board	235,000	849,000	1,110,000	615,000	2,970,000	877,000	1,520,000	1,030,000	1,100,000	271,000	10,600,000
Type X gypsum board	197,000	627,000	754,000	396,000	1,090,000	250,000	698,000	718,000	1,250,000	64,700	6,040,000
Predecorated board	2,160	4,860	6,620	3,460	10,200	2,700	5,930	3,030	4,520	484	44,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	4,250	19,900	--	26,500	72,100	37,100	674	1,600	75	162,000
Water/moisture resistant board	39,100	151,000	97,500	40,900	189,000	37,800	80,300	67,100	115,000	32,600	851,000
Total	620,000	1,680,000	2,060,000	1,080,000	4,430,000	1,260,000	2,410,000	1,870,000	2,540,000	385,000	18,300,000

-- 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.