

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JANUARY 2007

Producers mined 1.27 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in January 2007 (table 1). Output was slightly less than that of December 2006 and 20% more than that of January 2006. Synthetic gypsum production was 663,000 metric tons (t) in January 2007 (table 1), which was 4% more than that of December 2006, and 17% less than that of January 2006. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through December 2006 synthetic gypsum accounted for 8.49 Mt, or about 22%, of the 38.2 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 413,000 t (table 2), 25% less than those of December 2006 and 4% more than those of January 2006.

Output of calcined gypsum for January 2006 (table 1) was 1.80 Mt, 15% more than that of December 2006 and 18% more than that of January 2006. Sales of board products were about 2.9 billion square feet (288 million square meters), 28% more than those of December 2006 and 6% more than those of January 2006.

U.S. Government import and export data for January 2007 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in December 2006 were 910,000 t (table 3), 20% more than that of November 2006 and 9% more than that of January 2006. Imports to wallboard manufacturers on the east and west coasts accounted for 95% of crude gypsum imports. Gypsum wallboard imports, also principally from Canada and Mexico, for December 2006 were 50,000 t, equivalent to 60 million square feet (5.6 million square meters). These imports were 4% less than those of November 2006 and 23% less than those of December 2006. Wallboard exports to 30 countries and territories in December 2006 were 6,600 t, equivalent to 7.92 million square feet (735,000 square meters). These exports were 21% less than those of November 2006 and 20% less than those of December 2005.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2007	2006	
	January	December	January
Crude:			
Mined ³	1,270,000	1,280,000	1,590,000
Imported ⁴	NA	910,000	997,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	663,000	606,000	761,000
Total supply	1,933,000	2,800,000	3,350,000
Crude, exported ⁴	NA	11,000	14,200
Consumption	NA	2,790,000	3,330,000
Calcined:			
Produced	1,800,000	1,560,000	2,190,000
Imported ⁶	NA	1,000	466
Total supply	NA	1,560,000	2,190,000
Exported ⁶	NA	12,000	15,000
Consumption	NA	1,550,000	2,180,000

NA Not available.

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	
	January	December	January
Uncalcined:³			
Portland cement	279,000	361,000	240,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	134,000	193,000	192,000
Total	413,000	554,000	432,000
Calcined:			
Board products ⁴	2,430,000	2,350,000	2,590,000
Plaster	11,400	10,200	12,000
Total	2,440,000	2,360,000	2,600,000
Board products: (thousand square feet)⁵			
Regular board	1,710,000	1,350,000	1,910,000
Type X board	944,000	735,000	915,000
Other	262,000	208,000	280,000
Total supply	2,920,000	2,290,000	3,110,000

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 power plants.

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	2006			2005
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Austria	--	--	27	--
Bahrain	--	--	--	7
Brazil	--	--	14,000	17,000
Canada	696,000	564,000	7,370,000	7,650,000
China	--	12,800	39,100	16
Denmark	--	--	--	34
Dominica	--	--	--	2
Dominican Republic	--	6,500	92,900	166,000
France	--	--	983	52
Germany	--	88	14,300	142
India	111	--	112	--
Italy	--	--	--	1
Jamaica	--	--	3,940	64,600
Jordan	--	--	50	10
Korea, Republic of	--	--	5	--
Mexico	166,000	132,000	2,930,000	2,500,000
Morocco	--	--	--	1
Peru	--	--	--	80
Spain	47,500	44,300	899,000	782,000
Sweden	--	--	20	80
United Kingdom	--	--	41	1
Total	910,000	760,000	11,400,000	11,200,000

-- 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
2005:				
December	2,840	1,820	1,040	14
January-December	30,200	19,200	11,200	189
2006:				
January	2,580	1,590	997	14
February	2,410	1,490	928	12
March	2,600	1,640	970	14
April	2,650	1,540	1,120	8
May	2,710	1,640	1,080	10
June	2,650	1,690	972	9
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
2007:				
January	NA	1,280	NA	NA

NA Not available.

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^{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
2007:											
January:											
Veneer base	20,100	2,570	6,390	678	7,420	32	77	323	1,460	1,270	40,300
Sheathing	1,830	4,830	4,580	3,260	14,700	3,100	8,570	6,230	7,900	7,130	62,200
Regular gypsum board	45,600	171,000	163,000	108,000	419,000	113,000	207,000	133,000	126,000	229,000	1,710,000
Type X gypsum board	33,400	98,800	102,000	60,900	167,000	39,700	94,100	106,000	137,000	106,000	944,000
Predecorated board	323	667	847	575	1,070	373	790	437	604	51	5,740
5/16 Mobile home board	--	545	1,620	--	4,710	10,200	4,680	119	224	--	22,100
Water/moisture resistant board	6,420	21,500	14,200	7,280	28,900	5,370	10,700	9,880	13,100	14,200	132,000
Total	108,000	300,000	293,000	181,000	643,000	172,000	326,000	256,000	286,000	357,000	2,920,000

-- 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.