

HARDWOOD PLYWOOD.—U.S. DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS, IMPORTS, EXPORTS, AND CONSUMPTION, 1950-67

[In thousand square feet, surface measure]

Year	Domestic shipments	Imports	Exports	Apparent consumption	Percent of imports to consumption
1950.....	1 752,908	57,835	365	810,378	7
1951.....	1 805,249	66,761	553	1 871,457	8
1952.....	1 794,857	84,931	260	1 879,528	10
1953.....	819,107	218,862	463	1,037,506	21
1954.....	755,464	426,064	431	1,181,097	36
1955.....	933,948	617,936	325	1,551,559	40
1956.....	886,640	695,515	496	1,581,659	44
1957.....	791,431	840,962	393	1,632,000	52
1958.....	803,572	907,165	1,129	1,709,608	53
1959.....	976,717	1,318,035	1,951	2,292,801	57
1960.....	944,028	1,014,853	1,845	1,957,036	52
1961.....	1,088,561	1,097,445	1,556	2,184,450	50
1962.....	1,230,502	1,438,964	2,707	2,666,759	54
1963.....	1,414,260	1,620,158	3,640	3,030,778	53
1964.....	1,598,007	1,946,697	3,156	3,541,548	55
1965.....	2,200,900	2,130,794	5,634	4,326,060	49
1966.....	2,164,200	2,553,764	7,423	4,710,541	54
1967.....	2,100,000	2,530,491	6,656	4,623,835	55

¹ Estimated.

Source: Compiled by U.S. Forest Service, Division of Economics and Marketing Research, publication No. 1066, November 1967.

Mr. HERLONG. Thank you, Mr. Solter.

Are there questions?

Mr. BYRNES. If the Department study shows that we can't meet the demand, how do you account for the mortality rate of hardwood plywood plants in this country?

Mr. SOLTER. I don't have precise figures in front of me but during any period of time a number of plywood mills will have gone out of existence.

Mr. BYRNES. I know some that did and why they did. They couldn't meet the demand at the price of imports. That is why.

Mr. SOLTER. I would venture to say however that the other side of the coin is that during that same period of time any time during the past 15 years you will find that a plus 1, 2, or 3 additional plywood mills have come into existence.

Mr. BYRNES. And with imported materials?

Mr. SOLTER. Now I am speaking of manufacturing of plywood from domestic hardwood materials, logs. What happens so often is that plywood mills work out the economically accessible supply of hardwood material in their radius of supply.

Quite often hardwood mills are considered to be for 5, or 6 or 7 or 8 years depending on what is available within an economic radius of supply.

Mr. BYRNES. That is your rationale of what happened to these plants.

Mr. SOLTER. That is what happened to some of them. Some of them have burned down which is not because of imports. Some of them have gone the way that poor management sometimes goes.

I am not saying that all did, but we know of several where that was a strong factor. We do not feel, however, that in any single case can imports be attributed as the prime operating cause in the demise of any plywood mill.