

GTI-WOODBASED PANEL (GTI-WBP) REPORT

MONTHLY

GGSC-No.03/2026

Tracking and monitoring the global woodbased panel market trend.



全球林产品绿色供应链倡议
GLOBAL GREEN SUPPLY CHAINS INITIATIVE



The pilot countries for the GTI-WBP index include Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador, and China. In 2024, the total production of woodbased panel in the ten countries mentioned above was 218 million cubic meters, accounting for **52.3%** of the total global production volume of woodbased panel.

Introduction to the GTI-Woodbased Panel

GTI-Woodbased Panel (GTI-WBP), a specialized prosperity index for woodbased panel industry, reflecting the development trend of woodbased panel industry in all GTI pilot countries.

Calculation Method

The GTI-WBP index takes leading woodbased panel enterprises in GTI pilot countries as the survey objects. Each month, the enterprises need to fill the GTI index questionnaire, including the information of production, orders and export, employees, logistic, etc. Then the GTI-WBP index will be calculated and analyzed, and the report will be released at the middle of the following month.

GTI-WBP index contains diffusion index and comprehensive index.

1. GTI-WBP diffusion index. There are 11 diffusion indices (or called sub-indices) based on the data from 11 objective questions which covers production, new orders, new export orders, existing orders, inventory of products, purchasing quantity, purchasing prices of main raw materials, inventory of raw materials, employees, delivery time, and market expectation. The diffusion index is calculated by adding the percentage of enterprises with positive answers to half of the percentage with unchanged answers.

2. GTI-WBP comprehensive index. GTI-WBP comprehensive index (GTI-WBP index for short) is calculated based on five diffusion indexes with different weights: production, new orders, inventory of raw material, employees, delivery time. The five diffusion indexes and their weights are determined according to their influence on the industrial economy.

Interpretation

The value of the index is between 0-100%, and 50% is the critical value of the index. GTI-WBP index reading above 50 percent indicates that the industry prosperity is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates that it is generally declining.

Survey Method

With the support of The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the GTI platform has set up focal points in pilot countries, including timber producing and consuming countries.

At the end of each month, major leading woodbased panel enterprises are organized by focal points to fill out survey questionnaires. The questionnaire is usually filled out by the person in charge of production and operation or personnel from the statistics department. The Global Green Supply Chains Initiative (GGSC) organizes experts to analyze the collected data and prepare the GTI-WBP index report.

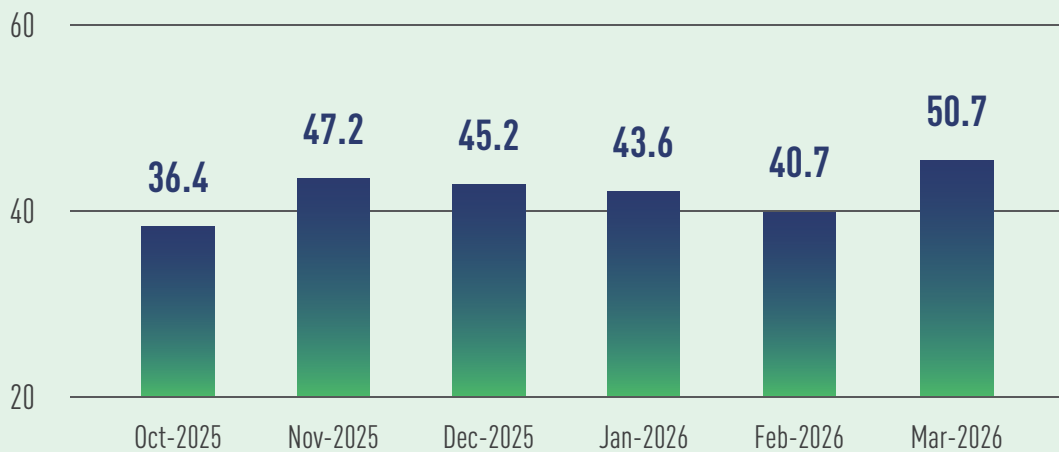
Index Representativeness

The pilot countries for the GTI-WBP index include Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador and China. In 2024, the total production of woodbased panel in the ten countries mentioned above was 218 million cubic meters, accounting for 52.3% of the total global production volume of woodbased panel.

GTI-Woodbased Panel Index in March 2026



GTI-WBP Comprehensive Index (%)



In March 2026, the GTI-Woodbased Panel (GTI-WBP) Index registered 50.7%, an increase of 10.0 percentage points from the previous month and above the critical value (50%) after six months, indicating that in the pilot countries, the overall business prosperity of the wood-based panel industry represented by the index expanded from the previous month.

On the demand side: Overall demand for wood-based panels increased in the GTI-WBP pilot countries. This month, the new orders index came in at 53.5%, and the export orders index was at 44.7%, indicating that the growth in new orders came primarily from the domestic market. Affected by the current international situation, the pilot countries' foreign trade of wood-based panels encountered obstacles, leading to greater reliance on domestic markets.

On the supply side: This month, the production index for wood-based panels stood at 52.7%, up 15.0 percentage points from the previous month and above the 50% critical value after sixth months. This indicates an overall increase in production capacity, mainly due to enterprises' adjustments of production plans in response to market demand and order conditions, as well as a diminished impact from holidays compared to the previous month. In March, the inventory index of finished products stood at 41.2% and remained below the critical value for two consecutive months, indicating that the enterprises' inventory pressure had eased to some extent.

From a price perspective: The purchase price index for raw materials stood at 64.4%, above the critical value for a long time, indicating that prices of logs and other related production materials continued to rise. This month, affected by the conflict in the Middle East, energy prices increased significantly in many countries, further intensifying the cost pressures on wood-based panel enterprises.

Main updates related to the wood-based panel market include: On March 13, Ecuador and the United States signed a Reciprocal Trade Agreement (RTA), under which the tariff on plywood—which accounts for 51% of Ecuador's forestry exports to the U.S.—will be reduced from 18% to 8%. In Brazil, according to the GTI focal point, the country's plywood market was showing incipient signs of recovery following the downturn caused by tariff barriers imposed on Brazilian products in the North American market. In February, China's exports of plywood and multilayer boards reached 1.19 million cubic meters, a year-on-year surge of 91.5%, and over the January–February period, its cumulative exports totaled 2.66 million cubic meters, an increase of 45.9% compared to the same period last year.

Table: Overview of GTI-WBP Sub-Indexes (%)

	Oct. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026	Feb. 2026	Mar. 2026	MoM	Performance
Comprehensive Index	36.4	47.2	45.2	43.6	40.7	50.7	10.0 ↑	Expand
Production Index	33.9	44.8	44.7	44.8	37.7	52.7	15.0 ↑	Expand
New Orders Index	36.7	48.4	44.1	43.8	39.1	53.5	14.4 ↑	Expand
Export Orders Index	38.0	43.9	40.6	38.6	35.6	44.7	9.1 ↑	Contract
Existing Orders Index	35.9	38.5	43.4	41.1	35.9	47.4	11.5 ↑	Contract
Inventory Index of Finished Products	51.6	50.0	54.4	52.5	46.1	41.2	-4.9 ↓	Contract
Purchase Quantity Index	36.9	48.3	46.4	45.1	36.4	49.0	12.6 ↑	Contract
Purchase Price Index	62.9	55.2	62.5	56.3	51.7	64.4	12.7 ↑	Expand
Inventory Index of Main Raw Materials	33.9	40.7	46.9	46.8	44.3	43.6	-0.7 ↓	Contract
Employees Index	39.1	47.5	46.3	42.6	39.8	46.5	6.7 ↑	Contract
Delivery Time Index	38.1	52.5	45.8	40.7	47.6	51.9	4.3 ↑	Expand
Market Expectation Index	40.6	44.3	44.1	41.4	48.4	57.0	8.6 ↑	Expand



Main Challenges Reported by GTI-WBP Enterprises

- Tax pressure was high. (Republic of the Congo)
- There was a lack of timber suppliers. (Ecuador)
- The costs of fuel for production increased. (Gabon)
- Production costs were high. (Ghana)
- Price competition was intense. (China)
- The quality of raw materials was unstable. (Thailand)
- The global plywood market tended to be sluggish. (Indonesia)
- Product sales declined and operating costs increased. (Brazil)
- Product sales channels were limited, or channel development was insufficient. (Mexico)
- Weak market demand led to reduced plywood orders, operating costs (fuel, chemicals, maintenance) rose, and inventory level was high, which created cash flow pressure. (Malaysia)



Main Suggestions from GTI-WBP Enterprises

- Break through homogenized competition. (China)
- Control the costs of fuel for production. (Gabon)
- Suggest that the government extend supportive policies to businesses. (Ghana)
- Promote industrialization of the production chain. (Brazil)
- Need the Government to provide tax incentives for enterprises. (Republic of the Congo)
- Increase the marketing and added value of domestic products. (Mexico)
- Seek suppliers with logging permits. (Ecuador)
- Expand into markets of other countries with government support. (Indonesia)
- Strengthen cost control across departments (workforce, facilities, maintenance) and gradually reduce inventory to improve cash flow. (Malaysia)
- Enterprises should focus on improving operational efficiency and cutting unnecessary expenses, while adjusting procurement strategies and seeking alternative suppliers or materials to control costs. (Thailand)



ITTO
INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER ORGANIZATION

About ITTO

The International Tropical Timber Organization, ITTO for short, is an intergovernmental organization promoting the sustainable management and conservation of tropical forests and the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests. It located in Yokohama, Japan. At present, there are 76 ITTO members countries. ITTO's membership represents about 90% of the global tropical timber trade and more than 80% of the world's tropical forests.



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About GGSC

Global Green Supply Chains Initiative (GGSC) is part of the Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC) Programme, which was approved at the 53rd session of the International Tropical Timber Council for being included into the Biennial Work Programme (BWP) of International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). Launched in 2018 by leading Chinese enterprises in forest products industry, GGSC became an international initiative in 2019. Since then, GGSC has been acting as a global platform for serving the sustainable development of the forest products industry.

Declaration

GTI-WBP report is compiled based on the data provided by the woodbased panel enterprises in the pilot countries. The data can not be used in investment decision-making, but can help to understand the timber industry trend.

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