

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 12, 1999

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Incorporated under the laws
of South Carolina

Commission File No. 1-11261

I.R.S. Employer Identification
No. 57-0248420

Post Office Box 160

Hartsville, South Carolina 29551-0160

Telephone: 843-383-7000

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Statements and Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibit 12 - Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

S O N O C O P R O D U C T S C O M P A N Y

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY
(Registrant)

Date: November 12, 1999

By: /s/ F. T. Hill, Jr.

F. T. Hill, Jr.
Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Nine Months Ended	Years Ended December 31,				
	Sept. 26, 1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
EARNINGS						
Pretax income - as reported	210,525	339,598	63,719	280,075	270,790	210,930
Less: (Gain) or Loss on assets held for sale	(3,500)	(100,354)	226,358	--	--	--
Pretax income - adjusted	207,025	239,244	290,077	280,075	270,790	210,930
Add: Fixed charges	46,385	68,380	69,484	69,223	54,537	45,494
Amortization of capitalized interest	422	634	498	378	378	378
Total Earnings	<u>253,832</u>	<u>308,258</u>	<u>360,059</u>	<u>349,676</u>	<u>325,705</u>	<u>256,802</u>
FIXED CHARGES						
Interest expense	37,230	54,779	57,194	55,481	44,004	35,861
Capitalized interest	--	1,353	--	1,200	--	--
Amortization of bond discounts	155	248	290	209	200	300
Portion of rents representative of the interest factor	9,000	12,000	12,000	12,333	10,333	9,333
Total Fixed Charges	<u>46,385</u>	<u>68,380</u>	<u>69,484</u>	<u>69,223</u>	<u>54,537</u>	<u>45,494</u>
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	<u>5.47</u>	<u>4.51*</u>	<u>5.18</u>	<u>5.05</u>	<u>5.97</u>	<u>5.64</u>

* Pretax income includes \$41,336 of one-time charges. Excluding these charges the ratio would be 5.09.