

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN JANUARY 2004

Producers mined 1.35 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in January 2004 (table 1). Output was 3% more than that of December 2003, and 13% less than that of January 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 661,000 metric tons (t) in January 2004 (table 1), which was 9% less than that of December 2003, and 2% less than that of January 2003. Synthetic gypsum production increased over that of 2002, owing to new synthetic-gypsum-sourced wallboard plants that came online in 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. During January through December 2003, synthetic gypsum accounted for 8.26 Mt, or about 25%, of the 32.7 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 343,000 t (table 2), 25% less than that of December 2003 and 31% less than that of January 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for January (table 1) was 1.88 Mt, 3% more than that of December 2003 and 6% more than that of

January 2003. Sales of board products were about 2.6 billion square feet (245 million square meters), 2% less than that of December 2003 and slightly more than that of January 2004.

Import and export data for January 2004 were not available at the time of publication. Imports of crude gypsum in December 2003 were 830,000 t (table 3), 8% more than that of November 2003 and 51% more than that of December 2002. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for December 2003 were 50,000 t, equivalent to 60 million square feet (5.6 million square meters). These imports were 11% more than that of November 2003 and 72% more than those of December 2002. Wallboard exports to 30 countries and territories in December 2003 were 3,500 t, equivalent to 4.2 million square feet (390,000 square meters). These exports were 13% less than those of November 2003 and 25% more than those of December 2002.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

| | 2004 | 2003 | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | January | December | January |
| Crude: | | | |
| Mined ³ | 1,350,000 | 1,300,000 | 1,550,000 |
| Imported ⁴ | NA | 830,000 | 555,000 |
| Exported ⁴ | NA | 16,800 | 15,800 |
| Synthetic gypsum ⁵ | 661,000 | 726,000 | 678,000 |
| Total supply | NA | 2,840,000 | 2,770,000 |
| Calcined: | | | |
| Produced | 1,880,000 | 1,820,000 | 1,770,000 |
| Imported ⁶ | NA | 161 | 280 |
| Exported ⁶ | NA | 8,710 | 11,500 |
| Total supply | NA | 1,810,000 | 1,760,000 |

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)

| | 2004 | 2003 | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | January | December | January |
| Uncalcined: ³ | | | |
| Portland cement | 216,000 | 316,000 | 251,000 |
| Agriculture and miscellaneous | 127,000 | 143,000 | 243,000 |
| Total | 343,000 | 459,000 | 494,000 |
| Calcined: | | | |
| Board products ⁴ | 2,200,000 | 2,240,000 | 2,180,000 |
| Plaster | 12,700 | 12,400 | 28,900 |
| Total | 2,210,000 | 2,250,000 | 2,210,000 |
| Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁵ | | | |
| Regular board | 1,630,000 | 1,670,000 | 1,590,000 |
| Type X board | 769,000 | 788,000 | 788,000 |
| Other | 242,000 | 236,000 | 245,000 |
| Total supply | 2,640,000 | 2,690,000 | 2,620,000 |

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 | 2003 | | | 2002 |
|--------------------|----------|----------|------------------|------------------|
| | December | November | January-December | January-December |
| Argentina | -- | -- | 18 | -- |
| Austria | -- | -- | 14 | -- |
| Canada | 502,000 | 562,000 | 5,700,000 | 5,240,000 |
| Costa Rica | 122 | -- | 122 | -- |
| Dominican Republic | -- | 6,790 | 67,900 | -- |
| Guatemala | -- | -- | 22 | -- |
| Italy | -- | -- | 11 | 10,100 |
| Jamaica | -- | -- | 16 | -- |
| Japan | -- | -- | -- | 3 |
| Korea, Republic of | -- | -- | -- | 273 |
| Mexico | 211,000 | 152,000 | 1,820,000 | 1,920,000 |
| Morocco | -- | -- | -- | 18 |
| Spain | 117,000 | 44,400 | 710,000 | 722,000 |
| Sweden | -- | -- | 2 | -- |
| Thailand | -- | -- | -- | 79,400 |
| United Kingdom | -- | 22 | 97 | 283 |
| Total | 830,000 | 766,000 | 8,300,000 | 7,970,000 |

-- 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 |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2002: | | | | |
| November | 1,970 | 1,250 | 730 | 13 |
| December | 1,740 | 1,210 | 548 | 15 |
| January-December | 23,300 | 15,700 | 7,970 | 343 |
| 2003: | | | | |
| January | 2,090 | 1,550 | 555 | 16 |
| February | 1,810 | 1,340 | 478 | 16 |
| March | 1,670 | 1,010 | 668 | 12 |
| April | 1,990 | 1,350 | 663 | 14 |
| May | 1,990 | 1,410 | 594 | 11 |
| June | 1,950 | 1,340 | 623 | 12 |
| July | 2,240 | 1,380 | 875 | 16 |
| August | 2,150 | 1,320 | 834 | 12 |
| September | 2,120 | 1,440 | 696 | 15 |
| October | 2,210 | 1,510 | 713 | 13 |
| November | 2,070 | 1,310 | 766 | 13 |
| December | 2,120 | 1,300 | 830 | 17 |
| January-December | 24,400 | 16,300 | 8,300 | 167 |
| 2004: | | | | |
| January | NA | 1,350 | 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 REGION^{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 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 2004: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lath | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Veneer base | 19,400 | 2,700 | 8,180 | 986 | 9,840 | 23 | 42 | 265 | 1,430 | 47 | 43,100 |
| Sheathing | 1,380 | 2,710 | 3,910 | 4,940 | 11,900 | 2,390 | 11,900 | 5,580 | 7,470 | 1,010 | 53,100 |
| Regular gypsum board | 40,700 | 135,000 | 214,000 | 120,000 | 449,000 | 115,000 | 208,000 | 144,000 | 168,000 | 30,200 | 1,630,000 |
| Type X gypsum board | 22,600 | 73,900 | 111,000 | 66,300 | 125,000 | 26,400 | 89,900 | 88,800 | 157,000 | 8,360 | 769,000 |
| Predecorated board | 295 | 544 | 907 | 469 | 1,080 | 326 | 790 | 383 | 647 | 35 | 5,480 |
| 5/16 Mobile home board | -- | 1,350 | 4,030 | -- | 8,760 | 10,200 | 6,750 | 833 | 1,120 | 36 | 33,100 |
| Water/moisture resistant board | 4,870 | 17,800 | 15,700 | 6,770 | 22,100 | 4,650 | 11,200 | 7,860 | 13,300 | 2,990 | 107,000 |
| Total | 89,300 | 234,000 | 358,000 | 200,000 | 628,000 | 159,000 | 329,000 | 248,000 | 349,000 | 42,700 | 2,640,000 |

-- 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.