

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN MAY 2004

Producers mined 1.34 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in May 2004 (table 1). Output was 4% less than that of April 2004, and 5% less than that of May 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 738,000 metric tons (t) in May 2004 (table 1), which was 3% more than that of April 2004, and 17% more than that of May 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. During January through April 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 2.76 Mt, or about 25%, of the 11.0 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 471,000 t (table 2), 2% more than that of April 2004, and 25% less than that of May 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for May (table 1) was 1.89 Mt, about the 4% less than that of April 2004, and 7% more than that of May 2003. Sales of board products were about 2.8 billion square feet (257 million square meters), 5% less than that of April 2004, and 7% more than that of May 2003.

U.S. Government import and export data for May 2004 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in April 2004 were 751,000 t (table 3), 7% less than that of March 2004, and 13% more than that of April 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for April 2004 were 57,000 t, equivalent to 68 million square feet (6.3 million square meters). These imports were 4% more than that of March 2004, and 78% more than those of April 2003. Wallboard exports to 26 countries and territories in April 2004 were 6,800 t, equivalent to 8.2 million square feet (757,000 square meters). These exports were 24% more than those of March 2004, and 106% more than those of April 2003.

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

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2004			2003
	May	April	January-May <sup>3</sup>	January-May
Crude:				
Mined <sup>4</sup>	1,340,000	1,400,000	6,730,000	6,650,000
Imported <sup>5</sup>	NA	751,000	NA	3,030,000
Exported <sup>5</sup>	NA	8,690	NA	100,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup>	738,000	720,000	3,500,000	3,280,000
Total supply	NA	2,860,000	NA	12,900,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,890,000	1,980,000	9,480,000	8,660,000
Imported <sup>7</sup>	NA	378	NA	2,610
Exported <sup>7</sup>	NA	11,400	NA	148,000
Total supply	NA	1,970,000	NA	8,510,000

<sup>1</sup>Revised. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>5</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>7</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004			2003
	May	April	January-May <sup>3</sup>	January-May
Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>				
Portland cement	334,000	328,000	1,340,000	1,480,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	137,000	134,000	659,000	1,050,000
Total	471,000	462,000	2,000,000	2,530,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>5</sup>	2,300,000	2,420,000	11,700,000	10,700,000
Plaster	13,400	14,700	69,400	140,000
Total	2,320,000	2,430,000	11,800,000	10,800,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup>				
Regular board	1,670,000	1,770,000	8,580,000	7,730,000
Type X board	844,000	859,000	4,170,000	3,890,000
Other	255,000	266,000	1,280,000	1,190,000
Total supply	2,770,000	2,900,000	14,000,000	12,800,000

<sup>1</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>5</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>6</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2004			2003
	April	March	January-April	January-April
Argentina	--	--	--	18
Austria	--	--	--	14
Canada	451,000	545,000	1,880,000	1,540,000
China	41,300		41,300	--
Costa Rica	34	15	49	--
Dominican Republic	6,500	6,540	31,100	38,500
Guatemala	--	--	--	22
Italy	5,500	16,400	21,900	10
Mexico	247,000	166,000	702,000	535,000
Spain	--	72,600	197,000	251,000
Sweden	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	--	--	1	18
Total	751,000	806,000	2,880,000	2,360,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data 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<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2003:				
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	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	NA	1,340	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption 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.

<sup>4</sup>Production 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.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGION<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2004:											
May:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	23,900	2,310	7,770	693	7,840	11	66	275	1,690	22	44,600
Sheathing	1,560	4,250	4,510	6,620	15,200	2,900	9,740	5,450	7,940	2,790	60,900
Regular gypsum board	38,400	135,000	214,000	107,000	470,000	120,000	204,000	155,000	191,000	32,100	1,670,000
Type X gypsum board	26,100	84,100	129,000	66,900	143,000	28,100	88,900	97,100	175,000	5,670	844,000
Predecorated board	291	669	892	575	1,090	330	740	381	564	25	5,560
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,340	4,560	14	10,700	12,500	6,620	1,220	1,520	40	38,600
Water/moisture resistant board	4,620	18,900	13,700	5,540	23,700	4,980	10,100	7,270	13,200	3,730	106,000
Total	94,800	246,000	374,000	187,000	672,000	169,000	321,000	267,000	391,000	44,400	2,770,000
January- May:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	117,000	13,500	39,500	4,050	44,100	100	346	1,520	8,060	292	228,000
Sheathing	6,500	19,600	21,600	28,400	68,500	13,200	55,600	28,600	42,500	7,960	292,000
Regular gypsum board	214,000	724,000	1,120,000	564,000	2,430,000	601,000	1,020,000	794,000	949,000	152,000	8,570,000
Type X gypsum board	128,000	413,000	609,000	332,000	688,000	144,000	448,000	490,000	886,000	34,100	4,170,000
Predecorated board	1,300	3,070	4,470	2,550	6,090	1,880	3,860	1,820	2,940	226	28,200
5/16 Mobile home board	--	5,150	21,800	--	46,900	55,700	33,600	4,120	4,780	76	172,000
Water/moisture resistant board	26,200	97,200	77,200	31,500	119,000	22,900	54,400	42,900	73,600	17,100	562,000
Total	493,000	1,280,000	1,890,000	962,000	3,400,000	839,000	1,620,000	1,360,000	1,970,000	211,000	14,000,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals show

<sup>2</sup>Sales 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).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet

Source: Gypsum Association.