

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN FEBRUARY 2005

Producers mined 1.29 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in February 2005 (table 1). Output was 9% more than that of January 2005 and 2% more than that of February 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 686,000 metric tons (t) in February 2005 (table 1), which was 7% less than that of January 2005, and 3% more than that of February 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January 2005, synthetic gypsum accounted for 738,000 t, or about 28%, of the 2.67 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 429,000 t (table 2), 3% more than that of January 2005, and 25% more than that of February 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for February (table 1) was 1.79 Mt, 7% less than that of January 2005, and 2% more than that of February 2004. Sales of board products were about 2.7 billion

square feet (249 million square meters), slightly more than that of January 2005, and 3% more than that of February 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for February 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in January 2005 were 770,000 t (table 3), 20% less than that of December 2004 and slightly more than that of January 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Mexico, for January 2005 were 49,000 t, equivalent to 59 million square feet (5.4 million square meters). These imports were 7% more than that of December 2004 and 2% more than that of January 2004. Wallboard exports to 26 countries and territories in January 2005 were 6,200 t, equivalent to 7.4 million square feet (690,000 square meters). These exports were 17% less than those of December 2004 and 18% less than those of January 2004.

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

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1, 2}

(Metric tons)

| | 2005 | | | 2004 |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| | February | January | January-February | January-February |
| Crude: | | | | |
| Mined ³ | 1,290,000 | 1,180,000 | 2,470,000 | 2,610,000 |
| Imported ⁴ | NA | 770,000 | NA | 1,320,000 |
| Exported ⁴ | NA | 13,800 | NA | 25,400 |
| Synthetic gypsum ⁵ | 686,000 | 738,000 | 1,420,000 | 1,330,000 |
| Total supply | NA | 2,670,000 | NA | 5,240,000 |
| Calcined: | | | | |
| Produced | 1,790,000 | 1,920,000 | 3,630,000 | 3,630,000 |
| Imported ⁶ | NA | 738 | NA | 1,310 |
| Exported ⁶ | NA | 12,800 | NA | 79,000 |
| Total supply | NA | 1,910,000 | NA | 3,550,000 |

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)

| | 2005 | | | 2004 |
|---|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| | February | January | January-February ³ | January-February |
| Uncalcined: ⁴ | | | | |
| Portland cement | 232,000 | 218,000 | 451,000 | 431,000 |
| Agriculture and miscellaneous | 197,000 | 198,000 | 395,000 | 255,000 |
| Total | 429,000 | 416,000 | 845,000 | 686,000 |
| Calcined: | | | | |
| Board products ⁵ | 2,230,000 | 2,230,000 [†] | 4,460,000 | 4,380,000 |
| Plaster | 12,300 | 12,900 | 25,100 | 25,500 |
| Total | 2,250,000 | 2,240,000 | 4,490,000 | 4,400,000 |
| Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁶ | | | | |
| Regular board | 1,660,000 | 1,660,000 | 3,330,000 | 3,230,000 |
| Type X board | 767,000 | 767,000 | 1,530,000 | 1,540,000 |
| Other | 248,000 | 244,000 | 492,000 | 479,000 |
| Total supply | 2,680,000 | 2,670,000 | 5,350,000 | 5,250,000 |

[†]Revised.

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 | 2005 | 2004 | |
|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|
| | January | December | January |
| Canada | 533,000 | 690,000 | 506,000 |
| Dominican Republic | -- | 24,800 | -- |
| Germany | 40 | -- | -- |
| Jamaica | -- | 21,100 | -- |
| Mexico | 194,000 | 214,000 | 168,000 |
| Peru | 79 | -- | -- |
| South Africa | -- | 7,690 | -- |
| Spain | 42,500 | -- | 87,300 |
| United Kingdom | -- | -- | 1 |
| Total | 770,000 | 958,000 | 761,000 |

-- 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 |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2003: | | | | |
| 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 | 2,230 | 1,340 | 905 | 11 |
| June | 2,200 | 1,280 | 936 | 14 |
| July | 2,570 | 1,580 | 1,010 | 14 |
| August | 2,240 | 1,520 | 735 | 9 |
| September | 2,220 | 1,390 | 835 | 12 |
| October | 2,400 | 1,460 | 954 | 14 |
| November | 2,360 | 1,460 | 920 | 13 |
| December | 2,420 | 1,480 | 958 | 14 |
| January-December | 26,900 | 16,900 | 10,100 | 149 |
| 2005: | | | | |
| January | 2,220 | 1,460 | 770 | 14 |
| February | NA | 1,460 | 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 REGIONS^{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 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| 2005: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| February: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Veneer base | 22,700 | 2,540 | 6,060 | 725 | 10,700 | 40 | 59 | 198 | 1,370 | 114 | 44,400 |
| Sheathing | 1,110 | 3,120 | 4,360 | 5,220 | 13,300 | 2,640 | 10,300 | 5,450 | 7,780 | 978 | 54,300 |
| Regular gypsum board | 39,800 | 132,000 | 195,000 | 106,000 | 499,000 | 111,000 | 195,000 | 171,000 | 187,000 | 29,300 | 1,660,000 |
| Type X gypsum board | 24,900 | 74,900 | 106,000 | 55,300 | 140,000 | 27,100 | 80,700 | 93,300 | 160,000 | 5,560 | 767,000 |
| Predecorated board | 345 | 488 | 713 | 369 | 1,110 | 327 | 630 | 378 | 482 | 21 | 4,860 |
| 5/16 Mobile home board | -- | 296 | 4,980 | -- | 8,360 | 12,100 | 6,240 | 298 | 587 | 38 | 32,900 |
| Water/moisture resistant board | 5,060 | 18,200 | 14,000 | 6,070 | 25,800 | 4,680 | 9,500 | 8,980 | 14,800 | 4,060 | 111,000 |
| Total | 93,800 | 232,000 | 332,000 | 174,000 | 698,000 | 158,000 | 302,000 | 279,000 | 372,000 | 40,100 | 2,680,000 |
| January- February: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Veneer base | 44,200 | 4,930 | 13,900 | 1,650 | 19,200 | 65 | 118 | 394 | 2,410 | 123 | 87,000 |
| Sheathing | 1,980 | 6,410 | 7,460 | 10,400 | 27,500 | 4,970 | 22,500 | 10,100 | 14,500 | 1,740 | 108,000 |
| Regular gypsum board | 79,300 | 268,000 | 397,000 | 217,000 | 1,020,000 | 223,000 | 388,000 | 328,000 | 353,000 | 57,500 | 3,330,000 |
| Type X gypsum board | 48,700 | 153,000 | 213,000 | 117,000 | 287,000 | 58,800 | 164,000 | 182,000 | 301,000 | 10,800 | 1,530,000 |
| Predecorated board | 580 | 1,120 | 1,860 | 787 | 2,320 | 636 | 1,680 | 653 | 1,180 | 67 | 10,900 |
| 5/16 Mobile home board | -- | 808 | 9,650 | -- | 18,400 | 24,800 | 12,300 | 422 | 906 | 38 | 67,300 |
| Water/moisture resistant board | 9,580 | 36,200 | 28,400 | 12,200 | 51,600 | 9,150 | 20,000 | 17,300 | 27,800 | 7,140 | 219,000 |
| Total | 184,000 | 470,000 | 671,000 | 358,000 | 1,420,000 | 321,000 | 609,000 | 539,000 | 701,000 | 77,400 | 5,350,000 |

-- 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.