

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN AUGUST 2004

Producers mined 1.52 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in August 2004 (table 1). Output was 3% less than that of July 2004, and 15% more than that of August 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 725,000 metric tons (t) in August 2004 (table 1), which was 7% less than that of July 2004, and slightly more than that of August 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through July 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 5.02 Mt, or about 25%, of the 20.3-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 588,000 t (table 2), 14% less than that of July 2004, and 14% more than that of August 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for August (table 1) was 1.94 Mt, about the 4% more than that of July 2004, and 5% more than that of August 2003. Sales of board products were about 2.9

billion square feet (273 million square meters), 4% more than that of July 2004, and 10% more than that of August 2003.

U.S. Government import and export data for August 2004 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in July 2004 were 1,010,000 t (table 3), 8% more than that of June 2004, and 15% more than that of July 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for July 2004 were 52,000 t, equivalent to 62 million square feet (5.8 million square meters). These imports were 2% more than that of June 2004, and 16% more than those of July 2003. Wallboard exports to 25 countries and territories in July 2004 were 6,900 t, equivalent to 8.3 million square feet (768,000 square meters). These exports were 19% more than those of June 2004, and 26% less than those of July 2003.

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

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

(Metric tons)

|                               | 2004      |           |                | 2003           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | August    | July      | January-August | January-August |
| Crude:                        |           |           |                |                |
| Mined <sup>4</sup>            | 1,520,000 | 1,570,000 | 11,100,000     | 10,700,000     |
| Imported <sup>5</sup>         | NA        | 1,010,000 | NA             | 5,370,000      |
| Exported <sup>5</sup>         | NA        | 14,400    | NA             | 129,000        |
| Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup> | 725,000   | 779,000   | 5,740,000      | 5,380,000      |
| Total supply                  | NA        | 3,350,000 | NA             | 21,300,000     |
| Calcined:                     |           |           |                |                |
| Produced                      | 1,940,000 | 1,870,000 | 14,000,000     | 13,100,000     |
| Imported <sup>7</sup>         | NA        | 223       | NA             | 4,130          |
| Exported <sup>7</sup>         | NA        | 12,300    | NA             | 186,000        |
| Total supply                  | NA        | 1,860,000 | NA             | 12,900,000     |

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           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------|
|   | August    | July      | January-August <sup>3</sup> | January-August |
| Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>                            |           |           |                             |                |
| Portland cement                                     | 391,000   | 498,000   | 2,650,000                   | 2,610,000      |
| Agriculture and miscellaneous                       | 196,000   | 183,000   | 1,240,000                   | 1,540,000      |
| Total   | 588,000   | 680,000   | 3,890,000                   | 4,140,000      |
| Calcined:   |           |           |                             |                |
| Board products <sup>5</sup>                         | 2,450,000 | 2,370,000 | 19,000,000                  | 17,800,000     |
| Plaster   | 14,500    | 13,200    | 112,000                     | 180,000        |
| Total   | 2,460,000 | 2,380,000 | 19,100,000                  | 18,000,000     |
| Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup> |           |           |                             |                |
| Regular board                                       | 1,810,000 | 1,740,000 | 13,900,000                  | 12,600,000     |
| Type X board  | 859,000   | 843,000   | 6,790,000                   | 6,310,000      |
| Other   | 273,000   | 256,000   | 2,090,000                   | 1,950,000      |
| Total supply  | 2,940,000 | 2,840,000 | 22,800,000                  | 20,800,000     |

<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         |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|--------------|--------------|
|                    | July      | June    | January-July | January-July |
| Argentina          | --        | --      | --           | 18           |
| Austria            | --        | 8       | 8            | 14           |
| Canada             | 685,000   | 650,000 | 3,910,000    | 2,970,000    |
| China              | --        | --      | 41,300       | --           |
| Costa Rica         | --        | --      | 53           | --           |
| Dominican Republic | 6,500     | 17,700  | 77,800       | 38,500       |
| Guatemala          | --        | --      | --           | 22           |
| Italy              | --        | 5,000   | 26,900       | 10           |
| Jamaica            | --        | 19,200  | 19,200       | 16           |
| Japan              | 2         | 1       | 3            | --           |
| Mexico             | 212,000   | 158,000 | 1,220,000    | 1,020,000    |
| Spain              | 109,000   | 85,600  | 436,000      | 434,000      |
| Sweden             | --        | --      | --           | 2            |
| United Kingdom     | --        | 20      | 21           | 38           |
| Total              | 1,010,000 | 936,000 | 5,730,000    | 4,460,000    |

-- 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:            |                          |                         |                      |                      |
| 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              | 2,230                    | 1,340                   | 905                  | 11                   |
| June             | 2,200                    | 1,280                   | 936                  | 14                   |
| July             | 2,570                    | 1,580                   | 1,010                | 14                   |
| August           | NA                       | 1,520                   | 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 REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

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

|                                | New<br>England | Middle<br>Atlantic | E. North<br>Central | W. North<br>Central | South<br>Atlantic | E. South<br>Central | W. South<br>Central | Mountain  | Pacific   | Exports | Total      |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| 2004:                          |                |                    |                     |                     |                   |                     |                     |           |           |         |            |
| August:                        |                |                    |                     |                     |                   |                     |                     |           |           |         |            |
| Lath                           | --             | --                 | --                  | --                  | --                | --                  | --                  | --        | --        | --      | --         |
| Veneer base                    | 24,000         | 2,640              | 8,360               | 812                 | 8,380             | 59                  | 4                   | 184       | 1,660     | 21      | 46,100     |
| Sheathing                      | 1,580          | 4,850              | 5,600               | 5,780               | 15,300            | 3,060               | 10,700              | 5,760     | 8,730     | 2,630   | 64,000     |
| Regular gypsum board           | 42,700         | 155,000            | 235,000             | 120,000             | 481,000           | 126,000             | 218,000             | 178,000   | 222,000   | 28,900  | 1,810,000  |
| Type X gypsum board            | 28,200         | 85,400             | 129,000             | 66,100              | 129,000           | 28,900              | 83,700              | 107,000   | 195,000   | 6,600   | 859,000    |
| Predecorated board             | 338            | 769                | 1,030               | 691                 | 1,550             | 423                 | 984                 | 418       | 591       | 86      | 6,880      |
| 5/16 Mobile home board         | --             | 814                | 5,840               | --                  | 12,200            | 13,200              | 6,580               | 137       | 589       | --      | 39,300     |
| Water/moisture resistant board | 5,560          | 20,600             | 14,800              | 6,280               | 26,100            | 4,210               | 10,200              | 9,190     | 16,400    | 3,420   | 117,000    |
| Total                          | 102,000        | 270,000            | 399,000             | 200,000             | 674,000           | 176,000             | 330,000             | 301,000   | 444,000   | 41,700  | 2,940,000  |
| January- August:               |                |                    |                     |                     |                   |                     |                     |           |           |         |            |
| Lath                           | --             | --                 | --                  | --                  | --                | --                  | --                  | --        | --        | --      | --         |
| Veneer base                    | 188,000        | 21,200             | 65,000              | 6,220               | 70,300            | 221                 | 413                 | 2,420     | 12,500    | 374     | 367,000    |
| Sheathing                      | 11,400         | 34,300             | 37,200              | 47,600              | 115,000           | 21,600              | 88,100              | 47,500    | 68,700    | 16,400  | 488,000    |
| Regular gypsum board           | 335,000        | 1,170,000          | 1,790,000           | 912,000             | 3,950,000         | 982,000             | 1,660,000           | 1,310,000 | 1,580,000 | 250,000 | 13,900,000 |
| Type X gypsum board            | 211,000        | 676,000            | 984,000             | 531,000             | 1,110,000         | 237,000             | 709,000             | 801,000   | 1,470,000 | 58,800  | 6,790,000  |
| Predecorated board             | 2,300          | 5,190              | 7,110               | 4,130               | 10,400            | 3,110               | 6,880               | 3,040     | 4,830     | 405     | 47,400     |
| 5/16 Mobile home board         | --             | 7,840              | 38,400              | 1                   | 77,000            | 90,700              | 54,400              | 5,440     | 7,260     | 76      | 281,000    |
| Water/moisture resistant board | 41,600         | 156,000            | 120,000             | 49,200              | 197,000           | 36,300              | 86,800              | 71,000    | 122,000   | 27,800  | 907,000    |
| Total                          | 790,000        | 2,070,000          | 3,040,000           | 1,550,000           | 5,520,000         | 1,370,000           | 2,610,000           | 2,240,000 | 3,270,000 | 354,000 | 22,800,000 |

-- Zero.

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

<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.