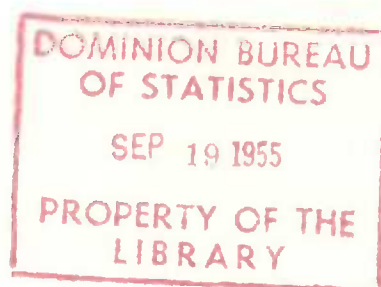


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CANADA

# THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY 1954



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## NOTICE

The annual reports prepared by the Industry and Merchandising Division of the Bureau of Statistics are divided into 3 volumes, as follows: Volume I — The Primary Industries, including mining, forestry and fisheries; Volume II — Manufacturing; Volume III — Merchandising and Services. The volumes are made up of parts, and the parts in turn are subdivided according to the industries which they comprise.

Volume I consists of the following parts:

Part I — Mineral Statistics

Part II — Forestry Statistics — Operations in the Woods

Part III — Fisheries Statistics

Part I includes the following reports which constitute the complete series on Mineral Statistics of Canada. Individual reports are issued as the information becomes available; they are arranged in a form suitable for binding.

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- U — Contract Drilling in the Mining Industry, 25¢

# THE TALC AND SOAPSTONE INDUSTRY

1954

Producers of talc, soapstone and pyrophyllite shipped 28,143 short tons valued at \$335,353, in 1954, compared with 27,408 tons valued at \$285,755 in the preceding year. Finely-ground pyrophyllite was shipped from Newfoundland. The output from Quebec included crayons, blocks and ground soapstone. Most of the production in Ontario was high-grade milled talc. There was no production of talc or pyrophyllite in British Columbia during 1954.

The industry employed an average of 53 persons to whom \$134,437 were distributed as salaries and wages. Fuel cost \$13,008 and 1,366,049 kwh. of electricity were purchased for \$22,537.

Imports of talc and soapstone in 1954 amounted to 12,392 tons valued at \$397,985. Exported were 3,609 tons worth \$48,753.

Ground talc, including soapstone and pyrophyllite, is used chiefly in the paint, roofing, paper, rubber, insecticide and ceramic industries. It is used also in foundry facings, bleaching fillers for textiles, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, soaps and cleansers, plaster, polishes, plastics and for rice polishing. Soapstone is used extensively in the form of sawn blocks and bricks for lining the alkali recovery furnaces and kilns of kraft pulp and paper mills. Also it is used for brick and slab liners for fireboxes, stoves and ovens, and for switchboard panels, laboratory benches, etc. Considerable quantities of soapstone quarry and sawing waste are ground and used as low-grade talc in the rubber, roofing, foundry and other trades. Compact, massive talc, sawn into square pencils and slices, is an important material for steelmakers' crayons.

TABLE 1. Principal Statistics for the Talc and Soapstone Industry, Significant Years, 1921-1954

Year	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Earnings	Cost of fuel and electricity at works	Cost of process supplies and containers at works	Gross selling value of products (f.o.b. works)	Net value of production
	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1921.....	4	39	64,703	15,731	N.A.	144,565	N.A.
1929.....	5	86	74,300	21,395	"	229,198	"
1931.....	5	70	71,787	19,128	"	157,083	"
1933.....	7	103	83,060	26,424	"	190,836	"
1937.....	7	83	72,020	19,318	6,076	163,814	138,420
1939.....	6	65	60,512	15,154	7,178	170,066	147,734
1941.....	8	148	128,820	26,882	28,324	360,809	305,603
1944.....	6	113	133,883	27,642	40,523	357,249	289,084
1946.....	5	87	117,551	25,401	38,167	303,684	240,116
1949.....	3	59	105,736	21,826	42,426	320,793	256,541
1951.....	4	50	109,522	25,474	37,481	305,338	242,383
1952.....	3	54	117,144	24,430	49,764	303,118	228,924
1953.....	3	54	132,934	32,707	63,315	308,497	245,182
1954.....	4	53	134,437	35,545	65,209	389,048	288,294

TABLE 2. Producers' Shipments<sup>1</sup> of Talc and Soapstone, by Provinces, 1932-1954

Province	1952		1953		1954	
	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points	Quantity	Selling value f.o.b. shipping points
	tons	\$	tons	\$	tons	\$
Quebec (soapstone) <sup>2</sup> .....	12,578	130,901	14,098	160,546	14,437	165,472
Newfoundland <sup>3</sup> .....	12,454	149,711	13,310	125,209	13,706	169,881
Ontario.....						
British Columbia <sup>3</sup> .....						
Canada.....	25,032	280,612	27,408	285,755	28,143	335,353

1. Includes both crude and milled grades.

2. Shipments by some firms usually include a considerable quantity of material classified as talc.

3. Includes pyrophyllite.

TABLE 3. Shipments of Talc and Soapstone by Canadian Producers, 1945-1954

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1945 .....	27,088	294,888	1950 .....	32,604	364,995
1946 .....	29,353	303,684	1951 .....	24,846	283,624
1947 .....	26,709	266,377	1952 .....	25,032	280,612
1948 .....	28,780	309,823	1953 .....	27,408	285,755
1949 .....	26,922	320,793	1954 .....	28,143	335,353

TABLE 4. Imports and Exports of Talc, 1952-1954

	1952		1953		1954	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		\$		\$		\$
<b>Imports:</b>						
Talc or soapstone .....	8,749	276,496	11,867	372,628	12,392	397,985
<b>Exports:</b>						
Talc .....	3,435	44,925	2,937	38,193	3,609	48,753

TABLE 5. Available Statistics on the Consumption of Ground Talc and Soapstone, 1950-1953

	1950	1951	1952	1953
	Tons			
<b>By uses:</b>				
Paints .....	9,023	6,921	7,264	7,838
Roofing .....	9,739	8,861	8,255	8,050
Pulp and paper .....	1,634	1,974	2,568	1,510
Rubber .....	3,290	1,684	1,617	1,620
Toilet preparations .....	861	778	807	424
Electrical apparatus .....	475	641	427	490
Clay products .....	716	894	1,164	2,164
Soaps and cleaning preparations .....	159	192	206	81
Textiles and linoleum .....	571	520	533	1
Insecticides and miscellaneous chemicals .....	6,006	6,419	7,638	8,557
Polishes and dressings .....	25	12	16	11
Miscellaneous non-metallic mineral products .....	21	97	47	82
Iron foundries .....	110	—	—	—
Tanneries .....	50	8	20	5
Asbestos .....	—	—	1	1
Coal tar distillation .....	98	305	133	694
Medicinal preparations .....	1	1	1	321
<b>Total accounted for .....</b>	<b>32,778</b>	<b>29,306</b>	<b>30,696</b>	<b>31,849</b>
<b>By provinces:</b>				
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland .....	127	182	204	178
New Brunswick .....	421	414	459	459
Quebec .....	8,735	9,077	9,455	9,554
Ontario .....	19,562	15,174	16,226	17,436
Manitoba .....	3,184	3,040	2,762	2,564
Saskatchewan .....	24	—	29	—
Alberta .....	103	616	862	852
British Columbia .....	622	803	699	808
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>32,778</b>	<b>29,306</b>	<b>30,696</b>	<b>31,849</b>

1. Included in toilet preparations, 1950-1952.



TABLE 6. Employees and Their Earnings in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1930-1934

Year	Number of employees					Number of man-hours worked (all employees)	Earnings		
	Office and administrative		Workmen		Total		Office and administrative	Workmen	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
							\$	\$	\$
1950 .....	7	1	20	—	58	...	32, 237	84, 310	116, 547
1951 .....	2	1	47	—	50	116, 849	7, 240	102, 282	109, 522
1952 .....	5	1	48	—	54	110, 479	22, 768	94, 376	117, 144
1953 .....	5	1	48	—	54	138, 913	23, 221	109, 713	132, 934
1954 .....	7	1	45	—	53	138, 690	30, 881	103, 556	134, 437

TABLE 7. Number of Workmen in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, by Months, 1953 and 1954

Month	1953				1954			
	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total
January .....	8	16	24	48	9	13	20	42
February .....	8	12	21	41	8	13	20	41
March .....	8	18	24	50	7	17	23	47
April .....	9	23	26	58	7	17	23	47
May .....	13	22	25	60	8	17	25	50
June .....	13	20	27	60	11	17	26	54
July .....	13	17	25	55	10	17	24	51
August .....	8	12	23	43	10	17	21	48
September .....	10	10	23	43	8	14	19	41
October .....	12	8	19	39	8	14	19	41
November .....	6	12	19	37	7	14	23	44
December .....	6	12	19	37	5	15	21	41
Average .....	10	15	23	48	8	15	22	45

TABLE 8. World Production of Talc, Pyrophyllite and Soapstone, by Countries, 1949-1953

(Extracted from the annual review issued by the U.S. Bureau of Mines)

Country <sup>1</sup>	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	metric tons <sup>2</sup>				
<b>North America:</b>					
Canada (shipments) .....	24, 423	29, 578	22, 540	22, 709	24, 370
United States .....	416, 709	559, 440	581, 009	545, 132	563, 818
<b>South America:</b>					
Argentina <sup>3</sup> .....	4	4	15, 000	16, 000	4
Brazil .....	17, 782	12, 632	11, 304	4	4
Chile .....	110	142	25	4	4
Paraguay .....	—	—	—	—	90
Peru .....	—	—	131	124	4
Uruguay .....	660	681	959	679	891

TABLE 8. World Production of Talc, Pyrophyllite and Soapstone, by Countries, 1949-1953 - Concluded

(Extracted from the annual review issued by the U.S. Bureau of Mines)

Country <sup>1</sup>	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
	metric tons <sup>2</sup>				
<b>Europe:</b>					
Austria .....	56,050	58,681	72,784	50,822	51,335
Finland .....	—	300	5,000	6,000	3,688
France .....	100,055	87,416	103,236	107,701	103,900
Germany, West .....	17,700	27,300	35,200	27,589	40,789
Greece .....	1,700	2,500	2,625	1,200	4
Italy .....	61,462	67,616	75,996	80,336	80,282
Norway .....	54,305	64,099	76,479	64,074	4
Portugal .....	3	2	1	6	16
Spain <sup>5</sup> .....	38,208	25,131	36,034	27,859	28,447
Sweden .....	11,293	13,843	13,332	8,787	4
United Kingdom .....	2,616	1,727	2,540	2,628	4
<b>Asia:</b>					
Afghanistan .....	100	75	840	800	600
India .....	21,535	25,894	32,314	20,373	4
Japan .....	262,433	283,566	400,626	318,386	4
Korea, Republic of .....	2,773	7,485	3,208	3,964	24,479
Taiwan (Formosa) .....	76	700	2,057	1,093	1,764
<b>Africa:</b>					
Egypt .....	5,573	3,731	3,754	4,903	2,198
Kenya .....	590	334	337	235	155
Union of South Africa .....	5,386	3,978	5,663	8,674	7,234
<b>Australia</b> .....	8,717	9,851	13,359	7,772	9,963
<b>Total (estimate)</b> .....	<b>1,275,000</b>	<b>1,450,000</b>	<b>1,650,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>1,550,000</b>

1. In addition to countries listed, talc or pyrophyllite is reported in China, Indochina, Romania and U.S.S.R., but data on production are not available; estimates have been included in total.

2. This table incorporates a number of revisions of data published in previous talc chapters.

3. Estimate.

4. Data not available; estimate included in total.

5. Includes tonnages of steatite as follows: 1948, 18,627 tons; 1949, 20,880 tons; 1950, 13,702 tons; 1951, 22,628 tons; 1952, 18,412 tons.

## Directory of Firms in the Talc and Soapstone Industry, 1954

Name of firm	Head office address	Location of plant or mine
<b>Newfoundland:</b>		
Newfoundland Minerals .....	Box 348, St. John's .....	Long Pond
<b>Quebec:</b>		
Baker Talc Limited .....	215 St. James St. W., Montreal .....	Highwater
Broughton Soapstone & Quarry Co. Ltd. ....	Broughton Station .....	Broughton
<b>Ontario:</b>		
Canada Talc Industries Ltd. ....	Madoc .....	Huntingdon Twp.
<b>British Columbia:</b>		
Mountain Minerals Ltd. <sup>1</sup> .....	Box 273, Lethbridge, Alberta .....	Armstrong, Semlin

1. Non-producing during current year.



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