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TALC AND SOAPSTONE MINES

(Formerly The Talc and Soapstone Industry)

1962



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SYMBOLS

The following standard symbols are used in Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications:

- .. figures not available.
- ... figures not appropriate or not applicable.
- nil or zero.
- amount too small to be expressed.
- ▮ preliminary figures.
- ⋆ revised figures.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Establishment

The reporting unit in the Census of Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells is the **establishment**. Beginning with the 1961 Census, the establishment is defined as follows:

The smallest unit which is a separate operating entity capable of reporting all the following:

- Materials and supplies used,
- Goods purchased for resale as such,
- Fuel and power consumed,
- Number of employees and their pay,
- Inventories,
- Shipments or sales.

The establishment is to be distinguished from smaller subdivisions or departments which do not have records which permit them to report all items required of an establishment. Prior to 1961, some establishments were required to submit two or more separate reports when they were engaged in operations which were classifiable to different industries. Beginning with 1961, separate reports for such operations will be required only in cases where accounting records can provide all the elements of principal statistics enumerated above. Special reporting arrangements were made with respondents when the acceptance of combined reports would

have seriously affected the statistics for particular industries or areas. Where continuity of industry statistics was affected by this change in reporting procedures, adjustments to the data were made back to 1957 in order to maintain comparability of the series for recent years.

A mining establishment is typically a mine, mine/mill, quarry, pit or bog principally engaged in mining operations. Prior to 1961, the Census of Mines, Quarries and Oil Wells attempted to cover the mining activities of all establishments, whether or not they were principally engaged in mining operations. Beginning with the 1961 Census, establishments (accounting entities) which are not primarily engaged in mining are no longer included as mining establishments in the basic industry statistics. Again adjustments to the industry statistics were made to reflect the removal of such reporting units for the period 1957-1960. These reporting units are now listed as establishments in other Bureau industry surveys, such as Wholesale Trade, Construction, etc. In order, however, to maintain complete coverage of certain commodity items produced mainly in mining establishments, many non-mining establishments are now surveyed for commodity information only and the latter are included in the appropriate tables of industry reports.

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This industry, Talc and Soapstone Mines is part of -079- Other Non-metal Mines of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual (Catalogue No. 12-501).

This industry was practically unaffected by the new Industrial Classification and the New Establishment Concept but the principal statistics were compiled in the new format of Tables 1A and 1B so that reference and comparison with other industries could easily be made.

Canadian producers of talc, soapstone, pyrophyllite and steatite shipped 46,161 short tons valued at \$625,208 in 1962 compared with 48,116 tons valued at \$690,630 in the preceding year.

In Newfoundland pyrophyllite was mined at Manuels, about 12 miles southwest of St. John's. Quebec mines produced ground talc and steatite, also soapstone blocks and crayons. Talc of various particle sizes was shipped from the Madoc, Ontario area. There has been no production of talc or pyrophyllite from British Columbian properties in recent years.

The industry employed an average of 82 persons to whom \$269,268 were paid as salaries and wages. Fuel and electricity cost \$42,649 which included 1,524,800 kwh. of purchased electricity at a cost of \$34,111. Containers and process supplies cost \$90,124.

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 fire-boxes, 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 1A. Principal Statistics for the Talc and Soapstone Industry, Significant Years, 1921-59

Basis: Standard Industrial Classification in use prior to 1960

Year	Mines or plants	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	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 ¹
	number				dollars		
1921	4	39	64,703	15,731	..	144,565	..
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
1954	4	53	134,437	35,545	65,209	389,048	288,294
1957	4	77	222,287	35,427	107,298	512,724	369,999
1958	4	76	213,576	36,033	105,097	519,781	378,651
1959	4	65	184,656	39,022	79,062	577,488	459,404

¹ Gross value less cost of fuel, electricity, process supplies and containers.

TABLE 1B. Principal Statistics: Talc and Soapstone Mines, 1957-62

Basis: Revised Standard Industrial Classification and New Establishment Concept

Year	Estab- lish- ments	Em- ployees	Salaries and wages	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 ¹
	number			dollars			
1957	4	77	222,287	35,427	107,298	512,724	369,999
1958	4	76	213,576	36,033	105,097	519,781	378,651
1959	4	65	184,656	39,022	79,062	577,488	459,404
1960	4	70	235,373	35,985	63,274	565,519	466,260
1961	4	79	264,622	40,993	83,147	736,340	612,200
1962	4	82	269,268	42,649	90,124	672,600	539,827

¹ Gross value less cost of fuel, electricity, process supplies and containers.**TABLE 2. Producers' Shipments¹ of Talc and Soapstone, by Provinces, 1960-62**

Province	1960		1961		1962	
	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) ²	14,222	157,611	16,274	178,911	15,285	154,086
Newfoundland ³	27,414	365,570	31,842	511,719	30,876	471,122
Ontario						
Canada	41,636	523,181	48,116	690,630	46,161	625,208

¹ Includes both crude and milled grades. Value of containers is excluded.² Shipments by some firms usually include a considerable quantity of material classified as talc.³ Includes pyrophyllite.**TABLE 3. Shipments of Talc and Soapstone¹ by Canadian Producers, 1953-62**

Year	Tons	Value	Year	Tons	Value
		\$			\$
1953	27,408	285,755	1958	35,405	429,136
1954	28,143	335,353	1959	39,176	512,129
1955	27,160	338,967	1960	41,636	523,181
1956	29,326	365,226	1961	48,116	690,630
1957	34,725	427,673	1962	46,161	625,208

¹ Includes pyrophyllite.

TABLE 4. Imports and Exports of Talc, 1960-62

	1960		1961		1962	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
		\$		\$		\$
Imports:						
Talc, or soapstone:						
Country:						
United Kingdom	—	—	3	1,341	—	—
France	—	—	8	507	8	571
Italy	1,579	71,061	1,348	67,234	1,902	109,004
United States	17,574	736,368	18,846	829,752	22,238	1,010,344
Totals	19,153	807,429	20,205	898,834	24,148	1,119,919
Exports:						
Talc	1,660	24,272	Not shown separately			

TABLE 5. Available Statistics on the Consumption of Ground Talc and Soapstone, 1958-61

	1958	1959	1960	1961
	tons			
By uses:				
Paints	8,638	8,494	8,665	9,592
Roofing	10,540	9,422	7,960	8,125
Pulp and paper	254	250	..	..
Rubber	1,879	2,502	1,668	1,431
Toilet preparations	1,582	1,683	1,541	787
Electric wire and cable	204	119	67	124
Clay products	5,384	4,576	4,043	5,351
Soaps and cleaning preparations	119	54	90	71
Miscellaneous chemicals	4,216	2,687	3,097	3,671
Polishes and dressings	45	43	..	..
Medicinal preparations	376	355	350	342
Communications equipment .....	..	..	3	2
Small electrical appliances .....	..	..	3	..
Batteries .....	..	..	..	..
Electrical industrial equipment .....	..	..	4	..
Petroleum and coal products .....	..	..	..	1,807
Totals accounted for	33,237	30,185	27,491	31,303
By provinces:				
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	154	145	117	155
New Brunswick	382	332	286	240
Quebec	14,052	13,344	12,095	13,123
Ontario	12,573	12,077	11,244	13,893
Manitoba	3,153	1,794	1,528	1,474
Saskatchewan	415	42	101	69
Alberta	1,380	1,364	1,172	1,331
British Columbia	1,128	1,087	948	1,018
Totals	33,237	30,185	27,491	31,303

TABLE 6. Employees and their Earnings: Talc and Soapstone Mines, 1958-62

Year	Employees					Man-hours worked (all employees)	Earnings		
	Office and administrative		Workmen		Total		Office and adminis- trative	Workmen	Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
	number						dollars		
1958	9	2	65	—	76	160,622	50,667	162,909	213,576
1959	7	2	56	—	65	153,466	37,726	146,930	184,656
1960	15	4	51	—	70	164,519	86,302	149,071	235,373
1961	15	4	60	—	79	183,433	83,155	181,467	264,622
1962	14	3	65	—	82	181,750	80,088	189,180	269,268

TABLE 7. Average Number of Workmen, by Months, 1961 and 1962

Month	1961				1962			
	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total	Surface	Under-ground	Mill	Total
January.....	13	9	18	40	31	11	16	58
February.....	7	8	13	28	16	10	16	42
March.....	8	10	11	29	17	10	16	43
April.....	13	9	12	34	23	11	17	51
May.....	28	10	15	53	32	11	17	60
June.....	42	11	14	67	40	12	18	70
July.....	54	11	17	82	48	12	19	79
August.....	54	11	16	81	47	11	21	79
September.....	52	11	15	78	48	12	19	79
October.....	51	10	15	76	44	11	20	75
November.....	51	10	14	75	44	9	19	72
December.....	49	10	14	73	44	9	18	71
Averages	35	10	15	60	36	11	18	65
Man-hours worked				143, 149				145, 784

TABLE 8. Fuel and Electricity Used: Talc and Soapstone Mines, 1962

Kind	Quantity	Cost at plant
		\$
Bituminous coal (a) From Canadian mines	—	—
(b) Imported.....	—	—
Sub-bituminous coal (from Alberta mines only).....	—	—
Anthracite coal	—	—
Lignite coal	—	—
Coke (for fuel only).....	—	—
Gasoline, (includes gasoline used in cars and trucks).....	Imp. gal. 12,202	4,059
Kerosene or coal oil	—	—
Fuel oil.....	Imp. gal. 21,648	4,185
Wood (cords of 128 cubic feet of piled wood).....	cord 60	240
Gas (a) Liquefied petroleum gases (propane etc.).....	Imp. gal. 60	54
(b) Other manufactured gas	—	—
(c) Natural gas.....	—	—
Other fuel	—	—
Electricity purchased for motors and lighting.....	kwh. 1,524,800	34,111
Electricity purchased for other purposes.....	—	—
Totals (cost only) .....	...	42,649
Electricity generated (a) For own use	—	—
(b) For sale	—	—

TABLE 9. World Production of Talc, Pyrophyllite and Soapstone, by Countries¹
 (Extracted from the annual review issued by the U.S. Bureau of Mines)

Country ¹	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
	short tons ²				
North America:					
Canada (shipments)	35,405	39,176	41,636	48,116	46,794
United States	718,165	791,558	734,473	762,380	771,728
Totals	753,570	830,734	776,109	810,496	818,522
South America:					
Argentina	30,060	29,938	30,000 ³	30,000 ³	30,000 ³
Brazil	31,422	23,369	21,956	24,284	24,000 ³
Paraguay	110 ³	110 ³	110 ³	110 ³	110 ³
Peru	2,073	1,694	1,732	3,236	3,134
Uruguay	1,990	2,335	3,297	1,857	1,890
Totals	65,675	57,446	57,100³	59,000³	59,500³
Europe:					
Austria	78,074	56,475	90,695	93,639	83,523
Finland	6,522	8,261	11,008	6,967	7,088
France	185,643	193,528	206,997	227,076	200,620
Germany, West (marketable)	30,315	30,364	32,277	35,000 ³	33,000 ³
Greece	1,962	327	2,008	2,044	2,200 ³
Italy	120,704	120,436	137,117	146,584	140,171
Norway	107,828	123,959	113,128	110,000 ³	142,198
Portugal	—	243	750	794	772
Spain	33,360	30,661	30,853	30,498	30,000 ³
Sweden	14,581	15,910	17,527	17,306	17,600 ³
U.S.S.R.	220,462	275,000 ³	300,000 ³	330,000 ³	340,000 ³
United Kingdom	4,645	6,365	7,244	7,761	7,716
Yugoslavia	—	—	—	—	—
Totals^{1,3}	805,000	860,000	950,000	1,010,000	1,005,000
Asia:					
China	⁴	⁴	⁴	165,000 ³	165,000 ³
India	50,906	71,082	102,947	102,370	114,117
Japan	377,994	535,140	652,953	699,510	660,000 ³
Korea, Republic of	17,581	19,272	24,889	50,330	51,235
Taiwan (Formosa)	3,677	7,079	11,637	13,685	14,737
Totals³	615,000	800,000	960,000	1,030,000	1,005,000
Africa:					
Kenya	—	—	—	—	—
South Africa, Republic of	765	1,412	1,979	3,279	13,921
Swaziland	157	1,008	1,714	2,955	3,902
United Arab Republic (Egypt)	7,253	6,708	6,614	6,565	6,600 ³
Totals	8,175	9,128	10,307	12,799	24,423
Oceania:					
Australia	17,539	18,729	18,112	16,613	14,000 ³
World, totals (estimate)^{1,2}	2,270,000	2,580,000	2,770,000	2,940,000	2,930,000

¹ Talc or pyrophyllite is reported in Rumania, but data are not available; estimates are included in total.

² This table incorporates some revisions. Data do not add exactly to totals shown because of rounding where estimated figures are included in the detail.

³ Estimate.

⁴ Data not available; estimate included in the total.

Operators of Deposits of Talc, Soapstone or Pyrophyllite, 1962

Name	Head office address	Location of plant or mine
Newfoundland:		
Newfoundland Minerals Ltd.	Box 1196, St. John's	Long Pond, Conception Bay
Quebec:		
Baker Talc Limited	215 St. James St. W., Montreal	Highwater
Broughton Soapstone & Quarry Co. Ltd.	Broughton Station	Broughton
Douville Steatite Co. ¹	Box 70, Thetford Mines	Wolfestown
Ontario:		
Canada Talc Industries Ltd	Madoc	Huntingdon Twp.
British Columbia:		
Mountain Minerals Ltd. ¹	Box 273 Lethbridge, Alberta	Armstrong, Semlin

¹ Non-producing during current year.

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