



# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF MINES  
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Iron Ore, Monthly

## IRON ORE IN JANUARY 1968

Domestic iron ore production in January was 10 percent above that for the previous month, and 11 percent above the output in January 1967, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Additional production reflected increased steelmaking activity stemming partly from customers buying against the possibility of a strike later in the year, and a general upswing in business.

Production of iron ore in Minnesota increased by 20 percent over January 1967, which was in line with the State's increasing pellet plant capacity. This capacity rose in 1967 to over 31 million tons annually.

Revised figures place total U.S. iron ore pellet production for 1966 at 36,673,000 long tons.

Four German steel firms, August Thyssen-Hütte AG, Oberhausen, Krupp, and Mannesmann have formed a corporation at Rotterdam to construct an ore terminal for transshipment of ore up the Rhine in barges. Facilities for unloading up to 50,000 tons per day will be available, and ships of up to 150,000 tons deadweight will be accommodated.

Lurgi Gesellschaft für Chemie und Huttenwesen of Frankfurt, a German firm holding a concession from the Portuguese Government to develop iron deposits in the Moncorvo iron field of northeast Portugal, has announced plans for construction to start on a pellet plant in January 1969. Pilot-plant studies and economic evaluations made by the firm were said to justify selling on the international market.

Liberia plans to produce over 20 million tons of iron ore in 1968. This will include nearly a full year's production of pellets from the LAMCO plant which was completed in November 1967.

Table 1.— Production and shipments of iron ore in the United States, by districts  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5 percent or more manganese)  
(Thousand long tons)

	Lake Superior	South-eastern	North-eastern	Western	Byproduct ore	Total <u>1/</u>
Production:						
1967 <u>p/</u> -----	63,700	2,099	4,193	13,438	763	84,195
1968:						
January-----	3,459	171	365	1,231	62	5,289
Shipments:						
1967 <u>p/</u> -----	63,300	2,071	3,865	13,532	591	83,359
1968:						
January-----	275	153	299	1,238	44	2,009

p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Table 2.— Mine production, shipments, and stocks of iron ore in the United States  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5 percent or more manganese)  
(Thousand long tons)

	Production January		Shipments January		Mine Stocks January 31	
	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,135	1,026	15	6	4,270	<u>r/</u> 4,170
Minnesota-----	2,324	1,944	260	-----	7,124	<u>r/</u> 6,604
Southern:						
Alabama-----	} 171	175	153	179	361	307
Georgia-----						
Northeastern:						
New Jersey-----	} 365	384	299	341	3,425	3,075
New York-----						
Pennsylvania-----						
Western:						
California-----	} 1,231	1,187	1,238	1,295	705	670
Colorado-----						
Missouri-----						
Nevada-----						
Texas-----						
Utah-----						
Wyoming-----						
Byproduct ore-----	62	57	44	48	403	222
Total <u>1/</u> -----	5,289	4,773	2,009	1,869	16,288	<u>r/</u> 15,048

r/ Revised.

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Table 3.- U.S. exports of iron ore  
(Thousand long tons)

	Canada	Japan	Other	Total <u>1/</u>
1967 <u>p/</u> -----	2,258	3,638	46	5,943
1968:				
January-----	2	331	12	346

p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

Table 4.- Canada: Shipments of iron ore  
(Thousand long tons)

	Newfoundland	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total <u>1/</u>
1966-----	14,604	12,165	7,333	1,936	36,038
1967:					
First Quarter----	284	954	576	370	2,184
Second Quarter---	4,580	4,335	2,334	473	11,722
Third Quarter----	5,091	4,521	2,249	577	12,439
October-----	2,103	1,688	1,073	201	5,065
November-----	1,762	917	922	112	3,712
December-----	902	417	534	209	2,069
1968:					
January <u>2/</u> -----					

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

2/ Not available.

Table 5.- U.S. imports for consumption of iron ore, by countries  
(Exclusive of ore containing 10 percent or more manganese)

	January 1968		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Per ton	Total
Brazil-----	117,541	\$9.43	\$1,108,843
Canada-----	786,409	12.61	9,919,816
Chile-----	181,341	8.79	1,593,758
Liberia-----	385,697	7.47	2,880,030
Peru-----	158,506	10.82	1,714,724
Venezuela-----	760,877	8.07	6,139,585
Total-----	2,390,371	9.77	23,356,756

1/ The market price of the merchandise in the principal market place of the foreign country at the time of exportation in terms of United States dollars, and excludes inland freight, ocean freight, and other charges incurred after the merchandise leaves the principal market place. This market price is either the market price of the export to the United States or the market price for domestic consumption, whichever is higher. Certain unusually high prices are believed paid for iron ore for use in paints or for research purposes.

Table 6.— Consumption and stocks of iron ore and agglomerates at consuming plants and production of pig iron in the United States  
(Long tons)

	Consumption	Stocks
	January 1968	January 31, 1968
Beginning of month-----		r/ 55,084,129
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	895,210	5,196,204
California, Colorado, Utah-----	621,474	947,429
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia----	1,039,336	2,786,557
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,373,721	10,398,897
Michigan, Minnesota-----	925,177	5,180,195
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	5,396,104	23,017,222
Total-----	11,251,022	47,526,504

	Consumption by process	Pig iron produced
	January 1968	January 1968
Blast furnaces-----	7,756,187	7,229,509
Steel furnaces-----	382,332	
Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /-----	3,111,802	
Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----	701	
Total-----	11,251,022	

r/ Revised.

1/ Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine site.

2/ Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

Source: American Iron Ore Association.  
American Iron and Steel Institute.