



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240



Stewart L. Udall, Secretary

Earl T. Hayes, Acting Director

Iron Ore, Monthly

IRON ORE IN MARCH 1968

Domestic iron ore production for the first quarter of 1968 totaled 15.9 million tons, exceeding production for the corresponding period in 1967 by 11 percent, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. The Southeastern and Northeastern districts each had an 8 percent decrease for the comparative periods, while the Lake Superior district showed a 17 percent increase. Monthend stocks at the mines were slightly above those of March 31, 1967, while consuming plant stocks were 7 percent less.

A \$50 million loan to the Orinoco Mining Co., a subsidiary of U.S. Steel Corp., was approved by the U.S. Export-Import Bank for construction of a plant in Venezuela to produce prereduced iron-ore briquettes. The product would be offered on the world market beginning possibly in 1970.

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 p/-----	63,700	2,099	4,193	13,438	763	84,195
1968:						
January-----	3,459	171	365	1,231	62	5,289
February-----	3,420	167	356	1,182	58	5,182
March-----	3,706	154	363	1,184	69	5,476
Shipments:						
1967 p/-----	63,300	2,071	3,865	13,532	591	83,359
1968:						
January-----	275	153	299	1,238	44	2,009
February-----	315	148	316	1,185	71	2,035
March-----	463	140	307	1,196	34	2,140

p/ Preliminary.

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

Prepared May 21, 1968, by F. E. Brantley, Physical Scientist. 703-557-1518

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 March		Shipments March		Mine stocks March 31	
	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,180	1,202	87	7	6,430	r/ 6,451
Minnesota-----	2,526	2,023	376	18	11,312	r/ 10,359
Southeastern:						
Alabama-----	154	187	140	185	394	308
Georgia-----						
Northeastern:						
New Jersey-----	363	419	307	370	3,521	r/ 3,168
New York-----						
Pennsylvania-----						
Western:						
California-----	1,184	1,153	1,196	1,146	689	595
Colorado-----						
Missouri-----						
Nevada-----						
Texas-----						
Utah-----						
Wyoming-----						
Byproduct ore-----	69	65	34	52	426	243
Total <u>1</u> /-----	5,476	5,049	2,140	1,778	22,771	21,124

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 p/-----	2,258	3,638	46	5,943
1968:				
January-----	2	331	12	346
February-----	2	318	(2/)	320
March-----	5	380	(2/)	385

p/ Preliminary.

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

2/ Less than 500 long tons.

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

	Newfoundland	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total <u>1/</u>
1967 <u>p/</u> -----	14,729	12,832	7,688	1,942	37,191
1968:					
January-----	457	184	241	126	1,009
February-----	455	59	402	147	1,064
March <u>2/</u> -----					

p/ Preliminary.

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

2/ Not available.

Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Bureau of Trade and Commerce.

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

	March 1968			January - March 1968		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Per ton	Total		Per ton	Total
Australia-----	37	\$18.14	\$ 671	37	\$18.14	\$671
Brazil-----	114,589	9.65	1,106,269	263,397	9.51	2,504,221
Canada-----	389,635	13.26	5,166,303	1,534,781	13.01	19,964,608
Chile-----	156,857	8.14	1,276,223	413,800	8.35	3,455,522
Liberia-----	390,315	7.91	3,087,978	1,053,773	7.76	8,179,634
Norway-----	55,815	4.00	223,070	55,815	4.00	223,070
Peru-----	102,188	10.34	1,056,579	260,694	10.63	2,771,303
Venezuela-----	821,728	8.01	6,578,241	2,564,580	8.03	20,581,700
Total-----	2,031,164	9.11	18,495,334	6,146,877	9.38	57,680,729

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
	March 1968	Year to date	March 31, 1968
Beginning of month-----			40,455,041
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	833,019	2,623,294	4,479,177
California, Colorado, Utah-----	575,358	1,754,467	903,805
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia--	1,081,114	3,104,306	2,218,636
Illinois and Indiana-----	2,555,034	7,250,068	5,644,821
Michigan and Minnesota-----	946,758	2,762,777	3,652,590
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	5,570,279	16,063,294	15,914,393
Total-----	11,561,562	33,558,206	32,813,422

	Consumption by process		Pig iron produced	
	March 1968	Year to date	March 1968	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	8,004,469	23,217,630	7,568,075	21,798,704
Steel furnaces-----	383,019	1,122,481		
Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /-----	3,173,435	9,215,473		
Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----	639	2,622		
Total-----	11,561,562	33,558,206		

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.