



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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



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Iron Ore, Monthly

IRON ORE IN APRIL 1969

With the start of the Great Lakes shipping season, total shipments of iron ore more than doubled in April compared with March, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Mine production totaled 6.1 million long tons, a 9 percent decrease compared with April 1968.

Bethlehem Steel Corp., at its Sparrows Point, Md. plant, started construction of a \$50 million ore pier to accommodate super ore carriers. Scheduled for completion in 1972, the facility will handle carriers of 125,000 tons at the present channel depth of 42 feet. A 50 foot channel depth would allow carriers of 160,000 tons to be handled.

The development of Australia's iron ore resources in the 1960's resulted in an emerging iron ore industry. It has been estimated that by 1971 Australia will supply almost 50 percent of the Japanese steel industry's requirements. A contract, currently under consideration between Japanese interests and Cliffs West Australia Pty., Ltd., calls for delivery of a total of about 87 million tons of iron ore pellets over a 21-year period and 37 million tons of sinter fines over a 15-year period.

TABLE 1. - U.S. production and shipments of iron ore, by districts
(Exclusive of ore containing 5 percent or more manganese)
(Thousand long tons)

	Lake Superior	South- eastern	North- eastern	Western	Byproduct ore	Total ^{1/}
Production:						
1968 r/-----	66,224	1,509	3,963	13,441	728	85,865
1969:						
1st Quarter---	10,803	412	1,004	3,695	165	16,081
April-----	4,185	131	304	1,425	60	6,104
Shipments:						
1968 r/-----	63,974	1,343	3,549	13,069	596	82,531
1969:						
1st Quarter---	1,492	316	841	3,924	145	6,719
April-----	3,309	122	290	1,520	55	5,297

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

Prepared June 24, 1969, in Mineral Resource Evaluation.

TABLE 2. - U. S. mine production, shipments, and stocks of iron ore
(Exclusive of ore containing 5 percent or more manganese)
(Thousand long tons)

	Production April		Shipments April		Mine Stocks April 30	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,161	1,107	631	1,346	8,046	r/ 6,083
Minnesota-----	3,024	3,869	2,678	3,631	12,344	r/ 11,851
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia-----	131	158	122	142	631	410
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania----	304	373	290	356	3,954	3,538
Western:						
California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming----	1,425	1,127	1,520	1,228	573	r/ 586
Byproduct ore-----	60	63	55	179	557	309
Total <u>1/</u> -----	6,104	6,697	5,297	6,881	26,105	r/ 22,778

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 1/
1967-----	2,258	3,639	46	5,943
1968-----	2,279	3,550	67	5,884
1969:				
1st Quarter-----	9	764	<u>2/</u> 2/	<u>2/</u> 772
April-----	140	278	18	436

2/ Revised.

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 1/
1967-----	14,729	12,832	7,689	1,941	37,191
1968 (preliminary)	17,894	12,942	8,650	1,910	41,398
1969:					
January-----	849	350	363	173	1,737
February-----	259	403	351	142	1,155
March-----	396	356	350	95	1,197
April-----	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

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

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)

	April 1969			January - April 1969		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Per ton	Total		Per ton	Total
Australia-----	35,000	12.77	446,937	64,835	12.93	838,109
Brazil-----	69,407	8.41	583,932	235,837	8.61	2,031,383
Canada-----	1,081,259	13.25	14,329,303	2,208,971	13.02	28,761,363
Chile-----	218,804	7.58	1,658,059	516,961	7.98	4,123,685
Iran-----	-	-	-	297	41.08	12,201
Liberia-----	427,182	7.53	3,215,687	982,335	9.04	8,884,256
Peru-----	84,384	12.79	1,079,224	333,894	11.33	3,782,473
Portugal-----	19	24.68	469	19	24.68	469
Venezuela-----	939,793	8.02	7,536,900	3,100,280	8.01	24,845,761
Total-----	2,855,848	10.10	28,850,511	7,443,429	9.84	73,279,700

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. - U. S. consumption and stocks of iron ore and agglomerates at consuming plants and production of pig iron
(Long tons)

	Consumption		Stocks April 30, 1969
	April 1969	Year to date	
Beginning of month-----			33,415,516
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	1,001,359	3,585,327	3,997,690
California, Colorado, Utah-----	649,183	2,661,546	713,981
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia----	1,051,046	4,039,035	1,627,805
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,255,570	8,886,836	5,385,785
Michigan, Minnesota-----	882,155	3,413,020	4,079,943
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	5,173,926	19,596,812	13,877,739
Total-----	11,013,239	42,182,576	29,682,943

	Consumption by process		Pig iron produced	
	April 1969	Year to date	April 1969	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	7,802,238	29,516,892	8,169,771	27,560,130
Steel furnaces-----	332,194	1,180,514	-	-
Agglomerating plants ^{1/} -----	2,867,197	11,465,360	-	-
Miscellaneous ^{2/} -----	11,610	19,810	-	-
Total-----	11,013,239	42,182,576	8,169,771	27,560,130

^{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.