



# 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 MAY 1969

Domestic iron ore production in May 1968 increased slightly compared to May 1967, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Although output was off in the Southeastern and Northeastern districts, increased production in the Lake Superior and Western districts more than offset the loss. Mine stocks increased slightly compared to April, but were more than 4-million tons higher than in May 1967.

A hearing in Duluth, Minn. May 13-15, on the disposal of taconite tailings into Lake Superior at Silver Bay, Minn. attracted some 600 interested persons. Although considerable testimony was recorded, no official position was taken. Future meetings were planned to determine what pollution abatement action could or should be taken.

After 5 years of negotiations, 7 major Japanese steel mills and Cliffs Western Australian Mining Co. Pty., Ltd. signed a 21-year contract for delivery of 123.5 million tons of Robe River iron ore. The contract calls for export of a total of 86.7 million tons of iron ore pellets beginning in 1972 and a total of 36.8 million tons of fine iron ore during the 15 years beginning February 1971.

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-----	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
May-----	7,685	111	327	1,332	58	9,514
Shipments:						
1968-----	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
May-----	8,607	102	317	1,421	46	10,491

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

Prepared September 5, 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 May		Shipments May		Mine Stocks May 31	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,264	1,239	1,336	1,746	7,975	<u>r/</u> 5,577
Minnesota-----	6,421	6,402	7,271	7,583	11,495	<u>r/</u> 10,670
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia-----	111	162	102	144	640	428
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania----	327	361	317	357	3,965	3,543
Western:						
California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming----	1,332	1,266	1,421	1,321	484	531
Byproduct ore-----	58	62	46	60	569	311
Total <u>l/</u> -----	9,514	9,492	10,491	11,210	25,127	<u>r/</u> 21,060

r/ Revised.

l/ 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/
1968-----	2,279	3,550	67	5,884
1969:				
1st Quarter-----	9	764	2/	772
April-----	140	278	18	436
May-----	352	303	1	656

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/
1968-----	17,894	12,942	8,650	1,910	41,398
1969:					
1st Quarter---	1,504	1,109	1,064	410	4,089
April-----	1,929	1,077	570	133	3,708
May-----	686	730	1,019	81	2,516

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)

	May 1969			January - May 1969		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Per ton		Total	Per ton
Australia-----	64,326	622,343	9.67	129,161	1,460,452	11.31
Brazil-----	134,094	1,012,361	7.55	369,931	3,043,744	8.23
Canada-----	1,852,274	22,199,151	11.98	4,061,245	50,960,514	12.55
Chile-----	101,089	827,364	8.18	618,050	4,951,049	8.01
Iran-----	-	-	-	297	12,201	41.08
Liberia-----	201,718	1,221,450	6.06	1,184,053	10,105,706	8.53
Norway-----	52,425	417,424	7.96	52,425	417,424	7.96
Peru-----	77,904	809,679	10.39	411,798	4,592,152	11.15
Portugal-----	-	-	-	19	469	24.68
Venezuela-----	942,308	7,562,754	8.03	4,042,588	32,408,515	8.02
Total-----	3,426,138	34,672,526	10.12	10,869,567	107,952,226	9.93

1/ For value definition refer to January MIS.

TABLE 6. - U. S. consumption and stocks of iron ore and agglomerates at consuming plants and production of pig iron  
(Long tons)

	Consumption		Stocks May 31, 1969
	May 1969	Year to date	
Beginning of month-----			29,682,943
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	1,027,370	4,612,697	3,997,870
California, Colorado, Utah-----	686,138	3,347,684	713,397
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia----	1,101,430	5,140,465	1,332,642
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,324,303	11,211,139	6,311,034
Michigan, Minnesota-----	897,927	4,310,947	3,915,716
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	5,359,209	24,956,021	15,346,115
Total-----	11,396,377	53,578,953	31,616,774

	Consumption by process		Pig iron produced	
	May 1969	Year to date	May 1969	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	8,060,612	37,577,504	7,512,085	35,072,215
Steel furnaces-----	322,737	1,503,251	-	-
Agglomerating plants <u>1/</u> -----	3,012,173	14,477,533	-	-
Miscellaneous <u>2/</u> -----	855	20,665	-	-
Total-----	11,396,377	53,578,953	7,512,085	35,072,215

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.