



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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



Walter J. Hickel, Secretary

Earl T. Hayes, Acting Director

For information call F. E. Brantley
Telephone 703-557-1528

Iron Ore, Monthly

IRON ORE IN JULY 1970

Domestic iron ore production in July increased slightly over production in the previous two months, and was approximately the same as for July 1969, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. July shipments increased 0.9 million tons over those in June, but were 0.4 million tons less than in July 1969. Month-end mine stocks showed a 2-million-ton decrease compared with the amount held the previous month.

The construction of a new 4-million-ton-per-year pelletizing complex on the Mesabi range appeared possible with the announcement by Pickands Mather & Co. that a contract for an economic feasibility study had been awarded to United Engineers and Contractors, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa. The proposed plant site would be at Hibbing, Minn., with operation to begin as early as 1973, if the project is approved and construction started in 1971. Bethlehem Steel Corp. would be a major participant.

Expansion plans involving the expenditure of \$270 million were announced by the Iron Ore Co. of Canada through its chairman, W. A. Marting. The expansion program would increase the company's present annual iron ore capacity to 33 million tons, including 16 million tons of pellets. Long-term iron ore contracts were reported to be concluded with major steelmakers in the United States, Europe, and Japan. The value of the contracts was estimated at \$7 billion and to run through 1996.

Prepared in Division of Ferrous Metals, October 6, 1970.

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	Total ¹
Production:						
1969 -----	68,730	1,437	3,800	13,632	661	88,260
1970:						
1st Quarter -	11,484	348	966	3,266	166	16,230
2nd Quarter -	20,110	379	976	3,771	182	25,417
July -----	8,115	123	216	1,138	59	9,651
Shipments:						
1969 -----	71,051	1,375	3,404	14,013	727	90,570
1970:						
1st Quarter -	3,017	298	773	3,303	169	7,559
2nd Quarter -	21,484	310	856	3,568	191	26,410
July -----	10,107	96	188	1,256	51	11,698

¹ Data may not add to totals due to independent rounding.

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 July		Shipments July		Mine Stocks ¹ July 31	
	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969
Lake Superior:						
Michigan -----	1,074	993	1,799	2,257	3,165	r/ 6,156
Minnesota -----	6,962	6,964	8,229	8,033	9,822	r/ 9,403
Wisconsin -----	79	---	79	---	24	---
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina (1970)	123	107	96	119	800	623
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania	216	201	188	186	4,499	4,019
Western:						
California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming	1,138	1,287	1,256	1,398	460	352
Byproduct ore -----	59	59	51	59	480	r/ 566
Total ¹	9,651	9,611	11,698	12,052	19,251	r/ 21,119

r/ Revised

¹ Data may not add to totals due to independent rounding.

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

	Canada	Japan	Other	Total ¹
1969-----	2,085	3,009	66	5,160
1970:				
1st Quarter ----	5	840	1	846
2nd Quarter ----	482	805	111	1,399
July -----	278	371	50	700

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

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

	Newfound- land	Quebec	Ontario	British- Columbia	Total ¹
1969-----	13,018	11,162	8,301	1,820	34,302
1970:					
1st Quarter ---	3,084	948	1,230	263	5,525
April -----	1,613	930	725	183	3,451
May -----	2,102	1,670	1,328	120	5,219
June -----	2,250	1,789	1,110	93	5,242
July -----	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)

	July 1970			January - July 1970		
	Long tons	Value ¹		Long tons	Value ¹	
		Total	Per ton		Total	Per ton
Australia----	103,349	\$911,071	\$8.82	444,877	\$4,674,960	\$10.51
Brazil-----	199,662	1,984,847	9.94	1,203,466	11,464,647	9.53
Canada-----	3,008,451	37,266,311	12.39	11,535,649	144,495,682	12.53
Chile-----	134,449	1,053,299	7.83	1,093,174	8,933,238	8.17
Denmark-----	---	---	---	527	21,455	40.71
Iran-----	---	---	---	250	10,167	40.67
Liberia-----	216,048	2,236,553	10.35	1,101,430	9,498,914	8.62
Libya-----	---	---	---	102,640	789,302	7.69
Mauritania---	---	---	---	71,600	663,409	9.26
New Zealand--	---	---	---	52	548	10.54
Nigeria-----	---	---	---	29,812	151,594	5.08
Norway-----	48,933	355,809	7.27	48,933	355,809	7.27
Peru-----	---	---	---	509,997	5,324,293	10.44
Philippines--	---	---	---	7,300	260,500	35.68
Sweden-----	15,358	177,748	11.57	15,358	177,748	11.57
United Kingdom	---	---	---	38	5,133	135.08
Uruguay-----	---	---	---	49,334	444,006	9.00
Venezuela----	1,466,252	12,489,374	8.52	7,646,472	63,246,969	8.27
Total----	5,192,502	56,475,012	10.88	23,860,909	250,518,374	10.50

^{1/} The market price of the merchandise in the principal marketplace 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 marketplace. 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 ton)

	Consumption		Stocks July 31, 1970
	July 1970	Year to date	
Beginning of month-----			37,843,892
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	942,575	6,576,872	4,124,039
California, Colorado, Utah---	698,354	4,338,925	561,691
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	931,668	6,604,630	1,918,514
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,330,338	16,063,693	10,719,084
Michigan, Minnesota-----	847,584	5,889,490	4,251,886
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island----	4,576,230	33,493,967	21,475,117
Total-----	10,326,749	72,967,577	43,050,331

	Consumption by process		Pig Iron produced	
	July 1970	Year to date	July 1970	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	7,590,084	53,343,708	6,802,023	48,355,879
Steel furnaces-----	205,339	1,502,704	---	---
Agglomerating plants ^{1/} ---	2,514,124	18,078,200	---	---
Miscellaneous ^{2/} -----	17,202	42,965	---	---
Total-----	10,326,749	72,967,577	6,802,023	48,355,879

^{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.