



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 JUNE 1971

United States mine production in June was slightly less than in May but shipments increased 5 percent, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Total ore stocked at the mines dropped by 2 million tons. Stocks of ore and agglomerates at consuming centers increased by 5.5 million tons as output of pig iron fell nearly 10 percent compared with the previous month.

Imports of iron ore for consumption during the first half of 1971 were about 5 percent more than in the comparable period of 1970. Exports to Japan during June were down sharply from May due to the dock strike which began on the U.S. West Coast on June 15. Total exports during the first 6 months of the year were 22 percent less than in the comparable period of 1970.

The new lake supercarrier "Roger Blough," being built for U.S. Steel Corp. by the American Ship Building Co. at Lorain, Ohio, was seriously damaged by a fire in late June which took the lives of four men. The 45,000-ton vessel had been scheduled to start service this year.

The world's first offshore loading of bulk mineral concentrates took place off the coast of New Zealand. The loading involved 42,000 tons of magnetite concentrates from the Waipipi beach sand deposits on North Island. The concentrate was slurried, and pumped through a 12-inch, 9,700-foot submarine pipeline to a mooring buoy 1½ miles offshore. The shipment was made by a subsidiary of the Marcona Corp., and was the first under a 10-year, 9.45-million-ton contract negotiated by the company with a group of Japanese steel firms in 1970.

Cyprus Mines Corp. announced it had entered into a joint venture for exploration and development of iron ore deposits in Western Australia, with Utah Construction & Mining Co. and a group of Australian firms. Cyprus Mines and Utah Construction will each have an 11 1/9-percent interest in the venture, which concerns iron ore deposits in the Pilbara region known as McCamey's Monster and Western Ridge.

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 <u>1/</u>
Production:						
1970 p/-----	70,233	1,400	3,495	14,017	691	89,836
1971:						
1st Quarter-	11,904	125	955	3,338	153	16,475
April-----	4,713	38	330	1,205	59	6,345
May-----	7,632	44	334	1,096	52	9,158
June-----	7,612	24	316	1,069	50	9,071
Shipments:						
1970 p/-----	70,237	1,212	2,997	13,897	714	89,057
1971:						
1st Quarter-	2,463	166	782	3,375	174	6,960
April-----	3,738	43	290	1,316	52	5,439
May-----	8,918	45	279	1,206	47	10,495
June-----	9,502	25	325	1,123	72	11,047

p/ Preliminary.

1/ Data may not add to totals shown because of 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 June		Shipments June		Mine Stocks June 30	
	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,079	1,053	1,608	1,657	3,747	3,890
Minnesota-----	6,470	6,648	7,827	7,404	11,856	11,087
Wisconsin-----	63	74	67	70	2	24
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina (1971)--	24	123	25	100	796	773
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania--	316	305	325	272	4,912	4,471
Western:						
Arizona, California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming-----	1,069	1,256	1,123	1,197	313	579
Byproduct ore-----	50	62	72	63	431	473
Total <u>1/</u> -----	9,071	9,520	11,047	10,763	22,057	21,297

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>
1970 <u>p/</u> -----	2,046	3,206	239	5,491
1971:				
1st Quarter-----	9	682	19	710
April-----	17	348	<u>2/</u>	365
May-----	4	347	<u>2/</u>	351
June-----	149	176	-	325

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)

	Newfound- land	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total <u>1/</u>
1970 p/-----	21,132	13,370	10,575	1,699	46,775
1971:					
1st Quarter-----	1,953	737	1,681	492	4,862
April-----	1,410	703	655	150	2,918
May-----	2,601	1,604	1,240	165	5,610
June-----	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary.

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)

	June 1971			January - June 1971		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Per ton		Total	Per ton
Australia-----	81,106	\$1,159,549	\$14.30	619,223	\$7,936,769	\$12.82
Brazil-----	186,258	2,007,324	10.78	1,168,876	10,634,943	9.10
Canada-----	3,465,812	44,523,140	12.85	8,274,850	109,396,925	13.22
Chile-----	-----	-----	-----	810,102	6,600,260	8.15
Germany, West-	-----	-----	-----	22	271	12.32
Liberia-----	101,392	800,997	7.90	956,041	8,585,733	8.98
Peru-----	89,815	886,922	9.87	479,883	5,612,499	11.70
Sweden-----	-----	-----	-----	4	1,213	303.25
Venezuela-----	1,460,524	13,019,141	8.91	7,278,319	63,323,172	8.70
Total-----	5,384,907	62,397,073	11.59	19,587,320	212,091,785	10.83

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 tons)

	Consumption		Stocks
	June 1971	Year to date	June 30, 1971
Beginning of month-----			r/ 33,956,629
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	857,879	5,401,157	3,756,205
California, Colorado, Utah-----	570,533	3,776,010	534,962
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	916,046	5,558,095	2,124,143
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,494,897	15,329,690	9,621,089
Michigan, Minnesota-----	856,994	4,970,609	3,899,814
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	4,838,678	30,305,318	19,526,903
Total-----	10,535,027	65,340,879	39,463,116

	Consumption by process		Pig iron produced	
	June 1971	Year to date	June 1971	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	8,050,928	48,730,253	7,080,705	43,604,684
Steel furnaces-----	195,641	1,218,821	---	---
Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /--	2,286,766	15,379,487	---	---
Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----	1,692	12,318	---	---
Total-----	10,535,027	65,340,879	7,080,705	43,604,684

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.