



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 JULY 1971

U.S. mine production of iron ore in July was essentially unchanged from the previous month but shipments declined about 4 percent, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. The decline in shipments mainly occurred in Western States where operations of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads were curtailed by strikes in the latter part of the month. Total stocks of ore at the Nation's mines declined by 2 million tons, and stocks at consuming centers rose by 5.6 million tons, partly because of a decline in consumption. Output of pig iron was 13.6 percent less than in the previous month.

Exports of iron ore for the first 7 months of 1971 were 28 percent less than during the same period of 1970. There were no shipments to Japan in July as the dock strike remained in effect throughout the month. Imports for the first 7 months of the year were up 3.5 percent compared to the same period of 1970; imports from Venezuela and Australia were up 16 percent and 51 percent, respectively, while declines of 3 percent and 25 percent were registered in imports from Canada and Chile.

Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. sold its Adams mine in Canada to Dominion Foundries and Steel, Ltd. Located near Kirkland Lake, Ontario, the mine produces about 1 million tons of pelletized concentrate annually. The mine was reportedly sold because of rising freight costs and a recent amendment to Ontario law requiring that all iron ore mined in the province be smelted in Canada. The transaction was completed July 30.

On July 15, the Soo Line railroad ended iron ore shipments from its dock at Marquette, Michigan, by loading the final cargo of ore from the Tracy mine. All rates on iron ore applicable to the Soo Line dock at Marquette were canceled, effective September 10, 1971.

Republic Steel Corp. announced in September that its iron ore mine at Port Henry, New York, will be closed due to the high costs of production. The closing date was not specified. Approximately 400 employees were expected to be affected.

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
2nd Quarter----	19,957	106	980	3,370	161	24,574
July-----	7,856	13	194	900	48	9,011
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
2nd Quarter----	22,158	113	894	3,645	171	26,981
July-----	9,547	21	211	792	52	10,623

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 July		Shipments July		Mine Stocks July 31	
	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,254	1,074	1,871	1,799	3,155	3,165
Minnesota-----	6,529	6,962	7,609	8,229	10,799	9,822
Wisconsin-----	73	79	67	79	8	24
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina-----	13	123	21	96	787	800
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania-	194	216	211	188	4,893	4,499
Western:						
Arizona, California Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming-----	900	1,138	792	1,256	429	460
Byproduct ore-----	48	59	52	51	427	480
Total <u>1</u> /-----	9,011	9,651	10,623	11,698	20,498	19,251

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
2nd Quarter-----	170	871	<u>2</u> /	1,041
July-----	354	-	<u>2</u> /	355

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-----	2,334	1,335	1,272	150	5,091
July-----	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)

	July 1971			January - July 1971		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Per ton		Total	Per ton
Australia-----	53,680	\$ 431,510	\$ 8.04	672,903	\$ 8,368,279	\$12.44
Brazil-----	122,664	1,251,587	10.20	1,291,540	11,886,530	9.20
Canada-----	2,927,170	38,913,011	13.29	11,202,020	148,309,936	13.24
Chile-----	11,500	101,640	8.84	821,602	6,701,900	8.16
Germany, West----	-	-	-	22	271	12.32
Liberia-----	239,878	2,460,673	10.26	1,195,919	11,046,406	9.24
Mexico-----	20,760	473,328	22.80	20,760	473,328	22.80
Peru-----	78,256	645,611	8.25	558,139	6,258,110	11.21
Philippines-----	12,300	226,300	18.40	12,300	226,300	18.40
Sweden-----	65,134	809,255	12.42	65,138	810,468	12.44
Venezuela-----	1,593,020	14,198,045	8.91	8,871,339	77,521,217	8.74
Total-----	5,124,362	\$59,510,960	\$11.61	24,711,682	\$271,602,745	\$10.99

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
	July 1971	Year to date	July 31, 1971
Beginning of month-----			39,463,116
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	797,879	6,199,036	3,788,901
California, Colorado, Utah-----	542,761	4,318,771	483,424
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	793,176	6,351,271	2,474,104
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,202,110	17,531,800	11,314,754
Michigan, Minnesota-----	889,685	5,860,294	4,407,413
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	3,932,380	34,237,698	22,616,735
Total-----	9,157,991	74,498,870	45,085,331

	Consumption by process		Pig Iron produced	
	July 1971	Year to date	July 1971	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	6,907,375	55,637,628	6,116,985	49,721,669
Steel furnaces-----	143,467	1,362,288	-	-
Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /-----	2,105,987	17,485,474	-	-
Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----	1,162	13,480	-	-
Total-----	9,157,991	74,498,870	6,116,985	49,721,669

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.