



# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF MINES  
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Iron Ore, Monthly

## IRON ORE IN SEPTEMBER 1971

U. S. mine production of iron ore in September was 23 percent above the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U. S. Department of the Interior. The increase was attributed to settlement of local strikes which affected some major producers and railroads in August. Shipments of ore increased by 9 percent and consumption was up 37 percent. Ore stocks at mines and consuming centers remained high; stocks in each category were 3.3 million tons higher than 1 year ago.

Compared with the first 9 months of 1970, iron ore production for the same period in 1971 was down 6.4 percent; shipments were down nearly 10 percent; and consumption was down 7.3 percent. Exports of iron ore were 38 percent less than in 1970, as the dock strike was continued on the west coast. Imports of iron ore were about 8 percent less, owing to reduced shipments from Canada.

Production of magnetite concentrate at the MacIntyre Development of NL Industries, Inc., at Tahawus, N. Y., was halted by a strike on August 31. The strike continued through the month of September. About 200 men were involved.

In India, a new blast furnace was commissioned July 31 at the Bhilai works of Hindustan Steel Ltd. Reportedly the largest in India, the furnace has a working volume of approximately 61,000 cubic feet and a production capacity of 600,000 tons of pig iron per year.

In Japan, an iron ore carrier of 162,400 deadweight tons was delivered to a Tokyo firm on September 14. The vessel will be used to carry iron ore from Chile for the Nippon Steel Corp.

New records were set for single vessel loadings of iron ore. In North America, 136,805 long tons of ore were loaded at Sept-Iles, Quebec, September 21-22. In Africa, a cargo of 150,192 long tons was loaded at Porto Salazar, Angola, October 9-11. Both shipments were destined for Japan.

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Prepared in the Division of Ferrous Metals, November 24, 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 <u>1/</u> |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|
| Production:  |               |               |               |         |               |                 |
| 1970-----    | 69,636        | 1,484         | 3,491         | 14,314  | 835           | 89,760          |
| 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           |
| August-----  | 5,691         | 33            | 217           | 751     | 45            | 6,737           |
| September--- | 7,233         | 37            | 176           | 833     | 46            | 8,325           |
| Shipments:   |               |               |               |         |               |                 |
| 1970-----    | 68,697        | 1,293         | 2,998         | 14,188  | 715           | 87,891          |
| 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          |
| August-----  | 7,347         | 37            | 196           | 648     | 36            | 8,264           |
| September--- | 7,921         | 48            | 195           | 799     | 38            | 9,001           |

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<br>September |           | Shipments<br>September |            | Mine Stocks<br>September 30 |            |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|  | 1971                    | 1970      | 1971                   | 1970       | 1971                        | 1970       |
| Lake Superior:   |                         |           |                        |            |                             |            |
| Michigan-----  | 1,149                   | 1,096     | 1,231                  | 1,578      | 2,578                       | 1,929      |
| Minnesota-----   | 6,008                   | 6,177     | 6,618                  | 7,718      | 8,632                       | 6,472      |
| Wisconsin-----   | 76                      | 65        | 72                     | 75         | 13                          | 1          |
| Southeastern:  |                         |           |                        |            |                             |            |
| Alabama, Georgia,<br>North Carolina-----   | 37                      | 106       | 48                     | 100        | 774                         | 813        |
| Northeastern:  |                         |           |                        |            |                             |            |
| New York, Pennsylvania-  | 176                     | 260       | 195                    | 242        | 4,896                       | 4,581      |
| Western:   |                         |           |                        |            |                             |            |
| Arizona, California<br>Colorado, Missouri,<br>Nevada, Texas, Utah,<br>Wyoming----- | 833                     | 1,179     | 799                    | 1,168      | 608                         | 351        |
| Byproduct ore-----   | 46                      | 16        | 38                     | 72         | 444                         | 467        |
| <br>Total <u>1</u> /-----  | <br>8,325               | <br>8,899 | <br>9,001              | <br>10,952 | <br>17,945                  | <br>14,615 |

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-----        | 2,045  | 3,206 | 241        | <u>r</u> / 5,492 |
| 1971:            |        |       |            |                  |
| 1st Quarter----- | 9      | 682   | 19         | 710              |
| 2nd Quarter----- | 170    | 871   | <u>2</u> / | 1,041            |
| July-----        | 354    | -     | <u>2</u> / | 355              |
| August-----      | 187    | -     | <u>2</u> / | 187              |
| September-----   | 202    | 127   | <u>2</u> / | 329              |

r/ 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)

|                  | Newfound-<br>land | Quebec           | Ontario          | British<br>Columbia | Total <u>1/</u>  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1970 p/-----     | <u>r/</u> 22,219  | <u>r/</u> 13,079 | <u>r/</u> 10,493 | <u>r/</u> 1,718     | <u>r/</u> 47,509 |
| 1971:            |                   |                  |                  |                     |                  |
| 1st Quarter----- | 1,953             | 737              | 1,681            | 492                 | 4,862            |
| 2nd Quarter----- | 6,345             | 3,642            | 3,167            | 465                 | 13,619           |
| July-----        | 2,324             | 1,317            | 1,147            | 85                  | 4,873            |
| August-----      | 1,984             | 1,370            | 828              | 232                 | 4,413            |
| September-----   | NA                | NA               | NA               | NA                  | NA               |

p/ Preliminary.

r/ Revised.

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)

|                 | September 1971 |                 |         | January - September 1971 |                 |         |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------|
|                 | Long<br>tons   | Value <u>1/</u> |         | Long<br>tons             | Value <u>1/</u> |         |
|                 |                | Total           | Per ton |                          | Total           | Per ton |
| Australia-----  | 94,047         | \$1,240,166     | \$13.19 | 858,223                  | \$10,810,755    | \$12.60 |
| Brazil-----     | 43,728         | 343,756         | 7.86    | 1,442,440                | 13,276,742      | 9.20    |
| Canada-----     | 1,504,185      | 17,976,326      | 11.95   | 15,008,360               | 195,122,246     | 13.00   |
| Chile-----      | 33,208         | 266,425         | 8.02    | 877,870                  | 7,152,361       | 8.15    |
| Germany, West-- | -----          | -----           | -----   | 22                       | 271             | 12.32   |
| Liberia-----    | 78,793         | 622,465         | 7.90    | 1,468,052                | 13,353,142      | 9.10    |
| Mexico-----     | -----          | -----           | -----   | 20,760                   | 473,328         | 22.80   |
| Nigeria-----    | -----          | -----           | -----   | 51,930                   | 399,342         | 7.69    |
| Peru-----       | 142,071        | 1,792,454       | 12.62   | 841,458                  | 9,790,480       | 11.64   |
| Philippines---- | -----          | -----           | -----   | 19,300                   | 367,300         | 19.03   |
| Sweden-----     | 50,287         | 628,031         | 12.49   | 177,965                  | 2,200,042       | 12.36   |
| United Kingdom- | -----          | -----           | -----   | 16                       | 1,958           | 122.38  |
| Venezuela-----  | 973,534        | 8,713,200       | 8.95    | 10,834,375               | 95,107,096      | 8.78    |
| Total-----      | 2,919,853      | \$31,582,823    | \$10.82 | 31,600,771               | \$348,055,063   | 11.01   |

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             |
|--|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|  | September 1971   | Year to date      | September 30, 1971 |
| Beginning of month-----  |                  |                   | r/ 51,148,447      |
| Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee,<br>Texas, Missouri-----          | 617,380          | 7,359,476         | 4,408,389          |
| California, Colorado, Utah-----                                | 478,929          | 5,181,533         | 573,212            |
| Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----                         | 663,036          | 7,321,727         | 3,146,614          |
| Illinois, Indiana-----   | 1,845,002        | 20,464,532        | 14,323,571         |
| Michigan, Minnesota-----                                       | 731,012          | 7,315,576         | 5,369,140          |
| New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania,<br>New Jersey, Rhode Island----- | 2,566,586        | 38,798,779        | 28,120,198         |
| <b>Total-----</b>  | <b>6,901,945</b> | <b>86,441,623</b> | <b>55,941,124</b>  |

|                                  | Consumption by process |                   | Pig iron produced |                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                  | September 1971         | Year to date      | September 1971    | Year to date      |
| Blast furnaces-----              | 5,084,087              | 64,442,511        | 4,596,764         | 57,622,971        |
| Steel furnaces-----              | 120,733                | 1,526,115         | ---               | ---               |
| Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /- | 1,695,153              | 20,457,075        | ---               | ---               |
| Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----    | 1,972                  | 15,922            | ---               | ---               |
| <b>Total-----</b>                | <b>6,901,945</b>       | <b>86,441,623</b> | <b>4,596,764</b>  | <b>57,622,971</b> |

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.