



# 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 NOVEMBER 1971

The seasonal decline in domestic production and shipments of iron ore was not as steep in November as it was a year earlier, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. In Michigan, production remained high and shipments for the month totaled 400,000 tons more than in November 1970. Nationwide, the total quantity of ore stocked at the mines declined slightly but at monthend was 3.5 million tons higher than 1 year ago. Total stocks at consuming plants rose to nearly 60 million tons.

A strike by 200 union employees at the MacIntyre Development of NL Industries, Inc. at Tahawus, N.Y., was continued through November. The strike began August 31.

In California, Standard Slag Co. began production of iron ore in November at the Beck deposit in the Kingston Peak area of San Bernardino County. The company has a 5-year contract with Nippon Steel Corp. of Japan to deliver 500,000 tons of ore per year. The first shipment of ore was made December 5 from Los Angeles.

In Liberia, the National Iron Ore Company (NIOC), in which a minor interest is held by Republic Steel Corp., negotiated a contract for the sale of 12 million tons of iron ore concentrates over a period of 10 years beginning in 1973. The contract was made with the Royal Netherlands Blast Furnace and Steel Works (Hoogovens). The concentrates will be produced from lower grade ores of the Mano River deposits in northwestern Liberia. Beneficiation of these ores is expected to extend the life of the Mano River mine by at least 12 years.

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
3rd Quarter-	20,780	83	587	2,484	139	24,073
October-----	5,169	35	174	886	45	6,309
November-----	4,245	31	183	1,004	44	5,507
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
3rd Quarter-	24,815	106	602	2,239	126	27,888
October-----	6,805	41	185	902	36	7,969
November-----	4,923	34	171	812	49	5,989

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 November		Shipments November		Mine Stocks November 30	
	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,162	1,121	1,379	975	2,112	1,998
Minnesota-----	3,013	3,259	3,468	4,379	6,804	4,034
Wisconsin-----	70	67	76	68	10	8
Southeastern:						
Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina-----	31	111	34	103	765	833
Northeastern:						
New York, Pennsylvania-	183	224	171	179	4,891	4,647
Western:						
Arizona, California, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Wyoming-----	1,004	1,153	812	1,040	911	440
Byproduct ore-----	44	56	49	71	449	457
Total 1/-----	5,507	5,991	5,989	6,815	15,942	12,416

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 1/
1970-----	2,045	3,206	241	5,492
1971:				
1st Quarter-----	9	682	19	710
2nd Quarter-----	170	871	2/	1,041
3rd Quarter-----	743	127	2/	871
October-----	199	82	2/	281
November-----	105	14	2/	119

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-----	22,219	13,079	10,493	1,718	47,509
1971:					
1st Quarter-----	1,953	737	1,681	492	4,862
2nd Quarter-----	6,345	3,642	3,167	465	13,619
3rd Quarter-----	6,105	3,772	2,714	495	13,085
October-----	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
November-----	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)

	November 1971			January - November 1971		
	Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>		Long tons	Value <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Per ton		Total	Per ton
Australia-----	48,114	\$644,015	\$13.39	906,337	\$11,454,770	\$12.64
Brazil-----	110,756	1,042,967	9.42	1,706,342	15,783,989	9.25
Canada-----	2,188,731	28,656,405	13.09	19,130,350	249,490,709	13.04
Chile-----	----	----	----	877,870	7,152,361	8.15
Germany, West---	----	----	----	22	271	12.32
Liberia-----	161,645	1,255,067	7.76	1,733,510	15,838,960	9.14
Mexico-----	----	----	----	20,760	473,328	22.80
Nigeria-----	----	----	----	51,930	399,342	7.69
Peru-----	84,006	1,080,650	12.86	965,814	11,345,093	11.75
Philippines----	----	----	----	19,300	367,300	19.03
Sweden-----	----	----	----	177,965	2,200,042	12.36
United Kingdom--	----	----	----	16	1,958	122.38
Venezuela-----	627,057	5,700,194	9.09	12,396,880	109,209,746	8.81
Total-----	3,220,309	38,379,298	11.92	37,987,096	423,717,869	11.15

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 November 30, 1971
	November 1971	Year to date	
Beginning of month-----			58,696,876
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	493,812	8,418,957	4,512,141
California, Colorado, Utah-----	441,634	6,081,413	579,126
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	756,894	8,835,984	3,739,494
Illinois, Indiana-----	1,577,352	23,831,929	15,683,443
Michigan, Minnesota-----	766,662	8,907,527	4,899,117
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	3,093,424	44,883,860	30,509,051
Total-----	7,129,778	100,959,670	59,922,372

	Consumption by process		Pig iron produced	
	November 1971	Year to date	November 1971	Year to date
Blast furnaces-----	5,289,089	75,210,215	4,777,144	67,339,295
Steel furnaces-----	95,911	1,721,426	----	----
Agglomerating plants <u>1</u> /----	1,740,086	24,005,989	----	----
Miscellaneous <u>2</u> /-----	4,692	22,040	----	----
Total-----	7,129,778	100,959,670	4,777,144	67,339,295

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.