



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20241



James G. Watt, Secretary

Robert C. Horton, Director

For information call F. L. Klinger
Telephone: 202-634-1023

Iron Ore, Monthly

IRON ORE IN APRIL 1982

U.S. mine production and shipments of iron ore increased in April but stocks of ore at mines continued to rise, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Mine stocks rose by more than 3 million tons, while stocks at consuming plants declined by only 2 million tons and output of pig iron was 14% less than in March. The increase in ore shipments in April was largely due to the beginning of the 1982 shipping season at all U.S. ports on the upper Great Lakes. During April, imports of iron ore remained low, although the St. Lawrence Seaway was open and shipments had begun in early April from eastern Canadian ports to destinations on the U.S. Great Lakes. U.S. imports of iron ore during the first 4 months of 1982 totaled 28% less than in the corresponding period of 1981. Comparison of iron ore production and consumption during the same period showed declines of 14% and 39%, respectively, in 1982.

In Minnesota, production operations of Reserve Mining Co. remained closed during April. The closure was extended to May 16, and it was later announced that operations would be suspended from June 19 until December 5. Production by National Steel Pellet Co. was suspended April 25 for a period of 3 months, but the closure was later extended to the end of September. In addition to the plans for temporary closures published in the February and March issues of this publication, the Butler Taconite operation of Hanna Mining Co. was scheduled to close May 30 for approximately 4 months, and the Minntac operation of U.S. Steel Corp. was scheduled to close June 6 for a period of 5 weeks instead of 3 weeks as originally announced. In Wisconsin, production by Jackson County Iron Co. at Black River Falls was suspended on April 9, as planned. In Wyoming, production of pellets at Atlantic City was scheduled to be suspended from June 6 to July 18.

Table 1.--U.S. production and shipments of iron ore, by districts 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more manganese)
(Thousand long tons)

| | Lake Superior | Other U.S. | Total <u>2/</u> | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | | 1982 | 1981 |
| Production: | | | | |
| 1981 <u>p/</u> ----- | 67,478 | 6,829 | -- | 74,307 |
| 1982: | | | | |
| 1st Quarter---- | <u>r/</u> 14,511 | <u>r/</u> 1,670 | <u>r/</u> 16,180 | <u>r/</u> 18,812 |
| April----- | 4,794 | 553 | 5,347 | 6,280 |
| Shipments: | | | | |
| 1981 <u>p/</u> ----- | 64,596 | 7,048 | -- | 71,645 |
| 1982: | | | | |
| 1st Quarter---- | 2,095 | 1,594 | 3,689 | 6,372 |
| April----- | 1,722 | 543 | 2,265 | 3,938 |

p/ Preliminary.

r/ Revised.

1/ Includes byproduct ore.

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

Table 2.--U.S. mine production, shipments, and stocks of iron ore 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more manganese)
(Thousand long tons)

| | Production April | | Shipments April | | Mine stocks April 30 | |
|------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------------------------|--------|
| | 1982 | 1981 | 1982 | 1981 | 1982 | 1981 |
| Lake Superior: | | | | | | |
| Michigan----- | 1,511 | 1,341 | 346 | 1,088 | 8,106 | 6,146 |
| Minnesota----- | 3,263 | 4,325 | 1,358 | 2,091 | 17,574 | 16,608 |
| Wisconsin----- | 20 | 90 | 17 | 87 | 46 | 11 |
| Other U.S.----- | 553 | 524 | 543 | 673 | 4,014 | 6,571 |
| Total <u>2/-</u> | 5,347 | 6,280 | 2,265 | 3,938 | 29,740 | 29,336 |

1/ Includes byproduct ore.

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

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

| | Canada | Other | Total <u>1/</u> | |
|------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| | | | 1982 | 1981 |
| 1981----- | 5,529 | 17 | -- | 5,546 |
| 1982: | | | | |
| 1st Quarter----- | 2 | 2 | 4 | 109 |
| April----- | 236 | <u>2/</u> | 236 | 699 |

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

2/ Less than one-half unit.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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

| | Newfound- land | Quebec | Ontario | British Columbia | 1982 total <u>1/</u> | 1981 total <u>1/</u> |
|---------------|-------------------|--------|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1981----- | 25,363 | 17,667 | 5,297 | 585 | -- | 48,912 |
| 1982: | | | | | | |
| January----- | 415 | 1,259 | 379 | 52 | 2,105 | 2,656 |
| February----- | 652 | 1,065 | 412 | 55 | 2,183 | 1,736 |
| March----- | 3,382 | 950 | 437 | 27 | 4,797 | <u>r/</u> 1,913 |
| April----- | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | <u>e/</u> 4,242 |

r/ Revised.

NA Not available.

e/ Estimate.

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

Source: Statistics Canada - Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Table 5. - U.S. imports for consumption of iron ore, by countries
(Exclusive of ore containing 10% or more manganese)

| | April 1982 | | Year to date 1982 | | | Year to date 1981 (thousand long tons) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|---|
| | Thousand long tons | Value 1/ (thousand dollars) | Thousand long tons | Value 1/ | | |
| | | | | Thousand dollars | Per ton | |
| Brazil----- | 28 | 695 | 426 | 12,859 | \$30.19 | 875 |
| Canada----- | 279 | 12,923 | 1,409 | 62,002 | 44.00 | 2,348 |
| Chile----- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 68 |
| Liberia----- | 231 | 3,987 | 928 | 16,027 | 17.27 | 916 |
| Peru----- | -- | -- | 35 | 1,057 | 30.20 | 27 |
| South Africa, Rep. of----- | -- | -- | 52 | 1,083 | 20.83 | -- |
| Venezuela----- | 234 | 8,139 | 1,218 | 37,586 | 30.86 | 1,385 |
| Other----- | -- | -- | <u>2/</u> | 3 | 63.56 | <u>2/</u> |
| Total <u>3/</u> ----- | 773 | 25,744 | 4,067 | 130,619 | 32.12 | 5,619 |

1/ The market price of the merchandise in the principal marketplace of the foreign country at the time of exportation in terms of U.S. 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.

2/ Less than one-half unit.

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

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 6. - U.S. consumption and stocks of iron ore and agglomerates
at consuming plants and production of pig iron
(Thousand long tons)

| | Consumption | | | Stocks April 30 | |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| | April 1982 | Year to date | | 1982 | 1981 |
| | | 1982 | 1981 | | |
| Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee | | | | | |
| Texas, Missouri----- | 496 | 1,968 | 3,139 | 2,389 | 1,730 |
| California, Colorado, Utah-- | 266 | 1,350 | 2,482 | 787 | 602 |
| Delaware, Maryland, West | | | | | |
| Virginia----- | 435 | 1,891 | 2,756 | 2,230 | 1,111 |
| Illinois, Indiana----- | 1,776 | 7,613 | 10,372 | 5,539 | 4,229 |
| Michigan, Minnesota----- | 469 | 1,738 | 2,502 | 1,623 | 2,493 |
| New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, | | | | | |
| New Jersey, Rhode Island-- | 1,446 | 6,691 | 13,628 | 9,936 | 7,122 |
| Total <u>1/</u> ----- | 4,888 | 21,251 | 34,880 | 22,504 | 17,286 |
| Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks----- | | | | 5,481 | 3,159 |

| | Consumption by process | | | Pig iron produced | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------|-------------------|--------------|--------|
| | April 1982 | Year to date | | April 1982 | Year to date | |
| | | 1982 | 1981 | | 1982 | 1981 |
| Blast furnaces----- | 4,171 | 17,964 | 29,062 | 3,542 | 15,398 | 23,785 |
| Steel furnaces----- | 8 | 69 | 129 | -- | -- | -- |
| Agglomerating plants <u>2/</u> -- | 707 | 3,206 | 5,669 | -- | -- | -- |
| Miscellaneous <u>3/</u> ----- | 1 | 12 | 20 | -- | -- | -- |
| Total <u>1/</u> ----- | 4,888 | 21,251 | 34,880 | 3,542 | 15,398 | 23,785 |

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

2/ Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine site.

3/ Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

Source: American Iron Ore Association
American Iron and Steel Institute

Table 7. - U.S. imports for consumption of iron ore, by customs districts
 (Exclusive of ore containing 10% or more manganese)
 (Thousand long tons)

| Customs district | April 1982 | Year to date | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|-------|
| | | 1982 | 1981 |
| Baltimore----- | 251 | 807 | 648 |
| Buffalo----- | <u>2</u> / | <u>2</u> / | 6 |
| Charleston----- | -- | -- | -- |
| Chicago----- | 48 | 365 | 312 |
| Cleveland----- | -- | -- | 576 |
| Detroit----- | -- | 22 | 18 |
| Houston----- | 16 | 300 | 286 |
| Los Angeles----- | -- | -- | -- |
| Mobile----- | 50 | 562 | 1,133 |
| New Orleans----- | 7 | 81 | 105 |
| Philadelphia----- | 395 | 1,841 | 2,294 |
| Portland, Oreg.----- | -- | -- | -- |
| Wilmington, N.C.----- | -- | 76 | 219 |
| Other----- | 5 | 12 | 21 |
| Total <u>1</u> /----- | 773 | 4,067 | 5,619 |

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

2/ Less than one-half unit.