



# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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

## IRON ORE IN AUGUST 1982

U.S. mine production of iron ore remained at less than 10% of capacity in August, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Mine shipments during the month were 13% less than in the previous month, and were less than half the quantity shipped in August 1981. Mine stocks of ore continued to decline, but stocks at receiving docks and furnace yards increased as consumption fell back to the level of June. Exports in August dropped sharply, while imports were essentially unchanged compared with that of that of the previous month.

In Texas, Lone Star Steel Co. shut down its iron ore mines and preparation plants on August 21, for an indefinite period. About 175 employees were affected.

In Wyoming, U.S. Steel Corp. resumed production of pellets at its Atlantic City Mine on August 22, after a shutdown of 11 weeks. The facilities were closed again on September 21, but may be reopened by early November if economic conditions permit.

On the eastern Mesabi Range, Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. ended production of iron ore concentrates at the McKinley Mine on August 27. The concentrating plant was being dismantled, for re-erection near the Stephens and Donora Mines which were recently leased to J. & L. by U.S. Steel Corp. Mining at the latter properties, which were renamed the McKinley Extension, was expected to begin in 1983. On the western Mesabi, the Arcturus and Plummer mine properties were leased by U.S. Steel to Rhude & Fryberger, Inc.

Agreements for several major foreign loans, for development of the Carajas iron ore project in Brazil, were reported to have been signed in August and early September. The loans included \$600 million from the European Coal and Steel Community, \$500 million from Japanese sources, and \$300 million from the World Bank. Other commitments include \$130 million from Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau of West Germany, more than \$200 million from U.S. commercial banks, and \$58 million from the U.S. Export-Import Bank. Total financing for the project was estimated at about \$4.9 billion, of which about 38% was being obtained from foreign sources. The Carajas project, managed by Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, is scheduled to begin production in 1985 and to reach annual production capacity of 35 million tons of iron ore products in 1987.

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Prepared in the Division of Ferrous Metals, October 28, 1982.

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

|              | Newfound-<br>land | Quebec | Ontario | British<br>Columbia | 1982<br>total <u>1/</u> | 1981<br>total <u>1/</u> |
|--------------|-------------------|--------|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1981-----    | 25,363            | 17,667 | 5,297   | 585                 | --                      | 48,912                  |
| 1982:        |                   |        |         |                     |                         |                         |
| 1st Quarter- | 4,449             | 3,273  | 1,227   | 170                 | 9,119                   | 6,307                   |
| 2nd Quarter- | 4,701             | 4,484  | 1,017   | 167                 | 10,369                  | 15,590                  |
| July-----    | 2,159             | 703    | 192     | 13                  | 3,068                   | 5,356                   |
| August-----  | NA                | NA     | NA      | NA                  | NA                      | 4,995                   |

NA Not available.

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

Source: Statistics of Canada - Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce.  
Data published as received.

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

|                               | August 1982              |  | Year to date 1982        |                     |         | Year to<br>date<br>1981<br>(thousand<br>long tons) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------|---------|--|
|                               | Thousand<br>long<br>tons | Value <u>1/</u><br>(thousand<br>dollars) | Thousand<br>long<br>tons | Value <u>1/</u>     |         |  |
|                               |                          |  |                          | Thousand<br>dollars | Per ton |  |
| Brazil-----                   | 88                       | 2,068                                    | 599                      | 17,183              | \$28.69 | 1,424  |
| Canada-----                   | 1,115                    | 41,082                                   | 5,893                    | 229,378             | 38.92   | 12,458   |
| Chile-----                    | --                       | --                                       | 47                       | 673                 | 14.32   | 237  |
| Liberia-----                  | 184                      | 3,439                                    | 1,770                    | 30,978              | 17.50   | 1,907  |
| Peru-----                     | --                       | --                                       | 35                       | 1,057               | 30.20   | 46   |
| South Africa,<br>Rep. of----- | --                       | --                                       | 52                       | 1,083               | 20.83   | --   |
| Sweden-----                   | --                       | --                                       | 43                       | 1,325               | 30.81   | 45   |
| Venezuela-----                | 109                      | 2,154                                    | 1,695                    | 50,527              | 29.81   | 3,444  |
| Other <u>2/</u> -----         | 37                       | 761                                      | 37                       | 772                 | 20.86   | 8  |
| Total <u>3/</u> -----         | 1,532                    | 49,505                                   | 10,172                   | 332,977             | 32.73   | 19,570   |

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/ 1982 data include 36,720 tons from Taiwan valued at \$761,235. Data being questioned.

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<br>August 31 |               |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
|   | August<br>1982 | Year to date  |               | 1982                | 1981          |
|   |                | 1982          | 1981          |                     |               |
| Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee,<br>Texas, Missouri-----                     | 211            | 3,131         | 5,901         | 2,485               | 2,873         |
| California, Colorado, Utah--<br>Delaware, Maryland, West<br>Virginia----- | 175            | 2,215         | 4,599         | 764                 | 554           |
| Illinois, Indiana-----  | 429            | 3,554         | 5,655         | 3,106               | 2,486         |
| Michigan, Minnesota-----  | 1,552          | 13,290        | 20,331        | 9,819               | 9,734         |
| New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania,<br>New Jersey, Rhode Island--               | 479            | 4,152         | 4,993         | 1,766               | 3,006         |
|   | 1,523          | 13,221        | 26,449        | 12,335              | 13,278        |
| <b>Total 1/-----</b>  | <b>4,369</b>   | <b>39,563</b> | <b>67,929</b> | <b>30,276</b>       | <b>31,931</b> |
| Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks-----                              |                |               |               | 5,420               | 6,238         |

|                           | Consumption by process |               |               | Pig iron produced |               |               |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                           | August<br>1982         | Year to date  |               | August<br>1982    | Year to date  |               |
|                           |                        | 1982          | 1981          |                   | 1982          | 1981          |
| Blast furnaces-----       | 3,406                  | 33,098        | 56,868        | 2,926             | 28,160        | 46,977        |
| Steel furnaces-----       | 11                     | 198           | 249           | --                | --            | --            |
| Agglomerating plants 2/-- | 781                    | 5,784         | 10,743        | --                | --            | --            |
| Miscellaneous 3/-----     | 170                    | 483           | 69            | --                | --            | --            |
| <b>Total 1/-----</b>      | <b>4,369</b>           | <b>39,563</b> | <b>67,929</b> | <b>2,926</b>      | <b>28,160</b> | <b>46,977</b> |

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            | August 1982  | Year to date  |               |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
|                             |              | 1982          | 1981          |
| Baltimore-----              | 290          | 2,369         | 3,065         |
| Buffalo-----                | 72           | 222           | 482           |
| Chicago-----                | 341          | 1,547         | 2,771         |
| Cleveland-----              | 234          | 1,220         | 3,272         |
| Detroit-----                | 75           | 145           | 341           |
| Houston-----                | --           | 314           | 540           |
| Mobile-----                 | 147          | 941           | 2,791         |
| New Orleans-----            | 64           | 202           | 169           |
| Philadelphia-----           | 273          | 3,046         | 5,705         |
| Wilmington, N.C.-----       | --           | 76            | 317           |
| Other <u>2</u> /-----       | 37           | 90            | 117           |
| <b>Total <u>1</u>/-----</b> | <b>1,532</b> | <b>10,172</b> | <b>19,570</b> |

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

2/ 1982 data include 36,720 tons received at the San Juan, Puerto Rico Customs District from Taiwan. Data being questioned.