



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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



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Iron Ore, Monthly

IRON ORE IN OCTOBER 1982

U.S. mine production of iron ore increased in October while shipments continued to decline, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. The increased output was due mainly to resumption of normal production at two taconite facilities on the Mesabi range. Mine stocks of ore declined, but stocks at consuming plants were relatively unchanged compared with those of the previous month. Output of pig iron remained low.

In California, Kaiser Steel Corp. terminated mining operations at Eagle Mountain on October 8, and ore crushing on October 9. The concentrating plant was closed on November 30. All production facilities are now permanently closed.

In Wyoming, U.S. Steel Corp. resumed production of iron ore pellets at Atlantic City on October 26, after a shutdown of 5 weeks. About 450 workers were recalled.

In Michigan, Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. announced that approximately 1,350 employees would be recalled in late November, to resume production of pellets at the Tilden and Empire mines. Production of concentrate at the Tilden facility was resumed on September 19, while the Empire mine remained closed. Pelletizing lines scheduled for start-up included one of two lines at Tilden and three of four lines at Empire.

In Minnesota, U.S. Steel Corp. announced that its Minntac facility would remain closed for the rest of this year. The company later said that reopening was planned for January 16, 1983, and that about 1,500 employees would be recalled, but future production was expected to be less than capacity owing to reorganization of the company's iron and steelmaking operations. Reserve Mining Co. planned to recall about 1,000 employees to resume limited production on January 2, 1983. Hibbing Taconite Co. scheduled a 1-week shutdown in late November to reduce its inventory of pellets. Hanna Mining Co. announced in November that operations at Butler Taconite and National Steel Pellet Co. will remain closed for an indefinite period.

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-----	67,462	5,712	--	73,174
1982:				
1st Quarter-----	14,511	1,670	16,180	18,812
2nd Quarter-----	10,704	1,526	12,230	21,070
3rd Quarter-----	1,737	784	2,522	20,354
October-----	1,271	199	1,470	5,731
Shipments:				
1981-----	65,222	6,959	--	72,181
1982:				
1st Quarter-----	2,095	1,594	3,689	6,372
2nd Quarter-----	11,131	1,410	12,541	22,470
3rd Quarter-----	12,073	858	12,931	27,136
October-----	3,005	156	3,161	7,112

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 October		Shipments October		Mine stocks October 31	
	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	--	1,169	556	1,318	3,240	3,853
Minnesota-----	1,271	3,942	2,449	5,044	7,136	7,035
Wisconsin-----	--	73	--	69	51	5
Other U.S.-----	199	547	156	681	6,996	6,621
Total <u>2/-</u>	1,470	5,731	3,161	7,112	17,423	17,515

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
2nd Quarter-----	1,230	1	1,231	2,276
3rd Quarter-----	881	1	882	1,711
October-----	339	(<u>2/</u>)	339	353

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 1/	1981 total 1/
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-----	2,042	1,043	151	65	3,300	4,995
September---	1,721	825	208	105	2,859	4,380
October-----	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4,681

NA Not available.

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

Source: Statistics 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)

	October 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-----	--	--	741	20,830	\$28.11	1,549
Canada-----	1,016	40,591	8,119	313,910	38.66	16,171
Chile-----	--	--	47	673	14.32	267
Liberia-----	351	6,787	2,121	37,764	17.80	2,028
Peru-----	--	--	35	1,057	30.20	78
South Africa, Rep. of-----	--	--	52	1,083	20.83	--
Sweden-----	(2/)	3	43	1,328	30.88	87
Venezuela-----	28	3,442	1,795	58,116	32.38	4,525
Other-----	--	--	(2/)	11	42.92	8
Total 3/-	1,395	50,822	12,954	434,774	33.56	24,714

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 October 31	
	October 1982	Year to date		1982	1981
		1982	1981		
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee,					
Texas, Missouri-----	92	3,307	7,273	2,701	3,122
California, Colorado, Utah--	121	2,496	5,501	699	626
Delaware, Maryland, West					
Virginia-----	399	4,332	6,936	3,101	2,803
Illinois, Indiana-----	1,593	16,404	24,752	10,351	11,802
Michigan, Minnesota-----	402	5,003	6,183	2,130	2,925
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania,					
New Jersey, Rhode Island--	1,585	16,463	31,905	12,518	14,858
Total <u>1/</u> -----	4,192	48,004	82,549	31,501	36,137
Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks-----				5,556	6,735

	Consumption by process			Pig iron produced		
	October 1982	Year to date		October 1982	Year to date	
		1982	1981		1982	1981
Blast furnaces-----	3,181	39,648	68,873	2,748	33,728	57,073
Steel furnaces-----	11	218	295	--	--	--
Agglomerating plants <u>2/</u> -	867	7,360	13,303	--	--	--
Miscellaneous <u>3/</u> -----	133	778	78	--	--	--
Total <u>1/</u> -----	4,192	48,004	82,549	2,748	33,728	57,073

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	October 1982	Year to date	
		1982	1981
Baltimore-----	363	3,060	4,374
Buffalo-----	(1/)	299	606
Chicago-----	407	2,347	3,481
Cleveland-----	214	1,687	4,231
Detroit-----	26	220	578
Houston-----	--	330	663
Mobile-----	43	1,087	3,239
New Orleans-----	--	284	237
Philadelphia-----	314	3,470	6,832
Wilmington, N.C.-----	--	76	348
Other-----	28	93	127
Total 2/-----	1,395	12,954	24,714

1/ Less than one-half unit.

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