



# 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 AUGUST 1983

U.S. mine production of iron ore in August was unchanged from that of the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Mine shipments declined, but total shipments for the first 8 months of 1983 were about 6% more than those of the corresponding period of 1982. Stocks of ore at U.S. receiving and transfer docks and furnace yards rose slightly in August but the total quantity reported at monthend was about 9.5 million tons less than 1 year earlier. Consumption of ore declined during the month; 49 blast furnaces were reported to be operating on August 31, compared with 50 at the end of July and 45 on Aug. 31, 1982. Consumption during the first 8 months of 1983 was about 1% more than in the comparable period of 1982.

On the Mesabi Range, Inland Steel Mining Co. shut down the Minorca taconite facility on August 7. Production was later scheduled to resume October 23. Oglebay Norton Co., which suspended ore production at Eveleth Mines at the end of July and pellet production by mid-August, resumed operations on October 3, about 3 weeks earlier than planned. Early in September, Pickands Mather & Co. announced that operations of Hibbing Taconite Co. would be suspended on October 15 for the remainder of the year, and that Erie Mining Co. would be closed on October 1 for an indefinite period. Reserve Mining Co. announced that its mine and plant operations would remain closed indefinitely. The Minntac facility of U.S. Steel Corp. was closed September 11 but resumed production on September 25.

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>	
			1983	1982
Production:				
1982-----	24,140	11,293	--	35,433
1983:				
1st Quarter-----	6,372	376	6,747	16,180
2nd Quarter-----	10,961	455	11,416	12,230
July-----	3,859	176	4,034	869
August-----	3,852	182	4,034	909
Shipments:				
1982-----	31,754	4,001	--	35,756
1983:				
1st Quarter-----	867	626	1,494	3,689
2nd Quarter-----	13,050	740	13,791	12,541
July-----	5,761	225	5,986	<u>r/</u> 4,795
August-----	5,266	276	5,542	4,193

r/ Revised.

1/ Includes byproduct ore in 1982; excludes byproduct ore in 1983. See note under table 2.

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 August		Shipments August		Mine stocks August 31	
	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	892	--	1,528	876	2,532	4,729
Minnesota----	2,960	648	3,738	3,037	7,099	10,454
Wisconsin----	--	--	--	-	--	51
Other U.S.-----	182	260	276	280	462	6,903
Total <u>2/-</u>	4,034	909	5,542	4,193	10,093	22,137

1/ Includes byproduct ore in 1982; excludes byproduct ore in 1983. This change, which applies to production and shipments but principally affects mine stocks, is being made because most of the byproduct ore on hand is not likely to be used for manufacture of iron and steel. Retention of this material in statistics for usable ore, particularly those for mine stocks, prevents realistic assessment of usable ore supplies. For proprietary reasons, data for 1982 have not been changed.

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>	
			1983	1982
1982-----	3,173	4	--	3,178
1983:				
1st Quarter-----	3	( <u>2/</u> )	3	4
2nd Quarter-----	1,264	( <u>2/</u> )	1,266	1,231
July-----	312	( <u>2/</u> )	313	324
August-----	515	( <u>2/</u> )	516	57

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	1983 total 1/	1982 total 1/
1982-----	15,628	12,603	3,599	683	--	32,514
1983:						
1st Quarter-	389	1,970	1,082	100	3,541	5,991
2nd Quarter-	5,660	2,615	795	134	9,205	10,369
July-----	1,857	654	167	85	2,761	r/3,023
August-----	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,300

r/ Revised.

NA Not Available.

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)

	August 1983		Year to date 1983			Year to date 1982 (thousand long tons)
	Thousand long tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand long tons	Value 1/		
				Thousand dollars	Per ton	
Brazil-----	214	5,186	794	20,337	25.61	599
Canada-----	1,005	37,741	4,612	179,612	38.94	5,893
Chile-----	--	--	--	--	--	47
Liberia-----	76	1,155	1,190	22,807	19.17	1,770
Peru-----	--	--	(2/)	5	10.20	35
South Africa, Rep. of-----	--	--	--	--	--	52
Sweden-----	--	--	22	426	19.36	43
Venezuela-----	154	5,263	594	24,996	42.08	1,695
Other-----	--	--	5	102	20.40	37
Total 3/-	1,449	49,345	7,217	248,283	34.40	10,172

1/ Customs value. Excludes international freight, insurance, and other c.i.f. charges.

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 data reported under item 601.24 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States.

Note: Data on U.S. imports of iron ore, as published by the Bureau of Mines, usually include small quantities of material having relatively high unit values. In data for 1982, however, approximately 175,000 long tons of direct-reduced iron having an average value of \$137.14 per ton was originally reported as iron ore.

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	
	August 1983	Year to date		August 31	
		1983	1982	1983	1982
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	259	1,877	3,131	1,774	2,485
California, Colorado, Utah---	133	1,100	2,215	442	764
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	443	3,640	3,554	2,007	3,106
Illinois, Indiana-----	2,101	15,514	13,290	8,451	9,819
Michigan, Minnesota-----	474	3,878	4,152	1,781	1,766
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island---	1,862	14,006	13,221	8,732	12,335
Total <u>1/</u> -----	5,272	40,016	39,563	23,187	30,276
Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks-----				3,032	5,420

  

	Consumption by process			Pig iron produced		
	August 1983	Year to date		August 1983	Year to date	
		1983	1982		1983	1982
Blast furnaces-----	4,343	33,536	33,098	3,791	r/28,648	28,160
Steel furnaces-----	15	107	198	--	--	--
Agglomerating plants <u>2/</u> --	900	6,236	5,784	--	--	--
Miscellaneous <u>3/</u> -----	14	137	483	--	--	--
Total <u>1/</u> -----	5,272	40,016	39,563	3,791	r/28,648	28,160

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.

r/ Revised.

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 1983	Year to date	
		1983	1982
Baltimore-----	304	1,977	2,369
Buffalo-----	96	167	222
Chicago-----	154	869	1,547
Cleveland-----	261	1,924	1,220
Detroit-----	132	133	145
Houston-----	--	r/27	314
Mobile-----	118	161	941
New Orleans-----	53	376	202
Philadelphia-----	329	1,538	3,046
Portland, Oreg.-----	--	22	--
Wilmington, N.C.-----	--	--	76
Other-----	1	22	90
Total <u>1</u> /-----	1,449	7,217	10,172

r/ Revised.

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