



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 JULY 1984

U.S. mine production of iron ore decreased 7% in July compared with that of the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Mine shipments continued to rise, increasing 19% from those of June. Total shipments for the first 7 months of 1984 were 28% higher than those for the comparable period in 1983. Monthend mine stocks decreased 17%, compared with those of June, while stocks at consuming plants and lower lake docks increased 25% and 12%, respectively. Stocks of iron ore on July 31 were 30.9 million tons, about 6 million tons less than the total 1 year earlier. Fifty-two U.S. blast furnaces were reported operating at monthend, compared with 55 a month earlier and 54 on July 31, 1983.

In Michigan, the Tilden Mine was shut down by Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co. (CCI) on July 21 for 3 weeks. Production was to resume in mid-August, but only 1 of the plant's 2 pelletizing lines was scheduled to operate, and about 127 employees were laid off. McLouth Steel Products Corp. acquired a 10% interest from CCI in the Empire Iron Mining Partnership; ownership in the venture is now distributed as follows: Inland Steel Co., 40%; LTV Steel Corp., 35%; McLouth, 10%; Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp., 10%; and CCI, 5%.

In Minnesota, Inland Steel Co.'s Minorca Mine was shut down July 22 for maintenance and was scheduled to reopen August 12. U.S. Steel Corp. announced that the shut-down of the Minntac facility, scheduled to begin August 5, would continue for 7 weeks, rather than 5 weeks, because of a decline in steel orders. About 2000 employees were to be laid off temporarily. Hanna Mining Co. announced that the Whitney natural-ore mine would be permanently closed August 10 because of a lack of demand for hematite ore. The mine has been inactive since 1977.

In Wyoming, plant and equipment at CF&I Steel Corp.'s Sunrise Mine, near Guernsey, was being auctioned. The mine, which has been shut down since July 1980, was expected to be permanently closed following permanent closure of CF&I's blast furnaces at Pueblo, Colorado, in December, 1983. In Utah, equipment at U.S. Steel Corp.'s Desert Mound property near Cedar City was reported sold July 15. The company's mines near Cedar City were permanently closed last year.

In foreign developments, production of magnetite concentrates was started at the Guelbs project in Mauritania following its inauguration in July. In Brazil, Cia. Vale do Rio Doce's Carajas project was reported to be 65% complete, with limited production reportedly scheduled for early 1985. In Western Australia, improvement of port facilities at Port Walcott was completed for Cliffs Robe River Iron Associates, and a cargo of 207,000 tons, the largest yet shipped from Western Australia, was loaded.

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 ^{2/}	
			1984	1983
Production:				
1983-----	35,594	<u>3/1,968</u>	--	<u>3/37,562</u>
1984:				
1st Quarter-----	11,838	487	12,325	6,747
2nd Quarter-----	15,835	356	16,192	11,416
July-----	5,017	126	5,143	4,034
Shipments:				
1983-----	41,412	<u>3/3,184</u>	--	<u>3/44,596</u>
1984:				
1st Quarter-----	3,331	539	3,870	1,494
2nd Quarter-----	15,567	430	15,998	13,791
July-----	7,165	100	7,265	5,986

^{1/}Excludes byproduct ore, except where noted.

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

^{3/}Final figure. Includes byproduct ore to avoid disclosing proprietary data.

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 July		Shipments July		Mine Stocks July 31	
	1984	1983	1984	1983	1984	1983
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	1,156	522	2,143	1,467	2,951	3,168
Minnesota-----	3,861	3,337	5,022	4,294	7,220	7,922
Wisconsin-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other U.S.-----	126	176	100	225	308	556
Total <u>2/</u> -----	5,143	4,034	7,265	5,986	10,479	11,647

1/Excludes 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>	
			1984	1983
1983-----	3,780	2	--	3,781
1984:				
1st Quarter-----	314	(<u>2/</u>)	314	3
2nd Quarter-----	1,340	(<u>2/</u>)	1,340	1,266
July-----	932	(<u>2/</u>)	932	313

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	1984 Total <u>1/</u>	1983 Total <u>1/</u>
1983-----	14,869	9,299	47	389	--	24,604
1984:						
1st Quarter---	1,536	2,272	790	94	4,692	3,189
April-----	1,696	641	378	2	2,718	3,256
May-----	2,487	1,335	411	4	4,237	<u>r/</u> 2,937
June-----	2,645	831	494	3	3,973	3,016
July-----	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,761

r/Revised. NA Not available.

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

Source: Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

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

	July 1984		Year to date 1984			Year to date 1983 (thousand long tons)
	Thousand long tons	Value <u>1/</u> (thousand dollars)	Thousand long tons	Value <u>1/</u> (thousand dollars)	Value <u>1/</u> (dollars per ton)	
Brazil-----	291	7,954	1,677	38,635	23.04	580
Canada-----	1,859	60,222	5,230	206,474	39.48	3,607
Liberia-----	264	3,491	955	14,517	15.20	1,114
Peru-----	--	--	7	72	10.29	(<u>2/</u>)
Sweden-----	--	--	27	405	15.00	22
Venezuela <u>3/</u> ---	111	2,928	780	21,013	26.94	440
Other-----	--	--	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)	--	--
Total <u>4/</u> ----	2,525	74,595	8,676	281,116	32.40	5,768

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

2/Less than one-half unit.

3/Data for Venezuela in 1984 and 1983 may include some shipments of direct-reduced iron reported as iron ore. Verification has been requested.

4/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.

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	
	July 1984	Year to date		July 31	
		1984	1983	1984	1983
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	475	3,103	1,618	1,267	1,732
California, Colorado, Utah---	165	1,285	967	266	475
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	645	4,148	3,197	1,692	1,930
Illinois, Indiana-----	1,948	14,894	13,413	6,824	7,787
Michigan, Minnesota-----	495	3,650	3,404	1,800	1,748
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island---	1,774	14,535	12,145	6,370	8,660
Total <u>1/</u>-----	5,501	41,616	34,744	18,218	22,332
Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks-----				2,203	2,972

	Consumption by process			Pig iron produced		
	July 1984	Year to date		July 1984	Year to date	
		1984	1983		1984	1983
Blast furnaces-----	4,554	34,752	29,194	3,866	29,576	r/24,731
Steel furnaces-----	14	301	92	--	--	--
Agglomerating plants <u>2/</u> ---	930	6,466	5,336	--	--	--
Miscellaneous <u>3/</u> -----	3	97	123	--	--	--
Total <u>1/</u>-----	5,501	41,616	34,744	3,866	29,576	r/24,731

r/Revised.

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 (consumption of iron ore).
American Iron and Steel Institute (production of pig iron).

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	July 1984	Year to date	
		1984	1983
Baltimore-----	701	3,083	1,673
Buffalo-----	--	1	71
Charleston-----	--	5	--
Chicago-----	552	948	715
Cleveland-----	738	1,529	1,663
Detroit-----	99	100	1
Houston-----	--	61	28
Mobile-----	59	583	43
New Orleans-----	69	396	323
Philadelphia-----	308	1,885	1,209
Portland, Oreg.-----	--	--	22
Other-----	--	85	21
Total <u>1</u> /-----	2,525	8,676	5,768

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