



# 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 1984

U.S. mine production and shipments of iron ore increased 14% and 8%, respectively, compared with those of the previous month, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. U.S. imports of iron ore decreased 30% to 1.5 million tons and exports decreased 56% over the same period. Monthend stocks of ore at mines, U.S. receiving docks, and furnace yards totaled 33.3 million tons, up 3% compared with the total 1 month earlier. Consumption of iron ore increased 5% from that of September and, at monthend, 47 blast furnaces were in operation.

On the Mesabi Range, operations at Eveleth Mines were shut down for 2 weeks on October 13, for maintenance and repairs. Inland Steel Mining Co. announced plans to close the Minorca Mine on November 10, for about 3 months, and Hibbing Taconite Co. announced plans to close in mid-November for an indefinite period. The latter closures were attributed to weak demand for ore. About 300 employees were to be laid off at Minorca and 900 at Hibbing during these closures.

Cleveland Cliffs Iron Co. (CCI) announced its intentions to sell its two operational iron ore vessels to Rouge Steel Corp. late in the year. This sale will leave CCI with only six vessels, none of which have sailed in recent years.

In Michigan, an auction of the plant and equipment was held at the Groveland Mine during the week of October 9. The mine was permanently closed by Hanna Mining Co. in 1982.

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 3/-----	35,594	1,968	--	37,562
1984:				
1st Quarter-----	11,838	487	12,325	6,747
2nd Quarter-----	15,835	356	16,192	11,416
3rd Quarter-----	12,750	335	13,085	11,257
October-----	4,323	107	4,430	3,207
Shipments:				
1983 3/-----	41,412	3,184	--	44,596
1984:				
1st Quarter-----	3,331	539	3,870	1,494
2nd Quarter-----	15,567	430	15,998	13,791
3rd Quarter-----	17,558	308	17,866	15,530
October-----	4,951	120	5,071	4,749

1/Excludes byproduct ore, except where noted.

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

3/Final figures. 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 October		Shipments October		Mine Stocks October 31	
	1984	1983	1984	1983	1984	1983
Lake Superior:						
Michigan-----	775	936	1,506	899	1,775	2,672
Minnesota-----	3,547	2,078	3,446	3,639	5,108	4,751
Wisconsin-----	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other U.S.-----	107	193	120	211	309	346
Total <u>2/</u> -----	4,430	3,207	5,071	4,749	7,193	7,769

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
3rd Quarter-----	2,288	( <u>2/</u> )	2,288	1,303
October-----	382	( <u>2/</u> )	382	218

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	18,252	10,079	3,558	461	—	32,350
1984:						
1st Quarter	1,536	2,272	790	94	4,692	3,189
2nd Quarter	6,828	2,807	1,283	9	10,928	9,209
July	2,524	1,415	197	3	4,138	2,762
August	2,338	1,195	405	5	3,942	3,842
September	2,251	1,247	382	10	3,889	<u>r/</u> 3,338
October	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,620

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)

	October 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	12	248	2,102	47,155	22.43	1,001
Canada	1,369	52,103	9,028	336,012	37.22	6,753
Liberia	95	1,227	1,534	22,172	14.45	1,388
Peru	—	—	7	76	10.86	( <u>2/</u> )
Sweden	—	—	27	405	15.00	68
Venezuela <u>3/</u>	68	1,399	1,280	29,071	22.71	970
Other	—	—	5	106	21.20	5
Total <u>4/</u>	1,545	54,977	13,983	434,997	31.11	10,185

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 includes 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	
	October 1984	Year to date		October 31	
		1984	1983	1984	1983
Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Missouri-----	454	4,489	2,440	1,469	1,585
California, Colorado, Utah-----	135	1,718	1,367	209	328
Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia-----	411	5,674	4,480	2,083	2,349
Illinois, Indiana-----	1,639	19,812	19,913	9,632	8,712
Michigan, Minnesota-----	558	5,200	4,703	2,134	1,998
New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island-----	1,578	19,274	17,950	8,177	8,950
<b>Total 1/-----</b>	<b>4,776</b>	<b>56,168</b>	<b>50,854</b>	<b>23,703</b>	<b>23,922</b>

Stocks at U.S. receiving/transfer docks----- 2,429 3,038

	Consumption by process			Pig iron produced		
	October 1984	Year to date		October 1984	Year to date	
		1984	1983		1984	1983
Blast furnaces-----	4,109	46,949	42,418	3,338	39,635	36,215
Steel furnaces-----	15	348	134	--	--	--
Agglomerating plants 2/--	624	8,712	8,080	--	--	--
Miscellaneous 3/-----	29	158	221	--	--	--
<b>Total 1/-----</b>	<b>4,776</b>	<b>56,168</b>	<b>50,854</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>39,635</b>	<b>36,215</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 (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	October 1984	Year to date	
		1984	1983
Baltimore-----	247	4,235	2,545
Buffalo-----	(1/)	1	195
Charleston-----	—	5	—
Chicago-----	260	2,249	1,268
Cleveland-----	576	2,689	3,154
Detroit-----	25	293	164
Houston-----	—	105	27
Los Angeles-----	(1/)	(1/)	—
Mobile-----	241	1,186	283
New Orleans-----	—	440	484
Philadelphia-----	185	2,663	2,019
Portland, Oreg.-----	—	—	22
Other-----	12	116	23
Total <u>2/</u> -----	1,545	13,983	10,185

1/Less than one-half unit.

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