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U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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## IRON ORE IN JULY 1997

U.S. mine production of iron ore in July 1997 was 2.0% lower than that of June 1997, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments increased by 7.9% and mine stocks decrea-

sed by 11.5%. Consumption and trade data for July 1997 will be included in a subsequent report.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE, BY DISTRICTS 1/  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Lake Superior		Other U.S.		Total 2/	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
<b>Production:</b>						
1996:						
July	5,771	34,296	22	169	5,793	34,465
August	5,752	40,048	119	288	5,871	40,336
September	5,590	45,638	25	313	5,615	45,952
October	5,347	50,985	26	339	5,373	51,325
November	5,503	56,488	24	363	5,527	56,852
December	5,260	61,748	20	383	5,280	62,132
1997:						
January	4,773	4,773	16	16	4,788	4,788
February	4,719	9,492	25	40	4,744	9,532
March	5,149	14,641	27	67	5,176	14,708
April	4,720	19,361	25	92	4,745	19,453
May	5,412	24,773	24	116	5,436	24,889
June	5,215	29,988	21	137	5,237	30,126
July	5,109	35,097	24	161	5,133	35,259
<b>Shipments:</b>						
1996:						
July	6,396	30,963	29	145	6,424	31,108
August	6,230	37,193	29	174	6,259	37,367
September	6,341	43,534	29	203	6,370	43,737
October	6,232	49,766	23	226	6,256	49,993
November	5,674	55,440	31	257	5,705	55,698
December	6,036	61,476	19	276	6,055	61,753
1997:						
January	2,693	2,693	16	16	2,708	2,708
February	1,036	3,729	27	43	1,063	3,771
March	2,310	6,038	23	65	2,333	6,104
April	5,981	12,019	27	92	6,008	12,112
May	6,673	18,692	21	113	6,695	18,806
June	5,828	24,520	21	134	5,849	24,655
July	6,287	30,807	21	155	6,308	30,964

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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

TABLE 2  
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN JULY 1/  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 2/		Stocks 3/	
	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996 r/
<b>Lake Superior:</b>						
Michigan	755	1,381	1,616	1,390	2,470	1,986
Minnesota	4,354	4,390	4,671	5,006	6,472	5,651
Other U.S.	24	22	21	29	112	129
Total 4/	5,133	5,793	6,308	6,424	9,055	7,765

r/ Revised.

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

2/ Includes rail and vessel.

3/ Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

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

TABLE 3  
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total 1/
1996:					
July	1,358	995	38	8	2,398
August	2,132	867	40	6	3,045
September	2,755	906	58	8	3,726
October	2,400	1,551	114	9	4,074
November	2,620	1,165	111	8	3,905
December	2,056	1,145	111	8	3,320
Year total	19,959	12,059	733	88	32,839
1997:					
January	924	639	114	8	1,685
February	568	1,045	100	11	1,723
March	293	712	87	8	1,099
April	2,282	889	42	7	3,219
May	2,188	1,182	41	8	3,419
June	2,464	1,544	--	9	4,017
July	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

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

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4  
CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE AND AGGLOMERATES AND  
BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION OF HOT METAL AT U.S. IRON AND STEEL PLANTS

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption of ores and agglomerates				
Consumption by source	June		Year to date	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
United States ores	4,576	4,701	28,438	28,471
Canadian ores	583	508	3,377	3,804
Foreign ores	502	643	3,368	4,163
Total 1/	5,662	5,853	35,184	36,436
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	5,091	5,262	31,766	32,947
Steel furnaces	7	8	49	40
Agglomerating plants 2/	559	580	3,327	3,439
Miscellaneous 3/	5	4	43	10
Total 1/	5,662	5,853	35,184	36,436
Stocks of ores and agglomerates				
Storage point	June 30			
	1997	1996		
Furnace yards	13,566	11,726		
Receiving/transfer docks	1,824	1,708 r/		
Total consumer	15,390	13,434 r/		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	June		Year to date	
	1997	1996	1997	1996
	4,039	4,153	24,472	25,138
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	36	39	XX	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable.

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.

Sources: American Iron Ore Association (consumption of iron ore) and American Iron and Steel Institute (production of hot metal and pig iron).

TABLE 5  
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE AND AGGLOMERATES, BY COUNTRY  
OF DESTINATION AND TYPE

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	1996	1997			
	4th quarter	1st quarter	April	May	June
Canada	1,729	470	339	749	343
Mexico	1	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Other	1	1	(1/)	(1/)	1
Total 2/	1,731	472	339	750	344
Pellets	1,723	470	337	746	340
Other	8	2	2	4	4
Total 2/	1,731	472	339	750	344

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE AND AGGLOMERATES,  
BY COUNTRY AND TYPE  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	June 1997		Year to date 1997			Year to date 1996
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	(thousand metric tons)
Australia	139	1,054	408	3,547	8.69	312
Bahamas, The	--	--	--	--	--	186
Brazil	432	10,793	2,514	64,957	25.84	2,395
Canada	950	30,164	3,514	115,830	32.96	3,229
Chile	--	--	126	2,846	22.59	39
China	--	--	40	1,447	36.18	--
Finland	--	--	4	183	45.75	3
Indonesia	(2/)	2	(2/)	2	53.62	--
Mauritania	--	--	--	--	--	209
Mexico	1	24	10	177	17.70	2
Peru	53	670	183	2,157	11.79	43
South Africa	--	--	4	389	97.25	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	11
Uruguay	--	--	--	--	--	24
Venezuela	110	3,889	948	38,424	40.53	1,143
Zaire	--	--	(2/)	1	61.75	--
Total 3/	1,685	46,595	7,751	229,958	29.67 4/	7,597
Concentrates	161	2,137	428	6,845	15.99	291
Coarse ores	57	1,816	820	34,065	41.54	505
Fine ores	248	3,594	1,679	28,434	16.94	2,056
Pellets	1,036	35,665	4,357	150,686	34.58	4,534
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other agglomerates	183	3,374	464	9,735	20.98	208
Roasted pyrites	(2/)	9	4	194	48.50	3
Total 3/	1,685	46,595	7,751	229,958	29.67 4/	7,597

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

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

4/ Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE AND AGGLOMERATES IN JUNE 1997  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total 1/
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Australia	71	--	68	--	--	--	139
Brazil	63	--	178	167	23	--	432
Canada	27	--	--	818	105	--	950
Indonesia	--	(2/)	--	--	--	--	(2/)
Mexico	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Peru	--	--	--	--	53	(2/)	53
Venezuela	--	57	2	51	--	--	110
Total 1/	161	57	248	1,036	183	(2/)	1,685

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

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 8  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY

Country of origin	June 1997		Year to date 1997			Year to date 1996
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	(thousand metric tons)
Brazil	167	5,876	935	33,476	35.80	833
Canada	818	27,804	3,251	111,103	34.18	3,037
Venezuela	51	1,985	171	6,106	35.71	663
Total 2/	1,036	35,665	4,357	150,686	34.58 3/	4,534

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

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

3/ Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 9  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE AND  
AGGLOMERATES, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	Year to date	
	1997	1997	1996
Baltimore, MD (13)	544	2,126	2,113
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	--	(1/)
Charleston, SC (16)	49	306	287
Chicago, IL (39)	332	811	845
Cleveland, OH (41)	79	208	220
Detroit, MI (38)	178	709	592
Duluth, MN (36)	--	--	51
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	42	42	21
Los Angeles, CA (27)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Mobile, AL (19)	297	2,016	1,707
New Orleans, LA (20)	54	797	767
Nogales, AZ (26)	1	10	2
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	(1/)	(1/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	110	726	980
Portland, ME (01)	--	--	(1/)
San Francisco, CA (28)	(1/)	(1/)	--
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	11
Savannah, GA (17)	--	(1/)	--
Total 2/	1,685	7,751	7,597

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 10  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	Year to date	
	1997	1997	1996
Baltimore, MD (13)	220	786	868
Charleston, SC (16)	25	163	146
Chicago, IL (39)	170	384	580
Cleveland, OH (41)	50	156	195
Detroit, MI (38)	178	709	592
Duluth, MN (36)	--	--	51
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	42	42	13
Mobile, AL (19)	240	1,606	1,202
New Orleans, LA (20)	--	280	287
Philadelphia, PA (11)	110	231	600
Total 1/	1,036	4,357	4,534

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.