



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## IRON ORE IN JUNE 1998

U.S. mine production of iron ore in June 1998 was 2.4% higher than that of May 1998, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased by 3.2% while stocks decreased by 6.9%.

Consumption and trade data for June 1998 will be included in a subsequent issue.

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>						
1997:						
June	5,215	29,988	21	137	5,237	30,126
July	5,109	35,097	24	161	5,133	35,259
August	5,593	40,690	25	186	5,618	40,877
September	5,511	46,201	25	211	5,536	46,413
October	5,705	51,906	31	242	5,736	52,149
November	5,289	57,195	26	268	5,316	57,464
December	5,285	62,480	W	W	5,285	62,750
1998:						
January	5,000	5,000	W	W	5,000	5,000
February	4,496	9,496	W	W	4,496	9,496
March	4,736	14,232	W	W	4,736	14,232
April	4,900	19,132	W	W	4,900	19,132
May	5,506	24,637	W	W	5,506	24,637
June	5,636	30,273	W	W	5,636	30,273
<b>Shipments:</b>						
1997:						
June	5,828	24,520	21	134	5,849	24,655
July	6,287	30,807	21	155	6,308	30,964
August	6,657	37,464	26	181	6,683	37,646
September	6,351	43,815	27	208	6,378	44,024
October	6,057	49,872	32	240	6,089	50,113
November	6,189	56,061	27	267	6,215	56,329
December	6,408	62,469	W	W	6,408	62,737
1998:						
January	2,822	2,822	W	W	2,822	2,822
February	900	3,722	W	W	900	3,722
March	3,053	6,775	W	W	3,053	6,775
April	6,401	13,176	W	W	6,401	13,176
May	6,508	19,683	W	W	6,508	19,683
June	6,302	25,986	W	W	6,302	25,986

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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 JUNE 1/  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 2/		Stocks 3/	
	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997
<b>Lake Superior:</b>						
Michigan	1,399	1,302	1,233	1,335	3,002	3,332
Minnesota	4,237	3,913	5,069	4,494	6,028	6,788
Other U.S.	W	21	W	21	W	109
Total 4/	5,636	5,237	6,302	5,849	9,029	10,230

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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/
1997:					
June	2,464	1,544	--	9	4,017
July	2,093	1,504	--	11	3,608
August	2,565	1,146	19	8	3,738
September	2,553	1,229	54	10	3,846
October	1,783	1,692	112	8	3,597
November	2,194	1,255	112	7	3,567
December	1,941	1,078	118	9	3,146
Year total	21,848	13,914	799	102	36,663
1998:					
January	1,400	989	111	8	2,509
February	1,036	1,090	112	9	2,247
March	727	806	108	7	1,648
April	2,221	1,054 r/	100	10	3,386 r/
May	2,327	1,585	102	12	4,026
June	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. 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 by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	May		Jan.-May	
	1998	1997	1998	1997
United States ores	4,972	4,778	25,297	23,861
Canadian ores	623	553	2,802	2,794
Foreign ores	490	585	2,618	2,866
Total 1/	6,084	5,916	30,717	29,521
Consumption by process	May		Jan.-May	
Blast furnaces	5,559	5,386	27,843	26,674
Steel furnaces	7	9	30	42
Agglomerating plants 2/	513	521	2,826	2,768
Miscellaneous 3/	5	--	19	39
Total 1/	6,084	5,916	30,717	29,521
Storage point	Stocks of ores and agglomerates			
	May 31			
	1998	1997		
Furnace yards	13,357	12,477		
Receiving/transfer docks	2,523	1,759		
Total consumer	15,880	14,236		
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	Blast furnace production of hot metal			
	May		Jan.-May	
	1998	1997	1998	1997
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	39	37	XX	XX

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.

4/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

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	1997		1998			
	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	March	April	May
Canada	2,815	1,619	897	141	665	726
Mexico	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Other	(1/)	(1/)	1	(1/)	(1/)	6
Total 2/	2,815	1,619	898	141	666	732
Pellets	2,799	1,604	892	140	665	724
Other	16	16	7	1	2	8
Total 2/	2,815	1,619	898	141	666	732

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	1998					1997
	May		Jan.-May			Jan.-May
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	67	559	273	2,162	7.92	269
Brazil	686	20,998	2,584	76,012	29.42	2,082
Canada	1,023	35,241	2,684	92,268	34.38	2,564
Chile	--	--	--	--	--	126
China	--	--	--	--	--	40
Finland	--	--	4	186	46.50	4
Japan	--	--	55	1,916	34.84	--
Madagascar	--	--	(2/)	2	11.04	--
Mexico	1	18	5	79	15.80	9
Peru	--	--	95	1,234	12.99	130
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	4
Sweden	--	--	108	4,198	38.87	--
Venezuela	51	2,009	527	23,297	44.21	839
Zaire	--	--	--	--	--	(2/)
Total 3/	1,827	58,824	6,334	201,355	31.79 4/	6,067
Concentrates	26	481	76	1,381	18.17	266
Coarse ores	--	--	178	5,892	33.10	763
Fine ores	275	5,072	1,246	22,615	18.15	1,431
Pellets	1,357	48,969	4,413	157,952	35.79	3,321
Briquettes	--	--	61	6,054	99.25	--
Other agglomerates	169	4,302	357	7,271	20.37	281
Roasted pyrites	--	--	4	190	47.50	4
Total 3/	1,827	58,824	6,334	201,355	31.79 4/	6,067

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 MAY 1998  
(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	--	--	67	--	--	--	67
Brazil	--	--	209	382	95	--	686
Canada	26	--	--	923	73	--	1,023
Mexico	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Venezuela	--	--	--	51	--	--	51
Total 1/	26	--	275	1,357	169	--	1,827

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

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

Country of origin	1998					1997
	May		Jan.-May			Jan.-May
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	382	13,531	1,622	56,731	34.98	768
Canada	923	33,429	2,438	87,777	36.00	2,433
Japan	--	--	(2/)	3	78.95	--
Peru	--	--	7	99	14.14	--
Sweden	--	--	96	3,761	39.18	--
Venezuela	51	2,009	250	9,580	38.32	120
Total 3/	1,357	48,969	4,413	157,952	35.79 4/	3,321

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 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	May	Jan.-May	
	1998	1998	1997
Baltimore, MD (13)	463	1,674	1,583
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	11	--
Charleston, SC (16)	74	174	257
Chicago, IL (39)	183	365	480
Cleveland, OH (41)	80	242	129
Detroit, MI (38)	280	608	531
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	23	--
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(1/)	(1/)
Miami, FL (52)	--	(1/)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	482	1,651	1,719
New Orleans, LA (20)	262	1,483	743
Nogales, AZ (26)	1	5	8
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	(1/)	(1/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	97	616
San Francisco, CA (28)	--	(1/)	--
Savannah, GA (17)	--	--	(1/)
Total 2/	1,827	6,334	6,067

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	May	Jan.-May	
	1998	1998	1997
Baltimore, MD (13)	115	602	566
Charleston, SC (16)	50	149	138
Chicago, IL (39)	157	290	213
Cleveland, OH (41)	80	215	106
Detroit, MI (38)	280	608	531
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	23	--
Mobile, AL (19)	413	1,404	1,366
New Orleans, LA (20)	262	1,029	280
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	94	121
San Francisco, CA (28)	--	(1/)	--
Total 2/	1,357	4,413	3,321

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.