



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER 1998

U.S. mine production of iron ore in November 1998 was 3.2% lower than that of October 1998, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments increased by 1.4% while stocks decreased by

7.9%. Consumption and trade data for November 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:						
November	5,289	57,195	26	268	5,316	57,464
December	5,285	62,480	W	W	5,285	62,480
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
July	5,433	35,706	W	W	5,433	35,706
August	5,839	41,545	W	W	5,839	41,545
September	5,384	46,942	W	W	5,384	46,942
October	5,279	52,208	W	W	5,279	52,208
November	5,113	57,321	W	W	5,113	57,321
<b>Shipments:</b>						
1997:						
November	6,189	56,061	27	267	6,215	56,329
December	6,408	62,469	W	W	6,408	62,469
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
July	6,392	32,378	W	W	6,392	32,378
August	6,297	38,674	W	W	6,297	38,674
September	5,613	44,288	W	W	5,613	44,288
October	5,626	49,913	W	W	5,626	49,913
November	5,707	55,621	W	W	5,707	55,621

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data, not included in total.

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 NOVEMBER 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	1,298	1,242	1,572	1,280	3,086	2,465
Minnesota	3,815	4,047	4,136	4,909	3,395	3,289
Other U.S.	W	26	W	27	W	107
Total 4/	5,113	5,316	5,707	6,215	6,480	5,861

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data, not included in total.

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:					
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	100	10	3,386
May	2,327	1,585	102	12	4,026
June	2,734	932	102	8	3,777
July	2,562	922	--	6	3,490
August	2,299	946	--	8	3,253
September	1,709	1,187	--	11	2,907
October	1,747	1,379	--	9	3,135

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			
	October		January-October	
	1998	1997	1998	1997
United States ores	4,669	5,145	48,895	48,208
Canadian ores	540	464	5,577	5,717
Foreign ores	455	473	4,899	5,238
Total 1/	5,663	6,082	59,370	59,163
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	5,116	5,522	53,907	53,475
Steel furnaces	8	5	85	75
Agglomerating plants 2/	539	552	5,346	5,551
Miscellaneous 3/	1	3	30	63
Total 1/	5,663	6,082	59,370	59,163
Stocks of ores and agglomerates				
Storage point	October 31			
	1998	1997		
Furnace yards	19,600	18,653		
Receiving/transfer docks	3,459	2,582		
Total consumer 1/	23,058	21,234		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	October		January-October	
	1998	1997	1998 4/	1997
	3,821	4,229	41,020	40,916
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	37	38	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.

4/ May include revisions to previous 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	1998				
	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	August	September	October
Canada	1,792	1,482	512	447	403
Mexico	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	1
Other	6	2	1	1	2
Total 2/	1,799	1,484	514	447	405
Pellets	1,763	1,450	506	428	395
Other	36	34	7	19	10
Total 2/	1,799	1,484	514	447	405

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
	October		January-October			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	69	582	558	4,578	8.20	611
Brazil	612	17,401	5,312	148,721	28.00	4,259
Canada	860	26,947	7,531	254,042	33.73	7,819
Chile	--	--	48	1,232	26	195
China	--	--	(2/)	9	4,500	40
Finland	--	--	10	484	48.40	8
Indonesia	--	--	--	--	--	(2/)
Japan	--	--	55	1,916	34.84	--
Madagascar	1	9	(2/)	2	11.04	--
Mexico	--	--	9	155	17.22	14
Norway	--	--	97	3,761	38.77	92
Peru	--	--	126	1,720	13.65	183
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	13
Spain	--	--	21	464	22	4
Sweden	--	--	276	10,543	38.20	54
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	--	23
Venezuela	74	2,049	971	42,343	43.61	1,773
Zaire	--	--	--	--	--	(2/)
Total 3/	1,616	46,989	15,015	469,968	31.30 4/	15,089
Concentrates	177	3,016	962	17,321	18.01	1,212
Coarse ores	93	3,038	348	11,494	33.03	1,204
Fine ores	395	7,613	2,815	51,197	18.19	2,486
Pellets	923	32,267	9,906	355,837	35.92	9,195
Briquettes	--	--	217	15,197	70.03	--
Other agglomerates	28	1,055	759	18,549	24.44	984
Roasted pyrites	--	--	7	372	53.14	8
Total 3/	1,616	46,989	15,015	469,968	31.30 4/	15,089

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 OCTOBER 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	--	--	69	--	--	--	69
Brazil	--	72	326	187	28	--	612
Canada	177	--	--	683	--	--	860
Mexico	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Venezuela	--	21	--	53	--	--	74
Total 1/	177	93	395	923	28	--	1,616

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	1998					1997
	October		January-October			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	187	6,741	2,543	89,364	35.14	1,467
Canada	683	23,931	6,600	237,407	35.97	6,931
Japan	--	--	(2/)	3	78.95	--
Norway	--	--	97	3,761	38.77	92
Peru	--	--	7	99	14.14	--
Sweden	--	--	197	7,765	39.42	3
Venezuela	53	1,595	463	17,438	37.66	703
Total 3/	923	32,267	9,906	355,837	35.92 4/	9,195

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	October	January-October	
	1998	1998	1997
Baltimore, MD (13)	360	3,636	3,563
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	22	2
Charleston, SC (16)	53	585	661
Chicago, IL (39)	154	1,514	2,247
Cleveland, OH (41)	285	1,035	529
Detroit, MI (38)	155	1,669	1,751
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	124	67
Laredo, TX (23)	--	13	--
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	16	(1/)
Miami, FL (52)	--	(1/)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	337	3,829	3,672
New Orleans, LA (20)	249	2,385	1,062
New York City (10)	--	--	1
Nogales, AZ (26)	1	9	14
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	(1/)	(1/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	21	179	1,519
San Francisco, CA (28)	--	(1/)	(1/)
Savannah, GA (17)	--	--	(1/)
Total 2/	1,616	15,015	15,089

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	October	January-October	
	1998	1998	1997
Baltimore, MD (13)	142	1,445	1,447
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	--	2
Charleston, SC (16)	26	340	368
Chicago, IL (39)	129	867	1,087
Cleveland, OH (41)	133	746	396
Detroit, MI (38)	155	1,669	1,751
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	49	67
Laredo, TX (23)	--	13	--
Mobile, AL (19)	337	3,528	2,848
New Orleans, LA (20)	--	1,156	280
New York City	--	--	1
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	94	948
San Francisco, CA (28)	--	(1/)	--
Total 2/	923	9,906	9,195

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.