



Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN JULY 1999

U.S. mine production of iron ore in July 1999 was 4% higher than that of June 1999, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased less than 1% and mine stocks decreased by

about 6%. Consumption and trade data for July 1999 will be included in a subsequent issue.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
1998:				
July	5,433	35,706	6,392	32,378
August	5,839	41,545	6,297	38,674
September	5,384	46,929	5,613	44,288
October	5,279	52,208	5,626	49,913
November	5,113	57,321	5,707	55,621
December	5,269	62,591	5,733	61,354
1999:				
January	4,891	4,891	2,181	2,181
February	4,587	9,479	900	3,081
March	5,145	14,624	2,619	5,699
April	4,846	19,470	6,265	11,965
May	5,473	24,943	6,117	18,082
June	5,047 r/	29,990 r/	5,935 r/	24,017 r/
July	5,249	35,239	5,942	29,959

r/ Revised.

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN JULY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 2/		Stocks 3/	
	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1,447	1,449	1,503	1,667	4,676	2,784
Minnesota	3,801	3,984	4,440	4,725	6,631	5,287
Total	5,249	5,433	5,942	6,392	11,307	8,070

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

2/ Includes rail and vessel.

3/ Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE AND
BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION OF HOT METAL AT U.S. IRON AND STEEL PLANTS 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	June		January-June	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
United States ores	4,723	4,576	27,724	29,873
Canadian ores	343	537	2,670	3,340
Foreign ores	307	470	2,592	3,090
Total 2/	5,373	5,585	32,986	36,302
Consumption by process	June 30		January-June	
Blast furnaces	5,062	5,095	30,005	32,938
Steel furnaces	1	6	29	37
Agglomerating plants 3/	310	483	2,950	3,307
Miscellaneous 4/	-	1	2	20
Total 2/	5,373	5,585	32,986	36,302
Storage point	June 30		January-June	
Furnace yards	13,761	14,655		
Receiving/transfer docks	3,264	2,513		
Total consumer	17,025	17,168		
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	Blast furnace production of hot metal			
	June		January-June	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,669	3,900	22,443	25,315
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	34	39	XX	XX

XX Not applicable.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

3/ Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine or plant site.

4/ 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 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY
OF DESTINATION AND TYPE 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	1998		1999			
	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	April	May	June
Canada	1,482	1,817	500	796	742	734
Mexico	(2/)	1	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Other	2	2	8	1	2	4
Total 3/	1,484	1,820	509	797	743	737
Pellets	1,450	1,808	495	795	741	726
Other	34	13	13	2	2	11
Total 3/	1,484	1,820	509	797	743	737

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,
BY COUNTRY AND TYPE 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	1999					1998
	June		January-June			January-June
	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Value 2/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	361	4,941	13.69	273
Brazil	459	13,401	2,290	57,421	25.07	2,988
Canada	383	11,826	1,938	59,811	30.86	3,450
Mexico	2	32	6	97	16.17	6
Peru	(3/)	16	40	589	14.73	95
Spain	--	--	(3/)	43	250.55	--
Sweden	--	--	101	3,234	32.02	108
Venezuela	53	4,575	262	19,281	73.59	595
Other	74	2,191	151	4,665	156.06	59
Total 4/	972	32,040	5,149	150,083	29.15 5/	7,572
Concentrates	54	877	291	4,071	13.99	358
Coarse ores	76	2,246	296	9,427	31.85	178
Fine ores	70	2,024	1,646	34,955	21.24	1,317
Pellets	654	20,333	2,374	77,824	32.78	5,299
Briquettes	53	4,575	195	16,929	86.82	128
Other agglomerates	62	1,858	340	6,514	19.16	288
Roasted pyrites	3	127	7	362	51.71	4
Total 4/	972	32,040	5,149	150,083	29.15 5/	7,572

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN JUNE 1999
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese) 1/
(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total 3/
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Brazil	--	74	--	331	54	--	459
Canada	54	--	--	323	6	--	383
Mexico	--	--	--	--	2	--	2
Venezuela	--	--	--	--	53	--	53
Other	--	1	70	--	--	3	74
Total 3/	54	76	70	654	115	3	972

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY

Country of origin	1999					1998
	June		January-June			January-June
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	331	9,634	655	20,489	31.28	1,792
Canada	323	10,699	1,544	51,237	33.18	3,154
Venezuela	--	--	67	2,352	35.10	250
Other	--	--	108	3,746	35.01	103
Total 2/	654	20,333	2,374	77,824	32.78 3/	5,299

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 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT 1/
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	January-June	
	1999	1999	1998
Baltimore, MD (13)	--	1,444	1,674
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	(2/)	11
Charleston, SC (16)	105	253	271
Chicago, IL (39)	106	516	639
Cleveland, OH (41)	51	156	319
Detroit, MI (38)	101	282	814
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	19	45	49
Laredo, TX (23)	16	16	13
Los Angeles, CA (27)	(2/)	(2/)	--
Miami, FL (52)	(2/)	(2/)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	296	783	2,058
New Orleans, LA (20)	272	1,642	1,622
Nogales, AZ (26)	2	6	6
Ogdensburg, NJ (07)	--	--	(2/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	3	6	97
Total 3/	972	5,149	7,572

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	June	January-June	
	1999	1999	1998
Baltimore, MD (13)	--	430	602
Charleston, SC (16)	51	148	173
Chicago, IL (39)	52	225	449
Cleveland, OH (41)	51	103	267
Detroit, MI (38)	101	282	814
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	19	45	49
Laredo, TX (23)	16	16	13
Mobile, AL (19)	290	777	1,810
New Orleans, LA (20)	74	348	1,029
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	--	94
Total 2/	654	2,374	5,299

1/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.