



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## IRON ORE IN FEBRUARY 2000

U.S. mine production of iron ore in February 2000 was 1% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased by 75% and mine stocks

increased by 61% compared with those of January 2000. Consumption and trade data for February 2000 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
1999:				
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	29,990	5,935	24,017
July	5,249	35,239	5,942	29,959
August	3,872	39,111	5,572	35,531
September	3,334	42,445	5,380	40,911
October	4,439	46,884	5,298	46,209
November	5,231	52,115	5,616	51,825
December	5,295	57,410	6,046	57,871
2000:				
January	4,955	4,955	3,822	3,822
February	4,986	9,940	962	4,784

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 2/		Stocks 3/	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1,385	1,200	--	108	3,489	4,177
Minnesota	3,601	3,387	962	792	7,537	8,240
Total	4,986	4,587	962	900	11,027	12,418

-- Zero.

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

2/ Includes rail and vessel.

3/ Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3  
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British	Total 1/
			Columbia	
1999:				
January	569	1,674	8	2,251
February	459	528	6	992
March	455	642	5	1,101
April	1,485	1,236	7	2,727
May	2,236	1,316	10	3,562
June	1,210	1,356	7	2,573
July	2,102	1,266	6	3,373
August	1,164	1,390	6	2,561
September	2,636	1,150	8	3,794
October	1,717	1,623	7	3,347
November	2,485	1,387	9	3,881
December	1,515	1,468	8	2,991
Year total	18,112	15,024	85	33,221
2000:				
January	857	1,131	9	1,997

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 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	
	January	
	2000	1999
U.S. ores	5,126	4,615
Canadian ores	645	507
Foreign ores	615	508
Total 1/	6,387	5,631
Consumption by process		
Blast furnaces	5,799	5,116
Steel furnaces	5	5
Agglomerating plants 2/	583	510
Miscellaneous 3/	--	--
Total 1/	6,387	5,631
Stocks of ores and agglomerates		
Storage point	January 31	
	2000	1999
Furnace yards	15,592	17,467
Receiving/transfer docks	2,446	3,434
Total consumer	18,038	20,901
Blast furnace production of hot metal		
	January	
	2000	1999
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	4,147	3,756
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	36	35

-- Zero.

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.

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, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION AND TYPE 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	1999				2000
	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	November	December	January
Canada	2,271	1,806	559	425	445
Mexico	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Other	6	2	4	4	8
Total 3/	2,277	1,808	563	429	454
Pellets	2,262	1,796	546	424	445
Other	14	13	17	5	9
Total 3/	2,277	1,808	563	429	454

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 6  
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	2000					1999
	January		Year to date			January
	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Value 2/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	54	693	54	693	12.83	123
Brazil	416	10,086	416	10,086	24.25	349
Canada	384	11,998	384	11,998	31.24	201
Mexico	1	10	1	10	10.00	--
Peru	--	--	--	--	--	(4/)
Trinidad and Tobago 3/	25	2,282	25	2,282	91.28	--
Venezuela	47	1,433	47	1,433	30.49	--
Other	--	--	--	--	--	3
Total 5/	926	26,501	926	26,501	28.62 6/	676
Concentrates	--	--	--	--	--	52
Coarse ores	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fine ores	283	5,345	283	5,345	18.89	392
Pellets	642	21,146	642	21,146	32.94	228
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other agglomerates	1	10	1	10	10.00	--
Roasted pyrites	--	--	--	--	--	3
Total 5/	926	26,501	926	26,501	28.62 6/	676

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

3/ All or part of these data have been referred to the Bureau of the Census for verification.

4/ Less than 1/2 unit.

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

6/ 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 IN JANUARY 2000  
(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	
Australia	--	--	54	--	--	--	54
Brazil	--	--	230	187	--	--	416
Canada	--	--	--	384	--	--	384
Mexico	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Trinidad and Tobago 2/	--	--	--	25	--	--	25
Venezuela	--	--	--	47	--	--	47
Total 3/	--	--	283	642	1	--	926

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

2/ All or part of these data have been referred to the Bureau of the Census for verification.

3/ 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	2000					1999
	January		Year to date			January
	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 1/ (thousand dollars)	Value 1/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	187	5,434	187	5,434	29.06	95
Canada	384	11,998	384	11,998	31.24	133
Trinidad And Tobago 2/	25	2,282	25	2,282	91.28	--
Venezuela	47	1,433	47	1,433	30.49	--
Total 3/	642	21,146	642	21,146	32.94 4/	228

-- Zero.

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

2/ All or part of these data have been referred to the Bureau of the Census for verification.

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	2000	1999
	January	January
Baltimore, MD (13)	387	387
Chicago, IL (39)	27	52
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	26
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(1)
Mobile, AL (19)	344	--
New Orleans, LA (20)	168	207
Nogales, AZ (26)	1	(1)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	3
Total 2/	926	676

-- Zero.

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	2000	1999
	January	January
Baltimore, MD (13)	205	133
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	26
Mobile, AL (19)	344	--
New Orleans, LA (20)	93	69
Total 1/	642	228

-- Zero.

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

Source: Bureau of the Census.