



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## IRON ORE IN JANUARY 2001

U.S. mine production of iron ore in January 2001 was 21% lower than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased by 51% and mine

stocks rose by 17%. Consumption and trade data for January 2001 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
2000:				
January	4,955	4,955	3,822	3,822
February	4,986	9,940	962	4,784
March	5,028	14,968	2,846	7,630
April	5,010	19,978	5,978	13,607
May	5,637	25,615	6,347	19,954
June	5,638	31,253	5,881	25,835
July	5,577	36,830	6,468	32,303
August	5,843	42,673	6,048	38,351
September	5,392	48,065	5,509	43,860
October	5,037	53,102	5,568	49,428
November	4,811	57,913	5,203	54,630
December	5,071	62,983	5,052	59,682
2001:				
January	4,023	4,023	2,457	2,457

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 3/		Stocks 4/	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1,204	1,119	825	1,566	3,123	1,948
Minnesota	2,819	3,836	1,631	2,255	7,589	4,899
Total	4,023	4,955	2,457	3,822	10,712	6,847

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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

3/ Includes rail and vessel.

4/ Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3  
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE 1/

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British	Total
			Columbia	
1999:				
December	1,656 r/	1,528 r/	6 r/	3,190 r/
Year total	18,944 r/	14,962 r/	84 r/	33,990 r/
2000:				
January	857	1,131	9	1,997
February	1,475	716	7	2,197
March	726	1,022	7	1,756
April	1,785	1,122	9	2,915
May	2,535	1,333	9	3,877
June	1,704	1,330	8	3,042
July	2,568 r/	1,478	8	4,054 r/
August	2,160	1,006	7	3,174
September	2,153	1,299	8	3,460
October	1,727	1,291	10	3,029
November	2,226	1,297	10	3,533
December	1,174	1,032	7	2,213

r/ Revised.

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/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	December		January-December	
	2000	1999	2000	1999
United States ores	4,233	5,033	57,874	56,945
Canadian ores	375	587	6,259	5,665
Foreign ores	446	583	6,523	5,417
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,054</b>	<b>6,204</b>	<b>70,656</b>	<b>68,027</b>
Consumption by process	December 31		January-December	
Blast furnaces	4,646	5,631	64,416	62,130
Steel furnaces	3	5	49	57
Agglomerating plants 3/	404	568	6,191	5,837
Miscellaneous 4/	--	--	--	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,054</b>	<b>6,204</b>	<b>70,656</b>	<b>68,027</b>
Storage point	December 31		January-December	
Furnace yards	16,773	17,892		
Receiving/transfer docks	2,860	2,766		
<b>Total consumer</b>	<b>19,633</b>	<b>20,657</b>		
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	December		January-December	
	2000	1999	2000	1999
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,430	4,284	47,910	46,268 r/
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	33	36	XX	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- 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.

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 5  
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION AND TYPE 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	2000				
	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	October	November	December
Canada	1,862	2,086	675	496	281
Mexico	3	2	1	(3/)	(3/)
Other	1 r/	2	3	(3/)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>284</b>
Pellets	1,794	1,934	643	493	282
Other	71	156	36	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>284</b>

r/ Revised.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY AND TYPE 1/ 2/  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	2000					1999
	December		January-December			January-December
	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Value 3/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	6	46	755	6,181	8.19	694
Brazil	463	8,837	6,085	150,164	24.68	5,541
Canada	416	12,045	7,991	238,045	29.79	6,863
Chile	--	--	135	2,624	19.38	69
Mexico	--	--	13	226	17.85	12
Norway	--	--	11	318	28.76	--
Peru	--	--	40	590	14.71	63
Sweden	--	--	250	7,928	31.71	421
Venezuela	--	--	349	11,221	32.18	327
Other	--	--	54	3,056	56.59	263
Total	886	20,928	15,683	420,354	26.80 4/	14,255
Concentrates	--	--	311	6,626	21.32	1,436
Coarse ore	--	--	3	104	34.97	318
Fine ores	469	8,882	5,085	97,110	19.10	3,392
Pellets	328	9,953	9,667	301,883	31.23	8,228
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	195
Other agglomerates	88	2,092	611	14,322	23.43	676
Roasted pyrites	--	--	6	309	48.60	11
Total	886	20,928	15,683	420,354	26.80 4/	14,255

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

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

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN DECEMBER 2000  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese) 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Australia	--	--	6	--	--	--	6
Brazil	--	--	463	--	--	--	463
Canada	--	--	--	328	88	--	416
Total	--	--	469	328	88	--	886

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY 1/

Country of origin	2000					1999
	December		January-December			January-December Thousand metric tons
	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Value 2/ (dollars per ton)	
Australia	--	--	--	--	--	7
Brazil	--	--	2,056	63,468	30.87	1,939
Canada	328	9,953	7,002	218,209	31.16	5,784
Peru	--	--	38	526	13.67	--
Sweden	--	--	197	6,176	31.34	367
Venezuela	--	--	349	11,221	32.18	111
Other	--	--	25	2,282	90.96	19
Total	328	9,953	9,667	301,883	31.23 3/	8,228

-- Zero.

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

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

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,  
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT 1/ 2/  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	December	January-December	
	2000	2000	1999
Baltimore, MD (13)	360	4,220	3,205
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	--	1
Charleston, SC (16)	--	202	412
Chicago, IL (39)	208	2,172	2,342
Cleveland, OH (41)	80	909	783
Detroit, MI (38)	24	1,484	1,288
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	64	69
Laredo, TX (23)	--	5	16
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	1	(3/)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	(3/)
Mobile, AL (19)	--	3,394	2,849
New Orleans, LA (20)	214	3,105	3,166
New York City, NY (10)	--	1	--
Nogales, AZ (26)	--	13	12
Norfolk, VA (14)	--	--	16
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	114	84
San Diego, CA (25)	--	--	10
Total	886	15,683	14,255

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10  
 U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS,  
 BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	December	January-December	
	2000	2000	1999
Baltimore, MD (13)	145	1,650	1,268
Charleston, SC (16)	--	201	306
Chicago, IL (39)	103	1,113	1,108
Cleveland, OH (41)	80	762	567
Detroit, MI (38)	--	1,415	1,218
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	64	45
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	16
Mobile, AL (19)	--	3,289	2,843
New Orleans, LA (20)	--	1,175	856
Total	328	9,667	8,228

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.