



Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

William S. Kirk, Iron Ore Commodity Specialist

U.S. Geological Survey

989 National Center

Reston, VA 20192

Telephone: (703) 648-4962, Fax: (703) 648-7757

E-mail: wkirk@usgs.gov

Jason T. Collins (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7978

Fax: (703) 648-7975

MINES FaxBack: (703) 648-4999

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

IRON ORE IN FEBRUARY 2001

U.S. mine production of iron ore in February 2001 was 15% lower than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased by 61%, and mine

stocks rose by 23%. Consumption and trade data for February 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:				
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
February	3,423	7,446	959	3,415

1/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 3/		Stocks 4/	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1,279	1,385	109	--	4,292	3,489
Minnesota	2,144	3,601	850	962	8,884	7,537
Total	3,423	4,986	959	962	13,176	11,027

-- Zero.

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 Columbia	Total
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	1,478	8	4,054
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
Year total	21,092	14,057	99	35,248
2001:				
January	979	633	7	1,619

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	
	January	
	2001	2000
United States ores	4,182	5,126
Canadian ores	395	645
Foreign ores	473	615
Total	5,051	6,387
Consumption by process	Stocks of ores and agglomerates	
Blast furnaces	4,623	5,799
Steel furnaces	2	5
Agglomerating plants 3/	426	583
Miscellaneous 4/	--	--
Total	5,051	6,387
Storage point	January 31	
Furnace yards	14,501	15,592
Receiving/transfer docks	2,370	2,446
Total consumer	16,871	18,038
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	Blast furnace production of hot metal	
	January	
	2001	2000
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	32	36

-- 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				2001
	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	November	December	January
Canada	1,862	2,086	496	281	551
Mexico	3	2	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Other	1	2	(3/)	3	(3/)
Total	1,865	2,090	496	284	551
Pellets	1,794	1,934	493	282	551
Other	71	156	3	2	(3/)
Total	1,865	2,090	496	284	551

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	2001					2000
	January		Year to date			January
	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Value 3/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	133	1,054	133	1,054	7.90	54
Brazil	498	11,534	498	11,534	23.14	416
Canada	153	4,858	153	4,858	31.66	384
Chile	16	622	16	622	38.15	--
Mexico	--	--	--	--	--	1
Netherlands	3	143	3	143	50.01	--
Norway	2	61	2	61	38.00	--
Venezuela	--	--	--	--	--	47
Other	47	4,975	47	4,975	106.00	25
Total	853	23,248	853	23,248	27.26 4/	926
Concentrates	--	--	--	--	--	--
Coarse ores	3	143	3	143	50.01	--
Fine ores	493	8,218	493	8,218	16.66	283
Pellets	340	14,265	340	14,265	41.91	642
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other agglomerates	16	622	16	622	38.15	1
Roasted pyrites	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	853	23,248	853	23,248	27.26 4/	926

-- 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 JANUARY 2001
(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	--	--	133	--	--	--	133
Brazil	--	--	358	140	--	--	498
Canada	--	--	--	153	--	--	153
Chile	--	--	--	--	16	--	16
Netherlands	--	3	--	--	--	--	3
Norway	--	--	2	--	--	--	2
Other	--	--	--	47	--	--	47
Total	--	3	493	340	16	--	853

-- 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	2001					2000
	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
Brazil	140	4,432	140	4,432	31.65	187
Canada	153	4,858	153	4,858	31.66	384
Venezuela	--	4,975	--	4,975	--	47
Other	47	--	47	--	106.00	25
Total	340	14,265	340	14,265	41.91 3/	642

-- 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	2001	2000
	January	January
Baltimore, MD (13)	341	387
Chicago, IL (39)	91	27
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	16	--
Mobile, AL (19)	49	344
New Orleans, LA (20)	355	168
Nogales, AZ (26)	--	1
Total	853	926

-- Zero.

1/ Includes agglomerates.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	2001	2000
	January	January
Baltimore, MD (13)	137	205
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	16	--
Mobile, AL (19)	47	344
New Orleans, LA (20)	140	93
Total	340	642

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.