



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

Heather A. Geissler (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7978

Fax: (703) 648-7975

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

IRON ORE IN FEBRUARY 2002

U.S. mine production of iron ore in February 2002, on a daily average basis, was 4% lower than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Shipments decreased by 40%, and mine stocks increased by 51%. Consumption and trade data for February 2002 will be included in a subsequent

issue. Percentage changes in the iron ore Mineral Industry Surveys from now on will be made on a daily average basis so that direct comparisons of one month with another can be made.

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
2001:				
February	3,423	7,446	959	3,415
March	3,996	11,442	2,492	5,907
April	4,318	15,761	5,751	11,658
May	4,348	20,109	6,037	17,695
June	3,115	23,224	5,306	23,001
July	3,610	26,834	5,290	28,291
August	4,352	31,187	5,423	33,715
September	4,523	35,710	4,822	38,536
October	4,163	39,873	4,849	43,386
November	3,425	43,298	4,294	47,680
December	2,758	46,056	3,744	51,424
2002:				
January	3,698	3,698	2,527	2,527
February	3,195	6,894	1,364	3,890

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/	
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	711	1,279	174	109	1,971	4,292
Minnesota	2,484	2,144	1,189	850	4,835	8,884
Total	3,195	3,423	1,364	959	6,807	13,176

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
2001:				
January	979	633	8	1,619
February	879	485	5	1,368
March	1,094	--	5	1,099
April	1,408	--	5	1,413
May	2,083	785	8	2,875
June	1,478	995	7	2,480
July	1,786	1,279	6	3,071
August	1,375	1,267	6	2,647
September	1,134	1,164	6	2,304
October	2,055	1,058	7	3,120
November	1,665	1,140	6	2,811
December	1,393	756	5 r/	2,154 r/
Year total	17,328	9,560	72 r/	26,961 r/
2002:				
January	1,031	630	10	1,671

r/ Revised. -- Zero.

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 of ores and agglomerates	
	January	
	2002	2001
Consumption by source		
United States ores	3,920	4,182
Canadian ores	298	395
Foreign ores	529	473
Total	4,747	5,051
Consumption by process		
Blast furnaces	4,292	4,623
Steel furnaces	4	2
Agglomerating plants 3/	448	426
Miscellaneous 4/	2	--
Total	4,747	5,051
Stocks of ores and agglomerates		
January 31		
Storage point	2002	2001
Furnace yards	10,024	14,501
Receiving/transfer docks	1,947	2,370
Total consumer	11,971	16,871
Blast furnace production of hot metal		
January		
	2002	2001
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,169	3,455
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	26	32

-- 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	2001				2002
	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	November	December	January
Canada	1,715	1,694	534	323	451
Mexico	1	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Other	4	1	1	1	1
Total	1,721	1,695	535	324	452
Pellets	1,699	1,632	534	323	451
Other	22	63	1	1	1
Total	1,721	1,695	535	324	452

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	2002					2001
	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
Brazil	290	6,376	290	6,376	21.98	498
Canada	73	2,245	73	2,245	30.79	153
Chile	--	--	--	--	--	16
Norway	--	--	--	--	--	2
Peru	(4/)	9	(4/)	9	4,500.00	--
Other	28	2,090	28	2,090	76.00	50
Total	390	10,720	390	10,720	27.45 5/	853
Concentrates	--	--	--	--	--	--
Coarse ores	--	--	--	--	--	3
Fine ores	144	2,390	144	2,390	16.56	493
Pellets	219	6,231	219	6,231	28.50	340
Briquettes	28	2,090	28	2,090	76.00	--
Other agglomerates	--	--	--	--	--	16
Roasted pyrites	(4/)	9	(4/)	9	4,500.00	--
Total	390	10,720	390	10,720	27.45 5/	853

-- 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/ Less than 1/2 unit.

5/ 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 2002 1/ 2/
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Brazil	--	--	144	146	--	--	290
Canada	--	--	--	73	--	--	73
Other	--	--	--	--	28	(3/)	28
Total	--	--	144	219	28	(3/)	390

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

Country of origin	2002					2001
	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	146	3,986	146	3,986	27.36	140
Canada	73	2,245	73	2,245	30.79	153
Other	--	--	--	--	--	47
Total	219	6,231	219	6,231	28.50	340

-- 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	January 2002	January 2001
Baltimore, MD (13)	217	341
Chicago, IL (39)	--	91
Columbia - Snake, OR-WA (29)	28	--
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	16
Los Angeles, CA (27)	(3/)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	--	49
New Orleans, LA (20)	146	355
Total	390	853

-- 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	January 2002	January 2001
Baltimore, MD (13)	73	137
Chicago, IL (39)	--	16
Mobile, AL (19)	--	47
New Orleans, LA (20)	146	140
Total	219	340

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.