

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 SEPTEMBER 2002

U.S. mine production of iron ore in September 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 8%. Mine stocks at the end of the month were 16% lower than at the end of the previous month. Consumption and trade data for September 2002 will be included in a subsequent issue.

Note

All data in this report have been rounded to no more than three significant digits. Totals and percentages were calculated by using unrounded data.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE 1/ 2/
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more of manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2001:				
September	4,520	35,700	4,820	38,500
October	4,160	39,900	4,850	43,400
November	3,430	43,300	4,290	47,700
December	2,760	46,100	3,740	51,400
2002:				
January	3,700	3,700	2,530	2,530
February	3,200	6,890	1,360	3,890
March	3,660	10,600	2,200	6,090
April	3,840	14,400	4,360	10,400
May	4,850	19,200	5,320	15,800
June	4,870	24,100	5,810	21,600
July	4,430	28,500	5,720	27,300
August	4,580	33,100	5,530	32,800
September	4,270	37,400	4,910	37,700

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

2/ Excludes byproduct ores.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

District	Production		Shipments 3/		Stocks 4/	
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001
Lake Superior:						
Michigan	1150	1300	1190	1340	1180	2680
Minnesota	3,120	3,230	3,730	3,480	2,250	3,660
Total	4,270	4,520	4,910	4,820	3,420	6,350

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Excludes byproduct ore.

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:				
August	1,380	1,270	6	2,650
September	1,130	1,160	6	2,300
October	2,060	1,060	7	3,120
November	1,670	1,140	6	2,810
December	1,390	756	5	2,150
Year total	17,300	9,560	72	27,000
2002:				
January	782	630	10	1,420
February	355	699	10	1,060
March	1,060	771	5	1,840
April	1,490	913	9	2,410
May	2,390	1,240	8	3,630
June	1,530	828	6	2,370
July	2,290	1,020	7	3,320
August	1,550	940	9	2,500

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

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			
	August		January-August	
	2002	2001	2002	2001
United States ores	4,220	4,520	31,100	35,800
Canadian ores	479	379	2,600	2,950
Foreign ores	635	532	4,570	4,460
Total	5,330	5,430	38,300	43,200
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	4,800	5,040	34,500	39,900
Steel furnaces	50	7	121	23
Agglomerating plants 3/	489	384	3,670	3,280
Miscellaneous 4/	--	--	2	--
Total	5,330	5,430	38,300	43,200
Storage point	Stocks of ores and agglomerates, August 31			
	August			
	2002	2001		
Furnace yards	10,300	12,300		
Receiving/transfer docks	1,540	1,520		
Total consumer	11,900	13,800		
	Blast furnace production of hot metal			
	August		January-August	
	2002	2001	2002	2001
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,610	3,740	26,200	29,500
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	29	33	XX	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes agglomerates.

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	2002				
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	June	July	August
Canada	738	2,050	704	810	792
Mexico	(3/)	10	7	8	8
Other	1	2	(3/)	1	4
Total	739	2,060	711	819	804
Pellets	736	2,020	682	783	782
Other	3	36	28	36	23
Total	739	2,060	711	819	804

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes agglomerates.

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
	August		Year to date			January-August
	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 3/ (thousand dollars)	Value 3/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	375	3,780	10.08	384
Brazil	453	10,800	3,600	83,300	23.14	3,320
Canada	591	16,800	2,900	85,200	29.35	3,030
Chile	29	264	190	3,750	19.72	377
Norway	--	--	10	172	17.37	2
Peru	--	--	69	835	12.14	16
Sweden	--	--	44	1,040	24.00	--
Other	4	143	121	5,330	43.97	379
Total	1,080	28,000	7,310	183,000	25.08 4/	7,510
Concentrates	--	--	303	6,690	22.10	288
Coarse ores	--	--	3	104	37.00	25
Fine ores	199	3,130	2,290	36,600	15.97	3,240
Pellets	817	23,800	4,420	132,000	29.90	3,650
Briquettes	--	--	39	3,120	81.00	65
Other agglomerates	56	894	247	4,430	17.97	231
Roasted pyrites	4	143	11	335	30.30	7
Total	1,080	28,000	7,310	183,000	25.08 4/	7,510

-- Zero.

1/ Data, with the exception of the dollars per ton column, are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes agglomerates.

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 AUGUST 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	--	--	169	284	--	--	453
Canada	--	--	1	534	56	--	591
Other	--	--	29	--	--	4	33
Total	--	--	199	817	56	4	1,080

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes agglomerates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

Country of origin	2002					2001
	August		Year to date			January-August
	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value 2/ (thousand dollars)	Value 2/ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	284	7,940	1,830	52,600	28.75	822
Canada	534	15,900	2,590	79,600	30.72	2,550
Other	--	--	--	--	--	282
Total	817	23,800	4,420	132,000	29.90 3/	3,650

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

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	August	January-August	
	2002	2002	2001
Baltimore, MD (13)	293	2,950	2,580
Buffalo, NY (09)	1	3	--
Charleston, SC (16)	--	129	41
Chicago, IL (39)	56	456	1,020
Cleveland, OH (41)	229	706	322
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	28	--
Detroit, MI (38)	48	212	685
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	28	48
Laredo, TX (23)	--	11	17
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3/)	1
Miami, FL (52)	--	4	--
Mobile, AL (19)	61	333	567
New Orleans, LA (20)	384	2,410	2,110
New York City, NY (10)	--	--	(3/)
Philadelphia, PA (11)	4	7	29
Providence, RI (05)	--	34	--
San Juan, PR (49)	--	10	--
Tampa, FL (18)	--	--	82
Total	1,080	7,310	7,510

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes agglomerates.

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	August	January-August	
	2002	2002	2001
Baltimore, MD (13)	167	1,160	874
Charleston, SC (16)	--	129	--
Chicago, IL (39)	29	111	605
Cleveland, OH (41)	229	706	322
Detroit, MI (38)	48	189	685
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	17	16
Laredo, TX (23)	--	11	17
Mobile, AL (19)	61	301	342
New Orleans, LA (20)	284	1,800	789
Total	817	4,420	3,650

--Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.