

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Peter H. Kuck, Acting Iron Ore Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4965, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: pkuck@usgs.gov

Jim Peang (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7978
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: jpeang@usgs.gov

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

IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER 2003

U.S. mine production of iron ore in November 2003, on a daily average basis, was 2% greater than that of October, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 138,000 metric tons per day (t/d), compared with 135,000 t/d in October. Production in November 2002 was 158,000 t/d. Shipments increased by 4% compared with those

of the previous month. Mine stocks at the end of November were 7% lower than at the end of October.

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
2002:				
November	4,740	46,800	4,480	47,000
December	4,700	51,500	5,040	52,000
2003:				
January	4,310	4,310	2,880	2,880
February	4,290	8,610	1,140	4,030
March	4,080	12,700	1,810	5,830
April	4,230	16,900	4,790	10,600
May	4,010	20,900	5,340	16,000
June	3,740	24,700	4,840	20,800
July	3,920	28,600	4,450	25,200
August	3,950	32,500	4,330	29,600
September	3,870	36,400	4,220	33,800
October	4,190	40,600	4,370	38,200
November	4,140	44,700	4,540	42,700

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

²Excludes byproduct ores.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments ³		Stocks ⁴	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Michigan	1,210	1,250	1,210	1,140	1,720	1,350
Minnesota	2,930	3,490	3,330	3,350	3,520	2,190
Total	4,140	4,740	4,540	4,480	5,240	3,540

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

²Excludes byproduct ore.

³Includes rail and vessel.

⁴Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE¹

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
2002:				
October	2,040	1,180	8	3,220
November	2,100	1,390	7	3,500
December	1,100	1,020	5	2,120
Year total	18,900	11,900	91	30,800
2003:				
January	862	699	6	1,570
February	674	580	6	1,260
March	989	578	7	1,570
April	1,800	1,120	5	2,930
May	1,960	1,540	4	3,510
June	2,090	1,260	5	3,360
July	2,140	1,460	8	3,610
August	1,530	1,100	6	2,630
September	1,710	1,240	7	2,950
October	2,080	1,500	6	3,580

¹Data 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			
	September		January-September	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
United States ores	5,380	4,390	37,100	35,500
Canadian ores	315	354 ^r	2,770	3,090
Foreign ores	672	752 ^r	5,430	5,280
Total	6,370	5,510 ^r	45,300	43,900
Consumption by process	Stocks of ores and agglomerates, September 30			
	2003		2002	
	2003		2002	
Blast furnaces	5,550	4,960 ^r	40,600	39,600
Steel furnaces	2	51 ^r	129	173
Agglomerating plants ³	814	491 ^r	4,590	4,170
Miscellaneous ⁴	--	--	--	2
Total	6,370	5,510 ^r	45,300	43,900
Storage point	Blast furnace production of hot metal			
	September		January-September ⁵	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Furnace yards	10,300	10,500		
Receiving/transfer docks	1,160	1,630 ^r		
Total consumer	11,400	12,100 ^r		
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	2,980	3,630	29,200	29,900
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	29	31	XX	XX

^rRevised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine or plant site.

⁴Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

⁵Includes revisions to previous month's data.

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	2003				
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	September	October
Canada	757	2,061	2,129	718	589
Mexico	3	(3)	7	(3)	(3)
Other	1	4	30	(3)	1
Total	761	2,070	2,170	718	590
Pellets	756	2,060	2,110	714	587
Other	5	6	53	4	4
Total	761	2,070	2,170	718	590

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less 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	2003					2002
	October		Year to date			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Value ³ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	128	1,110	8.63	440
Brazil	420	10,400	4,370	104,000	23.80	4,610
Canada	926	26,200	5,680	160,000	28.12	4,340
Chile	58	1,270	296	6,510	22.01	275
Norway	--	--	4	107	26.65	15
Peru	--	--	42	680	16.35	69
Other	88	4,270	142	5,710	40.07	165 ^r
Total	1,490	42,200	10,700	278,000	26.06 ⁴	9,920
Concentrates	283	7,000	957	20,300	21.20	387
Coarse ores	--	--	24	627	25.86	3
Fine ores	114	3,260	1,880	31,500	16.79	2,810
Pellets	1,100	31,900	7,510	220,000	29.30	6,350
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	39
Other agglomerates	--	--	293	5,200	17.77	321
Roasted pyrites	--	--	7	344	48.47	12
Total	1,490	42,200	10,700	278,000	26.06 ⁴	9,920

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

⁴Weighted 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 OCTOBER 2003^{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	142	--	54	224	--	--	420
Canada	28	--	27	870	--	--	926
Other	112	--	33	--	--	--	146
Total	283	--	114	1,100	--	--	1,490

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY¹

Country of origin	2003					2002
	October		Year to date			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Value ² (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	224	6,710	2,510	72,200	\$28.81	2,450
Canada	870	25,200	5,000	148,000	29.55	3,900
Total	1,100	31,900	7,510	220,000	29.30 ³	6,350

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

²Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

³Weighted 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	October	January-October	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	361	2,770	3,670
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	7	5
Charleston, SC (16)	--	106	235
Chicago, IL (39)	109	933	644
Cleveland, OH (41)	328	2,730	1,140
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	--	28
Detroit, MI (38)	74	226	257
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	17	72	28
Laredo, TX (23)	--	20	11
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3)	(3)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	4
Mobile, AL (19)	--	75	787
New Orleans, LA (20)	531	3,630	3,050
New York, NY (07)	--	(3)	--
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	1	--
Philadelphia, PA (11)	54	82	7
Providence, RI (05)	--	--	34
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	10
Tampa, FL (18)	16	13	10
Total	1,490	10,700	9,920

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	October	January-October	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	219	1,050	1,520
Charleston, SC (16)	--	105	235
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	165
Cleveland, OH (41)	328	2,730	1,140
Detroit, MI (38)	74	226	234
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	55	17
Laredo, TX (23)	--	20	11
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	720
New Orleans, LA (20)	473	3,260	2,300
Total	1,100	7,510	6,350

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.