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FERROUS SCRAP IN MARCH 1959

The combined domestic consumption of ferrous scrap and pig iron in steelmaking furnaces during March 1959 reached an all-time high and was 4 percent greater than October 1956, the previous record month, according to the Bureau of Mines, United States Department of the Interior. Ferrous scrap consumed in steelmaking furnaces (open-hearth, Bessemer, basic oxygen process, and electric) increased for the fourth consecutive month and was the second highest quantity ever consumed in these furnaces. The use of pig iron in these furnaces during March was at an all-time high and exceeded the previous record month of January 1957 by 4 percent. The total steel-furnace melt (11,402,608 gross tons), consisted of 46 percent scrap and 54 percent pig iron, compared with 47 and 53 percent, respectively, during February.

Table 1 - Summary of production, receipts, consumption, and consumers' stocks of ferrous scrap and pig iron, October 1958 to March 1959, in gross tons

Date	Scrap for consumption			Consumption		Consumers' stocks at end of month	
	Home scrap produced	Purchased scrap received (net)	Total	Scrap	Pig iron	Scrap	Pig iron <u>1/</u>
Oct. 1958	2,957,607	2,131,946	5,089,553	5,091,207	5,239,582	8,042,917	3,378,292
Nov. 1958	2,813,830	2,248,222	5,062,052	4,803,615	5,190,118	8,303,244	3,466,262
Dec. 1958	3,019,900	2,218,407	5,238,307	4,973,670	5,319,991	8,565,714	3,539,526
Jan. 1959	3,139,909	1,996,185	5,136,094	5,375,042	5,609,509	8,330,913	3,477,606
Feb. 1959	3,250,026	2,263,986	5,514,012	5,657,873	5,627,953	8,197,032	3,296,182
Mar. 1959	3,869,752	2,861,674 ^{2/}	6,731,426	6,677,499	6,798,053	8,242,936	3,171,999

^{1/} Suppliers' stocks included with consumers' stocks.

^{2/} Excludes 199,759 gross tons of scrap shipped, transferred or otherwise disposed of during the month.

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Total domestic consumption of ferrous scrap in March increased for the fourth consecutive month and was the highest monthly quantity consumed since October 1956. The use of pig iron during March was the highest monthly quantity ever consumed and was 3 percent greater than January 1957, the previous record month.

The use of scrap by gray iron foundries during March totaled 873,982 gross tons, an increase of 10 percent over the 791,137 tons, used during February. Pig iron consumed by this industry totaled 353,985 tons, an increase of 8 percent over the previous month.

Domestic stocks of ferrous scrap and pig iron held by consumers at the end of March totaled 11,414,935 gross tons, a decrease of 1 percent from the preceding month. Stocks of ferrous scrap were equivalent to a 38-day supply at the March daily consumption rate and totaled 8,242,936 tons, slightly higher than at the end of February, and 2 percent greater than stocks held on March 31, 1958. Pig iron stocks held by consumers and suppliers, totaled 3,171,999 tons, a decrease of 4 percent from those held on February 28, and 12 percent less than those at the end of March 1958.

Home scrap produced, plus purchased scrap received totaled 6,731,426 tons during March, 19 percent greater than during February; home scrap produced accounted for 3,869,752 tons, an increase of 19 percent over February. Net purchased scrap received totaled 2,861,674 tons, an increase of 26 percent over February and the largest monthly quantity received by consumers since January 1957. Of the purchases, 86 percent was received from dealers and 14 percent from other sources. Purchased scrap received is a net figure computed by deducting scrap shipped, transferred, or otherwise disposed of by consumers from total scrap received from dealers and all others during the month.

Table 2 - Production and receipts of ferrous scrap by major consuming industries plants, in gross tons

Date	Home scrap produced			Purchased scrap received (net) ^{1/}		
	Mfgs. of steel ingots and castings	Mfgs. of steel castings	Iron foundries and miscellaneous users	Mfgs. of steel ingots and castings	Mfgs. of steel castings	Iron foundries and miscellaneous users
Jan. 1959	2,674,204	85,213	380,492	1,490,357	90,383	415,445
Feb. 1959	2,771,238	89,710	389,078	1,719,644	110,442	433,900
Mar. 1959	3,324,913	105,496	439,343	2,218,698	129,608	513,368

^{1/} Excludes scrap shipped, transferred or otherwise disposed of during the month.

Table 3 - Scrap produced, received, and consumed during March, stocks at consumers plants
March 31, 1959, and consumption year-to-date, by grades, in gross tons

Grades of scrap	Home scrap produced	Purchased scrap received		Total scrap consumed	Scrap stocks Mar. 31	Consumption Year-to-date
		From dealers*	From others*			
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	1,679,835	462,387	79,065	2,282,761	2,548,189	6,006,823
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	179,468	320,193	34,367	482,138	714,481	1,243,058
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	105,541	337,621	92,863	542,204	773,724	1,476,998
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	27,520	440,800	26,821	406,556	822,283	1,024,646
Low phosphorous scrap-----	99,433	233,224	32,746	351,242	548,965	947,432
Cast iron scrap other than borings-----	560,861	326,232	52,103	915,851	1,005,387	2,516,898
Turnings and/or borings, alloy free-----	47,069	220,230	36,282	278,682	249,862	702,554
Rerolling rails-----	-	21,837	15,190	41,897	142,229	123,334
Scrap rails-----	3,661	28,524	2,607	29,413	60,496	78,848
High speed steel-----	1,846	1,068	281	2,986	4,817	7,740
Stainless steel-----	46,075	20,264	3,543	71,074	102,596	182,175
All other alloy iron and steel-----	163,622	32,736	12,037	206,464	274,923	543,429
All other prepared scrap-----	589,072	138,457	36,250	853,242	566,017	2,295,316
Unprepared scrap-----	365,749	41,094	12,611	212,989	428,967	561,163
Total (all grades)-----	3,869,752	2,624,667	436,766	6,677,499	8,242,936	17,710,414

* Includes 199,759 gross tons of scrap shipped, transferred, or otherwise disposed of during the month.

Table 4 - Stocks of ferrous scrap and pig iron on hand at major consuming industries plants,
at end of month, in gross tons

Date	Scrap stocks			Pig iron stocks		
	Mfgs. of steel ingots and castings	Mfgs. of steel castings	Iron foundries and miscel- laneous users	Mfgs. of steel ingots and castings	Mfgs. of steel castings	Iron foundries and miscel- laneous users
Oct. 31, 1958-----	6,879,345	406,860	756,712	2,880,979	37,304	460,009
Nov. 30, 1958-----	7,094,121	414,887	794,236	2,959,237	37,537	469,488
Dec. 31, 1958-----	7,357,904	410,187	797,623	3,048,913	36,491	454,122
Jan. 31, 1959-----	7,172,318	387,775	770,820	3,022,110	36,084	419,412
Feb. 28, 1959-----	7,062,756	378,494	755,782	2,827,861	37,816	430,505
Mar. 31, 1959-----	7,091,280	366,923	784,733	2,668,774	38,125	465,100
						3,378,292
						3,466,262
						3,539,526
						3,477,606
						3,296,182
						3,171,999

DEALERS, BROKERS, AND AUTOMOBILE WRECKERS FOR MARCH 1959

The 967 identical companies reporting for February and March indicated that at the end of March, stocks of ferrous scrap in their yards had decreased slightly from the end of the preceding month; however, receipts and shipments increased 18 and 16 percent, respectively. Receipts in March were 28 percent less than shipments. Of the scrap handled during March, six grades (No. 1 and No. 2 heavy melting steel, No. 1 and electric furnace bundles, No. 2 and all other bundles, low phosphorous and cast iron scrap other than borings) represented 67 percent of the total shipments and 44 percent of the stocks on March 31. Unprepared scrap stocks held in dealers and automobile wreckers yards at the end of March constituted 44 percent of the total.

Table 5 - Dealers, brokers, and automobile wreckers, receipts, shipments, and stocks of ferrous scrap, for March 1959, in gross tons

Grades of scrap	Receipts during month		Shipments ^{1/} during month		Stocks	
	March 1959	Change from previous month (percent)	To domestic consumers	For export	March 31 1959	Change from end of previous month (percent)
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	49,310	2/ ^{2/}	93,858	29,422	126,943	- 3
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	71,933	+18	105,172	27,102	153,986	- 1
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	10,926	+21	33,225	3,866	14,996	-29
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	55,561	+32	109,847	12,828	187,852	+ 1
Low phosphorous scrap-----	14,027	+18	45,077	488	36,810	3/ ^{3/}
Cast iron scrap other than borings-----	49,171	+23	83,122	1,973	70,934	+ 3
Turnings and/or borings, alloy free-----	19,979	-10	46,369	619	65,604	- 7
Rerolling rails-----	6,848	+175	6,920	-	10,521	+84
Scrap rails-----	4,516	+70	4,988	90	16,558	+ 6
Highspeed steel-----	41	+86	230	-	86	+21
Stainless steel-----	4,909	+32	4,854	-	6,220	+ 9
All other alloy iron and steel-----	1,904	+126	5,865	-	1,912	-32
All other prepared scrap-----	17,006	+31	45,899	19,357	55,501	+ 7
Unprepared scrap-----	287,833	+16	136,827	1,918	586,864	+ 1
Total (all grades)-----	593,964	+18	722,253	97,663	1,334,787	3/ ^{3/}

^{1/} Includes shipments from yards, and direct shipments by dealers and brokers from other than yard operations.

^{2/} Less than 1 percent increase.

^{3/} Less than 1 percent decrease.

CONSUMPTION OF FERROUS SCRAP AND PIG IRON

Consumption of scrap in March totaled 6,677,499 gross tons which was at an average daily rate of 215,403 tons or 56 percent greater than for the year 1958.

In March, open-hearth furnaces used 63 percent of the total scrap, and 85 percent of the pig iron, the same percentages as during February; electric furnaces in March used 7 percent of the combined total of ferrous scrap and pig iron charged to all furnaces, with open-hearth using 74 percent. During 1958, these percentages were 7 and 73, respectively. Blast furnaces used 5 percent of the total scrap; the corresponding percentage for the year 1958 was 5.

During March, steelmaking furnaces (open-hearth, Bessemer, basic oxygen process, and electric) accounted for 79 percent of the total scrap, and 90 percent of the pig iron consumed, compared with 78 and 90 percent, respectively, during February. In 1958, steelmaking furnaces used 76 percent of the total scrap, and 90 percent of the pig iron. The remainder was used in iron-making furnaces, principally the cupola. Consumption by type of furnace during March is shown in the following tables:

Table 6 - Consumption of ferrous scrap and pig iron by manufacturers of ingots, steel castings and iron foundries during March 1959, by type of furnace, in gross tons

Type of furnace or equipment	Steel ingots and castings ^{1/}		Steel castings ^{2/}		Iron foundries and miscellaneous users		Total	
	Scrap	Pig iron	Scrap	Pig iron	Scrap	Pig iron	Scrap	Pig iron
Open-hearth-----	4,165,369	5,740,954	48,153	6,350	-	-	4,213,522	5,747,304
Basic oxygen process-----	55,852	177,467	-	-	-	-	55,852	177,467
Bessemer-----	22,955	176,928	819	51	166	32	23,940	177,011
Electric ^{3/} -----	818,825	38,028	132,659	2,696	13,564	1,740	965,048	42,464
Total steelmaking furnaces-----	5,063,001	6,133,377	181,631	9,097	13,730	1,772	5,258,362	6,144,246
Cupola-----	65,829	45,776	38,857	1,705	769,296	306,504	873,982	353,985
Air-----	3,137	1,091	27,046	4,497	71,803	15,037	101,986	20,625
Blast ^{4/} -----	356,420	-	-	-	-	-	356,420	-
Direct casting-----	-	159,905	-	-	-	119,292	-	279,197
Ferro-alloy-----	-	-	-	-	24,743	-	24,743	-
Miscellaneous-----	16,408	-	-	-	45,598	-	62,006	-
Total March 1959-----	5,504,795	6,340,149	247,534	15,299	925,170	442,605	6,677,499	6,798,053
Total February 1959-----	4,611,586	5,216,578	210,810	12,947	835,477	398,428	5,657,873	5,627,953
Total January 1959-----	4,351,939	5,208,421	201,285	11,981	821,818	389,107	5,375,042	5,609,509
Total December 1958-----	3,984,747	4,938,658	196,342	11,982	792,581	369,351	4,973,670	5,319,991
Total November 1958-----	3,900,102	4,840,092	166,587	10,468	736,926	339,558	4,803,615	5,190,118
Total October 1958-----	4,128,320	4,874,025	194,761	11,961	768,126	353,596	5,091,207	5,239,582

^{1/} Includes only those castings made by companies producing steel ingots.

^{2/} Excludes companies that produce both steel castings and steel ingots.

^{3/} Includes crucible furnaces.

^{4/} Includes consumption in all blast furnaces producing pig iron.

FOREIGN TRADE 1/

According to the Bureau of the Census, exports of ferrous scrap totaled 254,356 gross tons in March and 239,284 tons in February. During April 1959, the Office of Export Supply, United States Department of Commerce, issued scrap export licenses for 408,463 gross tons. Exports of pig iron during March totaled 92 tons and 146 tons in February. Imports of scrap totaled 21,141 gross tons in March compared with 17,903 tons in February. Imports of pig iron totaled 7,542 gross tons in March and 4,924 tons in February. In addition to the foregoing imports of pig iron during March there was 523 tons of sponge iron, valued at \$76,737, imported, of which 129 tons came from Canada and 394 tons from Sweden.

Table 9 - Imports 2/ of ferrous scrap into the United States,
by countries
(U. S. Department of Commerce)

Country	March 1959		Jan. through Mar. 1959	
	Gross tons	Value	Gross tons	Value
Canada and Newfoundland-----	15,458	\$622,190	42,434	\$1,686,528
Cuba-----	464	7,228	705	12,072
France-----	-	-	88	20,425
Japan-----	6	3,086	65	24,336
United Kingdom-----	18	9,328	2,321	81,703
West Germany-----	692	126,137	3,271	199,919
All others-----	4,503	288,993	5,220	350,462
Total-----	21,141	\$1,056,962	54,104	\$2,375,445

Table 10 - Exports 2/ of ferrous scrap from the United States, by countries
(U. S. Department of Commerce)

	March 1959		Jan. through Mar. 1959	
	Gross tons	Value	Gross tons	Value
Argentina-----	123	\$12,303	488	\$38,329
Canada-----	35,855	1,529,062	74,830	3,135,597
Greece-----	204	31,090	638	94,338
Italy-----	9,080	325,072	21,758	731,344
Japan-----	173,083	6,065,926	487,470	17,079,578
Mexico-----	25,746	1,009,794	75,780	2,853,202
Netherlands-----	-	-	380	5,966
Spain-----	9,112	387,840	15,249	587,455
Taiwan-----	-	-	9,449	374,250
All others-----	1,153	66,979	4,862	295,359
Total-----	254,356	\$9,428,066	690,904	\$25,195,418

Table 11 - Exports 2/ of ferrous scrap from the United States, by grades
(U. S. Department of Commerce)

	March 1959		Jan. through Mar. 1959	
	Gross tons	Value	Gross tons	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap-----	93,511	\$3,686,077	253,053	\$9,764,179
No. 2 heavy melting steel scrap-----	75,245	2,734,556	209,630	7,474,900
No. 1 baled sheet melting scrap-----	13,306	558,487	25,950	1,085,489
No. 2 baled sheet melting scrap-----	38,898	1,009,955	109,828	2,800,972
Borings, shoveling, and turnings-----	7,187	176,280	15,822	399,734
Iron scrap-----	19,538	856,416	59,062	2,522,452
Rerolling material-----	153	10,725	1,483	126,428
All other scrap 3/-----	6,518	395,570	16,076	1,021,264
Total-----	254,356	\$9,428,066	690,904	\$25,195,418

- 1/ To conform with other data in this report foreign trade data include tin plate scrap.
2/ Preliminary data subject to revision. Value may differ widely because of variations in quality, classes, and grade combinations.
3/ Includes terne plate, tin plate, circles, cobbles, strip, and scroll shear butts.