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MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240



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Iron and Steel Scrap, Monthly

IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN MARCH 1973

Returns from 86 percent of reporting consumers indicate consumption of iron and steel scrap in March was 12 percent above that in February according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Compared to February, home scrap production was up 13 percent, net receipts up 15 percent, and stocks up 1 percent.

Exports of ferrous scrap during the month were 34 percent above those exported in February and 88 percent above those in March 1972. Total exports for the year through March were 93 percent above 1972 exports for the comparable period. Japan continued as the largest importer of U.S. scrap taking 56 percent of the total exported. Next largest exports were to Spain and Mexico which received 9 percent and 8 percent, respectively.

The Iron Age composite price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap (Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia) at the end of March was \$46.83, up \$12.00 from the March 1972 price of \$34.83. The end of March No. 2 bundle price of \$34.67 was \$10.17 above its \$24.50 price 1 year earlier.

Both pig iron production and consumption during the month were up 10 percent from those of the previous month according to the same reports from consumers. Stocks declined about 6 percent during March.

Prepared in the Division of Ferrous Metals, May 14, 1973.

TABLE 1. - U.S. receipts, production, consumption, shipments, and stocks of iron and steel scrap and pig iron, by type of manufacturer (Short tons)

	March 1973 ^{1/}					Total for month of February 1973 ^{4/}	Total year through March 1973 ^{5/}
	Mfgs. of steel ingots and castings ^{2/}	Mfgs. of steel castings ^{3/}	Iron foundries and miscellaneous users	Total for month of March 1973			
SCRAP:							
Receipts-----	3,105,616	182,207	1,073,569	4,361,392	3,822,555	12,191,020	
Production-----	4,398,901	74,066	558,575	5,031,542	4,465,337	14,229,162	
Consumption by grades:							
Carbon steel-							
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	47,777	68,118	104,960	220,855	199,132	637,454	
Cut structural and plate-----	54,877	17,599	98,759	171,235	168,199	503,448	
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	2,627,856	15,805	47,391	2,691,052	2,424,973	7,669,190	
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	322,022	600	28,899	351,521	322,781	1,016,259	
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	663,544	7,047	40,585	711,176	616,172	1,986,013	
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	254,592	2,027	55,519	312,138	278,670	908,076	
Turnings and borings-----	191,050	6,597	63,626	261,273	225,451	706,330	
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	289,276	467	1,614	291,357	236,793	782,149	
Shredded or fragmented-----	131,143	7,240	46,202	184,585	152,247	498,251	
All other carbon steel scrap-----	1,516,647	75,057	197,876	1,789,580	1,532,103	4,979,668	
Stainless steel-----	88,371	1,966	4,020	94,357	84,069	261,576	
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	209,838	11,343	10,791	231,972	200,061	641,676	
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	523,634	25,178	801,589	1,350,401	1,300,563	4,052,717	
Other grades of scrap-----	79,244	7,985	49,412	136,641	123,265	407,850	
Consumption Total-----	6,999,871	247,029	1,551,243	8,798,143	7,866,479	25,050,657	
Shipments-----	510,576	9,484	23,159	543,219	495,015	1,582,957	
Stocks end of month-----	6,939,447	227,376	813,858	7,980,681	7,918,050	---	
PIG IRON:							
Receipts-----	359,376	5,523	266,838	631,737	585,351	1,848,503	
Production-----	8,486,000	---	---	8,486,000	7,691,198	24,355,959	
Consumption-----	8,315,134	4,938	269,040	8,589,112	7,777,733	24,600,700	
Shipments-----	617,338	50	9,704	627,092	602,945	1,822,733	
Stocks end of month-----	1,211,643	7,915	225,990	1,445,548	1,542,166	---	

^{1/} Based on 86 percent return of reporting consumers.

^{2/} Includes only those manufacturers of steel castings that also produce ingots.

^{3/} Excludes companies that produce both steel ingots and castings.

^{4/} Based on 96 percent return from reporting consumers.

^{5/} Cumulative totals may not agree with sum of monthly reports because of addition of reports from late respondents.

TABLE 2. - Manufacturers of steel ingots and castings 1/ - receipts, production, consumption, and shipments of iron and steel scrap, by grades, March 1973 2/ (Short tons)

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings----	44,412	1,030	47,777	176	42,555
Cut structural and plate-----	53,116	639	54,877	340	34,301
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	895,725	1,931,779	2,627,856	217,120	2,512,721
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	222,305	123,167	322,022	5,223	352,490
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	597,107	73,657	663,544	3,909	849,811
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	240,051	43,372	254,592	6,262	370,243
Turnings and borings-----	167,721	45,826	191,050	7,752	196,522
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	129,341	177,821	289,276	19,046	147,985
Shredded or fragmented-----	134,063	--	131,143	-63	55,846
All other carbon steel scrap-----	302,616	1,285,338	1,516,647	110,666	962,894
Stainless steel-----	35,691	57,909	88,371	5,406	104,738
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	40,411	178,220	209,838	9,605	217,269
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	195,979	443,106	523,634	119,112	1,058,605
Other grades of scrap-----	47,078	37,037	79,244	6,022	33,467
Total scrap-----	3,105,616	4,398,901	6,999,871	510,576	6,939,447
PIG IRON-----	359,376	8,486,000	8,315,134	617,338	1,211,643

1/ Includes only those manufacturers of steel castings that also produce ingots.

2/ Based on 91 percent return from reporting consumers.

TABLE 3. - Manufacturers of steel castings 1/ - receipts, production, consumption, and shipments of iron and steel scrap, by grades, March 1973 2/ (Short tons)

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	57,982	16,568	68,118	261	57,283
Cut structural and plate-----	16,494	1,499	17,599	746	7,752
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	10,718	5,947	15,805	956	18,339
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	611	--	600	--	22
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	6,207	--	7,047	--	3,910
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	1,606	--	2,027	--	710
Turnings and borings-----	6,509	588	6,597	318	5,564
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	48	419	467	--	32
Shredded or fragmented-----	5,880	--	7,240	--	1,278
All other carbon steel scrap-----	49,164	26,606	75,057	5,173	67,847
Stainless steel-----	1,293	1,109	1,966	402	1,991
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	5,811	6,292	11,343	1,070	18,914
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	16,883	10,034	25,178	299	38,031
Other grades of scrap-----	3,001	5,004	7,985	259	5,703
Total scrap-----	182,207	74,066	247,029	9,484	227,376
PIG IRON -----	5,523	--	4,938	50	7,915

1/ Excludes companies that produce both steel ingots and castings.

2/ Based on 85 percent return from reporting consumers.

TABLE 4. - Iron foundries and miscellaneous users - receipts, production, consumption, and shipments of iron and steel scrap, by grades, March 1973 ^{1/}
(Short tons)

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	108,727	5,219	104,960	829	47,868
Cut structural and plate-----	84,205	15,721	98,759	697	58,574
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	45,070	7,462	47,391	2,155	14,218
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	23,358	348	28,899	204	9,470
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	43,181	15	40,585	--	23,356
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	56,849	1,991	55,519	--	39,728
Turnings and borings-----	57,109	4,182	63,626	4,204	52,696
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	1,124	698	1,614	67	173
Shredded or fragmented-----	46,524	--	46,202	--	27,915
All other carbon steel scrap-----	180,726	14,149	197,876	2,166	138,917
Stainless steel-----	538	45	4,020	11	761
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	10,619	317	10,791	48	19,009
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	383,943	487,436	801,589	9,412	352,671
Other grades of scrap-----	31,596	20,992	49,412	3,366	28,502
Total scrap-----	1,073,569	558,575	1,551,243	23,159	813,858
PIG IRON-----	266,838	--	269,040	9,704	225,990

^{1/} Based on 85 percent return from reporting consumers.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports of iron and steel scrap totaled 1,059,409 short tons in March compared with 787,718 tons in February. Exports of pig iron during March totaled 940 tons and 547 tons in February. Imports of scrap totaled 26,232 short tons in March, compared with 19,609 tons in February. Of the scrap imported during March, 23,986 short tons came from Canada and 2,246 tons from other sources. Imports of pig iron totaled 9,052 short tons in March and 4,480 tons in February. In addition to the foregoing imports of pig iron during March, there were 1,467 tons of sponge iron, valued at \$197,880 imported, all of which came from Canada.

TABLE 5. - U.S. exports of iron and steel scrap ^{1/}, by countries

Country	March 1973		Year to date	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
Argentina-----	23,911	\$1,044,462	63,558	\$2,633,698
Canada-----	57,260	1,897,226	161,279	5,337,073
China, People's Rep. of--	--	--	33,564	1,461,107
Greece-----	26,880	1,218,000	48,514	2,118,149
Italy-----	16,641	1,360,072	65,769	3,780,373
Japan-----	590,604	25,751,933	1,493,657	60,551,086
Korea-----	72,494	3,762,853	164,258	7,470,748
Mexico-----	89,409	4,836,665	243,967	12,405,412
Spain-----	93,946	4,523,440	174,747	7,387,560
Taiwan-----	73,089	3,640,342	170,917	8,442,048
Venezuela-----	--	--	15,412	584,485
Other Countries-----	15,175	1,033,778	67,528	3,974,338
Total-----	1,059,409	49,068,771	2,703,170	116,146,077

^{1/} Excludes ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping) which was included in 1965-1970 figures.

TABLE 6. - U.S. exports of iron and steel scrap, by grades

Grades of scrap	March 1973		Year to date	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap-----	426,075	\$20,428,073	976,149	\$43,963,202
No. 2 heavy melting steel scrap-----	122,188	5,366,883	291,333	11,695,143
No. 1 bundles-----	6,463	346,302	25,955	1,166,184
No. 2 bundles-----	131,994	5,254,650	372,244	12,194,089
Borings, shovelings and turnings-----	43,183	1,220,380	105,319	2,961,812
Stainless steel-----	4,352	1,450,984	11,067	3,544,793
Shredded steel scrap-----	160,677	7,666,370	519,970	24,012,390
Iron scrap (excluding borings and shovelings)-	69,682	2,913,568	132,414	5,540,750
All other steel scrap ^{1/} -----	94,795	4,421,561	268,719	11,067,714
Total-----	1,059,409	49,068,771	2,703,170	116,146,077
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)-----	17,924	588,070	33,556	1,379,277
Total-----	1,077,333	49,656,841	2,736,726	117,525,354

^{1/} Includes tinplate and terneplate.