



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
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Iron and Steel Scrap, Monthly

IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN APRIL 1973

Returns from 91 percent of reporting consumers indicate consumption of iron and steel scrap in April was about 1 percent below that in March, according to the Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior. Compared to March, net receipts were down 5 percent and stocks down somewhat less than 2 percent.

Exports of ferrous scrap during the month were 29 percent below those exported in March but 67 percent above those in April 1972. Total exports for the year through April were 87 percent above 1972 exports for the comparable period. Japan continued as the largest importer of U.S. scrap, taking nearly 50 percent of the total exported. Next largest exports were to Canada and Mexico which received 17 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

The Iron Age composite price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap (Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia) at the end of April was \$47.17, up \$11.67 from the April 1972 price of \$35.50. The end of April No. 2 bundle price of \$34.83 was \$9.66 above its \$25.17 price 1 year earlier.

Pig iron production and consumption during the month were both between 2 and 3 percent below comparable figures for the previous month according to reports from consumers. Stocks declined about 2 percent during April.

After a series of discussions between Department of Commerce officials, scrap consumers, and scrap processors, the Department revised Export Control regulations on ferrous scrap so as "to require each U.S. exporter to report, no later than June 1, 1973, all unfilled or partially filled orders for export of 500 short tons or more of ferrous scrap accepted as of May 22, 1973." The revised regulations further require weekly reports of exports of 500 short tons or more of scrap. Details of the required reporting regulations are described in the May 22, 1973, Federal Register, V. 38, No. 98.

The Committee on Ways and Means on June 5 "ordered reported favorably to the House (of Representatives) H.R. 2324, to continue until the close of June 30, 1975, the existing suspension of duties for metal scrap."

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

	April 1973 ^{1/}				Total for month of March 1973 ^{4/}	Total year through April 1973 ^{5/}
	Mfrs. of steel ingots and castings ^{2/}	Mfrs. of steel castings ^{3/}	Iron foundries and miscellaneous users	Total for month of April 1973		
SCRAP:						
Receipts-----	3,022,542	173,091	1,025,045	4,220,678	4,457,517	16,494,785
Production-----	4,442,704	68,125	502,585	5,013,414	5,071,162	19,404,503
Consumption by grades:						
Carbon steel-						
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	39,511	62,431	105,568	207,510	223,620	847,388
Cut structural and plate-----	63,314	16,338	96,388	176,040	171,898	679,940
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	2,722,716	19,541	41,848	2,784,105	2,729,701	10,487,857
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	329,843	595	25,436	355,874	362,037	1,382,653
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	646,397	6,689	36,190	689,276	721,296	2,681,521
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	274,545	1,185	52,161	327,891	316,503	1,240,332
Turnings and bittings-----	184,607	7,319	57,605	249,531	264,067	958,540
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	293,168	435	1,687	295,290	286,110	1,072,192
Shredded or fragmented-----	135,224	6,189	47,569	188,982	191,602	691,890
All other carbon steel scrap-----	1,520,629	68,669	175,974	1,765,272	1,818,455	6,774,146
Stainless steel-----	86,644	5,234	606	92,484	95,981	355,519
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	193,640	12,168	9,545	215,353	234,369	861,126
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	516,940	23,727	815,847	1,356,514	1,356,244	5,413,416
Other grades of scrap-----	89,207	7,660	45,748	142,615	143,455	556,920
Consumption Total-----	7,096,385	238,180	1,512,172	8,846,737	8,915,338	34,003,440
Shipments-----	497,974	3,958	28,772	530,704	558,874	2,253,108
Stocks end of month-----	6,812,164	219,934	807,242	7,839,340	7,972,556	--
PIG IRON:						
Receipts-----	387,203	4,927	265,855	657,985	655,653	2,535,665
Production-----	8,442,820	--	--	8,442,820	8,639,061	32,951,840
Consumption-----	8,260,382	4,930	263,341	8,528,653	8,761,506	33,301,372
Shipments-----	590,594	70	9,771	600,435	633,908	2,429,983
Stocks end of month-----	1,192,413	7,862	226,148	1,426,423	1,449,828	--

^{1/} Based on 91 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 98 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, April 1973 2/ (Short tons)

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings----	40,734	776	39,511	163	45,310
Cut structural and plate-----	60,426	357	63,314	--	31,708
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	780,161	1,988,588	2,722,716	206,758	2,373,667
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	207,496	122,440	329,843	10,500	342,107
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	554,735	67,696	646,397	4,599	824,009
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	222,038	48,616	274,545	6,060	363,414
Turnings and borings-----	173,294	21,690	184,607	19,880	183,655
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	135,300	182,971	293,168	16,523	162,332
Shredded or fragmented-----	135,342	--	135,224	919	54,519
All other carbon steel scrap-----	323,022	1,337,237	1,520,629	101,171	969,549
Stainless steel-----	32,757	54,322	86,644	4,208	99,291
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	38,443	156,740	193,640	4,409	213,869
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	240,507	436,057	516,940	117,790	1,106,623
Other grades of scrap-----	78,287	25,214	89,207	4,994	42,111
Total scrap-----	3,022,542	4,442,704	7,096,385	497,974	6,812,164
PIG IRON-----	387,203	8,442,820	8,260,382	590,594	1,192,413

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

2/ Based on 95 percent return from reporting consumers.

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

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	47,929	14,515	62,431	221	53,651
Cut structural and plate-----	16,296	1,441	16,338	682	8,603
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	13,671	6,506	19,541	--	18,853
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	659	--	595	--	86
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	8,137	--	6,689	--	5,284
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	1,050	--	1,185	--	1,178
Turnings and borings-----	6,546	513	7,319	84	5,269
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	16	419	435	--	32
Shredded or fragmented-----	5,983	--	6,189	--	1,072
All other carbon steel scrap-----	48,608	22,354	68,669	1,504	65,629
Stainless steel-----	1,899	3,387	5,234	123	3,498
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	6,379	5,756	12,168	1,078	15,705
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	12,927	8,382	23,727	187	35,342
Other grades of scrap-----	2,991	4,852	7,660	79	5,732
Total scrap-----	173,091	68,125	238,180	3,958	219,934
PIG IRON-----	4,927	--	4,930	70	7,862

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

2/ Based on 90 percent return from reporting consumers.

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

Item	Receipts	Production	Consumption	Shipments	Ending stocks
SCRAP:					
Carbon steel-					
Low phosphorous plate and punchings-----	92,901	4,348	105,568	214	39,076
Cut structural and plate-----	86,766	8,872	96,388	701	54,717
No. 1 heavy melting steel-----	37,883	6,804	41,848	2,194	15,192
No. 2 heavy melting steel-----	26,822	601	25,436	384	11,073
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles-----	39,592	27	36,190	--	30,611
No. 2 and all other bundles-----	48,207	1,467	52,161	--	37,242
Turnings and borings-----	61,473	4,748	57,605	4,101	59,064
Slag scrap (Fe content)-----	1,210	627	1,687	40	283
Shredded or fragmented-----	48,228	--	47,569	154	28,026
All other carbon steel scrap-----	181,026	12,200	175,974	2,487	150,322
Stainless steel-----	325	17	606	8	502
Alloy steel (except stainless)-----	12,974	293	9,545	108	21,804
Cast iron (includes borings)-----	358,013	442,057	815,847	12,927	331,665
Other grades of scrap-----	29,625	20,524	45,748	5,454	27,665
Total scrap-----	1,025,045	502,585	1,512,172	28,772	807,242
PIG IRON-----	265,855	--	263,341	9,771	226,148

1/ Based on 90 percent return from reporting consumers.

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports of iron and steel scrap totaled 748,633 short tons in April compared with 1,059,409 tons in March. Exports of pig iron during April totaled 1,548 tons and 940 tons in March. Imports of scrap totaled 29,339 short tons in April compared with 26,232 tons in March. Of the scrap imported during April, 27,434 short tons came from Canada and 1,905 tons from other sources. Imports of pig iron totaled 57,442 short tons in April and 9,052 tons in March. In addition to the foregoing imports of pig iron during April there were 1,681 tons of sponge iron, valued at \$255,528 imported, all of which came from Canada.

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

Country	April 1973		Year to date	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
Argentina-----	11,024	\$496,084	74,582	\$3,129,782
Canada-----	128,447	3,999,340	289,726	9,336,413
China, People's Rep. of--	--	--	33,564	1,461,107
Greece-----	--	--	48,514	2,118,149
Italy-----	24,514	1,657,873	90,283	5,438,246
Japan-----	371,928	16,509,379	1,865,585	77,060,465
Korea-----	33,155	1,858,913	197,413	9,329,661
Mexico-----	75,297	3,931,448	319,264	16,336,860
Spain-----	43,982	1,431,335	218,729	8,818,895
Taiwan-----	23,950	1,085,384	194,867	9,527,432
Venezuela-----	1,273	87,147	16,685	671,632
Other Countries-----	35,063	2,592,366	102,591	6,566,704
Total-----	748,633	33,649,269	3,451,803	149,795,346

^{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	April 1973		Year to date	
	Short tons	Value	Short tons	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap-----	225,844	\$11,340,148	1,201,993	\$55,303,350
No. 2 heavy melting steel scrap-----	90,968	3,785,542	382,301	15,480,685
No. 1 bundles-----	24,766	1,088,329	50,721	2,254,513
No. 2 bundles-----	91,031	3,031,036	463,275	15,225,125
Borings, shovelings and turnings-----	78,851	2,315,250	184,170	5,277,062
Stainless steel-----	7,332	2,503,678	18,399	6,048,471
Shredded steel scrap-----	87,047	4,220,385	607,017	28,232,775
Iron scrap (excluding borings and shovelings)-	58,601	2,315,602	191,015	7,856,352
All other steel scrap ^{1/} ----	84,193	3,049,299	352,912	14,117,013
Total-----	748,633	33,649,269	3,451,803	149,795,346
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)-----	18,990	514,425	52,546	1,893,702
Total-----	767,623	34,163,694	3,504,349	151,689,048

^{1/} Includes tinplate and terneplate.