

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN JUNE 2021

In June 2021, purchased steel scrap receipts increased by 12%, recirculating scrap production increased by 4%, and iron and steel scrap consumption increased by 6% compared with those in May. Stocks of purchased and home scrap increased by 5% from those at the end of May. In June, pig iron production increased by 4% and consumption increased by 5% from those in May (table 1, fig. 1). Direct-reduced iron receipts decreased by 19% and consumption increased slightly.

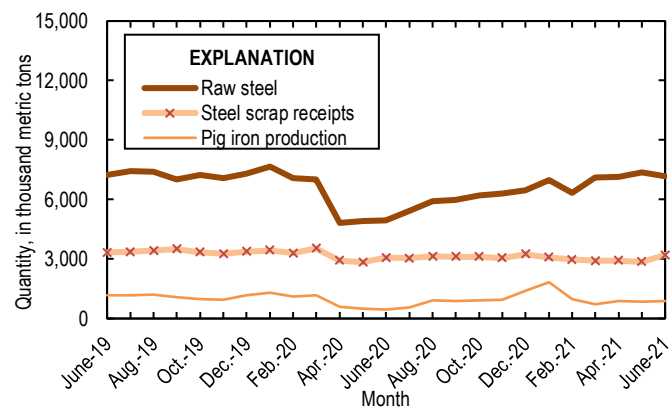


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of raw steel, receipts of iron and steel scrap, and production of pig iron from June 2019 through June 2021. Sources: U.S. Geological Survey and American Iron and Steel Institute.

Exports of iron and steel scrap in June decreased by 21% from those in May (fig. 2). Malaysia was the leading destination for exports, accounting for 16% of the total tonnage, followed by Mexico (14%) and Vietnam (11%) (table 4). New York, NY, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of exports, accounting for 22% of the total, followed by Los Angeles, CA, (16%) and Columbia-Snake, OR (8%) (table 5).

Imports of iron and steel scrap in June decreased by 15% from those in May (fig. 2). Canada was the leading country of origin, accounting for 78% of the total tonnage of imports, followed by Mexico (11%) and the Netherlands (7%) (table 7).

Detroit, MI, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of imports, accounting for 37% of the total, followed by Seattle, WA (20%) (table 8).

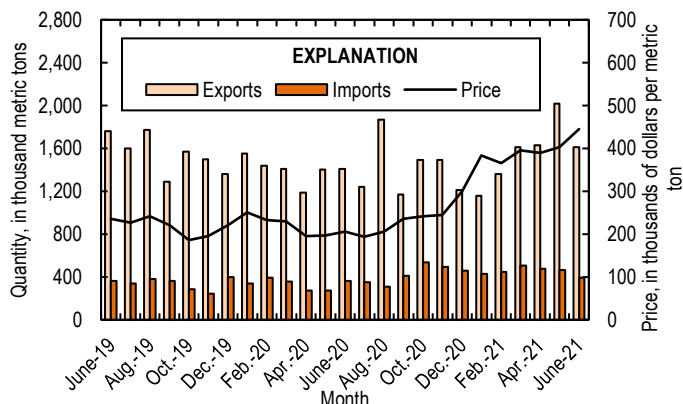


Figure 2. Monthly domestic imports and exports of iron and steel scrap and price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap from June 2019 through June 2021. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Fastmarkets AMM.

The daily average domestic raw steel production for June, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute’s monthly production data, was 239,000 metric tons, essentially unchanged from that in May 2021 and a 45% increase from that in June 2020. Raw steel production capability utilization was 83.0% in June, up from 81.0% in May and 56.8% in June 2020 (table 10). Increases in capability utilization and steel production were attributed to the impacts of COVID-19 on lower rates of iron and steel consumption in mid-2020.

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TABLE 1
IRON AND STEEL SCRAP, PIG IRON, AND DIRECT-REDUCED IRON STATISTICS
FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

	June	January–June ³
Scrap:		
Receipts:		
From outside sources	3,190	17,900
From other own company plants	182	1,130
Production:		
Recirculating scrap	303	1,840
Obsolete scrap	12	63
Consumption (by type of furnace):		
Blast furnace	115	723
Basic oxygen process	292	1,790
Electric furnace	3,040	17,400
Other	102	563
Total consumption	3,550	20,500
Shipments	38	292
Stocks, end of period	3,780	3,780
Pig iron (includes hot metal):		
Receipts	229	1,060
Production	875	5,350
Consumption	1,070	6,320
Stocks, end of period	416	416
Direct-reduced iron: ⁴		
Receipts	205	1,520
Consumption	236	1,400
Stocks, end of period	328	328

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

²Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings. June 2021 data are based on surveys representing 55% of scrap consumption during this month and estimates for nonrespondents of this survey.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Includes direct-reduced iron, hot-briquetted iron, and iron carbide. Domestic production data are included in "Receipts."

TABLE 2
RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, AND STOCKS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP, BY GRADE, FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Item	June				January–June ³		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption ⁴	Ending stocks	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption ⁴
Carbon steel:							
Low-phosphorus plate and punchings	14	W	15	W	83	W	92
Cut structural and plate	266	W	306	283	1,510	205	1,760
No. 1 heavy melting steel	245	36	279	154	1,430	216	1,660
No. 2 heavy melting steel	336	20	380	260	2,000	124	2,270
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles	123	--	121	136	659	--	656
No. 2 and all other bundles	75	W	72	31	419	W	421
Electric furnace 1 foot and under (not bundles)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Railroad rails	18	7	18	96	95	W	97
Turnings and borings	140	W	145	171	881	W	911
Slag scrap	28	21	45	105	190	209	328
Shredded and fragmentized	1,040	--	1,060	1,510	5,570	W	6,010
No. 1 busheling	432	W	419	360	2,130	W	2,210
Steel cans (post consumer)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
All other carbon steel scrap	207	105	324	258	1,200	612	1,890
Stainless steel scrap	54	27	82	38	326	160	494
Alloy steel scrap	24	8	32	55	143	48	193
Ingot mold and stool scrap	W	W	3	2	W	W	19
Machinery and cupola cast iron	2	--	2	W	W	--	W
Cast iron borings	12	W	12	5	70	W	74
Motor blocks	W	--	W	--	W	--	W
Other iron scrap	48	15	62	65	294	68	334
Other mixed scrap	120	W	161	17	800	31	1,000
Total	3,190	303	3,550	3,780	17,900	1,840	20,500

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total." -- Zero.

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

²Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Includes recirculating scrap and home-generated obsolete scrap.

TABLE 3
 RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION, AND CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP,
 BY REGION AND STATE, FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JUNE 2021^{1, 2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and State	June			January–June ³		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption ⁴	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption ⁴
Mid-Atlantic and New England:						
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania	234	40	281	1,410	240	1,690
North Central:						
Illinois and Indiana	383	74	480	2,300	445	2,890
Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin	219	7	233	1,340	50	1,440
Michigan	38	4	44	367	139	413
Ohio	396	76	461	2,250	418	2,620
Total	1,040	159	1,220	6,260	1,050	7,360
South Atlantic:						
Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina	301	W	303	1,670	W	1,780
Virginia, West Virginia	111	W	123	597	W	700
Total	412	17	426	2,270	100	2,480
South Central:						
Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	736	41	765	3,560	190	4,030
Arkansas and Texas	505	31	559	2,620	156	3,040
Total	1,240	72	1,320	6,180	347	7,070
Mountain and Pacific:						
California, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Washington	269	16	300	1,740	100	1,890
Grand total	3,190	303	3,550	17,900	1,840	20,500

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

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

²Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Includes recirculating scrap and home-generated obsolete scrap.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP BY SELECTED REGION AND COUNTRY
OR LOCALITY, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and country or locality	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bangladesh	116	49,000	622	252,000
Belgium	(4)	251	4	2,420
Brazil	1	769	95	36,400
Canada	80	28,200	463	134,000
Cayman Islands	(4)	480	1	1,350
China	44	5,040	83	35,600
Ecuador	--	--	97	41,400
Egypt	67	28,100	358	143,000
Germany	(4)	397	7	4,000
Greece	68	14,200	160	52,100
Guatemala	--	--	13	5,870
Hong Kong	2	2,850	20	23,400
India	48	38,200	332	184,000
Indonesia	1	646	44	18,000
Italy	(4)	44	99	43,300
Japan	2	2,020	10	10,700
Korea, Republic of	43	21,800	264	114,000
Kuwait	--	--	12	4,170
Malaysia	259	52,100	1,000	281,000
Mexico	228	86,500	1,640	533,000
Netherlands	1	579	2	1,750
Oman	4	1,790	4	1,790
Pakistan	51	30,800	311	172,000
Peru	35	17,300	157	72,100
Philippines	2	1,300	22	12,600
Portugal	6	2,300	6	2,300
Russia	(4)	292	2	1,390
Saudi Arabia	79	33,500	124	51,600
Singapore	(4)	125	2	869
Spain	(4)	90	3	1,520
Sweden	(4)	1,050	2	4,660
Switzerland	30	15,700	30	15,700
Taiwan	111	44,400	736	285,000
Thailand	50	27,500	188	115,000
Turkey	94	38,300	1,600	627,000
United Arab Emirates	2	1,020	7	3,940
United Kingdom	(4)	12	1	1,090
Vietnam	181	78,600	860	353,000
Other ⁵	(4)	528	3	3,250
Total	1,610	626,000	9,380	3,650,000

-- Zero.

¹Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

⁵Includes countries with quantities of less than 500 metric tons for the current year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP BY REGION AND
SELECTED CUSTOMS DISTRICT, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and customs district	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Canada–United States border:				
Buffalo, NY	9	5,160	52	25,200
Chicago, IL	1	277	3	1,070
Detroit, MI	30	10,700	151	36,000
Duluth, MN	1	528	29	5,200
Great Falls, MT	2	654	12	4,030
Ogdensburg, NY	3	583	15	2,500
Pembina, ND	19	7,860	129	50,400
Other	8	1,160	63	7,420
Total	74	26,900	453	132,000
East coast:				
Baltimore, MD	46	26,500	266	124,000
Boston, MA	58	25,500	654	269,000
Charleston, SC	12	8,850	75	50,100
Miami, FL	38	20,800	225	104,000
New York City, NY	357	88,200	1,690	566,000
Norfolk, VA	60	32,200	207	121,000
Philadelphia, PA	76	32,100	570	222,000
Portland, ME	3	809	41	15,900
Providence, RI	11	5,280	189	73,300
Savannah, GA	12	8,820	91	58,700
St. Albans, VT	2	494	10	2,080
Wilmington, NC	(4)	119	2	945
Total	672	250,000	4,020	1,610,000
Gulf coast and Mexico–United States border (includes Caribbean territories):				
El Paso, TX	19	8,240	126	50,800
Houston–Galveston, TX	60	33,200	199	114,000
Laredo, TX	103	38,800	816	205,000
Mobile, AL	1	442	5	3,190
New Orleans, LA	1	1,220	82	23,000
Nogales, AZ	(4)	68	1	419
San Juan, PR	12	3,340	88	30,500
Tampa, FL	41	2,780	321	94,800
U.S. Virgin Islands	6	2,300	6	2,300
Total	242	90,400	1,640	524,000
West coast and Hawaii:				
Columbia–Snake, OR	122	56,400	471	206,000
Honolulu, HI, and Anchorage, AK	2	766	67	25,500
Los Angeles, CA	261	115,000	1,300	580,000
San Diego, CA	40	8,570	157	46,200
San Francisco, CA	101	42,600	835	338,000
Seattle, WA	92	35,000	433	187,000
Total	618	259,000	3,260	1,380,000
Grand total	1,610	626,000	9,380	3,650,000

¹Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP AND OTHER
FERROUS PRODUCTS BY GRADE, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	438	200,000	2,660	1,090,000
No. 2 heavy melting steel	53	25,900	352	157,000
No. 1 bundles	7	2,820	161	25,000
No. 2 bundles	4	399	15	1,820
Shredded steel scrap	441	195,000	2,760	1,160,000
Borings, shovelings and turnings	1	230	7	2,260
Cut plate and structural	32	14,900	296	125,000
Tinned iron or steel	13	4,820	55	22,200
Remelting scrap ingots	1	535	18	1,330
Cast iron	349	44,200	1,320	272,000
Other iron and steel	164	74,000	1,150	460,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	1,500	563,000	8,800	3,310,000
Stainless steel	37	28,600	130	137,000
Other alloy steel	67	34,300	454	197,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	103	62,900	584	334,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel and cast iron	1,610	626,000	9,380	3,650,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	--	--	(4)	11
Used rails	(4)	40	1	2,280
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	--	--	(4)	51
Total scrap exports	1,610	626,000	9,380	3,650,000
Exports of manufactured ferrous products,				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	3	2	1,480
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	9	(4)	28
Total pig iron	(4)	12	3	1,510
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	2	181	9	557
Spongy iron products, not DRI	105	52,100	210	95,500
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	3,070	10	16,800
Powders of alloy steel	1	6,170	9	41,100
Other ferrous powders	10	10,300	46	56,500
Total DRI, granules, powders	121	71,800	283	210,000
Grand total	1,730	698,000	9,670	3,860,000

-- Zero.

¹Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP
BY SELECTED COUNTRY OR LOCALITY, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Country or locality	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bahamas	(4)	59	1	130
Belgium	--	--	48	15,100
Canada	307	146,000	1,850	794,000
Cayman Islands	(4)	123	2	533
China	(4)	23	6	1,210
Colombia	(4)	108	2	2,230
Czechia	(4)	11	2	2,650
Dominican Republic	(4)	75	1	712
Ecuador	(4)	166	1	1,090
Estonia	--	--	2	2,080
Germany	13	6,200	50	16,800
India	--	--	1	348
Japan	1	79	21	549
Malaysia	(4)	42	1	204
Mexico	44	26,900	269	149,000
Netherlands	27	13,200	177	79,800
Panama	(4)	16	1	325
Poland	--	--	39	22,200
Russia	(4)	52	1	2,250
Singapore	--	--	3	374
Spain	(4)	10	28	10,800
Sweden	(4)	12	74	35,800
United Kingdom	--	--	139	67,700
Other ⁵	1	484	4	3,100
Total	395	193,000	2,720	1,210,000

-- Zero.

¹Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

⁵Includes countries with quantities of less than 500 metric tons for the current year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP
BY SELECTED CUSTOMS DISTRICT, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Customs district	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Baltimore, MD	--	--	2	1,990
Buffalo, NY	40	23,500	215	125,000
Charleston, SC	40	19,400	230	104,000
Chicago, IL	5	874	15	2,960
Cleveland, OH	(4)	47	13	1,930
Detroit, MI	145	81,500	953	456,000
Duluth, MN	17	7,140	90	35,300
El Paso, TX	5	2,500	24	10,300
Great Falls, MT	2	613	8	2,130
Houston–Galveston, TX	1	512	10	6,700
Laredo, TX	28	18,200	176	103,000
Miami, FL	1	357	6	2,100
Minneapolis, MN	(4)	42	1	191
Mobile, AL	4	3,320	98	63,700
New Orleans, LA	1	130	285	107,000
New York City, NY	(4)	121	1	1,600
Nogales, AZ	3	1,280	14	5,210
Ogdensburg, NY	1	943	9	5,590
Pembina, ND	18	7,860	106	45,900
Portland, ME	--	--	1	557
San Diego, CA	5	1,650	28	8,930
Seattle, WA	80	22,900	430	116,000
St. Albans, VT	1	356	8	2,750
Other	(4)	16	1	751
Total	395	193,000	2,720	1,210,000

-- Zero.

¹Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats and other vessels for scrapping. Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP AND OTHER
FERROUS PRODUCTS BY GRADE, IN JUNE 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	June		January–June ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	20	6,380	104	31,100
No. 2 heavy melting steel	11	4,250	59	19,200
No. 1 bundles	99	54,000	862	409,000
No. 2 bundles	10	4,210	49	18,600
Shredded steel scrap	50	18,600	274	89,500
Borings, shovelings and turnings	6	2,230	49	16,800
Cut plate and structural	13	5,020	123	42,300
Tinned iron or steel	20	8,890	119	50,800
Remelting scrap ingots	--	--	1	607
Cast iron	13	3,770	70	22,300
Other iron and steel	75	28,100	504	170,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	318	136,000	2,210	870,000
Stainless steel	23	32,200	144	186,000
Other alloy steel	53	25,400	364	153,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	77	57,600	508	339,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel and cast iron	395	193,000	2,720	1,210,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	(4)	106	5	740
Used rails	(4)	72	1	195
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	--	--	1	997
Used rails other	(4)	151	1	1,050
Total scrap imports	395	193,000	2,730	1,210,000
Imports of manufactured ferrous products:				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	--	--	(4)	329
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	532	298,000	2,880	1,460,000
Alloy pig iron	(4)	15	(4)	433
Total pig iron	532	299,000	2,880	1,460,000
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	323	127,000	1,790	636,000
Spongy iron products, not DRI	(4)	656	1	2,000
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	2,990	15	18,800
Powders of alloy steel	5	11,000	31	60,600
Other ferrous powders	4	7,740	22	41,900
Total DRI, granules, powders	334	150,000	1,850	759,000
Grand total	1,260	642,000	7,460	3,430,000

-- Zero.

¹Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10
 U.S. RAW STEEL PRODUCTION, RAW STEEL CAPABILITY UTILIZATION,
 AND CONTINUOUS CAST STEEL PRODUCTION¹

Period	Raw steel production, thousand metric tons		Raw steel capability utilization, percent		Continuous cast steel production, percent	
	Monthly	Year to date ²	Monthly	Year to date ²	Monthly	Year to date ²
2020:						
June	4,950	36,400	56.8	67.8	99.7	99.7
July	5,420	41,800	60.3	66.7	99.7	99.7
August	5,930	47,800	65.9	66.6	99.8	99.8
September	5,980	53,700	68.6	66.8	99.8	99.9
October	6,220	60,000	70.1	67.1	99.8	99.8
November	6,300	66,300	73.3	67.7	99.8	99.8
December	6,480	72,700	72.9	68.1	99.8	99.8
2021:						
January	6,970	6,970	76.6	76.6	99.8	99.8
February	6,320	13,300	76.8	76.7	99.8	99.8
March	7,100	20,400	78.0	77.1	99.8	99.8
April	7,130	27,500	80.8	78.0	99.8	99.8
May	7,370	34,900	81.0	78.7	99.8	99.8
June	7,170	42,100	83.0	79.4	99.8	99.8

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

Source: American Iron and Steel Institute.

TABLE 11
COMPOSITE PRICES FOR STEEL SCRAP AND PIG IRON

Period	Steel Scrap ¹		Pig Iron ²	
	\$/lt	\$/t	\$/lt	\$/t
2020:				
June	208.85	205.55	304.40	299.59
July	197.12	194.01	304.40	299.59
August	209.05	205.75	327.75	322.57
September	240.24	236.45	272.50	268.20
October	244.48	240.62	272.50	268.20
November	248.28	244.36	333.35	328.09
December	304.43	299.62	333.35	328.09
Average, January–December	231.28	227.62	313.73	308.78
2021:				
January	390.18	384.02	537.00	528.52
February	371.23	365.37	508.08	500.06
March	401.96	395.61	423.17	416.49
April	394.84	388.60	479.13	471.56
May	410.08	403.60	568.14	559.17
June	452.46	445.31	568.14	559.17

¹Prices are for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap. Source: Fastmarkets AMM.

²Prices are Brazilian basic pig iron, free on board, New Orleans, LA. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Note: Long tons = lt; metric tons = t.