

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN JULY 2021

In July 2021, purchased steel scrap receipts decreased by 4%, recirculating scrap production was nearly unchanged, and iron and steel scrap consumption decreased slightly compared with those in June. Stocks of purchased and home scrap increased slightly from those at the end of June. In July, pig iron production and consumption increased slightly from those in June (table 1, fig. 1). Direct-reduced iron receipts decreased by 7% and consumption decreased by 9%.

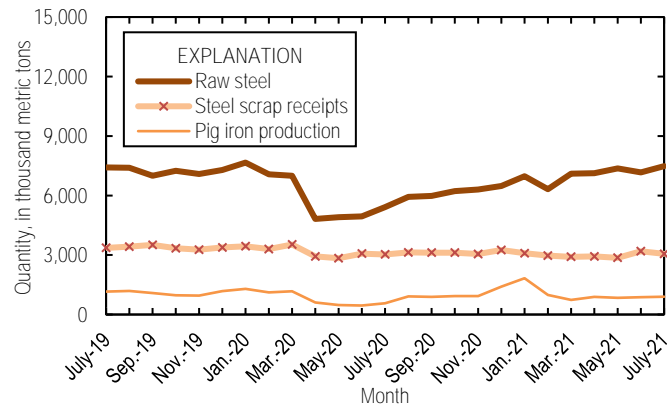


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of raw steel, receipts of iron and steel scrap, and production of pig iron from July 2019 through July 2021. Sources: U.S. Geological Survey and American Iron and Steel Institute.

Exports of iron and steel scrap in July decreased by 13% from those in June (fig. 2). Mexico was the leading destination for exports, accounting for 21% of the total tonnage, followed by Turkey (19%) and Malaysia (10%) (table 4). New York, NY, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of exports, accounting for 20% of the total, followed by Los Angeles, CA, (12%) and San Francisco (9%) (table 5).

Imports of iron and steel scrap in July increased by 42% from those in June (fig. 2). Canada was the leading country of origin, accounting for 56% of the total tonnage of imports, followed by the United Kingdom (18%) and the Mexico (9%) (table 7).

Detroit, MI, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of imports, accounting for 31% of the total, followed by New Orleans, LA, (22%) and Charleston, SC, (13%) (table 8).

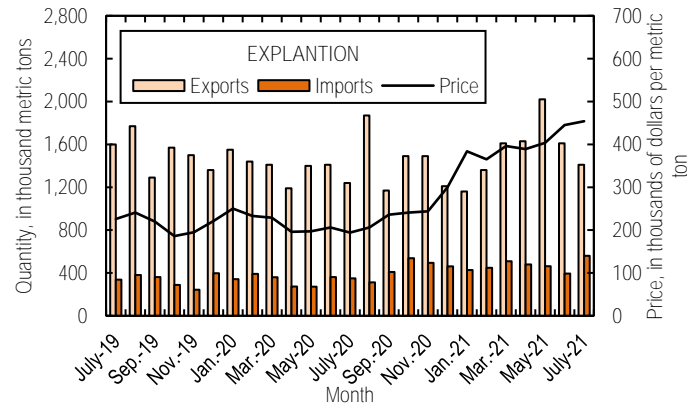


Figure 2. Monthly domestic imports and exports of iron and steel scrap and price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap from July 2019 through July 2021. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Fastmarkets AMM.

The daily average domestic raw steel production for July, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute’s monthly production data, was 241,000 metric tons, essentially unchanged from that in June 2021 and a 38% increase from that in July 2020. Raw steel production capability utilization was 84.4% in July, up from 83.0% in June and 60.3% in July 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

	July	January–July ³
Scrap:		
Receipts:		
From outside sources	3,060	20,900
From other own company plants	221	1,360
Production:		
Recirculating scrap	305	2,140
Obsolete scrap	12	75
Consumption (by type of furnace):		
Blast furnace	122	845
Basic oxygen process	312	2,100
Electric furnace	2,940	20,300
Other	89	651
Total consumption	3,470	23,900
Shipments	34	326
Stocks, end of period	3,870	3,870
Pig iron (includes hot metal):		
Receipts	253	1,310
Production	898	6,250
Consumption	1,080	7,400
Stocks, end of period	486	486
Direct-reduced iron: ⁴		
Receipts	191	1,710
Consumption	214	1,610
Stocks, end of period	306	306

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. July 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Item	July				January–July 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	97	W	107
Cut structural and plate	267	W	300	289	1,780	238	2,060
No. 1 heavy melting steel	231	43	283	158	1,660	259	1,940
No. 2 heavy melting steel	333	20	376	262	2,340	145	2,640
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles	111	--	114	135	771	--	770
No. 2 and all other bundles	64	W	68	35	482	W	488
Electric furnace 1 foot and under (not bundles)	3	W	W	W	W	W	W
Railroad rails	17	7	18	95	112	W	115
Turnings and borings	140	W	147	197	1,020	W	1,060
Slag scrap	26	22	52	77	216	231	380
Shredded and fragmentized	985	W	1,030	1,560	6,550	W	7,040
No. 1 busheling	380	--	386	380	2,510	W	2,590
Steel cans (post consumer)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
All other carbon steel scrap	214	105	332	264	1,410	717	2,220
Stainless steel scrap	54	27	82	38	381	187	576
Alloy steel scrap	24	8	32	55	167	56	225
Ingot mold and stool scrap	W	W	3	2	W	W	22
Machinery and cupola cast iron	2	--	2	W	W	--	W
Cast iron borings	12	W	12	5	82	W	86
Motor blocks	W	--	W	--	W	--	W
Other iron scrap	26	17	61	71	350	85	396
Other mixed scrap	118	W	137	13	918	30	1,120
Total	3,060	305	3,470	3,870	20,900	2,140	23,900

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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and State	July			January–July 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	251	40	299	1,660	280	1,990
North Central:						
Illinois and Indiana	393	74	497	2,690	519	3,390
Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin	172	5	181	1,510	52	1,620
Michigan	38	4	44	405	144	457
Ohio	371	86	482	2,620	504	3,100
Total	974	167	1,210	7,230	1,220	8,570
South Atlantic:						
Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina	289	W	299	1,960	W	2,080
Virginia, West Virginia	105	W	136	703	W	836
Total	394	13	435	2,660	113	2,910
South Central:						
Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	656	41	699	4,210	231	4,730
Arkansas and Texas	501	29	539	3,120	185	3,580
Total	1,160	70	1,240	7,330	416	8,310
Mountain and Pacific:						
California, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Washington	284	15	290	2,020	115	2,150
Grand total	3,060	305	3,470	20,900	2,140	23,900

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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and country or locality	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bangladesh	40	18,100	662	270,000
Belgium	1	585	4	3,000
Brazil	2	1,010	97	37,400
Canada	69	22,000	532	156,000
Cayman Islands	(4)	343	1	1,690
China	4	2,990	87	38,600
Ecuador	28	13,800	124	55,100
Egypt	39	18,000	397	161,000
Germany	(4)	192	8	4,190
Greece	(4)	40	160	52,200
Hong Kong	2	3,010	23	26,400
India	42	36,300	373	220,000
Indonesia	2	919	46	18,900
Italy	67	30,400	166	73,600
Japan	4	2,650	13	13,300
Korea, Republic of	74	35,700	338	150,000
Kuwait	--	--	12	4,170
Malaysia	143	47,500	1,140	329,000
Mexico	291	137,000	1,930	669,000
Netherlands	2	1,860	4	3,600
Oman	--	--	4	1,790
Pakistan	55	33,200	366	205,000
Peru	--	--	157	72,100
Philippines	3	1,930	25	14,500
Portugal	--	--	6	2,300
Russia	(4)	272	2	1,670
Saudi Arabia	--	--	124	51,600
Singapore	(4)	4	2	873
Spain	(4)	112	3	1,640
Sweden	(4)	645	2	5,300
Switzerland	17	8,220	47	23,900
Taiwan	101	44,100	836	329,000
Thailand	17	14,800	205	130,000
Turkey	266	123,000	1,860	750,000
United Arab Emirates	2	642	9	4,580
United Kingdom	(4)	5	1	1,090
Vietnam	131	56,600	992	409,000
Other ⁵	(4)	307	17	9,430
Total	1,400	655,000	10,800	4,300,000

-- Zero.

¹Includes tinsplate 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and customs district	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Canada–United States border:				
Buffalo, NY	11	5,470	63	30,600
Chicago, IL	(4)	68	3	1,140
Detroit, MI	18	5,050	169	41,100
Duluth, MN	1	681	30	5,880
Great Falls, MT	1	279	12	4,310
Ogdensburg, NY	3	558	17	3,060
Pembina, ND	17	7,210	147	57,600
Other	10	1,080	73	8,490
Total	61	20,400	515	152,000
East coast:				
Baltimore, MD	68	36,000	334	160,000
Boston, MA	81	38,200	735	307,000
Charleston, SC	12	9,950	87	60,000
Miami, FL	27	14,100	253	119,000
New York City, NY	280	125,000	1,970	691,000
Norfolk, VA	19	16,700	227	138,000
Philadelphia, PA	74	36,000	644	258,000
Portland, ME	4	1,370	45	17,300
Providence, RI	47	20,200	236	93,500
Savannah, GA	15	11,600	106	70,300
St. Albans, VT	2	490	12	2,570
Wilmington, NC	(4)	175	2	1,120
Total	631	310,000	4,650	1,920,000
Gulf coast and Mexico–United States border (includes Caribbean territories):				
El Paso, TX	19	9,020	145	59,800
Houston–Galveston, TX	15	12,400	214	127,000
Laredo, TX	93	42,000	909	247,000
Mobile, AL	1	750	6	3,940
New Orleans, LA	16	1,530	98	24,500
Nogales, AZ	(4)	56	1	474
San Juan, PR	16	6,350	104	36,800
Tampa, FL	55	28,000	375	123,000
U.S. Virgin Islands	--	--	6	2,300
Total	214	100,000	1,860	624,000
West coast and Hawaii:				
Columbia–Snake, OR	101	47,600	572	253,000
Honolulu, HI, and Anchorage, AK	2	1,060	70	26,500
Los Angeles, CA	173	78,700	1,470	659,000
San Diego, CA	21	8,010	178	54,200
San Francisco, CA	132	61,400	967	399,000
Seattle, WA	67	28,500	500	216,000
Total	497	225,000	3,760	1,610,000
Grand total	1,400	655,000	10,800	4,300,000

-- 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	419	197,000	3,080	1,290,000
No. 2 heavy melting steel	61	29,100	413	186,000
No. 1 bundles	10	3,840	171	28,900
No. 2 bundles	1	242	16	2,060
Shredded steel scrap	468	224,000	3,230	1,380,000
Borings, shovelings and turnings	4	1,350	11	3,610
Cut plate and structural	53	25,600	349	150,000
Tinned iron or steel	12	4,000	67	26,200
Remelting scrap ingots	(4)	191	18	1,530
Cast iron	146	43,300	1,460	315,000
Other iron and steel	158	68,400	1,310	528,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	1,330	597,000	10,100	3,910,000
Stainless steel	24	29,900	154	167,000
Other alloy steel	45	28,600	499	226,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	70	58,500	653	392,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel and cast iron	1,400	655,000	10,800	4,300,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	--	--	(4)	11
Used rails	--	16	(4)	67
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	(4)	133	1	2,420
Total scrap exports	1,400	656,000	10,800	4,300,000
Exports of manufactured ferrous products,				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	42	2	1,520
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	5	(4)	33
Alloy pig iron	(4)	6	(4)	6
Total pig iron	(4)	52	3	1,560
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	1	114	10	671
Spongy iron products, not DRI	33	18,400	243	114,000
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	2,910	11	19,700
Powders of alloy steel	1	5,970	10	47,000
Other ferrous powders	7	8,950	53	65,500
Total DRI, granules, powders	44	36,300	327	247,000
Grand total	1,450	692,000	11,100	4,550,000

-- 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Country or locality	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bahamas	(4)	47	1	177
Belgium	--	--	48	15,100
Canada	311	158,000	2,160	952,000
Cayman Islands	(4)	143	2	677
China	(4)	47	6	1,250
Colombia	(4)	43	2	2,270
Czechia	(4)	6	2	2,650
Dominican Republic	(4)	35	1	747
Ecuador	(4)	137	1	1,230
Egypt	(4)	153	1	567
Estonia	--	--	2	2,080
Germany	11	5,410	61	22,200
India	(4)	227	1	576
Japan	3	98	24	648
Malaysia	--	--	1	204
Mexico	51	30,700	320	180,000
Netherlands	38	20,200	215	100,000
New Zealand	30	16,900	30	16,900
Panama	(4)	17	1	342
Poland	13	6,360	52	28,500
Russia	--	--	1	2,250
Singapore	--	--	3	374
Spain	--	--	28	10,800
Sweden	--	--	74	35,800
United Kingdom	100	52,900	239	121,000
Other ⁵	1	401	4	3,090
Total	560	292,000	3,280	1,500,000

-- 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Customs district	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Baltimore, MD	--	--	2	1,990
Buffalo, NY	27	19,700	242	145,000
Charleston, SC	74	39,100	304	144,000
Chicago, IL	6	1,550	21	4,510
Cleveland, OH	(4)	40	13	1,970
Detroit, MI	173	99,500	1,130	555,000
Duluth, MN	12	5,580	102	40,900
El Paso, TX	5	2,720	29	13,000
Great Falls, MT	1	464	9	2,590
Houston–Galveston, TX	(4)	514	10	7,220
Laredo, TX	35	22,100	210	125,000
Miami, FL	1	337	7	2,440
Minneapolis, MN	--	--	1	191
Mobile, AL	4	3,380	102	67,100
New Orleans, LA	122	62,800	407	170,000
New York City, NY	(4)	16	1	1,620
Nogales, AZ	1	666	15	5,880
Ogdensburg, NY	1	1,120	10	6,700
Pembina, ND	21	10,000	127	55,900
Portland, ME	(4)	110	1	667
San Diego, CA	6	1,770	34	10,700
Seattle, WA	69	19,300	499	135,000
St. Albans, VT	2	744	10	3,490
Other	(4)	231	1	982
Total	560	292,000	3,280	1,500,000

-- 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 JULY 2021^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	July		January–July ³	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	11	3,540	115	34,700
No. 2 heavy melting steel	9	3,210	68	22,400
No. 1 bundles	221	123,000	1,080	532,000
No. 2 bundles	6	2,600	54	21,200
Shredded steel scrap	68	27,200	341	117,000
Borings, shovelings and turnings	7	2,610	56	19,400
Cut plate and structural	13	5,620	136	48,000
Tinned iron or steel	22	9,790	141	60,600
Remelting scrap ingots	--	--	1	607
Cast iron	45	22,200	116	44,500
Other iron and steel	76	30,900	579	201,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	477	231,000	2,690	1,100,000
Stainless steel	21	30,000	165	216,000
Other alloy steel	62	30,800	425	184,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	83	60,900	590	400,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel and cast iron	560	292,000	3,280	1,500,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	--	--	5	740
Used rails	--	--	1	195
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	--	--	1	997
Used rails other	(4)	187	1	1,240
Total scrap imports	560	292,000	3,290	1,500,000
Imports of manufactured ferrous products:				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	--	--	(4)	329
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	761	467,000	3,640	1,930,000
Alloy pig iron	(4)	60	(4)	494
Total pig iron	761	467,000	3,640	1,930,000
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	263	123,000	2,050	759,000
Spongy iron products, not DRI	(4)	484	2	2,480
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	3,220	16	22,000
Powders of alloy steel	6	10,600	36	71,200
Other ferrous powders	3	6,880	25	48,800
Total DRI, granules, powders	274	145,000	2,130	904,000
Grand total	1,590	903,000	9,060	4,330,000

-- 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	Monthly	Year	Monthly	Year
		to date ²		to date ²		to date ²
2020:						
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
July	7,480	49,500	84.4	80.1	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:				
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
July	461.67	454.38	500.00	492.10

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

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