

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN MARCH 2022

In March 2022, purchased steel scrap receipts were essentially unchanged, recirculating scrap production increased slightly, and iron and steel scrap consumption was essentially unchanged compared with those in February 2022. Stocks of purchased and home scrap were unchanged from those at the end of February 2022. In March 2022, pig iron production decreased by 9% and consumption decreased by 9% from those in February 2022. Direct-reduced iron receipts increased by 10% and consumption increased by 7% (table 1, fig. 1).

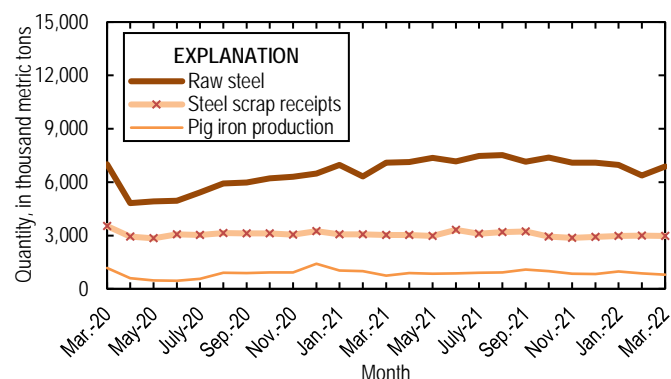


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of raw steel, receipts of iron and steel scrap, and production of pig iron from March 2020 through March 2022. Sources: U.S. Geological Survey and American Iron and Steel Institute.

Exports of iron and steel scrap in March 2022 decreased by 9% from those in February 2022 (fig. 2, table 4). Turkey and Mexico were the leading destinations for exports, accounting for 23% of the total tonnage each, followed by Bangladesh (9%) and Vietnam (8%) (table 4). Los Angeles, CA, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of exports, accounting for 16% of the total, followed by Laredo, TX, (14%) and New York, NY, (13%) (table 5).

Imports of iron and steel scrap in March 2022 increased by 20% from those in February 2022 (fig. 2, table 7). Canada was the leading country of origin, accounting for 81% of the total

tonnage of imports, followed by Mexico (17%) (table 7). Detroit, MI, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of imports, accounting for 46% of the total, followed by Seattle, WA, (19%) and Laredo, TX, (12%) (table 8).

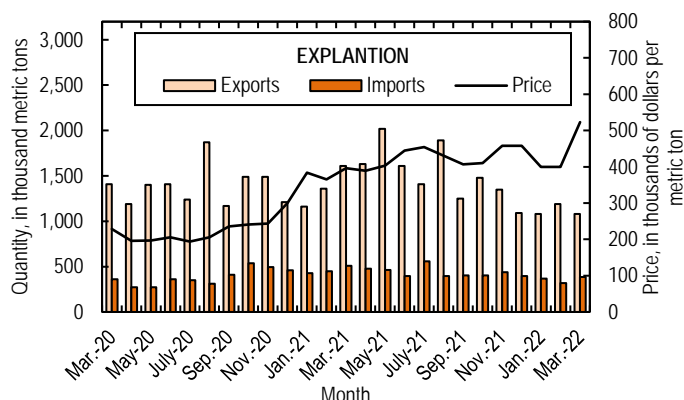


Figure 2. Monthly domestic imports and exports of iron and steel scrap and price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap from March 2020 through March 2022. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Fastmarkets AMM.

The daily average domestic raw steel production for March 2022, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute’s monthly production data, was 222,000 metric tons, a 3% decrease from that in February 2022 and that in March 2021. Raw steel production capability utilization was 78.7% in March 2022, down from 80.8% in February 2022 and up from 78.0% in March 2021 (table 10).

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TABLE 1  
IRON AND STEEL SCRAP, PIG IRON, AND DIRECT-REDUCED IRON STATISTICS  
FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

	March	January–March <sup>3</sup>
Scrap:		
Receipts:		
From outside sources	2,970	8,940
From other own company plants	176	499
Production:		
Recirculating scrap	319	960
Obsolete scrap	10	33
Consumption (by type of furnace):		
Blast furnace	103	322
Basic oxygen process	268	816
Electric furnace	3,050	8,990
Other	41	157
Total consumption	3,460	10,300
Shipments	42	111
Stocks, end of period	4,120	4,120
Pig iron (includes hot metal):		
Receipts	171	462
Production	802	2,650
Consumption	937	3,070
Stocks, end of period	442	442
Direct-reduced iron: <sup>4</sup>		
Receipts	224	706
Consumption	258	717
Stocks, end of period	322	322

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings. March 2022 data are based on surveys, representing 53% of scrap consumption during this month, and estimates for nonrespondents of this survey.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Includes 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Item	March				January–March <sup>3</sup>		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption <sup>4</sup>	Ending stocks	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption <sup>4</sup>
Carbon steel:							
Low-phosphorus plate and punchings	14	W	18	W	42	W	51
Cut structural and plate	245	W	283	372	743	90	857
No. 1 heavy melting steel	297	43	344	216	867	145	1,020
No. 2 heavy melting steel	333	26	387	253	989	78	1,140
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles	96	--	107	117	313	--	324
No. 2 and all other bundles	69	W	68	44	202	W	205
Electric furnace 1 foot and under (not bundles)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Railroad rails	18	7	19	97	55	W	56
Turnings and borings	139	W	140	205	411	W	417
Slag scrap	25	22	45	74	76	62	143
Shredded and fragmented	896	W	979	1,640	2,750	W	2,910
No. 1 busheling	318	W	350	396	967	W	1,030
Steel cans (post consumer)	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
All other carbon steel scrap	196	106	308	196	581	312	921
Stainless steel scrap	56	26	84	37	168	80	252
Alloy steel scrap	23	8	31	51	69	25	94
Ingot mold and stool scrap	W	W	3	2	W	W	6
Machinery and cupola cast iron	4	--	4	W	W	--	W
Cast iron borings	13	W	13	4	38	W	40
Motor blocks	--	--	--	W	W	--	W
Other iron scrap	50	10	49	62	157	31	154
Other mixed scrap	163	W	212	47	469	22	611
Total	2,970	319	3,460	4,120	8,940	960	10,300

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

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Includes 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and State	March			January–March <sup>3</sup>		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption <sup>4</sup>	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption <sup>4</sup>
<b>Mid-Atlantic and New England:</b>						
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania	242	42	289	716	125	855
<b>North Central:</b>						
Illinois and Indiana	374	77	478	1,100	229	1,420
Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin	224	6	244	655	20	707
Michigan	38	5	43	114	14	129
Ohio	366	77	433	1,140	237	1,340
Total	1,000	165	1,200	3,010	499	3,590
<b>South Atlantic:</b>						
Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina	236	W	256	732	W	803
Virginia, West Virginia	109	W	116	308	W	346
Total	346	16	372	1,040	50	1,150
<b>South Central:</b>						
Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	677	40	742	2,000	117	2,160
Arkansas and Texas	401	36	515	1,280	111	1,520
Total	1,080	77	1,260	3,280	228	3,680
<b>Mountain and Pacific:</b>						
California, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Washington	304	19	342	897	56	1,010
Grand total	2,970	319	3,460	8,940	960	10,300

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

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Includes 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and country or locality	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Australia	(4)	86	33	15,700
Bangladesh	93	45,900	437	189,000
Belgium	2	1,750	5	3,980
Canada	45	18,000	100	39,400
China	13	7,490	22	13,800
Ecuador	7	3,030	39	18,200
Egypt	37	16,500	136	60,600
Germany	1	623	3	1,960
Greece	30	13,600	99	45,200
Hong Kong	1	1,630	3	4,000
India	32	35,400	106	89,300
Indonesia	1	2,200	5	3,900
Italy	1	976	2	1,300
Japan	2	2,680	21	5,680
Korea, Republic of	15	9,320	121	64,000
Malaysia	12	17,600	44	55,300
Mexico	245	64,300	525	175,000
Pakistan	49	30,300	156	85,700
Peru	66	36,300	134	67,600
Philippines	4	4,280	10	12,900
Taiwan	80	37,100	273	126,000
Thailand	11	12,100	28	28,700
Turkey	247	111,000	907	408,000
United Arab Emirates	1	517	2	1,110
Vietnam	84	42,000	135	65,400
Other <sup>5</sup>	2	2,720	6	8,380
Total	1,080	517,000	3,350	1,590,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>5</sup>Includes 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Region and customs district	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Canada–United States border:				
Buffalo, NY	10	5,440	22	12,700
Detroit, MI	19	8,940	37	17,800
Ogdensburg, NY	2	410	4	1,270
Pembina, ND	3	1,200	6	2,280
Other	8	1,750	24	4,690
Total	42	17,700	93	38,700
East coast:				
Baltimore, MD	24	16,900	152	70,700
Boston, MA	83	36,600	246	109,000
Charleston, SC	5	5,610	16	15,100
Miami, FL	35	18,700	109	49,800
New York City, NY	143	80,100	529	271,000
Norfolk, VA	18	18,400	91	70,000
Philadelphia, PA	97	43,600	235	106,000
Portland, ME	1	465	15	6,460
Providence, RI	32	14,300	90	39,700
Savannah, GA	17	13,700	48	37,100
St. Albans, VT	2	684	5	1,500
Wilmington, NC	--	--	(4)	35
Total	457	249,000	1,540	776,000
Gulf coast and Mexico–United States border (includes Caribbean territories):				
Houston–Galveston, TX	22	16,200	115	66,700
Laredo, TX	156	28,800	248	66,700
Mobile, AL	1	554	2	1,700
New Orleans, LA	1	333	3	2,360
San Juan, PR	9	4,160	44	19,900
Tampa, FL	34	10,800	95	30,600
Other	(4)	118	1	354
Total	223	61,000	508	188,000
West coast and Hawaii:				
Columbia–Snake, OR	61	31,400	132	64,700
Honolulu, HI, and Anchorage, AK	2	1,100	33	14,900
Los Angeles, CA	176	95,200	547	277,000
San Diego, CA	19	7,980	54	20,200
San Francisco, CA	55	29,400	319	153,000
Seattle, WA	46	24,500	131	56,300
Total	359	190,000	1,220	586,000
Grand total	1,080	517,000	3,350	1,590,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	405	192,000	1,240	569,000
No. 2 heavy melting steel	62	32,700	186	93,200
No. 1 bundles	15	6,150	60	14,300
No. 2 bundles	(4)	60	16	1,980
Shredded steel scrap	317	151,000	1,220	551,000
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	2	808	15	4,830
Cut plate and structural	43	20,100	162	75,700
Tinned iron or steel	9	2,350	24	6,530
Remelting scrap ingots	(4)	135	2	1,300
Cast iron	55	42,600	134	85,200
Other iron and steel	4	1,050	11	2,600
Total carbon steel and cast iron	914	449,000	3,070	1,410,000
Stainless steel	23	31,700	57	87,000
Other alloy steel	145	37,000	227	97,100
Total stainless and alloy steel	168	68,600	283	184,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel, and cast iron	1,080	517,000	3,350	1,590,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	(4)	45	1	95
Used rails	(4)	31	(4)	75
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	(4)	228	(4)	1,020
Total scrap exports	1,080	518,000	3,350	1,590,000
Exports of manufactured ferrous products,				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	94	1	397
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	(4)	4	(4)	8
Total pig iron	(4)	98	1	405
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	1	152	5	441
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	3,720	5	8,830
Powders of alloy steel	1	6,420	3	18,300
Other ferrous powders	5	8,310	15	23,000
Total DRI, granules, powders	10	18,600	29	50,700
Grand total	1,090	536,000	3,380	1,640,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Country or locality	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Canada	313	174,000	791	419,000
Cayman Islands	1	156	3	506
Germany	1	164	2	465
Japan	3	95	7	292
Mexico	64	46,200	159	107,000
Netherlands	--	--	39	20,800
Sweden	(4)	79	67	36,400
Other <sup>5</sup>	2	2,650	5	4,480
Total	385	223,000	1,070	589,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ unit.

<sup>5</sup>Includes 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Customs district	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Buffalo, NY	34	31,500	84	71,900
Charleston, SC	(4)	122	82	42,500
Chicago, IL	(4)	153	5	1,740
Detroit, MI	176	103,000	437	249,000
Duluth, MN	10	4,070	21	8,920
El Paso, TX	5	2,240	14	6,600
Great Falls, MT	1	358	3	1,040
Houston–Galveston, TX	1	1,920	2	2,840
Laredo, TX	45	33,600	106	75,200
Miami, FL	2	487	5	1,230
Mobile, AL	6	6,820	12	13,600
New Orleans, LA	3	130	32	15,300
Nogales, AZ	1	773	8	3,810
Ogdensburg, NY	1	563	2	1,390
Pembina, ND	18	9,770	47	23,900
San Diego, CA	7	2,860	20	7,620
Seattle, WA	73	24,200	189	60,500
St. Albans, VT	1	329	3	1,190
Other	(4)	315	1	1,100
Total	385	223,000	1,070	589,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less 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 MARCH 2022<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	March		January–March <sup>3</sup>	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	17	7,320	41	16,300
No. 2 heavy melting steel	11	2,850	29	9,840
No. 1 bundles	91	54,400	290	164,000
No. 2 bundles	7	2,950	16	6,690
Shredded steel scrap	46	19,100	135	57,400
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	6	2,570	13	5,620
Cut plate and structural	10	3,330	29	10,200
Tinned iron or steel	22	10,500	57	26,500
Remelting scrap ingots	(4)	79	1	449
Cast iron	8	3,590	31	11,800
Other iron and steel	74	32,700	203	84,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	291	139,000	845	393,000
Stainless steel	28	51,600	68	118,000
Other alloy steel	65	31,900	159	78,300
Total stainless and alloy steel	93	83,500	227	196,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel, and cast iron	385	223,000	1,070	589,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	20	4,000	20	4,000
Used rails	--	--	1	230
Used rails, nonalloyed	--	--	(4)	27
Used rails other	(4)	16	(4)	757
Total scrap imports	404	227,000	1,090	594,000
Imports of manufactured ferrous products:				
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	450	234,000	1,480	787,000
Alloy pig iron	--	--	(4)	66
Total pig iron	450	234,000	1,480	788,000
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	372	100,000	961	308,000
Spongy iron products, not DRI	(4)	516	1	1,860
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	3,610	6	11,500
Powders of alloy steel	6	12,800	15	30,800
Other ferrous powders	4	8,230	10	22,300
Total DRI, granules, powders	383	125,000	992	375,000
Grand total	1,240	587,000	3,560	1,760,000

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

<sup>3</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10  
U.S. RAW STEEL PRODUCTION, RAW STEEL CAPABILITY UTILIZATION,  
AND CONTINUOUS CAST STEEL PRODUCTION<sup>1</sup>

Period	Raw steel production, thousand metric tons		Raw steel capability utilization, percent		Continuous cast steel production, percent	
	Monthly	Year to date <sup>2</sup>	Monthly	Year to date <sup>2</sup>	Monthly	Year to date <sup>2</sup>
2021:						
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
August	7,520	57,100	84.8	80.7	99.8	99.8
September	7,150	64,200	83.3	81.0	99.8	99.8
October	7,380	71,600	83.2	81.2	99.8	99.8
November	7,100	78,700	82.7	81.3	99.8	99.8
December	7,100	85,800	80.1	81.2	99.8	99.8
2022:						
January	6,970	6,970	79.8	79.8	99.8	99.8
February	6,370	13,300	80.8	80.3	99.7	99.8
March	6,870	20,200	78.7	79.7	99.6	99.7

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>May 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 <sup>1</sup>		Pig Iron <sup>2</sup>	
	\$/lt	\$/t	\$/lt	\$/t
2021:				
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
August	438.33	431.41	581.71	572.52
September	413.33	406.80	631.97	621.99
October	416.67	410.09	621.36	611.55
November	465.00	457.66	525.36	517.06
December	465.00	457.66	566.23	557.29
Average, January–December	423.40	416.71	542.52	533.96
2022:				
January	406.67	400.25	517.30	509.13
February	406.67	400.25	517.30	509.13
March	531.67	523.27	513.66	505.55

<sup>1</sup>Prices are for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap. Source: Fastmarket-AMM.

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

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

TABLE 12  
 U.S. IRON AND STEEL SCRAP RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON,  
 AND DIRECT-REDUCED IRON (DRI) CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Receipts of scrap from outside sources		Pig iron production		DRI consumption	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
<u>2021:<sup>2</sup></u>						
March	3,030	9,240	735	2,750	260	713
April	3,030	12,300	888	3,630	220	933
May	2,980	15,200	844	4,480	231	1,160
June	3,310	18,600	875	5,350	236	1,400
July	3,100	21,700	897	6,250	214	1,610
August	3,190	24,800	924	7,170	248	1,860
September	3,230	28,100	1,080	8,250	258	2,120
October	2,930	31,000	990	9,240	237	2,360
November	2,860	33,900	851	10,100	235	2,590
December	2,920	36,800	836	10,900	262	2,850
<u>2022:</u>						
January	2,970	2,970	970	970	217	217
February	3,000 <sup>r</sup>	5,970 <sup>r</sup>	877	1,850	241	459
March	2,970	8,940	802	2,650	258	718

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.