

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MANGANESE IN JUNE 2002

In May, reported consumption of manganese ore containing 35% or more manganese, exclusive of that consumed at iron and steel plants, was estimated as 30,600 metric tons (t), which was a 55% increase from that for the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The figure for May increases to 33,000 t when estimates for annual respondents are added on the basis of 2000 data. Corresponding industry stocks of ore at the end of the month were 185,000 t, which includes an estimate for annual respondents on the basis of 2000 data. This was a decrease of about 3% from that of the previous month. (Data for the most recent 13 months are plotted in the graph on page 2.)

Foreign trade data for June will appear in a subsequent report. The data for May tabulated in this report indicate that the total imports for consumption and total exports, on a manganese content basis, decreased by 74% and 15%, respectively, from those for the previous month (table 1).

On June 21, an explosion of Eramet SA's HF7 furnace at its ferromanganese plant in Boulogne, France, forced the company into a partial production shutdown for the second time this year. The latest closure of the furnace came just a few weeks after it reopened following an explosion in March. The company continued to investigate the cause of the second explosion, which resulted when water entered the furnace through a crack (American Metal Market, 2002).

On June 25, the Lower House of the South African Parliament passed a bill that would transfer ownership of all South Africa's mineral rights from private companies to the State (BBC News, 2002§¹). The State, in turn, would award 30-

year mining leases back to the companies, provided the companies can demonstrate they have black-owned partners. The bill would require the Government and industry to negotiate the transfer of ownership of at least 51% of mining industry assets to historically disadvantaged South Africans (HDSAs) within the next 10 years (Ryan's Notes, 2002). The Parliament's Upper House has yet to approve the bill. Should the bill be enacted, it would affect the South African manganese industry, as Assmang and Samancor control 80% of it.

Elkedra Diamonds NL announced that assay results from grab samples around two airborne geophysical survey anomalies in the Altjwarra Craton of Australia's Northern Territory indicate a potential for high-grade and high-tonnage manganese reserves (Mine Box, 2002§). Manganese content in the samples ranged from 29% to 42%. The company is following up with a rotary core drilling program in the area.

References Cited

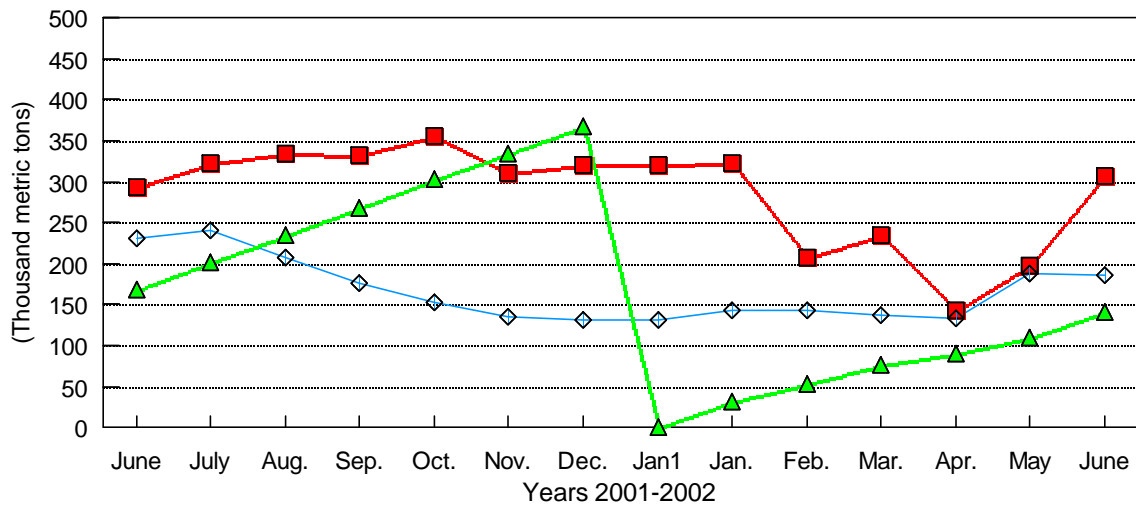
- American Metal Market, 2002, Explosion shuts furnace at Eramet: American Metal Market, v. 110, no. 74-2, June 25, p. 5.
Ryan's Notes, 2002, Highlanders rises from the dead; new South African mining law: Ryan's Notes, v. 8, no. 31, August 5, p. 2-3.

Internet References Cited

- BBC News, 2002 (June 25), South Africa mining bill approved, accessed August 19, 2002, at URL <http://www.bbc.co.uk>.
Mine Box, 2002 (June 25), Elkreda diamond scan finds manganese, accessed August 19, 2002, at URL <http://www.minebox.com>.

¹References that include a section twist (§) are found in the Internet References Cited section.

Manganese ore: U.S. reported consumption and
industry stocks, exclusive of iron and steel plants 1/



■ Monthly consumption times 10 ◇ Stocks, end-of-month
▲ Consumption for year to date

1/ Includes revisions, if any, for months prior to last month shown.

TABLE 1
SELECTED U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN MANGANESE 1/

(Metric tons, manganese content) 2/

	Imports for consumption			Exports		
	Ore and dioxide	Ferroalloy and metal	Total	Ore	Ferroalloy and metal	Total
2001:						
May	28,600 3/	45,700	74,300	267	967	1,230
January-May	112,000	165,000	277,000	1,740	4,460	6,190
2002:						
January	23,900	42,200	66,100	775	1,050	1,830
February	34,400	29,700	64,000	453	774	1,230
March	19,300	19,000	38,300	401	930	1,330
April	34,600	35,500	70,100	775	919	1,700
May	1,670	16,800	18,500	643	806	1,450
Total	114,000	143,000	257,000	3,050	4,480	7,530

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

2/ As reported except as estimated for imports of manganese dioxide and manganese waste and scrap and for exports from gross weights.

3/ All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF SILICOMANGANESE IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value
Australia	3,420	2,260	\$1,380,000	16,400	10,900	\$6,830,000
Brazil	--	--	--	3	2	2,960
Canada	--	--	--	145	96	32,800
France	--	--	--	2	1	2,000
Georgia	--	--	--	4,860	3,680	2,180,000
India	--	--	--	770	424	446,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	3,000	1,980	1,250,000
Mexico	--	--	--	1,300	849	618,000
Norway	--	--	--	2,250	1,330	1,340,000
Romania	--	--	--	7,290	4,800	3,340,000
South Africa	3,180	2,110	1,290,000	51,000	34,200	21,300,000
Spain	--	--	--	1,020	628	619,000
Total	6,600	4,380	2,670,000	88,100	58,900	38,000,000
Total, general imports	6,600	4,380	2,670,000	88,600	59,200	38,300,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROMANGANESE IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value
Low carbon:						
Canada	21	17	\$16,600	21	17	\$16,600
China	69	92	71,800	1,000	935	1,020,000
Japan	2	1	2,440	5	4	7,260
Mexico	--	--	--	19	16	25,500
Norway	141	114	114,000	221	178	176,000
South Africa	720	665	891,000	2,520	2,330	3,090,000
Total, low carbon	953	889	1,100,000	3,790	3,480	4,340,000
Total, general imports of low carbon	953	890	1,100,000	2,840	3,480	4,340,000
Medium carbon, 1%-2% C:						
Brazil	--	--	--	40	30	36,100
China	--	--	--	1,500	1,200	796,000
Japan	--	--	--	22	18	22,900
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	1,500	1,200	780,000
Mexico	198	153	169,000	2,310	1,830	1,550,000
Norway	--	--	--	1,080	881	545,000
South Africa	--	--	--	3,560	2,880	1,930,000
Total, m.c., 1%-2% C	198	153	169,000	10,000	8,040	5,660,000
Total, general imports of m.c., 1%-2% C	198	153	169,000	10,000	8,030	5,660,000
High carbon:						
France	3,000	3,150	1,030,000	18,300	15,300	6,400,000
India	5,780	4,390	2,200,000	19,700	15,000	7,710,000
South Africa	1,910	1,500	720,000	42,900	33,500	15,100,000
Total, high carbon	10,700	9,040	3,950,000	80,900	63,800	29,300,000
Total, general imports of high carbon	10,700	9,040	3,950,000	80,900	63,800	29,300,000
Grand total	11,800	10,100	5,220,000	94,700	75,300	39,300,000
Grand total, general imports	11,800	10,100	5,220,000	94,700	75,300	39,300,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn) IN MAY 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

Source	20% - 47% Mn		47% or more Mn		Total	
	Gross weight	Mn content	Gross weight	Mn content	Gross weight	Mn content
Belgium	--	--	18	13	18	13
France	--	--	10	10	10	10
Morocco	--	--	20	11	20	11
Total	--	--	48	34	48	34
Year to date:						
Australia	--	--	21,400	11,300	21,400	11,300
Belgium	--	--	91	64	91	64
Brazil	29,900	12,800	--	--	29,900	12,800
France	--	--	10	10	10	10
Gabon	36,100	15,900	90,500	51,700	127,000	67,600
Morocco	--	--	20	11	20	11
South Africa	--	--	32,100	15,900	32,100	15,900
Total	66,000	28,700	144,000	78,900	210,000	108,000

-- Zero.

1/ Quantities for general imports and imports for consumption are identical.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE DIOXIDE AND MANGANESE METAL IN MAY 2002 1/

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Source	Manganese dioxide				Manganese metal			
	Quantity	Customs value	Year to date		Unwrought		Other	
			Quantity	Customs value	Quantity	Year to date	Quantity	Year to date
Australia	1,860	\$2,550,000	6,210	\$8,590,000	--	--	--	--
Belgium	73	138,000	309	563,000	--	--	--	--
Canada	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	15
China	--	--	197	198,000	420	1,220	55	69
France	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	38
Germany	--	--	34	119,000	416	1,760	--	9
Greece	--	--	293	378,000	--	--	--	--
Ireland	354	395,000	2,150	2,890,000	--	--	--	--
Japan	393	666,000	693	1,170,000	--	--	--	11
Mexico	--	--	25	184,000	--	--	--	--
Netherlands	--	--	91	122,000	--	--	--	43
Poland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20
South Africa	41	67,500	306	508,000	555	4,680	--	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	136	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	93	130,000	--	40	--	(2/)
Total	2,720	3,820,000	10,400	14,900,000	1,390	7,830	65	205
Total, general imports	2,720	3,820,000	10,400	14,900,000	1,390	7,830	65	205

-- Zero.

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

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Note: Imports for consumption of metallic manganese waste and scrap totaled 1,750 tons, of which 100 tons was from Canada and 1,650 tons was from France, to give a year-to-date total of 1,880 tons.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn), FERROMANGANESE,
SILICOMANGANESE, AND MANGANESE METAL BY COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons, gross weight)

	Manganese ore		Ferromanganese, 2% or less C		Silicomanganese		Manganese metal 2/	
	May	Year to date	May	Year to date	May	Year to date	May	Year to date
Australia	--	46	--	5	4	9	--	--
Belgium	--	--	--	--	--	--	53	381
Brazil	--	31	--	8	--	8	--	--
Canada	227	1,410	365	2,780	--	182	14	100
China	--	1,190	--	--	--	--	40	67
Dominican Republic	--	22	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	39	358	--	--	--	--	--	9
Ghana	--	--	--	16	--	--	--	--
Hong Kong	--	18	--	--	--	1	--	--
Indonesia	--	30	--	--	--	--	--	--
Italy	282	423	--	--	--	--	--	15
Japan	--	--	--	46	--	--	95	412
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
Mexico	207	1,160	34	34	5	56	--	35
Netherlands	173	362	--	--	--	4	--	--
Norway	180	457	--	--	--	--	--	3
Poland	24	136	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sri Lanka	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--
Sweden	19	146	--	--	--	--	--	18
Switzerland	--	29	--	--	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	7	15	--	--	--	--	3	21
United Kingdom	128	265	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	1,290	6,090	399	2,890	9	265	205	1,070

-- Zero.

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

2/ Includes manganese-aluminum, some other alloys, and waste and scrap.

Note: Exports of ferromanganese with more than 2% carbon totaled 353 tons, all of which went to Canada, to give a year-to-date total of 1,210 tons.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN SELECTED MANGANESE CHEMICALS IN MAY 2002, BY CLASS 1/

Class	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value 2/ (thousands)	Principal sources and destinations: gross weight (metric tons); value 2/ (thousands)	Year to date		
				Gross weight (metric tons)	Value 2/ (thousands)	Principal sources and destinations: gross weight (metric tons); value 2/ (thousands)
Imports for consumption:						
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	330	\$268	Mexico 268; \$85	958	\$884	Mexico 662; \$228
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	3,600	2,210	Mexico 2,410; \$1,100	17,900	10,400	Mexico 9,460; \$4,720
Potassium permanganate	198	309	China 130; \$179	835	1,310	China 405; \$500
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	--	--	XX	56	52	China 56; \$50
Exports:						
Manganese dioxide	295	202	Canada 217; \$70	1,390	1,410	Canada 1,130; \$366
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	503	392	Canada 406; \$165	1,430	2,120	Canada 1,250; \$493
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	1,720	838	Canada 1,500; \$392	7,600	5,660	Canada 8,160; \$2,400
Potassium permanganate	84	200	Canada 26; \$51	229	513	Canada 127; \$223
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	7	31	Canada 3; \$5	73	375	Japan 49; \$231

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

2/ For imports, Customs value; for exports, f.a.s. value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.