

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MANGANESE IN JANUARY 2009

Reported data regarding the amount of manganese ore consumed by U.S. firms in January 2009 and industry stocks at the end of the month were not available at the time of publication. However, net imports may be used as a rough indicator of near-term manganese ore consumption. On a gross weight basis, net imports of manganese ore in January 2009 were 46,400 metric tons (t), which was a decrease of 49% from those in December 2008. Net imports of manganese ore in the fourth quarter of 2008 were 131,000 t, which was a decrease of 5% from those during the third quarter of 2008.

Data for U.S. imports and exports for December 2008 are published in this issue. On a contained-weight basis, U.S. imports of manganese ore plus dioxide and manganese ferroalloys plus metal were 83% higher and 49% lower,

respectively, than those in November 2008. U.S. imports of manganese ore plus dioxide and manganese ferroalloys plus metal during 2008 were 4% lower and 12% higher, respectively, than those in 2007 (table 1).

On a contained-weight basis, U.S. manganese ore and manganese ferroalloys plus metal exports for December 2008 were 99% lower and 13% higher, respectively, than those in November 2008. U.S. exports of manganese ore and manganese ferroalloys plus metal during 2008 were 68% greater and 20% less, respectively, than those in 2007 (table 1).

Prices

Prices for manganese materials in January 2009, manganese content, are listed below.

Ferroalloys prices¹

	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Average Price</u>
High-carbon ferromanganese ²	1,375.00-1,400.00	1,387.50
Medium-carbon ferromanganese ³	120.00-140.00	130.00
Silicomanganese ³	45.00-49.00	47.50

Manganese metal and ore prices⁴

	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Average Low, Mid, and High Prices</u>
Manganese metal ³	135.00-145.00	135.00-140.00-145.00
36%-39% Manganese ore ⁵	4.50-5.25	NA
44% Manganese ore ⁵	7.00-7.75	7.00-7.38-7.75
48% Manganese ore ⁵	8.00-8.50	8.00-8.25-8.50

NA Not available.

¹Source: Platts Metals Week, dealer import price; average prices reported for all transactions during the month.

²Dollars per gross ton.

³Cents per pound.

⁴Source: Ryan's Notes, cost and freight, China; average prices reported for the price range.

⁵Dollars per metric ton unit, contained manganese. To determine dollars per metric ton of ore (gross weight), multiply the manganese content percentage by the price; that is, by 48 when the manganese content is 48%.

TABLE 1
SELECTED U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN MANGANESE¹

(Metric tons, manganese content)²

	Imports for consumption			Exports		
	Ore and dioxide	Ferroalloy and metal	Total	Ore	Ferroalloy and metal	Total
2007:						
December	11,400	61,600	73,000	3,120	558	3,670
January-December	316,000	562,000	878,000	14,300	28,400	42,800
2008:						
January	3,910	77,900	81,800	2,200	586	2,790
February	43,700	47,200	90,900	45	556	601
March	1,250	41,600	42,800	81	5,080	5,160
April	53,000	33,100	86,100	4,660	6,370	11,000
May	25,200	73,600	98,800	5,380	1,270	6,650
June	22,700	52,500	75,100	2,060	1,440	3,500
July	20,800	66,800	87,600	634	2,560	3,190
August	30,000	49,700	79,700	510	1,990	2,500
September	25,600	51,600	77,100	152	2,260	2,410
October	3,910	53,900	57,800	204	2,210	2,410
November	25,600	52,800	78,400	8,130	1,630	9,760
December	46,900	27,200	74,100	76	1,850	1,930
Total	302,000	628,000	930,000	24,100	27,800	51,900

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

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

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF SILICOMANGANESE IN DECEMBER 2008¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²
Argentina	--	--	--	504	328	\$857,000
Australia	1,700	1,110	\$1,780,000	36,500	23,900	68,800,000
Canada	--	--	--	204	152	242,000
China	--	--	--	2	2	6,000
Georgia	--	--	--	59,800	44,900	116,000,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	3,820	2,390	7,540,000
Macedonia	--	--	--	12,900	8,470	27,500,000
Mexico	3,100	2,020	3,530,000	16,400	10,800	21,900,000
Norway	402	243	765,000	72,500	45,400	136,000,000
Poland	--	--	--	13	8	17,000
Romania	--	--	--	2,340	1,660	5,010,000
Russia	--	--	--	2,070	1,370	3,870,000
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	5,150	3,430	10,700,000
South Africa	10,000	6,690	15,900,000	153,000	102,000	284,000,000
Total	15,200	10,100	22,000,000	365,000	245,000	682,000,000

-- Zero.

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROMANGANESE IN DECEMBER 2008¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²
Low carbon:						
Brazil	--	--	--	649	508	\$2,420,000
Canada	--	--	--	42	34	137,000
China	120	102	\$292,000	33,500	28,100	111,000,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	2,000	1,610	6,940,000
Mexico	1,040	834	2,760,000	10,900	8,840	26,000,000
Norway	--	--	--	3,830	3,150	14,200,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	72	61	43,200
Total	1,160	936	3,050,000	51,000	42,300	160,000,000
Medium carbon, 1%-2% C:						
Brazil	--	--	--	1,240	988	4,820,000
China	533	427	2,080,000	39,600	31,400	120,000,000
France	--	--	--	80	66	345,000
Georgia	--	--	--	4,480	3,630	10,800,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	7,600	6,140	25,400,000
Mexico	1,040	832	2,080,000	12,600	10,100	23,800,000
Norway	--	--	--	1,170	962	3,420,000
South Africa	7,150	5,630	11,300,000	33,300	26,800	82,100,000
Turkey	40	32	186,000	139	114	652,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	1,270	1,110	4,480,000
Total	8,760	6,920	15,700,000	102,000	81,400	276,000,000
Medium carbon, 2%-4% C:						
China	--	--	--	633	498	275,000
Georgia	--	--	--	3,050	2,610	9,920,000
South Africa	--	--	--	54	44	122,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	220	191	837,000
Total	--	--	--	3,960	3,340	11,200,000
High carbon:						
Australia	--	--	--	1,530	1,170	3,870,000
Brazil	--	--	--	2,440	1,850	5,730,000
British Virgin Islands	--	--	--	176	132	418,000
Canada	19	14	38,900	37	28	62,900
China	--	--	--	37,400	28,500	87,100,000
Georgia	--	--	--	488	415	1,170,000
India	--	--	--	20,000	14,900	51,000,000
Japan	--	--	--	3,000	2,250	8,700,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	21,600	16,400	54,800,000
Macedonia	--	--	--	5,480	4,390	15,500,000
Mexico	--	--	--	43	34	147,000
Norway	1,000	786	1,530,000	1,000	786	1,530,000
Russia	--	--	--	3,020	2,300	8,370,000
South Africa	8,960	6,910	17,800,000	164,000	126,000	369,000,000
Spain	--	--	--	6,740	5,130	16,600,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	24,700	19,300	62,700,000
Venezuela	--	--	--	284	211	533,000
Total	9,980	7,710	19,400,000	292,000	224,000	687,000,000
Grand total	19,900	15,600	38,100,000	448,000	351,000	1,130,000,000

-- Zero.

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn) IN DECEMBER 2008^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³
More than 20%, but less than 47% manganese:						
Brazil	--	--	--	4,950	1,540	\$1,100,000
Gabon	--	--	--	122,000	57,400	20,400,000
India	--	--	--	4	1	6,050
Total	--	--	--	127,000	58,900	21,500,000
47% or more manganese:						
Australia	56,400	28,200	\$9,100,000	103,000	51,900	25,500,000
Brazil	--	--	--	63,300	32,800	18,200,000
China	--	--	--	862	516	436,000
Gabon	34,000	17,900	8,600,000	233,000	124,000	64,800,000
Ghana	--	--	--	12,500	6,230	5,580,000
South Africa	--	--	--	30,800	14,600	18,400,000
Total	90,400	46,000	17,700,000	443,000	230,000	133,000,000
Grand total	90,400	46,000	17,700,000	571,000	289,000	154,000,000

-- Zero.

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

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

³Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE DIOXIDE IN DECEMBER 2008^{1,2}

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Source	Quantity	Customs value ³	Year to date	
			Quantity	Customs value ³
Australia	--	--	4,380	\$6,230,000
Belgium	16	\$37,400	315	873,000
Brazil	19	31,900	241	365,000
China	--	--	507	565,000
France	--	--	30	41,100
Germany	9	14,500	61	129,000
Japan	197	548,000	4,730	8,620,000
Mexico	--	--	3,000	1,420,000
Singapore	10	16,700	135	230,000
South Africa	1,250	2,250,000	9,500	19,100,000
Other (3 countries)	6	10,100	17	49,900
Total	1,510	2,910,000	22,900	37,600,000

-- Zero.

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

²Presentation of monthly data is based on the year-to-date quantities of the 10 leading countries.

³Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE METAL IN DECEMBER 2008¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Customs value ²	Year to date	
			Gross weight	Customs value ²
Unwrought flake:				
China	952	\$2,440,000	14,200	\$47,900,000
Germany	--	--	500	1,470,000
New Caledonia	--	--	120	348,000
South Africa	57	199,000	946	2,720,000
United Kingdom	--	--	20	58,100
Vietnam	20	46,400	20	46,400
Total	1,030	2,690,000	15,800	52,500,000
Unwrought powder:				
China	24	83,800	3,240	13,600,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	44	143,000
Mexico	--	--	41	217,000
Spain	--	--	24	132,000
South Africa	179	856,000	4,260	19,100,000
Total	203	940,000	7,600	33,100,000
Unwrought, other:				
China	69	134,000	4,240	13,500,000
Germany	89	379,000	1,600	6,750,000
Russia	--	--	59	240,000
South Africa	38	182,000	362	1,680,000
United Kingdom	--	--	610	2,760,000
Total	196	695,000	6,870	25,000,000
Other manganese, wrought:				
Belgium	--	--	2	13,100
Canada	6	17,600	6	21,800
China	4	20,100	649	2,320,000
Japan	--	--	(3)	5,160
Mexico	--	--	426	2,530,000
Poland	--	--	(3)	4,200
Singapore	--	--	(3)	2,100
United Kingdom	--	--	(3)	5,860
Total	10	37,700	1,080	4,900,000
Grand total	1,440	4,360,000	31,400	115,000,000

-- Zero.

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

³Less than ½ unit.

Note: Imports for consumption of metallic waste and scrap totaled 207 metric tons, all of which was from Canada, to give a year-to-date total of 312 metric tons.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn), FERROMANGANESE, SILICOMANGANESE,
AND MANGANESE METAL BY COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION IN DECEMBER 2008¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country	Manganese ore		Ferromanganese, 2% or less C		Silicomanganese		Manganese metal ²	
	December	Year to date	December	Year to date	December	Year to date	December	Year to date
Argentina	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
Australia	--	--	--	10	--	3	--	--
Belgium	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	613
Brazil	--	1	--	--	577	673	--	11
Canada	67	1,630	146	10,300	42	901	(3)	101
Chile	--	--	--	40	--	--	--	--
China	--	45,300	--	267	--	--	--	684
Colombia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Dominican Republic	--	--	--	--	22	22	--	--
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	181	377
France	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	14
Germany	45	882	--	--	--	--	--	124
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	--	--	88	522
India	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	251
Indonesia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	19
Israel	--	16	--	--	--	--	--	--
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	203	--	20
Japan	--	2	--	6	--	217	71	1,120
Korea, Republic of	18	361	--	--	--	--	--	2
Latvia	--	23	--	--	--	--	--	--
Malaysia	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	23	33	--	3,390	285	2,650	--	59
Netherlands	--	18	--	796	--	429	--	--
Niger	--	--	--	--	--	405	--	--
Panama	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	47
Peru	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	44
Poland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20
Russia	--	13	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	51
Spain	--	--	--	1,040	--	1,640	--	--
St. Kitts-Nevis	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3
St. Lucia	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	10
Sweden	--	31	--	--	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	143
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	194
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	146
Total	153	48,300	146	15,800	927	7,150	355	4,580

-- Zero.

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

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

³Less than ½ unit.

Note: Exports of ferromanganese with more than 2% carbon totaled 969 metric tons (t), of which 667 t went to Mexico, 257 t went to Canada, and 45 t went to Chile to give a year-to-date total of 7,590 t.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN SELECTED MANGANESE CHEMICALS IN DECEMBER 2008, BY CLASS¹

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	499	\$684	Brazil 301; \$250	4,750	\$4,750	Mexico 2,000; \$1,850
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	--	--	--	69	70	Poland 69; \$70
Potassium permanganate	96	327	India 54; \$178	714	1,990	Czech Republic 395; \$1,100
Sodium permanganate	32	87	Germany 17; \$65	364	779	China 329; \$645
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	5,790	7,470	China 2,370; \$2,570	44,600	49,900	China 19,800; \$20,100
Exports:						
Manganese dioxide	587	1,000	Belgium 258; \$644	11,000	14,600	Canada 5,320; \$4,010
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	737	533	Canada 580; \$254	14,000	14,500	Canada 8,510; \$3,700
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	5	12	Canada 5; \$12	248	629	Canada 129; \$319
Potassium permanganate	317	967	Belgium 304; \$931	3,160	7,530	Belgium 2,390; \$4,920
Sodium permanganate	19	45	Belgium 19; \$45	1,590	3,910	Belgium 474; \$879
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	1,330	1,200	Canada 1,110; \$677	23,900	25,500	Canada 18,000; \$14,800

-- Zero.

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

²For imports, Customs value; for exports, free alongside ship value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.