

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MANGANESE IN FEBRUARY 2018

Preliminary data for February 2018 indicated that domestic consumption of manganese ore containing more than 20% manganese, exclusive of that consumed at iron and steel plants, was 32,000 metric tons (t) (gross weight). This was 8% more than the amount consumed in January 2018 (29,500 t) (fig. 1). Manganese ore consumption in the first two months of 2018 was 61,500 t; this was 5% less than that during the same period in 2017 (64,400 t) (fig. 1). Industry stocks of ore at the end of February 2018 were estimated to be 149,000 t, 14% less than the amount at the end of January 2018 (174,000 t).

On a gross-weight basis, U.S. imports of manganese ore in February 2018 were 44,500 t, up from 35,600 t in January 2018 (fig. 1, table 5).

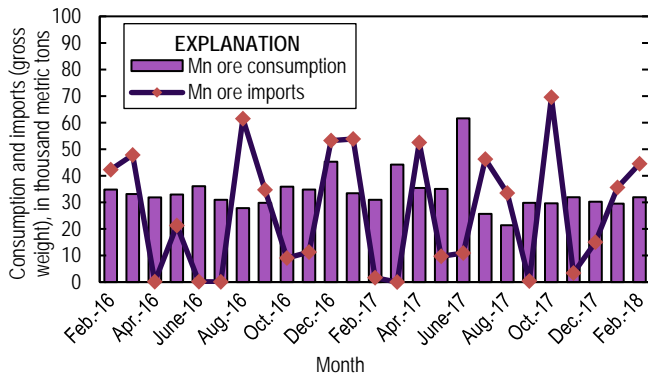


Figure 1. Monthly domestic consumption and imports of manganese (Mn) ore from February 2016 through February 2018. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Geological Survey.

In February 2018, the average spot prices for manganese ore deliveries to China were \$7.21 per metric ton unit, 36%–39% grade and \$7.26 per metric ton unit, 44% grade (fig. 2, table 1). Compared to January 2018, they were 8% more for the 36%–39% grade and 7% for the 44% grade. Compared to the 2-year high prices of December 2016, they were 10% less for the 36%–39% grade and 18% less for the 44% grade. However, they were 255% and 284% higher, respectively, than those of February 2016.

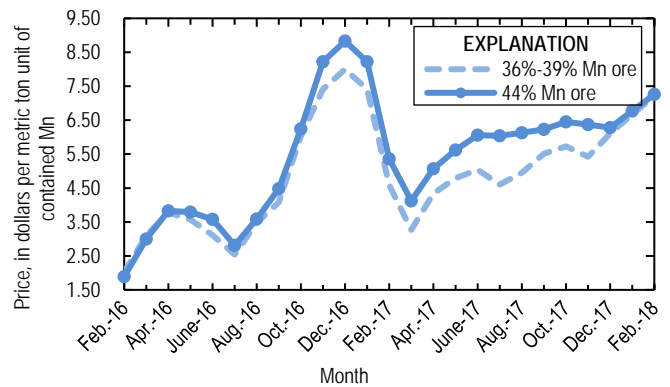


Figure 2. Average monthly spot prices for manganese (Mn) ore delivered to China from February 2016 through February 2018. Source: CRU Group.

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TABLE 1
 PRICES FOR MANGANESE FERROALLOYS, METAL, AND ORE IN FEBRUARY 2018

		Low	Average	High
Manganese ferroalloys:¹				
High-carbon ferromanganese, 75% manganese	dollars per long ton of contained manganese	1,550.00	1,581.25	1,600.00
Medium-carbon ferromanganese, 85% manganese	cents per pound of contained manganese	110.00	112.50	115.00
Silicomanganese, 65% manganese	do.	68.00	69.13	70.00
Manganese metal, 99.9% manganese flake ²	cents per pound	108.00	111.50	116.00
Manganese ore:^{3, 4}				
36%–39% manganese	dollars per metric ton unit contained manganese	6.50	7.21	7.50
44% manganese	do.	6.80	7.26	7.50

do. Ditto.

¹Platts Metals Week; in U.S. warehouse; average prices reported for all transactions during the month.

²CRU Ryan's Notes North American transaction prices, electrolytic manganese metal flake, 99.99% manganese, free-on-board producing point or Chicago/Pittsburgh warehouse;

Average prices reported for the price range.

³CRU Ryan's Notes, cost and freight, China; average prices reported for the price range.

⁴To determine dollars per metric ton of ore (gross weight), multiply the manganese content percentage by the price; that is, by 44 when the manganese content is 44%.

TABLE 2
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
2017:						
January	27,700	33,200	60,900	9	901	910
February	1,120	20,500	21,600	15	2,020	2,040
January–February	28,800	53,700	82,500	24	2,920	2,950
2018:						
January	17,300	66,800	84,000	18	221	239
February	23,200	34,700	57,900	47	805	852
January–February	40,500	101,000	142,000	65	1,030	1,090

¹Data are 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF SILICOMANGANESE IN FEBRUARY 2018¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³	January–February ²		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³
Australia	3,280	2,160	\$4,100,000	15,000	9,930	\$19,000,000
Brazil	729	497	743,000	1,240	839	1,280,000
Georgia	1,460	1,060	1,580,000	16,200	11,900	17,700,000
India	108	64	155,000	216	127	311,000
Mexico	3,150	2,060	3,540,000	4,950	3,230	5,610,000
Norway	1,060	723	1,370,000	2,680	1,690	3,680,000
South Africa	--	--	--	5,200	3,380	5,720,000
Total	9,790	6,560	11,500,000	45,400	31,100	53,300,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

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 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROMANGANESE IN FEBRUARY 2018¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³	January–February ²		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³
Low carbon:						
China	228	216	\$345,000	282	267	\$444,000
Germany	47	44	118,000	127	120	312,000
Japan	--	--	--	100	80	165,000
Korea, Republic of	700	644	1,330,000	1,600	1,470	3,030,000
Mexico	468	379	706,000	468	379	706,000
Norway	1,460	1,180	2,590,000	5,720	4,630	9,670,000
South Africa	54	49	97,200	82	71	138,000
Total	2,960	2,520	5,190,000	8,380	7,020	14,500,000
Medium carbon, 1%–2% C:						
China	--	--	--	94	74	208,000
Korea, Republic of	2,330	1,870	3,630,000	5,990	4,790	9,300,000
Mexico	739	579	1,150,000	1,170	918	1,780,000
Norway	--	--	--	2,300	1,870	3,470,000
South Africa	3,840	3,060	6,390,000	5,110	4,080	8,780,000
Total	6,910	5,510	11,200,000	14,700	11,700	23,500,000
High carbon:						
Australia	--	--	--	11,700	8,930	15,500,000
Brazil	729	317	508,000	1,160	438	977,000
Georgia	--	--	--	3,100	2,410	3,930,000
India	216	162	248,000	3,150	1,070	3,720,000
Korea, Republic of	500	380	565,000	1,000	760	1,150,000
Malaysia	12,100	9,170	15,800,000	20,400	15,500	26,400,000
Mexico	101	82	147,000	101	82	147,000
Russia	1,490	1,140	1,460,000	1,490	1,140	1,460,000
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	38	24	62,700
South Africa	2,950	2,230	3,600,000	8,030	6,080	11,200,000
Spain	6,200	4,700	7,720,000	11,200	8,500	13,400,000
Ukraine	479	368	472,000	2,530	1,940	2,510,000
Total	24,700	18,500	30,500,000	63,900	46,800	80,500,000
Grand total	34,600	26,600	46,800,000	86,900	65,600	118,000,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

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 ORE (20% OR MORE Mn)
IN FEBRUARY 2018¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³	January–February ²		
				Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³
More than 20%, but less than 47% manganese, Gabon	--	--	--	9,610	4,130	\$1,910,000
47% or more manganese:						
Brazil	--	--	--	89	45	48,000
China	2	2	\$4,400	2	2	4,400
Gabon	44,500	22,900	13,700,000	69,900	35,600	21,300,000
South Africa	17	8	4,080	457	222	192,000
Total	44,500	22,900	13,700,000	70,500	35,900	21,500,000
Grand total	44,500	22,900	13,700,000	80,100	40,000	23,400,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

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 DIOXIDE
IN FEBRUARY 2018¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Source	Quantity	Customs value ³	January–February ²	
			Quantity	Customs value ³
Belgium	1	\$5,950	1	\$5,950
China	--	--	15	31,200
Japan	502	1,110,000	718	1,590,000
Mexico	(4)	2,210	(4)	2,210
Spain	24	40,900	24	40,900
Ukraine	16	27,000	23	38,700
Total	543	1,190,000	781	1,710,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

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.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE METAL
IN FEBRUARY 2018¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Customs value ³	January-February ²	
			Gross weight	Customs value ³
Unwrought flake:				
China	136	\$227,000	1,010	\$1,500,000
Japan	31	210,000	56	384,000
South Africa	109	271,000	576	1,320,000
Total	276	709,000	1,650	3,210,000
Unwrought powder:				
Mexico	11	39,200	16	58,200
South Africa	225	605,000	363	978,000
Total	236	644,000	379	1,040,000
Unwrought, other:				
China	877	1,470,000	2,350	4,050,000
Germany	79	157,000	195	383,000
South Africa	61	138,000	143	318,000
Total	1,020	1,770,000	2,680	4,750,000
Other manganese, wrought:				
France	(4)	2,150	(4)	2,150
Germany	21	249,000	45	527,000
Japan	--	--	(4)	16,400
Malaysia	--	--	(4)	3,040
Mexico	20	57,700	74	203,000
Poland	--	--	(4)	6,310
Sweden	8	75,600	8	75,600
Total	49	384,000	127	834,000
Grand total	1,580	3,500,000	4,840	9,830,000

-- Zero.

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

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.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
 U.S. EXPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn), FERROMANGANESE,
 SILICOMANGANESE, AND MANGANESE METAL BY COUNTRIES OR LOCALITIES OF DESTINATION
 IN FEBRUARY 2018^{1,2}

Source	Gross weight (metric tons)	F.a.s. ⁴ value (thousands)	January–February ³	
			Gross weight (metric tons)	F.a.s. ⁴ value (thousands)
Ore and concentrates with 20% or more manganese:				
Canada	63	\$55	72	\$62
Mexico	--	--	15	14
Netherlands	32	154	44	204
Total	95	209	130	280
Ferromanganese:				
2% or less carbon:				
Canada	20	28	23	33
Honduras	--	--	1	7
Total	20	28	24	40
More than 2% carbon:				
Canada	21	35	32	52
Mexico	100	91	100	91
Total	121	126	132	143
Silicomanganese, Canada	416	566	595	814
Metal, including alloys and waste and scrap:⁵				
Canada	3	4	4	10
Costa Rica	(6)	5	(6)	5
Germany	--	--	(6)	4
Guinea	--	--	1	5
India	77	22	77	22
Japan	20	68	20	68
Korea, Republic of	(6)	4	(6)	4
Malaysia	313	221	332	295
Mexico	7	149	69	408
Venezuela	--	--	7	6
Total	420	473	510	828
Grand total	1,070	1,400	1,390	2,110

-- Zero.

¹Presentation of monthly data is based on the "January–February" quantities of the leading countries.

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

³May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

⁴Free alongside ship.

⁵Includes manganese-aluminum, other alloys, and waste and scrap.

⁶Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN SELECTED MANGANESE CHEMICALS
IN FEBRUARY 2018, BY CLASS¹

Class	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value ³ (thousands)	Principal sources and destinations: gross weight (metric tons); value ³ (thousands)	January-February ²		
				Gross weight (metric tons)	Value ³ (thousands)	Principal sources and destinations: gross weight (metric tons); value ³ (thousands)
Imports for consumption:						
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	2,200	\$2,060	Korea, Republic of 870; \$966	4,710	\$3,960	South Africa 1,930; \$1,320
Potassium permanganate	108	296	India 107; \$287	255	675	India 235; \$623
Sodium permanganate	97	224	China 97; \$224	255	597	China 255; \$597
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	3,510	3,110	Mexico 1,390; \$775	9,610	9,320	China 5,150; \$3,890
Exports:						
Manganese dioxide	569	946	Canada 349; \$340	1,220	1,670	Canada 809; \$710
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	708	1,340	United Kingdom 220; \$293	1,080	2,090	United Kingdom 220; \$293
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	4	26	Canada 4; \$8	11	44	Canada 10; \$20
Potassium permanganate	282	821	Belgium 129; \$313	544	1,580	Belgium 257; \$627
Sodium permanganate	76	218	Mexico 56; \$167	149	511	Mexico 75; \$250
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	1,580	2,770	Canada 1,220; \$763	2,890	4,250	Canada 2,230; \$1,430

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

²May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

³For imports, customs value; for exports, free alongside ship value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.