

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN SEPTEMBER 2003

U.S. mine production of iron ore in September 2003, on a daily average basis, was 1% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 129 thousand metric tons per day (t/d), compared with 127 thousand t/d in August. Production in September 2002 was 142 thousand t/d. Shipments decreased by 1% compared with those of the previous month. Mine stocks at

the end of the month were 6% lower than at the end of the previous month.

Note

All data in this report have been rounded to no more than three significant digits. Totals and percentages were calculated by using unrounded data.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more of manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2002:				
September	4,270	37,400	4,910	37,700
October	4,650	42,000	4,790	42,500
November	4,740	46,800	4,480	47,000
December	4,700	51,500	5,040	52,000
2003:				
January	4,310	4,310	2,880	2,880
February	4,290	8,610	1,140	4,030
March	4,080	12,700	1,810	5,830
April	4,230	16,900	4,790	10,600
May	4,010	20,900	5,340	16,000
June	3,740	24,700	4,840	20,800
July	3,920	28,600	4,450	25,200
August	3,950	32,500	4,330	29,600
September	3,870	36,400	4,220	33,800

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

²Excludes byproduct ores.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN SEPTEMBER^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments ³		Stocks ⁴	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Michigan	1,070	1,150	1,060	1,190	1,550	1,180
Minnesota	2,810	3,120	3,160	3,730	4,270	2,250
Total	3,870	4,270	4,220	4,910	5,820	3,420

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

²Excludes byproduct ore.

³Includes rail and vessel.

⁴Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE¹

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
2002:				
August	1,770	940	9	2,720
September	1,970	1,250	7	3,220
October	2,040	1,180	8	3,220
November	2,100	1,390	7	3,500
December	1,100	1,020	5	2,120
Year total	18,900	11,900	91	30,800
2003:				
January	862	699	6	1,570
February	674	580	6	1,260
March	989	578	7	1,570
April	1,800	1,120	5	2,930
May	1,960	1,540	4	3,510
June	2,090 ^r	1,260	5	3,360 ^r
July	2,140 ^r	1,460	8	3,610 ^r
August	1,530	1,100	6	2,630

^rRevised.

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

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4
CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE AND BLAST FURNACE PRODUCTION OF HOT METAL AT U.S. IRON AND STEEL PLANTS^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	July		January-July	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
United States ores	3,760	3,780	26,900	26,900
Canadian ores	252	447	2,070	2,120
Foreign ores	535	637	4,030	3,940
Total	4,540	4,870	33,000	33,000
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	4,100	4,250	29,800	29,700
Steel furnaces	4	39	112	71
Agglomerating plants ³	438	580	3,060	3,180
Miscellaneous ⁴	--	--	--	2
Total	4,540	4,870	33,000	33,000
Stocks of ores and agglomerates, July 31				
Storage point	2003	2002		
Furnace yards	10,300	9,650		
Receiving/transfer docks	1,080	1,450		
Total consumer	11,400	11,100		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
	July		January-July ⁵	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,080	3,500	23,300	25,700
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	29	29	XX	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Iron ore and iron ore concentrates consumed in agglomerating plants not located at the mine or plant site.

⁴Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

⁵Includes revisions to previous month's data.

Sources: American Iron Ore Association (consumption of iron ore) and American Iron and Steel Institute (production of hot metal and pig iron).

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION AND TYPE^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	2003				
	1st quarter	2nd quarter	June	July	August
Canada	757	2,060	838	723	688
Mexico	3	(3)	(3)	(3)	6
Other	1	4	1	1	29
Total	761	2,070	839	724	723
Pellets	756	2,060	837	719	679
Other	5	6	2	5	44
Total	761	2,070	839	724	723

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE, BY COUNTRY AND TYPE^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

Country of origin and type of product	2003					2002
	August		Year to date			January-August
	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Value ³ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	128	1,110	8.63	375
Brazil	492	12,600	3,430	81,600	23.81	3,600
Canada	776	23,000	4,250	119,000	28.00	2,900
Chile	60	1,500	238	5,240	22.02	190
Norway	--	--	4	107	26.65	10
Peru	13	188	42	680	16.35	69
Other	--	--	55	1,440	26.11	165
Total	1,340	37,300	8,150	209,000	25.69 ⁴	7,310
Concentrates	149	3,360	647	12,800	19.75	303
Coarse ores	--	--	24	627	25.86	3
Fine ores	175	3,240	1,440	22,800	15.88	2,290
Pellets	1,020	30,700	5,740	168,000	29.18	4,420
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	39
Other agglomerates	--	--	293	5,200	17.77	247
Roasted pyrites	--	--	7	344	48.47	11
Total	1,340	37,300	8,150	209,000	25.69 ⁴	7,310

-- Zero.

¹Data, with the exception of the dollars per ton column, are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes agglomerates.

³Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

⁴Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN AUGUST 2003^{1,2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of origin	Type of product						Total
	Concentrates	Coarse ores	Fine ores	Pellets	Briquettes and other agglomerates	Roasted pyrites	
Brazil	75	--	135	282	--	--	492
Canada	26	--	16	734	--	--	776
Other	48	--	25	--	--	--	73
Total	149	--	175	1,020	--	--	1,340

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY¹

Country of origin	2003					2002
	August		Year to date			January-August
	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Value ² (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	282	8,650	2,040	58,100	\$28.55	1,830
Canada	734	22,100	3,710	109,000	29.52	2,590
Total	1,020	30,700	5,740	168,000	29.18 ³	4,420

¹Data, with the exception of the dollars per ton column, are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

³Weighted average calculated by dividing total value by total tonnage.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT^{1, 2}
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	August	January-August	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	225	2,270	2,950
Buffalo, NY (09)	3	6	3
Charleston, SC (16)	--	106	129
Chicago, IL (39)	161	613	456
Cleveland, OH (41)	394	2,070	706
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	--	28
Detroit, MI (38)	54	152	212
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	--	37	28
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3)	(3)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	4
Mobile, AL (19)	12	75	333
New Orleans, LA (20)	493	2,790	2,410
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	1	--
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	28	7
Providence, RI (05)	--	--	34
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	10
Total	1,340	8,150	7,310

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS,
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	August	January-August	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	150	832	1,160
Charleston, SC (16)	--	105	129
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	111
Cleveland, OH (41)	394	2,070	706
Detroit, MI (38)	54	152	189
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	37	17
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	301
New Orleans, LA (20)	419	2,480	1,800
Total	1,020	5,740	4,420

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.