

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN JANUARY 2004

U.S. mine production of iron ore in January 2004, on a daily average basis, was 6% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 128,000 metric tons per day (t/d), compared with the revised figure of 121,000 t/d in December 2003. Shipments decreased by 27% compared with those of

December 2003. Mine stocks at the end of January 2004 were 5% higher than those at the end of December 2003.

Note

All data in this report have been rounded to no more than three significant digits. Totals and percentages were calculated 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 |
| 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 |
| October | 4,190 | 40,600 | 4,370 | 38,200 |
| November | 4,140 | 44,700 | 4,540 | 42,700 |
| December | 3,740 ^r | 48,500 | 5,170 | 47,900 |
| 2004: | | | | |
| January | 3,950 | 3,950 | 3,770 | 3,770 |

^rRevised.

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 JANUARY^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

| State | Production | | Shipments ³ | | Stocks ⁴ | |
|-----------|------------|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 |
| Michigan | 876 | 900 | 1,180 | 909 | 1,150 | 1,020 |
| Minnesota | 3,080 | 3,410 | 2,590 | 1,980 | 2,840 | 3,630 |
| Total | 3,950 | 4,310 | 3,770 | 2,880 | 4,000 | 4,640 |

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 | Total |
|--------------|--------------|--------|----------|--------|
| | | | Columbia | |
| 2002: | | | | |
| December | 1,100 | 1,030 | 6 | 2,130 |
| Year total | 18,900 | 12,000 | 92 | 30,900 |
| 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 | 1,260 | 5 | 3,360 |
| July | 2,140 | 1,460 | 8 | 3,610 |
| August | 1,530 | 1,100 | 6 | 2,630 |
| September | 1,710 | 1,240 | 7 | 2,950 |
| October | 2,080 | 1,500 | 6 | 3,580 |
| November | 2,260 | 1,190 | 5 | 3,450 |
| December | 1,740 | 1,060 | 6 | 2,800 |
| Year total | 19,800 | 13,300 | 69 | 33,200 |

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 | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| | November | | January-November | |
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| United States ores | 3,900 | 3,640 | 45,100 | 43,200 |
| Canadian ores | 298 | 450 | 3,300 | 4,020 |
| Foreign ores | 474 | 697 | 6,430 | 6,730 |
| Total | 4,670 | 4,780 | 54,800 | 54,000 |
| Consumption by process | | | | |
| Blast furnaces | 4,320 | 4,270 | 49,400 | 48,500 |
| Steel furnaces | 1 | 38 | 131 | 261 ^r |
| Agglomerating plants ³ | 345 | 472 | 5,310 | 5,150 |
| Miscellaneous ⁴ | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| Total | 4,670 | 4,780 | 54,800 | 54,000 |
| Stocks of ores and agglomerates, November 30 | | | | |
| Storage point | 2003 | 2002 | | |
| Furnace yards | 11,100 | 11,600 | | |
| Receiving/transfer docks | 1,120 | 1,630 ^r | | |
| Total consumer | 12,200 | 13,200 | | |
| Blast furnace production of hot metal | | | | |
| | November | | January-November ⁵ | |
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces | 3,200 | 3,370 | 35,700 | 36,900 |
| No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month | 31 | 31 | XX | XX |

^rRevised. 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 | 3rd quarter | November | December |
| Canada | 757 | 2,060 | 2,130 | 515 | 600 |
| Mexico | 3 | (3) | 7 | (3) | (3) |
| Other | 1 | 4 | 30 | 26 | 49 |
| Total | 761 | 2,070 | 2,170 | 541 | 649 |
| Pellets | 756 | 2,060 | 2,110 | 540 | 648 |
| Other | 5 | 6 | 53 | 1 | (3) |
| Total | 761 | 2,070 | 2,170 | 541 | 649 |

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 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | December | | Year to date | | | January-December |
| | 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 | 567 |
| Brazil | 219 | 4,550 | 4,980 | 118,000 | 23.71 | 5,750 |
| Canada | 774 | 21,400 | 6,970 | 196,000 | 28.07 | 5,540 |
| Chile | -- | -- | 296 | 6,510 | 22.01 | 319 |
| Norway | -- | -- | 4 | 107 | 26.65 | 15 |
| Peru | -- | -- | 77 | 1,280 | 16.52 | 86 |
| Other | -- | -- | 142 | 5,710 | 40.18 | 185 |
| Total | 993 | 25,900 | 12,600 | 328,000 | 26.07 ⁴ | 12,500 |
| Concentrates | 29 | 525 | 985 | 20,800 | 21.12 | 431 |
| Coarse ores | -- | -- | 24 | 627 | 25.86 | 6 |
| Fine ores | 172 | 2,870 | 2,320 | 39,000 | 16.86 | 3,370 |
| Pellets | 672 | 20,300 | 8,790 | 258,000 | 29.36 | 8,250 |
| Briquettes | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 39 |
| Other agglomerates | 121 | 2,220 | 477 | 9,570 | 20.05 | 355 |
| Roasted pyrites | -- | -- | 7 | 344 | 48.47 | 12 |
| Total | 993 | 25,900 | 12,600 | 328,000 | 26.07 ⁴ | 12,500 |

-- 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 DECEMBER 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 | -- | -- | 145 | 74 | -- | -- | 219 |
| Canada | 29 | -- | 27 | 598 | 121 | -- | 774 |
| Other | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Total | 29 | -- | 172 | 672 | 121 | -- | 993 |

-- 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 |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| | December | | Year to date | | | January-December Thousand metric tons |
| | Thousand metric tons | Value ² (thousand dollars) | Thousand metric tons | Value ² (thousand dollars) | Value ² (dollars per ton) | |
| Brazil | 74 | 2,150 | 2,790 | 80,800 | 28.90 | 3,220 |
| Canada | 598 | 18,200 | 5,990 | 177,000 | 29.58 | 5,040 |
| Total | 672 | 20,300 | 8,790 | 258,000 | 29.36 ³ | 8,250 |

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 | December | January-December | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------------|--------|
| | 2003 | 2003 | 2002 |
| Baltimore, MD (13) | 421 | 3,330 | 4,290 |
| Buffalo, NY (09) | -- | 7 | 7 |
| Charleston, SC (16) | -- | 106 | 290 |
| Chicago, IL (39) | 130 | 1,220 | 945 |
| Cleveland, OH (41) | 276 | 3,270 | 1,630 |
| Columbia - Snake, OR (29) | -- | -- | 28 |
| Detroit, MI (38) | 21 | 247 | 303 |
| Houston - Galveston, TX (53) | -- | 72 | 40 |
| Laredo, TX (23) | -- | 20 | 24 |
| Los Angeles, CA (27) | -- | (3) | (3) |
| Miami, FL (52) | -- | -- | 4 |
| Mobile, AL (19) | -- | 75 | 1,150 |
| New Orleans, LA (20) | 145 | 4,150 | 3,690 |
| New York City, NY (10) | -- | (3) | -- |
| Ogdensburg, NY (07) | -- | 1 | -- |
| Philadelphia, PA (11) | -- | 82 | 7 |
| Providence, RI (05) | -- | -- | 34 |
| San Juan, PR (49) | -- | -- | 10 |
| Tampa, FL (18) | -- | 16 | 10 |
| Total | 993 | 12,600 | 12,500 |

-- 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 | December | January-December | |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2003 | 2002 |
| Baltimore, MD (13) | 230 | 1,280 | 1,780 |
| Charleston, SC (16) | -- | 105 | 289 |
| Chicago, IL (39) | -- | -- | 278 |
| Cleveland, OH (41) | 276 | 3,270 | 1,630 |
| Detroit, MI (38) | 21 | 247 | 279 |
| Houston-Galveston, TX (53) | -- | 55 | 29 |
| Laredo, TX (23) | -- | 20 | 24 |
| Mobile, AL (19) | -- | 59 | 1,080 |
| New Orleans, LA (20) | 145 | 3,750 | 2,860 |
| Total | 672 | 8,790 | 8,250 |

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.