



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

William S. Kirk, Iron Ore Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4962, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: [wkirk@usgs.gov](mailto:wkirk@usgs.gov)

Heather A. Geissler (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7978  
Fax: (703) 648-7975

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## IRON ORE IN MAY 2003

U.S. mine production of iron ore in May 2003, on a daily average basis, was 8% lower than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 129 metric tons per day (t/d), compared with 141 t/d in April. Production in April 2002 was 128 t/d. Shipments increased by 8% compared with those of the previous

month. Mine stocks at the end of the month were 14% 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<sup>1,2</sup>  
(Exclusive of ore containing 5% or more of manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production		Shipments	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2002:				
May	4,850	19,200	5,320	15,800
June	4,870	24,100	5,810	21,600
July	4,430	28,500	5,720	27,300
August	4,580	33,100	5,530	32,800
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

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

<sup>2</sup>Excludes byproduct ores.

TABLE 2  
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND STOCKS OF IRON ORE IN MAY<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments <sup>3</sup>		Stocks <sup>4</sup>	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Michigan	678	1,170	1,240	1,410	1,870	1,570
Minnesota	3,340	3,680	4,100	3,910	6,320	5,710
Total	4,010	4,850	5,340	5,320	8,180	7,270

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

<sup>2</sup>Excludes byproduct ore.

<sup>3</sup>Includes rail and vessel.

<sup>4</sup>Includes mines, plants, and loading docks.

TABLE 3  
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
2002:				
April	1,490	913	9	2,410
May	2,390	1,240	8	3,630
June	1,530	828	6	2,370
July	2,290	1,020	7	3,320
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

<sup>1</sup>Data 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<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Consumption by source	Consumption of ores and agglomerates			
	April		January-April	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
United States ores	3,730	3,850	15,600	11,800
Canadian ores	296	279	1,340	808
Foreign ores	577	621	2,720	1,630
Total	4,600	4,750	19,600	14,200
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	4,200	4,300	17,700	12,900
Steel furnaces	3	4	102	13
Agglomerating plants <sup>3</sup>	401	442	1,840	1,310
Miscellaneous <sup>4</sup>	--	--	--	--
Total	4,600	4,750	19,600	14,200
Stocks of ores and agglomerates,				
April				
Storage point	2003	2002		
Furnace yards	8,220	6,090		
Receiving/transfer docks	844	1,090		
Total consumer	9,060	7,180		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
April				
	2003	2002	January-April <sup>5</sup>	
			2003	2002
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	3,460	3,160	13,800	12,600
No. of blast furnaces operating on the last day of the month	31	27	XX	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes agglomerates.

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

<sup>4</sup>Sold to nonreporting companies or used for purposes not listed.

<sup>5</sup>Includes 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<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type	2002	2003			
	4th quarter	February	March	1st quarter	April
Canada	1,470	166	161	757 <sup>r</sup>	569
Mexico	11	(3)	(3)	3	(3)
Other	1	(3)	(3)	1 <sup>r</sup>	(3)
Total	1,480	166	161	761	569
Pellets	1,460	166	161	756 <sup>r</sup>	568
Other	26	(3)	(3)	4	1
Total	1,480	166	161	761	569

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes agglomerates.

<sup>3</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

Country of origin and type of product	2003					2002
	April		Year to date			January-April
	Thousand metric tons	Value <sup>3</sup> (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value <sup>3</sup> (thousand dollars)	Value <sup>3</sup> (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Australia	--	--	128	1,110	8.61	189
Brazil	378	8,450	1,630	39,900	24.46	1,610
Canada	699	18,400	1,160	30,700	26.53	584
Chile	--	--	46	984	21.34	116
Norway	--	--	--	--	--	10
Peru	(4)	21	(4)	31	69.19	(4)
Other	--	--	3	140	47.16	63
Total	1,080	26,800	2,970	72,900	24.56 <sup>5</sup>	2,570
Concentrates	120	1,960	244	4,130	16.94	116
Coarse ores	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fine ores	188	2,750	464	6,270	13.52	906
Pellets	769	22,100	2,090	59,400	28.41	1,450
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	28
Other agglomerates	--	--	166	2,920	17.60	67
Roasted pyrites	1	28	4	178	49.92	7
Total	1,080	26,800	2,970	72,900	24.56 <sup>5</sup>	2,570

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes agglomerates.

<sup>3</sup>Customs value. Excludes cost, insurance, and freight valuation.

<sup>4</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

<sup>5</sup>Weighted 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 APRIL 2003<sup>1,2</sup>  
(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	--	--	160	219	--	(3)	378
Canada	120	--	29	550	--	--	699
Other	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)
Total	120	--	188	769	--	1	1,080

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes agglomerates.

<sup>3</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS, BY COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>

Country of origin	2003					2002
	April		Year to date			January-April
	Thousand metric tons	Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)	Value <sup>2</sup> (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	219	6,140	1,180	32,800	\$27.91	892
Canada	550	15,900	915	26,600	29.06	558
Total	769	22,100	2,090	59,400	28.41 <sup>3</sup>	1,450

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

<sup>2</sup>Customs value. Excludes cost, insurance, and freight valuation.

<sup>3</sup>Weighted 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<sup>1, 2</sup>  
(Exclusive of ore containing 20% or more manganese)

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	April	January-April	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	304	1,090	1,240
Buffalo, NY (09)	1	2	--
Charleston, SC (16)	29	106	24
Chicago, IL (39)	78	104	55
Cleveland, OH (41)	400	400	25
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	--	28
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	(3)	37	17
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3)	(3)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	4
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	6
New Orleans, LA (20)	265	1,170	1,150
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	1	1	--
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	3	3
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	10
Total	1,080	2,970	2,570

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes agglomerates.

<sup>3</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PELLETS,  
BY CUSTOMS DISTRICT<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district	April	January-April	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	75	364	480
Charleston, SC (16)	29	105	24
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	29
Cleveland, OH (41)	400	400	25
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	37	17
Laredo, TX (23)	--	--	11
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	--
New Orleans, LA (20)	265	1,130	865
Total	769	2,090	1,450

--Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.