

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN OCTOBER 2003

U.S. mine production of iron ore in October 2003, on a daily average basis, was 5% higher than that of the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Average daily production was 135 metric tons per day (t/d), compared with 129 thousand t/d in September. Production in October 2002 was 150 t/d. Shipments increased by less than 1% compared with

those of the previous month. Mine stocks at the end of the month were 3% 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:				
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
October	4,190	40,600	4,370	38,200

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 OCTOBER^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments ³		Stocks ⁴	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Michigan	1,140	1,200	966	1,140	1,720	1,240
Minnesota	3,050	3,450	3,410	3,650	3,920	2,050
Total	4,190	4,650	4,370	4,790	5,640	3,290

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:				
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	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

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			
	August		January-August	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
United States ores	4,830	4,220	31,700	31,100
Canadian ores	379	479	2,450	2,600
Foreign ores	733	635	4,760	4,570
Total	5,940	5,330	38,900	38,300
Consumption by process				
Blast furnaces	5,210	4,800	35,000	34,500
Steel furnaces	15	50	126	121
Agglomerating plants ³	714	489	3,780	3,670
Miscellaneous ⁴	--	--	--	2
Total	5,940	5,330	38,900	38,300
Stocks of ores and agglomerates, August 31				
Storage point	2003	2002		
Furnace yards	10,900	10,300		
Receiving/transfer docks	1,200	1,630		
Total consumer	12,200	12,000		
Blast furnace production of hot metal				
	August		January-August ⁵	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Hot metal and pig iron produced in blast furnaces	2,950	3,610	26,300	26,200
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	July	August	September
Canada	757	2,060	723	688	718
Mexico	3	(3)	(3)	6	(3)
Other	1	4	1	29	(3)
Total	761	2,070	724	723	718
Pellets	756	2,060	719	679	714
Other	5	6	5	44	4
Total	761	2,070	724	723	718

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
	September		Year to date			January-September
	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	440
Brazil	519	11,900	3,950	93,500	23.69	4,110
Canada	504	14,500	4,760	134,000	28.09	3,510
Chile	--	--	238	5,240	22.02	234
Norway	--	--	4	107	26.65	15
Peru	--	--	42	680	16.35	69
Other	(4)	5	55	1,440	26.20	165
Total	1,020	26,400	9,170	236,000	25.70 ⁵	8,540
Concentrates	27	503	674	13,300	19.71	347
Coarse ores	--	--	24	627	25.86	3
Fine ores	328	5,480	1,760	28,300	16.03	2,660
Pellets	669	20,500	6,410	188,000	29.33	5,240
Briquettes	--	--	--	--	--	39
Other agglomerates	--	--	293	5,200	17.77	247
Roasted pyrites	--	--	7	344	48.47	11
Total	1,020	26,400	9,170	236,000	25.70 ⁵	8,540

-- 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.

⁴Less than 1/2 unit.

⁵Weighted 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 SEPTEMBER 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	--	--	274	246	--	--	519
Canada	27	--	55	423	--	--	504
Other	(3)	--	--	--	--	--	(3)
Total	27	--	328	669	--	--	1,020

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

Country of origin	2003					2002
	September		Year to date			January-September
	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Value ² (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	246	7,370	2,280	65,500	\$28.70	2,040
Canada	423	13,100	4,130	123,000	29.68	3,190
Total	669	20,500	6,410	188,000	29.33 ³	5,240

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	September	January-September	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	143	2,410	3,300
Buffalo, NY (09)	1	7	5
Charleston, SC (16)	--	106	208
Chicago, IL (39)	211	824	510
Cleveland, OH (41)	324	2,400	916
Columbia - Snake, OR (29)	--	--	28
Detroit, MI (38)	--	152	257
Houston - Galveston, TX (53)	18	55	28
Laredo, TX (23)	20	20	11
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3)	(3)
Miami, FL (52)	--	--	4
Mobile, AL (19)	--	75	487
New Orleans, LA (20)	306	3,100	2,740
New York, NY (07)	(3)	(3)	--
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	--	1	--
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	28	7
Providence, RI (05)	--	--	34
San Juan, PR (49)	--	--	10
Total	1,020	9,170	8,540

-- 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	September	January-September	
	2003	2003	2002
Baltimore, MD (13)	--	832	1,310
Charleston, SC (16)	--	105	208
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	111
Cleveland, OH (41)	324	2,400	916
Detroit, MI (38)	--	152	234
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	18	55	17
Laredo, TX (23)	20	20	11
Mobile, AL (19)	--	59	420
New Orleans, LA (20)	306	2,790	2,010
Total	669	6,410	5,240

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.