

Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON ORE IN NOVEMBER 2010

U.S. mine production of iron ore in November 2010, on a daily average basis, was 4% greater than that for the prior month and 48% greater than that of November 2009, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Average daily production, at 155,000 metric tons (t), was 6,200 t greater than that of October 2010.

Average daily shipments in November 2010, at 157,000 t,

were 12% greater than those of the prior month and 11,300 t greater than those of November 2009. Mine stocks at the end of November 2010 were 82,000 t less than the stocks held on October 31, a slight decrease. U.S. net exports of iron ore in October 2010 were 71,000 t, with exports 9% greater than imports.

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
2009:				
November	3,140	23,300	4,380	26,000
December	3,180	26,500	3,960	29,900
2010:				
January	3,040	3,040	2,400	2,400
February	3,270	6,300	943	3,340
March	3,630	9,930	2,630	5,970
April	3,780	13,700	4,790	10,800
May	4,560	18,300	5,230	16,000
June	3,700	22,000	4,940	20,900
July	4,630	26,600	5,060	26,000
August	4,550	31,200	5,050	31,000
September	4,430	35,600	4,540	35,600
October	4,600	40,200	4,340	39,900
November	4,640	44,800	4,720	44,600

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 NOVEMBER^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments ³		Stocks ⁴	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
Michigan	1,100	1,060	1,280	1,210	2,230	1,370
Minnesota	3,540	2,080	3,440	3,170	1,090	2,530
Total	4,640	3,140	4,720	4,380	3,320	3,900

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

²Excludes byproduct ore.

³Includes rail and vessel.

⁴Includes usable (marketable) material at mines, concentrators, pelletizing plants, and loading docks. Excludes stocks of crude ore at mine and concentrates at agglomerating complexes.

TABLE 3
CANADA: SHIPMENTS OF IRON ORE^{1,2}

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland and Labrador	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
2009:				
October	2,060	1,510	7	3,580
November	2,010	1,000	8	3,020
December	1,660	1,320	(3)	2,980
Year total	17,100	14,500	73	31,700
2010:				
January	1,300	1,090	3	2,390
February	1,130	872	3	2,000
March	1,390	1,100	6	2,500
April	1,500	1,510	7	3,020
May	1,840	1,340	11	3,190
June	1,970	1,710	10	3,690
July	1,630	1,350	12	2,990
August	1,350	1,390	12	2,760
September	1,130	1,830	8	2,970
October	1,490	1,350	7	2,850

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

²Includes production from steel plant waste oxides.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4
PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON AND RAW STEEL IN THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE OF
FURNACE¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Pig iron production, blast furnace		Raw steel production			
	Monthly	Year to date	Basic oxygen furnace		Electric furnace	
			Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2009:						
October	2,510	17,100	2,080	15,200	3,480	29,200
November	2,240	19,400	2,000	17,200	3,470	32,700
December	2,410	21,800	2,120	19,300	3,450	36,100
2010:						
January	2,350	2,350	1,830	1,830	3,890	3,890
February	2,530	4,870	1,960	3,790	3,720	7,610
March	2,870	7,740	2,560	6,350	4,240	11,800
April	2,030	9,770	2,820	9,170	4,140	16,000
May	2,830	12,600	2,560	11,700	4,440	20,400
June	2,800	15,400	2,530	14,300	4,300	24,700
July	2,450	17,800	2,050	16,300	4,320	29,000
August	2,490	20,300	2,250	18,600	4,130	33,200
September	2,600	22,900	2,370	20,900	4,000	37,200
October	2,150	25,100	2,390	23,300	4,160	41,300

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

Source: American Iron and Steel Institute.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type of product	2009	2010				
		1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	September	October
Belgium	194	1	105	(3)	(3)	--
Canada	3,060	918	2,110	3,130	1,020	734
China	99	--	139	240	121	123
Colombia	19	4	3	2	1	1
Finland	--	--	35	--	--	--
France	179	25	211	--	--	--
Germany	234	--	341	--	--	--
Mexico	70	151	19	16	(3)	1
Serbia	--	--	44	--	--	--
Singapore	--	--	--	5	--	--
South Africa	52	--	--	--	--	--
Spain	--	--	131	25	--	--
Other ⁴	10	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Total	3,910	1,100	3,140	3,420	1,140	859
Concentrates	123	6	67	195	72	1
Coarse ores	5	--	35	100	75	24
Fine ores	24	(3)	72	4	1	(3)
Pellets	3,760	1,090	2,960	3,110	995	833
Briquettes	3	--	--	5	--	--
Other agglomerates	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Roasted pyrites	1	(3)	(3)	1	--	(3)
Total	3,910	1,100	3,140	3,420	1,140	859

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴Includes all countries receiving less than 5,000 metric tons in any month during the 2-year period.

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	2010					2009
	October		Year to date			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ³ (thousand dollars)	Value ³ (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	171	25,000	343	44,800	130.73	188
Canada	509	62,600	4,130	426,000	103.08	2,190
Chile	--	--	82	8,290	101.12	154
China	--	--	--	--	--	(4)
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	6
France	--	--	(4)	4	4,480.00	--
Germany	--	--	(4)	3	17.99	--
Greece	--	--	3	348	116.00	--
Mexico	32	3,970	102	9,130	89.48	54
Norway	--	--	4	69	17.25	3
Peru	--	--	7	315	45.00	34
Russia	--	--	606	69,900	115.35	136
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	29
Spain	--	--	4	142	35.50	4
Sweden	23	3,140	23	3,140	136.48	31
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	120	17,200	143.27	--
Turkey	--	--	(4)	3	91.51	--
Ukraine	--	--	95	13,700	143.78	--
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	--	8
Venezuela	53	6,190	169	15,700	92.89	21
Total	788	101,000	5,690	609,000	106.95	2,860
Concentrates	115	15,600	402	45,100	112.17	229
Coarse ores	--	--	36	4,160	115.61	8
Fine ores	177	23,900	416	49,200	118.32	461
Pellets	496	61,400	4,830	510,000	105.53	2,150
Briquettes	--	--	4	142	35.50	4
Other agglomerates	--	--	--	--	--	2
Roasted pyrites	--	--	(4)	4	4,480.00	6
Total	788	101,000	5,690	609,000	106.95	2,860

-- 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 ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN OCTOBER 2010^{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	77	--	55	39	--	--	171
Canada	--	--	78	431	--	--	509
Mexico	11	--	21	--	--	--	32
Sweden	--	--	23	--	--	--	23
Venezuela	27	--	--	27	--	--	53
Total	115	--	177	496	--	--	788

-- 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	2010					2009
	October		Year to date			January-October
	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Thousand metric tons	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Value ² (dollars per ton)	Thousand metric tons
Brazil	39	6,710	76	10,500	138.00	38
Canada	431	53,100	3,830	392,000	102.32	1,950
Peru	--	--	--	--	--	5
Russia	--	--	606	69,900	115.35	136
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	120	17,200	143.18	--
Ukraine	--	--	95	13,700	143.78	--
Venezuela	27	1,670	107	7,020	65.60	21
Total	496	61,400	4,830	510,000	105.53	2,150

-- 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.

²Customs value. Excludes international freight and insurance charges.

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 (code no.)	October	January-October	
	2010	2010	2009
Baltimore, MD (13)	--	1,980	494
Charleston, SC (16)	--	--	6
Chicago, IL (39)	159	324	323
Cleveland, OH (41)	431	2,470	1,500
Columbia-Snake, OR (29)	21	21	--
Detroit, MI (38)	--	(3)	--
El Paso, TX (24)	11	35	--
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	39	76	38
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	--	(3)
Minneapolis, MN (35)	--	(3)	--
Mobile, AL (19)	23	179	28
New Orleans, LA (20)	104	593	406
New York, NY (10)	--	(3)	--
Nogales, AZ (26)	--	--	2
Norfolk, VA (14)	--	1	--
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	1	7	16
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	--	6
Port Arthur, TX (21)	--	3	8
Seattle, WA (30)	--	--	28
Total	788	5,690	2,860

-- Zero.

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

²Includes agglomerates.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district (code no.)	October	January-October	
	2010	2010	2009
Baltimore, MD (13)	--	1,980	484
Chicago, IL (39)	--	30	101
Cleveland, OH (41)	431	2,470	1,500
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	39	76	38
Mobile, AL (19)	--	120	5
New Orleans, LA (20)	27	162	21
Total	496	4,830	2,150

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.