

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

John D. Jorgenson, Iron Ore Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4912, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: [jjorgenson@usgs.gov](mailto:jjorgenson@usgs.gov)

Michelle B. Blackwell (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7943  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: [mblackwell@usgs.gov](mailto:mblackwell@usgs.gov)

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

## IRON ORE IN AUGUST 2011

U.S. mine production of iron ore in August 2011, on a daily average basis, was 154,000 metric tons (t), slightly greater than that for the prior month and 5% greater than that of August 2010. Average daily production in August 2011 was 2,400 t greater than that of July 2011.

Average daily shipments in August 2011, at 176,000 t, were

7% less than those of the prior month and 8% greater than those of August 2010. Mine stocks at the end of August 2011 were 686,000 t less than the stocks held on July 31, a 10% decrease. U.S. net exports of iron ore in July 2011 were 654,000 t, with exports more than double imports.

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
2010:				
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
December	4,660	49,500	4,600	49,200
2011:				
January	4,100	4,100	3,230	3,230
February	3,920	8,010	699	3,930
March	4,350	12,400	2,070	6,000
April	4,360	16,700	4,870	10,900
May	4,840	21,600	5,120	16,000
June	4,520	26,100	5,280	21,300
July	4,700	30,800	5,860	27,100
August	4,780	35,600	5,460	32,600

<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 AUGUST <sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

State	Production		Shipments <sup>3</sup>		Stocks <sup>4</sup>	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
Michigan	1,230	1,190	1,230	1,110	2,870	1,850
Minnesota	3,550	3,360	4,240	3,930	3,510	1,390
Total	4,780	4,550	5,460	5,050	6,380	3,240

<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 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<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand dry metric tons)

Period	Newfoundland and Labrador	Quebec	British Columbia	Total
	2010:			
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
November	2,620	1,990	10	4,620
December	1,640	1,440	5	3,090
January–December	19,000	17,000	93	36,100
2011:				
January	695	1,060	4	1,760
February	1,220	890	2	2,110
March	1,320	1,600	4	2,930
April	1,070	1,380	6	2,450
May	1,450	1,940	7	3,400
June	1,160	1,650	8	2,820
July	1,290	1,930	4	3,230

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes production from steel plant waste oxides.

Source: Natural Resources Canada.

TABLE 4  
PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON AND RAW STEEL IN THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE OF  
FURNACE<sup>1</sup>

(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
2010:						
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
November	2,470	27,500	2,220	25,500	3,950	45,300
December	2,340	29,900	2,580	28,100	4,060	49,300
2011:						
January	2,400	2,400	2,680	2,680	4,510	4,510
February	2,490	4,890	2,200	4,880	4,200	8,710
March	2,790	7,680	2,490	7,360	4,580	13,300
April	2,550	10,200	2,300	9,660	4,480	17,800
May	2,870	13,100	2,490	12,100	4,270	22,000
June	2,820	15,900	2,520	14,700	4,420	26,500
July	2,520	18,400	2,750	17,400	4,620	31,100

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination and type of product	2010	2011		
		1st quarter	2nd quarter	July
Belgium	107	1	2	--
Canada	8,110	871	2,180	946
China	725	259	832	248
Finland	35	--	--	--
France	236	--	--	81
Germany	341	--	1	--
Mexico	188	1	1	1
Serbia	44	--	--	--
Singapore	5	--	--	--
Spain	156	--	159	--
Other <sup>3</sup>	11	5	9	4
Total	9,950	1,140	3,180	1,280
Concentrates	391	64	72	50
Coarse ores	259	130	597	202
Fine ores	78	51	55	4
Pellets	9,220	890	2,460	1,020
Briquettes	5	(4)	--	(4)
Other agglomerates	(4)	--	1	(4)
Roasted pyrites	1	1	(4)	(4)
Total	9,950	1,140	3,180	1,280

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

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ 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	2011					2010
	July		Year to date			January–July
	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
Argentina	--	--	34	4,650	136.65	--
Brazil	--	--	13	1,720	132.38	117
Canada	419	76,100	2,220	338,000	152.46	2,850
Chile	33	6,420	121	19,800	163.59	82
China	--	--	(4)	11	1,830.00	--
Finland	--	--	4	263	65.75	--
France	--	--	--	--	--	(4)
Mexico	--	--	27	2,240	83.04	48
Norway	(4)	13	(4)	53	299.15	3
Peru	--	--	5	268	53.60	7
Russia	--	--	(4)	3	372.29	606
South Africa	68	13,500	68	13,500	198.97	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	4
Sweden	42	8,290	42	8,290	197.45	--
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	--	--	--	120
Turkey	--	--	--	--	--	(4)
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	--	95
Venezuela	65	13,500	160	29,200	182.51	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>418,000</b>	<b>155.28</b>	<b>4,020</b>
Concentrates	92	16,600	320	50,300	157.08	211
Coarse ores	36	7,400	36	7,410	205.86	(4)
Fine ores	74	14,400	388	53,700	138.53	157
Pellets	384	70,200	1,900	297,000	156.19	3,650
Briquettes	8	3,410	8	3,420	427.63	4
Other agglomerates	34	5,830	34	5,830	171.59	--
Roasted pyrites	--	--	4	263	65.75	(4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>418,000</b>	<b>155.28</b>	<b>4,020</b>

-- 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 international freight and insurance charges.

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON ORE IN JULY 2011<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	
Canada	1	--	(3)	384	34	--	419
Chile	33	--	--	--	--	--	33
Norway	--	--	(3)	--	--	--	(3)
South Africa	--	--	68	--	--	--	68
Sweden	--	36	5	--	1	--	42
Venezuela	57	--	--	--	7	--	65
Total	92	36	74	384	42	--	627

-- 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 ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

Country of origin	2011					2010
	July		Year to date			January–July
	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	--	--	--	--	--	37
Canada	384	70,200	1,900	297,000	156.19	2,710
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	606
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	--	--	--	120
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	--	95
Venezuela	--	--	--	--	--	80
Total	384	70,200	1,900	297,000	156.19	3,650

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Customs district (code no.)	July	January–July	
	2011	2011	2010
Baltimore, MD (13)	208	747	1,910
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	(3)	--
Chicago, IL (39)	57	165	110
Cleveland, OH (41)	284	1,200	1,410
Detroit, MI (38)	8	8	(3)
El Paso, TX (24)	--	18	3
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	20	20	37
Laredo, TX (23)	--	1	--
Los Angeles, CA (27)	--	(3)	--
Minneapolis, MN (35)	--	--	(3)
Mobile, AL (19)	5	5	120
New Orleans, LA (20)	33	513	412
New York, NY (10)	--	--	(3)
Norfolk, VA (14)	1	1	1
Ogdensburg, NY (07)	(3)	1	5
Philadelphia, PA (11)	--	4	--
San Francisco, CA (28)	--	5	--
St. Albans, VT (02)	(3)	1	--
Tampa, FL (18)	10	10	--
Total	627	2,690	4,020

-- 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 ½ 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 (code no.)	July	January–July	
	2011	2011	2010
Baltimore, MD (13)	100	640	1,910
Buffalo, NY (09)	--	(2)	--
Chicago, IL (39)	--	--	30
Cleveland, OH (41)	284	1,190	1,410
Houston-Galveston, TX (53)	--	--	37
Mobile, AL (19)	--	--	120
New Orleans, LA (20)	--	70	136
Total	384	1,900	3,650

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.