

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MANGANESE IN FEBRUARY 2009

Reported data regarding the amount of manganese ore consumed by U.S. firms in February 2009 and industry stocks at the end of the month were not available at the time of publication. However, net imports may be used as a rough indicator of near-term manganese ore consumption. In February 2009, there were no imports of manganese ore. Accordingly, the United States was a net exporter of manganese ore, with 376 metric tons (t), gross weight, exported. Net imports of manganese ore in December 2008 and January 2009 were 90,300 t and 46,400 t, respectively.

Data for U.S. imports and exports for January 2009 are published in this issue. On a contained-weight basis, U.S. imports of manganese ore plus dioxide and manganese ferroalloys plus metal were 46% lower and 35% higher,

respectively, than those in December 2008. U.S. imports of manganese ore plus dioxide and manganese ferroalloys plus metal during January 2009 were 553% higher and 53% lower, respectively, than those in January 2008 (table 1).

On a contained-weight basis, U.S. manganese ore and manganese ferroalloys plus metal exports for January 2009 were 34% higher and 33% higher, respectively, than those in December 2008. U.S. exports of manganese ore and manganese ferroalloys plus metal during January 2009 were 95% less and 320% greater, respectively, than those in January 2008 (table 1).

Prices

Prices for manganese materials in February 2009, manganese content, are listed below.

Ferroalloys prices¹

	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Average Price</u>
High-carbon ferromanganese ²	1,300.00-1,350.00	1,325.00
Medium-carbon ferromanganese ³	114.00-118.00	116.00
Silicomanganese ³	45.00-49.00	46.50

Manganese metal and ore prices⁴

	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Average Low, Mid, and High Prices</u>
Manganese metal ³	135.00-145.00	135.00-140.00-145.00
36%-39% Manganese ore ⁵	4.50-5.25	4.59-4.73-4.88
44% Manganese ore ⁵	5.00-7.75	5.75-6.05-6.34
48% Manganese ore ⁵	5.50-8.50	6.44-6.72-7.00

¹Source: Platts Metals Week, dealer import price; average prices reported for all transactions during the month.

²Dollars per gross ton.

³Cents per pound.

⁴Source: Ryan's Notes, cost and freight, China; average prices reported for the price range.

⁵Dollars per metric ton unit, contained manganese. To determine dollars per metric ton of ore (gross weight), multiply the manganese content percentage by the price; that is, by 48 when the manganese content is 48%.

TABLE 1
SELECTED U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN MANGANESE¹

(Metric tons, manganese content)²

	Imports for consumption			Exports		
	Ore and dioxide	Ferroalloy and metal	Total	Ore	Ferroalloy and metal	Total
2008, January	3,910	77,900	81,800	2,200	586	2,790
2009, January	25,600	36,600	62,100	102	2,460	2,560

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

²As reported except as estimated for imports of manganese dioxide and manganese waste and scrap and for exports from gross weights.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF SILICOMANGANESE IN JANUARY 2009¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²
Australia	5,070	3,360	\$5,810,000
Saudi Arabia	4,190	734	3,970,000
South Africa	11,500	7,600	18,400,000
Total	20,800	11,700	28,200,000

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROMANGANESE IN JANUARY 2009¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ²
Low carbon:			
China	108	99	\$300,000
South Africa	1,000	812	2,500,000
Total	1,110	911	2,800,000
Medium carbon, 1%-2% C:			
China	210	166	378,000
France	19	15	103,000
South Africa	6,140	4,910	15,900,000
Turkey	20	16	95,800
Total	6,390	5,110	16,500,000
High carbon, South Africa	21,600	16,600	33,700,000
Grand total	29,100	22,600	52,900,000

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn) IN JANUARY 2009^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Mn content	Customs value ³
More than 20%, but less than 47% manganese	--	--	--
47% or more manganese:			
China	156	95	\$141,000
Gabon	46,500	24,800	17,500,000
Total	46,600	24,900	17,700,000

-- Zero.

¹Quantities for general imports and imports for consumption are identical.

²Data rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE DIOXIDE IN JANUARY 2009¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Source	Quantity	Customs value ²
Belgium	20	\$64,400
Brazil	39	63,800
India	(3)	4,740
Japan	319	874,000
Singapore	20	33,400
South Africa	754	1,470,000
Total	1,150	2,510,000

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MANGANESE METAL IN JANUARY 2009¹

(Metric tons)

Source	Gross weight	Customs value ²
Unwrought flake:		
China	1,040	\$2,260,000
South Africa	57	115,000
Total	1,100	2,380,000
Unwrought powder:		
China	40	88,200
South Africa	19	90,600
Total	59	179,000
Unwrought, other:		
China	961	1,830,000
Germany	30	125,000
South Africa	19	90,600
Total	1,010	2,050,000
Other manganese, wrought:		
Canada	4	9,320
China	33	91,900
Mexico	41	225,000
Total	78	326,000
Grand total	2,240	4,930,000

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

²Customs value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the material into the United States.

Note: Imports for consumption of metallic waste and scrap totaled 12 metric tons (t), of which 6 t were from Canada and China.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF MANGANESE ORE (20% OR MORE Mn), FERROMANGANESE, SILICOMANGANESE,
AND MANGANESE METAL BY COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION IN JANUARY 2009¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country	Ferromanganese,			Manganese metal ²
	Manganese ore	2% or less C	Silicomanganese	
Belgium	--	--	--	50
Canada	111	1,410	39	--
China	--	--	--	13
Finland	--	--	--	21
France	--	--	--	(3)
Germany	67	--	--	22
Guyana	--	--	--	1
Hong Kong	--	--	--	51
Japan	--	--	--	133
Korea, Republic of	25	--	--	--
Mexico	--	290	13	20
Vietnam	--	--	--	4
Total	203	1,700	52	315

-- Zero.

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

²Includes manganese-aluminum, some other alloys, and waste and scrap.

³Less than ½ unit.

Note: Exports of ferromanganese with more than 2% carbon totaled 968 metric tons (t), of which 523 t went to Canada, 252 t went to Japan, 121 t went to Malaysia, 59 t went to Mexico, 9 t went to India, and 3 t went to Norway.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN SELECTED MANGANESE CHEMICALS IN JANUARY 2009, BY CLASS¹

Class	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value ² (thousands)	Principal sources and destinations:
			gross weight (metric tons); value ² (thousands)
Imports for consumption:			
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	433	\$448	Mexico 229; \$336
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	--	--	--
Potassium permanganate	56	195	Czech Republic 56; \$195
Sodium permanganate	--	--	--
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	4,740	5,250	China 2,320; \$1,830
Exports:			
Manganese dioxide	649	617	Canada 502; \$433
Manganese oxides other than dioxide	389	512	Canada 218; \$104
Manganites, manganates, and other permanganates	8	18	Canada 8; \$18
Potassium permanganate	91	312	Belgium 38; \$116
Sodium permanganate	30	58	Singapore 19; \$48
Sulfates, basket category, including manganese sulfate	1,260	1,180	Canada 980; \$627

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²For imports, Customs value; for exports, free alongside ship value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.