

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SILICON IN OCTOBER 2002

In October, domestic production of silicon ferroalloys plus metal, excluding silvery pig iron, was estimated to have increased by about 14% compared with the corresponding figure for the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Domestic shipments increased by 13% compared with those in September 2002. Total producer stocks were estimated to have decreased by 85% from those in August, owing to a revision in statistical reporting for the prior three months. All domestic data for ferrosilicon have been combined to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

The September trade data included in this report indicated that the volume of silicon metal imports decreased by 16% compared with those of August 2002. Total ferrosilicon imports, on a gross weight basis, decreased by 15%, with significant decreases in the trade categories of "magnesium ferrosilicon," and "other ferrosilicon." On a gross weight basis, total ferrosilicon exports increased by about 13%, when compared to those in August 2002, owing primarily to a significant increase in the trade category "ferrosilicon, more than 55% silicon." Silicon metal exports increased by 36% from those in the previous month, with a significant increase in the trade category "99.00% - 99.99% silicon."

In September, the International Trade Administration (ITA) announced its preliminary determination that imports of silicon metal from the Russian Federation were being, or were likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value for the July 1, 2001, to December 1, 2001, Period of Review (International Trade Administration, 2002). As a result, the ITA set

preliminary antidumping margins for ZAO Kremny, SUAL-Kremny-Ural Ltd. (91.06%); Brask Aluminum Smelter (123.62%); and Russia-wide (123.62%). The ITA's final determination on Russian silicon imports is scheduled for February 3, 2003 (International Trade Administration, 2002¹). The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) has scheduled a hearing on the final phase of the antidumping investigation for February 5, 2003 (U.S. International Trade Commission, 2002[§]).

Reference Cited

International Trade Administration, 2002, Notice of preliminary determination of sales at less than fair value and postponement of final determination—Silicon metal from the Russian Federation: Federal Register, v. 67, no. 183, September 20, p. 59253-59263.

Internet References Cited

International Trade Administration, 2002, Preliminary determination in the antidumping duty investigation of silicon metal from the Russian Federation—Fact sheet, September, accessed December 18, 2002, at URL <http://www.ita.doc.gov>.

U.S. International Trade Commission, 2002, Silicon metal from Russia—Scheduling of the final phase of an antidumping investigation, accessed December 18, 2002, at URL <http://www.usitc.gov>.

¹References that include a section twist (§) are found in the Internet References Cited section.

Prices, cents per pound, silicon content

	<u>50% Ferrosilicon¹</u>	<u>75% Ferrosilicon²</u>	<u>Silicon Metal²</u>
October 2	44.0-46.0	34.5-36.5	54.0-57.0
October 9	44.0-46.0	35.5-37.5	56.0-58.0
October 16	44.0-46.0	35.5-37.5	56.0-58.0
October 23	44.0-46.0	35.5-37.5	58.0-60.0
October 30	44.0-46.0	35.5-37.5	59.0-61.0

¹Source: Ryan's Notes, North American transaction price.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND PRODUCER STOCKS OF SILICON ALLOYS AND METAL IN 2002 1/ 2/ 3/

(Metric tons)

Material	Gross production 4/		Net shipments		Stocks,
	October	Year to date	October	Year to date	October 31
Ferrosilicon:					
All grades 5/ 6/	20,600	210,000	19,100	173,000	35,300 r/
Silicon metal:					
Excludes semiconductor grades	9,470	89,900	8,130	84,300	2,710

r/ Revised.

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

2/ Includes U.S. Geological Survey estimates.

3/ Data for silvery pig iron (less than 25% silicon) withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

4/ Includes in-plant consumption, as in production of magnesium ferrosilicon and other miscellaneous alloys.

5/ Ferrosilicon categories were aggregated to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

6/ Includes miscellaneous silicon alloys.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
More than 55% silicon:						
Canada	573	344	\$366,000	3,700	2,220	\$2,460,000
Malaysia	--	--	--	33	25	54,700
Mexico	14	8	12,000	501	315	414,000
Trinidad	--	--	--	11	6	8,590
Total	587	352	378,000	4,240	2,560	2,930,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Australia	82	31	78,200	466	154	510,000
Brazil	--	--	--	21	11	18,200
Canada	271	135	173,000	3,100	1,550	1,880,000
China	--	--	--	48	24	13,100
India	--	--	--	23	11	13,800
Italy	--	--	--	49	26	78,800
Japan	--	--	--	336	30	717,000
Korea, Republic of	38	19	41,800	1,110	557	1,420,000
Malaysia	61	12	71,900	242	64	288,000
Mexico	25	13	27,200	415	208	490,000
Other (8 countries)	--	--	--	97	47	145,000
Total	477	210	392,000	5,910	2,680	5,570,000
Total ferrosilicon	1,060	562	770,000	10,200	5,250	8,510,000
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
China	38	XX	1,840,000	355	XX	11,000,000
Germany	22	XX	1,140,000	251	XX	11,600,000
Italy	11	XX	714,000	77	XX	6,660,000
Japan	394	XX	16,200,000	2,510	XX	123,000,000
Korea, Republic of	38	XX	1,330,000	327	XX	12,700,000
Malaysia	3	XX	533,000	59	XX	11,700,000
Norway	42	XX	1,030,000	319	XX	8,160,000
Taiwan	10	XX	520,000	93	XX	4,360,000
Ukraine	(3/)	XX	4,600	92	XX	2,300,000
United Kingdom	9	XX	1,330,000	61	XX	10,200,000
Other (39 countries)	13	XX	819,000	218	XX	11,400,000
Total	579	579 e/	25,500,000	4,370	4,370 e/	213,000,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2--Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal--Continued:						
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Belgium	--	--	--	23	22	\$32,000
Brazil	--	--	--	40	39	55,900
Denmark	18	17	\$51,600	86	85	148,000
Japan	246	244	731,000	284	282	804,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	20	20	28,600
Mexico	--	--	--	203	201	340,000
Nauru	--	--	--	51	51	72,000
Netherlands Antilles	18	18	26,400	83	82	127,000
Norway	26	25	36,000	249	247	351,000
Singapore	--	--	--	21	20	39,400
Other (11 countries)	21	21	24,000	95	94	151,000
Total	328	325	869,000	1,150	1,140	2,150,000
Other silicon:						
Canada	5	5	9,890	801	778	1,010,000
Germany	68	66	89,300	322	313	428,000
Hong Kong	(3/)	(3/)	5,370	166	161	248,000
Israel	253	245	332,000	272	265	359,000
Japan	64	62	83,900	827	803	1,230,000
Korea, Republic of	167	163	221,000	384	373	655,000
Malaysia	44	42	57,500	164	159	216,000
Mexico	71	68	104,000	722	700	1,300,000
Philippines	74	71	321,000	401	389	1,080,000
Taiwan	12	12	19,200	401	389	666,000
Other (21 countries)	60	58	420,000	581	563	2,150,000
Total	817	793	1,660,000	5,040	4,890	9,330,000
Total silicon metal	1,720	1,700	28,000,000	10,600	10,400	225,000,000

e/ Estimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Presentation of monthly data is based on the year-to-date quantities (gross weight) of the top ten countries.

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

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
55% - 80% silicon, over 3% Ca:						
Argentina	37	23	\$37,700	125	76	\$157,000
Brazil	--	--	--	943	555 3/	811,000
Canada	--	--	--	21	15	6,580
China	121	121	53,500	141	130	66,000
France	34	22	46,000	34	22	46,000
Germany	--	--	--	40	12	40,500
Norway	--	--	--	6	4	10,500
United Kingdom	--	--	--	11	7	58,100
Total	192	166	137,000	1,320	821	1,190,000
55% - 80% silicon, Other:						
Brazil	20	15	12,200	395	296	333,000
Canada	750	575	450,000	6,430	4,860	4,140,000
China	561	422	276,000	2,400	1,800	1,180,000
France	515	340	977,000	2,970	1,950	5,450,000
Iceland	2,950	2,220	1,380,000	15,200	11,400	6,940,000
Kazakhstan	3,200	2,450	1,440,000	25,900	19,800	10,400,000
Norway	362	270	471,000	3,210	2,390	4,200,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3--Continued
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon--Continued:						
55% - 80% silicon, over 3% Ca--Continued:						
South Africa	--	--	--	4,890	3,550	\$2,240,000
Ukraine	--	--	--	18,500	13,900	7,780,000
Venezuela	905	679	\$507,000	34,500	25,900	18,500,000
Other (5 countries)	9	6	35,300	644	318	1,530,000
Total	9,270	6,980	5,550,000	115,000	86,100	62,800,000
More than 90% silicon:						
China	--	--	--	44	2,380 3/	220,000
Magnesium ferrosilicon:						
Argentina	100	45	68,500	932	406	616,000
Brazil	334	151	185,000	2,960	1,340	1,910,000
Canada	292	136	89,000	999	471	682,000
China	76	180	257,000	3,340	1,690	2,510,000
France	--	--	--	20	9	22,200
Germany	2	1	2,870	5	2	12,000
Japan	16	8	36,700	148	71	314,000
Norway	306	144	249,000	7,720	3,560	6,280,000
Slovenia	--	--	--	4	1	6,480
Ukraine	--	--	--	18	9	7,970
Total	1,130	664	887,000	16,100	7,560	12,400,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Brazil	14	7	8,230	52	34	56,000
Canada	879	313	566,000	8,700	3,040	6,080,000
China	--	--	--	40	20	66,100
France	13	7	28,800	16	8	37,800
Italy	94	41	28,600	94	41	28,600
Norway	--	--	--	23	4	18,100
Ukraine	57	28	20,800	891	408	279,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	2	1	2,690
Total	1,060	396	652,000	9,820	3,560	6,560,000
Total ferrosilicon	11,600	8,200	7,220,000	142,000	100,000	83,100,000
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
Belgium	--	XX	--	4	XX	15,700
China	(4/)	XX	6,950	19	XX	404,000
Cyprus	--	XX	--	54	XX	80,000
Germany	23	XX	2,420,000	301	XX	36,900,000
Finland	--	XX	--	12	XX	54,900
Italy	35	XX	1,400,000	254	XX	10,400,000
Japan	18	XX	456,000	334	XX	10,200,000
Korea, Republic of	5	XX	117,000	68	XX	1,180,000
Poland	--	XX	--	3	XX	16,500
Spain	1	XX	5,510	12	XX	43,100
Other (11 countries)	1	XX	171,000	13	XX	1,210,000
Total	83	83 e/	4,580,000	1,070	1,070 e/	60,500,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Argentina	689	636	668,000	4,990	4,840	4,740,000
Australia	--	--	--	396	393	413,000
Brazil	2,600	2,580	3,410,000	25,500	25,400	32,800,000
Canada	2,690 3/	3,470 3/	3,240,000	9,590	10,300	11,600,000
China	4	4	2,950	354	351	289,000
Germany	460	457	833,000	900	894	1,620,000
Norway	150	149	148,000	3,370	3,350	5,030,000
Russia	415	413	502,000	13,200	13,100	14,500,000
South Africa	2,790	2,770	3,260,000	15,700	15,600	17,700,000
Spain	--	--	--	1,480	1,470	1,420,000
Other (9 countries)	751 3/	731 3/	748,000	1,700	1,670	1,710,000
Total	10,500	11,200	12,800,000	77,300	77,400	91,800,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3--Continued
 U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN SEPTEMBER 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal--Continued:						
Other silicon:						
Canada	(4/)	(4/)	\$3,480	1,520	1,490	\$1,810,000
China	496	382	425,000	3,560	3,400	2,650,000
Germany	60	59	50,800	160	157	135,000
Korea, Republic of	380	373	317,000	380	373	317,000
Norway	700	692	636,000	3,270	3,210	2,920,000
Russia	--	--	--	16,800	16,500	13,700,000
Saudi Arabia	143	140	122,000	143	140	122,000
South Africa	820	701	791,000	8,990	8,670	8,140,000
United Arab Emirates	40	39	32,000	518	510	433,000
Vietnam	--	--	--	200	198	153,000
Other (7 countries)	22	2	24,300	147	46	181,000
Total	2,660	2,390	2,400,000	35,700	34,700	30,600,000
Total silicon metal	13,300	13,700	19,800,000	114,000	113,000	183,000,000

e/ Estimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Presentation of monthly data is based on the year-to-date quantities (gross weight) of the top ten countries.

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

3/ All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

4/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.