Mineral Industry Surveys

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IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN JULY 2023

In July 2023, purchased steel scrap receipts decreased by 3%, recirculating scrap production increased by 16%, and iron and steel scrap consumption was unchanged compared with those in June. Stocks of purchased and home scrap were essentially unchanged from those at the end of June. In July 2023, pig iron production decreased slightly and consumption was essentially unchanged from that in June. Direct-reduced iron receipts decreased by 13% and consumption decreased by 20% from that in June (table 1, fig. 1).

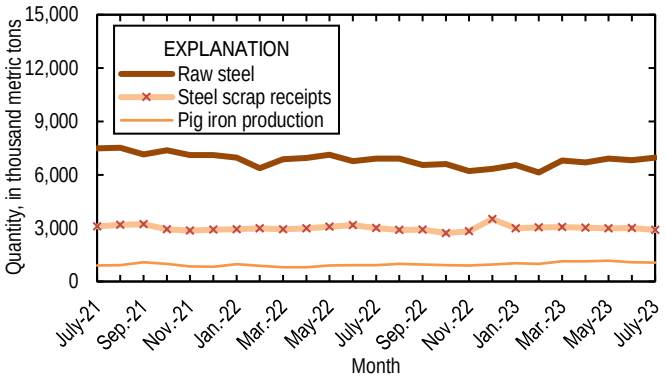

Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of raw steel, receipts of iron and steel scrap, and production of pig iron from July 2021 through July 2023. Sources: U.S. Geological Survey and American Iron and Steel Institute.

Exports of iron and steel scrap in July 2023 decreased by 30% from those in June (fig. 2, table 4). In July 2023, Turkey was the leading destination for exports, accounting for 25% of the total tonnage, followed by India (19%) and Mexico (12%) (table 4). New York City, NY, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of exports, accounting for 21% of the total, followed by San Francisco, CA, (14%) and Los Angeles, CA, (10%) (table 5).

Imports of iron and steel scrap in July 2023 decreased by 4% compared with those in June (fig. 2, table 7). Canada was the leading country of origin, accounting for 70% of the total tonnage of imports, followed by Mexico (17%) and Sweden (12%) (table 7). Detroit, MI, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of imports, accounting for 40% of the total, followed by Seattle, WA, (17%) and Laredo, TX, (12%) (table 8).

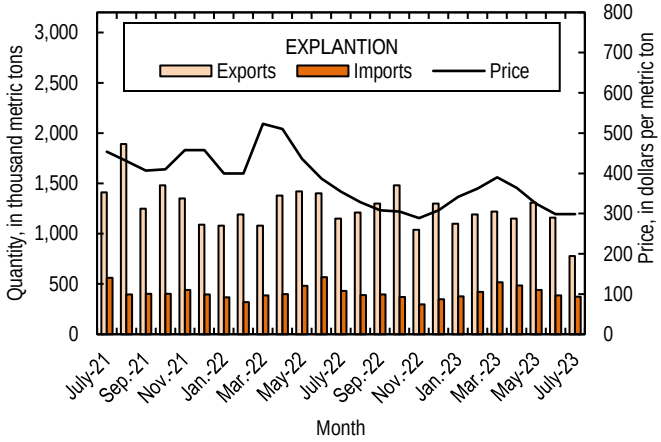

Figure 2. Monthly domestic imports and exports of iron and steel scrap and price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap from July 2021 through July 2023. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Fastmarkets AMM.

The daily average domestic raw steel production for July, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute's monthly production data, was 225,000 metric tons, essentially unchanged from that in June and July 2022. Raw steel production capability utilization was 76.2% in July 2023, down from 77.9% in June and down from 78.1% in July 2022 (table 10).

Industry News

In response to qualification requirements for bonus tax credits available under the Inflation Reduction Act, a group of five Trade Associations representing various segments of the steel industry sent a letter to the Treasury Department urging the Department to only provide tax credits for certain wind and solar components which use domestic steel products, rather than including imported steel products. The categories of concern included materials relating to offshore wind facilities, photovoltaic tracking systems, and steel fasteners (American Iron and Steel Institute, 2023).

Reference Cited

American Iron and Steel Institute, 2023: Steel industry groups urge government to ensure use of American steel in clean electricity technologies receiving IRA bonus credits: Washington, D.C., American Iron and Steel Institute press release, July 27. (Accessed October 19, 2023, at https://www.steel.org/2023/07/steel-industry-groups-urge-government-to-ensure-use-of-american-steel-in-clean-electricity-technologies-receiving-ira-bonus-credits/.)

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TABLE 1
IRON AND STEEL SCRAP, PIG IRON, AND DIRECT-REDUCED IRON STATISTICS
FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons)

	July	January–July[3]
Scrap:		
Receipts:		
From outside sources	2,900	21,000
From other own company plants	178	1,260
Production:		
Recirculating scrap	366	2,340
Obsolete scrap	10	71
Consumption (by type of furnace):		
Blast furnace	142	886
Basic oxygen process	282	2,020
Electric furnace	3,060	21,300
Other	--	110
Total consumption	3,480	24,300
Shipments	30	224
Stocks, end of period	3,840	3,840
Pig iron (includes hot metal):		
Receipts	170	1,020
Production	1,070	7,610
Consumption	1,240	8,620
Stocks, end of period	779	779
Direct-reduced iron:[4]		
Receipts	231	1,530
Consumption	200	1,480
Stocks, end of period	356	356

-- Zero.

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

[2]Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Includes direct-reduced iron, hot-briquetted iron, and iron carbide. Domestic production data are included in “Receipts.”

TABLE 2

RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, AND STOCKS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP, BY GRADE, FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons)

Item	July				January–July[3]		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption[4]	Ending stocks	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption[4]
Carbon steel:							
Low-phosphorus plate and punchings	14	W	16	W	100	W	115
Cut structural and plate	251	23	278	342	1,830	189	2,040
No. 1 heavy melting steel	270	49	337	178	1,900	339	2,320
No. 2 heavy melting steel	330	32	388	249	2,320	189	2,670
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles	105	--	121	140	799	--	794
No. 2 and all other bundles	61	W	66	34	468	W	493
Electric furnace 1 foot and under (not bundles)	W	--	4	W	W	--	W
Railroad rails	18	W	19	97	126	W	130
Turnings and borings	134	W	149	202	955	W	989
Slag scrap	27	27	57	38	195	190	404
Shredded and fragmentized	877	W	973	1,530	6,360	W	6,780
No. 1 busheling	324	24	358	351	2,540	181	2,720
Steel cans scrap (post consumer)	W	W	W	293	W	W	W
All other carbon steel scrap	166	106	301	204	1,230	785	2,140
Stainless steel scrap	42	19	62	32	292	132	433
Alloy steel scrap	23	8	31	50	162	58	220
Ingot mold and stool scrap	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Machinery and cupola cast iron	4	--	W	W	W	--	W
Cast iron borings	12	--	12	W	83	W	85
Other iron scrap	72	11	78	34	426	77	441
Other mixed scrap	149	W	210	40	1,060	W	1,400
Total	2,900	366	3,480	3,840	21,000	2,340	24,300

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total." -- Zero.

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

[2]Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Includes recirculating scrap.

TABLE 3
RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION, AND CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP,
BY REGION AND STATE, FOR STEEL PRODUCERS, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and State	July			January–July[3]		
	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption[4]	Receipts of scrap from outside sources	Production of recirculating scrap	Consumption[4]
Mid-Atlantic and New England:						
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania	190	38	267	1,380	265	1,830
North Central:						
Illinois and Indiana	331	78	439	2,400	534	3,130
Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin	212	W	225	1,530	44	1,630
Michigan	38	W	43	266	33	302
Ohio	428	77	517	2,850	581	3,440
Total	1,010	164	1,220	7,040	1,190	8,490
South Atlantic:						
Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina	256	W	274	1,890	W	2,020
Virginia, West Virginia	85	W	155	692	W	840
Total	343	W	428	2,580	143	2,860
South Central:						
Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	641	47	718	4,670	338	5,160
Arkansas and Texas	420	36	517	3,250	267	3,700
Total	1,060	83	1,240	7,920	606	8,860
Mountain and Pacific:						
California, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Washington	293	W	325	2,070	130	2,300
Grand total	2,900	366	3,480	21,000	2,340	24,300

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

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

[2]Includes manufacturers of raw steel that also produce steel castings.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Includes recirculating scrap.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP BY SELECTED REGION AND COUNTRY OR LOCALITY, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

	July		January–July[3]	
Country or locality	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bangladesh	86	38,600	717	297,000
Belgium	1	200	9	10,200
Canada	49	16,400	301	115,000
China	1	3,570	11	23,800
Ecuador	1	280	99	41,100
Greece	33	12,200	63	23,900
India	150	86,500	687	431,000
Italy	7	782	168	69,800
Korea, Republic of	9	6,980	210	99,400
Malaysia	12	11,000	84	92,900
Mexico	95	35,200	1,290	386,000
Morocco	(4)	90	41	15,800
Netherlands	(4)	272	5	7,050
Pakistan	27	20,700	154	115,000
Peru	--	--	318	128,000
Taiwan	77	30,300	628	267,000
Thailand	15	13,100	187	104,000
Turkey	190	72,100	2,180	860,000
Vietnam	15	6,050	585	238,000
Other[5]	7	6,560	160	67,700
Total	777	361,000	7,890	3,390,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

[5]Includes countries with quantities of less than 500 metric tons for the current year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP BY REGION AND
SELECTED CUSTOMS DISTRICT, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

	July		January–July[3]	
Customs district	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Baltimore, MD	38	19,100	248	128,000
Boston, MA	34	14,000	564	230,000
Buffalo, NY	13	5,430	61	33,800
Charleston, SC	8	4,790	34	27,900
Columbia–Snake, OR	34	13,600	390	168,000
Dallas-Forth Worth, TX	--	--	(4)	4
Detroit, MI	17	6,960	111	47,000
Duluth, MN	--	--	3	2,170
El Paso, TX	(4)	172	86	1,230
Honolulu, HI, and Anchorage, AK	3	1,280	60	24,400
Houston–Galveston, TX	65	31,500	181	117,000
Laredo, TX	61	22,900	676	189,000
Los Angeles, CA	74	38,000	976	452,000
Miami, FL	25	12,700	153	78,200
Mobile, AL	(4)	375	6	5,580
New Orleans, LA	8	1,050	12	5,230
New York City, NY	162	76,900	1,250	598,000
Norfolk, VA	23	19,800	225	150,000
Ogdensburg, NY	3	796	9	2,430
Pembina, ND	4	1,280	152	21,400
Philadelphia, PA	3	1,530	484	186,000
Portland, ME	3	642	66	25,000
Providence, RI	--	--	285	111,000
San Diego, CA	19	6,130	156	45,700
San Francisco, CA	107	47,900	862	357,000
San Juan, PR	12	4,530	131	42,800
Savannah, GA	15	10,700	101	82,500
Seattle, WA	33	15,100	329	150,000
St. Albans, VT	2	619	12	2,990
Tampa, FL	3	1,910	217	92,600
U.S. Virgin Islands	--	--	6	2,340
Other	8	1,150	53	12,500
Total	777	361,000	7,890	3,390,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP AND OTHER
FERROUS PRODUCTS BY GRADE, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	July		January–July[3]	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	313	136,000	3,260	1,320,000
No. 2 heavy melting steel	48	24,400	387	187,000
No. 1 bundles	6	2,060	108	19,000
No. 2 bundles	(4)	37	4	415
Shredded steel scrap	239	92,000	2,600	1,050,000
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	3	1,100	26	7,400
Cut plate and structural	39	14,900	393	167,000
Tinned iron or steel	4	717	59	10,400
Remelting scrap ingots	1	303	3	1,140
Cast iron	22	14,400	298	98,100
Other iron and steel	3	829	26	5,770
Total carbon steel and cast iron	678	287,000	7,170	2,870,000
Stainless steel	39	37,300	307	259,000
Other alloy steel	59	36,500	417	262,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	99	73,800	724	522,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel, and cast iron	777	361,000	7,890	3,390,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for	--	--	3	426
breaking up (for scrapping)	--	--	--	--
Used rails	(4)	565	1	3,610
Used rails for rerolling and other uses	(4)	28	(4)	150
Total scrap exports	777	361,000	7,900	3,400,000
Exports of manufactured ferrous products,				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	1	359	12	9,120
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	--	--	--	--
Alloy Pig Iron	(4)	20	(4)	125
Total pig iron	1	379	13	9,250
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	--	--	5	82
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	2	2,720	13	20,900
Powders of alloy steel	1	4,460	6	41,800
Other ferrous powders	4	7,340	33	51,900
Total DRI, granules, powders	6	14,500	58	115,000
Grand total	784	376,000	7,970	3,520,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP
BY SELECTED COUNTRY OR LOCALITY, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

	July		January–July[3]	
Country or locality	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Canada	263	106,000	2,130	935,000
Cayman Islands	(4)	73	4	718
Colombia	--	--	1	460
Germany	1	85	103	43,400
Japan	1	25	12	360
Mexico	64	32,200	369	190,000
Netherlands	--	--	101	44,600
New Zealand	--	--	27	12,100
Portugal	--	--	14	5,610
Spain	--	--	12	4,990
Sweden	43	18,000	143	64,800
United Kingdom	--	--	69	33,900
Other[5]	1	859	19	11,100
Total	374	157,000	3,000	1,350,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats, and other vessels for scrapping. Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

[5]Includes countries with quantities of less than 500 metric tons for the current year.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP
BY SELECTED CUSTOMS DISTRICT, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

	July		January–July[3]	
Customs district	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Baltimore, MD	(4)	204	1	599
Buffalo, NY	14	7,980	137	78,500
Charleston, SC	44	18,100	276	119,000
Chicago, IL	(4)	198	11	3,310
Cleveland, OH	--	--	(4)	684
Detroit, MI	150	66,800	1,330	628,000
Duluth, MN	12	4,410	65	24,900
El Paso, TX	5	2,160	35	15,200
Great Falls, MT	6	1,810	19	6,700
Houston-Galveston, TX	(4)	111	1	1,600
Laredo, TX	46	23,300	240	131,000
Miami, FL	1	134	11	2,670
Mobile, AL	4	3,380	46	31,200
New Orleans, LA	1	44	177	76,100
New York City, NY	(4)	4	8	2,270
Nogales, AZ	3	1,220	31	13,200
Ogdensburg, NY	(4)	364	11	12,500
Pembina, ND	12	4,190	117	47,900
San Diego, CA	7	2,170	46	14,700
Seattle, WA	64	18,700	424	131,000
St. Albans, VT	2	630	7	2,130
Other	3	1,560	8	4,530
Total	374	157,000	3,000	1,350,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Includes tinplate and terneplate; excludes used rails for rerolling and other uses and ships, boats and other vessels for scrapping. Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL SCRAP AND OTHER
FERROUS PRODUCTS BY GRADE, IN JULY 2023[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Item	July		January–July[3]	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
No. 1 heavy melting steel	11	3,280	88	29,400
No. 2 heavy melting steel	10	3,490	78	28,100
No. 1 bundles	79	35,400	855	404,000
No. 2 bundles	9	3,030	54	20,400
Shredded steel scrap	78	32,700	556	246,000
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	5	909	32	8,700
Cut plate and structural	19	5,410	130	41,200
Tinned iron or steel	17	6,440	158	64,700
Remelting scrap ingots	(4)	245	1	996
Cast iron	9	3,200	106	37,900
Other iron and steel	61	22,000	456	170,000
Total carbon steel and cast iron	296	116,000	2,510	1,050,000
Stainless steel	14	16,400	123	146,000
Other alloy steel	63	25,000	366	150,000
Total stainless and alloy steel	77	41,300	489	296,000
Total carbon, stainless, alloy steel, and cast iron	374	157,000	3,000	1,350,000
Ships, boats, and other vessels for breaking up (for scrapping)	(4)	8	(4)	11
Used rails	--	--	2	726
Used rails, nonalloyed	--	--	--	--
Used rails other	(4)	12	(4)	581
Total scrap imports	374	157,000	3,000	1,350,000
Imports of manufactured ferrous products:				
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	--	--	(4)	8
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	416	217,000	2,550	1,340,000
Alloy pig iron	--	--	(4)	23
Total pig iron	416	217,000	2,550	1,340,000
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	317	98,300	2,050	667,000
Spongy iron products, not DRI	(4)	356	1	2,190
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	1	2,250	11	19,900
Powders of alloy steel	4	9,440	34	81,800
Other ferrous powders	3	5,550	24	56,600
Total DRI, granules, powders	325	116,000	2,120	827,000
Grand total	1,120	491,000	7,680	3,520,000

-- Zero.

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

[2]Import valuation is on a Customs basis.

[3]May include revisions to previously published data.

[4]Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 10
U.S. RAW STEEL PRODUCTION, RAW STEEL CAPABILITY UTILIZATION,
AND CONTINUOUS CAST STEEL PRODUCTION[1]

Period	Raw steel production, thousand metric tons		Raw steel capability utilization, percent		Continuous cast steel production, percent	
	Monthly	Year to date[2]	Monthly	Year to date[2]	Monthly	Year to date[2]
2022:						
July	6,910	47,900	78.1	80.0	99.7	99.7
August	6,910	54,900	78.0	79.7	99.7	99.7
September	6,550	61,400	76.4	79.4	99.7	99.7
October	6,610	68,000	73.7	78.8	99.7	99.7
November	6,200	74,200	71.5	78.1	99.6	99.7
December	6,330	80,500	70.6	77.5	99.7	99.7
2023:						
January	6,550	6,550	73.0	73.0	99.6	99.6
February	6,120	12,700	75.5	74.2	99.7	99.7
March	6,800	19,500	75.7	74.7	99.7	99.7
April	6,690	26,200	76.5	75.1	99.7	99.7
May	6,900	33,100	76.3	75.4	99.7	99.7
June	6,820	39,900	77.9	75.8	99.7	99.7
July	6,970	46,900	76.2	75.9	99.7	99.7

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.
[2]May include revisions to previously published data.

Source: American Iron and Steel Institute.

TABLE 11
COMPOSITE PRICES FOR STEEL SCRAP AND PIG IRON

Period	Steel Scrap[1]		Pig Iron[2]	
	$/lt	$/t	$/lt	$/t
2022:				
July	360.00	354.31	742.36	730.64
August	333.33	328.07	974.43	959.04
September	313.33	308.38	618.84	609.07
October	310.00	305.11	924.99	910.38
November	293.33	288.70	511.23	503.16
December	313.33	308.38	662.89	652.42
Average, January–December	385.28	379.19	662.64	652.18
2023:				
January	346.67	341.20	560.18	551.33
February	368.33	362.51	439.42	432.48
March	396.67	390.41	600.00	590.53
April	370.00	364.16	492.25	484.48
May	330.00	324.79	510.73	502.67
June	303.33	298.54	518.60	510.41
July	303.33	298.54	509.23	501.19

[1]Prices are for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap. Source: Fastmarkets-AMM.
[2]Prices are Brazilian basic pig iron, free on board, New Orleans, LA. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Note: Long tons = lt; metric tons = t.

TABLE 12
U.S. IRON AND STEEL SCRAP RECEIPTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES, PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, AND DIRECT-REDUCED IRON (DRI) CONSUMPTION[1]

(Thousand metric tons)

Period[2]	Receipts of scrap from outside sources		Pig iron production		DRI consumption	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2022:						
July	2,994	21,068	922	6,196	262	1,862
August	2,900	24,000	988	7,180	264	2,130
September	2,910	26,900	950	8,130	187	2,310
October	2,720	29,600	918	9,050	190	2,500
November	2,830	32,400	898	9,950	184	2,690
December	3,510	35,900	956	10,900	202	2,890
2023:						
January	2,980	2,980	1,030	1,030	213	213
February	3,050	6,040	986	2,020	207	420
March	3,060	9,090	1,140	3,160	207	627
April	3,020	12,100	1,140	4,290	199	826
May	2,980	15,100	1,170	5,460	203	1,030
June	3,000	18,100	1,090	6,550	250	1,280
July	2,900	21,000	1,070	7,610	200	1,480

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.
[2]May include revisions to previously published data.