Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:
Candice C. Tuck, Iron and Steel Scrap Commodity Specialist
National Minerals Information Center
Telephone: (703) 648-4912
Email: ctuck@usgs.gov

Tiffany J. Lin (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7963
Email: tjlin@usgs.gov
Internet: https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys

IRON AND STEEL SCRAP IN DECEMBER 2025

NOTICE

The U.S. Geological Survey plans to discontinue Tables 2, 3, 5, and 8 of the Iron and Steel Scrap Mineral Industry Surveys report. The last published report including those data will be Iron and Steel Scrap in December 2025. Information relating to Tables 2 and 3 will still be available on an annual basis in the Iron and Steel Scrap Minerals Yearbook chapter and information relating to Tables 5 and 8 are available through the U.S Census Bureau. Prior to the proposed discontinuation date, please direct any comments or concerns to Lee Bray, Acting Chief, Mineral Commodities Section, lbray@usgs.gov.

In December 2025, net receipts of steel scrap from outside sources were 5.19 million metric tons (Mt), an increase of 20% from 4.34 Mt (revised) in November 2025. Production of recirculating home scrap from outside sources was 610,000 metric tons (t) in December 2025, an increase of 17% from 521,000 t (revised) in November 2025. Consumption of steel scrap was 5.42 Mt in December 2025, an increase of 20% from 4.53 Mt (revised) in November 2025. Stocks of purchased and home scrap were 3.70 Mt in December 2025, an increase of 2% from 3.63 Mt in November 2025 (table 1).

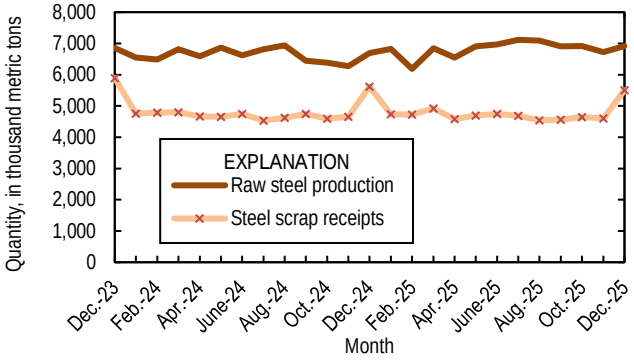

Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of raw steel and receipts of iron and steel scrap iron from December 2023 through December 2025. Sources: U.S. Geological Survey and American Iron and Steel Institute.

In December 2025, the production of pig iron was 1.83 Mt, an increase of 3% from 1.78 Mt in November 2025, and consumption was 2.37 Mt, an increase of 3% from 2.31 Mt (revised) in November 2025. Direct-reduced iron receipts were 559,000 t in December 2025, an increase of 10% from 509,000 t in November 2025, and consumption was 582,000 t, a decrease of 3% from 603,000 t in November 2025 (table 1).

The price of No. 1 heavy melting steep scrap was $318.77 per metric ton in December 2025, an increase of 5% from $303.46 per metric ton in November 2025. The price of pig iron imported from Brazil into the Port of New Orleans, LA, free on board, was $395.83 per metric ton in December 2025, compared to $396.19 per metric ton in November 2025 (table 11).

Exports of iron and steel scrap were 1.01 Mt in December 2025, a decrease of 20% from 1.25 Mt in November 2025 (fig. 2, table 1). In December 2025, Turkey was the leading destination for exports, accounting for 43% of the total tonnage, followed by Thailand (10%), and Mexico (7%) (table 4). In December 2025, Los Angeles, CA, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of exports, accounting for 16% of the total tonnage, followed by San Francisco, CA (13%), and New York City, NY (12%) (table 5).

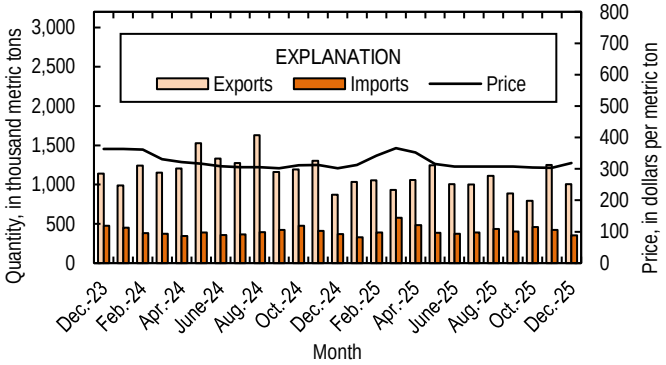

Figure 2. Monthly domestic imports and exports of iron and steel scrap and price for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap from December 2023 through December 2025. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau and Fastmarkets AMM.

Imports of iron and steel scrap were 353,000 t in December 2025, a decrease of 16% from 421,000 t in November 2025 (fig. 2, table 1). In December 2025, Canada was the leading country

of origin, accounting for 77% of the total tonnage, followed by Mexico (22%) (table 7). In December 2025, Detroit, MI, was the leading U.S. Customs district by tonnage of imports, accounting for 45% of the total tonnage, followed by Laredo, TX (16%), and Seattle, WA (13%) (table 8).

The daily average domestic raw steel production, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute's monthly production data, was 223,000 t in December 2025, compared to 224,000 t in November 2025 and an increase of 3% from 216,000 t in December 2024. Raw steel production capability utilization was 75.1% in December 2025, 75.4% in November 2025, and 75.0% in December 2024 (table 10).

Annual Review

In 2025, net receipts of steel scrap from outside sources were 53.3 Mt, a decrease of 1% from 53.7 Mt (revised) in 2024. Production of recirculating home scrap from outside sources was 6.87 Mt in 2025, a decrease of 11% from 7.69 Mt (revised) in 2024. Consumption of steel scrap was 56.5 Mt in 2025, an increase of 3% from 54.8 Mt (revised) in 2024. Stocks of purchased and home scrap were 3.70 Mt in 2025, an increase of 8% from 3.43 Mt in 2024 (table 1). In 2025, the production of pig iron was 21.7 Mt, an increase of 6% from 20.6 Mt in 2024, and consumption was 27.0 Mt, an increase of 7% from 25.30 Mt in 2024. Direct-reduced iron receipts were 6.91 Mt in 2025, a decrease of 17% from 8.33 Mt (revised) in 2024, and consumption was 7.41 Mt, a decrease of 8% from 8.06 Mt (revised) in 2024 (table 1).

The average annual price of No. 1 heavy melting steep scrap was $320.24 per metric ton in 2025, compared to $319.90 per metric ton in 2024. The average annual price of pig iron imported from Brazil into the Port of New Orleans, LA, free on board, was $418.79 per metric ton in 2025, a decrease of 7% from $448.08 per metric ton in 2024 (table 11). Exports of iron and steel scrap were 12.4 Mt in 2025, a decrease of 17% from 14.9 Mt in 2024 (fig. 2, table 1). Imports of iron and steel scrap were 5.01 Mt in 2025, an increase of 6% from 4.74 Mt in 2024 (fig. 2, table 1).

Domestic raw steel production, as calculated from the American Iron and Steel Institute's monthly production data, was 81.9 Mt in 2025, an increase of 3% from 79.5 Mt in 2024. Raw steel production capability utilization was 76.7% in 2025, and 75.4% in 2024 (table 10).

Industry News

U.S. Steel Corp. (Pittsburgh, PA) announced that it began restarting one of two blast furnaces idled at Granite City Works (Illinois) in December owing to anticipated increasing demand in 2026. Additionally, the company approved $350 million in funding to fully reline a blast furnace at Gary Works (Indiana), which had already begun a $200 million upgrade to the hot strip mill (U.S. Steel Corp, 2025a, b).

SA Recycling (California) completed the acquisition of two recycling facilities in Miami and Fort Lauderdale, FL, in December. The facilities were formerly owned by Ferrous Processing and Trading (California), a subsidiary of Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. (Taylor, 2025).

A hydrogen-based metallurgical electric steel smelting plant in China completed its first million metric tons of production. The facility is considered a near-zero-carbon system that could reduce carbon emissions by 3.14 Mt annually producing carbon steel utilizing direct-reduced iron as a feedstock (CGTN, 2025).

Industry Participation

Industry participation is key to the publication of aggregated totals of domestic iron and steel scrap statistics. Data may be withheld or estimated, as marked in the accompanying tables, owing to lack of industry response or to withhold proprietary data. Companies already registered with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) can sign up to report electronically by selecting the "Sign up" link at https://mids.er.usgs.gov. To notify the USGS of a new operation, or for further information on registering for electronic submissions, visit https://mids.er.usgs.gov. The USGS iron and steel scrap survey has a canvas code of G01. For more information on how to participate in the iron and steel scrap surveys, please contact Candice Tuck using the contact information listed above.

References Cited

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U.S. Steel Corp., 2025b, U.S. Steel to restart Granite City's blast furnace B to support customer demand: Pittsburgh, PA, U.S. Steel Corp., press release, December 4. (Accessed May 20, 2026, at https://www.ussteel.com/prereleases/-/blogs/u-s-steel-to-restart-granite-city-s-blast-furnace-b-to-support-customer-demand.)

List Services

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Table Data

A worksheet has been added to the Excel table files that includes a button to remove text and numerical footnotes from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled RemoveTextButton for instructions in how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file in order to use the tool.

Table 1. Iron and steel scrap, pig iron, and direct-reduced iron statistics for steel producers in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r".]

Iron and steel scrap statistics	December[1]	November[1]	Year to Date[1, 2]
Net receipts of ferrous scrap			
From outside sources	5,190	4,340 r	53,300
From other own company plants	314	267	3,710
Home scrap production			
Recirculating scrap	610	521 r	6,870
Obsolete scrap	1	1	17
Ferrous scrap consumption			
Blast furnace	180	180 r	2,160
Basic oxygen furnace	1,210	398 r	5,490
Electric furnace	4,030	3,950 r	48,800
Other furnaces	0	0	0
Total	5,420	4,530 r	56,500
Ferrous scrap inventory			
Shipments	7	7	193
Stocks, end of period	3,700	3,630	3,700
Ferrous scrap trade			
Exports[3]	1,010	1,250	12,400
Imports[4]	353	421	5,010
Pig iron			
Receipts	460	395 r	5,260
Production	1,830	1,780	21,700
Consumption	2,370	2,310 r	27,000
Stocks, end of period	421	284	421
Direct-reduced iron			
Receipts	559	509	6,910
Consumption	582	603	7,410
Stocks, end of period	408	395	408

[1]Data are estimated using surveyed reports and publicly available information to reflect total figures for the steel industry.

[2]May include revisions to previously published data.

[3]Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Schedule B of the United States (Schedule B) code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1080 and 8908.00.000.

[4]Import valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1065 and 8908.00.000.

Table 2. Salient statistics of iron and steel scrap, by grade in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total".]

Item	Receipts of scrap from outside sources[1]	Production of recirculating scrap[1]	Consumption[1]	Ending stocks
Low-phosphorus plate and punchings	14	3	15	W
Cut structural and plate	327	40	335	259
No. 1 heavy melting steel	470	97	553	217
No. 2 heavy melting steel	495	40	492	221
No. 1 and electric furnace bundles	167	0	149	109
No. 2 and all other bundles	179	W	W	26
Electric furnace 1 foot and under (not bundles	W	0	W	W
Railroad rails	29	0	26	10
Turnings and borings	187	W	183	164
Slag scrap	38	63	95	64
Shredded and fragmentized	1,550	43	1,500	1,580
No. 1 busheling	616	46	540	362
Steel cans scrap (post consumer)	W	W	W	291
All other carbon steel scrap	776	117	828	139
Stainless steel scrap	75	26	106	47
Alloy steel scrap	33	17	46	45
Ingot mold and stool scrap	W	W	W	W
Machinery and cupola cast iron	3	0	W	W
Cast iron borings	17	0	15	W
Other iron scrap	78	26	110	53
Other mixed scrap	125	74	236	94
Total	5,190	610	5,420	3,700

[1]Data are estimated using surveyed reports and publicly available information to reflect total figures for the steel

Table 3. Salient statistics of iron and steel scrap, by region and state, for steel producers in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."]

Region and State	Receipts of scrap from outside sources[1]	Production of recirculating scrap[1]	Consumption[1]
Mid-Atlantic and New England			
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania	326	57	410
North Central			
Illinois and Indiana	476	104	564
Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin	397	W	405
Michigan	78	W	83
Ohio	698	124	765
South Atlantic			
Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina	469	W	449
Virginia, West Virginia	204	W	211
South Central			
Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee	1,170	92	1,120
Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas	909	112	945
Mountain and Pacific			
California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington	471	W	470
Total	5,190	610	5,420

[1]Data are estimated using surveyed reports and publicly available information to reflect total figures for the steel industry.

Table 4. U.S. exports of iron and steel scrap by country or locality in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Country or locality[1]	Quantity[1]	Value[1]
Bangladesh	37	11,300
Canada	43	14,200
Greece	35	11,700
Hong Kong	1	1,550
India	55	52,800
Italy	32	11,300
Korea, Republic of	7	5,820
Mexico	73	23,500
Pakistan	36	33,200
Peru	32	9,840
Philippines	2	2,330
Singapore	4	2,220
Taiwan	58	19,100
Thailand	104	103,000
Turkey	432	141,000
United Arab Emirates	2	1,890
Vietnam	49	16,600
Other[2]	5	10,000
Total	1,010	471,000

[1]Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Schedule B of the United States code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1080 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Includes countries with quantities of less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month.

Table 5. U.S. exports of iron and steel scrap by region and customs district in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Customs district[1]	Quantity[1]	Value[1]
Baltimore, MD	20	10,700
Boston, MA	39	15,500
Buffalo, NY	7	3,040
Charleston, SC	10	9,160
Columbia-Snake, OR	57	18,800
Detroit, MI	18	7,090
El Paso, TX	7	2,420
Great Falls, MT	2	652
Honolulu, HI	3	1,350
Houston-Galveston, TX	56	32,900
Laredo, TX	48	16,000
Los Angeles, CA	162	74,500
Miami, FL	17	7,490
Mobile, AL	1	1,300
New York City, NY	123	74,100
Norfolk, VA	37	39,300
Pembina, ND	6	1,880
Philadelphia, PA	45	15,500
Portland, ME	3	821
Providence, RI	87	28,700
San Diego, CA	18	4,750
San Francisco, CA	131	49,600
San Juan, PR	12	4,540
Savannah, GA	20	19,400
Seattle, WA	41	17,600
St. Albans, VT	2	403
Tampa, FL	30	12,000
Other[2]	7	1,880
Total	1,010	471,000

[1]Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Schedule B of the United States code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1080 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Includes customs districts with quantities of less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month.

Table 6. U.S. exports of iron and steel scrap and other ferrous products by grades in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Item[1]	HTS code[1]	Quantity [1]	Value[1]
Exports of Ferrous Waste and Scrap			
Cast iron	7204.10.0000	28	21,800
Stainless steel	7204.21.0000	22	30,700
Other alloy steel	7204.29.0000	37	34,600
Tinned iron or steel	7204.30.0000	3	4,110
No. 1 bundles	7204.41.0020	9	2,790
No. 2 bundles	7204.41.0040	([2])	10
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	7204.41.0060	3	1,100
Shavings, chips, and mill waste	7204.41.0080	4	1,040
No. 1 heavy melting steel	7204.49.0020	384	159,000
No. 2 heavy melting steel	7204.49.0040	49	28,100
Cut plate and structural	7204.49.0060	86	35,100
Shredded steel	7204.49.0070	225	73,800
Other iron and steel	7204.49.0080	154	79,100
Remelting ingots	7204.50.0000	3	622
Used rails	7302.10.1080	0	0
Vessels and ships	8908.00.0000	0	0
Total scrap exports		1,010	471,000
Exports of feedstock products			
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	7201.10.0000	([2])	25
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	7201.20.0000	0	0
Alloy Pig Iron	7201.50.3000	([2])	135
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	7203.10.0000	0	0
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other uses	7205.10.0000	1,160	2,060
Powders of alloy steel	7205.21.0000	1,400	3,660
Other ferrous powders	7205.29.0000	3	5,080
Total feedstocks		2,560	11,000

[1]Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Schedule B of the United States (Schedule B) code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1080 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Less than ½ unit.

Table 7. U.S. imports for consumption of iron and steel scrap by country or locality in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Country or locality[1]	Quantity[1]	Value[1]
Canada	271	105,000
Mexico	79	32,400
Other[2]	3	1,540
Total	353	139,000

[1]Import valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1065 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Includes countries with quantities of less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month.

Table 8. U.S. imports for consumption of iron and steel scrap by customs district in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Customs district[1]	Quantity[1]	Value[1]
Buffalo, NY	17	7,420
Detroit, MI	159	66,800
Duluth, MN	22	7,050
El Paso, TX	5	1,740
Laredo, TX	57	26,300
Nogales, AZ	6	1,360
Ogdensburg, NY	4	1,850
Pembina, ND	22	8,990
San Diego, CA	10	2,550
Seattle, WA	46	12,300
St. Albans, VT	1	299
Other[2]	4	2,100
Total	353	139,000

[1]Import valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1065 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Includes customs districts with quantities of less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month.

Table 9. U.S. imports for consumption of iron and steel scrap and other ferrous products by grade in December 2025.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Item[1]	HTS code[1]	Quantity [1]	Value[1]
Cast iron	7204.10.0000	14	5,030
Stainless steel	7204.21.0000	19	20,800
Other alloy steel	7204.29.0000	44	14,100
Tinned iron or steel	7204.30.0000	7	2,350
No. 1 bundles	7204.41.0020	67	27,000
No. 2 bundles	7204.41.0040	5	1,270
Borings, shovelings, and turnings	7204.41.0060	7	2,290
Shavings, chips, and mill waste	7204.41.0080	14	4,830
No. 1 heavy melting steel	7204.49.0020	21	6,440
No. 2 heavy melting steel	7204.49.0040	4	1,100
Cut plate and structural	7204.49.0060	24	8,070
Shredded steel	7204.49.0070	98	38,000
Other iron and steel	7204.49.0080	28	7,450
Remelting ingots	7204.50.0000	0	0
Used rails	7302.10.1065	0	0
Vessels and ships	8908.00.0000	(2)	12
Total scrap imports		353	139,000
Imports of feedstock products			
Pig iron < or = 0.5% phosphorus	7201.10.0000	334	134,000
Pig iron > or = 0.5% phosphorus	7201.20.0000	0	0
Alloy pig iron	7201.50.3000	0	0
Direct-reduced iron (DRI)	7203.10.0000	130	46,900
Spongy iron products, not DRI	7203.90.0000	(2)	893
Granules for abrasive cleaning and other use	7205.10.0000	1,020	2,340
Powders of alloy steel	7205.21.0000	2,570	7,290
Other ferrous powders	7205.29.0000	4	7,270
Total feedstocks		4,060	198,000

[1]Import valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis. Includes all materials under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) code heading 7204 as well as 7302.10.1065 and 8908.00.000.

[2]Less than ½ unit.

Table 10. U.S. raw steel production, raw steel capability utilization, and continuous cast steel production.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Source: American Iron and Steel Institute.]

Period	Raw steel production (thousand metric tons)		Raw steel capability utilization (percent)		Continuous cast steel production (percent)	
	Monthly	Year to date[1]	Monthly	Year to date[1]	Monthly	Year to date[1]
2024						
December	6,690	79,500	75.0	75.4	99.6	99.7
2025						
January	6,830	6,830	76.3	76.3	99.7	99.7
February	6,190	13,000	76.5	76.4	99.7	99.7
March	6,840	19,900	76.5	76.4	99.7	99.7
April	6,550	26,400	75.0	76.1	99.7	99.7
May	6,910	33,300	76.6	76.2	99.7	99.7
June	6,970	40,300	79.8	76.8	99.7	99.7
July	7,120	47,400	78.2	77.0	99.7	99.7
August	7,090	54,500	77.9	77.1	99.7	99,7
September	6,900	61,400	78.4	77.2	99.7	99.7
October	6,920	68,300	75.1	77.0	99.7	99.7
November	6,720	75,000	75.4	76.9	99.7	99.7
December	6,910	81,900	75.1	76.7	99.7	99.7

[1]May include revisions to previously published data.

Table 11. Composite prices for steel scrap and pig iron.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in dollars per metric ton.

Period	Steel scrap[1]	Pig iron[2]
2024		
December	301.67	452.93
2025		
January	312.60	450.30
February	342.41	424.81
March	366.26	418.18
April	351.74	403.84
May	316.43	423.14
June	306.75	435.72
July	306.75	438.32
August	306.75	419.50
September	306.75	413.20
October	304.18	406.50
November	303.46	396.19
December	318.77	395.83

[1]Prices are for No. 1 heavy melting steel scrap. Source: Fastmarkets-AMM.

[2]Prices are imports of Brazilian basic pig iron, free on board, New Orleans, LA. Includes all materials under HTS Code 7201.10.0000. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).

Table 12. U.S. iron and steel scrap receipts, production of pig iron, and direct-reduced iron (DRI) consumption

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r". Source: American Iron and Steel Institute.]

Period	Scrap receipts		Pig iron production[1]		DRI consumption[1]	
	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date	Monthly	Year to date
2024						
December	5,300	53,700	1,730	20,600	700	8,060
2025						
January	4,740 r	4,740 r	1,810	1,810	623	623
February	4,730 r	9,470 r	1,640	3,450	623	1,250
March	4,920 r	14,400 r	1,810	5,260	597	1,840
April	4,580 r	19,000 r	1,740	7,000	618	2,460
May	4,700 r	23,700 r	1,830	8,830	609	3,070
June	4,750 r	28,400 r	1,850	10,700	638	3,710
July	4,680 r	33,100 r	1,890	12,600	626	4,330
August	4,550 r	37,600 r	1,880	14,500	653	4,990
September	4,560 r	42,200 r	1,830	16,300	635	5,620
October	4,640 r	46,800 r	1,850	18,100	606	6,230
November	4,610 r	51,500 r	1,780	19,900	603	6,830
December	5,510	57,000	1,830	21,700	582	7,410

[1]Data are estimated using surveyed reports and publicly available information to reflect total figures for the steel industry.