



Iron Ore in January 2026

This workbook includes 6 tables.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This publication is provided by the National Minerals Information Center (NMIC), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Includes data available through August 31, 2026, unless otherwise noted.

NMIC data included in Excel tables of the Minerals Yearbook Chapters and Minerals Industry Surveys are considered preliminary, for informational purposes only.

Comprehensive data releases and list services for NMIC publications are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center>. Data in these tables may not include granular footnotes.

Unless otherwise noted, totals, United States (U.S.) data, and estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices and unit values; may not add to totals shown. Data may include revisions to previously published data.

FOOTNOTES AND TERMINOLOGY

Year-to-date indicates the sum of all months or quarters for the given year to the given period.

Estimated data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript "e." Preliminary data contained in a row or column are marked with a superscript "p."

Do, ditto. NA, not available. No., number. W, withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. —, not applicable. <0.5, less than half a unit.

TRADE DATA

Trade data is sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau (<https://usatrade.census.gov/>). "HTS" indicates the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States code. "Schedule B" indicates the Schedule B of the United States number.

Only the leading trade partners are listed individually in the table. Data for all countries are provided in the data release file at (insert link to data release)."

Imports refers to "imports for consumption." Import valuation is customs value, free-alongside-ship basis.

Exports refers to "domestic exports." Export valuation is on a free-alongside-ship basis.

CONTACT

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If you are an industry producer or consumer and would like to contribute to NMIC industry surveys, please contact Omar Dehrab, odehrab@usgs.gov.

Table 1. Salient statistics for U.S. production, shipments, and stocks of iron ore.

[Data are in thousand metric tons. Data are estimated based on publicly reported data, employment hours, and historical ratios. Excludes byproduct ores and iron metallics.]

Period	Production		Shipments		Stocks	
	Monthly	Year-to-date	Monthly	Year-to-date	End of month	
2025						
January	3,290	r	3,290	r	1,780	r
February	3,170	r	6,460	r	90	r
March	3,220	r	9,680	r	890	r
April	3,200	r	12,900	r	3,250	r
May	3,340	r	16,200	r	4,320	r
June	3,370	r	19,600	r	4,240	r
July	3,170	r	22,800	r	4,390	r
August	2,980	r	25,700	r	4,270	r
September	3,010	r	28,800	r	4,040	r
October	2,740	r	31,500	r	3,810	r
November	2,670	r	34,200	r	3,300	r
December	2,630	r	36,800	r	3,220	r
2026						
January	2,920		2,920		1,820	

¹Source: Lake Carriers Association.

Table 2. U.S. exports of iron ore, by country or locality in 2026.
Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars.]

Country or locality ¹	January	
	Quantity	Value
Canada	146	14,300
Japan	75	11,000
Netherlands	78	6,490
Other ²	0	0
Total	299	31,800

¹Includes Schedule B numbers under heading 2601.11 and 2601.12.

²Countries with quantities less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month included in "Other".

Table 3. U.S. imports of iron ore, by country or locality in 2026.

[Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars.]

Country or locality of origin ¹	January	
	Quantity	Value
Brazil	79	11,200
Canada	94	11,100
Other ²	0	0
Total	173	22,300

¹Includes Schedule B numbers under heading 2601.11 and 2601.12.

²Countries with quantities less than 1,000 metric tons for the current month included in "Other".

Table 4. U.S imports of iron ore, by type of product.

[Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars.]

Product ¹	Code ¹	January 2026			
		Exports		Imports	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concentrates	2601.11.0030	<0.5	15	0	0
Briquettes	2601.11.0060	0	0	0	0
Fine ores	2601.11.0090	0	0	0	0
Pellets	2601.12.0030	299	31,800	173	22,300
Coarse ores	2601.12.0060	0	0	0	0
Other agglomerates	2601.12.0090	0	0	0	0
Total	—	299	31,800	173	22,300

¹Refers to HTS codes (imports) and Schedule B numbers (exports).

Table 5. U.S. iron ore trade summary.

[Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars.]

Period	Exports ¹		Imports ¹	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
2025				
January	426	40,600	236	34,000
February	232	24,100	256	38,000
March	244	26,000	467	66,700
April	324	48,100	464	54,200
May	773	75,500	238	34,800
June	544	55,800	537	77,100
July	878	85,900	325	43,600
August	580	57,900	264	31,800
September	583	56,100	265	33,800
October	243	24,200	282	37,900
November	157	13,900	440	60,900
December	182	14,900	404	54,300
Total	5,170	523,000	4,180	567,000
2026				
January	299	31,800	173	22,300

¹Includes HTS codes and Schedule B numbers under heading 2601.11 and 2601.12.

Table 6. Composite prices for iron ore.

[Data are in dollars per metric ton.]

Period	Price, spot market ¹	Unit value, domestic ²	
		Exports	Imports
2025			
January	99.60	95.23	143.87
February	105.10	103.87	148.36
March	100.10	106.60	142.83
April	97.20	148.41	116.85
May	97.00	97.64	146.05
June	92.30	102.56	143.61
July	97.30	97.82	134.20
August	99.70	99.75	120.45
September	103.30	96.14	127.43
October	103.50	99.43	134.26
November	102.50	88.78	138.45
December	104.60	81.67	134.46
Average	100.20	101.16	135.75
2026			
January	105.50	106.11	129.09

¹Spot prices for 62% Fe, all forms, imported into Tianjin Port, China, cost and freight.

Source: French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE).

²Includes HTS codes and Schedule B numbers under heading 2601.11 and 2601.12.