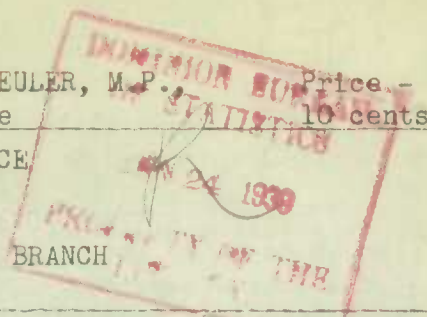


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Published by Authority of the HON. W. D. EULER, M.P.  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY  
MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH  
OTTAWA - CANADA



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# MONTHLY REPORT

## PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA

DECEMBER, 1938.

PIG IRON - Production of pig iron in Canada during December amounted to 53,381 tons compared with 46,216 tons made in the previous month and 81,032 tons in December of a year ago. The improvement over November was chiefly in the malleable grade which advanced to 10,250 tons from 4,287 tons, but foundry iron increased also to 9,614 tons from 8,174 tons; basic iron was off slightly to 33,517 tons from 33,755 tons.

During the year 1,234,433 long tons of iron ore, 699,013 short tons of coke and 347,351 short tons of limestone were charged to iron blast furnaces in Canada to produce 705,099 tons of pig iron. The corresponding production in previous years was as follows: 898,855 tons in 1937, 678,231 tons in 1936 and 599,875 tons in 1935.

FERRO-ALLOYS - Output of ferro-alloys amounted to 2,810 tons in December compared with 5,999 tons in November and 5,846 tons in December, 1937. During the twelve months of 1938 a total of 53,322 tons of ferro-alloys was produced in Canada against 82,072 tons in 1937, 76,284 tons in 1936 and 56,616 tons in 1935.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS - Production of 78,614 tons of steel ingots and castings in December marked a decline of 13 per cent from the 90,120 tons of November and 20 per cent from the 98,334 tons reported for December, 1937. The difference from the previous month was accounted for by the ingots dropping to 75,966 tons from 87,530 tons while direct castings advanced slightly to 2,648 tons from 2,590 tons.

During the calendar year 1938 the output of ingots and castings totalled 1,155,995 tons, the comparative totals for other years amounting to 1,402,882 tons in 1937, 1,115,779 tons in 1936 and 941,527 tons in 1935.

PRICES - As the active buying which had occurred in the latter part of 1937 subsided Canadian iron and steel markets gradually eased. A drop of over 2 per cent occurred in a price index of iron and steel goods between January and June, the actual indices being 103.9 and 101.4 respectively. The market weakened still further in July when readjustments were made in Canadian prices in accordance with the downward revisions in the United States. The July index of 97.8 marked the lowest level of prices for the year and was 6 per cent below the index for January. Thereafter an irregular upward movement carried the index to 98.1 in December. Domestic demand for railway equipment was lower than in 1937, but exports showed an increase. Orders for building materials were also below 1937 and reports indicated that smaller tonnages were consumed by industrial concerns. As the year ended, buying was chiefly for immediate requirements with general business anticipating further contracts for armament purposes. Major price changes occurred in foundry pig iron f.o.b. sellers' works which held at \$25.50 per ton during the first six months and then dropped to \$22.50 to remain at this level till the close of the year.

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Mild steel billets which had been quoted at \$42.00 per ton during the first half of 1938 dropped to \$38.00 per ton in July and held this level till December.

UNITED STATES - "Iron Age" - In the United States the production of coke pig iron in December on a daily basis dropped 5.7 per cent from that in November, or to 71,314 tons a day from 75,666 tons. During the month nine furnaces were put out or banked and five were put in operation.

(a) PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS

Table 1 - PRODUCTION DURING DECEMBER AND NOVEMBER, 1938. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	DECEMBER, 1938			NOVEMBER, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON</u> -						
Basic .....	31,921	1,596	33,517	33,445	310	33,755
Foundry .....	...	9,614	9,614	...	8,174	8,174
Malleable .....	...	10,250	10,250	...	4,287	4,287
TOTAL .....	31,921	21,460	53,381	33,445	12,771	46,216
Ferro-alloys .....	...	2,810	2,810	...	5,999	5,999

Table 2 - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ending DECEMBER, 1938 and 1937. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	1938			1937		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON</u> -						
Basic .....	539,123	16,225	555,348	660,766	60,945	721,711
Foundry .....	...	81,973	81,973	7,228	98,181	105,409
Malleable .....	582	67,196	67,778	5,145	66,590	71,735
TOTAL .....	539,705	165,394	705,099	673,139	225,716	898,855
Ferro-alloys .....	...	53,322	53,322	...	82,072	82,072

Table 3 - IRON BLAST FURNACE CHARGES DURING DECEMBER, NOVEMBER, and YEAR TO DATE.

	Unit	DECEMBER	NOVEMBER	YEAR TO DATE
Imported iron ore .....	Long ton	89,895	78,845	1,234,433
Coke .....	Short ton	53,750	44,586	699,013
Limestone .....	Short ton	24,659	21,272	347,351



(b) STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS

Table 4 - PRODUCTION FOR DECEMBER AND NOVEMBER, 1938.

(Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	DECEMBER, 1938			NOVEMBER, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic .	72,663	...	72,663	84,057	54	84,111
Electric .....	3,303	...	3,303	3,419	...	3,419
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS .	75,966	...	75,966	87,476	54	87,530
<u>STEEL CASTINGS</u>						
Open hearth - Basic .	145	292	437	130	265	395
Bessemer .....	...	41	41	...	56	56
Electric .....	515	1,655	2,170	569	1,570	2,139
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS .....	660	1,988	2,648	699	1,891	2,590
GRAND TOTAL .....	76,626	1,988	78,614	88,175	1,945	90,120

Table 5 - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER, 1938 and 1937.

	1938			1937		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic .	1,049,245	301	1,049,346	1,274,818	174	1,274,992
Electric .....	55,881	...	55,881	61,236	...	61,236
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS .	1,105,126	301	1,105,427	1,336,054	174	1,336,228
<u>STEEL CASTINGS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic .	1,716	13,904	15,620	16,774	7,053	23,827
Bessemer .....	...	643	643	434	582	1,016
Electric .....	6,374	27,931	34,305	21,590	20,221	41,811
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS .....	8,090	42,478	50,568	38,798	27,856	66,654
GRAND TOTAL .....	1,113,216	42,779	1,155,995	1,374,852	28,030	1,402,882

Table 6 - AVERAGE MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA, 1916 - 1937. (In 1000's of long tons)

Year	Monthly Average		Year	Monthly Average	
	Iron	Steel		Iron	Steel
1916 .....	87	106	1927 .....	59	76
1917 .....	87	130	1928 .....	86	103
1918 .....	89	140	1929 .....	91	115
1919 .....	68	77	1930 .....	62	84
1920 .....	81	92	1931 .....	36	56
1921 .....	50	56	1932 .....	12	29
1922 .....	32	40	1933 .....	19	34
1923 .....	73	74	1934 .....	34	63
1924 .....	49	54	1935 .....	50	78
1925 .....	48	63	1936 .....	56	93
1926 .....	63	64	1937 .....	75	117



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Table 7 - PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, BY MONTHS and BY PROVINCES, and STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS, BY MONTHS, 1937 and 1938. (In 1000's of long tons)

Month	PIG IRON						S T E E L	
	NOVA SCOTIA		ONTARIO		TOTAL CANADA		TOTAL CANADA	
	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938
January .....	28	29	38	46	66	75	115	113
February .....	25	24	37	37	62	61	112	99
March .....	29	28	42	38	71	66	125	119
April .....	28	28	40	38	68	66	121	116
May .....	27	29	51	43	78	72	121	115
June .....	27	19	51	45	78	64	119	109
July .....	26	13	54	38	80	51	123	84
August .....	26	14	49	36	75	50	127	83
September .....	26	13	50	37	76	50	115	74
October .....	25	16	56	35	81	51	115	76
November .....	27	15	54	31	81	46	112	90
December .....	26	15	57	38	83	53	98	79
TOTAL FOR YEAR ...	320	243	579	462	899	705	1,403	1,156

Table 8 - IRON BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA, 1937.

Names of Companies	Location of Furnaces	Number of Stacks	Total Daily Capacity (Long tons)
Dominion Steel and Coal Corp. Ltd.	Sydney, N.S.	3	1,200
Canadian Furnace Limited	Port Colborne, Ont.	1	350
The Steel Company of Canada, Limited	Hamilton, Ontario	2	825
The Algoma Steel Corporation	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600

Table 9 - DESCRIPTION OF FURNACES AT END OF DECEMBER, 1938.

Condition of furnaces	Number of furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast .....	5	2,175	55
Banked .....	...	...	...
Blown out .....	5	1,800	45
Total Furnaces Reporting ....	10	3,975	100

NOTE - Figures in this report are the latest available at time of printing.  
Where necessary, data for earlier months have been revised.