

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

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
Chief - Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch: W. H. Losee, B.Sc.

MONTHLY REPORT

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA

MAY, 1938

PIG IRON - Production of pig iron in Canada at 71,602 tons during May was 9 per cent over the total of 65,644 tons made in the previous month and 8 per cent under the 78,147 tons reported for May of last year. This month's total included 60,265 tons of basic iron, 2,196 tons of foundry iron, and 9,141 tons of malleable iron.

Furnace charges during the month included 129,403 long tons of iron ore, 69,326 short tons of coke, and 35,828 short tons of limestone. During the first five months of this year, 606,151 long tons of ore, 337,942 short tons of coke and 174,945 short tons of limestone were charged to iron furnaces in Canada to produce 339,783 tons of pig iron. The corresponding production for the first five months of last year was 345,666 tons.

FERRO-ALLOYS - Ferrosilicon, spiegeleisen, ferromanganese and ferrochrome were produced in Canada to the extent of 6,441 tons during May. This output compares with 8,686 tons made in the previous month and 6,201 tons in May of a year ago.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS - Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings at 114,859 tons during May was slightly under the 116,445 tons of April and 5 per cent less than the 120,843 tons made in May, 1937.

For the five months ending May, 1938, the cumulative output amounted to 561,340 tons against 594,433 tons and 496,504 tons in the corresponding periods of 1937 and 1936, respectively.

PRICES - Prices of steel sheets and scrap were revised downward in May but other iron and steel products remained comparatively firm. Some contract buying appeared which was largely for war materials, but small spot orders predominated. Operations of auto manufacturing plants were below those of last year. Output of plants manufacturing railway rolling stock increased, and mills continued to take limited quantities of scrap. Due chiefly to reductions in the prices of steel sheets and all grades of scrap, the index for wholesale prices of "Iron and Its Products" moved down from 102.5 in April to 101.5 in May. Pig iron was unchanged, No. 1 grade being quoted at \$27.00 per long ton at Montreal and at \$26.00 per long ton at Toronto.

UNITED STATES - Pig iron production in the United States averaged 40,485 tons a day during May, a decline of 11.7 per cent from 45,871 tons a day in April. During the month, nine furnaces were put out or banked and two were put in operation, a net loss of seven active furnaces.

(a) PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS

Table 1 - Production during MAY and APRIL, 1938. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	MAY, 1938			APRIL, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
PIG IRON -						
Basic	58,198	2,067	60,265	60,056	...	60,056
Foundry .....	...	2,196	2,196	...	1,374	1,374
Malleable .....	...	9,141	9,141	...	4,214	4,214
TOTAL	58,198	13,404	71,602	60,056	5,588	65,644
Ferro-alloys .....	...	6,441	6,441	...	8,686	8,686

Table 2 - Cumulative Production for the FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1938 and 1937.
(Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	1 9 3 8			1 9 3 7		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
PIG IRON -						
Basic	283,758	3,625	287,383	289,889	5,070	294,959
Foundry .....	...	24,114	24,114	40	31,536	31,576
Malleable	582	27,704	28,286	240	18,891	19,131
TOTAL	284,340	55,443	339,783	290,169	55,497	345,666
Ferro-alloys .....	...	29,091	29,091	...	28,221	28,221

Table 3 - Iron Blast Furnace Charges during MAY, APRIL, and YEAR TO DATE

	Unit	MAY	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE
Imported iron ore	Long tons	129,403	121,163	606,151
Coke	Short tons	69,326	65,683	337,942
Limestone	Short tons	35,828	35,207	174,945

(b) STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS

Table 4 - Production for MAY and APRIL, 1938. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	MAY, 1938			APRIL, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS -						
Open hearth - Basic ..	104,386	...	104,386	105,549	104	105,653
Electric	4,441	...	4,441	5,131	...	5,131
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS ..	108,827	...	108,827	110,680	104	110,784
STEEL CASTINGS -						
Open hearth - Basic ..	152	2,286	2,438	186	1,974	2,160
Bessemer .....	...	36	36	...	65	65
Electric	553	3,005	3,558	527	2,909	3,436
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	705	5,327	6,032	713	4,948	5,661
GRAND TOTAL	109,532	5,327	114,859	111,393	5,052	116,445

Table 5 - Cumulative Production for the FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1938 and 1937.

	1 9 3 8			1 9 3 7		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS -						
Open hearth - Basic	506,269	247	506,516	540,157	160	540,317
Electric	29,785	...	29,785	25,164	...	25,164
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	536,054	247	536,301	565,321	160	565,481
STEEL CASTINGS -						
Open hearth - Basic	882	7,887	8,769	959	10,478	11,437
Bessemer .....	...	294	294	...	387	387
Electric	3,672	12,304	15,976	2,944	14,184	17,128
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	4,554	20,485	25,039	3,903	25,049	28,952
GRAND TOTAL	540,608	20,732	561,340	569,224	25,209	594,433

Table 6 - Average Monthly Production of Pig Iron, Steel Ingots and Castings in Canada, 1916 - 1937. (In 1000's of long tons)

Years	Monthly Average		Years	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

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	P I G		I R O N		S T E E L			
	NOVA SCOTIA	ONTARIO	TOTAL CANADA	TOTAL CANADA	TOTAL CANADA	TOTAL CANADA		
	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938		
January	28	29	38	46	66	75	115	112
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		51		78		119	
July	26		54		80		123	
August	26		49		75		127	
September	26		50		76		115	
October	25		56		81		115	
November	27		54		81		111	
December	28		53		81		98	
TOTAL FOR YEAR	322	138	575	202	897	340	1,402	561
FIVE MONTHS' AVERAGE	27	28	42	40	69	68	119	112



1010636253

-4-

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, Ont.	2	825
The Algoma Steel Corporation	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600

Table 9 - Description of Furnaces at end of MAY, 1938.

Condition of Furnaces	Number of Furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long Tons	Per cent
In blast	6	2,525	64
Banked .....	...	...	...
Blown out	4	1,450	36
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.