

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

MAY, 1939

PIG IRON - Production of pig iron in Canada during May totalled 57,746 long tons compared with 46,254 tons in the previous month and 71,602 tons in May, 1938. The increase in the daily rate over that in April amounted to 20.8 per cent. Output in the current month included 49,712 tons of basic iron, 5,194 tons of foundry iron, and 2,840 tons of malleable iron.

Furnace charges during May included 100,529 long tons of imported iron ore, 29,743 short tons of limestone, and 60,571 short tons of coke.

During the first five months of this year, 417,369 tons of ore, 127,675 tons of limestone and 245,143 tons of coke were charged to iron blast furnaces in Canada to make 243,716 tons of pig iron. In the corresponding period of 1938 the pig iron output amounted to 339,783 tons.

FERRO-ALLOYS - Output of ferro-alloys in May amounted to 4,925 tons compared with 4,284 tons in April and with 6,441 tons in May of a year ago. This month's total was made up of spiegeleisen, ferrosilicon and ferromanganese, listed in order of tonnage.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS - Production of steel ingots and castings totalled 121,413 tons in May as against 99,752 tons in April and 114,859 tons in May, 1938. Data for the month under review, when compared with the figures for April, show that steel ingots advanced to 116,983 tons from 95,383 tons and direct steel castings to 4,430 tons from 4,369 tons. The increase in the daily rate amounted to 18 per cent.

For the five months ending May 31, 1939, the cumulative production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 472,239 tons against 561,340 tons made during the five months ending May 31st, 1938.

PRICES - Supported by considerable backlogs and good export demand, operating schedules of Canadian iron and steel mills held at fairly high levels in May. The volume of domestic trade also increased, due chiefly to more active buying on the part of auto and electrical manufacturing concerns. The Canadian market showed little reaction to the recent softening of prices in the United States and quotations for most specifications remained firm, although a drop of 10 cents per cwt. occurred in galvanized and steel sheets No. 24 U.S.G. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices of iron and its products, on the base 1926 = 100, moved down from 97.5 in April to 97.3 in May. Prices of No. 1 foundry pig iron were quoted at \$20.00 per gross ton, f.o.b. plant, the same as in April.

UNITED STATES PRODUCTION (From the "Iron Age") - In the United States the production of pig iron during May, on a daily basis, dropped 19.2 per cent from that in April, or from 68,539 tons to 55,044 tons. The latter tonnage was the lowest since last August when the daily output averaged 48,193 tons. During the month under review nine furnaces were put in operation and four were taken off blast.

(a) PIG IRON and FERRO-ALLOYS

Table 1 - Production during MAY and APRIL, 1939. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	M A Y			A P R I L		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON</u> -						
Basic	49,710	2	49,712	44,280	...	44,280
Foundry .....	...	5,194	5,194	...	1,974	1,974
Malleable .....	...	2,840	2,840	...	...	...
TOTAL	49,710	8,036	57,746	44,280	1,974	46,254
Ferro-alloys .....	...	4,925	4,925	...	4,284	4,284

Table 2 - Cumulative Production for the FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1939 and 1938.
(tons of 2,240 pounds)

	1 9 3 9			1 9 3 8		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON</u> -						
Basic	215,477	4,675	220,152	283,758	3,625	287,383
Foundry .....	...	17,343	17,343	...	24,114	24,114
Malleable .....	...	6,221	6,221	582	27,704	28,286
TOTAL	215,477	28,239	243,716	284,340	55,443	339,783
Ferro-alloys .....	...	20,889	20,889	...	29,091	29,091

Table 3 - Iron Blast Furnace Charges during MAY, APRIL, and FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1939.

	MAY	APRIL	FIVE MONTHS ENDING MAY
Imported iron ore	Long ton 100,529	81,420	417,369
Limestone	Short ton 29,743	24,666	127,675
Coke	Short ton 60,571	48,733	245,143

(b) STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS

Table 4 - PRODUCTION FOR MAY and APRIL, 1939. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	M A Y			A P R I L		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	111,094	79	111,173	91,571	162	91,733
Electric	5,810	...	5,810	3,650	...	3,650
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Steel Ingots	116,904	79	116,983	95,221	162	95,383
<u>STEEL CASTINGS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	141	1,141	1,282	152	1,232	1,384
Bessemer .....	...	65	65	...	40	40
Electric	546	2,537	3,083	676	2,269	2,945
Total Direct Steel Castings.	687	3,743	4,430	828	3,541	4,369
GRAND TOTAL	117,591	3,822	121,413	96,049	3,703	99,752

Table 5 Cumulative Production for the FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1939 and 1938.

	1 9 3 9			1 9 3 8		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	433,794	345	434,139	506,269	247	506,516
Electric	18,823	...	18,823	29,785	...	29,785
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Steel Ingots	452,617	345	452,962	536,054	247	536,301
<u>STEEL CASTINGS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	779	4,553	5,332	882	7,887	8,769
Bessemer .....	...	221	221	...	294	294
Electric	2,918	10,806	13,724	3,672	12,304	15,976
Total Direct Steel Castings.	3,697	15,580	19,277	4,554	20,485	25,039
GRAND TOTAL	456,314	15,925	472,239	540,608	20,732	561,340

Table 6 - AVERAGE MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS IN CANADA, 1916 - 1938. (In 1000's of long tons)

Year	Monthly Average		Year	Monthly Average	
	Iron	Steel		Iron	Steel
1916	87	106	1928	86	103
1917	87	130	1929	91	115
1918	89	140	1930	62	84
1919	68	77	1931	36	56
1920	81	92	1932	12	29
1921	50	56	1933	19	34
1922	32	40	1934	34	63
1923	73	74	1935	50	78
1924	49	54	1936	56	93
1925	48	63	1937	75	117
1926	63	64	1938	59	96
1927	59	76			



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Table 7 - PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, BY MONTHS and BY PROVINCES, and STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS, BY MONTHS, 1938 and 1939. (In 1000's of long tons)

Month	P I G		I R O N		TOTAL CANADA :		STEEL	
	NOVA	SCOTIA	ONTARIO		TOTAL CANADA :		TOTAL CANADA	
	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939 :	1938	1939
January	29	16	46	42	75	58	113	78
February	24	13	37	28	61	41	99	77
March	28	12	38	29	66	41	119	96
April	28	19	38	27	66	46	116	100
May	29	25	43	33	72	58	115	121
TOTAL FIVE MONTHS .	138	85	202	159	340	244	562	472
June	19		45		64		109	
July	13		38		51		84	
August	14		36		50		83	
September	13		37		50		74	
October	16		35		51		76	
November	15		31		46		90	
December	15		38		53		79	
TOTAL FOR YEAR	243		462		705		1,156	

Table 8 - IRON BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA

Name of Company	Location of Furnace	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, Ltd.	Hamilton, Ont.	2	825
The Algoma Steel Corporation	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600

Table 9 - DESCRIPTION OF FURNACES AT END OF MAY, 1939.

Condition of Furnaces	Number of furnaces	Total Daily Capacity Long tons	Per cent
In blast	5	2,300	58
Banked	5	1,675	42
Blown out			
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.