

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SILICON IN JULY 2007

Preliminary data for July 2007 indicate that both domestic production and net shipments of silicon ferroalloys, on a gross-weight basis, decreased by 5% compared with those in June 2007, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Ending stocks decreased by 8% compared with those at the end of June. Stocks included adjustments in inventory and in-plant consumption of ferrosilicon to produce magnesium ferrosilicon and other

miscellaneous alloys. Production-related statistics for silicon metal were concealed to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

Data for U.S. imports and exports for January through June 2007 are published in this issue.

Prices, cents per pound, silicon content

	<u>50% Ferrosilicon¹</u>	<u>75% Ferrosilicon²</u>	<u>Silicon Metal²</u>
July 5	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	97.00-98.00
July 12	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	97.00-98.00
July 19	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	100.00-107.00
July 26	78.00-82.00	67.00-70.00	105.00-110.00

¹Source: Ryan's Notes, North American transaction price.

²Source: Platts Metals Week, dealer import price.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND PRODUCER STOCKS OF SILICON ALLOYS AND METAL IN 2007^{1, 2, 3}

(Metric tons)

Material	Gross production ⁴		Net shipments		Stocks, July 31
	July	Year to date ⁵	July	Year to date ⁵	
Ferrosilicon, all grades ^{6, 7}	20,500	158,000	19,000	136,000	20,900
Silicon metal, excludes semiconductor grades	W	W	W	W	W

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Includes U.S. Geological Survey estimates.

³Data for silvery pig iron (less than 25% silicon) withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

⁴Includes in-plant consumption, as in production of magnesium ferrosilicon and other miscellaneous alloys.

⁵Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁶Ferrosilicon categories were aggregated to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

⁷Includes miscellaneous silicon alloys.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2007^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
More than 55% silicon:						
Canada	555	333	\$702,000	3,340	2,000	\$3,870,000
Colombia	5	4	7,800	16	12	23,400
Italy	--	--	--	16	10	30,200
Malaysia	23	17	35,900	34	26	51,500
Mexico	63	39	59,400	629	380	763,000
Spain	--	--	--	16	10	20,300
Thailand	--	--	--	16	10	16,100
United Kingdom	12	11 ³	33,900	12	11	33,900
Total	657	404	839,000	4,080	2,460	4,810,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Belgium	--	--	--	17	8	19,600
Canada	151	75	182,000	1,260	630	1,370,000
China	--	--	--	9	5	15,100
Colombia	14	6	19,700	41	19	58,700
India	--	--	--	3	1	4,810
Indonesia	--	--	--	16	8	23,800
Italy	--	--	--	33	18	60,500
Mexico	27	14	35,300	325	164	400,000
Peru	--	--	--	15	8	28,800
Spain	--	--	--	16	8	23,800
Other (Taiwan)	--	--	--	3	1	4,300
Total	191	95	237,000	1,740	869	2,010,000
Total ferrosilicon	849	499	1,080,000	5,810	3,330	6,820,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2--Continued
 U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
China	290	XX	\$32,300,000	1,360	XX	\$145,000,000
Denmark	4	XX	604,000	33	XX	4,170,000
Germany	182	XX	12,800,000	1,160	XX	84,800,000
Japan	742	XX	64,800,000	4,140	XX	371,000,000
Korea, Republic of	117	XX	10,300,000	637	XX	54,300,000
Malaysia	12	XX	1,780,000	75	XX	11,800,000
Norway	318	XX	16,700,000	1,780	XX	90,000,000
Taiwan	47	XX	4,040,000	444	XX	47,200,000
Ukraine	33	XX	3,100,000	69	XX	5,700,000
United Kingdom	11	XX	1,330,000	62	XX	8,620,000
Other (34 countries)	20	XX	3,520,000	139	XX	17,900,000
Total	1,780	1,780^e	151,000,000	9,900	9,900^e	840,000,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Brazil	62	61	128,000	596	591	1,520,000
China	122	121	362,000	487	483	1,430,000
France	--	--	--	6	6	8,500
Germany	--	--	--	36	36	51,000
Ireland	--	--	--	11	11	15,000
Japan	--	--	--	12	12	17,500
Singapore	--	--	--	13	12	17,700
Switzerland	--	--	--	21	21	30,300
Taiwan	--	--	--	16	16	22,900
United Kingdom	--	--	--	7	7	9,690
Other (5 countries)	--	--	--	16	16	29,000
Total	184	182	490,000	1,220	1,210	3,150,000
Other silicon:						
Belgium	--	--	--	16	15	58,100
Canada	68	66	67,900	235	228	248,000
China	160	156	338,000	499	484	872,000
Germany	3	3	4,310	28	27	45,500
Hong Kong	--	--	--	42	41	55,500
Japan	--	--	--	469	451	2,990,000
Korea, Republic of	321	312	424,000	646	628	853,000
Mexico	1	1	8,500	17	16	77,800
Netherlands	79	77	297,000	410	398	2,000,000
Taiwan	1	1	5 ³	25	24	49,900
Other (12 countries)	29	28	47,500	78	76	153,000
Total	662	643	1,190,000	2,460	2,390	7,410,000
Total silicon metal	2,620	2,600	153,000,000	13,600	13,500	851,000,000

^eEstimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Countries listed are the 10 leading exporters in terms of year-to-date quantities (gross weight).

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
55% - 80% silicon, over 3% Ca:						
Brazil	--	--	--	95	58	\$124,000
China	--	--	--	255	152	343,000
France	133	86	\$214,000	501	312	797,000
Sweden	--	--	--	4	2	11,300
Total	133	86	214,000	856	525	1,280,000
55% - 80% silicon, other:						
Brazil	647	492	633,000	2,180	1,650	2,110,000
Canada	840	629	1,110,000	6,030	4,540	7,590,000
China	1,210	911	1,100,000	63,200	45,700	52,700,000
France	114	81	259,000	1,040	733	1,970,000
Germany	34	25	172,000	225	170	1,110,000
Iceland	103	77	100,000	457	340	448,000
Norway	197	146	295,000	1,180	868	1,690,000
Russia	--	--	--	28,600	21,200	25,100,000
Venezuela	3,960	2,970	3,460,000	24,400	18,300	19,900,000
United Kingdom	12	8	83,500	55	37	354,000
Other (3 countries)	17	13	18,800	103	73	149,000
Total	7,130	5,350	7,230,000	128,000	93,600	113,000,000
80% - 90% silicon, Germany	--	--	--	34	25	184,000
More than 90% silicon, China	--	--	--	3,000	2,750	2,390,000
Magnesium ferrosilicon:						
Argentina	140	59	270,000	823	362	1,510,000
Brazil	--	--	--	1,560	712	1,370,000
Canada	882	410	964,000	5,290	2,460	5,490,000
China	68	27	129,000	481	214	559,000
France	18	8	21,400	83	39	114,000
Germany	--	--	--	35	18	67,100
Japan	32	12	70,200	126	46	275,000
Netherlands	--	--	--	54	25	52,700
Norway	161	75	155,000	1,610	743	1,510,000
Russia	--	--	--	1,400	630	672,000
Other (South Africa)	--	--	--	37	17	46,900
Total	1,300	592	1,610,000	11,500	5,270	11,700,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Canada	632	164	595,000	3,990	943	3,650,000
China	--	--	--	12,200	1,540	3,320,000
France	31	14	26,000	54	25	49,800
Russia	70	31	58,700	241	117	208,000
Total	733	209	679,000	16,400	2,630	7,230,000
Total ferrosilicon	9,300	6,240	9,730,000	159,000	105,000	136,000,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3--Continued
 U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
Brazil	(3)	XX	\$10,000	4	XX	\$281,000
Canada	--	XX	--	23	XX	531,000
China	8	XX	441,000	39	XX	2,190,000
Germany	95	XX	9,440,000	588	XX	56,500,000
Italy	17	XX	1,490,000	148	XX	13,300,000
Japan	63	XX	7,780,000	264	XX	35,300,000
Korea, Republic of	2	XX	356,000	27	XX	5,820,000
Poland	--	XX	--	6	XX	190,000
Taiwan	--	XX	--	20	XX	1,470,000
Turkey	--	XX	--	13	XX	28,900
Other (13 countries)	1	XX	146,000	16	XX	1,920,000
Total	186	186^e	19,700,000	1,150	1,150^e	118,000,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Australia	1,170	1,170	2,050,000	7,540	7,500	13,000,000
Brazil	5,590	5,550	9,810,000	24,500	24,300	41,500,000
Canada	1,110	1,100	1,950,000	9,550	9,480	16,700,000
China	--	--	--	5	3	18,300
Netherlands	--	--	--	312	310	567,000
Norway	888	884	2,430,000	4,040	3,990	10,500,000
Philippines	99	98	158,000	692	654	1,080,000
South Africa	1,550	1,540	2,630,000	17,900	17,800	29,500,000
Total	10,400	10,300	19,000,000	64,600	64,000	113,000,000
Other silicon:						
Brazil	10	10	29,400	1,280	1,260	2,280,000
Canada	323	318	593,000	2,770	2,710	4,860,000
China	--	--	--	17	14 ⁴	68,200
Denmark	(3)	(3)	2,280	(3)	(3)	2,280
France	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	2,660
Japan	--	--	--	73	1	79,100
Norway	--	--	--	18	18	57,100
Philippines	26	25	40,100	221	215 ⁴	336,000
Sweden	--	--	--	216	62	395,000
United Kingdom	20	20	34,800	238	234	419,000
Total	379	373	699,000	4,830	4,510	8,500,000
Total silicon metal	11,000	10,900	39,400,000	70,500	69,700	239,000,000

^eEstimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Countries listed are the 10 leading exporters in terms of year-to-date quantities (gross weight).

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.