

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SILICON IN JUNE 2007

Preliminary data for June 2007 indicate that domestic production and net shipments of silicon ferroalloys, on a gross-weight basis, decreased by 13% and 7%, respectively, compared with those in May 2007, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Ending stocks decreased by 4% compared with those at the end of May. 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.

Domestic production and shipments of ferrosilicon during the second quarter of 2007 were 12% and 14% greater, respectively, than those of the first quarter of 2007. They were 11% and 16% higher, respectively, during the first half of 2007 compared with those during the first half of 2006. All domestic data for ferrosilicon have been combined to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

Prices, cents per pound, silicon content

	<u>50% Ferrosilicon¹</u>	<u>75% Ferrosilicon²</u>	<u>Silicon Metal²</u>
June 7	77.00-82.00	67.00-73.00	95.00-97.50
June 14	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	97.00-98.00
June 21	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	97.00-98.00
June 28	78.00-82.00	69.00-75.00	97.00-98.00

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,
	June	Year to date ⁵	June	Year to date ⁵	June 30
Ferrosilicon, all grades ^{6, 7}	21,600	137,000	20,000	117,000	22,800
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 MAY 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	584	350	\$707,000	2,780	1,670	\$3,170,000
Colombia	--	--	--	11	8	15,600
Italy	--	--	--	16	10	30,200
Malaysia	--	--	--	11	8	15,600
Mexico	117	72	148,000	566	341	703,000
Spain	--	--	--	16	10	20,300
Thailand	--	--	--	16	10	16,100
Total	701	422	855,000	3,420	2,060	3,970,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Belgium	--	--	--	17	8	19,600
Canada	180	90	196,000	1,110	555	1,190,000
China	--	--	--	9	5	15,100
Colombia	--	--	--	27	13	39,000
India	--	--	--	3	1	4,810
Indonesia	--	--	--	16	8	23,800
Italy	--	--	--	33	18	60,500
Mexico	79	41	86,100	297	150	365,000
Peru	--	--	--	15	8	28,800
Spain	--	--	--	16	8	23,800
Other (Taiwan)	3	1	4,300	3	1	4,300
Total	262	132	286,000	1,550	773	1,770,000
Total ferrosilicon	964	554	1,140,000	4,970	2,830	5,740,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2--Continued
 U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN MAY 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	202	XX	\$20,100,000	1,070	XX	\$113,000,000
Germany	179	XX	12,800,000	975	XX	72,000,000
Italy	7	XX	1,260,000	30	XX	3,880,000
Japan	670	XX	58,600,000	3,390	XX	306,000,000
Korea, Republic of	84	XX	7,650,000	521	XX	43,900,000
Malaysia	12	XX	1,800,000	63	XX	9,990,000
Norway	284	XX	17,600,000	1,460	XX	73,300,000
Taiwan	80	XX	6,490,000	397	XX	43,100,000
Ukraine	17	XX	1,190,000	36	XX	2,590,000
United Kingdom	7	XX	917,000	51	XX	7,290,000
Other (33 countries)	31	XX	3,550,000	118	XX	14,100,000
Total	1,570	1,570 ^e	132,000,000	8,120	8,120 ^e	689,000,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Brazil	150	149	413,000	535	530	1,390,000
China	--	--	--	365	362	1,070,000
France	--	--	--	6	6	8,500
Germany	--	--	--	36	36	51,000
Ireland	--	--	--	11	11	15,000
Japan	12	12	17,500	12	12	17,500
Singapore	4	4	5,300	13	12	17,700
Switzerland	21	21	30,300	21	21	30,300
Taiwan	9	9	12,300	16	16	22,900
United Kingdom	--	--	--	7	7	9,690
Other (5 countries)	--	--	--	16	16	29,000
Total	196	195	478,000	1,040	1,030	2,660,000
Other silicon:						
Belgium	(3)	(3)	3,380	16	15	58,100
Canada	46	45	49,900	167	162	180,000
China	12	12	23,400	338	328	534,000
Germany	9	9	21,200	25	24	41,200
Hong Kong	42	41	55,500	42	41	55,500
Japan	19	19	198,000 ⁴	469	451	2,990,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	325	316	430,000
Mexico	5	5	12,900	16	16	69,300
Netherlands	85	82	409,000	331	321	1,710,000
Taiwan	24	24	44,400	24	24	44,400
Other (8 countries)	(3)	(3)	3,300	49	47	105,000
Total	244	237	821,000	1,800	1,750	6,220,000
Total silicon metal	2,010	2,000	133,000,000	11,000	10,900	698,000,000

^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.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN MAY 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	105	67	\$164,000	369	227	583,000
Sweden	--	--	--	4	2	11,300
Total	105	67	164,000	723	439	1,060,000
55% - 80% silicon, Other:						
Brazil	638	480	604,000	1,530	1,160	1,480,000
Canada	884	661	1,180,000	5,190	3,910	6,480,000
China	20,900	15,800	17,900,000	62,000	44,800	51,600,000
France	251	172	479,000	924	651	1,710,000
Germany	52	42	230,000	190	145	941,000
Japan	16	10	31,300	50	35	76,900
Iceland	--	--	--	353	264	348,000
Norway	183	136	270,000	981	722	1,390,000
Russia	4,800	3,730	4,800,000	28,600	21,200	25,100,000
Venezuela	5,400	4,050	4,260,000	20,500	15,400	16,400,000
Other (3 countries)	27	17	77,700	79	54	323,000
Total	33,200	25,100	29,800,000	120,000	88,200	106,000,000
80% - 90% silicon, Germany	--	--	--	34	25	184,000
More than 90% silicon, China	--	--	--	3,000	2,750	2,390,000
Magnesium ferrosilicon:						
Argentina	74	31	140,000	683	302	1,240,000
Brazil	--	--	--	1,560	712	1,370,000
Canada	692	322	733,000	4,410	2,050	4,520,000
China	326	147	330,000	413	186	430,000
France	18	9	21,400	65	31	92,300
Germany	--	--	--	35	18	67,100
Japan	--	--	--	95	34	205,000
Netherlands	--	--	--	54	25	52,700
Norway	432	200	400,000	1,450	669	1,350,000
Russia	--	--	--	1,400	630	672,000
Other (South Africa)	19	9	24,100	37	17	46,900
Total	1,560	716	1,650,000	10,200	4,680	10,100,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Canada	568	144	537,000	3,360	779	3,060,000
China	--	--	--	12,200	1,540	3,320,000
France	--	--	--	23	11	23,700
Russia	7	4	4,810	171	86	150,000
Total	575	147	542,000	15,700	2,420	6,550,000
Total ferrosilicon	35,400	26,000	32,200,000	150,000	98,500	126,000,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3--Continued
 U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN MAY 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	--	XX	--	3	XX	\$271,000
Canada	16	XX	\$306,000	23	XX	531,000
China	5	XX	185,000	32	XX	1,750,000
Germany	108	XX	9,650,000	492	XX	47,100,000
Italy	34	XX	3,990,000	131	XX	11,800,000
Japan	54	XX	8,400,000	201	XX	27,600,000
Korea, Republic of	2	XX	432,000	25	XX	5,460,000
Poland	--	XX	--	6	XX	190,000
Taiwan	2	XX	141,000	20	XX	1,470,000
Turkey	--	XX	--	13	XX	28,900
Other (13 countries)	4	XX	141,000	15	XX	1,770,000
Total	224	224 ^e	23,200,000	961	961 ^e	98,000,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Australia	1,340	1,330	2,370,000	6,370	6,330	11,000,000
Brazil	3,740	3,710	6,430,000	18,900	18,800	31,700,000
Canada	1,100	1,090	1,970,000	8,440	8,380	14,700,000
China	5	3	18,300	5	3	18,300
Netherlands	--	--	--	312	310	567,000
Norway	606	603	1,710,000	3,150	3,110	8,100,000
Philippines	153	152	247,000	593	556	923,000
South Africa	7,330	7,280	12,500,000	16,400	16,200	26,900,000
Total	14,300	14,200	25,200,000	54,200	53,700	93,900,000
Other silicon:						
Brazil	--	--	--	1,270	1,250	2,250,000
Canada	524	515	953,000	2,450	2,390	4,270,000
China	--	--	--	17	14 ³	68,200
France	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	2,660
Japan	--	--	--	73	1	79,100
Norway	--	--	--	18	18	57,100
Philippines	8	8	12,400	195	190 ³	296,000
Sweden	12	10	65,600	216	62	395,000
United Kingdom	40	39	69,600	218	214	384,000
Total	583	572	1,100,000	4,450	4,140	7,800,000
Total silicon metal	15,100	15,000	49,500,000	59,600	58,800	200,000,000

^eEstimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Countries listed are the 10 leading importers 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.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.