

Daily Iron Ore Index Report

January 03, 2019

IRON ORE PORT STOCK INDEX (IOPI)

January 03, 2019		FOT Qingdao (inc. 16% VAT), RMB/wet tonne							CFR Qingdao Equivalent (exc. 16% VAT), USD/dry tonne ¹						
Index	Fe Content	Price	Change	Change %	MTD	YTD	Low ²	High ²	Price	Change	Change %	MTD	YTD	Low ²	High ²
IOPI62	62% Fe Fines	563	-7	-1.2%	567	567	443	603	73.04	-1.14	-1.5%	73.61	73.61	61.36	77.89
IOPI58	58% Fe Fines	411	6	1.5%	408	408	304	419	52.25	0.65	1.3%	51.95	51.95	40.67	52.71
IOPI65	65% Fe Fines	654	-5	-0.8%	657	657	541	784	85.47	-0.89	-1.0%	85.92	85.92	75.83	101.71

IRON ORE SEABORNE INDEX (IOSI)

January 03, 2019		CFR Qingdao, USD/dry tonne						
Index	Fe Content	Price	Change	Change %	MTD	YTD	Low ³	High ³
IOSI62	62% Fe Fines	71.90	-0.60	-0.8%	72.20	72.20	62.95	86.20
IOSI65	65% Fe Fines	86.70	-1.20	-1.4%	87.30	87.30	83.20	101.50

MARKET COMMENTARY

Iron ore physical port stock prices were relatively volatile today as traders were happy to move inventory. Steel mills were active, their purchasing enthusiasm continuing to grow to build up their inventories. Mills in Xuzhou resumed production following the New Year Holiday and now about six blast furnaces are expected to produce liquid iron in the next few days, helping to push demand for iron ore in East China higher. Seaborne iron ore activity has picked up, with a few transaction starting to flow into the market, though sentiment remains uncertain.

IRON ORE PORT LUMP INDEX (IOPLI)

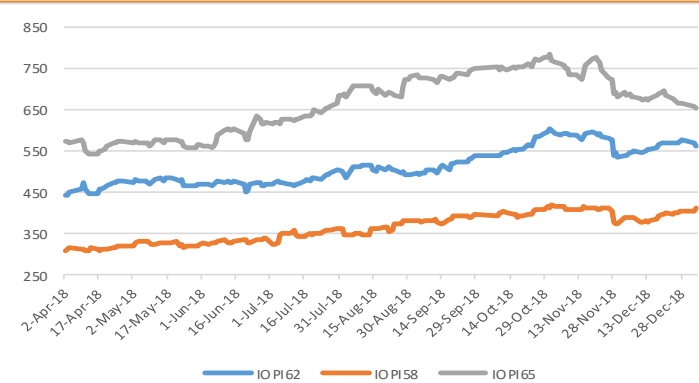
Week Ending December 28		FOT Qingdao (inc. 16% VAT), RMB/wet tonne							CFR Qingdao Equivalent (exc. 16% VAT), USD/dry tonne ¹						
Index	Fe Content	Price	W-o-W	Change %	DEC	YTD ³	Low ³	High ³	Price	W-o-W	Change %	DEC	YTD ³	Low ³	High ³
IOPLI62	62.5% Fe Lump	752	2	0.3%	749	656	565	789	94.73	0.53	0.6%	94.22	84.35	76.63	98.50

IRON ORE DOMESTIC CONCENTRATE SPOT PRICE ASSESSMENTS AND COMPOSITE INDEX

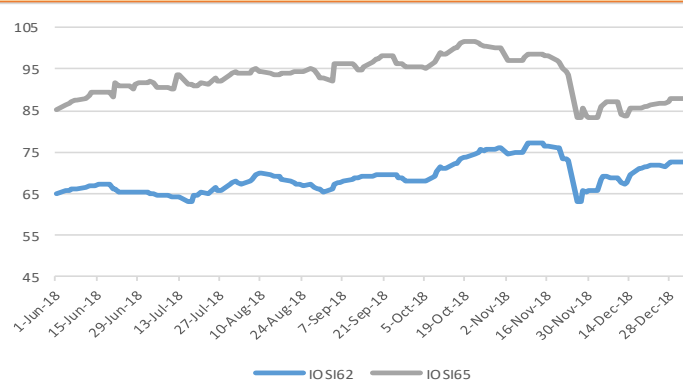
Week Ending December 28, 2018				RMB/tonne (excluding tax) ⁴				USD/tonne (excluding tax) ⁴			
Province	Region	Product	Basis	This week	Change %	Low ²	High ²	This week	Change %	Low ²	High ²
Hebei	Hanxing	66% Fe Concentrate	Dry	680	3.3%	579	718	98.75	3.37%	84.08	104.27
Hebei	Qian'an	65% Fe Concentrate	Dry	755	2.7%	630	815	109.64	2.75%	91.49	118.36
Liaoning	Anshan	65% Fe Concentrate	Wet	535	0.0%	445	565	77.69	0.03%	64.62	82.05
Shandong	Zibo	65% Fe Concentrate	Dry	740	0.0%	620	815	107.46	0.03%	90.04	118.36
Week Ending December 28, 2018				This week	Change %	Low ⁵	High ⁵				
China Mines Concentrate Composite Index RMB/WT				623.29	1.0%	534.50	676.26				

¹ Exchange rate applied: RMB/USD = 6.8482 ² Since March 1 ³ Since June 1 ⁴ Weekly exchange rate applied: RMB/USD 6.8860 ⁵ Last 12 months

IRON ORE PORT INDEX, FOT QINGDAO (RMB/WT)



IRON ORE SEABORNE INDEX, CFR QINGDAO (USD/DMT)



IRON ORE PORT STOCK INDEX MONTHLY, QUARTERLY AND YEAR-TO-DATE AVERAGES

January 03, 2019		FOT Qingdao (inc. 16% VAT), RMB/wet tonne							CFR Qingdao Equivalent (exc. 16% VAT), USD/dry tonne ¹						
Index	Fe Content	September	October	November	December	January	QTD	YTD	September	October	November	December	January	QTD	YTD
IOPI62	62% Fe Fines	513	564	564	559	567	567	567	64.29	63.41	65.25	72.55	73.61	73.61	73.61
IOPI58	58% Fe Fines	385	401	401	392	408	408	408	44.14	44.86	45.84	50.47	51.95	51.95	51.95
IOPI65	65% Fe Fines	732	760	760	681	657	657	657	82.19	85.29	92.13	99.05	85.92	85.92	85.92

IRON ORE SEABORNE INDEX MONTHLY, QUARTERLY AND YEAR-TO-DATE AVERAGES

January 03, 2019		CFR Qingdao, USD/dry tonne							FREIGHT RATES - DRY BULK US\$/wet tonne						
Index	Fe Content	September	October	November	December	January	QTD	YTD	Route	Designation	Change	Change %	Low ⁵	High ⁵	
IOSI62	62% Fe Fines	68.79	72.31	72.91	69.96	72.20	72.20	72.20	W. Australia - Qingdao	C5	6.78	0.57	9.22%	5.109	10.002
IOSI65	65% Fe Fines	96.48	98.97	94.05	85.85	87.30	87.30	87.30	Tubarao - Qingdao	C3	16.41	0.32	1.98%	12.705	24.76

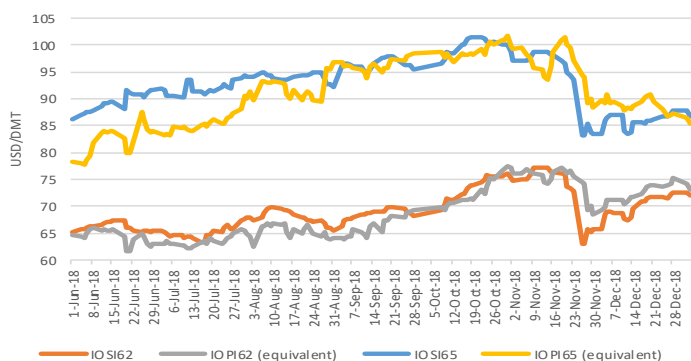
IRON ORE PORT LUMP INDEX MONTHLY, QUARTERLY AND YEAR-TO-DATE AVERAGES

Week Ending December 28		FOT Qingdao (inc. 16% VAT), RMB/wet tonne							CFR Qingdao Equivalent (exc. 16% VAT), USD/dry tonne ¹						
Index	Fe Content	August	September	October	November	December	QTD	YTD ³	August	September	October	November	December	QTD	YTD ²
IOPLI62	62.5% Fe Lump	652	695	720	771	749	751	656	81.74	87.49	89.65	96.21	94.22	93.91	84.35

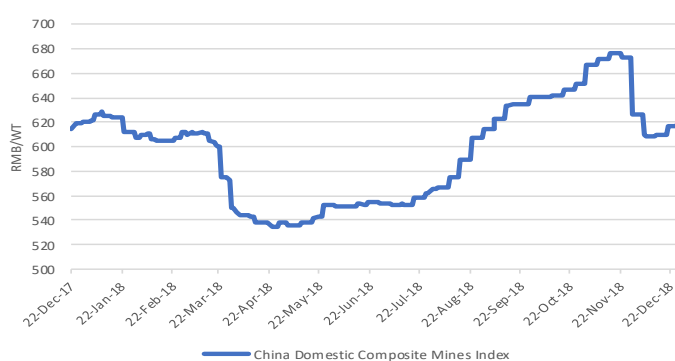
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IRON ORE INDEX COMPARISONS



CHINA DOMESTIC COMPOSITE MINES INDEX (RMB/Wet Tonne, including VAT)



IRON ORE BRAND SPOT PRICE ASSESSMENTS

January 03, 2019	PORT STOCK INDEX (RMB/WT)			January 03, 2019	SEABORNE INDEX (USD/DMT)		
	Price	Change	Diff to IOPI62		Price	Change	Diff to IOSI62
Roy Hill	531	-8	-32	Roy Hill	66.40	-0.94	-5.50
SIMEC Fines	456	-5	-107	SIMEC Fines	62.55	-1.11	-9.35
PB Fines	545	-7	-18	PB Fines	71.25	-0.69	-0.65
Newman Fines	546	-6	-17	Newman Fines	74.57	-0.43	2.67
MAC Fines	523	-7	-40	MAC Fines	66.75	-0.96	-5.15
Jimblebar Blended Fines	497	-7	-66	Jimblebar Blended Fines	61.42	-1.12	-10.48
Carajas Fines	652	-3	89	Carajas Fines	86.20	-0.72	14.30
Brazilian SSF	500	1	-63	Brazilian SSF	73.77	-1.23	1.87
Brazilian Blend Fines	548	-3	-15	Brazilian Blend Fines	75.27	-0.85	3.37
RTX Fines	485	-5	-78	RTX Fines	62.92	-1.07	-8.98

January 03, 2019	PORT STOCK INDEX (RMB/WT)		
	Price	Change	Diff to IOPI58
SSF	350	0	-61
FMG Blended Fines	407	5	-4
Robe River	440	10	29
Western Fines	359	0	-52
Atlas Fines	351	0	-60
Yandi	451	3	40

IRON ORE INDEX NORMALISATION DIFFERENTIALS

Port Stock Index Product Differentials (RMB/wet tonne)				Seaborne Index Product Differentials (USD/dry tonne)			
	Applicable range	Value	Change		Applicable range	Value	Change
1% Fe	High Grade Fe 60 - 63%	10.00	2.00	1% Fe	High Grade Fe 60 - 63%	3.50	0.25
	High Grade Fe 63 - 64%	28.00	0.00		High Grade Fe 63 - 64%	2.25	0.00
	High Grade Fe 64 - 65%	28.00	0.00		High Grade Fe 64 - 65%	2.25	0.00
	High Grade Fe 65 - 65.5%	28.00	0.00		High Grade Fe 65 - 65.5%	2.25	0.00
	Low Grade Fe	16.00	1.00				
1% Alumina	High Fe Grade Al <2.25%	23.00	0.00	1% Alumina	High Fe Grade Al <2.25%	3.50	-0.50
	High Fe Grade Al 2.25-4%	39.00	-3.00		High Fe Grade Al 2.25-4%	1.00	0.25
	Low Fe Grade Al <2.25%	78.00	-3.00				
	Low Fe Grade Al 2.25-4%	28.00	3.00				
1% Silica	High Fe Grade Si <4%	2.00	0.00	1% Silica	High Fe Grade Si <4%	1.50	0.00
	High Fe Grade Si 4-6.5%	41.00	-3.00		High Fe Grade Si 4 - 6.5%	1.00	0.00
	Low Fe Grade	19.00	2.00				
0.01% Phosphorus	High Fe Grade 0.09%<P<0.115%	5.00	0.00	0.01% Phosphorus	High Fe Grade 0.09%<P<0.115%	0.25	0.00
	High Fe Grade 0.115%<P<0.15%	2.00	0.00		High Fe Grade 0.115%<P<0.15%	1.75	0.00
	Low Fe Grade 0.09%<P<0.1%	6.00	0.00				

Port Stock Differentials to Qingdao Port (RMB/wet tonne)

Port	Value	Change	Port	Value	Change	Port	Value	Change	Port	Value	Change
Bayuquan	-35.00	10.00	Fangcheng	-5.00	0.00	Lanshan	0.00	0.00	Qingdao	0.00	0.00
Beilun	5.00	0.00	Jiangyin	-10.00	0.00	Lianyungang	0.00	0.00	Rizhao	0.00	0.00
Caofeidian	-10.00	0.00	Jingtang	-10.00	0.00	Majishan	0.00	0.00	Shekou	0.00	0.00
Dalian	-10.00	20.00	Lanqiao	0.00	0.00	Nantong	-10.00	0.00	Tianjin	0.00	0.00

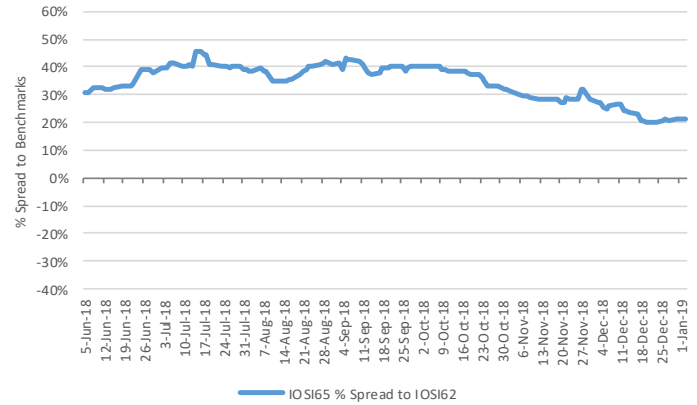
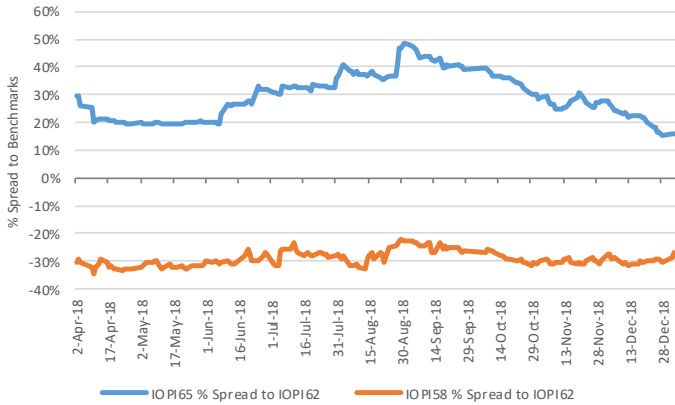
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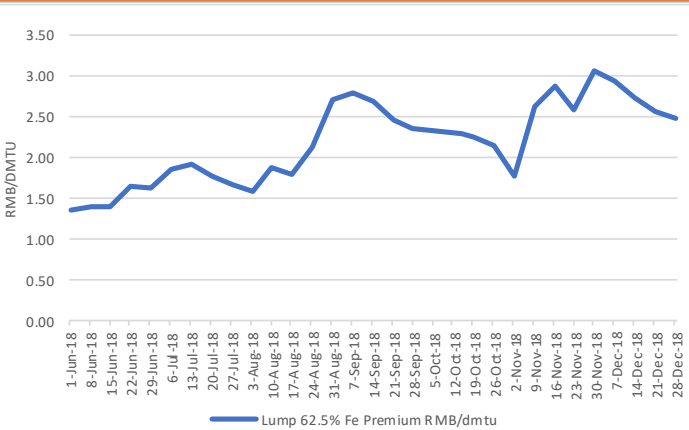
IRON ORE INDEX PREMIUMS/DISCOUNTS

January 03, 2019	PORT STOCK INDEX (RMB/WT)	
Fe Content	Spread to IOPI62	% Spread to IOPI62
58% Fe Fines	-152	-27.00%
65% Fe Fines	91	16.16%

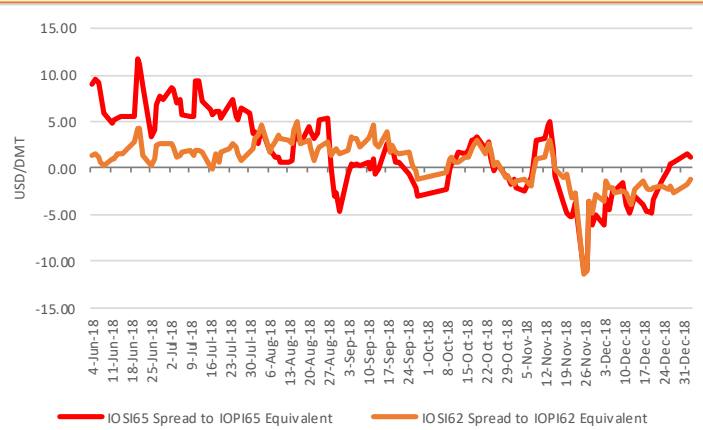
January 03, 2019	SEABORNE INDEX (USD/DMT)	
Fe Content	Spread to IOSI62	% Spread to IOSI62
65% Fe Fines	14.80	20.58%



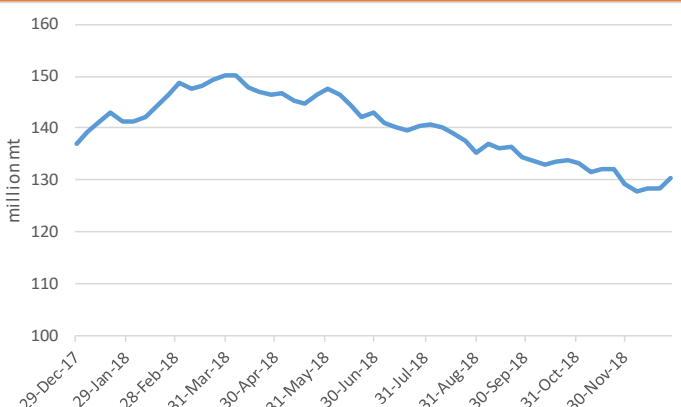
WEEKLY IRON ORE PORT STOCK LUMP PREMIUM (62.5% FE LUMP—62% FE FINES)



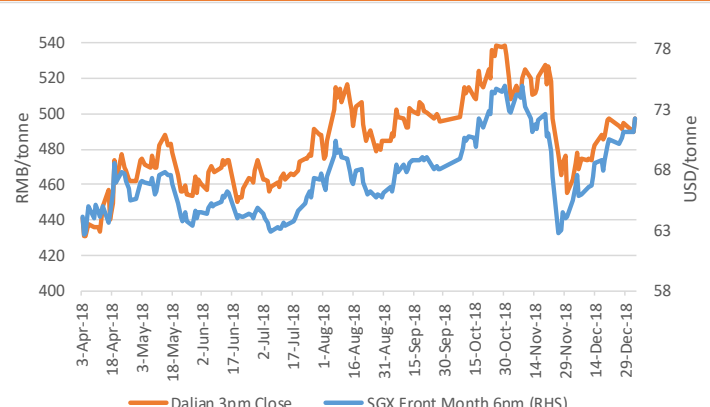
IRON ORE SEABORNE TO PORT STOCK SPREADS



TOTAL IRON ORE INVENTORIES AT CHINA PORTS



FUTURE TRADING—FRONT MONTH CLOSING PRICE



IRON ORE PORT INVENTORIES

Week Ending December 28, 2018 (million tonnes)				
Province	This week	Change %	Low ⁴	High ⁴
Jingtang	13.60	-2.16%	13.29	19.00
Qingdao	17.00	3.03%	16.09	19.97
Caofeidian	19.30	4.61%	16.70	25.30
Tianjin	9.60	-1.03%	8.50	11.00
Rizhao	14.00	-6.35%	14.00	19.00
Total (35 Ports)	130.48	1.76%	127.72	150.04

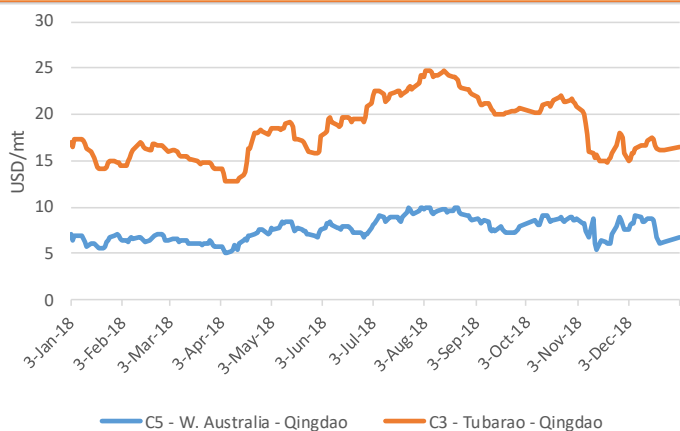
IRON ORE FUTURES CONTRACTS

Closing Date	DCE			SGX		
	03 Jan 3pm close	Change	Change %	03 Jan 6 pm	Change	Change %
Contract	11905			Jan'18		
Closing Price	497.0	7.0	1.43%	72.30	1.16	1.63%
Vol traded ('000 lots)	82.65	38.4	86.66%	5.16	-1.22	-19.09%
Open positions ('000 lots)	80.09	7.2	9.94%	120.62	0.93	0.78%
Day Low	488.0	0.0	0.00%	71.04	2.38	3.47%
Day High	499.0	2.0	0.40%	72.30	0.90	1.26%

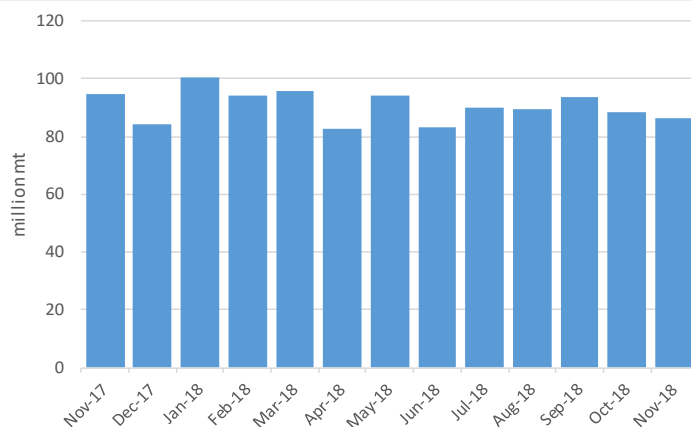
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DRY BULK FREIGHT RATES



TOTAL CHINA IRON ORE IMPORT VOLUMES

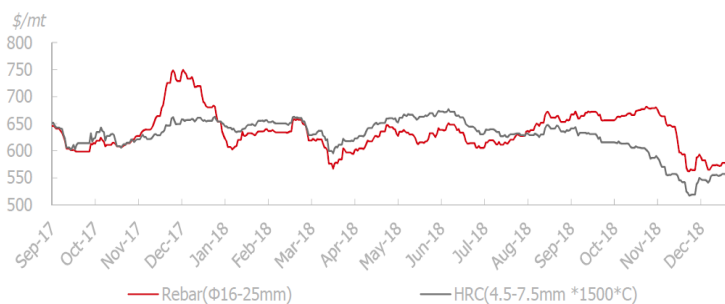


Steel Spot Market Prices - China

Steel Spot Market RMB/tonne

Product	28/12/2018	Change	Change %
ReBar HRB400 φ18mm	3,912.0	-63	-1.58%
Wirerod Q300 φ6.5mm	4,040.0	-30	-0.74%
HRC Q235/SS400 5.5mm*1500*C	3,746.0	-88	-2.30%
CRC SPCC/ST12 1.0mm*1250*2500	4,220.0	-46	-1.08%
Medium & Heavy Plate Q235B 20mm	3,840.0	-20	-0.52%
GI ST02Z 1.0mm*1000*C	4,570.0	-50	-1.08%
Billet Q235 150*150mm	3,300.0	-140	-4.07%

Rebar and HRC spot prices



Source: SMM

CHINESE STEEL EXPORT PRICES

China Export Prices USD/tonne

Product	Specification	Export tax (+)/Vate rebate (-)	Change
28/12/2018			
Rebar	BS4449 460B 12-25mm, + chrome	-13%	475 -20
Wire Rod	SAE1008 6.5-10mm +chrome	-9%	495 -10
Hot-rolled coil	SS400/Q235 4.0-10.mm	-9%	490 -10
Cold-rolled coil	SPCC 1.0mm	-13%	535 -10
Medium & Heavy plate	A-level Shipe plate 12-25mm	0%	510 -10
Galvanised	ST02Z/SGCC 1.0mm	-13%	550 -10

Note: Calculation formula for converting export prices of rebar, cold-rolled steel and galvanizing into prices in China's spot market = FOB * exchange rate * 1.16 / (1.16 - 0.13); Calculation formula for converting export prices of wire rod and hot-rolled steel into prices in China's spot market = FOB * exchange rate * 1.16 / (1.16 - 0.09); Calculation formula for converting export prices of medium-thick plate into prices in China's spot market = FOB * exchange rate

CHINESE STEEL INVENTORIES

Steel Inventories³ (unit: 1000 tonnes)

Product	28/12/2018	21/12/2018	Change	Change %
Rebar	3,141	3,009	132	4.39%
Wirerod	1,065	1,023	42	4.11%
Hot-rolled Coil	1,762	1,887	-125	-6.62%
Medium & Thick Plate	925	951	-26	-2.73%
Cold-rolled Coil	1,071	1,075	-4	-0.37%
Total	7,965	7,945	20	0.25%

³ SMM statistics cover inventories of major steel products in China's major markets: hot-rolled steel inventories in 33 major cities; rebar and wire inventories in 35 major cities; cold-rolled steel and medium-thick plate inventories in 31 major cities.

CHINESE STEEL MILL PROFITABILITY

SMM Tracking of Steel Mill P&L - Rebar and Hot-rolled Coil (RMB/tonne)

Category	Price	Change (WoW)	Note
MMI (Fe 62%), USD/mt excluding tax	74.13	0.32	Mmi CFR Equivalent index for 12th October
Coke	2,070	-90	2nd grade met coke, Tangshan, incl. tax
Steel Scrap	2,150	-50	steel scrap (6mm) in Zhangjiagang, excl. tax
Billet Cost	2,892	-54	Q234, incl. tax
Rebar cost - Blast furnace	3,152	-56	calculated based on theoretical weight, incl. tax
Rebar profit - Blast furnace	578	36	based on Shanghai prices, incl. tax
Hot-rolled coil cost - Blast furnace	3,217	-54	based on actual weight, incl. tax
Hot-rolled coil profit - Blast furnace	463	-86	based on Shanghai prices, incl. tax

Note: 1. Costs in the table are calculated based on today's market prices and factored our management, sales, financial and depreciations fees.

2. The cost refers to average cost in the industry based on SMM's survey of small, medium and large mills in China

IRON ORE INDEX SPECIFICATIONS, COMPILATION RATIONALE AND DATA EXCLUSIONS

Iron Ore Index Specifications (Port and Seaborne)					Iron Ore Index Compilation Rationale and Data Exclusions																							
	65% Fe Fines	62% Fe Fines	58% Fe Fines	62.5% Fe Lump																								
Fe %	65.00	62.00	58.00	62.50	MMI iron ore indices are compiled from data provided by companies that are part of the iron ore supply chain and involved in spot market transactions. The indices are calculated using detailed transaction-level data submitted to MMI by these companies. This data is normalised to the appropriate specifications and screened to remove outliers before volume-weighted average prices are calculated from the remaining core set of data. For more details on MMI's iron ore methodology please download the guide published on our website at: www.mmiprices.com																							
Alumina %	1.40	2.25	2.25	1.50																								
Silica%	1.50	4.00	5.50	3.50																								
Phosphorus %	0.06	0.09	0.05	0.08																								
Sulphur %	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02																								
Moisture %	8.00	8.00	9.00	4.00																								
Sizing	Granular size below 10mm for at least 90% of cargo; maximum of 40% below 150 micron			Size below 6.3mm max 15% Size above 31.15mm max 25%	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Data Exclusions*</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>62%</th> <th>58%</th> <th>65%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Port Index</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seaborne Index</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lump Index 62.5</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Data Exclusions*					62%	58%	65%	Port Index	0	0	0	Seaborne Index	0		0	Lump Index 62.5	0		
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Pricing Point	Qingdao Port (FOT and CFR respectively)			FOT Qingdao Port																								
Timing (Seaborne)	Loading within 4 weeks, Delivery within 8 weeks			Delivery within 2 weeks	* Number of price submissions for iron ore indices that were excluded from index calculations today as they were anomalous and could not be verified																							
Payment Terms	L/C at sight			L/C at sight or CAD																								

IRON ORE DOMESTIC CONCENTRATE INDEX CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

The compilation method for price index generally refers to the compilation method of CPI price index and other price indices, breakdown the price data and calculate the average value according to a certain method, taking the vertical axis as the regional composite index (average of different grade index) and the horizontal axis as the grade composite index (average of different regional index), a total composite index for domestic ore can be output ultimately. The process system is also adopted in the calculation i.e. each sub-index can be obtained as well.

AVERAGE IRON ORE SPECIFICATIONS APPLIED FOR BRAND PRICE ASSESSMENTS

PORT STOCK BRANDS						SEABORNE BRANDS					
January 03, 2019	SPECIFICATIONS APPLIED FOR 62% BRAND ASSESSMENTS						SPECIFICATIONS APPLIED FOR 62% BRAND ASSESSMENTS				
	Fe	Alumina	Silica	Phos	Moisture		Fe	Alumina	Silica	Phos	Moisture
Roy Hill	60.76%	2.35%	4.31%	0.057%	8.58%	Roy Hill	60.70%	2.30%	4.90%	0.055%	8.00%
SIMEC Fines	60.00%	2.30%	6.30%	0.060%	6.00%	SIMEC Fines	60.00%	2.30%	6.30%	0.060%	6.00%
PB Fines	61.58%	2.33%	3.62%	0.097%	9.32%	PB Fines 62%	62.00%	2.60%	4.30%	0.090%	10.00%
Newman Fines	62.19%	2.48%	4.21%	0.092%	7.97%	Newman Fines	62.80%	2.20%	4.30%	0.080%	6.40%
MAC Fines	60.81%	2.30%	4.73%	0.089%	7.43%	MAC Fines	61.00%	2.70%	4.70%	0.110%	9.30%
Jimblebar Blended Fines	61.30%	2.87%	4.24%	0.112%	6.87%	Jimblebar Blended Fines	61.79%	2.67%	4.08%	0.115%	7.16%
Carajas Fines	64.93%	1.30%	2.04%	0.072%	8.06%	Carajas Fines	65.10%	1.50%	1.70%	0.080%	8.50%
Brazilian SSF	62.00%	1.00%	6.50%	0.040%	6.00%	Brazilian SSF	62.00%	1.00%	6.50%	0.040%	6.00%
Brazilian Blend Fines	62.67%	1.55%	4.86%	0.068%	8.47%	Brazilian Blend Fines	62.50%	1.50%	5.00%	0.070%	7.00%
RTX Fines	61.00%	3.10%	4.50%	0.135%	7.50%	RTX Fines	61.00%	3.10%	4.50%	0.135%	7.50%
January 03, 2019	SPECIFICATIONS APPLIED FOR 58% BRAND ASSESSMENTS										
	Fe	Alumina	Silica	Phos	Moisture						
SSF	56.53%	3.10%	6.17%	0.050%	9.19%						
FMG Blended Fines	58.25%	2.68%	5.64%	0.060%	7.44%						
Robe River	56.63%	2.88%	1.85%	0.035%	9.09%						
Western Fines	57.78%	2.92%	7.37%	0.061%	7.46%						
Atlas Fines	56.59%	2.55%	7.14%	0.080%	8.46%						
Yandi	57.33%	1.39%	6.36%	0.037%	9.02%						

BLOOMBERG TICKERS

PORT STOCK INDICES			
	FOT Qingdao (RMB/wet tonne)		CFR Qingdao Equivalent (USD/dry tonne)
IOPI62	IRCNQ001		IRCNQ004
IOPI58	IRCNQ002		IRCNQ005
IOPI65	IRCNQ003		IRCNQ006

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