



The decrease and stabilization of the external value of the Canadian dollar at a rate below that of the United States on May 2, 1962, was of net benefit to Canadian iron ore exporters. Increased revenue from export sales more than offset the additional capital charges that several operators must repay in foreign currency. The net benefit to several producers, however, was largely dissipated because the base selling price of direct-shipping ore in North America was lowered. In addition, competition from other exporting countries increased the pressure on prices received for Canadian direct-shipping as well as high-grade beneficiated ore in the European markets.

Iron Ore Company of Canada, with direct-shipping ore deposits astride the Labrador-Quebec border 360 miles north of the port of Sept Îles, Que., is the largest producer, and accounted for 41 p.c. of 1962 Canadian shipments. Initial shipments of high-grade concentrate were made from the company's new operation at Labrador City. Wabana Mines of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, Limited, produces medium-grade concentrate from its underground mines on Bell Island, Nfld., and accounted for about 5.2 p.c. of the year's shipments. High-grade pellets from Hilton Mines, Ltd. near Shawville, Que., accounted for another 3.1 p.c. Quebec Cartier Mining Company, a new producer in 1961, contributed 18.5 p.c. by shipping high-grade concentrate from its new mine and beneficiation plant at Gagnon and its port at Port Cartier, Que.