



MAJESTIC  
STEEL USA

# CORE REPORT

06.13.25

## COST

01

- ⊖ scrap
- ▼ iron ore
- ⊖ energy
- ▼ zinc
- ▼ coking coal

## SUPPLY

04

- ⊖ lead times
- ▲ production
- ⊖ imports
- ⊖ inventories

## DEMAND

05

- ⊖ automotive
- ▲ construction
- ⊖ appliance
- ⊖ manufacturing
- ⊖ agriculture
- ⊖ consumption

## ECONOMIC

06

- ▼ employment
- ▲ inflation
- ⊖ confidence
- ⊖ retail sales
- ⊖ GDP



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## COST

### ▼ SPOT IRON ORE<sup>1</sup>

Spot iron ore dropped sharply again this week, now down six out of the last seven weeks to a multi-month low.

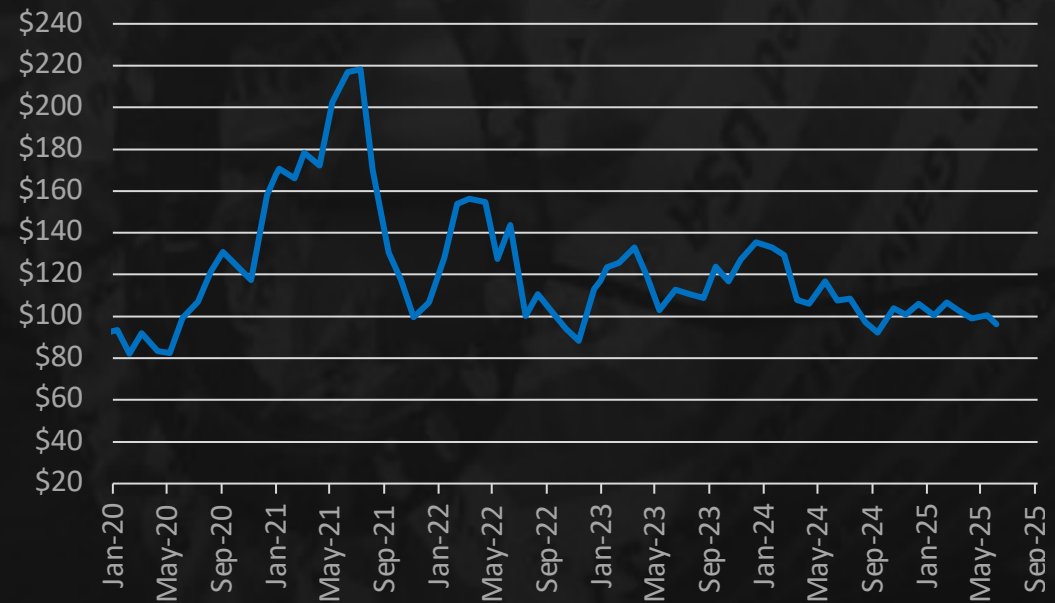
Spot iron ore pricing ended the week at \$95.46/mt, down from \$96.35/mt a week ago.

- This remains the lowest price for iron ore since September 2024.

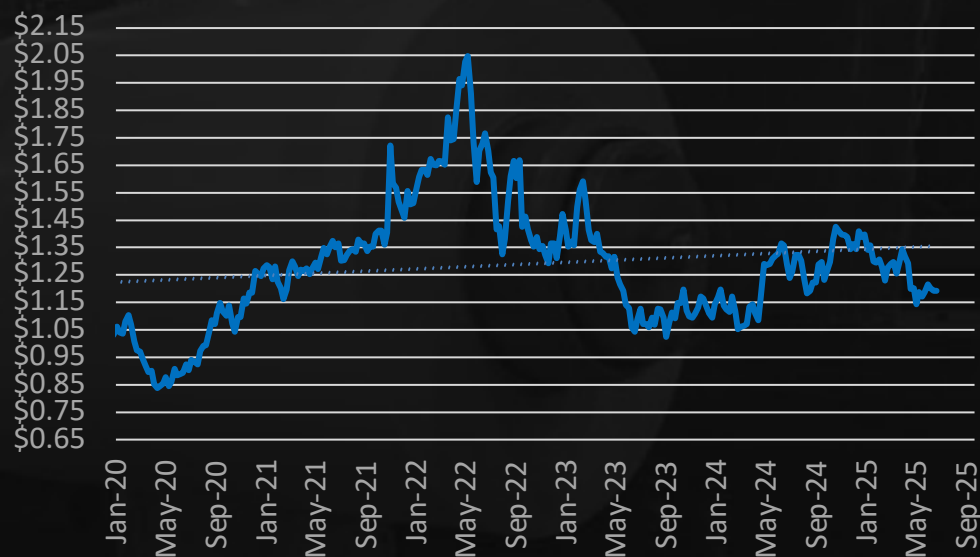
Despite the drop, the iron ore market has held up well so far this year, considering the ongoing tariff uncertainty and lower steel demand globally.

- A trade deal between top consumer China and the U.S. would benefit steel consumption and iron ore demand.

## IRON ORE COST



## WEEKLY ZINC PRICING



Zinc pricing resumed its downward momentum after a flat reading last week, now down three out of the last four weeks.

Zinc pricing ended the week at \$2,562/mt (\$1.162/lb), down from \$2,627/mt (\$1.192/lb) previously.

- Zinc continued its slide due to weaker construction and industrial demand in China, however the reported framework for a trade deal between the U.S. and China would provide a boost to demand.

Global zinc inventory dropped again after a slight bump previously, now down seven out of the last eight weeks.

- LME warehouse inventory dropped for the eighth consecutive week, sliding from 137,150 metric tons to 132,025 metric tons.
- Shanghai warehouse inventory decreased as well, sliding from 47,012 metric tons to 45,466 metric tons.

## COST

### ④ COKING COAL<sup>3</sup>

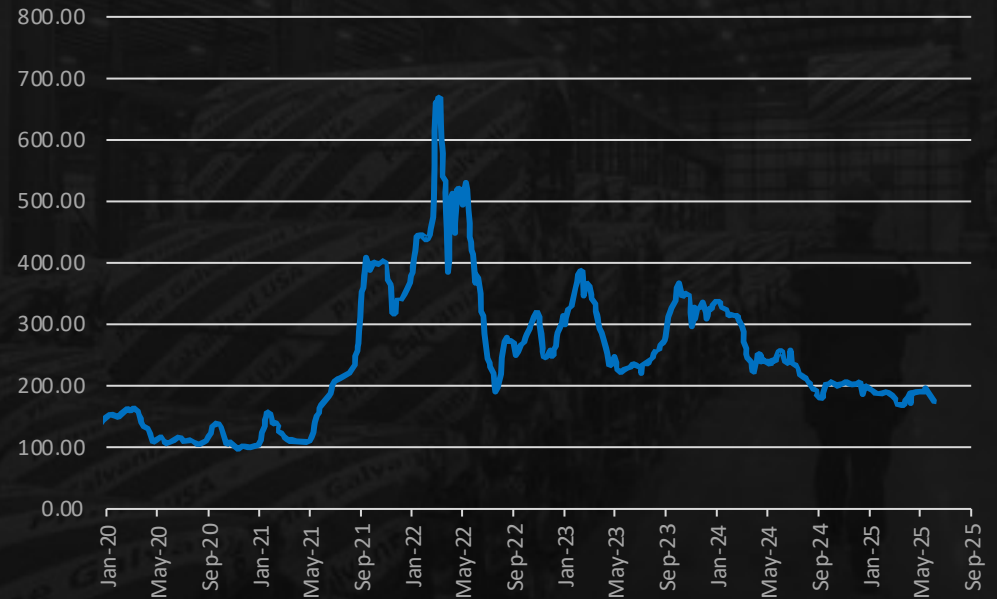
Coking coal pricing dropped sharply again this week, now down for the third consecutive week.

Coking coal settled at \$174.75/mt, down from \$181.40/mt last week.

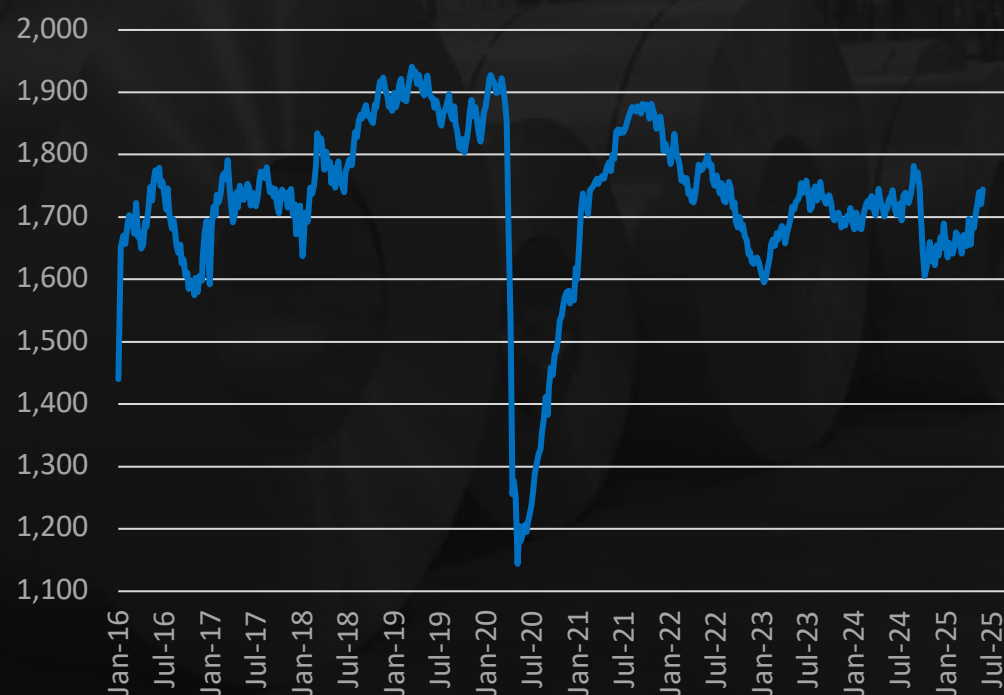
- This is down 10.3% over the last two weeks to the lowest level since early-April.

Lower steel demand in China and ongoing tariff uncertainty continues to weigh heavily on the global coal market.

### COKING COAL PRICE



## WEEKLY DOMESTIC PRODUCTION



## ▲ WEEKLY DOMESTIC STEEL PRODUCTION<sup>4</sup>

Domestic raw steel production increased sharply again last week, now up seven out of the last eight weeks.

U.S. mills produced an estimated 1,785k tons at a 79.5% utilization rate; this is up from 1,757k tons and a 78.2% rate previously.

- This was the highest weekly tonnage output since June 2022 as mills continue to ramp up to offset the loss of imports.

Production rose in four of the five regions, with the largest increase (in tons) coming from the Midwest region.

- Production from the Midwest region spiked from 235k tons to 252k tons.

Year-to-date production is now down 1.6% compared to the same timeframe from last year.

## DEMAND

### ▲ DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX<sup>6</sup>

A key leading indicator for non-residential construction spending increased slightly for the second consecutive month.

The May Dodge Momentum Index came in at 211.2, up from the 205.1 reading in April.

- Within the index, commercial planning increased by 0.8% and institutional planning rose by 10.5%.

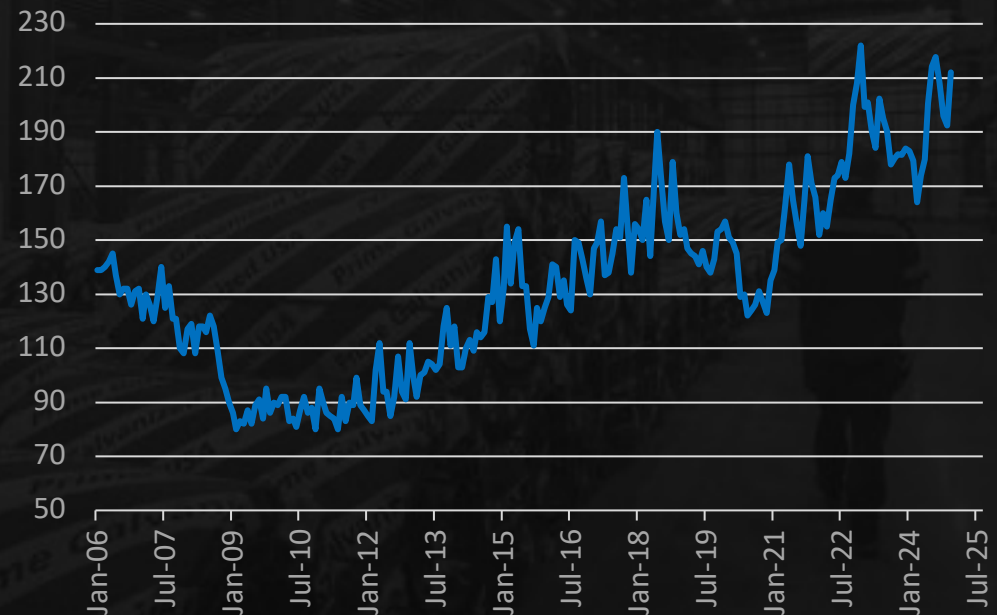
The boost in commercial project planning once again was driven by data center projects.

- Accelerated warehouse and hotel planning drove the commercial portion of the DMI, while office and retail planning remained flat.

In May, the DMI was up 24% compared to levels a year ago while the commercial segment increased 15% from May 2024.

The Dodge Momentum Index is a leading indicator for non-residential projects 9-12 months out.

### DODGE MOMENTUM INDEX





## WEEKLY INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS<sup>6</sup>

The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits was unchanged last week, remaining at a seven-month high.

The Department of Labor's Weekly Initial Jobless Claims report came in at 248,000 claims, flat from the prior week.

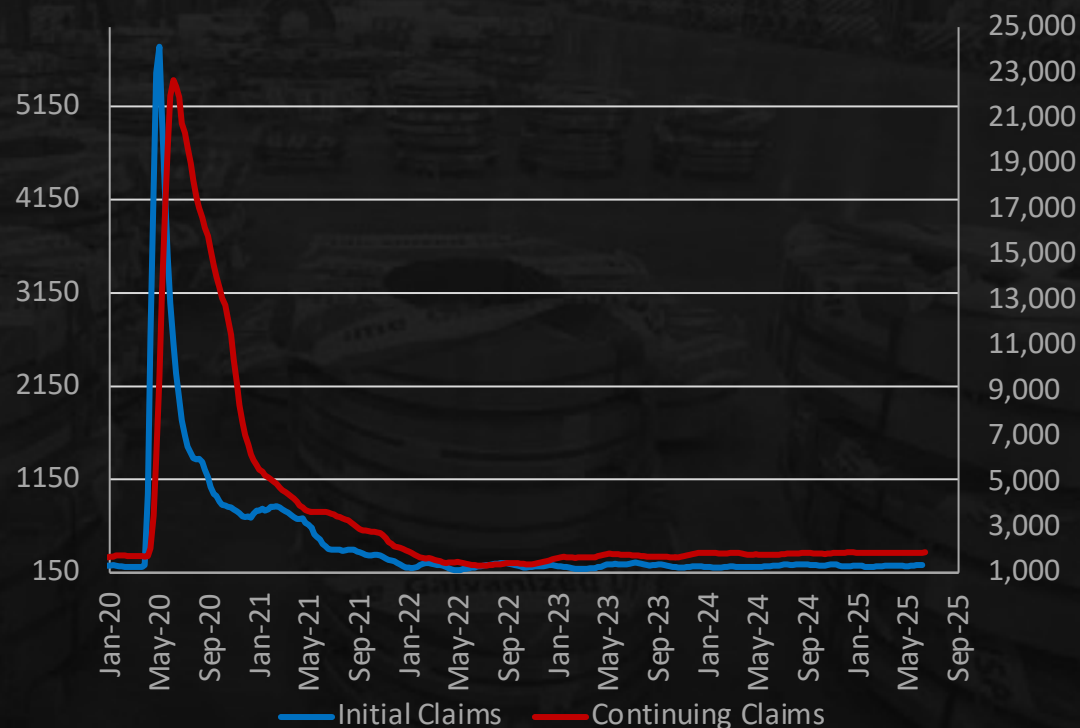
- The four-week moving average, considered a better measure of the labor market as it irons out week-to-week volatility, increased again to 240,250.

Continuing claims, or claims lasting longer than one week, increased to the highest level since November of 2021.

- Continuing claims came in at 1.956 million claims, up sharply from 1.902 million claims previously.

Even though the job market hasn't seen major layoffs, it appears hiring has slowed until clarity surrounding tariff and economic policy is clear.

## WEEKLY INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS





## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX



## ⊕ CONSUMER PRICE INDEX<sup>7</sup>

Prices paid by U.S. consumers increased slightly in May but remained well below expectations and near the four-year low.

The Consumer Price Index increased 0.1% from April and was up 2.4% from May of last year.

- The core CPI, excluding food and energy which is extremely volatile, also saw a 0.1% increase.
- The continued drop in energy prices helped offset some of the increases, and even vehicle and clothing prices posted declines, which were expected to increase due to tariffs.

Inflation on shelter increased 3.9% year-over-year, however this was the lowest increase since late 2021.

So far, there have been no real signs of any inflationary impacts related to the tariffs.

## SOURCES

- 1 Platts, Spot Iron Ore: June 12, 2025.
- 2 London Metal Exchange, Weekly Zinc Price and Inventory Report: June 12, 2025.  
Shanghai Futures Exchange, Weekly Zinc Inventory Report: June 12, 2025.
- 3 Platts, Coking Coal Price: June 12, 2025.
- 4 American Iron & Steel Institute, Weekly Domestic Steel Production: June 10, 2025.
- 5 Dodge Construction Network, Dodge Momentum Index: May 2025.
- 6 Department of Labor, Weekly Initial Jobless Claims: June 12, 2025.
- 7 Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index: April 2025.

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