Eastern Asia, Western Europe and Japan are the main ore importing regions. Over two thirds of the territories in these regions have ore imports (net US$).

There are only very low levels of ore imports to territories in any other region. Half of the territories in the main ore exporting regions (South America and Asia Pacific) actually have net ore imports. However, these net imports are considerably lower than the net exports made by the other territories in those regions.

It is likely that once these imported ores have been processed they will move again, in a new form, perhaps as iron, steel or finished goods.

**Technical notes**
- *There were no net ore imports recorded for 91 territories.
- Ores include crude fertilizers and base metal ores.

**Map 062**

Mineral Information Institute, 2006

“... raw iron is alloyed with a variety of elements (such as tungsten, manganese, nickel, vanadium, chromium) to strengthen and harden it ...”