

Dry FFA Market Signals**Bull**

- Australia and Brazil recorded an all-time high iron ore shipment volume of 36 million tons.(Iron Ore)
- China The domestic coal mine accident has triggered ripple effects across the sector, leading to maintenance suspensions and production cuts. Coal supply is estimated to drop by 300,000 tons per day over the next one to two weeks, and the disruption may persist for a longer period. (Coal)
- Following the coal mine incident in late May, prices of high-grade coking coal in Shanxi surged by 14.86%. Meanwhile, the price of 5500kcal thermal coal at Qinhuangdao edged up 1% over the same period.(Coking Coal)
- Driven by elevated oil prices and soaring temperatures, coal demand has picked up in Europe and India. (Coal)
- Argentina has cut export taxes on wheat and barley, which is expected to bolster the competitiveness of its grain exports. (Grains)
- Chartering activities for Australian and Indonesian coal have strengthened, lifting demand for Panamax vessels.(PMX)

Bear

- Guinea is set to unveil its new bauxite export curbs in June. (Bauxite)
- Dry bulk vessel transits through the Strait of Hormuz rose markedly in late May versus the first half of the month. Rising vessel supply and shorter voyage distances are likely to weigh on dry bulk charter rates. (Geo-Political)
- Mixed sentiment over steel demand alongside supply-side tightness has left large vessel demand directionless as we head into June.(IO/CC Demand)
- BHP's fixture rates on the Australia-China iron ore route came in below market expectations. While trading volumes remain solid, freight rates face persistent downward pressure. (Capesize)
- Congestion at Brazilian soybean loading ports continues to ease. More vessels are arriving in China for soybean discharge, lifting ballast supply across the Pacific. This is expected to cap Panamax earnings in the Pacific basin throughout Q2.(PMX)
- Shipping demand for coal and nickel ore edged lower week-on-week in late May.(Supramax)
- Enquiries for Indonesia-China nickel ore routes have softened, though spot freight indices remain elevated. (Supramax)

Ferrous Market Signals

Bull

- Spot transaction volumes at major Chinese ports have continued to see modest growth despite price volatility, reflecting sustained mill restocking interest.
- Mills in Hebei and Jiangsu provinces have returned to full production status, adding to iron ore consumption volumes during the period.
- Shanxi mine explosion triggers widespread safety clampdown, shutting 112 coking coal mines. Shanxi, Shaanxi, Inner Mongolia, and Henan—key coking coal producing regions—have launched comprehensive safety inspections, potentially prolonging supply disruptions.
- Fifth coke price hike announced for June 1st.
- Accident-affected regions produce high-quality coking coal grades (low-sulfur main coking coal, fat coal), creating acute shortages of premium blending materials used by steel mills.

Bear

- Global iron ore shipments surge to all-time weekly high: Global iron ore shipments reached a record 36 million tonnes during the week ended May 24th.
- Steel mill profitability fell to 61% during the week ended May 29th, squeezing procurement budgets for raw materials.
- Major miners cleared backlogs in Australia as the end of fiscal year 2025.
- China iron ore port stocks were decreasing at slow pace. Iron ore inventories created historical high in February, only down 3.5% after three months. The number was still 18% higher than the same time in 2025.
- Vietnam's steel exports to major markets weakened in May due to anti-dumping trade measures from trading partners, reducing overall regional iron ore intake.
- Portside low-grade fines inventories have continued to accumulate, exerting downward pressure on pricing.
- Mongolia coal imports continue to offset China domestic output losses.
- Entering the rainy season, construction activity moderated in southern China, creating a risk of negative feedback transmission from steel margins to raw material prices

Market Data Snapshot (29th May)

Open Interest /lots	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26
Cape5TC (180)	22,635	24,434	16,469	13,696	13,758	11,550
Pmx5TC	22,663	23,610	18,371	15,999	14,519	9,636
Smx10TC	12,795	14,335	9,225	8,004	7,368	5,464
Iron Ore (IODEX)	394,303	424,330	488,534	139,520	89,368	34,911
Coking Coal	2,213	3,524	2,735	2,050	1,555	640
US HRC	7,693	8,066	7,645	4,754	4,794	3,804
FOB China HRC	1,205	1,125	956	166	192	17

Open Interest /lots	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26
Cape5TC (180)	22,700	21,370	14,676	13,031	13,236	11,290
Pmx5TC	22,693	22,645	17,929	15,759	13,924	9,262
Smx10TC	12,900	14,528	8,634	7,693	7,303	5,425
Iron Ore (IODEX)	415,479	560,369	392,417	111,052	86,178	33,665
Coking Coal	2,213	3,534	2,500	2,040	1,545	600
US HRC	7,693	7,718	7,372	4,183	4,305	3,604
FOB China HRC	1,205	978	901	166	26	15

OI WoW %	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26
Cape5TC (180)	-0.3%	14.3%	12.2%	5.1%	3.9%	2.3%
Pmx5TC	-0.1%	4.3%	2.5%	1.5%	4.3%	4.0%
Smx10TC	-0.8%	-1.3%	6.8%	4.0%	0.9%	0.7%
Iron Ore (IODEX)	-5.1%	-24.3%	24.5%	25.6%	3.7%	3.7%
Coking Coal	0.0%	-0.3%	9.4%	0.5%	0.6%	6.7%
US HRC	0.0%	4.5%	3.7%	13.7%	11.4%	5.5%
FOB China HRC	0.0%	15.0%	6.1%	0.0%	638.5%	13.3%

Price WoW %	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26
Cape5TC (180) \$/day	1.4%	4.5%	-0.7%	-4.2%	-3.6%	-1.6%
Pmx5TC \$/day	0.3%	3.7%	3.0%	3.8%	3.0%	2.5%
Smx10TC \$/day	0.0%	0.4%	1.6%	2.2%	2.0%	1.6%
Iron Ore (IODEX) \$/mt	-0.2%	-0.8%	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.5%
Coking Coal \$/mt	0.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%
US HRC \$/st	0.1%	-0.4%	0.6%	1.7%	1.5%	1.9%
FOB China HRC \$/t	1.9%	0.9%	0.2%	0.7%	0.9%	1.0%

Sources: EEX, SGX, CME

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