

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10:00 A.M. EDT WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2011

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CB11-141, FT-900A (07-11)

Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products July 2011

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary July steel imports were **\$2.9 billion (2.3 million** metric tons). This was a decrease of 0.1 million metric tons from the preliminary June totals of 2.4 million. Dollar value remained virtually unchanged.

The July shift in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected a decrease primarily in line pipe less than 16 inches in diameter and blooms, billets, and slabs; an increase occurred in hot rolled sheets. Decreases occurred primarily with Canada, Russia, and Turkey.

The year to date final statistics through June 2011 showed steel imports of 13.3 million metric tons compared with 10.6 million metric tons through June 2010. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; and oil country goods. The largest country increases occurred primarily with Brazil, Korea, and Japan; the largest country decrease occurred primarily with Canada.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: www.census.gov/trade. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is September 27, 2011.