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ECONOMICS  
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Bureau of the Census

This release contains sensitive economic data not to be released before 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 25, 2001

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**Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products  
August 2001**

The Bureau of the Census, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary August steel imports were **\$1.0 billion (2.4 million metric tons)**. This was virtually the same value and an increase of 0.1 million metric tons from the preliminary July totals of \$1.0 billion (2.2 million metric tons).

The July to August change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in hot rolled sheets; blooms, billets, and slabs; and line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Japan and Brazil.

The year to date final statistics through July of 2001 showed steel imports of 15.4 million metric tons, a decrease of 6.2 million metric tons from the 21.6 million metric tons through July of 2000. The largest commodity decreases were in hot rolled sheets; blooms, billets, and slabs; heavy structural shapes; and plates in coils. The largest country decreases were with Brazil, Ukraine, Taiwan, and India.

**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/foreign-trade/www/](http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/). On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is October 30, 2001*