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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, November 27, 2001

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

The Bureau of the Census, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary October steel imports were **\$1.0 billion (2.5 million metric tons)**. This was an increase of \$0.1 billion (0.5 million metric tons) from the preliminary September totals of \$0.8 billion (2.0 million metric tons).

The September to October change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; hot rolled sheets; and wire rods. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Russia, Australia, Turkey, and Taiwan.

The year to date final statistics through September of 2001 showed steel imports of 20.1 million metric tons, a decrease of 7.5 million metric tons through September of 2000. The largest commodity decreases were in hot rolled sheets; blooms, billets, and slabs; plates in coils; and heavy structural shapes. The largest country decreases were with Ukraine, Brazil, India, and Taiwan.

**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 December 27, 2001*