

---

United States Department of  
**COMMERCE**  
**NEWS** Washington, D.C. 20230

---

ECONOMICS  
AND  
STATISTICS  
ADMINISTRATION  
-----

U.S. Census Bureau

This release contains sensitive economic data not to be released before 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 24, 2002

CB-02-110 **Press Copy**  
FT-900A (02-08)



**For information contact:**

Haydn Mearkle (301) 763-2246  
Nick Orsini (301) 763-2311

## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products August 2002**

The U.S. Census Bureau, 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 a decrease of 0.3 million metric tons from the preliminary July totals of \$1.0 billion (2.7 million metric tons).

The July to August change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in hot rolled sheets and blooms, billets and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Brazil and Korea. An increase occurred primarily with Mexico.

The year to date final statistics through July 2002 showed steel imports of 16.3 million metric tons, an increase of 1.0 million metric tons from the 15.4 million metric tons through July of 2001. The largest commodity increase was in blooms, billets and slabs. The largest country increases were with Brazil and 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/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 29, 2002*