

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products November 2005**

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary November steel imports were **\$1.7 billion (2.1 million metric tons)** compared with \$1.8 billion (2.5 million metric tons) in the preliminary October report.

The October to November change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; hot rolled sheets; and wire rods. An increase occurred primarily with reinforcing bars. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Mexico and Australia. An increase occurred primarily with Turkey.

The year to date statistics through October 2005 showed steel imports of 24.3 million metric tons, compared with 26.7 million metric tons through October 2004. The largest commodity decreases were in wire rods, hot rolled sheets, and reinforcing bars. An increase occurred primarily in oil country goods. The largest country decreases were with Turkey, Brazil, and Russia. The largest country increase was with China.

**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 January 31, 2006.*