

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products April 2007**

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary April steel imports were **\$2.4 billion (2.5 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary March totals of \$2.5 billion (2.7 million metric tons).

The March to April change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in reinforcing bars, cold rolled sheets, and wire rods. Increases occurred primarily in line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with China and Russia. An increase occurred primarily with Mexico.

The year to date final statistics through March 2007 showed steel imports of 7.9 million metric tons compared to 10.2 million metric tons through March 2006. The largest commodity decreases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; hot rolled sheets; and wire rods. The largest country decreases were with Russia and Turkey. 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 June 26, 2007.*