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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products June 2007

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary June steel imports were **\$2.6 billion (2.6 million** metric tons) compared to the preliminary May totals of \$2.8 billion (2.9 million metric tons).

The May to June change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter and hot rolled sheets. An increase occurred primarily in blooms, billets and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Japan, Brazil, and Australia. Increases occurred primarily with Russia and Mexico.

The year to date final statistics through May 2007 showed steel imports of 13.4 million metric tons compared to 17.1 million metric tons through May 2006. The largest commodity decreases were in blooms, billets, and slabs and hot rolled sheets. The largest commodity increase was in line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter. The largest country decreases were with Russia and Turkey. The largest country increases were with China 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/. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is August 28, 2007.