

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10:00 A.M. EDT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

For information contact:

Nick Orsini (301) 763-6959
Maria Iseman (301) 763-2311

CB08-141, FT-900A (08-08)

Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products August 2008

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary August steel imports were **\$3.0 billion (2.1 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary July totals of \$3.4 billion (2.6 million metric tons).

The August change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Canada. An increase occurred primarily with China.

The year to date final statistics through July 2008 showed steel imports of 17.1 million metric tons compared to 19.2 million metric tons through July 2007. The largest commodity decreases were in reinforcing bars, wire rods, cold rolled sheets, and galvanized hot dipped sheets and strip. The largest commodity increases were in oil country goods and line pipe greater than 16 inches in diameter. The largest country decreases were with China and Brazil. The largest country increase was with 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 October 28, 2008.