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ECONOMICS  
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U.S. Census Bureau

This release contains sensitive economic data not to be released before 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 28, 2003

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

### **September 2003**

The U.S. Census Bureau, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary September steel imports were **\$0.8 billion (1.7 million metric tons)**. This was an increase of \$0.1 billion (0.2 million metric tons) from the preliminary August totals of \$0.7 billion (1.5 million metric tons).

The August to September change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected an increase primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; and wire rods. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Mexico, Turkey, Russia, and Canada.

The year to date final statistics through August 2003 showed steel imports of 14.3 million metric tons, a decrease of 4.6 million metric tons from the 18.8 million metric tons through August 2002. The largest commodity decreases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; and wire rods. The largest country decreases were with Brazil, Russia, Japan, 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 November 25, 2003*