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U.S. Census Bureau

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**Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products
June 2004**

The U.S. Census Bureau, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary June steel imports were **\$1.9 billion (2.9 million metric tons)**. This was an increase of \$0.4 billion (0.6 million metric tons) from the preliminary May totals of \$1.5 billion (2.3 million metric tons).

The May to June change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in hot rolled sheets; wire rods; and blooms, billets and slabs. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Russia, Brazil, Turkey, and China.

The year to date final statistics through May 2004 showed steel imports of 11.1 million metric tons, compared with 9.3 million metric tons through May 2003. The largest commodity increases were in blooms, billets, and slabs and wire rods. The largest country increases were with Brazil, Mexico, Turkey, and Russia.

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 31, 2004