

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## **Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products May 2005**

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary May steel imports were **\$2.0 billion (2.4 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary April totals of \$2.2 billion (2.7 million metric tons).

The April to May change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; hot rolled sheets; and cold rolled sheets. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Brazil, Russia, and Korea. An increase occurred primarily with Turkey.

The year to date statistics through April 2005 showed steel imports of 10.4 million metric tons, compared with 8.4 million metric tons through April 2004. The largest commodity increases were in blooms, billets, and slabs; cold rolled sheets; hot rolled sheets; and hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip. A decrease occurred primarily in wire rods. The largest country increases were with China, Russia, Korea, and Brazil. The largest country decrease was with Australia.

**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 July 26, 2005*