

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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**For information contact:**

Nick Orsini (301) 763-6959  
Vanessa Ware (301) 763-2311

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

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary August steel imports were **\$1.8 billion (2.0 million metric tons)**, compared to the preliminary July totals of \$1.8 billion (2.2 million metric tons).

The July to August change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs; reinforcing bars; and wire rods. A monthly increase occurred primarily in oil country goods. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected decreases primarily with Brazil and Turkey. Increases occurred primarily with Russia and Korea.

The year to date statistics through July 2005 showed steel imports of 17.6 million metric tons, compared with 17.0 million metric tons through July 2004. The largest commodity increases were in oil country goods; plates cut lengths; blooms, billets and slabs; and plates in coils. Decreases occurred primarily in wire rods, reinforcing bars, and hot rolled sheets. The largest country increases were with China, Korea, Mexico, and Venezuela. The largest country decreases were with Turkey, Australia, and India.

**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 October 25, 2005.*