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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products September 2010

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary September steel imports were **\$1.9 billion (1.9 million metric tons)** compared to the preliminary August totals of \$2.1 billion (2.0 million metric tons).

The September change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip, and oil country goods. Monthly increases primarily occurred in hot rolled sheets. Decreases occurred primarily with Mexico, India, and Japan. Increases occurred primarily with Russia.

The year to date final statistics through August 2010 showed steel imports of 14.8 million metric tons compared to 9.6 million metric tons through August 2009. The largest commodity increase was blooms, billets, and slabs; wire rods; and hot rolled sheets. The largest country increase was with Canada and the largest country decrease was with China.

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/trade. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is November 23, 2010.