American Iron and Steel Institute

News Release

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July Preliminary Data Show Large Import Increases Continuing in Several Key Products

Import Market Share in 2012 at 24 Percent

Washington, D.C. – Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 2,582,000 net tons (NT) of steel in July, including 2,028,000 NT of finished steel (down 8% each, respectively, from June final data). Year-to-date (YTD) finished steel imports, however, are up 19% vs. the same period in 2011. Annualized total and finished steel imports in 2012 would be 34.7 and 26.8 million NT, respectively, up 22 and 23%, each, respectively vs. 2011. Finished steel import market share in July was an estimated 23% and is estimated at 24% YTD.

Key finished steel products with a significant import increase in July 2012 compared to June are plates in coils (up 23%), line pipe (up 22%) and cold finished bars (up 12%). Major products with significant YTD import increases vs. the same period last year include reinforcing bar (up 54%), line pipe (up 45%), plates – cut lengths (up 42%), oil country goods (up 36%) and sheets & strip galvanized hot dipped (up 32%)

Steel Mill Product	July (prelim.)	June final	% var July vs. June	(7 mo) YTD 2012	(7 mo) YTD 2011	% var '12 vs. '11	2012 Annualized	2011 12 mo.	% var 2012 ann. vs 2011 12 mo.
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	548,924	609,844	-10.0%	4,554,627	4,041,103	12.7%	7,807,932	6,624,733	17.9%
Oil Country Goods	288,698	344,740	-16.3%	2,260,510	1,663,430	35.9%	3,875,160	2,908,516	33.2%
Sheets Hot Rolled	255,186	239,486	6.6%	1,677,581	1,678,876	-0.1%	2,875,853	2,664,062	7.9%
Line Pipe	255,238	209,846	21.6%	1,653,793	1,143,900	44.6%	2,835,074	1,974,262	43.6%
Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped	166,588	158,189	5.3%	1,155,073	876,182	31.8%	1,980,125	1,461,926	35.4%
Plates in Coils	126,887	102,840	23.4%	937,171	799,542	17.2%	1,606,579	1,359,883	18.1%
Bars - Hot Rolled	111,472	157,974	-29.4%	929,797	803,398	15.7%	1,593,938	1,325,170	20.3%
Sheets Cold Rolled	118,167	132,642	-10.9%	899,304	863,790	4.1%	1,541,664	1,392,689	10.7%
Plates Cut Lenghs	123,176	124,390	-1.0%	859,394	603,582	42.4%	1,473,247	1,168,748	26.1%
Wire Rods	79,564	101,380	-21.5%	720,457	687,579	4.8%	1,235,069	1,015,111	21.7%
Bars - Reinforcing	35,953	69,988	-48.6%	658,228	428,762	53.5%	1,128,391	655,419	72.2%
Standard Pipe	71,792	87,342	-17.8%	574,897	526,601	9.2%	985,538	832,144	18.4%
Sheets & Strip All Other Met.	39,517	55,326	-28.6%	413,202	326,647	26.5%	708,346	532,532	33.0%
Mechanical Tubing	50,825	62,082	-18.1%	412,621	360,918	14.3%	707,350	615,366	14.9%
Wire Drawn	60,917	63,249	-3.7%	409,514	389,201	5.2%	702,024	635,787	10.4%
Structural Shapes Heavy	20,654	27,040	-23.6%	286,918	348,861	-17.8%	491,859	512,416	-4.0%
Tin Plate	30,637	37,916	-19.2%	256,422	238,670	7.4%	439,581	403,009	9.1%
All Other	198,117	235,697	-15.9%	1,554,454	1,484,586	4.7%	2,664,777	2,433,503	9.5%
TOTAL	**2,582,312**	**2,819,971**	**-8.4%**	**20,213,963**	**17,265,628**	**17.1%**	**34,652,507**	**28,515,276**	**21.5%**
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	**2,027,983**	**2,204,444**	**-8.0%**	**15,633,134**	**13,187,146**	**18.5%**	**26,799,658**	**21,834,625**	**22.7%**

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In July, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were all from Asia and Europe. They were South Korea (285,000 NT, down 9%), Japan (169,000 NT, up 12%), China (116,000 NT, down 41%), Italy (95,000 NT, up 56%) and Germany (87,000 NT, down 30%). For the first 7 months of 2012, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (2,171,000 NT, up 20%), Japan (1,171,000 NT, up 31%), Turkey (939,000 NT, up 94%), China (923,000 NT, up 29%) and Germany (724,000 NT, up 27%). Below are charts on estimated steel import market share in recent months and on finished steel imports from offshore by country.

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
(thousands of net tons)

COUNTRY	July 2012	June 2012	% incr. July vs June	(7 mo) YTD 2012	(7 mo) YTD 2011	% incr. '12 YTD vs. '11	2012 full year (est.)	2011 Annual	% incr. 2012 an. vs. '11
South Korea	285	312	**-8.7%**	2,171	1,814	**19.7%**	3,722	2,837	**31.2%**
Japan	169	151	**11.9%**	1,171	896	**30.7%**	2,007	1,477	**35.9%**
China	116	196	**-40.8%**	923	717	**28.7%**	1,583	1,231	**28.6%**
Italy	95	61	**55.7%**	430	130	**230.8%**	736	238	**209.2%**
Germany	87	123	**-29.3%**	724	572	**26.6%**	1,242	954	**30.2%**
India	75	30	**150.0%**	464	421	**10.2%**	795	717	**10.9%**
Turkey	34	89	**-61.8%**	939	485	**93.6%**	1,609	733	**119.5%**
All Other	1,167	1,242	**-6.0%**	8,811	8,152	**8.1%**	15,106	13,648	**10.7%**
Total	2,028	2,204	**-8.0%**	15,633	13,187	**18.5%**	26,800	21,835	**22.7%**

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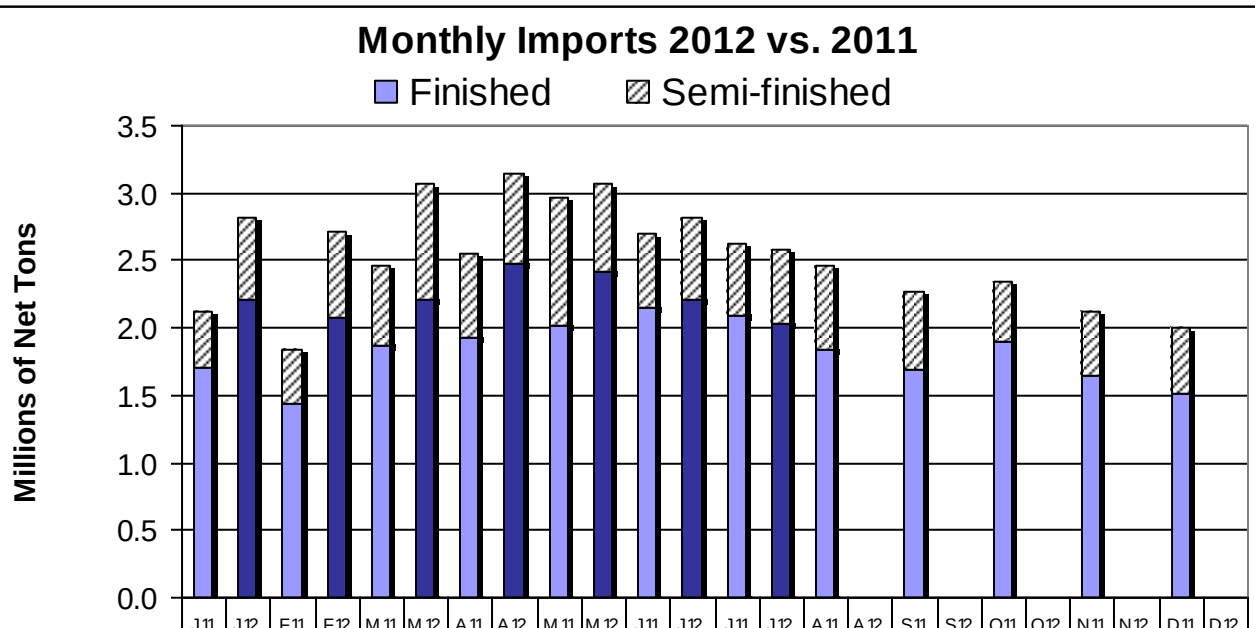
U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE
(thousands of net tons)

Product	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. July 12 - May 12	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Apr. 12 - Feb. 12	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
Oil Country Goods	339	311	9.0%
Sheets Hot Rolled	243	241	0.8%
Line Pipe	241	231	4.3%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot	174	171	1.8%
Bars - Hot Rolled	145	129	12.4%
Sheets Cold Rolled	132	118	11.9%
Plates Cut Lengths	127	119	6.7%
Plates in Coils	120	152	-21.1%
Wire Rods	90	127	-29.1%
Standard Pipe	85	79	7.6%
All Other	519	583	-11.0%
Total	2,215	2,261	-2.1%

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE
(thousands of net tons)

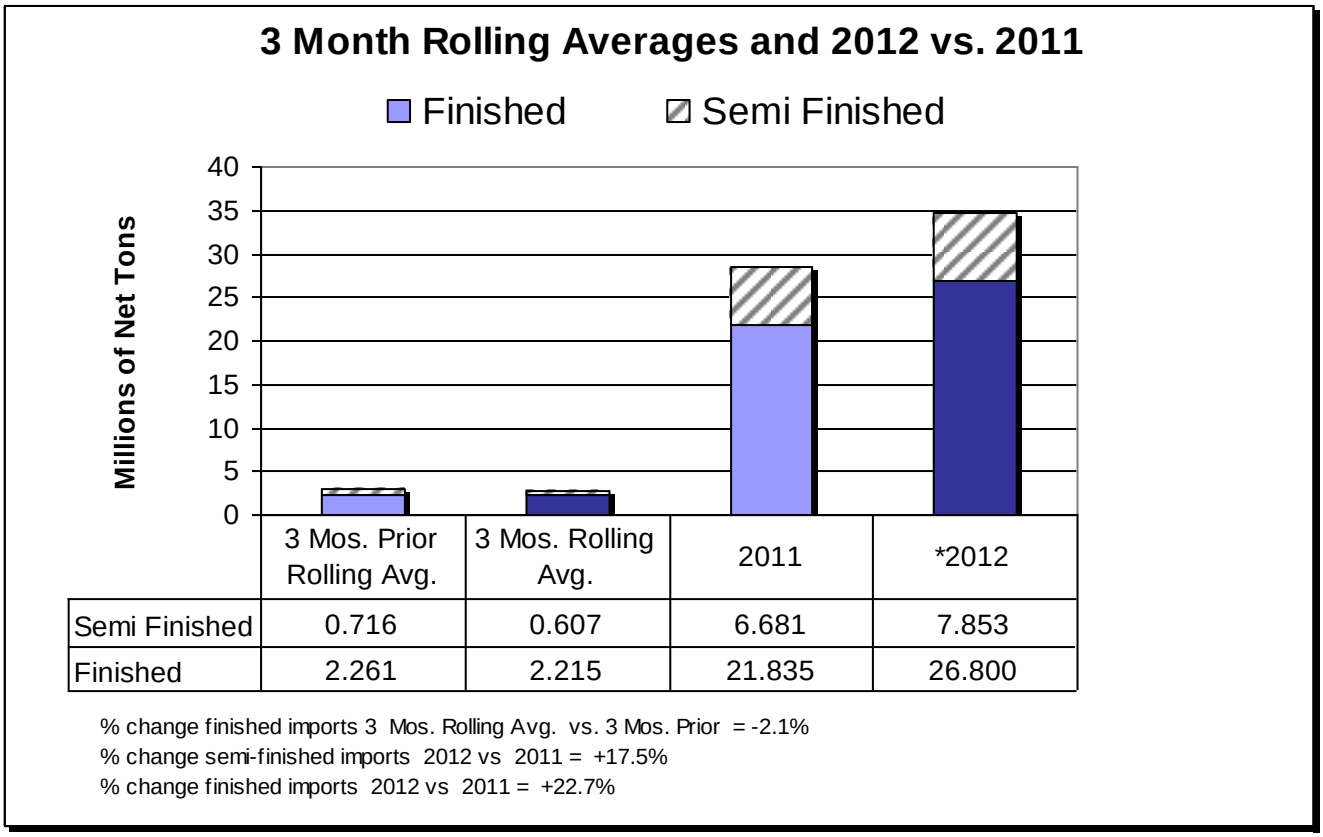
Country	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. July 12 - May 12	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Apr. 12 - Feb. 12	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
South Korea	313	295	6.1%
Japan	169	172	-1.7%
China	161	112	43.8%
Germany	110	95	15.8%
Turkey	85	172	-50.6%
Italy	74	59	25.4%
Taiwan	72	81	-11.1%
India	63	79	-20.3%
Russia	56	87	-35.6%
Brazil	46	33	39.4%
All Other	1,066	1,076	-0.9%
Total	2,215	2,261	-2.1%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce



	J11	J12	F11	F12	M11	M12	A11	A12	M11	M12	J11	J12	J11	J12	A11	A12	S11	S12	O11	O12	N11	N12	D11	D12
Semi-finished	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6		0.6		0.4		0.5		0.5	
Finished	1.7	2.2	1.4	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.8		1.7		1.9		1.7		1.5	

% change finished imports July 2012 vs July 2011 = -3.1%



	3 Mos. Prior Rolling Avg.	3 Mos. Rolling Avg.	2011	*2012
Semi Finished	0.716	0.607	6.681	7.853
Finished	2.261	2.215	21.835	26.800

% change finished imports 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. vs. 3 Mos. Prior = -2.1%
% change semi-finished imports 2012 vs 2011 = +17.5%
% change finished imports 2012 vs 2011 = +22.7%

AISI serves as the voice of the North American steel industry in the public policy arena and advances the case for steel in the marketplace as the preferred material of choice. AISI also plays a lead role in the development and application of new steels and steelmaking technology. AISI is comprised of 25 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and 124 associate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent over three quarters of both U.S. and North American steel capacity. For more news about steel and its applications, view AISI's Web site at www.steel.org.

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