



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STEEL IMPORTS UP 15% IN 2017
Finished Import Market Share Increased to 27%

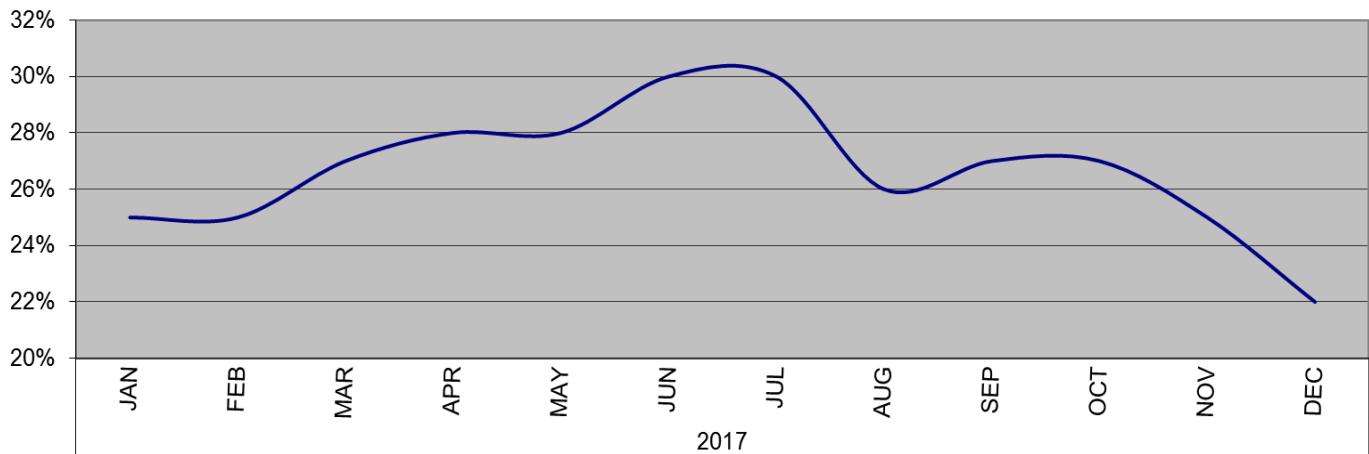
Washington, D.C. – Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 2,446,000 net tons (NT) of steel in December 2017, including 1,877,000 net tons (NT) of finished steel (down 11.4% and 13.5%, respectively, vs. November final data). For the full year of 2017, total and finished steel imports are 38,121,000 and 29,558,000 net tons (NT), up 15.4% and 12.2%, respectively, compared to full year 2016. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 22% in December and is estimated at 27% for full year 2017.

Major products with significant increases for full year 2017 vs. 2016 include oil country goods (up 196%), line pipe (up 63%), standard pipe (up 40%), mechanical tubing (up 30%), hot rolled bars (up 23%), cold rolled sheets (up 16%), sheets and strip all other metallic coatings (up 14%) and sheets and strip hot dipped galvanized (up 10%).

Steel Mill Product	Dec. 2017 (prelim.)	Nov. 2017 final	% var Dec. vs. Nov.	2017	2016	% var 2017 vs 2016
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	564,150	587,484	-4.0%	8,517,872	6,650,028	28.1%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	208,177	256,708	-18.9%	3,421,172	3,098,065	10.4%
Oil Country Goods	207,927	275,615	-24.6%	3,415,069	1,152,496	196.3%
Sheets Cold Rolled	205,488	187,481	9.6%	2,932,204	2,537,075	15.6%
Line Pipe	135,947	162,955	-16.6%	2,234,907	1,371,660	62.9%
Sheets Hot Rolled	153,832	168,617	-8.8%	2,129,384	2,900,012	-26.6%
Wire Rods	83,927	80,231	4.6%	1,581,077	1,593,615	-0.8%
Bars - Reinforcing	52,238	60,304	-13.4%	1,565,756	2,109,511	-25.8%
Bars - Hot Rolled	108,457	143,485	-24.4%	1,453,048	1,186,085	22.5%
Plates in Coils	102,157	135,037	-24.3%	1,365,316	1,340,487	1.9%
Sheets & Strip All Other Met. Ctd.	39,647	63,270	-37.3%	1,173,623	1,033,663	13.5%
Standard Pipe	74,852	81,506	-8.2%	1,165,046	835,329	39.5%
Tin Plate	78,894	86,309	-8.6%	941,400	886,955	6.1%
Structural Shapes Heavy	53,665	38,343	40.0%	859,808	875,765	-1.8%
Wire Drawn	61,950	63,244	-2.0%	856,494	890,520	-3.8%
Plates Cut Lengths	51,923	66,377	-21.8%	828,010	1,227,971	-32.6%
Mechanical Tubing	50,855	47,589	6.9%	669,641	515,558	29.9%
All Other	211,613	257,261	-17.7%	3,011,590	2,816,706	6.9%
TOTAL	2,445,700	2,761,817	-11.4%	38,121,418	33,021,501	15.4%
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	1,877,378	2,169,580	-13.5%	29,557,959	26,338,393	12.2%

In December, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (192,000 NT, down 10% from November final), Germany (105,000 NT, down 26%), Brazil (96,000 NT, down 2%), Japan (81,000 NT, down 29%) and Turkey (58,000 NT, down 13%). For full year 2017, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (3,753,000 NT, down 2% vs. the same period in 2016), Turkey (2,191,000 NT, down 9%), Japan (1,504,000 NT, down 16%), Germany (1,405,000 NT, up 18%) and Taiwan (1,245,000 NT, up 15%). Below are charts on estimated steel import market share in recent months and on finished steel imports from offshore by country.

Estimated Finished Steel Import Market Share for the Past 12 Months



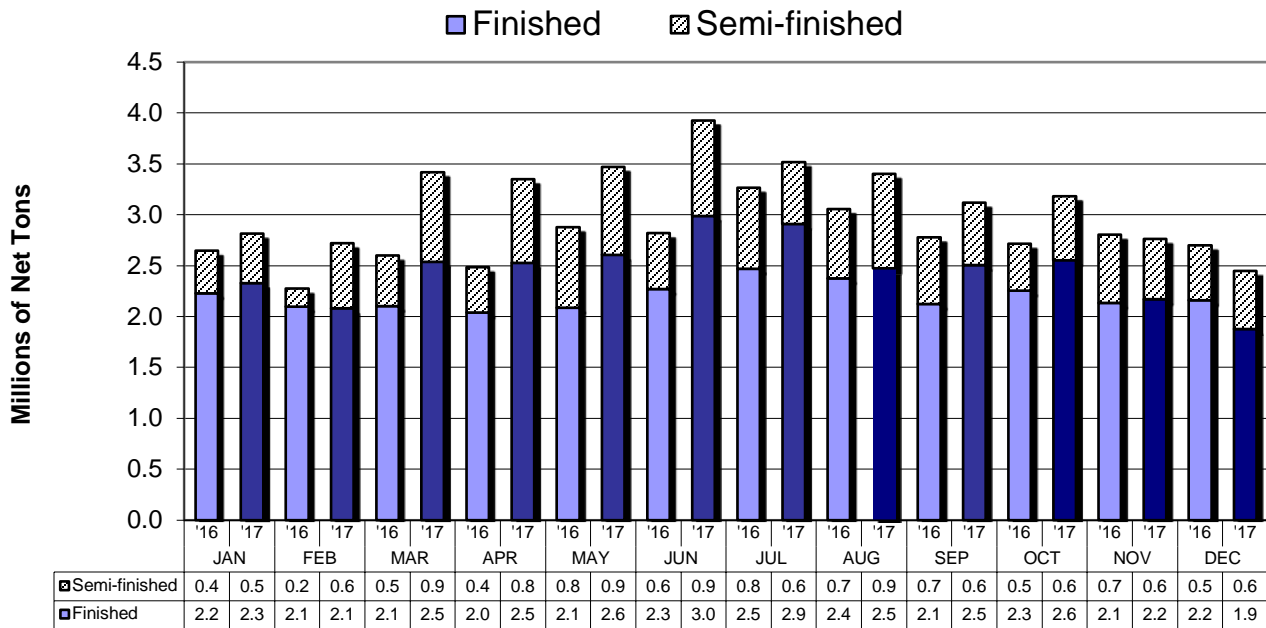
**U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
(thousands of net tons)**

COUNTRY	Dec. 2017 (Prelim.)	Nov. 2017 final	% incr. Dec. vs. Nov.	2017	2016	% incr. 2017 vs. '16
South Korea	192	213	-10.2%	3,753	3,812	-1.5%
Turkey	58	67	-13.1%	2,191	2,416	-9.3%
Japan	81	115	-29.3%	1,504	1,798	-16.4%
Germany	105	141	-25.7%	1,405	1,192	17.9%
Taiwan	41	55	-25.9%	1,245	1,083	14.9%
Brazil	96	98	-1.8%	987	823	20.0%
China	53	62	-14.9%	813	862	-5.7%
Russia	34	38	-11.9%	796	310	156.9%
All Other	1,218	1,380	-11.7%	16,864	14,043	20.1%
Total	1,877	2,170	-13.5%	29,558	26,338	12.2%

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Product	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Dec. '17 - Oct. '17	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Sep. '17 - Jul. '17	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
Oil Country Goods	274	329	-16.7%
Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped	243	300	-19.2%
Sheets Cold Rolled	215	257	-16.1%
Line Pipe	184	238	-22.8%
Sheets Hot Rolled	167	198	-15.7%
Bars - Hot Rolled	128	117	9.6%
Plates in Coils	125	111	12.9%
Wire Rods	95	126	-24.4%
Tin Plate	83	79	5.1%
Standard Pipe	83	103	-19.8%
All Other	603	771	-21.8%
Total	2,200	2,629	-16.3%

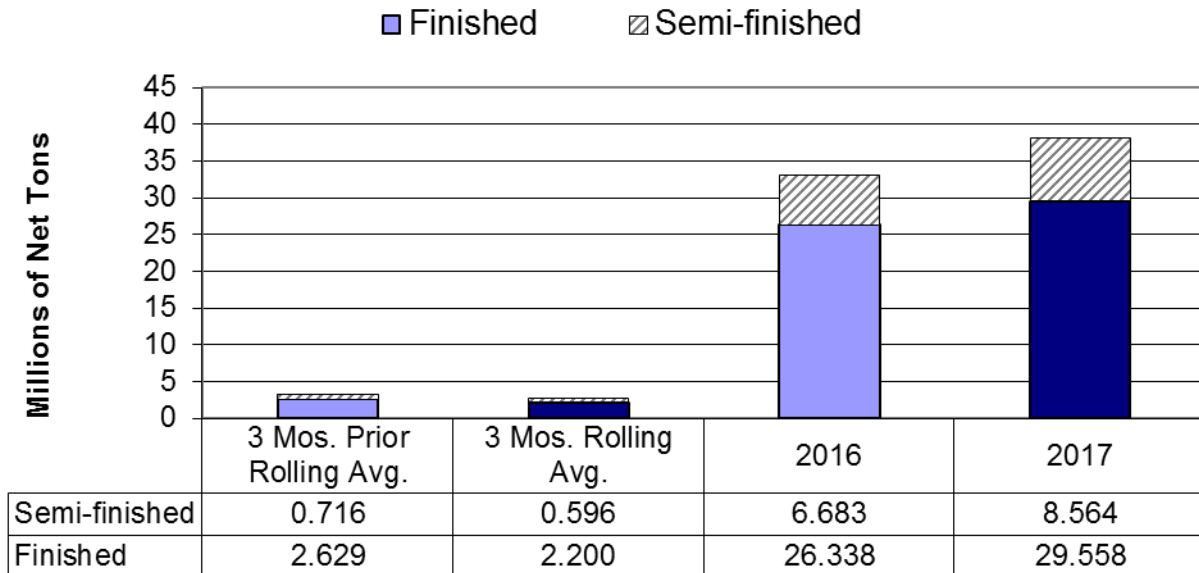
U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Country	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Dec. '17 - Oct. '17	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Sep. '17 - Jul. '17	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
South Korea	266	343	-22.4%
Germany	134	134	0.2%
Brazil	96	90	6.5%
Japan	90	145	-38.3%
Turkey	79	161	-50.7%
Taiwan	73	121	-39.5%
Netherlands	70	61	14.1%
China	58	73	-20.2%
Vietnam	48	66	-27.5%
Russia	47	86	-45.5%
All Other	1,241	1,351	-8.1%
Total	2,200	2,629	-16.3%

Monthly Imports 2017 vs. 2016



% change finished imports December 2017 vs December 2016 = -13.0%

3 Month Rolling Averages and 2017 vs. 2016



% change finished imports 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. vs. 3 Mos. Prior = -16.3%

% change semi-finished imports 2017 vs 2016 = +28.1%

% change finished imports 2017 vs 2016 = +12.2%

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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 20 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and approximately 120 associate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. For more news about steel and its applications, view AISI's website at www.steel.org. Follow AISI on [Facebook](#) or Twitter ([@AISISSteel](#)).

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