



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Finished Import Market Share at 20 Percent in February 2019

Washington, D.C. – Based on final Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 2,433,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February 2019, including 1,744,000 net tons (NT) of finished steel (down 30.1% and 28.8%, respectively, vs. January final data). Through the first two months of 2019, total and finished steel imports are 5,912,000 and 4,194,000 net tons (NT), up 10.2% and down 3.6%, respectively, vs. the same period in 2018. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 20% in February and is estimated at 22% over the first two months of 2019.

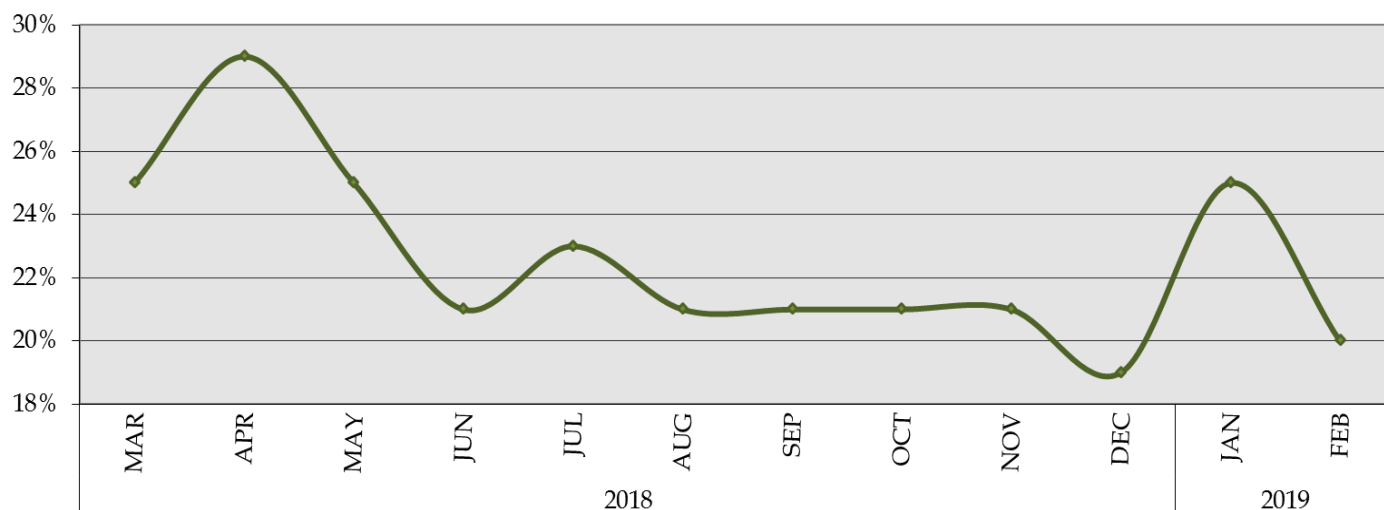
Major products with significant year-to-date (YTD) increases vs. the same period in 2018 include reinforcing bars (up 73%), line pipe (up 58%) and cut lengths plates (up 18%).

Steel Mill Product	Feb. 2019 Final	Jan. 2019 Final	% var Feb. vs. Jan.	YTD 2019 (2 mo.)	YTD 2018 (2 mo.)	% var '19 vs. '18	2019 Ann.	2018 12 mo.	% var 2019 vs 2018
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	688,150	1,027,278	-33.0%	1,715,429	1,002,178	71.2%	10,292,572	8,007,909	28.5%
Line Pipe	213,900	327,542	-34.7%	541,442	343,869	57.5%	3,248,653	2,195,926	47.9%
Oil Country Goods	194,138	333,495	-41.8%	527,633	614,935	-14.2%	3,165,796	2,801,554	13.0%
Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped	197,797	271,718	-27.2%	469,515	437,672	7.3%	2,817,092	3,037,149	-7.2%
Sheets Hot Rolled	147,373	205,860	-28.4%	353,233	369,201	-4.3%	2,119,399	2,601,208	-18.5%
Sheets Cold Rolled	133,075	174,650	-23.8%	307,725	354,986	-13.3%	1,846,349	2,242,872	-17.7%
Bars - Reinforcing	106,575	128,278	-16.9%	234,853	135,818	72.9%	1,409,120	1,168,101	20.6%
Plates in Coils	95,034	124,855	-23.9%	219,888	207,642	5.9%	1,319,329	1,566,183	-15.8%
Wire Rods	63,301	134,779	-53.0%	198,080	182,914	8.3%	1,188,479	1,153,493	3.0%
Bars - Hot Rolled	66,952	90,929	-26.4%	157,881	247,670	-36.3%	947,285	1,225,618	-22.7%
Plates Cut Lengths	57,439	75,660	-24.1%	133,099	112,613	18.2%	798,592	659,767	21.0%
Sheets & Strip All Other Met. Ctd.	50,957	79,924	-36.2%	130,881	161,786	-19.1%	785,285	933,323	-15.9%
Standard Pipe	55,402	70,294	-21.2%	125,697	169,927	-26.0%	754,181	884,528	-14.7%
Wire Drawn	56,797	67,275	-15.6%	124,072	138,135	-10.2%	744,431	767,330	-3.0%
Tin Plate	54,468	64,541	-15.6%	119,009	159,263	-25.3%	714,053	769,213	-7.2%
Mechanical Tubing	43,091	61,798	-30.3%	104,890	113,529	-7.6%	629,338	656,438	-4.1%
Structural Shapes Heavy	36,651	60,426	-39.3%	97,077	104,593	-7.2%	582,465	569,337	2.3%
All Other	171,715	179,567	-4.4%	351,282	505,751	-30.5%	2,107,690	2,491,311	-15.4%
TOTAL	2,432,817	3,478,868	-30.1%	5,911,685	5,362,483	10.2%	35,470,108	33,731,257	5.2%
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	1,743,988	2,450,026	-28.8%	4,194,014	4,350,945	-3.6%	25,164,084	25,694,317	-2.1%

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In February, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (187,000 NT, down 48% from January final), Japan (124,000 NT, up 17%), Germany (81,000 NT, down 40%), Italy (75,000 NT, up 8%) and Taiwan (72,000 NT, down 28%). For the first two months of 2019, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (548,000 NT, down 13% vs. the same period in 2018), Japan (230,000 NT, down 4%), Germany (215,000 NT, no change), Taiwan (173,000 NT, down 12%) and Brazil (151,000 NT, down 1%). 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	Feb. 2019 Final	Jan. 2019 Final	% incr. Feb. vs. Jan.	YTD 2019 (2 mo.)	YTD 2018 (2 mo.)	% incr. '19 vs. '18	2019 Ann.	2018 12 mo.	% incr. 2019 vs. '18
South Korea	187	361	-48.1%	548	630	-13.0%	3,287	2,764	18.9%
Japan	124	106	16.6%	230	239	-3.8%	1,381	1,383	-0.1%
Germany	81	134	-39.5%	215	215	0.2%	1,292	1,339	-3.5%
Taiwan	72	101	-28.3%	173	195	-11.5%	1,037	1,069	-2.9%
Brazil	22	129	-83.1%	151	152	-0.8%	905	479	88.8%
Vietnam	43	104	-58.0%	147	99	48.4%	882	1,110	-20.5%
Italy	75	69	8.1%	144	49	194.7%	863	605	42.6%
China	42	77	-46.0%	119	139	-14.6%	713	696	2.5%
All Other	1,098	1,369	-19.8%	2,467	2,633	-6.3%	14,803	16,249	-8.9%
Total	1,744	2,450	-28.8%	4,194	4,351	-3.6%	25,164	25,694	-2.1%

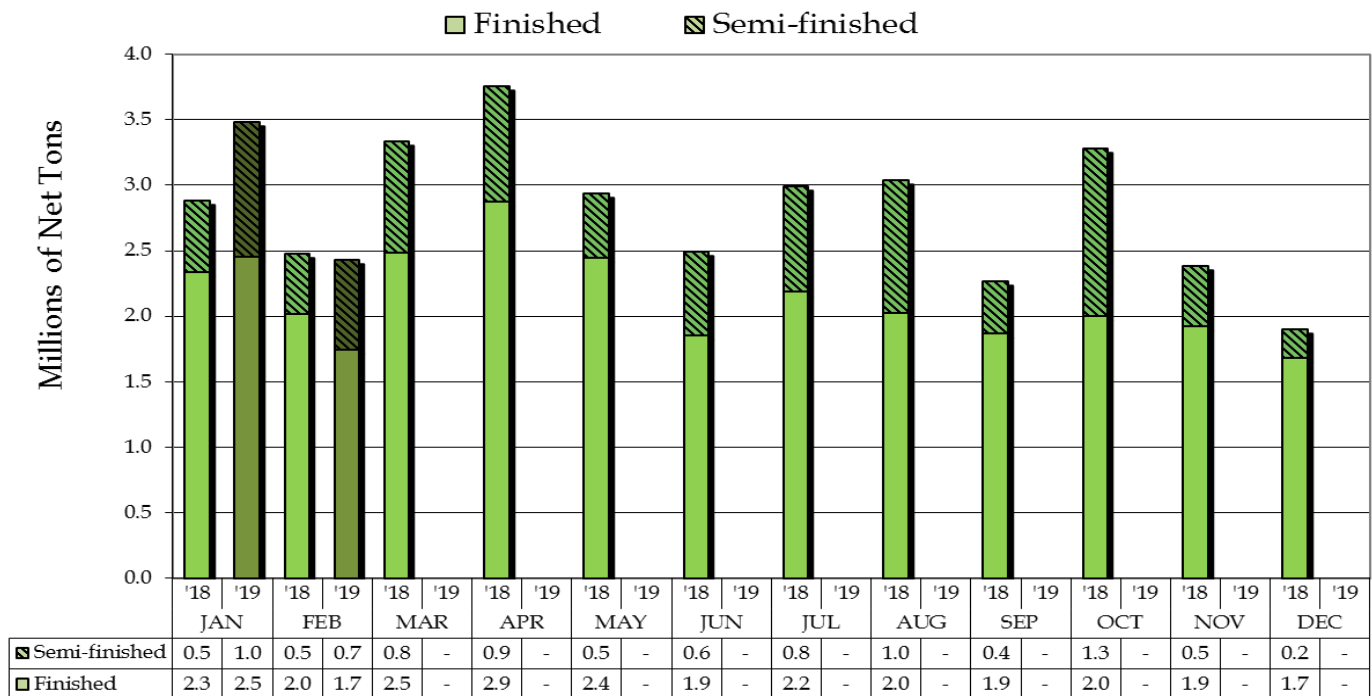
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U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Steel Mill Product	Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. '19 - Dec. '18	Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Nov. '18 - Sep. '18	Current 3 Months vs. 3 Months Prior % Change
Line Pipe	248	173	43.3%
Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped	222	245	-9.6%
Oil Country Goods	221	172	28.2%
Sheets Hot Rolled	179	233	-23.1%
Sheets Cold Rolled	154	172	-10.3%
Plates in Coils	107	135	-20.9%
Wire Rods	101	89	13.5%
Bars - Reinforcing	91	58	56.9%
Bars - Hot Rolled	78	93	-16.9%
Sheets & Strip All Other Met. Ctd.	61	79	-22.3%
All Other	495	480	3.2%
TOTAL Finished Imports	1,958	1,930	1.4%

U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Country	Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. '19 - Dec. '18	Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Nov. '18 - Sep. '18	Current 3 Months vs. 3 Months Prior % Change
South Korea	213	189	12.5%
Germany	110	118	-7.1%
Japan	109	104	4.9%
Vietnam	82	104	-20.5%
Taiwan	75	92	-18.4%
Italy	69	38	81.0%
Brazil	55	11	389.1%
China	55	55	0.7%
Turkey	51	87	-41.0%
Netherlands	37	72	-48.4%
All Other	1,101	1,061	3.8%
TOTAL Finished Imports	1,958	1,930	1.4%

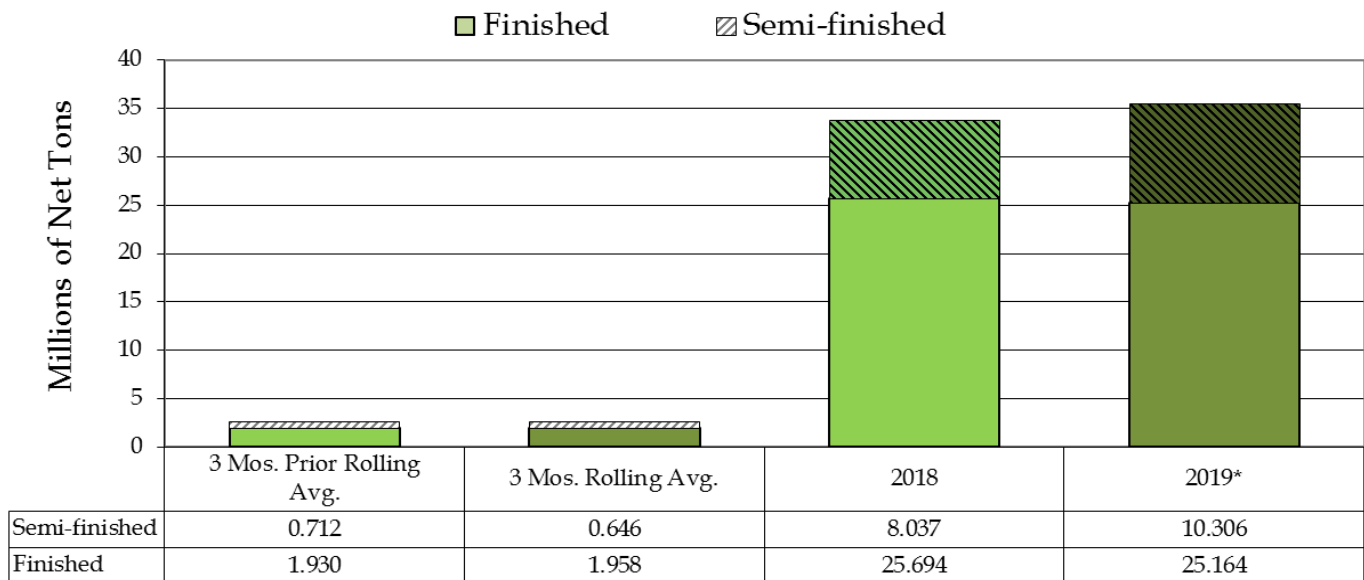
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Monthly Imports 2019 vs. 2018



% change finished imports February 2019 vs February 2018 -13.5%

3 Month Rolling Averages and 2019 vs. 2018



% change finished imports 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. vs. 3 Mos. Prior = +1.4%

% change semi-finished imports 2019 vs 2018 = +28.2%

% change finished imports 2019 vs 2018 = -2.1%

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 19 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 ([@AISISteel](#)).

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