



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STEEL IMPORTS DOWN 17% IN 2019
Finished Import Market Share at 19%

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 1,553,000 net tons (NT) of steel in December 2019, including 1,347,000 net tons (NT) of finished steel (down 0.5% and up 1.2%, respectively, vs. November final data). For full year 2019 total and finished steel imports are 27,905,000 and 21,042,000 net tons (NT), down 17.3% and 18.1%, respectively, vs. 2018. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 15% in December and is estimated at 19% for full year 2019.

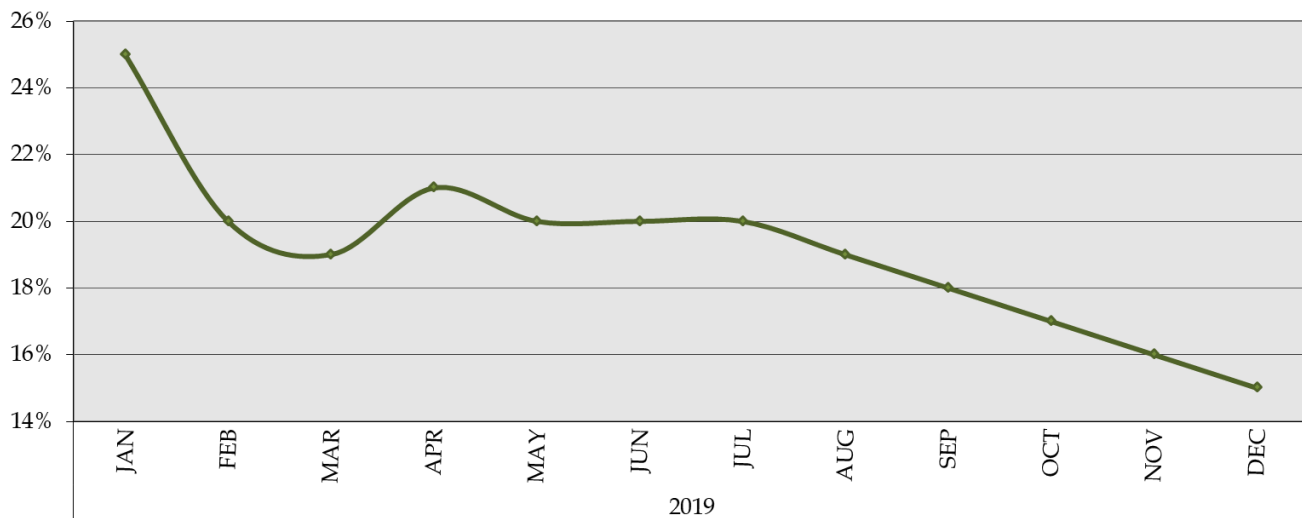
Key finished steel products with a significant import increase in December compared to November are plates in coils (up 41%), hot rolled sheets (up 27%), cold rolled sheets (up 22%) and cut lengths plates (up 18%).

| Steel Mill Product | Dec. 2019 Prelim. | Nov. 2019 Final | % var Dec. vs. Nov. | 2019 | 2018 | % var 2019 vs 2018 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ingots and Billets and Slabs | 204,241 | 229,085 | -10.8% | 6,846,336 | 8,007,909 | -14.5% |
| Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped | 157,605 | 161,299 | -2.3% | 2,436,802 | 3,037,149 | -19.8% |
| Oil Country Goods | 115,858 | 128,356 | -9.7% | 2,353,758 | 2,801,554 | -16.0% |
| Sheets Hot Rolled | 164,987 | 129,754 | 27.2% | 1,882,591 | 2,601,208 | -27.6% |
| Line Pipe | 74,243 | 84,710 | -12.4% | 1,825,105 | 2,195,926 | -16.9% |
| Sheets Cold Rolled | 140,555 | 115,542 | 21.6% | 1,697,584 | 2,242,872 | -24.3% |
| Plates in Coils | 96,705 | 68,768 | 40.6% | 1,155,558 | 1,566,183 | -26.2% |
| Bars - Reinforcing | 45,613 | 61,506 | -25.8% | 1,103,232 | 1,168,101 | -5.6% |
| Wire Rods | 43,902 | 43,135 | 1.8% | 943,880 | 1,153,493 | -18.2% |
| Bars - Hot Rolled | 66,727 | 78,427 | -14.9% | 901,348 | 1,225,618 | -26.5% |
| Tin Plate | 45,222 | 44,080 | 2.6% | 755,956 | 769,213 | -1.7% |
| Standard Pipe | 53,057 | 61,190 | -13.3% | 707,849 | 884,528 | -20.0% |
| Sheets & Strip All Other Metallic | 31,256 | 41,765 | -25.2% | 692,707 | 933,323 | -25.8% |
| Wire Drawn | 45,474 | 45,209 | 0.6% | 685,547 | 767,330 | -10.7% |
| Plates Cut Lengths | 47,023 | 39,892 | 17.9% | 585,873 | 659,767 | -11.2% |
| Mechanical Tubing | 44,932 | 50,294 | -10.7% | 583,207 | 656,438 | -11.2% |
| Structural Shapes Heavy | 20,557 | 23,811 | -13.7% | 550,173 | 569,337 | -3.4% |
| All Other | 155,507 | 154,660 | 0.5% | 2,197,642 | 2,491,311 | -11.8% |
| TOTAL | 1,553,464 | 1,561,483 | -0.5% | 27,905,148 | 33,731,257 | -17.3% |
| SUBTOTAL Finished Imports | 1,347,201 | 1,331,444 | 1.2% | 21,042,045 | 25,694,317 | -18.1% |

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In December the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (168,000 NT, down 11% from November final), Germany (83,000 NT, up 51%), Japan (67,000 NT, down 21%), The Netherlands (53,000 NT, down 24%) and China (26,000 NT, up 29%). For full year 2019, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (2,576,000 NT, down 7% vs. the same period in 2018), Japan (1,242,000 NT, down 10%), Germany (1,048,000 NT, down 22%), Taiwan (828,000 NT, down 23%) and Vietnam (663,000 NT, down 40%). 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



| COUNTRY | Dec. 2019 Prelim. | Nov. 2019 Final | % var Dec. vs. Nov. | 2019 | 2018 | % var 2019 vs. '18 |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| South Korea | 168 | 188 | -10.8% | 2,576 | 2,764 | -6.8% |
| Japan | 67 | 85 | -21.4% | 1,242 | 1,383 | -10.2% |
| Germany | 83 | 55 | 50.9% | 1,048 | 1,339 | -21.7% |
| Taiwan | 30 | 31 | -3.1% | 828 | 1,069 | -22.5% |
| Vietnam | 13 | 28 | -54.9% | 663 | 1,110 | -40.2% |
| Netherlands | 53 | 70 | -24.3% | 550 | 613 | -10.3% |
| China | 26 | 20 | 29.2% | 544 | 696 | -21.8% |
| Brazil | 13 | 11 | 17.7% | 534 | 479 | 11.4% |
| All Other | 896 | 844 | 6.1% | 13,057 | 16,241 | -19.6% |
| Total | 1,347 | 1,331 | 1.2% | 21,042 | 25,694 | -18.1% |

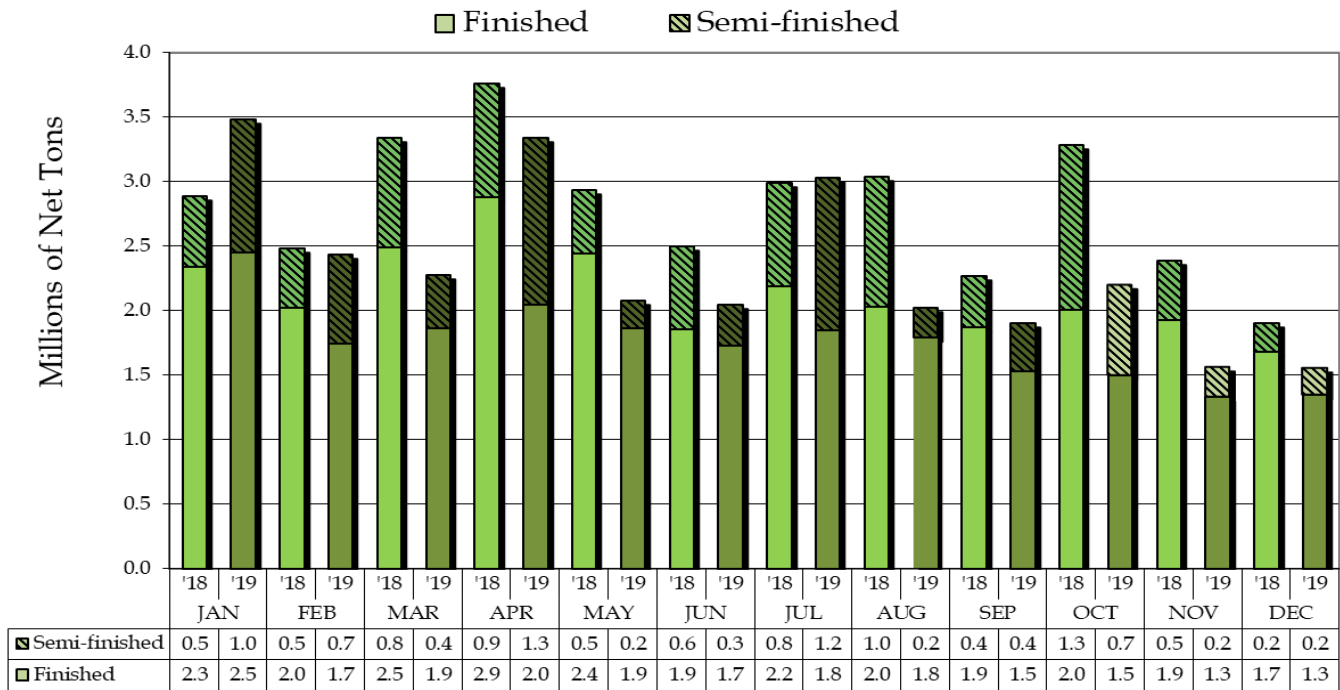
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| U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE | | | |
| (thousands of net tons) | | | |
| Steel Mill Product | Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Dec. '19 - Oct. '19 | Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Sep. '19 - Jul. '19 | Current 3 Months vs. 3 Months Prior % Change |
| Sheets & Strip Galv. Hot Dipped | 180 | 204 | -11.6% |
| Sheets Hot Rolled | 152 | 166 | -8.7% |
| Sheets Cold Rolled | 126 | 136 | -7.1% |
| Oil Country Goods | 122 | 181 | -32.6% |
| Plates in Coils | 86 | 90 | -4.7% |
| Line Pipe | 78 | 138 | -43.5% |
| Bars - Hot Rolled | 69 | 73 | -4.7% |
| Bars - Reinforcing | 56 | 86 | -34.8% |
| Standard Pipe | 56 | 61 | -7.8% |
| Wire Rods | 55 | 72 | -24.4% |
| All Other | 412 | 517 | -20.2% |
| TOTAL Finished Imports | 1,392 | 1,724 | -19.2% |

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|---|--|--|---|
| 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE | | | |
| (thousands of net tons) | | | |
| Country | Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Dec. '19 - Oct. '19 | Final 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Sep. '19 - Jul. '19 | Current 3 Months vs. 3 Months Prior % Change |
| South Korea | 175 | 200 | -12.3% |
| Japan | 75 | 97 | -22.7% |
| Germany | 72 | 72 | 0.8% |
| Netherlands | 51 | 52 | -1.6% |
| Taiwan | 33 | 69 | -51.9% |
| Brazil | 28 | 45 | -38.6% |
| Spain | 27 | 37 | -26.2% |
| China | 24 | 41 | -41.2% |
| Vietnam | 23 | 56 | -58.9% |
| Turkey | 23 | 21 | 6.4% |
| All Other | 861 | 1,034 | -16.8% |
| TOTAL Finished Imports | 1,392 | 1,724 | -19.2% |

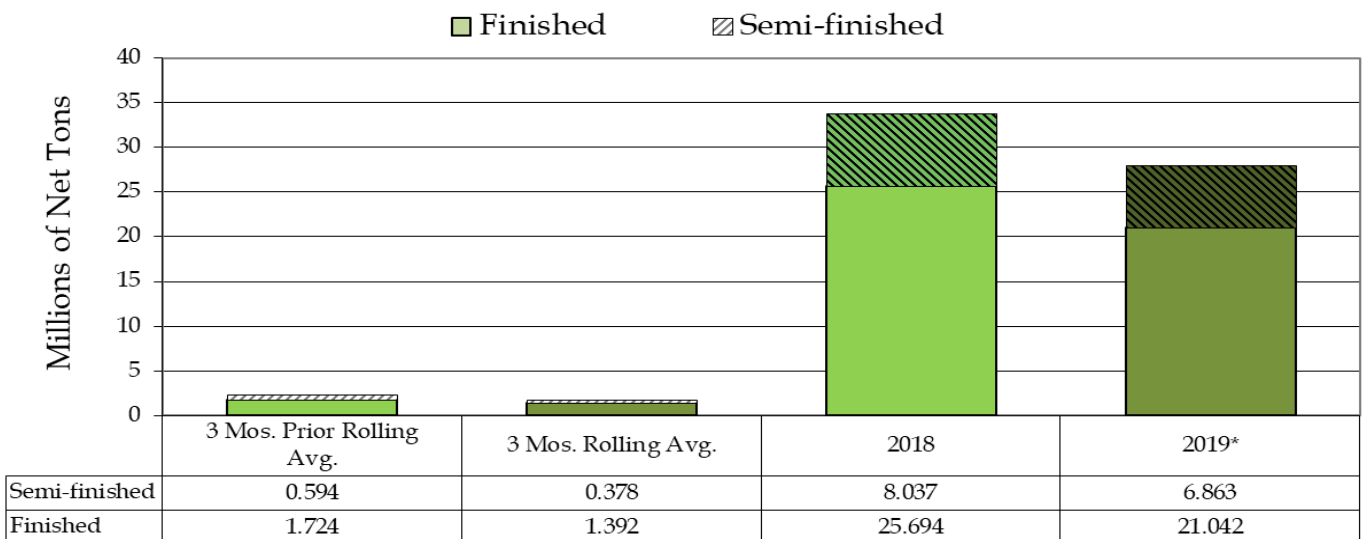
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Monthly Imports 2019 vs. 2018



% change finished imports December 2019 vs. December 2018 - 19.7%

3 Month Rolling Averages and 2019 vs. 2018



% change finished imports 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. vs. 3 Mos. Prior = -19.2%

% change semi-finished imports 2019 vs. 2018 = -14.6%

% change finished imports 2019 vs. 2018 = -18.1%

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's membership is comprised of integrated and electric arc furnace steelmakers, and 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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