



Global Steel Trade Monitor

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Enhanced Global Steel Trade Monitor?

The **Global Steel Trade Monitor** (the Monitor) is a centralized platform for stakeholders and interested parties to access aggregated data on global imports and exports of steel mill products. Coming in 2017, the Monitor will provide a series of interactive data tables and graphs summarizing steel trade data related to the top steel importing and exporting countries. The Monitor will expand upon the early release information already provided by the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) system, which collects and publishes data on U.S. imports of steel mill products. Ahead of the release of the Global Monitor, we have published country-level reports, as well as a global summary report, on steel trade trends. These reports provide objective and current global steel industry information about the top countries that play an essential role in the global steel trade.

The **SIMA System** uses the Department of Commerce's steel import licensing program to collect and publish aggregate data on near real-time steel mill imports into the United States. SIMA incorporates information collected from steel license applications with publicly released data from the U.S. Census Bureau. By design, this information provides stakeholders with valuable information on the steel trade with the United States. For more information about SIMA, please go to <http://enforcement.trade.gov/steel/license/>

Why do you publish the country-level reports?

The reports provide broad overviews about steel trade and the changing trade patterns. Given the importance of steel trade issues, the Department of Commerce is supplementing its SIMA data to provide a new level of data transparency to the public.

When will the interactive Global Steel Trade Monitor be available?

We expect to launch the new interactive Monitor in early 2017.

Why only cover steel?

The Department of Commerce has had an existing means for publishing trade and other data on the U.S. steel industry through the SIMA program for several years. The new Monitor and reports represent an extension of the SIMA system to a global coverage of the steel trade.

How frequently do you update the country reports?

The reports will be updated quarterly with the latest year to date information available from each country.

Which countries do the reports cover?

Reports are currently available for the 10 largest steel exporting countries and the 10 largest steel importing countries. Additional reports will be added at a later date.

What time periods are covered in the country reports?

The new global reports cover publicly available data.

What are your data sources?

Trade data are extracted from IHS Global Trade Atlas for imports and exports of steel mill products from each reporting country. Steel mill products are defined in broad, common commodity terms at the 6-digit Harmonized System (HS) level. For detailed information on the 6-digit HS codes used, please see: http://trade.gov/steel/globalmonitor/SMP_HS6.pdf. Production figures are obtained from the World Steel Association.

What units of measure are available?

Trade data are available by value in U.S. dollars and quantity in metric tons.

What type of data is available in the country reports?

Information in these reports includes global export and import trends by country of origin/destination and by product, production and consumption data and, where available, information regarding trade remedy actions taken on steel mill products. Data such as market shares, growth rates, comparisons by country, and rankings are also included.

What are trade remedies?

Antidumping duties (AD), countervailing duties (CVD), associated suspension agreements, and safeguards are often referred to collectively as trade remedies. These are internationally agreed upon mechanisms to address the market-distorting effects of unfair trade, or serious injury or threat of serious injury caused by a surge in imports. Unlike anti-dumping and countervailing measures, Safeguards do not require a finding of an “unfair” practice. Before applying these duties or measures, countries investigate allegations and can remedy or provide relief for the injury caused to a domestic industry.

Are the reports intended to provide a basis for trade remedy actions?

The reports are solely intended to provide global steel trade flow data.

Who can I contact for more information?

For general, technical, or data-related questions: ECGlobalSteelStats@trade.gov or (202) 482-2105.

For inquiries from the Press: (202) 482-3809