



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Preliminary Steel Imports Decrease 5% in February**

Import Market Share 18% in February

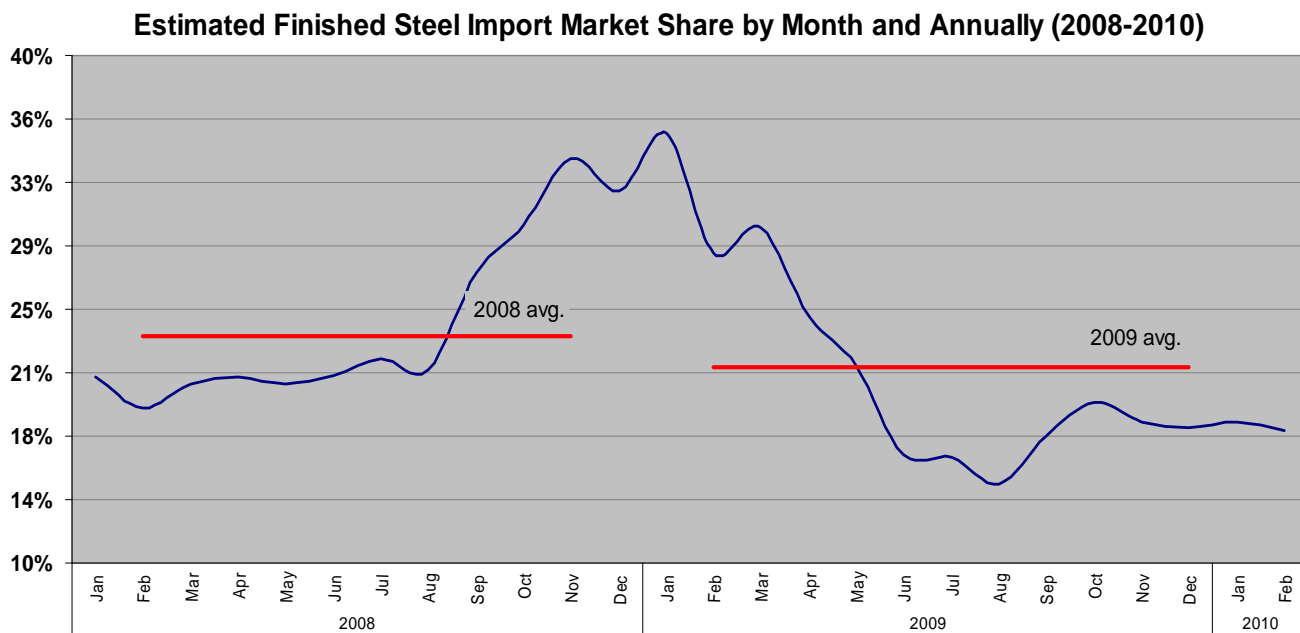
**Washington, D.C.** – Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 1,574,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February, including 1,214,000 NT of finished steel (down 5% and 6%, respectively, vs. January final data). Annualized total and finished steel imports in 2010 would be 19.4 and 15.0 million NT, respectively, up 20% and 6% vs. 2009. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 18% in February.

Key finished steel products with increases in February 2010 compared to January include reinforcing bar (109%), wire rods (45%) and hot rolled sheets (9%).

Steel Mill Product	Feb. (prelim.)	Jan. final	% var Feb. vs. Jan.	(2 mo) YTD 2010	(2 mo) YTD 2009	% var '10 vs. '09	2010 Annualized	2009 12 mo.	% var 2010 ann. vs 2009 12 mo.
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	358,562	375,231	-4.4%	733,793	319,119	129.9%	4,402,759	2,014,511	118.6%
Hot Rolled Sheets	184,732	169,060	9.3%	353,791	322,313	9.8%	2,122,748	1,739,209	22.1%
Line Pipe	107,793	135,122	-20.2%	242,915	429,653	-43.5%	1,457,489	1,603,357	-9.1%
Wire Rods	126,471	87,484	44.6%	213,955	130,936	63.4%	1,283,729	763,391	68.2%
Oil Country Goods	90,066	121,663	-26.0%	211,728	798,023	-73.5%	1,270,369	1,602,111	-20.7%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	98,736	101,085	-2.3%	199,821	196,693	1.6%	1,198,926	1,033,045	16.1%
Cold Rolled Sheets	90,833	94,182	-3.6%	185,015	240,337	-23.0%	1,110,090	1,137,583	-2.4%
Bars - Hot Rolled	65,262	84,405	-22.7%	149,667	174,172	-14.1%	897,999	674,388	33.2%
Plates in Coils	52,520	58,459	-10.2%	110,979	154,237	-28.0%	665,874	710,897	-6.3%
Standard Pipe	47,632	60,095	-20.7%	107,727	160,328	-32.8%	646,364	593,409	8.9%
Wire Drawn	44,560	46,734	-4.7%	91,294	72,272	26.3%	547,762	486,302	12.6%
Bars - Reinforcing	50,796	24,359	108.5%	75,155	85,823	-12.4%	450,927	419,426	7.5%
Plates Cut Lengths	35,402	39,287	-9.9%	74,690	191,661	-61.0%	448,137	530,221	-15.5%
Tin Plate	30,458	33,090	-8.0%	63,548	38,763	63.9%	381,286	322,955	18.1%
Sheets & Strip All Other Metals	23,507	33,380	-29.6%	56,886	74,026	-23.2%	341,318	298,070	14.5%
Structural Shapes Heavy	16,741	31,864	-47.5%	48,605	149,197	-67.4%	291,629	371,418	-21.5%
Mechanical Tubing	23,940	23,993	-0.2%	47,933	78,931	-39.3%	287,596	332,661	-13.5%
All Other	125,610	142,608	-11.9%	268,218	340,829	-21.3%	1,609,307	1,581,948	1.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,573,618</b>	<b>1,662,100</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>	<b>3,235,718</b>	<b>3,957,314</b>	<b>-18.2%</b>	<b>19,414,310</b>	<b>16,214,903</b>	<b>19.7%</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL Finished Imports</b>	<b>1,213,736</b>	<b>1,285,143</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>	<b>2,498,879</b>	<b>3,635,174</b>	<b>-31.3%</b>	<b>14,993,273</b>	<b>14,178,577</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

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In February, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (98,000 NT, down 35%), Japan (112,000 NT, up 38%), China (46,000 NT, down 31%), Italy (48,000 NT, down 5%) and Australia (48,000 NT, up 73%). Below are charts on estimated steel import market share by month and finished steel imports by country.



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

COUNTRY	Feb 2010	Jan 2009	% incr. Feb. vs Jan.	(2 mo) YTD 2010	(2 mo) YTD 2009	% incr. '10 YTD vs. '09	2010 full year (est.)	2009 Annual	% incr. 2010 an. vs. '09
South Korea	98	151	<b>-35.4%</b>	248	411	<b>-39.6%</b>	1,491	1,323	<b>12.7%</b>
Japan	112	81	<b>38.4%</b>	192	248	<b>-22.4%</b>	1,153	981	<b>17.6%</b>
China	46	66	<b>-31.3%</b>	112	708	<b>-84.2%</b>	671	1,463	<b>-54.1%</b>
Italy	48	50	<b>-4.7%</b>	97	45	<b>118.5%</b>	584	323	<b>80.8%</b>
Australia	48	28	<b>73.4%</b>	76	54	<b>40.0%</b>	454	285	<b>59.4%</b>
India	34	34	<b>-0.9%</b>	68	156	<b>-56.1%</b>	410	581	<b>-29.5%</b>
Turkey	46	20	<b>132.8%</b>	66	179	<b>-63.2%</b>	396	492	<b>-19.5%</b>
Germany	27	38	<b>-29.5%</b>	64	137	<b>-52.9%</b>	386	495	<b>-22.0%</b>
All Other	757	818	<b>-7.5%</b>	1,575	1,698	<b>-7.3%</b>	9,449	8,237	<b>14.7%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>	<b>2,499</b>	<b>3,635</b>	<b>-31.3%</b>	<b>14,993</b>	<b>14,179</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

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

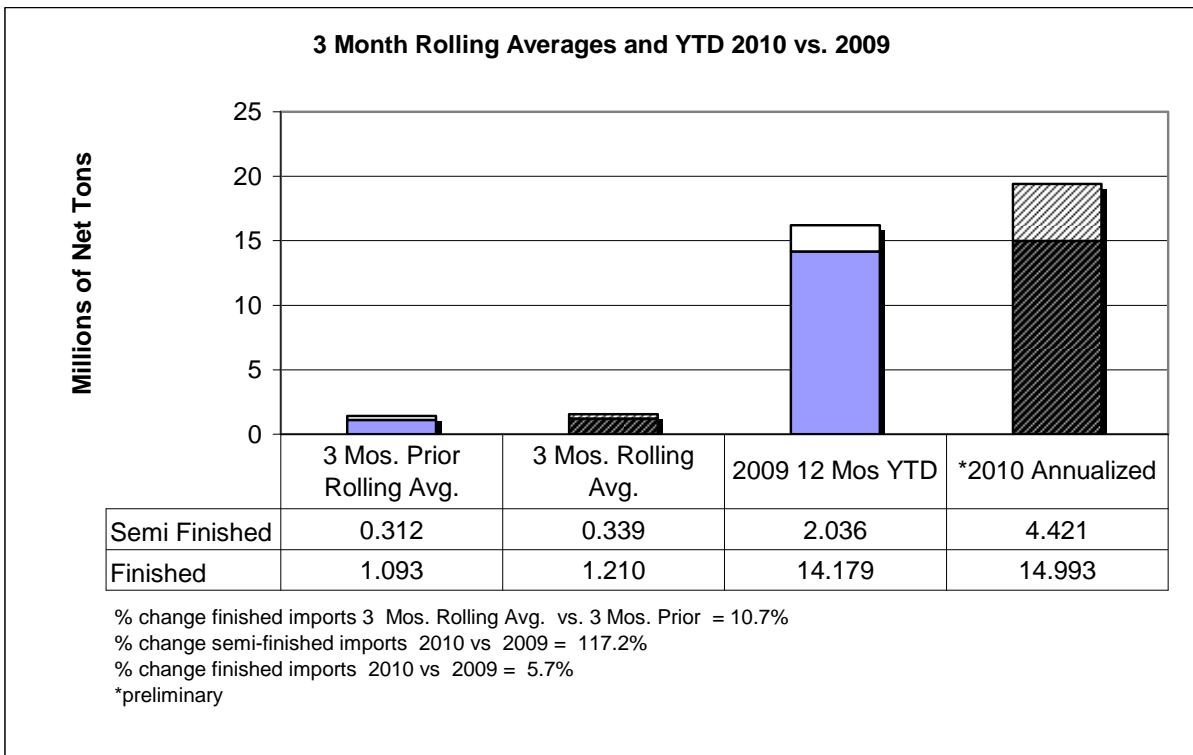
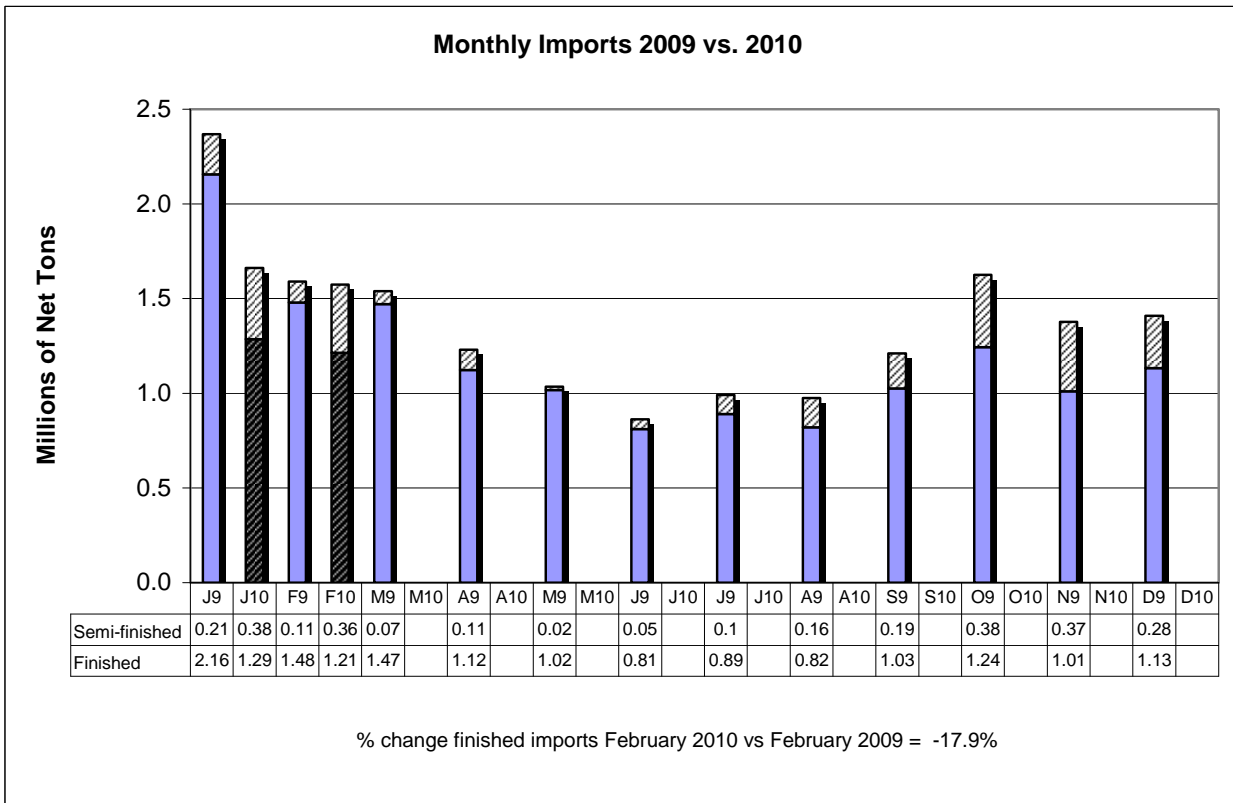
<b>Product</b>	<b>Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. 10 - Dec. 09</b>	<b>Actual 3 Mos. Prior Nov. 09- Sep. 09</b>	<b>Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change</b>
Sheets Hot Rolled	170	183	-6.7%
Line Pipe	118	112	5.9%
Wire Rods	105	90	17.0%
Sheets Cold Rolled	98	97	1.1%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	93	83	12.3%
Oil Country Goods	90	41	121.1%
Bars - Hot Rolled	78	61	28.1%
Standard Pipe	52	38	35.4%
Plates in Coils	50	63	-19.6%
Wire Drawn	46	47	-3.8%
All Other	310	279	11.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>10.7%</b>

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<b>Country</b>	<b>Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. 10 - Dec. 09</b>	<b>Actual 3 Mos. Prior Nov. 09- Sep. 09</b>	<b>Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change</b>
South Korea	118	94	24.9%
Japan	98	66	48.8%
China	53	53	0.5%
Italy	49	44	12.1%
India	36	37	-2.0%
Germany	36	36	-0.8%
Turkey	35	27	29.2%
Australia	34	37	-8.8%
United Kingdom	25	20	20.3%
Brazil	24	37	-36.2%
All Other	703	642	9.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>1,093</b>	<b>10.7%</b>

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

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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 24 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and 138 associate and affiliate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent approximately 75 percent 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](http://www.steel.org).

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