

# Global Steel Trade Monitor

## Steel Imports Report: India

June 2016

### Background

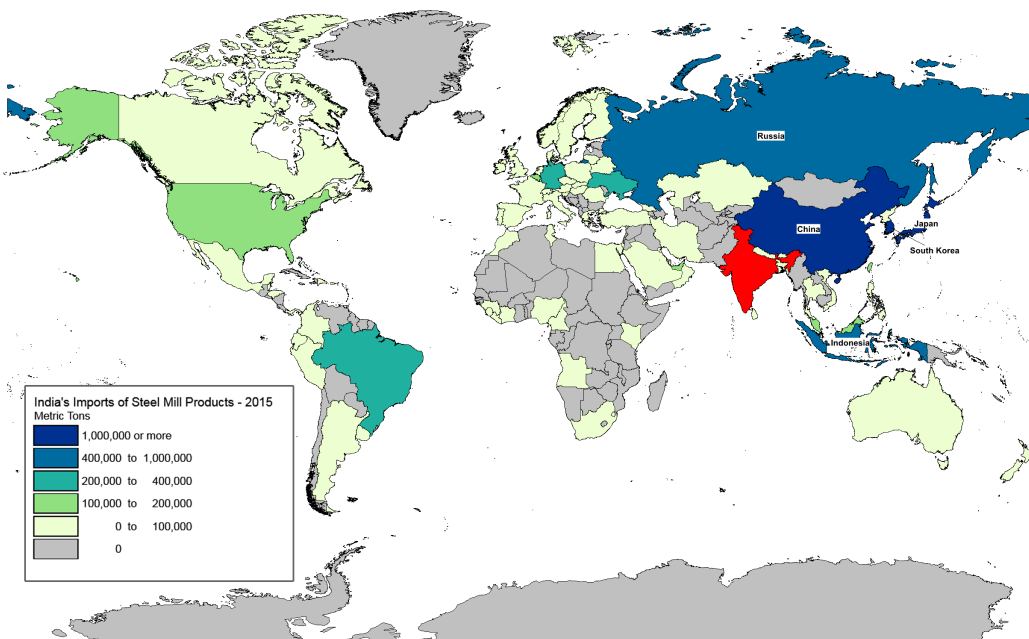
India is the world's eighth largest steel importer. In 2015, India imported 13.3 million metric tons of steel — a 41.2 percent increase from 9.4 million metric tons in 2014. India's steel imports represented 4 percent of all steel imported globally. The volume of India's 2015 steel imports was less than half that of the world's largest importer, the United States. In value terms, steel represented just 2.3 percent of the total amount of goods imported into India in 2015.

India imports steel from over 140 countries and territories. The 5 countries labeled in the map below represent the top import sources for India's imports of steel, with each sending more than 400 thousand metric tons and together accounting for 81 percent of India's steel imports in 2015.

### Quick Facts:

- World's eighth-largest steel importer: 13.3 million metric tons (2015)
- 154% steel import growth since 2005
- Import penetration up from 12.4% in 2009 to 13.9% in 2015
- Year-on-year import volume up 41% while import value up 4%
- Top three import sources: China, South Korea, and Japan
- Largest producers: TATA Steel Group, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), and JSW Steel Limited
- 17 trade remedies in effect against imports of steel mill products

India's Imports of Steel Mill Products - 2015



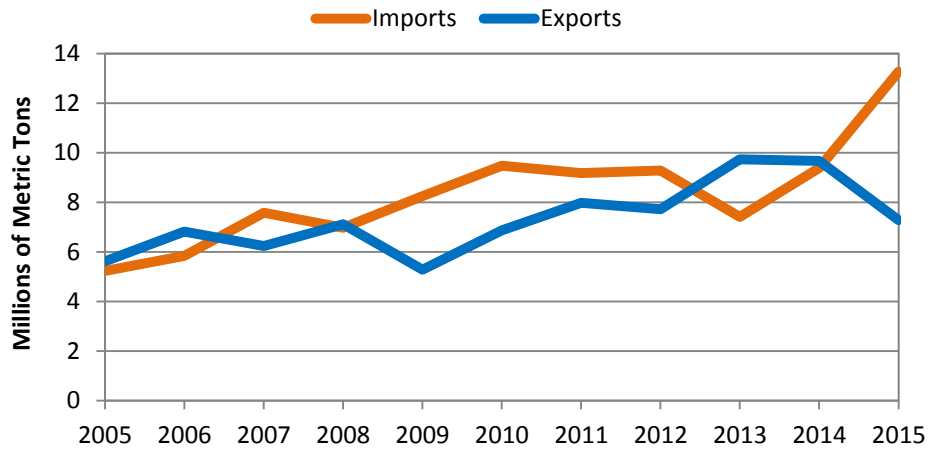
Data Source: Global Trade Atlas; Copyright © IHS Global Inc. 2016. All rights reserved.

# Steel Imports Report: India

## Steel Trade Balance

Over the past decade, India has alternated between being a net steel importer and a net steel exporter. Imports and exports have displayed a roughly inverse relationship, as imports declined sharply in tandem with export growth. After hitting a trade surplus in 2013, steel imports increased, bringing exports and imports into balance in 2014. Imports grew 41 percent between 2014 and 2015 alone, while exports declined 25 percent. As such, India now has a record high trade deficit in steel products, amounting to -6 million metric tons in 2015.

India's Trade in Steel Mill Products

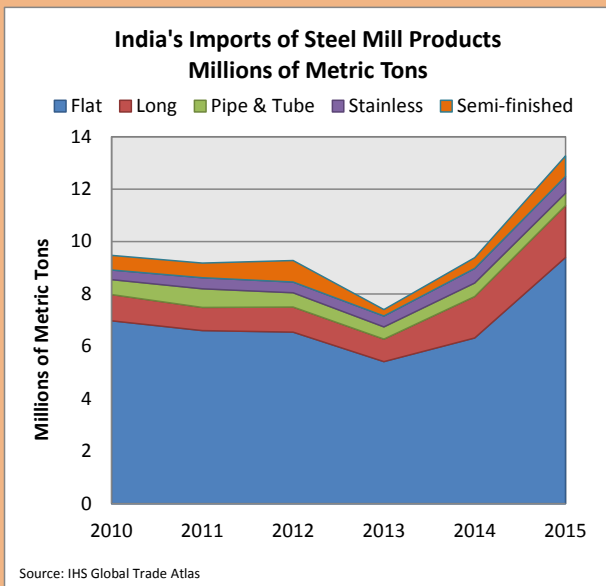


Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

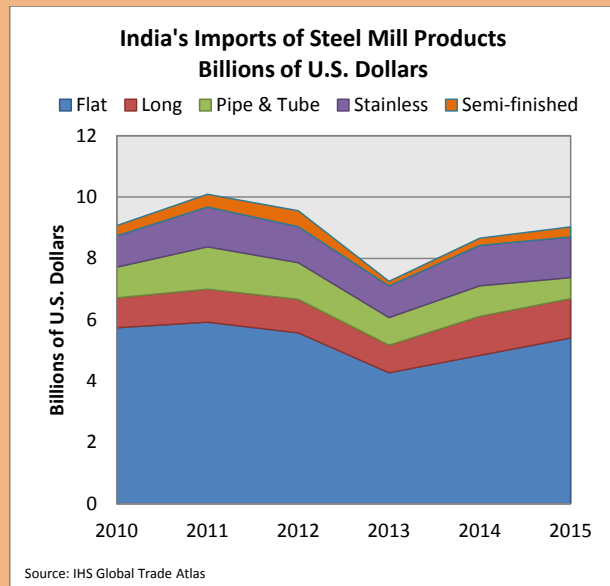
## Import Volume, Value, and Product

After dipping in 2013, India's imports of steel mill products have been on the rise. In 2014, India's steel imports reached 9.4 million metric tons, an increase of 27 percent from 2013. In 2015, the volume of India's steel reached 13.3 million metric tons, a 41 percent increase from 2014. By contrast, the value of India's 2015 imports increased only slightly to \$9 billion from \$8.7 billion in 2014, a 4 increase.

Flat products account for the largest share of India's steel imports. In 2015, 71 percent, or 9.4 million metric tons, of India's steel imports were of flat products, an increase from 2014's share of 67 percent. Long products accounted for 15 percent, or 2 million metric tons, followed by semi-finished steel (6%), stainless products (5%), and pipe and tube products (4%).



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

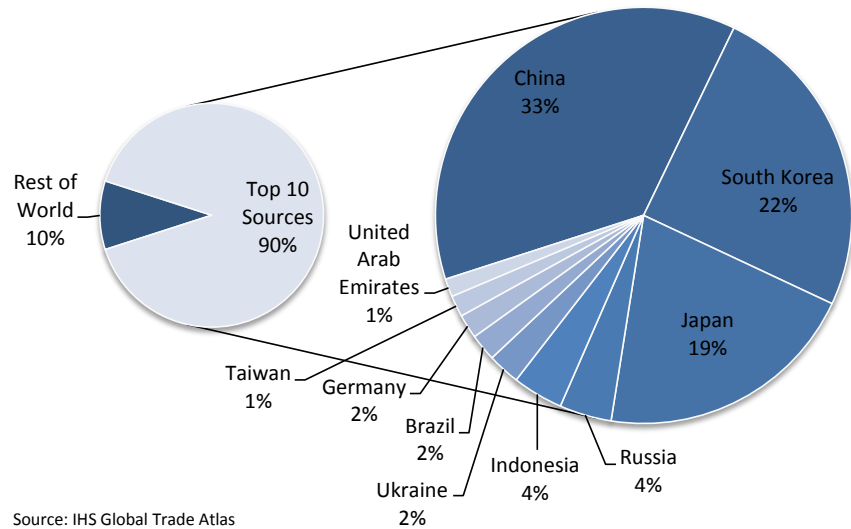
# Steel Imports Report: **India**

## Imports by Top Source

The top 10 source countries for India's steel imports represented 90 percent of the total steel import volume in 2015 at 11.9 million metric tons (mmt). China accounted for the largest share of India's imports by source country at 33 percent (4.4 mmt), followed by South Korea at 22 percent (3 mmt), and Japan at 18 percent (2.5 mmt).

The United States ranked 13th as a source for India's steel imports. India imported 111 thousand metric tons from the U.S. in 2015 — a 4 percent increase from 107 thousand metric tons in 2014.

**India's Steel Imports - Top 10 Sources**  
2015 - Millions of Metric Tons



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

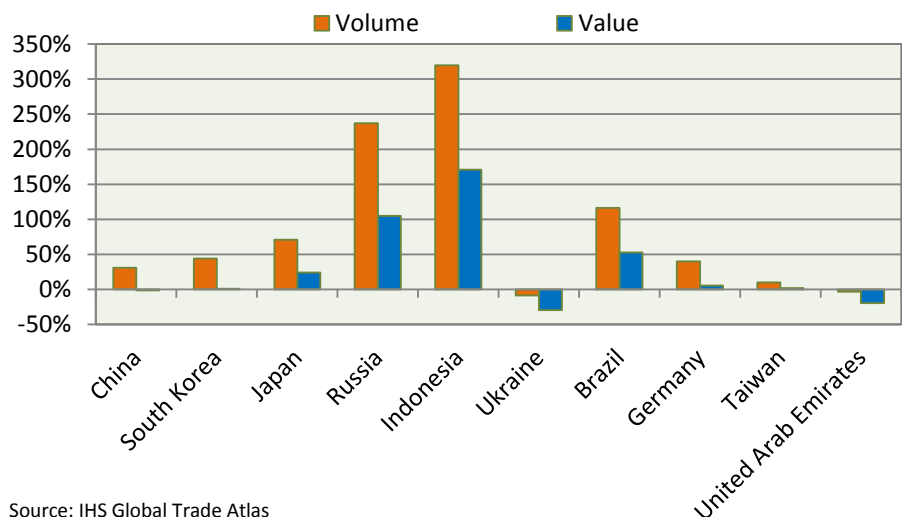
## Trends in Imports from Top Sources

The volume of India's steel imports increased from eight of India's top 10 steel import sources between 2014 and 2015. The overall value of India's imports increased from seven of the top ten, at a significantly lower growth rate, however, reflecting the decline in global steel prices.

Considerable decreases in steel value between 2014 and 2015 included India's imports from Ukraine (down 29.6%) and the United Arab Emirates (down 19.7%). Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates were also the only two import sources that showed declines in volume between 2014 and 2015, with imports Ukraine down 8.6 percent and imports from the United Arab Emirates down 3.3 percent.

A significant increase in both India's steel import volume and value between 2014 and 2015 occurred from Indonesia, increasing by 319.9 percent in volume and by 170.9 percent in value. Other sizeable increases occurred from Russia (up 237% in volume and 104.8% in value) and Brazil (up 116.2% in volume and 52.5% in value).

**Percent Change in Imports from Top 10 Sources (2014 to 2015)**



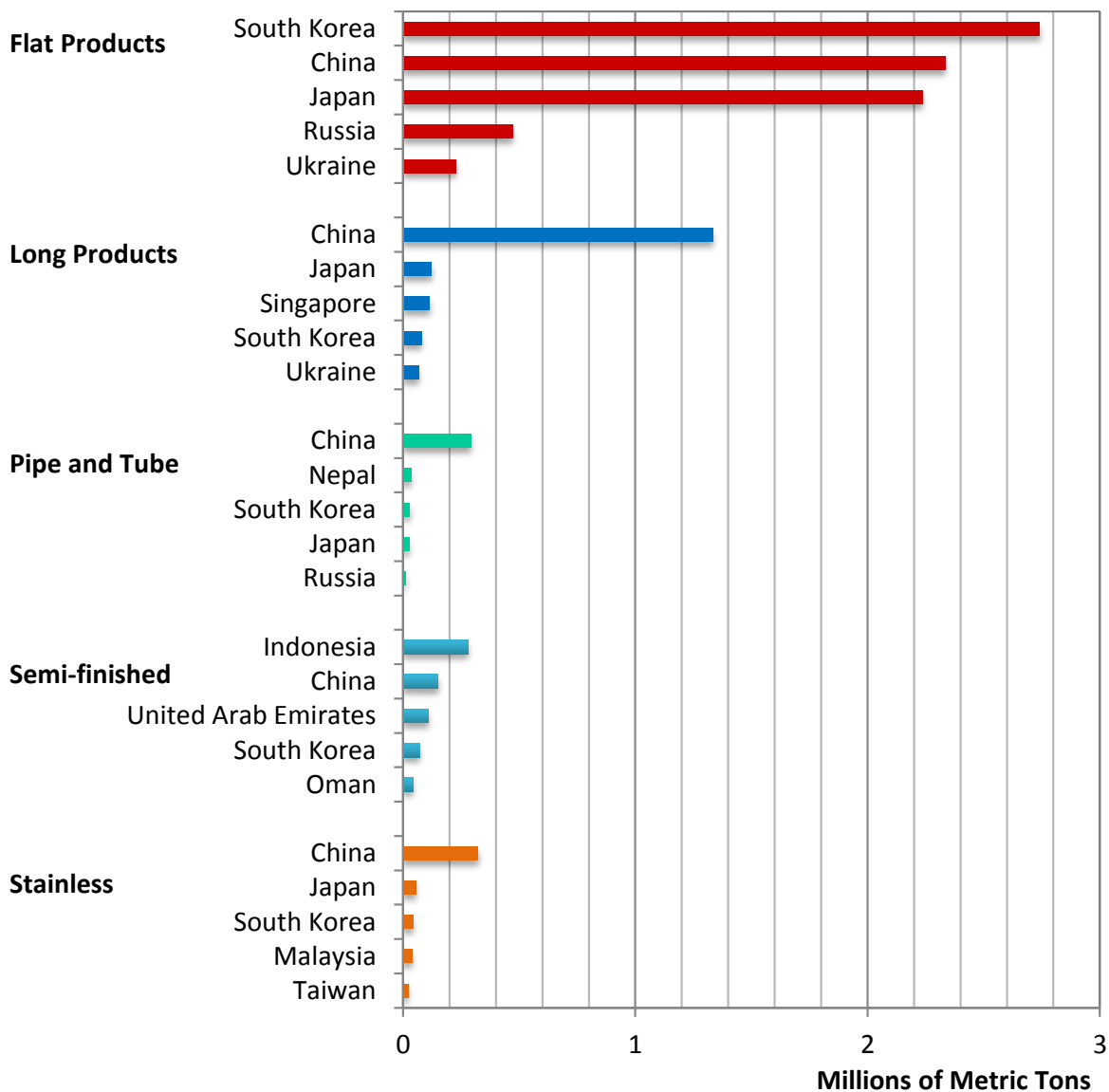
Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

# Steel Imports Report: **India**

## Top Sources by Steel Product Category

India's top import sources by volume vary across types of steel products. China accounted for the largest share of India's imports of long products at 67 percent (1.3 million metric tons), pipe and tube products at 62 percent (294 thousand metric tons), and stainless products at 51 percent (324 thousand metric tons). China was also the second largest source of India's imports of flat products at 25 percent (2.3 million metric tons) and semi-finished products at 19 percent (151 thousand metric tons). India imported the largest share of its flat products from South Korea at 29 percent (2.7 million metric tons), and Indonesia held the largest share of India's semi-finished imports at 36 percent (280 thousand metric tons). Japan represented the second largest share of India's imports of long products at 6 percent (123 thousand metric tons) and stainless products at 8 percent (54 thousand metric tons).

### India's Top 5 Import Sources by Product - 2015



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

# Steel Imports Report: **India**

## India's Export Market Share from Top Source Countries

In 2015, the share of steel exports sent to India from its top import sources increased in all of India's top sources except Ukraine. In 2015, the share of Ukraine's steel exports to India decreased 0.1 percentage points from 2014.

Countries with notable increases in their shares of steel exports to India in 2015 included Indonesia (up 3.3 percentage points from 2014), South Korea (up 2.7 percentage points), and Japan (up 2.2 percentage points).

Among India's top import sources, Indonesia and South Korea sent the largest shares of their total steel exports to India in 2015, at 14.7 percent and 9.8 percent respectively. In 2015, flat products accounted for the largest share of steel exports to India from South Korea at 93 percent

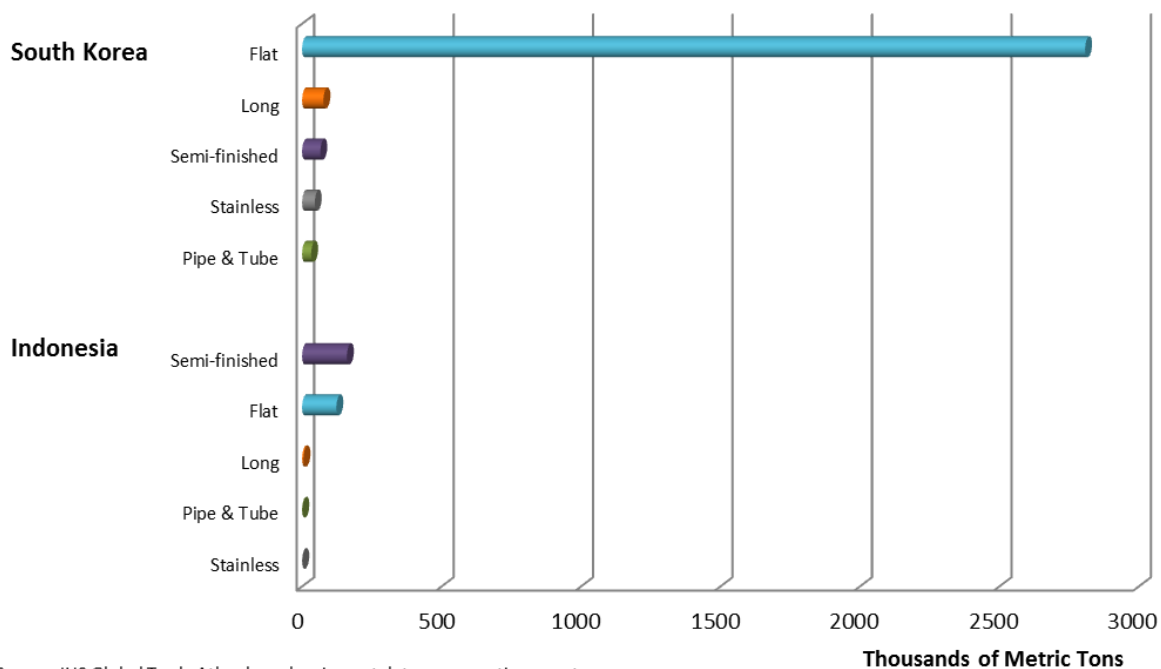
(2.8 million metric tons) and the second largest share of steel exports from Indonesia at 42 percent (123 thousand metric tons). Semi-finished products accounted for the largest share of Indonesia's steel exports to India at 55 percent (161 thousand metric tons) in 2015.

India's Steel Export Market Share				
Top 10 Import Sources	Share of Exports to India - 2014	India's Rank in 2014	Share of Exports to India - 2015	India's Rank in 2015
China	4.1%	4	4.3%	5
South Korea	7.1%	4	9.8%	4
Japan	3.8%	9	6.0%	6
Russia	0.5%	32	1.2%	19
Indonesia	11.4%	2	14.7%	3
Ukraine	1.6%	11	1.5%	11
Brazil	1.7%	10	2.1%	9
Germany	0.6%	25	0.9%	19
Taiwan	1.6%	17	1.9%	15
United Arab Emirates*	2.5%	8	N/A	N/A

Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas, based on import data per reporting country

\* UAE export data for 2015 are not available

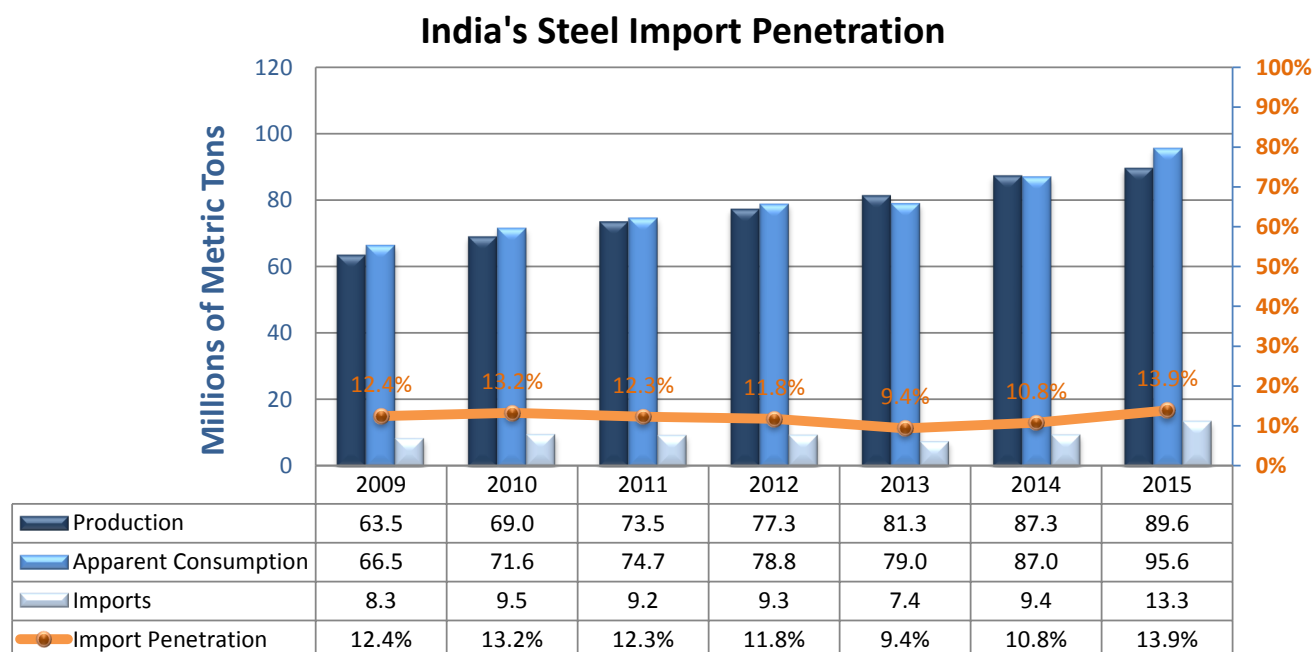
## Steel Export Composition of Top Market-Share Countries - 2015



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas, based on import data per reporting country

# Steel Imports Report: India

## Overall Production and Import Penetration



Source: World Steel Association; IHS Global Trade Atlas

India's crude steel production has increased every year since 2009, growing 41 percent to 89.6 million metric tons. Apparent consumption (a measure of steel demand) followed a similar trend over the period and slightly outpaced production by an average of 1.7 million metric tons. In 2015, however, apparent consumption outpaced production by 6 million metric tons reaching 95.6 million metric tons in 2015. India's steel imports increased 15 percent between 2009 and 2010 to 9.5 million metric tons before maintaining a downward-trending average through 2013 at 8.6 million metric tons and an upward-trending average at 11.3 million metric tons through 2015 and reaching 13.3 million metric tons in 2015. Between 2009 and 2015, India's import penetration increased 1.5 percentage points. Since 2011, import penetration has maintained an average of 11.6 percent.

### Top Producers

Before economic reforms in 1991, steel production in India was concentrated among state-owned companies. Currently, private companies dominate crude steel production in India. The top 6 producers accounted for 65.4 million metric tons, or 73 percent of total 2015 production, based on available data.

India's Top Steel Producers in 2015			
Rank	Company	Production (mmt)	Main Products
1	TATA Steel Group	26.3	Hot-rolled/cold-rolled coils and sheets, galvanized, tube
2	Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)	14.3	Flat, structural, rails, tubular
3	JSW Steel Limited	12.4	Hot-rolled coils, plates, sheets, galvanized
4	Essar Steel Group	5.7	Plates, pipes, cold-rolled, galvanized
5	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (VIZAG Steel)	3.6	Specialty, wire rod, rebar, structural, rounds
6	Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL)	3.1	Rails, beams, coils, wire rod

Sources: World Steel Association; Hoovers; MarketLine

# Steel Imports Report: **India**

## Trade Remedies in the Steel Sector

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. The table below provides statistics on the current number of trade remedies India has against imports of steel mill products from various countries.

<b>India’s Trade Remedies in Effect Against Steel Mill Imports</b>				
<b>Country</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>CVD</b>	<b>Suspension Agreements and Undertakings</b>	<b>Total</b>
China	2			2
European Union	3			3
Malaysia	1			1
South Africa	2			2
South Korea	3			3
Taiwan	2			2
Thailand	1			1
United States	3			3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>

Source: World Trade Organization, through June 30, 2015

<b>Steel Mill Safeguards in Effect</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Product</b>
India	Seamless pipes, tubes and hollow profiles of iron or non-alloy steel (other than cast iron and stainless steel)

Source: World Trade Organization, through March 1, 2016

# Steel Imports Report: Glossary

---

**Apparent Consumption:** Domestic crude steel production plus steel imports minus steel exports. Shipment data are not available for all countries, therefore crude steel production is used as a proxy.

**Export Market:** Destination of a country's exports.

**Flat Products:** Produced by rolling semi-finished steel through varying sets of rolls. Includes sheets, strips, and plates. Used most often in the automotive, tubing, appliance, and machinery manufacturing sectors.

**Import Penetration:** Ratio of imports to apparent consumption.

**Import Source:** Source of a country's imports.

**Long Products:** Steel products that fall outside the flat products category. Includes bars, rails, rods, and beams. Used in many sectors but most commonly in construction.

**Pipe and Tube Products:** Either seamless or welded pipe and tube products. Used in many sectors but most commonly in construction and energy sectors.

**Semi-finished Products:** The initial, intermediate solid forms of molten steel, to be re-heated and further forged, rolled, shaped, or otherwise worked into finished steel products. Includes blooms, billets, slabs, ingots, and steel for castings.

**Stainless Products:** Steel products containing at minimum 10.5% chromium (Cr) offering better corrosion resistance than regular steel.

**Steel Mill Products:** Carbon, alloy, or stainless steel produced by either a basic oxygen furnace or an electric arc furnace. Includes semi-finished steel products and finished steel products. For trade data purposes, steel mill products are defined at the Harmonized System (HS) 6-digit level as: 720610 through 721650, 721699 through 730110, 730210, 730240 through 730290, and 730410 through 730690. The following discontinued HS codes have been included for purposes of reporting historical data (prior to 2007): 722520, 722693, 722694, 722910, 730410, 730421, 730610, 730620, and 730660.

**Global Steel Trade Monitor:** The monitor provides global import and export trends for the top countries trading in steel products. The current reports expand upon the early release information already provided by the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) system that collects and publishes data on U.S. imports of steel mill products. Complementing the SIMA data, these reports provide objective and current global steel industry information about the top countries that play an essential role in the global steel trade. Information in these reports includes global exports and import trends, production and consumption data and, where available, information regarding trade remedy actions taken on steel products. The reports will be updated quarterly.

**Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) System:** The Department of Commerce uses a 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/>.



INTERNATIONAL  
**TRADE**  
ADMINISTRATION

**Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis**  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 21006  
Washington, D.C. 20230

T 202.482.2105

F 202.501.1377

Email [ECCGlobalSteelStats@trade.gov](mailto:ECCGlobalSteelStats@trade.gov)

[trade.gov/steel](http://trade.gov/steel)