



Global Steel Trade Monitor

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

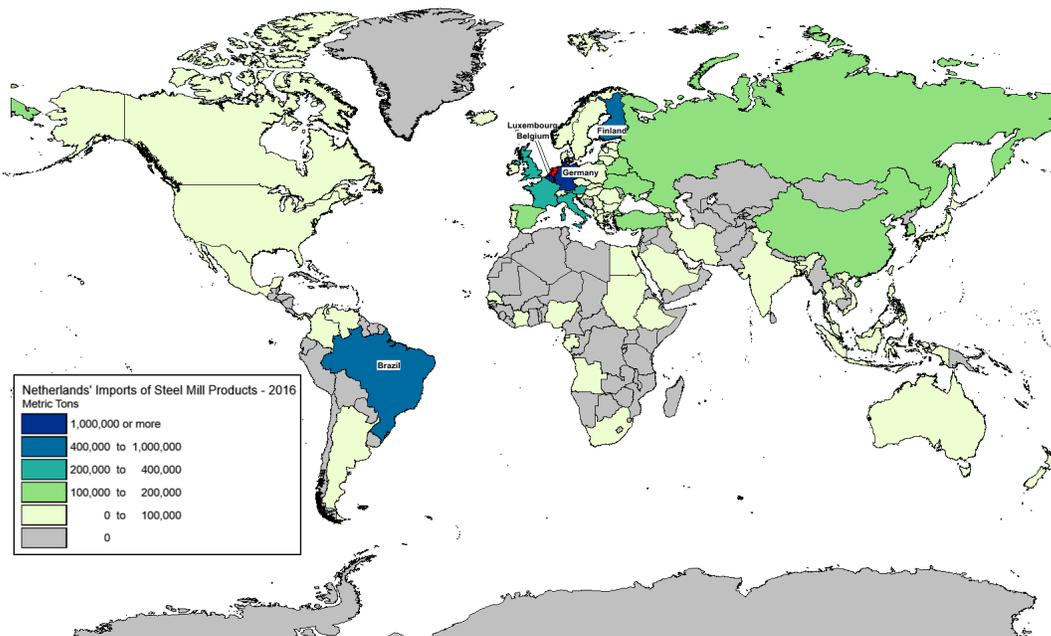
May 2017

Background

The Netherlands is the world's fourteenth-largest steel importer, a gain of three positions from 2015. In 2016, the Netherlands imported 9.1 million metric tons of steel, a 15 percent increase from 8 million metric tons in 2015. The Netherlands' imports represented about 2 percent of all steel imported globally in 2015, based on available data. The volume of the Netherlands' 2016 steel imports was a little less than one-third of the size of the world's largest importer, the United States. In value terms, steel represented just 1.4 percent of the total goods imported into the Netherlands in 2016.

The Netherlands imports steel from over 80 countries and territories. The five countries labeled in the map below represent the top import sources for the Netherlands' imports of steel, with the Netherlands receiving more than 400 thousand metric tons from each and together accounting for 67 percent of the Netherlands' steel imports in 2016.

Netherlands' Imports of Steel Mill Products - 2016



Data Source: Global Trade Atlas; Copyright © IHS Global Inc. 2017. All rights reserved.

Quick Facts:

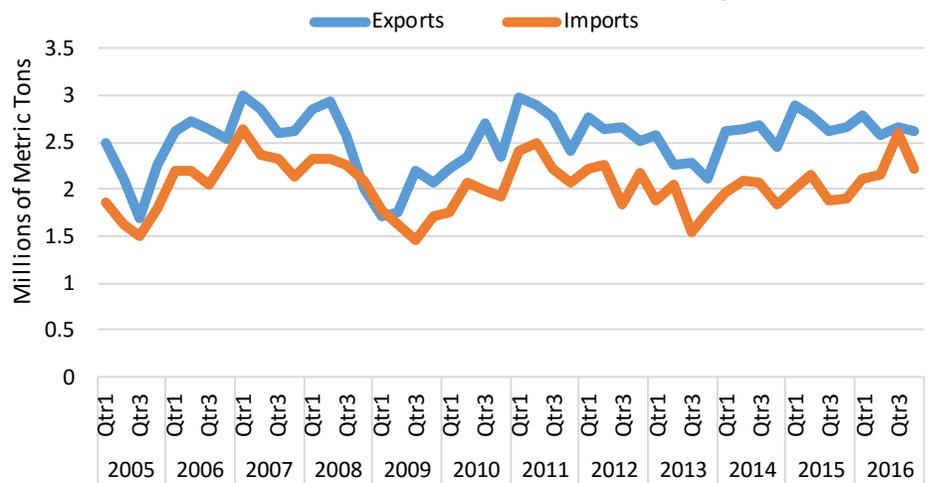
- World's 14th-largest steel importer: 9.1 million metric tons in 2016
- 38% steel import growth since 2009
- Year-on-year import volume up 15% while import value down 1%
- Import penetration down from 200.6% in 2015 to 170% in 2016
- Top three import sources: Germany, Belgium, Brazil
- Largest producers: Tata Steel, Nedstaal
- 20 European Union trade remedies in effect against imports of steel mill products

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Steel Trade Balance

The Netherlands has maintained a moderate trade surplus in steel products since 2005, averaging 1.9 million metric tons on an annual basis. Exports fell faster than imports in the wake of the global recession in 2008, leading to a short trade deficit at the end of 2008 and early 2009. The steel trade balance surplus increased 24 percent in 2015, but narrowed 48 percent in 2016 from 3.0 million metric tons to 1.6 million metric tons.

Netherlands' Trade in Steel Mill Products by Quarter



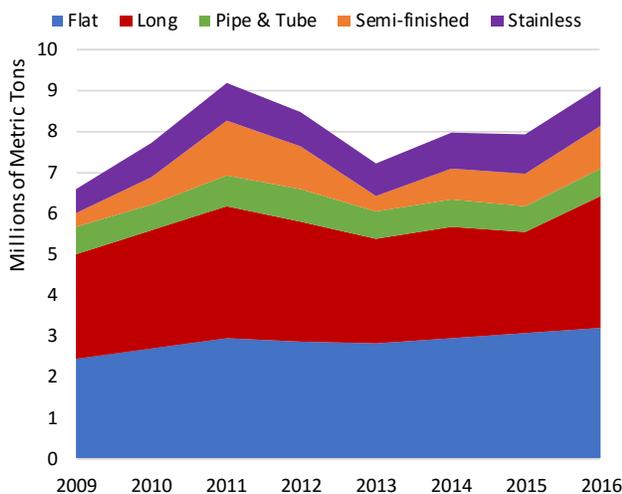
Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

Import Volume, Value, and Product

Steel imports into the Netherlands have been growing since 2013, with volume up 26 percent between 2013 and 2016. Imports increased 15 percent alone from 2015 to a total of 9.1 million metric tons in 2016. By contrast, the value of the Netherlands' steel imports has been trending downwards since 2011, down 35 percent between 2011 and 2016. Since 2015, Netherlands' imports fell by 1 percent in 2016, to \$7 billion from \$7.1 billion in 2015.

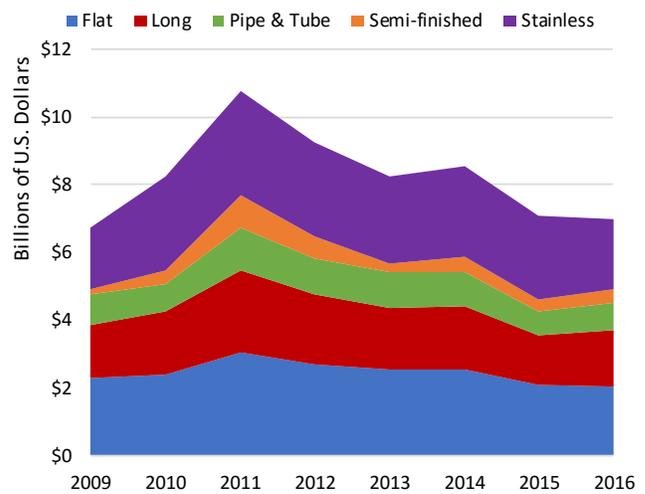
In 2016, long products accounted for the largest share of the Netherlands' steel imports at 36 percent (3.3 million metric tons), followed closely by flat products at 35 percent (3.2 million metric tons). Semi-finished steel accounted for 12 percent of the Netherlands' imports (1 million metric tons), followed by stainless steel at 11 percent (955 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube products at 7 percent (653 thousand metric tons).

Netherlands' Imports of Steel Mill Products
Millions of Metric Tons



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

Netherlands' Imports of Steel Mill Products
Billions of U.S. Dollars



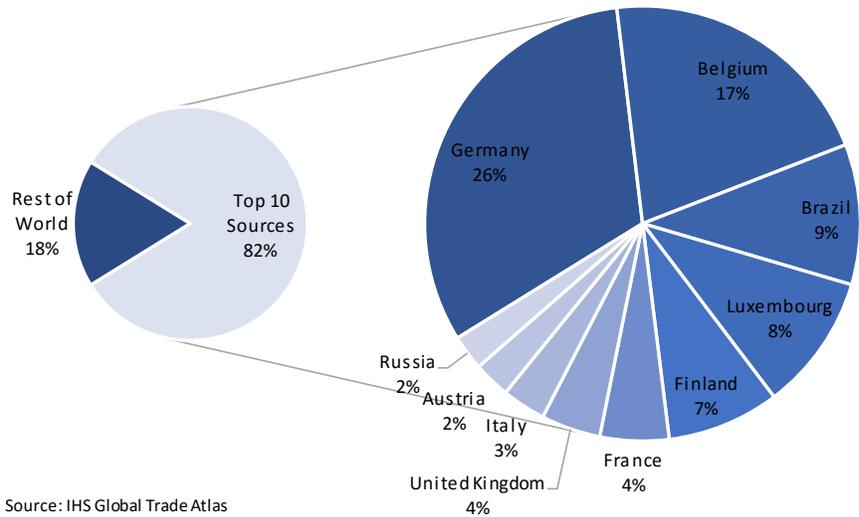
Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Imports by Top Source

The top 10 source countries for the Netherlands' steel imports represented 82 percent of the total steel import volume in 2016 at 7.5 million metric tons (mmt). Germany accounted for the largest share of Netherlands' imports by source country at 26 percent (2.4 mmt), followed by Belgium at 17 percent (1.6 mmt), Brazil at 9 percent (0.78 mmt), Luxembourg at 8 percent (0.76 mmt), and Finland at 7 percent (0.63 mmt).

Netherlands' Steel Imports - Top 10 Sources
2016 - Millions of Metric Tons



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

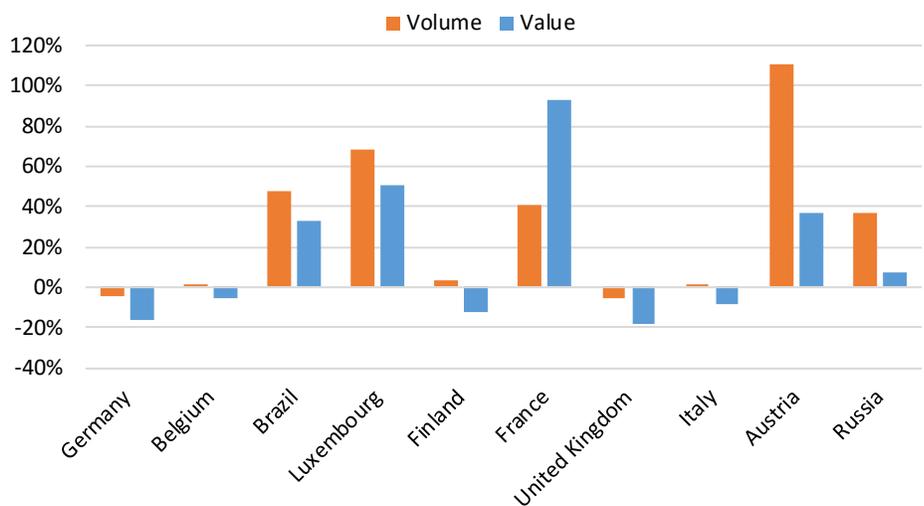
The United States ranked 43rd as a source for the Netherlands' steel imports in 2016, representing just 0.05 percent of imports (4.4 thousand metric tons).

Trends in Imports from Top Sources

The volume of steel imports increased in all but two of the Netherlands' top 10 source countries between 2015 and 2016. Austria had the largest increase in volume, up 110.3 percent, followed by Luxembourg (up 68.4%), Brazil (up 47.4%), France (up 40.3%), and Russia (up 37.1%). Imports from the United Kingdom and Germany were the only two countries to decrease in volume, down 5.9 percent and 4.8 percent, respectively.

Changes in the value of the Netherlands' imports from the top 10 source countries were mixed between 2015 and 2016, with half of the markets showing declines in import value. Those countries with a decrease in import value were the United Kingdom (down 18.6%), Germany (down 16.1%), Finland (down 12.1%), Italy (down 8%), and Belgium (down 6%). Those countries that had an increase in value were France (up 93.1%), Luxembourg (up 50.3%), Austria (up 36.9%), Brazil (up 32.9%), and Russia (up 7.1%).

Percent Change in Imports from Top 10 Sources (2015 to 2016)



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

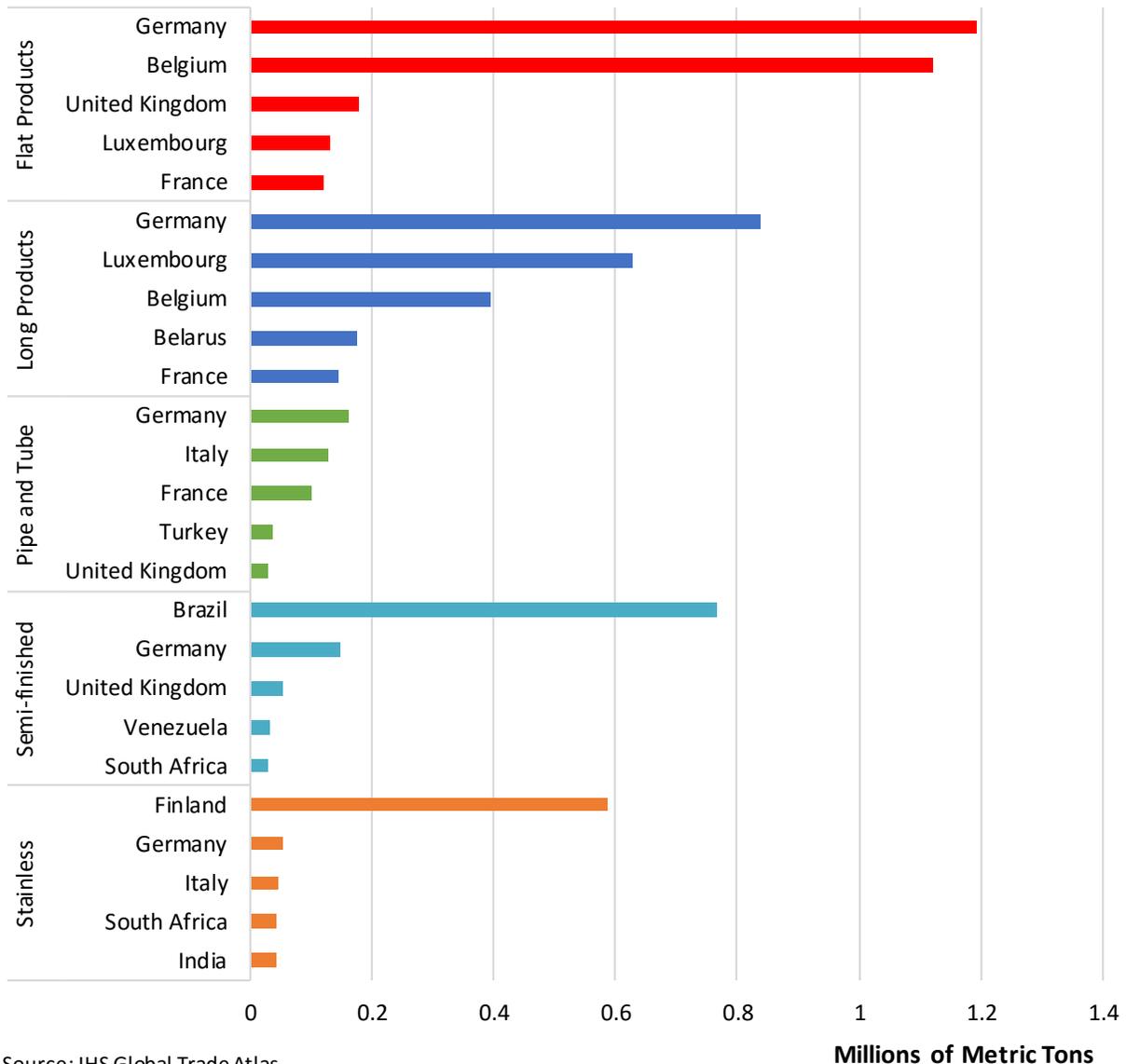
Top Sources by Steel Product Category

The Netherlands' top source countries vary across types of steel products, though Germany held the first or second spot in every product category. By volume, the largest share of flat products were imported from Germany at 37 percent (1.2 million metric tons), followed closely by Belgium at 35 percent (1.1 million metric tons).

Germany also represented the largest shares of both long product imports at 26 percent (838 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube imports at 26 percent (161 thousand metric tons). In regards to semi-finished steel, the Netherlands imported the majority from Brazil at 73 percent (765 thousand metric tons) and for stainless steel, the majority of imports came from Finland at 61 percent (587 thousand metric tons).

The United States was not a top-five import source for any product category.

Netherlands' Top 5 Import Sources by Product - 2016



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Netherlands' Export Market Share from Top Source Countries

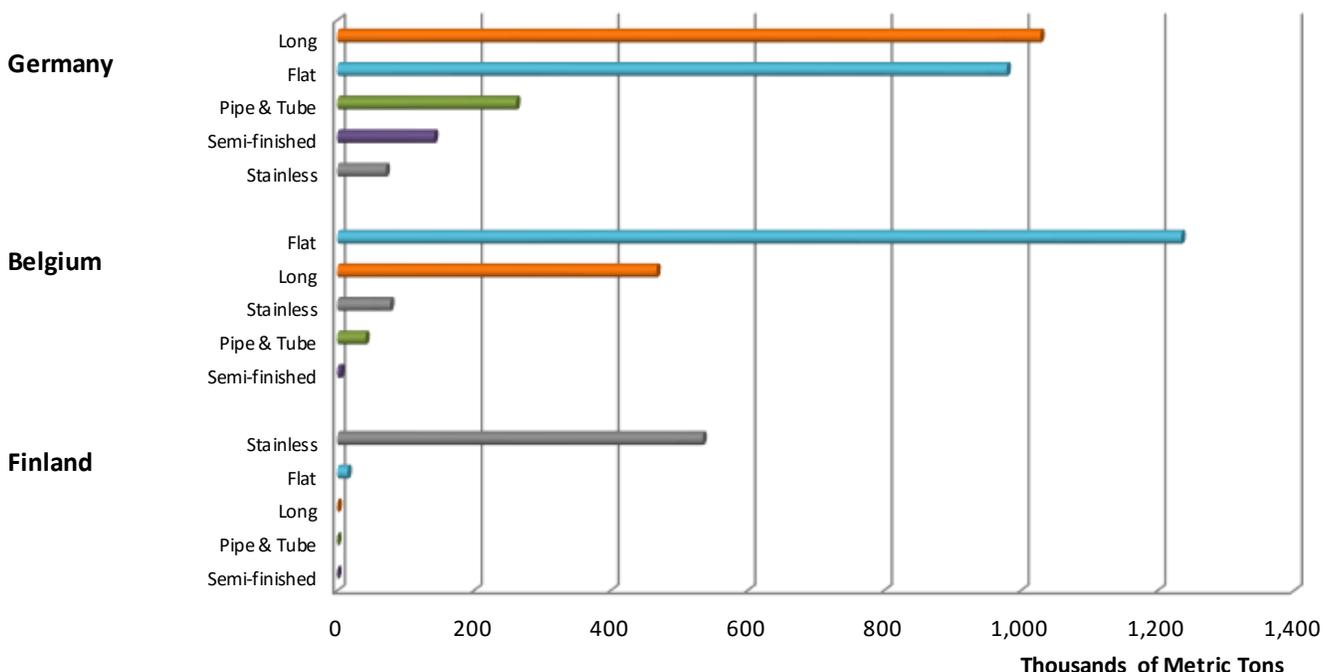
In 2015, the share of steel exports sent to the Netherlands from its top import sources increased or remained unchanged from eight of the top 10 sources. The share of steel exports to the Netherlands from Finland increased the most, up 1.4 percentage points, followed Luxembourg (up 1.2 percentage points). Exports to the Netherlands from Germany, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Italy and Russia increased by less than one percentage point, while export shares to the Netherlands from Belgium and France decreased by 2.3 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively.

Netherlands' Steel Export Market Share				
Top 10 Import Sources (2015)	Share of Exports to Netherlands - 2014	Netherlands' Rank in 2014	Share of Exports to Netherlands - 2015	Netherlands' Rank in 2015
Germany	9.9%	2	10.0%	2
Belgium	14.2%	3	12.0%	3
Finland	28.1%	1	29.5%	1
Brazil	0.2%	37	0.2%	22
Luxembourg	8.3%	4	9.5%	2
United Kingdom	4.7%	6	5.5%	7
France	2.5%	9	2.2%	9
Italy	1.5%	15	1.6%	15
Russia	0.2%	46	0.3%	45
China	0.2%	59	0.2%	65

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

Among the Netherlands' top import sources, Germany, Belgium, and Finland sent the largest share of exports to the Netherlands at 10, 12, and 29.5 percent, respectively. In 2015, long products accounted for the largest share of steel exports to the Netherlands from Germany at 41 percent (1 million metric tons). Flat products accounted for 68 percent of exports to the Netherlands from Belgium (1.2 million metric tons), while stainless steel accounted for 97 percent of exports from Finland (534.5 thousand metric tons).

Steel Export Composition of Top Market-Share Countries - 2015

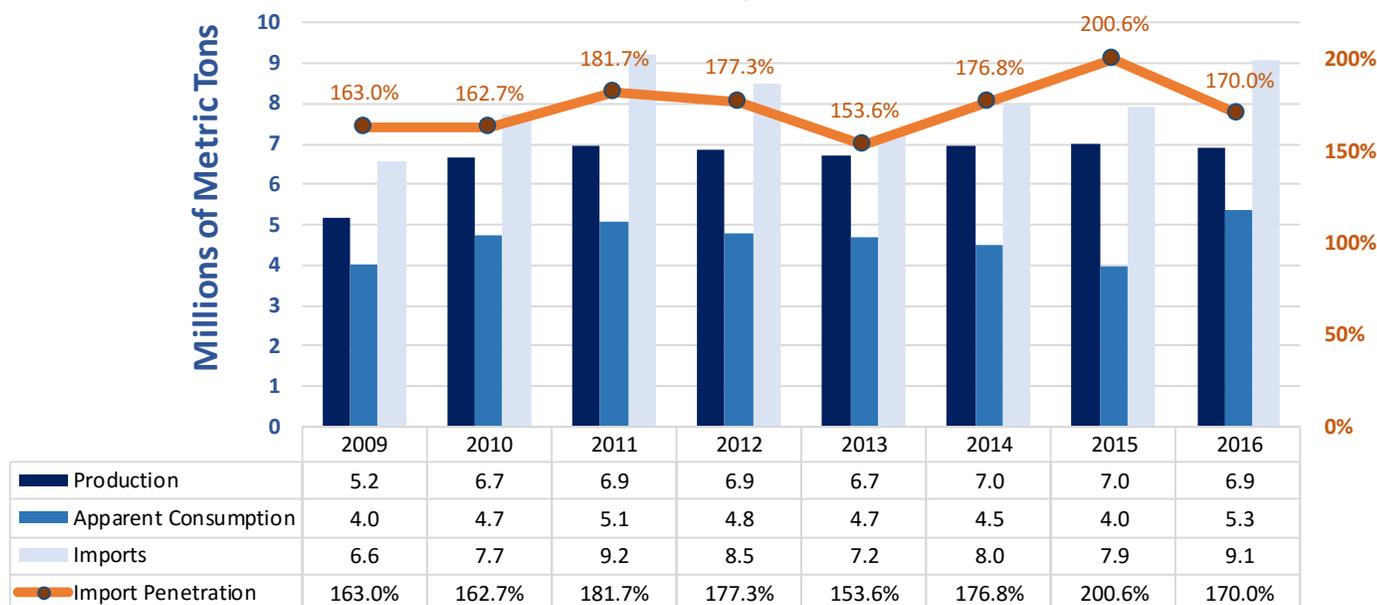


Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas, based on import data per reporting country

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Overall Production and Import Penetration

Netherlands' Import Penetration



Sources: World Steel Association; IHS Global Trade Atlas

Crude steel production in the Netherlands increased by 34 percent between 2009 and 2011 from 5.2 to 6.9 million metric tons. Between 2011 and 2016, production held steady at an average of 6.9 million metric tons. Production declined a modest 1 percent from 7 million metric tons to 6.9 million metric tons between 2015 and 2016. Continuing the trend, steel production in the Netherlands continued to outpace apparent consumption (a measure of steel demand). The gap increased by 52 percent between 2013 and 2015 however, in 2016, the gap decreased by almost half, from 3 million metric tons in 2015 down to 1.6 million metric tons in 2016. The Netherlands' annual import penetration levels peaked at 200.6 percent in 2015 and pulled back in 2016, down 31 percentage points to 170 percent.

Top Producers

The Netherlands' has two main companies producing crude steel: foreign-owned Tata Steel and domestically-owned Nedstaal. India's Tata Steel acquired the IJmuiden steelworks (formerly owned by Corus Steel) to become the largest steel producer in the Netherlands with an estimated production capacity of 7 million metric tons.

Netherlands' Steel Producers			
Rank	Company	Capacity (mmt)	Main Products
1	Tata Steel (IJmuiden)	7	Hot-rolled, cold-rolled, coated strip, slab
2	Nedstaal	N/A	Semi-finished

Sources: Metal Bulletin, *Iron and Steelworks of the World Directory* (2014 and 2017 editions); Company websites

Steel Imports Report: **Netherlands**

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 tables below provide statistics on the current number of trade remedies various countries have against steel mill products from the Netherlands and from the European Union, which includes the Netherlands.

European Union Trade Remedies in Effect Against Steel Mill Imports				
Country	AD	CVD	Suspension Agreements and Undertakings	Total
Belarus	1			1
China	7	1		8
India	1	2		3
Japan	1			1
Russia	3			3
South Korea	1			1
Taiwan	1			1
Ukraine	1			1
United States	1			1
TOTAL	17	3	0	20

Source: World Trade Organization, through December 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/>.



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