



Global Steel Trade Monitor

Steel Exports Report: France

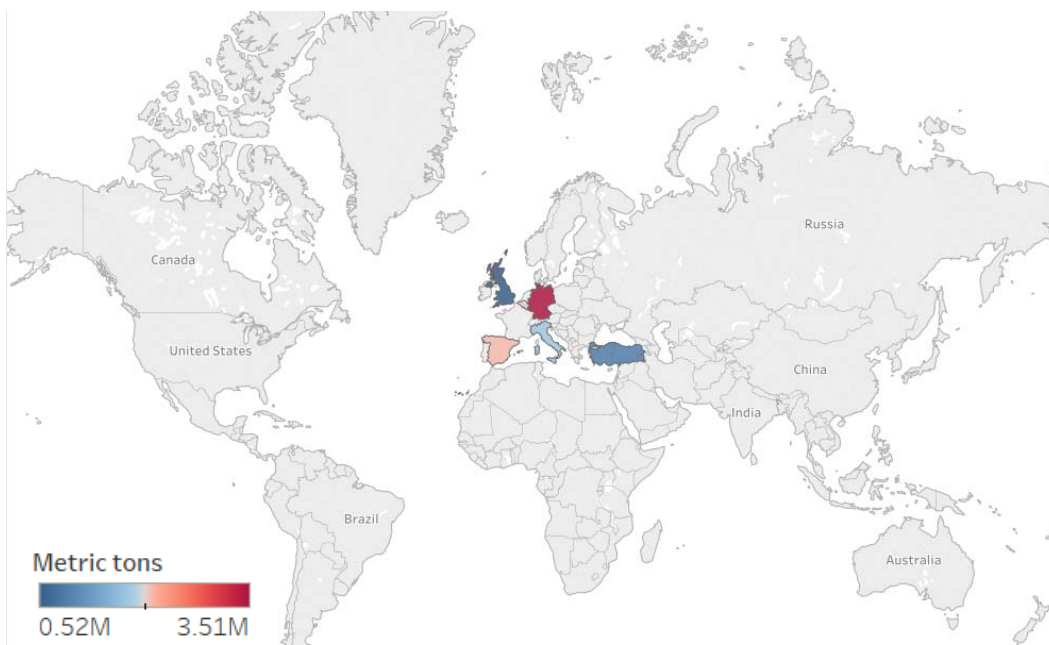
May 2018

Background

France is the world's twelfth-largest steel exporter. In 2017, France exported 14.7 million metric tons of steel, an 8 percent increase from 13.6 million metric tons in 2016. France's exports represented about 3 percent of all steel exported globally in 2016, based on available data. The volume of France's 2017 steel exports was just below that of the eleventh-largest exporter, Ukraine, and only about 20 percent of the volume of the world's largest exporter, China. In value terms, steel represented just 2.5 percent of the total goods France exported in 2017.

France exports steel to more than 150 countries and territories. The seven countries highlighted in the map below represent the top markets for France's exports of steel, receiving more than 500 thousand metric tons each and accounting for 77 percent of France's steel exports in 2017.

France's Exports of Steel Mill Products - 2017



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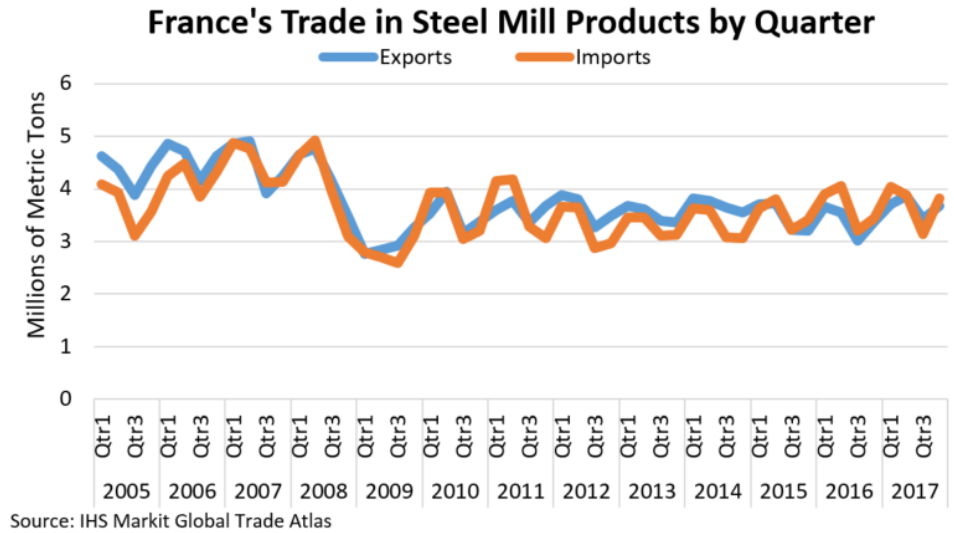
Quick Facts:

- World's twelfth-largest steel exporter: 14.7 million metric tons (2017)
- 24% growth in steel exports since 2009
- 2017 export volume up 8% while export value up 22%
- Top three markets: Germany, Spain, Belgium
- Exports as a share of production at 94.7% in 2017
- Largest producers: ArcelorMittal, Riva Acier
- 2 trade remedies in effect involving steel mill imports from France; 5 trade remedies in effect involving steel mill imports from the European Union

Steel Exports Report: France

Steel Trade Balance

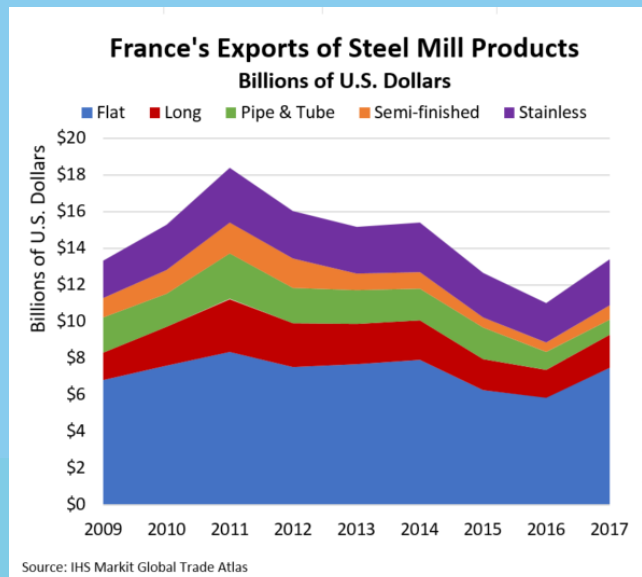
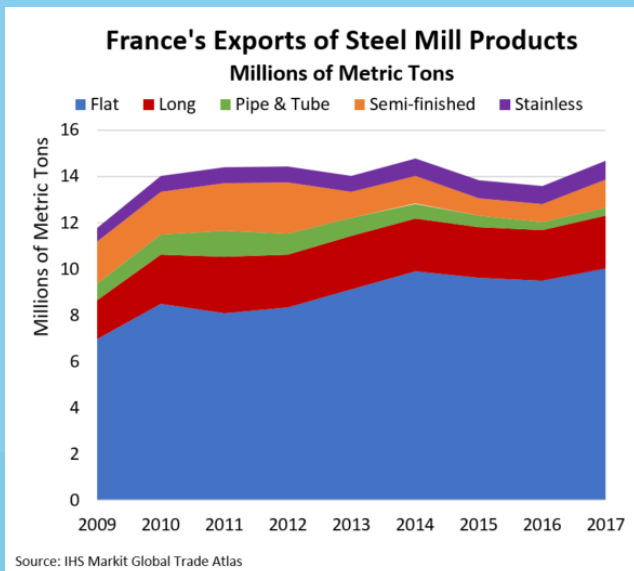
France's steel imports and exports have risen and fallen mostly in tandem since 2005. After falling in 2009, imports and exports have increased by 33 percent and 24 percent, respectively, between 2009 and 2017. France maintained an annual trade surplus between 2005 and 2009 and experienced annual trade deficits in 2010 and 2011. Between 2012 and 2014, France was again a net steel exporter averaging a 1.2 million metric ton surplus over the three years. The steel trade deficit re-emerged in 2015 and has continued into 2017 — a total of -204 thousand metric tons in 2017.



Export Volume, Value, and Product

From 2010 to 2013, France's level of steel exports by volume was relatively flat, remaining between a narrow range of 14 to 14.4 million metric tons. After a decrease to 14 million tons in 2015, exports dipped again in 2016 by 2 percent to 13.6 million metric tons. In 2017, exports increased 8 percent to 14.7 million metric tons. Between 2011 and 2016, the value of France's steel exports declined steadily from \$18.4 billion to \$11 billion—a drop of 40 percent. In 2017, France's steel export value increased 22 percent compared to 2016 to \$13.4 billion.

Flat products accounted for 68 percent of France's steel exports by volume in 2017 at 10 million metric tons. Long products represented the second-largest category at 15 percent (2.3 million metric tons), followed by semi-finished (8% or 1.2 million metric tons), stainless steel (6% or 811 thousand metric tons), and pipe and tube products (2% or 363 thousand metric tons).

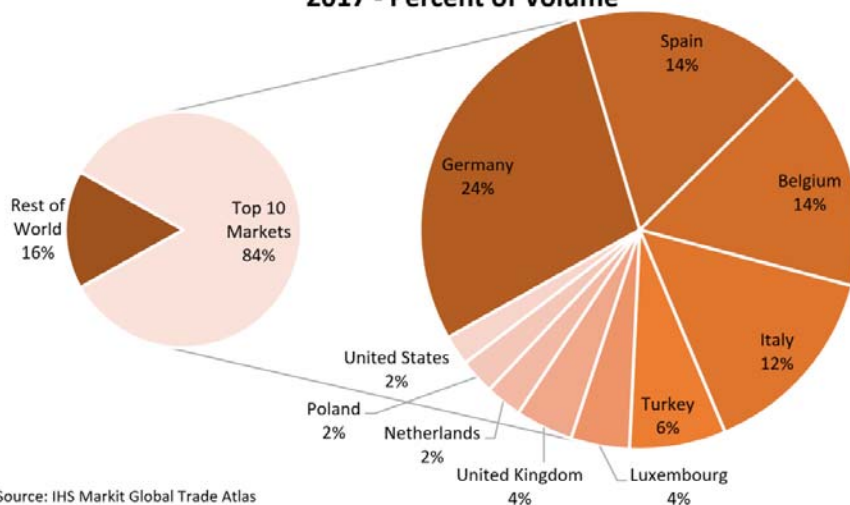


Steel Exports Report: France

Exports by Top Market

Exports to France's top 10 steel markets represented 84 percent of France's steel export volume in 2017 at 12.3 million metric tons (mmt). Germany represented the largest market for France's exports with 24 percent (3.5 mmt), followed by Spain at 14 percent (2.1 mmt), Belgium at 14 percent (2 mmt), Italy at 12 percent (1.8 mmt), and Turkey at 6 percent (872 thousand metric tons).

France's Steel Exports - Top 10 Markets
2017 - Percent of Volume



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

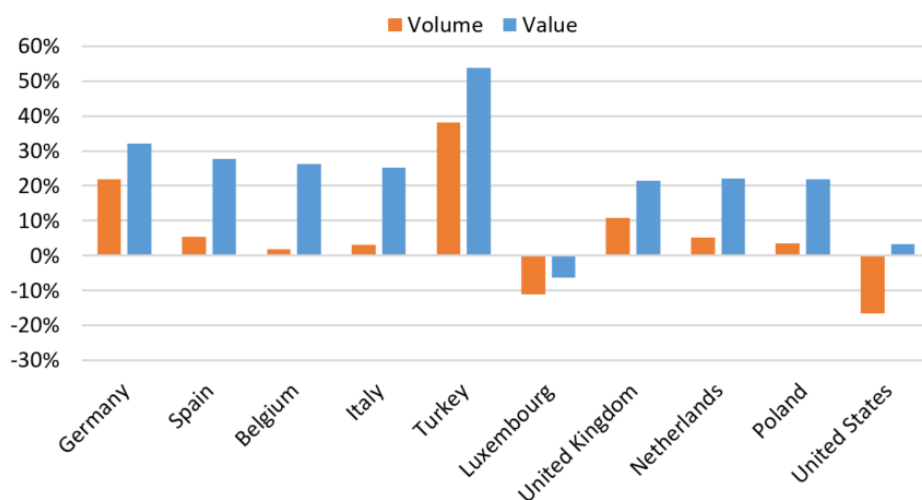
The United States ranked tenth as a destination for France's steel exports, accounting for just 2 percent of exports. France exported 274 thousand metric tons to the United States in 2017 — down 17 percent from 328 thousand metric tons in 2016.

Trends in Exports to Top Markets

Between 2016 and 2017, the change in the overall volume of France's steel exports to its top 10 markets was mixed as exports increased to eight of the top 10. Increases in volume included France's exports to Turkey (up 38%), Germany (up 22%), the United Kingdom (up 11%), Spain (up 5%), the Netherlands (up 5%), Poland (up 4%), Italy (up 3%), and Belgium (up 2%). Exports to the United States showed the largest decrease by volume, down 17 percent in 2017, followed by Luxembourg (down 11%).

The value of steel exports increased to all but one of France's top 10 markets in 2017. Turkey saw the largest increase in value at 54 percent, followed by exports to Germany (up 32%) and Spain (up 28%). Exports to the United States also increased in value by 3 percent, compared to 2016. Only exports to Luxembourg decreased in value in 2017 (down 6%).

Percent Change in Exports to Top 10 Markets (2016 to 2017)



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

Steel Exports Report: France

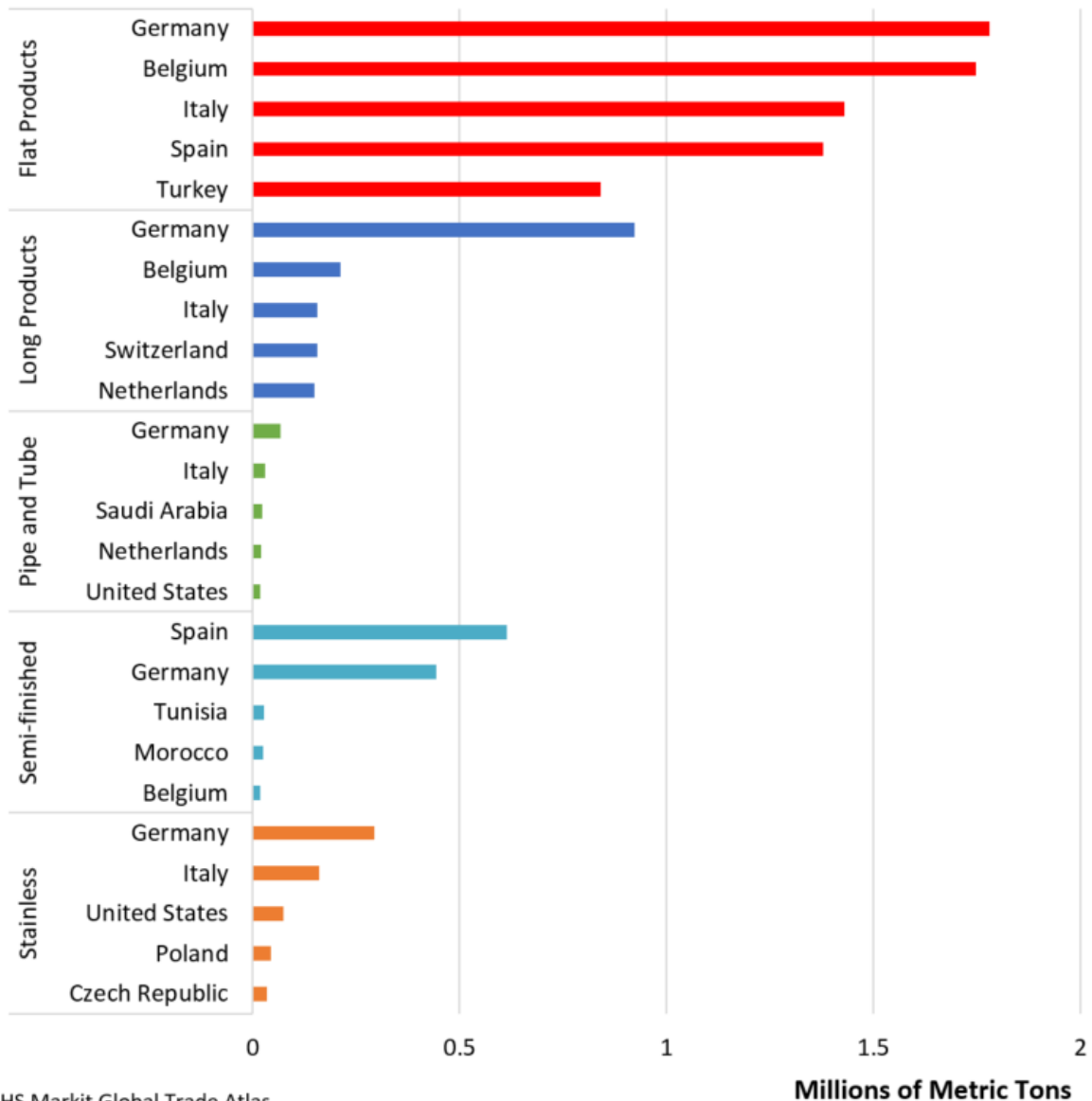
Top Markets by Steel Product Category

France's top export markets by volume vary across types of steel products, though Germany was the top market for all but one of France's steel exports. France exported the largest share of flat products to Germany in 2017 at 18 percent (1.8 million metric tons), followed closely by Belgium at 17 percent (1.7 million metric tons).

Germany was the largest market for France's long product exports at 41 percent (923 thousand metric tons), France's pipe and tube exports at 19 percent (67 thousand metric tons), and France's stainless exports at 36 percent (294 thousand metric tons). Spain accounted for the largest share of France's semi-finished exports at 51 percent (615 thousand metric tons).

Stainless and pipe and tube were the only categories in which the United States was a top-five destination in 2017.

France's Top 5 Export Markets by Product - 2017



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

Steel Exports Report: France

France's Import Market Share in Top Destinations

In 2017, the import market share for France's steel products increased or remained the same in the majority of France's top 10 export markets. Countries with notable increases in their share of steel imports from France included Belgium (up 5.9 percentage points from 2016) Turkey (up 2.3 percentage points), and Germany (up 1.8 percentage points). The import share from France in Italy, the

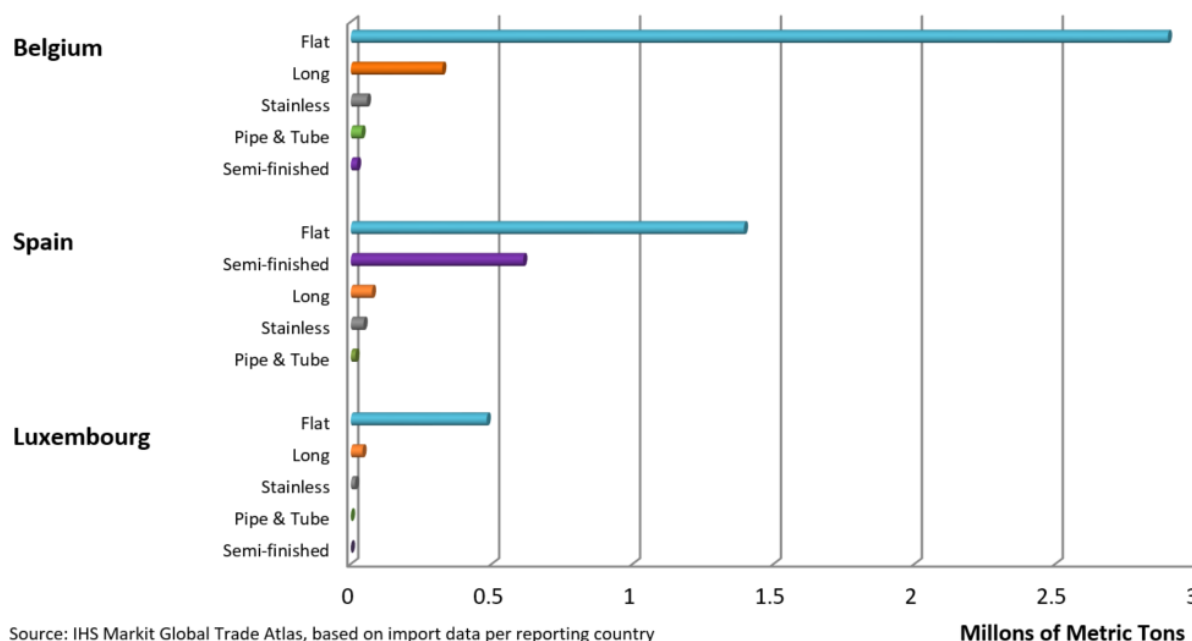
France's Steel Import Market Share				
Top 10 Export Destinations	Share of Imports from France - 2016	France's Rank in 2016	Share of Imports from France - 2017	France's Rank in 2017
Germany	11.3%	4	13.2%	3
Spain	21.9%	1	21.7%	1
Belgium	16.6%	2	22.5%	1
Italy	9.5%	4	10.0%	3
Turkey	4.0%	6	6.3%	5
Luxembourg	51.9%	1	50.7%	1
United Kingdom	6.3%	7	6.8%	6
Netherlands	4.2%	6	4.5%	6
Poland	3.4%	8	3.5%	9
United States	1.1%	15	0.8%	22

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

United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Poland all increased by less than one percentage point. Import shares from France in Luxembourg decreased by 1.2 percentage points, while Spain and the United States decreased by less than half of a percentage point.

Among France's top export markets, neighboring Belgium, Spain, and Luxembourg received the largest shares of their total steel imports from France in 2017. Flat products accounted for the largest share of steel imports from France in each country, with 87 percent for Belgium (2.9 million metric tons), 65 percent for Spain (1.4 million metric tons), and 89 percent for Luxembourg (482 thousand metric tons).

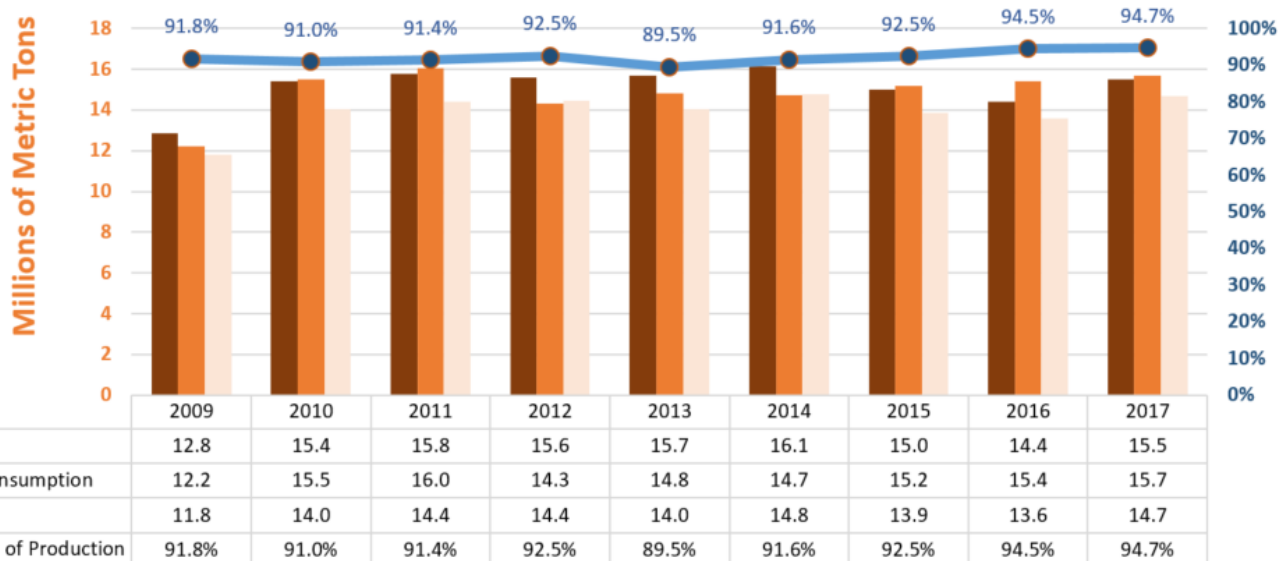
Steel Import Composition of Top Market-Share Countries - 2017



Steel Exports Report: France

Overall Production and Export Share of Production

France's Export Share of Steel Production



Sources: World Steel Association; IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

France's crude steel production increased fairly steadily between 2009 and 2014, growing by 26 percent. Production decreased 11 percent from 16.1 million metric tons in 2014 to 14.4 million metric tons in 2016. In 2017, production was up 8 percent compared to 2016. Apparent consumption (a measure of steel demand) has tracked relatively closely to production, though it outpaced production by 1 million metric tons in 2016 and has continued to slightly outpace production in 2017. France's steel exports as a share of production averaged 92 percent between 2009 and 2016. The export share of production increased slightly in 2017 to 94.7 percent from 94.5 percent in 2016.

Top Producers

France's steel production is heavily concentrated among a handful of domestic and foreign-owned companies and is dominated by ArcelorMittal, a leading player in the global steel market and the country's largest producer with an estimated production capacity of 16.5 million metric tons, based on available data.

France's Top Steel Producers			
Rank	Company	Production (mmt)	Main Products
1	ArcelorMittal	10	Slab, hot-rolled coil, sheets, galvanized, bars
2	Riva Acier	2.6 (est. capacity)	Billets, bars, rebar, wire, wire rod
3	CELSA	0.6	Billets
4	Vallourec	N/A	Pipe and tube, bars, stainless
5	Eramet (Aubert & Duval and Erasteel)	N/A	Semi-finished, bars, sheets, coils

Sources: Fédération Française de l'Acier; Metal Bulletin, *Iron & Steel Works of the World Directory 2017*; Company websites

Steel Exports Report: **France**

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 France and from the European Union, which includes France.

Steel Mill Trade Remedies in Effect Against France

Country	AD	CVD	Suspension Agreements	Total
			and Undertakings	
Mexico	1			1
United States	1			1
TOTAL	2	0	0	2

Source: World Trade Organization, through June 30, 2017

Steel Mill Trade Remedies in Effect Against the European Union

Country	AD	CVD	Suspension Agreements	Total
			and Undertakings	
China	2			2
India	2			2
Morocco	1			1
TOTAL	5	0	0	5

Source: World Trade Organization, through June 30, 2017

Global Steel Mill Safeguards in Effect

Country	Product(s)
India	1) Hot-rolled steel in coils; 2) Hot-rolled steel flat sheets and plates
Indonesia	1) Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel; 2) I and H sections of other alloy steel; 3) Bars and rods, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils
Malaysia	1) Hot-rolled steel plate; 2) Steel concrete reinforcing bar; 3) Steel wire rod and deformed bar in coil
Morocco	1) Cold-rolled sheets and plated or coated sheets; 2) Reinforcing bars and wire rods
Philippines	Steel angle bars
South Africa	Hot-rolled steel flat products
Thailand	1) Hot-rolled steel flat products with certain amounts of alloying elements; 2) Unalloyed hot-rolled steel flat products in coils and not in coils; 3) Structural hot-rolled H-beams with alloy
Vietnam	Semi-finished and certain finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel

Source: World Trade Organization, through February 28, 2018

Steel Exports 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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