



Global Steel Trade Monitor

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

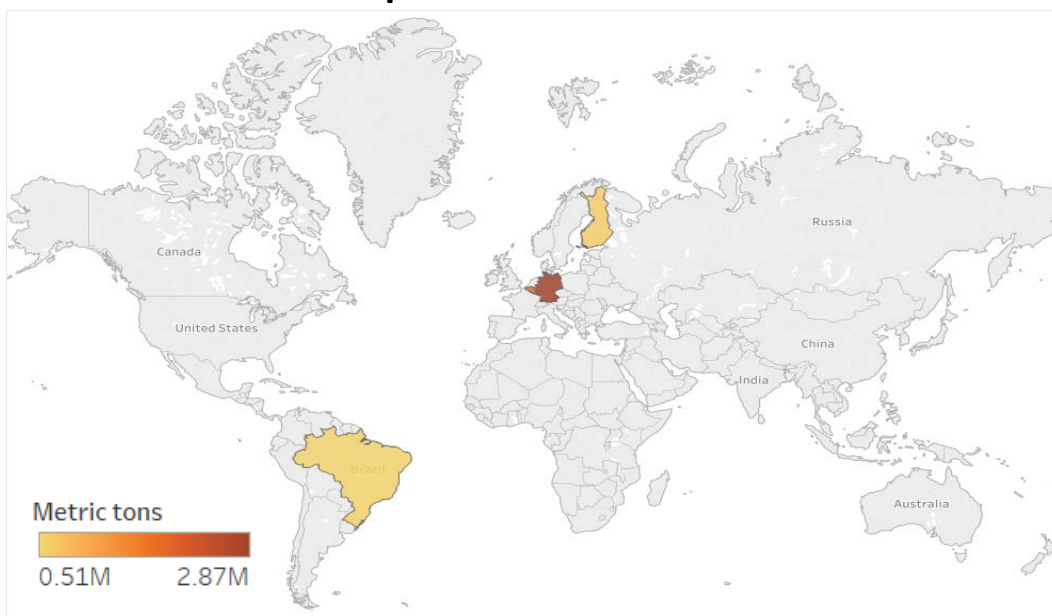
May 2018

Background

The Netherlands was the world's thirteenth-largest steel importer in 2017, a gain of one position from 2016. In 2017, the Netherlands imported 10.0 million metric tons of steel, an 8 percent increase from 9.2 million metric tons in 2016. The Netherlands' imports represented about 2 percent of all steel imported globally in 2016, based on available data. The volume of the Netherlands' 2017 steel imports was about one-third of the size of the world's largest importer, the United States. In value terms, steel represented just 1.6 percent of the total goods imported into the Netherlands in 2017.

The Netherlands imports steel from over 100 countries and territories. The five countries highlighted in the map below represent the top import sources for the Netherlands' imports of steel, with the Netherlands receiving more than 500 thousand metric tons from each and together accounting for 65 percent of the Netherlands' steel imports in 2017.

Netherlands' Imports of Steel Mill Products - 2017



Data Source: Global Trade Atlas; Copyright © IHS Global, Ltd., 2018. All rights reserved.

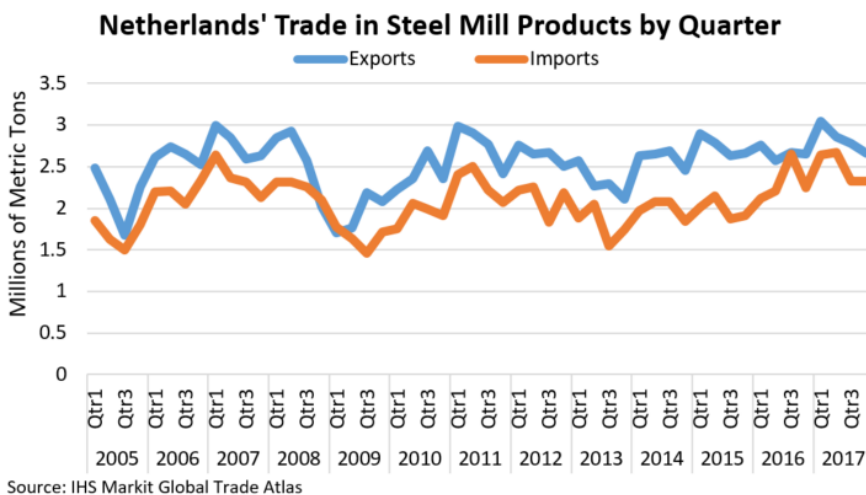
Quick Facts:

- World's 13th-largest steel importer: 10.0 million metric tons in 2017
- 52% steel import growth since 2009
- Import volume up 8% while import value up 29%
- Import penetration up from 167.9% in 2016 to 184.4% in 2017
- Top three import sources: Germany, Belgium, Finland
- Largest producers: Tata Steel
- 36 European Union trade remedies in effect against imports of steel mill products

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Steel Trade Balance

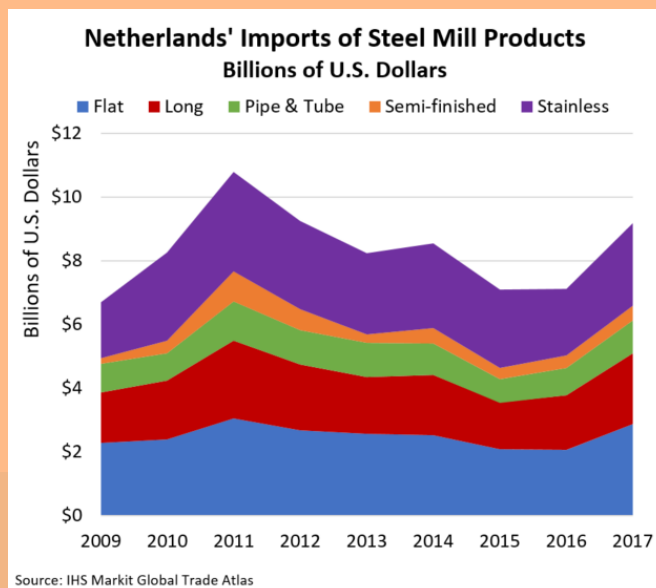
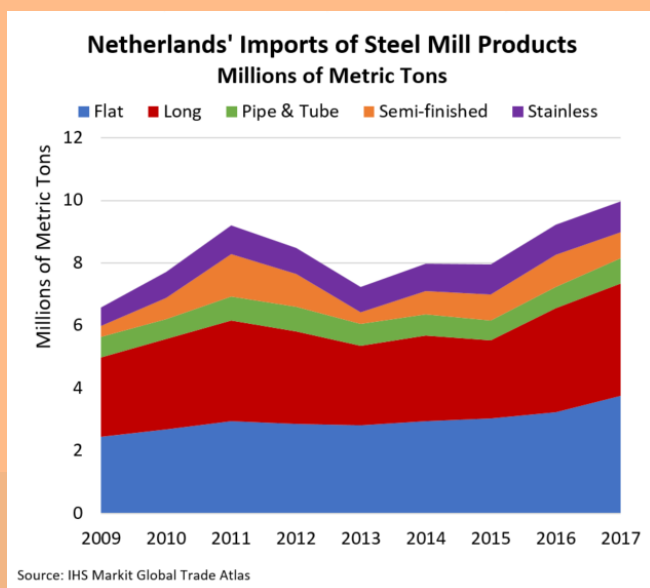
The Netherlands has maintained a moderate trade surplus in steel products since 2005, averaging 1.8 million metric tons on an annual basis. Exports fell faster than imports in the wake of the global recession in 2008, leading to a short-lived trade deficit at the end of 2008 and early 2009. Between 2009 and 2017, exports grew 47 percent, while imports grew 52 percent. The steel trade balance surplus decreased slightly to 1.38 million metric tons in 2017. This is a 3 percent decrease from the 2016 surplus of 1.42 million metric tons.



Import Volume, Value, and Product

Steel imports into the Netherlands have been growing since 2013, with volume up 26 percent between 2013 and 2016. In 2017, imports increased 8 percent from 2016 to a total of 10 million metric tons. The value of the Netherlands' steel imports has been trending downwards since 2011, down 35 percent between 2011 and 2016. In 2017, however, imports increased 29 percent by value, to \$9.2 billion from \$7.1 billion in 2016.

In 2017, flat products accounted for the largest share of the Netherlands' steel imports at 38 percent (3.8 million metric tons), followed closely by long products at 36 percent (3.6 million metric tons). Stainless steel accounted for 10 percent of the Netherlands' imports (981 thousand metric tons), followed by semi-finished steel at 8 percent (838 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube products at 8 percent (806 thousand metric tons).

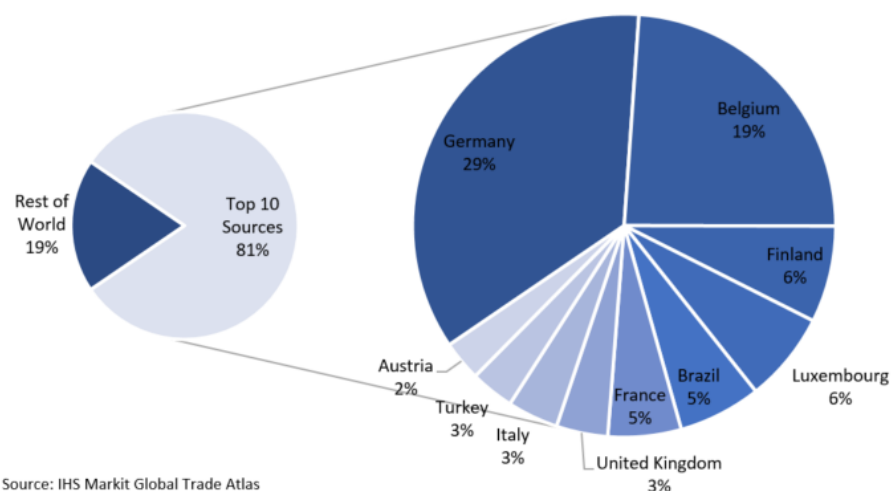


Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Imports by Top Source

The top 10 source countries for the Netherlands' steel imports represented 81 percent of the total steel import volume in 2017 at 8.1 million metric tons (mmt). Germany accounted for the largest share of Netherlands' imports by source country at 29 percent (2.9 mmt), followed by Belgium at 19 percent (1.9 mmt), Finland at 6 percent (0.6 mmt), Luxembourg at 6 percent (0.56 mmt), and Brazil at 5 percent (0.51 mmt).

Netherlands' Steel Imports - Top 10 Sources
2017 - Percent of Volume



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

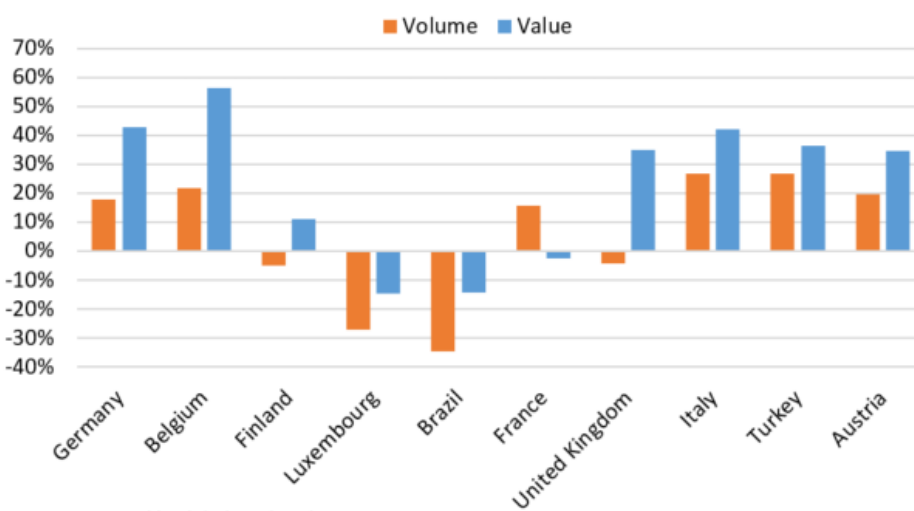
The United States ranked 40th as a source for the Netherlands' steel imports in 2017 representing just .08 percent of imports (8 thousand metric tons).

Trends in Imports from Top Sources

The volume of steel imports increased from all but four of the Netherlands' top 10 source countries between 2016 and 2017. Italy had the largest increase in volume, up 26.8 percent, followed by Turkey (up 26.7%), Belgium (up 22%), Austria (up 20%), Germany (up 18%), and France (up 16%). Imports from Brazil, Luxembourg, Finland, and the United Kingdom were the only four countries to decrease in volume, down 35 percent, 27 percent, 5 percent, and 4 percent, respectively.

The value of the Netherlands' imports increased from seven out of the top 10 sources between 2016 and 2017. Belgium had the largest increase in value, up 56 percent, followed by Germany (up 43%), Italy (up 42%), Turkey (up 36%), Austria (up 35%), and the United Kingdom (up 35%). Luxembourg, Brazil, and France were the only countries where the Netherlands' imports decreased by value, down 14 percent, 14 percent, and 3 percent, respectively.

Percent Change in Imports from Top 10 Sources (2016 to 2017)



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

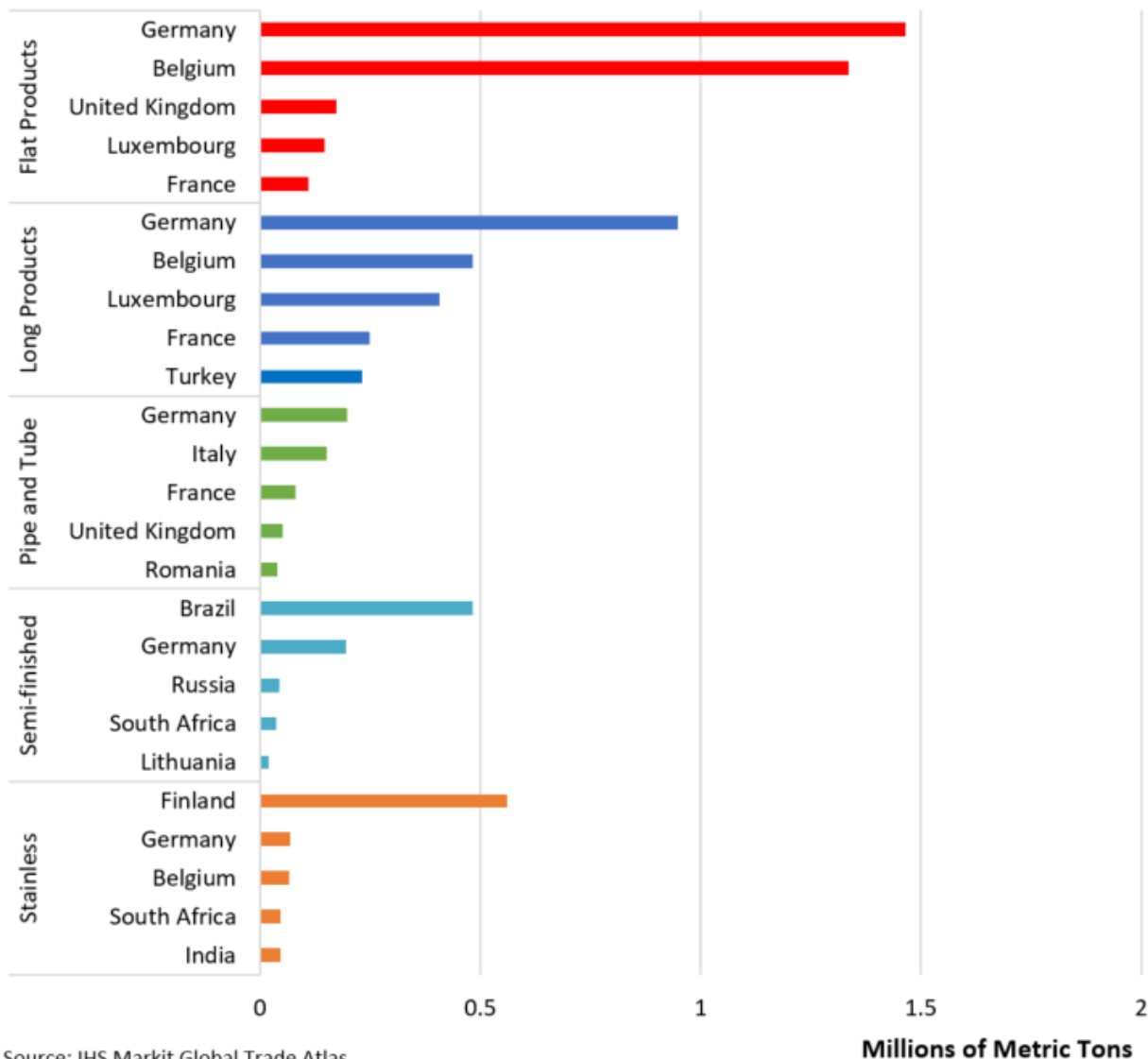
Top Sources by Steel Product Category

The Netherlands' top source countries vary across types of steel products, though Germany held the first or second spot in all product categories in 2017. By volume, the largest share of flat products were imported from Germany at 39 percent (1.5 million metric tons), followed closely by Belgium at 36 percent (1.3 million metric tons).

Germany also represented the largest shares of both long product imports at 26 percent (948 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube imports at 24 percent (197 thousand metric tons). In regards to semi-finished steel, the Netherlands imported the majority from Brazil at 58 percent (482 thousand metric tons) and for stainless steel, the majority of imports came from Finland at 57 percent (562 thousand metric tons).

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

Netherlands' Top 5 Import Sources by Product - 2017



Source: IHS Markit Global Trade Atlas

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Netherlands' Export Market Share from Top Source Countries

In 2017, the share of steel exports sent to the Netherlands from its top import sources decreased from six of the top 10 sources. The share of steel exports to the Netherlands from the United Kingdom decreased the most, down 2.4 percentage points, followed Finland (down 1.9 percentage points), Luxembourg (down 1.7 percentage points), and Germany (down 1.2 percentage points). Exports to the Netherlands from

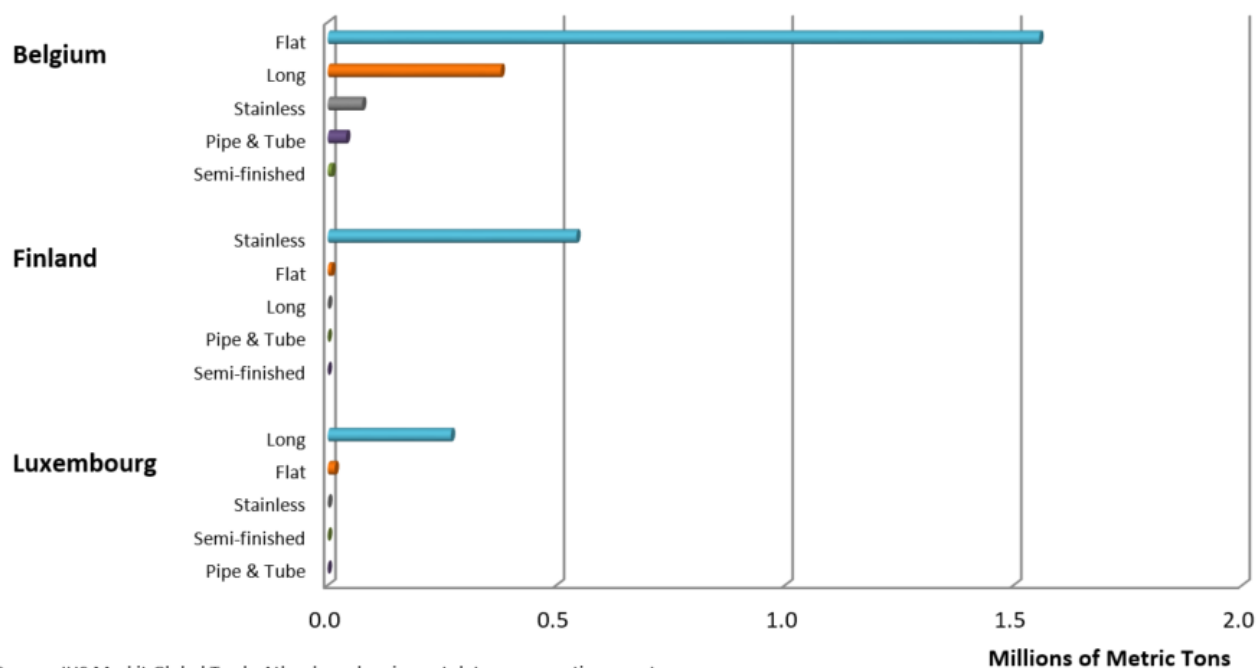
Netherlands' Steel Export Market Share				
Top 10 Import Sources	Share of Exports to the Netherlands - 2016	Netherlands' Rank in 2016	Share of Exports to the Netherlands - 2017	Netherlands' Rank in 2017
Germany	9.7%	3	8.5%	4
Belgium	11.0%	3	11.5%	3
Finland	29.8%	1	27.9%	1
Luxembourg	11.7%	2	10.0%	3
Brazil	0.7%	22	0.2%	37
France	2.3%	9	2.3%	8
United Kingdom	8.3%	5	5.9%	7
Italy	1.7%	15	1.8%	15
Turkey	1.4%	17	2.1%	13
Austria	2.9%	8	3.0%	9

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

Turkey, Belgium, Italy, and Austria all increased by less than one percentage point, while export shares to the Netherlands from Brazil and France decreased by less than 0.5 percentage points each.

Among the Netherlands' top import sources Belgium, Finland, and Luxembourg sent the largest share of their exports to the Netherlands at 12, 28, and 10 percent, respectively. In 2017, flat products accounted for the largest share of steel exports to the Netherlands from Belgium at 76 percent (1.6 million metric tons). Stainless products accounted for 98 percent of exports to the Netherlands from Finland (544 thousand metric tons), while long products accounted for 94 percent of exports from Luxembourg (269 thousand metric tons).

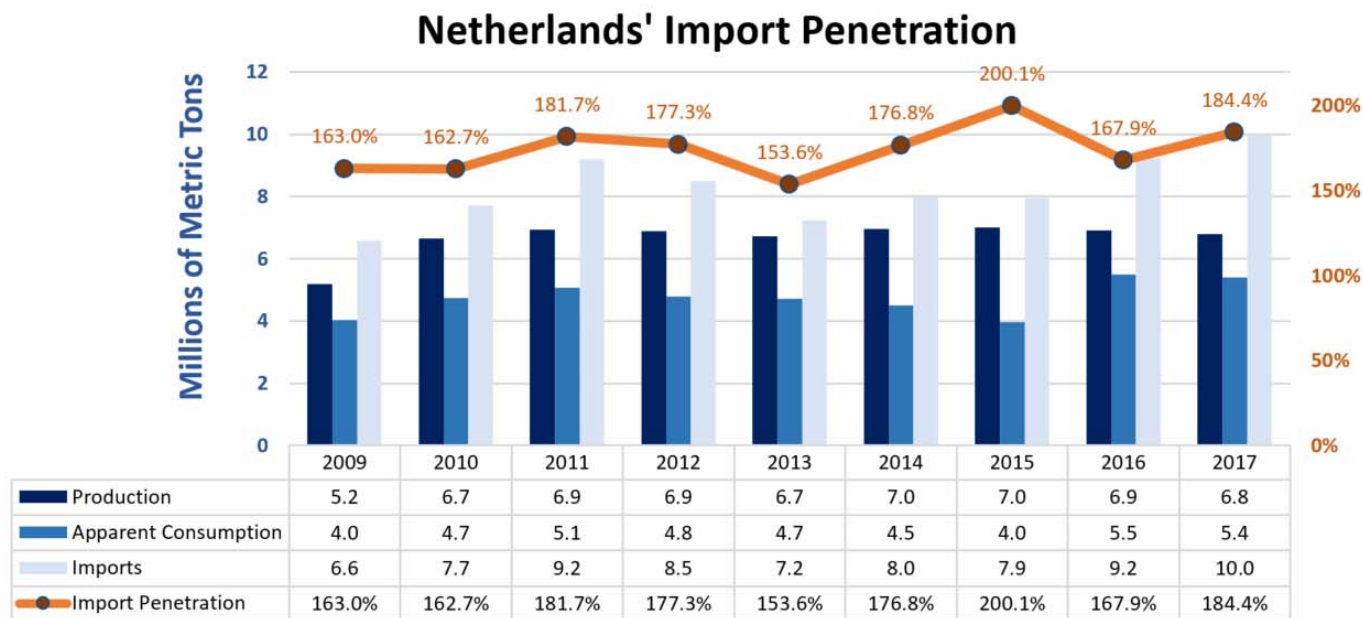
Steel Export Composition of Top Market-Share Countries - 2017



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

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Overall Production and Import Penetration



Sources: World Steel Association; IHS Markit 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 2017, production held steady at an average of 6.9 million metric tons. Production decreased 2 percent from 6.9 million metric tons to 6.8 million metric tons between 2016 and 2017. Production has consistently outpaced apparent consumption (a measure of steel demand), and the gap between the two more than doubled between 2009 and 2015. This gap narrowed in 2016 as apparent consumption increased 38 percent to 5.5 million metric tons, and in 2017 it remained relatively stable at 5.4 million metric tons. The Netherlands' annual import penetration levels peaked at 200.1 percent in 2015 and pulled back in 2016, down 32.2 percentage points to 167.9 percent. In 2017, the Netherlands' import penetration reached 184.4 percent.

Top Producers

The Netherlands' has one main company producing crude steel: foreign-owned Tata Steel. 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

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 table below provides statistics on the current number of trade remedies the European Union, which includes the Netherlands, has against imports of steel mill products from various countries. The European Union has no steel mill safeguards in effect.

European Union Trade Remedies in Effect Against Steel Mill Imports				
Country	AD	CVD	Suspension Agreements and Undertakings	Total
Belarus	2			2
Brazil	1			1
China	13	2		15
India	1	2		3
Iran	1			1
Japan	1			1
Russia	5		1	6
South Korea	1		1	2
Taiwan	1			1
Ukraine	2			2
United States	1		1	2
TOTAL	29	4	3	36

Source: World Trade Organization, through December 31, 2017

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

trade.gov/steel