



Global Steel Trade Monitor

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

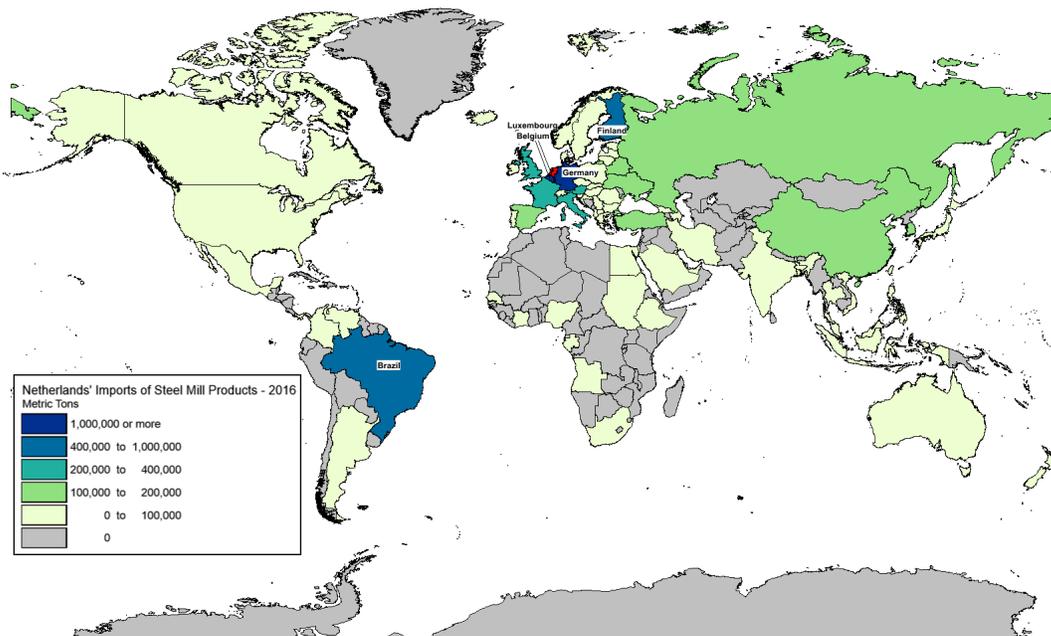
July 2017

Background

The Netherlands is the world's fourteenth-largest steel importer, a gain of three positions from 2015. In year to date 2017 (through March), the Netherlands imported 2.3 million metric tons of steel, a 7 percent increase from 2.1 million metric tons in YTD 2016. The Netherlands' imports represented about 2 percent of all steel imported globally in 2016. 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.

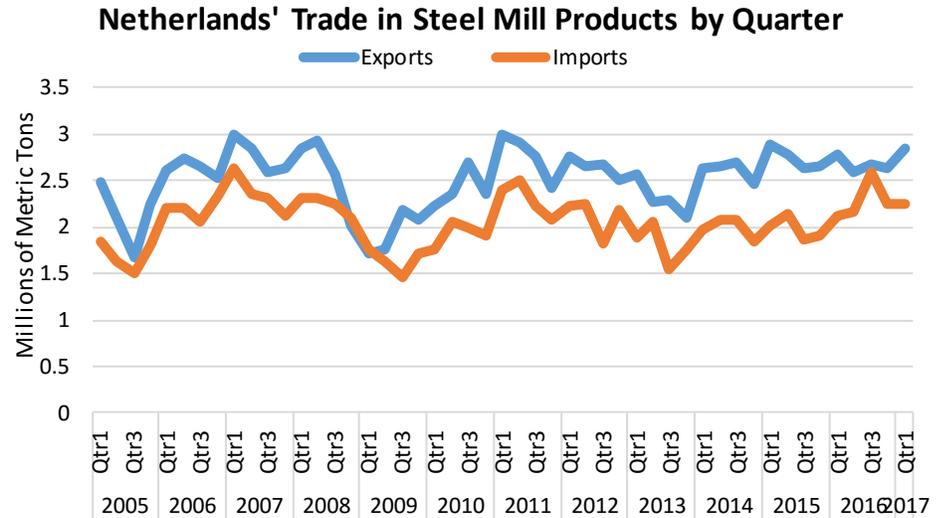
Quick Facts:

- World's 14th-largest steel importer: 2.3 million metric tons in YTD 2017
- 27% steel import growth since Q1 2009
- YTD import volume up 7% while import value up 18%
- Import penetration up from 189% in YTD 2016 to 199% in YTD 2017
- Top three import sources: Germany, Belgium, Brazil
- Largest producers: Tata Steel
- 28 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. Between Q1 2009 and Q1 2017, exports grew 66 percent while imports grew at a slower rate of 27 percent.



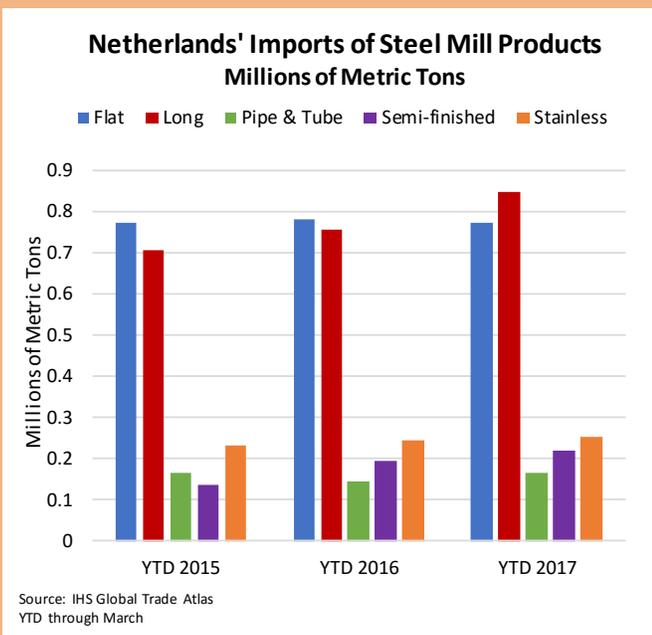
Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas

The steel trade balance surplus decreased to 584 thousand metric tons in YTD 2017. This is a 13 percent decrease from the YTD 2016 surplus of 674 thousand metric tons.

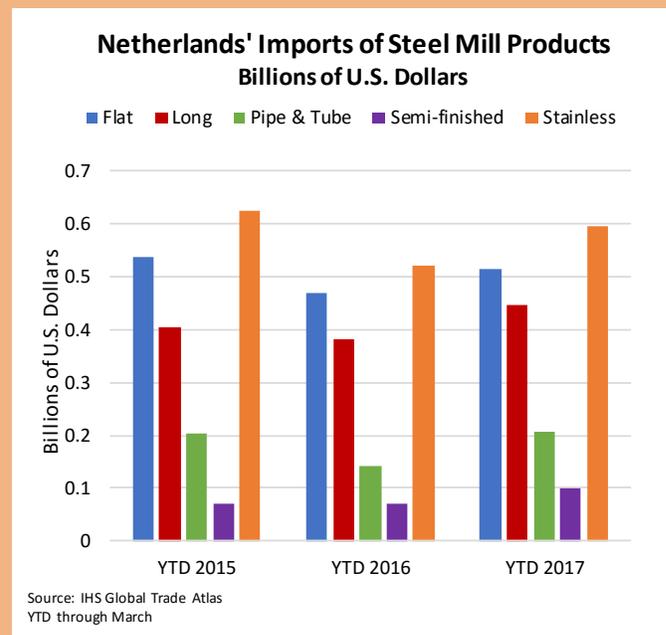
Import Volume, Value, and Product

Steel imports into the Netherlands have been growing since 2013, with volume up 26 percent between 2013 and 2016. In YTD 2017, imports increased 7 percent from YTD 2016 to a total of 2.3 million metric tons. By contrast, the value of the Netherlands' steel imports has been trending downwards since 2011, down 35 percent between 2011 and 2016. In YTD 2017, however, imports increased 18 percent by value, to \$1.9 billion from \$1.6 billion in YTD 2016.

In YTD 2017, long products accounted for the largest share of the Netherlands' steel imports at 38 percent (847 thousand metric tons), followed closely by flat products at 34 percent (772 thousand metric tons). Stainless steel accounted for 11 percent of the Netherlands' imports (251 thousand metric tons), followed by semi-finished steel at 10 percent (219 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube products at 7 percent (164 thousand metric tons).



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March



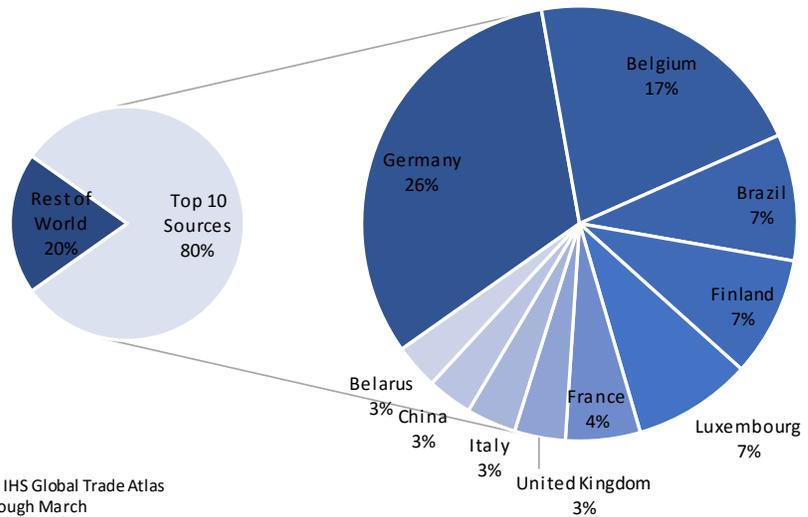
Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Imports by Top Source

The top 10 source countries for the Netherlands' steel imports represented 80 percent of the total steel import volume in YTD 2017 at 1.8 million metric tons (mmt). Germany accounted for the largest share of Netherlands' imports by source country at 26 percent (0.58 mmt), followed by Belgium at 17 percent (0.38 mmt), Brazil at 7 percent (0.17 mmt), Finland at 7 percent (0.16 mmt), and Luxembourg at 7 percent (0.16 mmt).

Netherlands' Steel Imports - Top 10 Sources
YTD 2017 - Millions of Metric Tons



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March

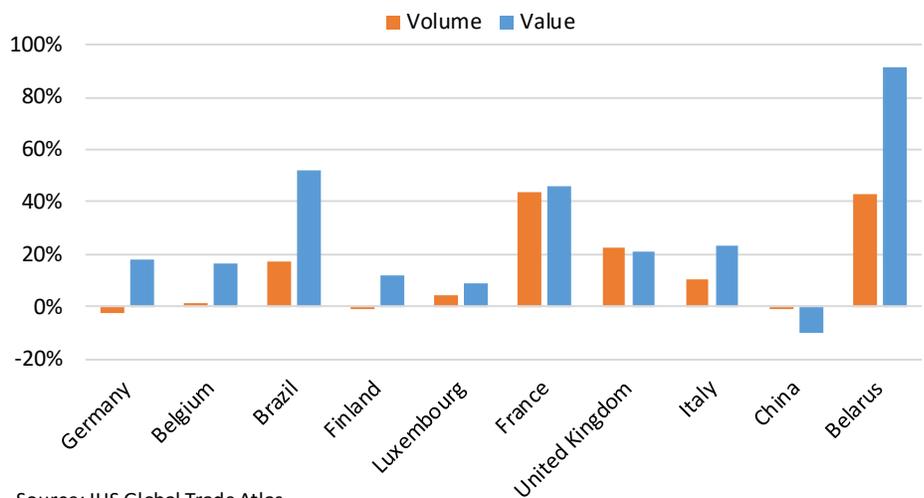
The United States ranked 43rd as a source for the Netherlands' steel imports in YTD 2017 representing just 0.03 percent of imports (0.6 thousand metric tons).

Trends in Imports from Top Sources

The volume of steel imports increased from all but three of the Netherlands' top 10 source countries between YTD 2016 and YTD 2017. France had the largest increase in volume, up 44 percent, followed by Belarus (up 43%), the United Kingdom (up 22%), and Brazil (up 17%). Imports from Germany and China were the only two countries to decrease in volume, down 3 percent and 1 percent, respectively. Imports from Finland remained unchanged.

The value of the Netherlands' imports increased from nine out of top 10 sources between YTD 2016 and YTD 2017. Belarus had the largest increase in value, up 92 percent, followed by Brazil (up 52%), France (up 46%), Italy (up 23%), and the United Kingdom (up 21%). China was the only country where the Netherlands' imports decreased by value, down 10 percent.

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



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

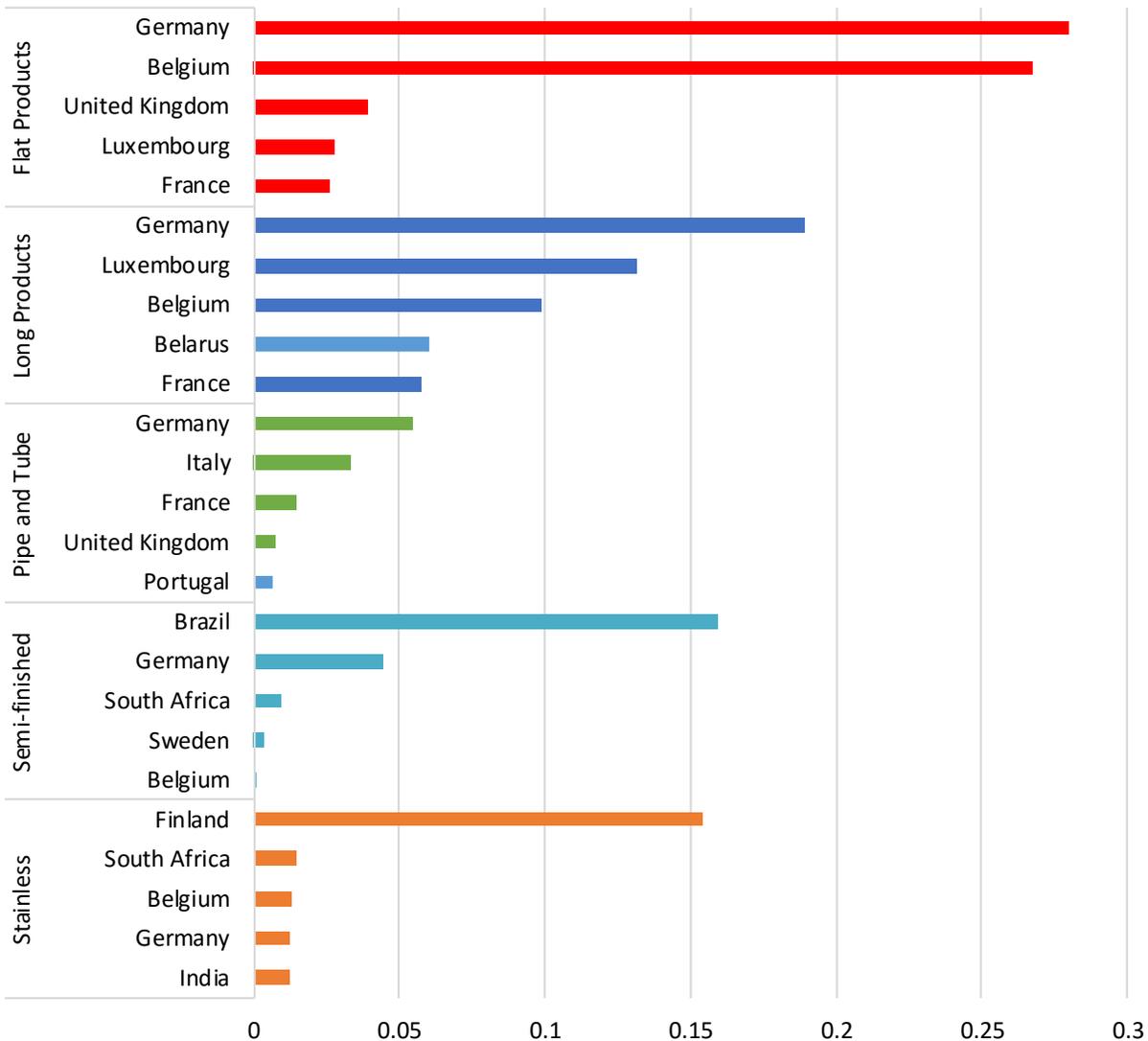
Top Sources by Steel Product Category

The Netherlands' top source countries vary across types of steel products, though Germany held the first or second spot in all but one product category in YTD 2017. By volume, the largest share of flat products were imported from Germany at 36 percent (280 thousand metric tons), followed closely by Belgium at 35 percent (268 thousand metric tons).

Germany also represented the largest shares of both long product imports at 22 percent (189 thousand metric tons) and pipe and tube imports at 33 percent (54 thousand metric tons). In regards to semi-finished steel, the Netherlands imported the majority from Brazil at 73 percent (159 thousand metric tons) and for stainless steel, the majority of imports came from Finland at 61 percent (154 thousand metric tons).

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

Netherlands' Top 5 Import Sources by Product - YTD 2017



Source: IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March

Millions of Metric Tons

Steel Imports Report: Netherlands

Netherlands' Export Market Share from Top Source Countries

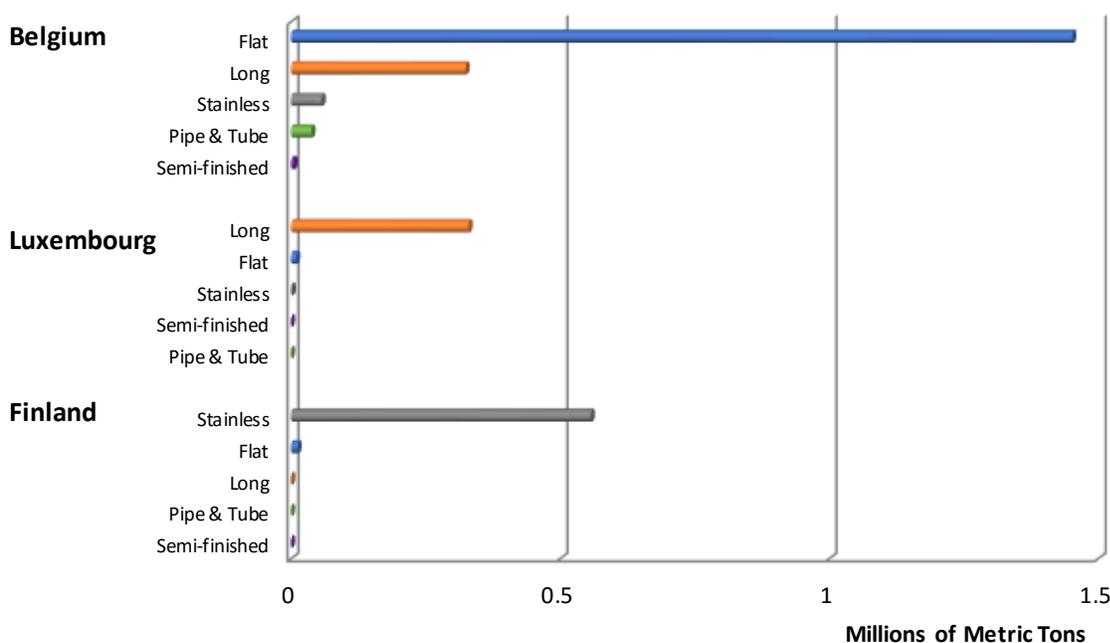
In 2016, the share of steel exports sent to the Netherlands from its top import sources increased from eight of the top 10 sources. The share of steel exports to the Netherlands from the United Kingdom increased the most, up 2.8 percentage points, followed Luxembourg (up 2.3 percentage points), and Austria (up 1.3 percentage points). Exports to the Netherlands from Brazil, Finland, France, Italy and Russia increased by less than one percentage point, while export shares to the Netherlands from Belgium and Germany decreased by 0.9 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively.

Netherlands' Steel Export Market Share				
Top 10 Import Sources	Share of Exports to Netherlands - 2015	Netherlands' Rank in 2015	Share of Exports to Netherlands - 2016	Netherlands' Rank in 2016
Germany	10.0%	2	9.7%	3
Belgium	12.0%	3	11.0%	3
Brazil	0.2%	34	0.7%	22
Luxembourg	9.5%	2	11.8%	2
Finland	29.5%	1	29.8%	1
France	2.2%	9	2.3%	9
United Kingdom	5.5%	7	8.3%	5
Italy	1.6%	15	1.7%	15
Austria	1.6%	14	2.9%	8
Russia	0.3%	45	0.4%	37

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

Among the Netherlands' top import sources Belgium, Luxembourg, and Finland sent the largest share of exports to the Netherlands at 11, 12, and 30 percent, respectively. In 2016, flat products accounted for the largest share of steel exports to the Netherlands from Belgium at 77 percent (1.5 million metric tons). Long products accounted for 97 percent of exports to the Netherlands from Luxembourg (330 thousand metric tons), while stainless steel accounted for 98 percent of exports from Finland (557 thousand metric tons).

Steel Export Composition of Top Market-Share Countries - 2016



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

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Overall Production and Import Penetration

Netherlands' Import Penetration



Sources: World Steel Association; IHS Global Trade Atlas
YTD through March

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 4 percent from 1.8 million metric tons to 1.7 million metric tons between YTD 2016 and YTD 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 35 percent to 5.4 million metric tons. The Netherlands' annual import penetration levels peaked at 200.4 percent in 2015 and pulled back in 2016, down 30 percentage points to 170 percent. In YTD 2017, the Netherlands' import penetration reached 199 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	1			1
China	10	1	1	12
India	1	2		3
Japan	1			1
Russia	4		1	5
South Korea	1		1	2
Taiwan	1			1
Ukraine	1			1
United States	1		1	2
TOTAL	21	3	4	28

Source: World Trade Organization, through June 1, 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/>.



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