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Market Highlights

In the first half of May, domestic steel market recovered up obviously, especially for the building steel products. In April, domestic steel market ceased falling down and tended to be stable. With the decrease of steel product stocks for consecutive two months, market confidence recovered up to some extent. At the end of April, the stocks of rebar and wire rod dropped considerably by 16.5% and 31.7% over a month ago. In April, China produced 43.413Mt crude steel, a fall of 3.7% over March. The total outputs of crude steel reached about 170.669Mt in the first four months of this year, a slight growth of 0.1% y-o-y. In April, the outputs of longs and pipes & tubes rose by 9.9% and 12.8% y-o-y to about 25.930Mt and 4.324Mt respectively, but the outputs of flat products dropped by 7.6% y-o-y to 21.296Mt.

In May, the stainless steel flat product prices soared firstly, then declined and climbed up again. China's imports of stainless steel products were about 99,103 tons in March and totaled about 267,416 tons in Q1, an obvious fall of 19.8% y-o-y. China's exports of stainless steel products were about 43,614 tons in March, a great decline of 48.0% y-o-y, and totaled about 103,349 tons in Q1, a sharp drop of 58.1% y-o-y. In March, China imported about 573,280 tons of nickel ore.

In May, the prices for bulk ferroalloys did not change much, but the special ferroalloy prices presented obvious rising. In March, China produced about 1.574 million tons of ferroalloys. China's apparent consumption of ferroalloys totaled about 4.112 million tons in Q1. China's exports of ferroalloy were 99,711 tons in March. In March, the exports of ferrosilicon, ferrosilicon-manganese, ferrochromium and ferromanganese reached about 31,817 tons, 5,402 tons, 26,392 tons and 4,087 tons respectively. Meanwhile, the imports of ferroalloys, ferrochromium, chromium ore and manganese ore were about 218,743 tons, 177,651 tons, 474,732 tons and 383,936 tons separately.

In May, steel scrap prices firstly presented minor risings due to the raised purchase prices, and then presented small oscillations. China's imports of steel scrap were 1.363Mt in March and totaled 3.182Mt in Q1, a jump of 318.8% y-o-y.

Steel Market

In April, domestic steel market ceased falling down and tended to be stable driven by the increasing demand and the apparent decreasing of steel product stocks

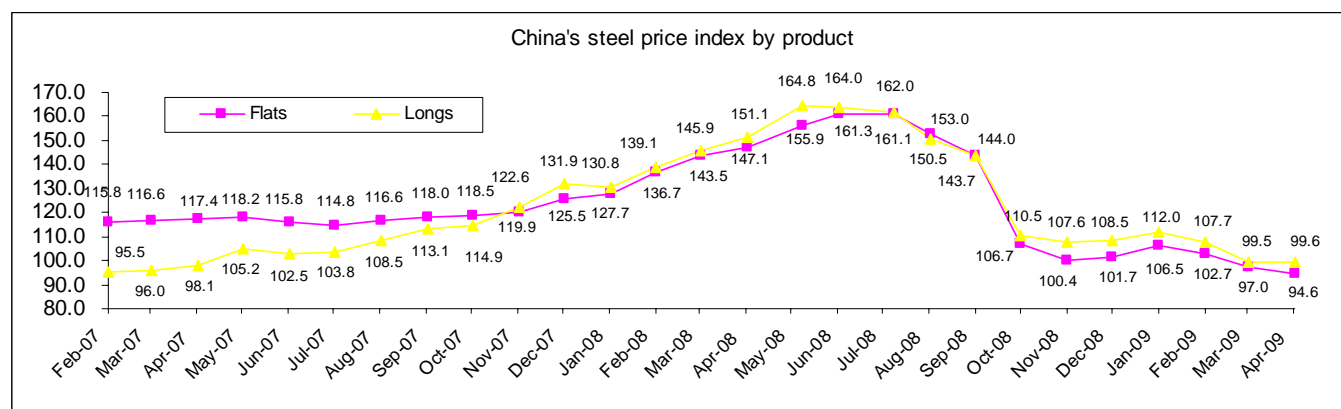
In April, domestic steel market ceased falling down and tended to be stable driven by the increasing demand from downstream sectors and the apparent decreasing of steel product stocks. However, the situation of oversupply was still very serious mainly due to the China's crude steel outputs still sustaining at high levels and the continual decrease of steel product exports. At the end of April, domestic steel product price index reached about 95.56 points, a drop of 2.08% (a decrease of 2.03 points) over a month ago, and a considerable decline of 34.76% (a decrease of 50.92 points) over a year earlier. As for long products, domestic price index was about 99.56 points, up by 0.09% (an increase of 0.09 points) over a month ago. Meanwhile, domestic flat product price index fell down by 2.52% (a decrease of 2.44 points) month-on-month to about 94.57 points. Compared with the same period of last year, the price indexes of long and flat products dropped obviously by 34.09% and 35.71% respectively.

The prices for some building steel products climbed up slightly, but the flat product prices still falling down

In April, domestic prices for major steel products experienced different trends. As for some construction steel products, the prices climbed up slightly owing to the increase of the restarting production enterprises in downstream sectors. At the end of April, average prices for \varnothing 6.5mm wire rod and \varnothing 12mm HRB335 rebar rose by RMB45/t and RMB29/t over a month ago to about RMB3,398/t and RMB3,610/t respectively. As for flat products, their prices still fell down. At the end of April, average prices for 3mm HR coils and 1mm CR sheet were about RMB3,453/t and RMB4,152/t separately, with declines of RMB142/t and RMB146/t respectively over a month ago. Moreover, average prices for 8mm common plate, 0.5mm galvanized sheet and 0.476mm color-coated sheet fell down by RMB161/t, RMB90/t and RMB121/t month-on-month to around RMB3,724/t, RMB4,364/t and RMB5,361/t separately. In addition, average price for \varnothing 219*6mm seamless steel pipe dropped greatly by RMB247/t over a month ago to around RMB4,543/t at the end of April.

In the first half of May, domestic steel market recovered up obviously, especially for the building steel products

In the first half of May, domestic steel market presented apparent rising, especially for the construction steel products, with the increase of demand from end-users and the decrease of building steel stocks. On May 15, average prices for \varnothing 6.5mm wire rod and \varnothing 12mm HRB335 rebar in main cities reached about RMB3,560/t and RMB3,759/t respectively, with rises of RMB162/t and RMB149/t separately over the end of April. Driven by the tight supply of HR and CR sheet/coil resources, average prices for 3.0mm HR coils and 1.0mm CR sheet rose by RMB153/t and RMB131/t over the end of April to around RMB3,606/t and RMB4,283/t separately on the same day. With the rising of HR and CR sheet/coils prices, average prices for 0.5mm galvanized sheet and 0.476mm color-coated sheet reached about RMB4,483/t and RMB5,488/t respectively on that day.



The average price changes of main steel products in China Unit: RMB/t

Type of steel products	On May 15	At the end of April	At the end of March	At the end of February
Wire rod \varnothing 6.5mm	3,560	3,398	3,353	3,592
Rebar HRB335 \varnothing 12mm	3,759	3,610	3,581	3,810
I-steel 25#	3,653	3,622	3,747	3,963
Common plate 8mm	3,818	3,724	3,885	4,113
HR coils 3mm	3,606	3,453	3,595	3,744
CR sheet 1mm	4,283	4,152	4,298	4,444
Galvanized sheet 0.5mm	4,483	4,364	4,454	4,784
Color-coated sheet 0.476mm	5,488	5,361	5,482	5,911
Seamless steel pipe \varnothing 219*6mm	4,526	4,543	4,790	5,226

Domestic demand for steel products increased to some extent driven by China's policy of 'expand internal demand and ensure economic growth'

With the decrease of steel product stocks for consecutive two months, market confidence recovered up to some extent. At the end of April, the inventory volumes of rebar and wire rod declined considerably by 16.5% and 31.7% over a month ago

Main factors influencing domestic steel market are summarized as follows:

- 1) Domestic demand for steel products increased to some extent driven by China's policy of 'expand internal demand and ensure economic growth'. In the first four months of 2009, fixed assets investment in urban areas rose by 30.5% year-on-year, 4.8 percentage points higher than a year earlier. Of which, the planned investment in the newly startup projects soared up by 90.7% year-on-year. Moreover, domestic industrial production increased by 7.3% year-on-year in April, obviously higher than a 5.1% of growth rate in Q1. In addition, China's outputs of automobile increased obviously by 17.9% year-on-year to about 1.181 million units in April, and totaled about 3.831 million units in the first four months of this year, a rise of 7.6% year-on-year.
- 2) With the decrease of steel product stocks for consecutive two months, market confidence recovered up to some extent. In April, the stocks for major steel products continued to fall down with the recovery of market demand, especially for construction steel products. At the end of April, the inventory volumes of rebar and wire rod declined considerably by 16.5% and 31.7% over a month ago to around 3.398 million tons and 1.077 million tons respectively. As for HR sheet (strip) and CR sheet (strip), their stocks dropped by 3.1% and 6.7% month-on-month to about 2.649 million tons and 1.113 million tons separately. The inventory for medium & heavy plate fell down by 3.3% month-on-month to about 1.236 million tons at that time.

The stock changes of main steel products at the end of April Unit: 1,000t

Steel products	At the end of April				At the end of March				Apr./Mar. %, m-o-m
	Shanghai	Guangzhou	Beijing	Total	Shanghai	Guangzhou	Beijing	Total	
Rebar	348	415	183	3,398	439	415	283	4,071	-16.5
Wire rod	79	130	68	1,077	102	202	130	1,578	-31.7
HR sheet (strip)	762	653	10	2,649	786	663	20	2,735	-3.1
CR sheet (strip)	324	476	6	1,113	332	485	8	1,193	-6.7
Medium & heavy plate	307	115	26	1,236	331	121	36	1,278	-3.3

The exports of steel products still decreased, but the imports increased apparently. In April, China exported about 1.41Mt finished steel products, a fall of 15.57% over the previous month, but the imports of finished steel products increased by 27.56% month-on-month to about 1.62Mt

3) The exports of steel products still decreased, but the imports increased apparently. This will bring great pressures on domestic steel market. Although the Chinese government raised the export rebate on some steel products to 13% as of April 1, China's exports of steel products continued to decrease mainly due to demand shrinkage in the international market. In April, China exported about 1.41 million tons of finished steel products, a fall of 15.57% over the previous month and a slump of 70.5% year-on-year. In the first four months of 2009, the exports of finished steel products totaled about 6.55 million tons, a great decline of 59.5% year-on-year. However, the imports of finished steel products increased by 27.56% month-on-month to about 1.62 million tons in April, and the imports of steel blanks grew largely by 45.65% over March to about 670,000 tons in April. During January-April, the imports of finished steel products amounted to about 4.85 million tons, a fall of 14.7% year-on-year, and the imports of steel blanks grew by 23 times over a year earlier to about 1.57 million tons.

The falling of some raw material prices slowed down, and the prices for some raw materials climbed up slightly

4) The falling of some raw material prices slowed down, and the prices for some raw materials climbed up slightly. This will give some support to steel product prices in the future. At the end of April, the prices for 66% dry iron concentrate in Tangshan fell down by only RMB20/t over a month ago to about RMB670/t. However, the prices for 6-8mm steel scrap in Jiangsu and plain carbon billet in Tangshan went up to around RMB2,430/t and RMB3,000/t separately at that time.

China's money supply increased rapidly

5) China's money supply increased rapidly. Up to the end of April, domestic broad money (M2) supply reached about 54.05 trillion RMB, an increase of 25.95% over a year earlier, 0.47 percentage points higher than a month ago. The narrow money (M1) supply reached about 17.82 trillion RMB, a growth of 17.48% year-on-year. In addition, the money under circulation grew by 11.26% year-on-year to about 3.43 trillion RMB at that time.

According to the latest forecast from IMF, the global economy is predicted to fall down by 1.3% this year

6) The global steel demand is expected to further shrink. According to the latest forecast from IMF, the global economy is predicted to fall down by 1.3% this year. This is the most serious economic depression since the 2nd World War.

The price changes of main raw materials in China Unit: RMB/t

Type of steel products	At the end of April	At the end of March	At the end of February
Iron concentrate 66% dry in Tangshan	670	690	790

Coking coal	1,100	1,225	1,225
Metallurgical coke in Shanghai	1,670	1,670	1,920
Steelmaking pig iron	2,396	2,384	2,603
Steel scrap 6-8mm in Jiangsu	2,430	2,360	2,560
Plain carbon billet, Q235 in Tangshan	3,000	2,900	3,000

The outputs and growth rates of main industrial products in steel-intensive sectors in April

Type of Industrial Products	Unit	Apr. 2009	% y-o-y	Jan.-Apr. 2009	% y-o-y
Industrial Boiler	Evaporating Capacity Ton	21,295.3	48.5	71,009.8	30.3
Internal Combustion Engine	1,000 kW	58,568.1	-2.8	190,516.0	-11.8
Metal Cutting Machine	1,000 units	55.3	-21	190.1	-20.5
Automobile	1,000 units	1,181.2	17.9	3,830.9	7.6
Civil Steel Ship	1,000 GT	3,533.9	-9.1	11,155.6	18.4
Washing Machine	1,000 units	3,513.9	-5.0	13,654.3	2.3
Refrigerator	1,000 units	6,002.0	5.5	18,154.1	7.0
Air Conditioner	1,000 units	9,962.3	-8.6	28,768.1	-20.5

The newly started floor space fell down by 15.6% year-on-year to about 278 million square meters during January-April

As for real estate sector, the floor space under construction totaled about 2.01 billion square meters in the first four months of 2009, a growth of 12.4% year-on-year, 13.0 percent lower than a year earlier. The newly started floor space fell down by 15.6% year-on-year to about 278 million square meters during January-April. Meanwhile, the completed floor space reached about 132 million square meters, a great rise of 27.1% year-on-year.

In April, China's outputs of civil steel ship were about 3.534 million GT, a fall of 9.1% y-o-y. As for washing machine, the outputs dropped by 5.0% y-o-y. As for refrigerator, the outputs went up by 5.5% y-o-y.

In April, China's outputs of civil steel ship were about 3.534 million GT, a fall of 9.1% compared to the same month last year. In the first four months of 2009, the outputs of civil steel ship totaled about 11.156 million GT, an obvious growth of 18.4% year-on-year. As for washing machine, the outputs dropped by 5.0% year-on-year to about 3.514 million units in April and totaled about 13.654 million units during January-April. As for refrigerator, the outputs went up by 5.5% year-on-year to about 6.002 million units in April and totaled about 18.154 million units in the past four months, an increase of 7.0% year-on-year. However, the outputs of air conditioner dropped by 8.6% year-on-year to about 9.962 million units in April and totaled about 28.768 million units during January-April, a fall of 20.5% year-on-year.

The outputs of industrial boiler soared up by 48.5% y-o-y

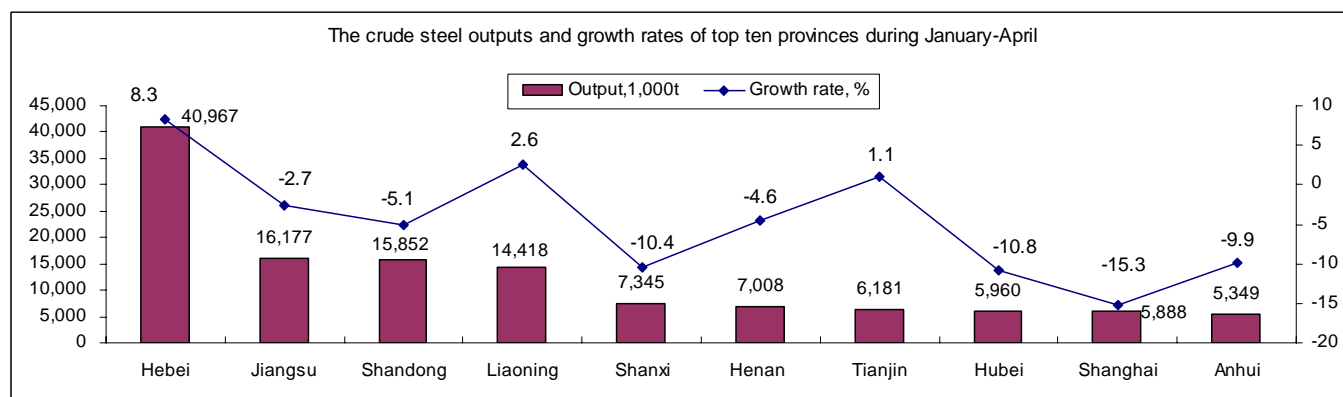
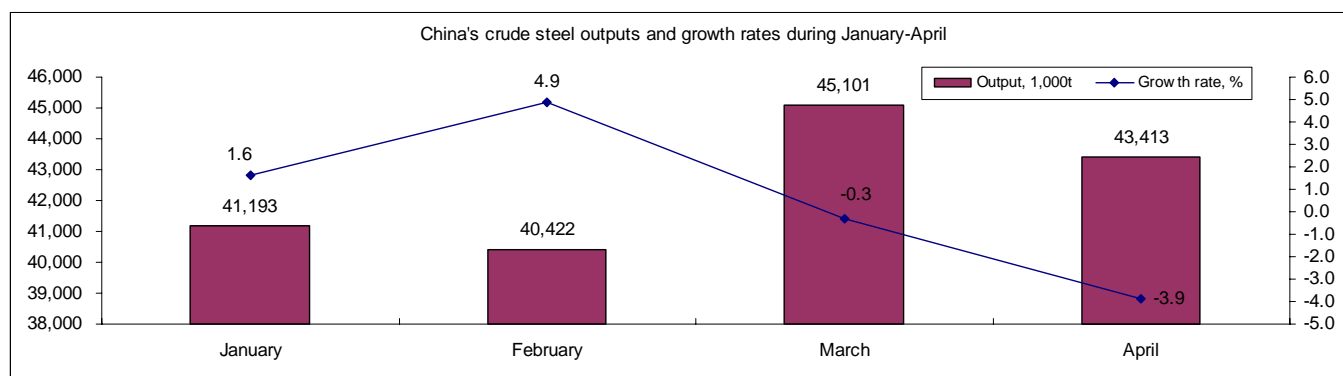
The outputs of industrial boiler soared up by 48.5% year-on-year to 21,295 tons evaporating capacity in April and totaled about 71,010 tons evaporating capacity in the first four months of this year, a great rise of 30.3% year-on-year. However, the outputs of metal cutting machine dropped considerably by 21% year-on-year to about 55,300 units in April and amounted to about 190,100 units during January-April, a decline of 20.5% year-on-year.

In April, China produced about 43.413Mt crude steel, a fall of 3.7% over the previous month. The total outputs of crude steel reached about 170.669Mt in the first four months of this year, a slight growth of 0.1% y-o-y

In April, China produced about 43.413 million tons of crude steel, a fall of 3.7% over the previous month and down by 3.9% compared to the same month last year. China's outputs of crude steel amounted to about 170.669 million tons in the first four months of this year, a slight growth of 0.1% compared with the same period of last year. Hebei, Jiangsu, Shandong and Liaoning were four big crude steel provinces with outputs of 40.967 million tons, 16.177 million tons, 15.852 million tons and 14.418 million tons respectively during January-April. The combined crude steel outputs of the above four provinces reached about 87.415 million tons in the past four months of 2009, accounting for 51.2% of the total crude steel outputs.

In April, the outputs of longs and pipes & tubes rose by 9.9% and 12.8% y-o-y to about 25.930Mt and 4.324Mt respectively, but the outputs of flat products fell down by 7.6% y-o-y to about 21.296Mt

In April, China produced about 52.915 million tons of finished steel products, a decline of 0.3% over March and a rise of 2.6% year-on-year. Among them, the outputs of longs and pipes & tubes rose by 9.9% and 12.8% year-on-year to about 25.930 million tons and 4.324 million tons respectively, but the outputs of flat products fell down by 7.6% year-on-year to about 21.296 million tons. In the first four months of 2009, the outputs of finished steel products totaled about 196.981 million tons, a growth of 2.7% compared with the same period of last year. Of which, the outputs of long products and pipes & tubes climbed up by 9.8% and 11.6% year-on-year to around 95.139 million tons and 14.508 million tons separately, but the outputs of flat products dropped by 6.9% year-on-year to about 82.117 million tons during January-April.

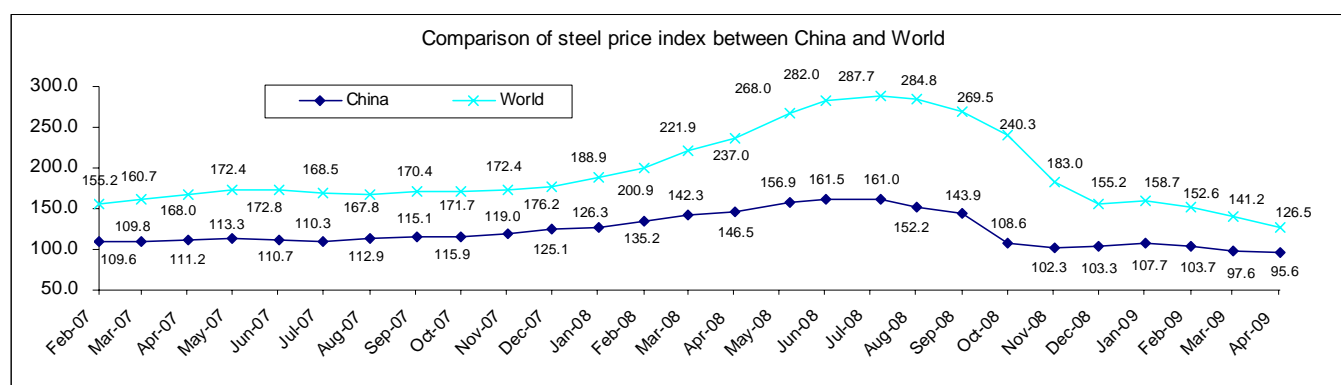


The output, growth rate and ratio of main steel products in April Unit: 1,000t

Type of products	Apr. 2009	Jan.-Apr. 2009	Jan.-Apr. 2008	Growth rate, %	Ratio, %
Total of finished steels	52,914.5	196,980.6	191,756.1	2.7	100.0
Long products	25,930.0	95,138.6	86,664.0	9.8	48.3
Flat products	21,296.4	82,117.1	88,184.8	-6.9	41.7
Pipes and tubes	4,323.5	14,507.8	13,002.6	11.6	7.4

Due to the greater falling of international steel price index, the price gap of steel products between the world and China was decreased to 30.9 points at the end of April

In April, the global steel product prices continued to fall down apparently owing to soft demand. At the end of April, the world steel composite price index reached about 126.5 points, a fall of 10.4% (a decrease of 14.7 points) over a month ago, a great decline of 46.6% (a decrease of 110.5 points) year-on-year. As for long and flat products, their price indexes dropped by 8.9% (a decrease of 14.8 points) and 11.4% (a decrease of 14.7 points) over a month ago to about 152.3 points and 113.7 points respectively. Due to the greater falling of international steel price index, the price gap of steel products between the world and China decreased to 30.9 points at the end of April from 43.6 points at the end of March.



Comparison of steel product price index between China and World

	Steel products			Longs			Flats		
	World	China	Gap	World	China	Gap	World	China	Gap
Apr. 09	126.5	95.6	30.9	152.3	99.6	52.7	113.7	94.6	19.1
Mar.09	141.2	97.6	43.6	167.1	99.5	67.6	128.4	97.0	31.4
Feb.09	152.6	103.7	48.9	179.2	107.7	71.5	139.3	102.7	36.7
Jan.09	158.7	107.7	50.0	192.8	112.0	80.8	141.8	106.5	35.3
Dec.08	155.2	103.3	51.9	174.5	108.5	66.0	145.6	101.7	43.9
Nov.08	183.0	102.3	80.7	216.8	107.6	109.2	166.1	100.4	65.7
Oct.08	240.3	108.6	131.7	276.8	110.5	166.3	222.1	106.7	115.4
Sep.08	269.5	143.9	125.6	309.2	143.7	165.5	249.8	144.0	105.8
Aug.08	284.8	152.2	132.6	327.6	150.5	177.1	263.5	153.0	110.5
July 08	287.7	161.0	126.7	318.5	162.0	156.5	272.4	161.1	111.3
June 08	282.0	161.5	120.5	313.7	164.0	149.7	266.2	161.3	104.9
May 08	268.0	156.9	111.1	302.9	164.8	138.1	250.6	155.9	94.7
Apr.08	237.0	146.5	90.5	268.9	151.1	117.8	221.2	147.1	74.1
Mar.08	221.9	142.3	79.6	250.8	145.9	104.9	207.6	143.5	64.1
Feb.08	200.9	135.2	65.7	236.4	139.1	97.3	183.3	136.7	46.6

Stainless Steel

In May, the stainless steel flat product prices soared firstly, then declined and climbed up again affected by the ex-factory price hikes, the global nickel price fluctuating and the supply shortage

In May, domestic prices for 300 series stainless steel flat products soared firstly, then declined and climbed up again affected by the ex-factory price hikes in some stainless steel mills, the global nickel price fluctuating and the supply shortage of 300 series stainless steel resources. At the end of May, the average price for 2.0mm 304/2B CR sheet in main markets was about RMB16,813/t, a growth of RMB1,700/t over a month ago. As for 4-5mm 304/No.1 HR plates, the average price moved up by RMB1,538/t over the previous month to about RMB15,738/t. The prices of 400 series stainless steel products basically stayed on a plateau as a whole due to the sales off-season and the slack transactions, although the supplies of some 400 series products were not very sufficient. At the end of May, average price for 2.0mm 430/2B CR sheet remained at RMB8,943/t, the same price as April. It is predicted that the outputs of 400 series products from TISCO would increase next month, which implies that the prices of 400 series products could face a downward pressure. The prices for 200 series stainless steel products rose in the first week of May supported by the global nickel hikes, but slipped down from May 13th owing to a light trading volume. At the end of May, average prices for 1.0mm 201/2B CR coil reached about RMB12,750/t, some RMB567/t higher over a month ago.

The nickel prices presented fluctuation with risings as a whole. The prices for imported nickel ores remained at a plateau

The nickel price presented fluctuation with risings as a whole in May. The prices for three months nickel in LME grew up early this month, but then declined from the mid-May and soared to about US\$13,400/t in late May, up by US\$2,480/t over the previous month. Moreover, domestic prices for Jinchuan Group's 1# electrolytic nickel once increased to about RMB110,000-112,000/t in early May, but then dropped to about RMB105,000-106,000/t at the end of May, still RMB1,000/t higher than a month ago. In addition, the prices for imported nickel ore remained at a plateau in May. At the end of May, the prices for 1.8% nickel laterite ores from Philippines leveled off.

The price changes of main stainless steel flat products in May Unit: RMB/t

Type of Products	At the end of May	At the end of April	At the end of March
2.0mm 304/2B CR sheet	16,813	15,113	14,163
4-5mm 304/No.1 HR plate	15,738	14,200	12,988
2.0mm 430/2B CR sheet	8,943	8,943	8,886
1.0mm 201/2B CR coil	12,750	12,183	11,100
1# electrolytic nickel	105,000-106,000	104,000-105,000	87,500-88,500
3 months nickel in LME, US\$/t	13,400	10,920	9,700

The price changes of imported nickel laterite ores in May Unit: RMB/t

Nickel Content	1.80%	1.60%	1.20%
Source Countries	Philippines	Indonesia	Philippines
Price	At the end of March	275	255
		255	240

At the end of April	290	260	240
At the end of May	290	260	220 (1.1%)

In March, China imported about 99,103 tons of stainless steel products. Total imports of stainless steel products reached about 267,416 tons during January- March, an obvious fall of 19.8% y-o-y

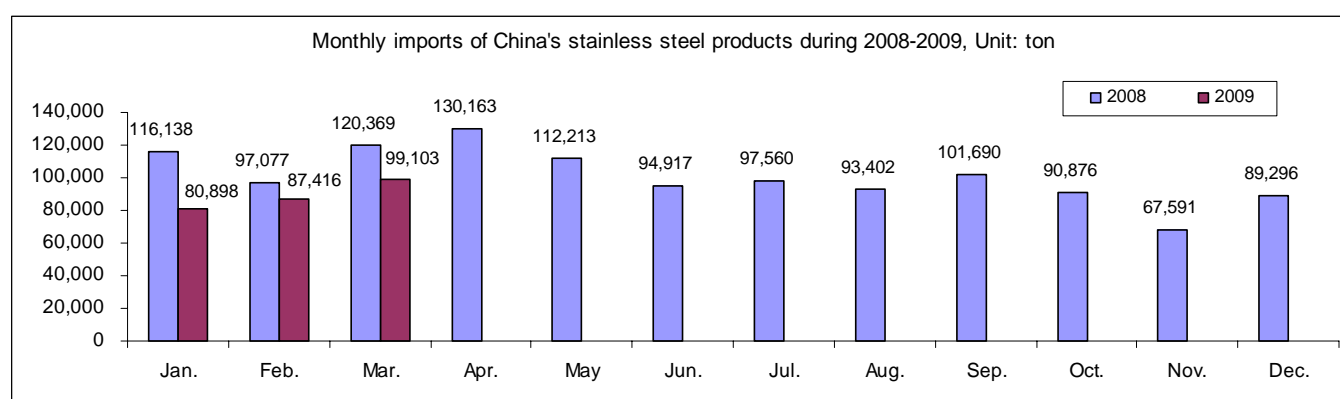
In March, China imported about 99,103 tons of stainless steel products including semi-finished and finished, a fall of 17.7% compared to the same month last year. Among them, the imports of semi-finished products, flats, longs and pipes & tubes were about 34,484 tons, 51,853 tons, 8,522 tons and 4,245 tons respectively. Total imports of stainless steel products reached about 267,416 tons in the first three months of this year, an obvious fall of 19.8% year-on-year. Among them, the imports of semi-finished products, flats, longs and pipes & tubes were about 90,705 tons, 143,584 tons, 18,989 tons and 14,138 tons separately during that period, considerably down by 46.9% and 37.7% respectively for flats and longs, but up by 371.2% and 3.4% separately for semi-finished and pipes & tubes.

In March, China exported about 43,614 tons of stainless steel products, a great decline of 48.0% y-o-y. Total exports of stainless steel products reached about 103,349 tons during January-March, a sharp drop of 58.1% y-o-y

In March, China exported about 43,614 tons of stainless steel products, a great decline of 48.0% year-on-year. Among them, the exports of semi-finished products, flats, longs and pipes & tubes were about 0 tons, 24,399 tons, 4,994 tons and 14,221 tons respectively. Total exports of stainless steel products reached about 103,349 tons in the first three months of 2009, a sharp drop of 58.1% year-on-year. Among them, the exports of semi-finished products, flats, longs and pipes & tubes were about 5 tons, 52,763 tons, 12,846 tons and 37,734 tons separately during that period, with apparent declines of 59.3%, 68.5%, 49.7% and 30.0% respectively year-on-year.

China's imports of stainless steel scrap were about 36,245 tons in March

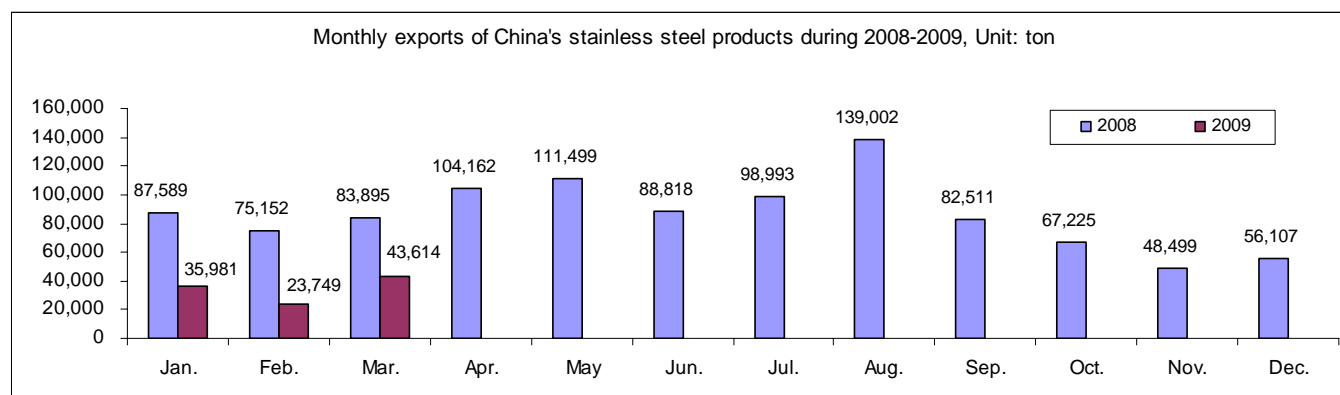
China's imports of stainless steel scrap were about 36,245 tons in March and totaled about 81,956 tons in the first three months of this year. The exports of stainless steel scrap totaled about 36.3 tons during January-March.



China's import, export and growth rate of stainless steel products during January-March Unit: ton

	Import				Export			
	Mar.09	Jan.- Mar. 09	Jan.- Mar. 08	Growth rate, %	Mar.09	Jan.- Mar. 09	Jan.- Mar. 08	Growth rate, %
Total	99,103	267,416	333,584	-19.8	43,614	103,349	246,764	-58.1
Semi-finished products	34,484	90,705	19,250	371.2	0	5	12	-59.3

Flats	51,853	143,584	270,155	-46.9	24,399	52,763	167,297	-68.5
Longs	8,522	18,989	30,503	-37.7	4,994	12,846	25,538	-49.7
Pipes and tubes	4,245	14,138	13,675	3.4	14,221	37,734	53,917	-30.0



In March, China imported about 573,280 tons of nickel ore, a drop of 6.93% over February

In March, China imported about 573,280 tons of nickel ore, a drop of 6.93% over February. China's imports of nickel ore were mainly from Philippines and Indonesia with volumes of 408,414 tons and 123,476 tons respectively in that month. In the first three months of 2009, the imports of nickel ore totaled about 1.692 million tons, a considerable fall of 52.5% year-on-year. China's imports of nickel ore from Indonesia and Philippines were about 800,485 tons and 723,907 tons respectively during January-March, accounting for 47.3% and 42.8% separately of the national nickel ore imports.

In March, China imported about 30,381 tons of ferronickel, a rise of 29.5% over February

In March, China imported about 30,381 tons of ferronickel, a rise of 29.5% over February. China's imports of ferronickel were mainly from Japan, Columbia and New Caledonia with quantities of 13,686 tons, 10,587 tons and 3,125 tons respectively in that month. In the past three months of 2009, the imports of ferronickel amounted to about 59,098 tons, a jump of 165.0% year-on-year. China's imports of ferronickel from Japan, Columbia and New Caledonia were about 19,228 tons, 17,523 tons and 15,251 tons separately during January-March, taking up 32.5%, 29.7% and 25.8% of the total ferronickel imports.

China's imports of nickel ore and ferronickel by country during January-March

Nickel ore			Ferronickel		
Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	1,692,108	173,927,412	Total	59,098	153,893,968
Indonesia	800,485	36,356,327	Japan	19,228	39,710,000
Philippines	723,907	19,722,443	Columbia	17,523	56,970,754
Australia	63,016	58,130,622	New Caledonia	15,251	36,669,593
Russia	35,287	13,311,216	South Korea	4,696	13,597,194
South Africa	30,046	16,000,161	France	1,245	3,047,543
Spain	25,341	21,535,246	Brazil	594	1,867,017
Finland	7,506	6,442,182	Holland	297	1,116,318

Ferroalloy

In May, the prices for ferrosilicon basically remained steady, but with small fallings in several regions due to the slack demand and reduced exports

In May, the prices for ferrosilicon basically remained steady, but with small fallings in several regions mainly due to the slack demand from domestic steel enterprises with low purchase prices. The decreased exports of ferrosilicon caused by cheaper oversea ferrosilicon resources and inactive purchasing in steel enterprises restrained the domestic ferrosilicon prices. At the end of May, the prices for ferrosilicon (75%Si) dropped to RMB5,250/t in Northwest China, a slight fall of RMB50/t over a month ago. Moreover, the export prices for ferrosilicon (75%Si) quoted at around US\$1,070-1,100/t (FOB) at the end of May, basically leveling with a month ago.

The ferrosilicon-manganese prices presented falling down with minor vibration owing to the low purchasing price and dull export market

The prices for ferrosilicon-manganese presented falling down with minor vibration owing to the low purchase price from steel enterprises and the dull export market due to the firm price for domestic manganese ore relative to the reducing price for imported manganese ore. At the end of May, the prices for ferrosilicon-manganese (65%Mn, 17%Si) declined to RMB6,450/t in Southwest China, down by RMB200/t over a month ago. It is forecasted that the prices of ferrosilicon-manganese will present downturn trend due to the sliding down price for imported manganese ore, and also affected by the wheat harvest in northern region and rain season in southern area, as well as the slack demand in building steel market.

The ferromanganese prices presented downward trend with minor oscillations owing to soft demand in oversea market and few purchasing volumes from steel enterprises

Domestic ferromanganese prices presented downward trend with minor oscillations owing to soft demand in oversea market and few purchasing quantities from steel enterprises. The prices for high-carbon ferromanganese (65%Mn) declined by RMB200/t over a month ago to about RMB6,500/t at the end of May. Meanwhile, the prices for imported manganese ore (45%Mn) from Brazil fell down to about US\$30/tu at the end of May, down by US\$8/tu a month ago. Manganese alloy prices are predicted to generally remain stable in a short term in accordance with the price movement of manganese ore.

The prices for ferrochromium presented stable, and the chromium ore price generally remained firm with minor risings due to the tight supply

In May, the prices for ferrochromium generally presented stable, however, purchase prices were restrained caused by the lack of real driving force from downstream customers in despite of upturn demand from the recovered domestic chromium alloy producers. In addition, the transactions generally kept on downturn and some ferrochromium producers had to limit their production or even stoppage affected by the rising production costs and reduced demand. At the end of May, the prices for high-carbon ferrochromium (55%Cr) went down to around RMB6,400/t, a fall of RMB100/t over a month ago. Moreover, the chromium ore price generally remained firm with minor risings due to the tight supply caused by the stoppage in some mines. The prices for imported chromium ore rose by US\$1/tu over a month ago to about US\$47/tu at the end of May.

In May, the prices of ferromolybdenum remained stable firstly and then presented upward trend

In May, the prices of ferromolybdenum remained stable firstly and then presented upward trend due to the rising price of domestic molybdenum concentrate ores caused by the continually growing of molybdenum oxide price and its tight supply in oversea market. At the end of May, the prices for ferromolybdenum (60%Mo) reached at RMB116,000/t in Northeast China, a rise of RMB9,000/t over a month ago. The prices for ferromolybdenum are predicted to generally remain steady in the near future.

Domestic ferrovanadium prices presented growing due to the bounce on international ferrovanadium prices

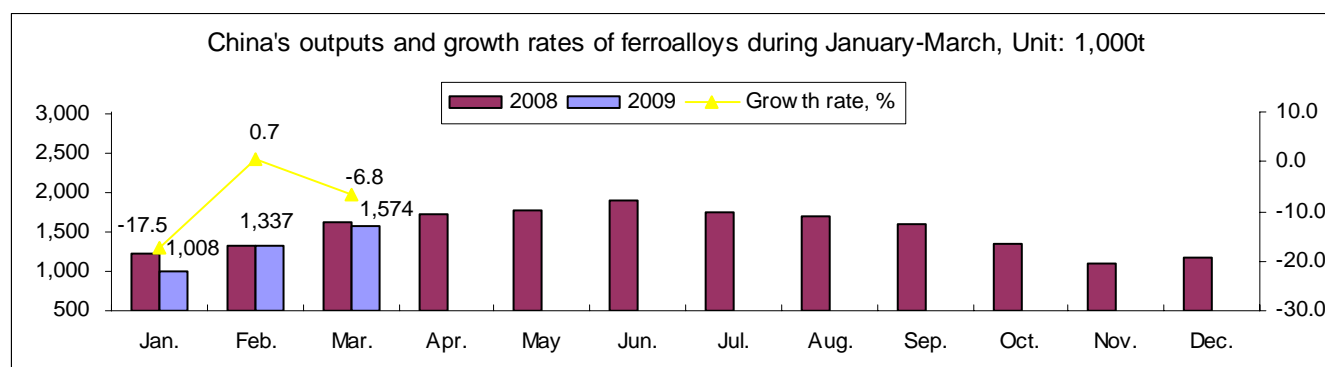
The price of ferrovanadium presented growing in May affected by the bounce on international ferrovanadium prices. At the end of May, the prices for ferrovanadium (50%V) greatly increased by RMB13,000/t over a month ago to around RMB99,000/t in Northeast China. Ferrovanadium prices are predicted to still sustain upward trend in a short term.

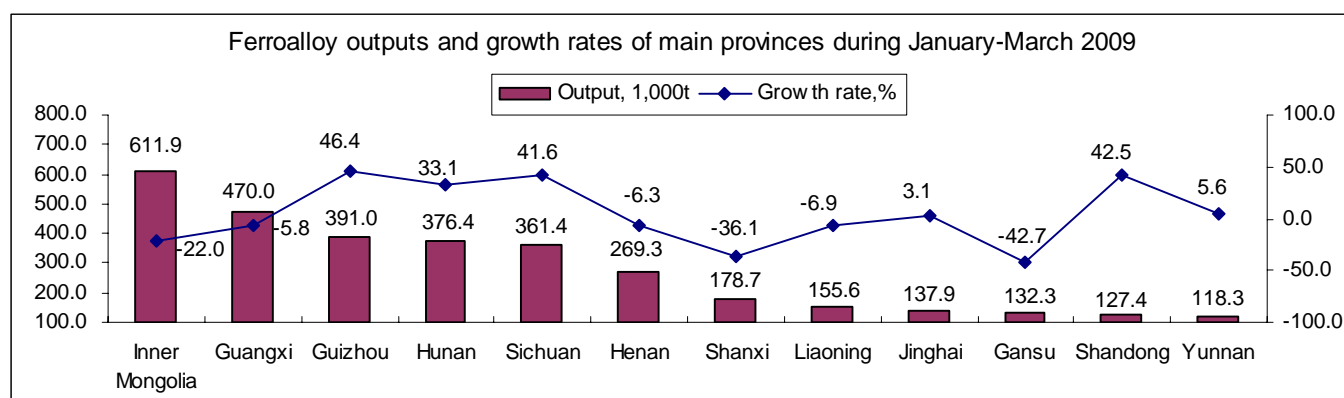
The price changes of ferroalloys and raw materials in May Unit: RMB/t

Type of products	At the end of May	At the end of April	At the end of March
FeSi 75%	5,250	5,300	5,700
SiMn 65%Mn, 17%Si	6,450	6,650	6,850
HC FeMn 65%Mn	6,500	6,700	7,100
HC FeCr 55%Cr	6,500	6,500	6,100
FeMo, 60%Mo	11,6000	10,7000	107,000
FeV, 50%V	99,000	86,000	97,000
Manganese ore from Brazil, 45%Mn, US\$/tu	30	38	42
Chromium ore from India, 50%Cr, US\$/tu	47	46	48

In March, China produced about 1.574 million tons of ferroalloys, down by 6.8 % y-o-y

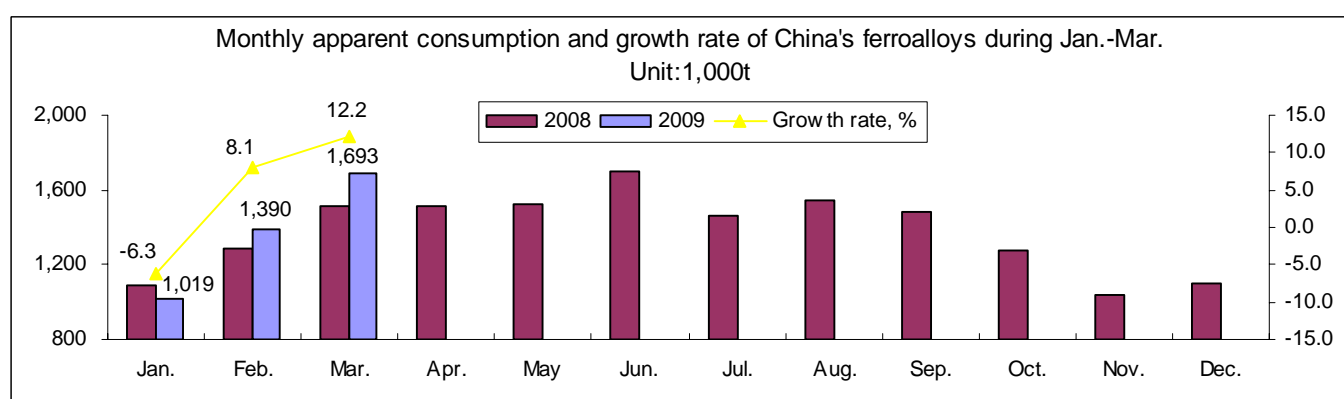
China produced about 1.574 million tons of ferroalloys in March, up by 17.8% over February and down by 6.8% year-on-year. Inner Mongolia, Guangxi, Hunan Guizhou, and Sichuan were five big ferroalloy provinces with outputs of 234,000 tons, 195,100 tons, 166,600 tons, 146,400 tons and 138,300 tons respectively. In the first three months in 2009, China's outputs of ferroalloys totaled about 3.929 million tons, down by 7.1% year-on-year. Inner Mongolia, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hunan and Sichuan were five big ferroalloy provinces with outputs of 611,900 tons, 470,000 tons, 391,000 tons, 376,400 tons and 361,400 tons respectively, taking up 15.6%, 12%, 10%, 9.6% and 9.2% respectively of the ferroalloy outputs.





China's apparent consumption of ferroalloys totaled about 4.112 million tons, up by 4.6% y-o-y

In March, Chinese apparent consumption of ferroalloys reached about 1.693 million tons, up by 12.2% year-on-year. In Q1, Chinese apparent consumption of ferroalloys totaled about 4.112 million tons, an increase of 4.6% year-on-year.



China's exports of ferroalloy slightly increased to about 99,711 tons in March, down by 64.6% y-o-y

China's exports of ferroalloy reached about 99,711 tons in March, up by 13.45% month-on-month and down by 64.6% year-on-year. China's ferroalloys were mainly exported to Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taiwan, China's Hong Kong and India with quantities of 37,771 tons, 24,320 tons, 6,180 tons, 5,267 tons and 4,318 tons respectively. In the first quarter of 2009, total exports of ferroalloys reached about 277,410 tons, a drop of 63.7% year-on-year. China's ferroalloy exports to Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taiwan, China's Hong Kong and Netherlands were about 102,627 tons, 58,161 tons, 17,198 tons, 16,230 tons and 14,795 tons separately, taking up 37.0%, 21.0%, 6.2%, 5.9% and 5.3% respectively of the national ferroalloy exports.

In March, total exports of main China's ferroalloys reached about 67,698 tons

Total exports of ferrosilicon, ferrosilicon-manganese, ferrochromium and ferromanganese reached about 67,698 tons in March 2009, accounting for 67.9% of the ferroalloy exports.

China's ferroalloy exports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	277,410	481,425,002	Mexico	3,179	5,157,958
Japan	102,627	147,667,445	Australia	3,132	4,501,468
South Korea	58,161	93,288,036	Canada	2,336	4,115,042

Chinese Taiwan	17,198	28,012,601	Spain	1,999	2,826,872
China's Hong Kong	16,230	33,027,939	Indonesia	1,556	2,147,219
Netherlands	14,795	45,542,219	Chile	1,509	1,831,987
India	10,396	18,692,379	Italy	1,456	2,390,142
USA	9,289	20,003,956	Pakistan	1,448	1,513,850
Thailand	5,383	8,431,462	Brazil	1,269	2,124,241
Germany	5,319	19,036,042	Turkey	1,175	2,039,299
Malaysia	5,316	7,955,875	Egypt	1,143	1,346,399
Iran	3,401	6,627,817	Russia	1,096	2,306,905

In March, China exported about 31,817 tons of ferrosilicon, a significant fall of 71.8% y-o-y

In March, China exported about 31,817 tons of ferrosilicon, up by 4.23% over February and a significant fall of 71.8% year-on-year. China's ferrosilicon was mainly exported to South Korea, Japan and Chinese Taiwan with volumes of 14,162 tons, 5,918 tons and 4,628 tons separately. Average export price for ferrosilicon remained about US\$1,088/t (FOB) in March, leveling with the price in February. In Q1, the total exports of ferrosilicon dropped by 70.2% year-on-year to about 96,249 tons, accounting for 34.7% of the total ferroalloy exports. China's ferrosilicon exports to South Korea, Japan, and Chinese Taiwan were about 30,985 tons, 22,155 tons and 11,964 tons respectively, taking up 32.2%, 23.0% and 12.4% separately of the total ferrosilicon exports.

China's ferrosilicon exports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	96,249	106,897,063	India	2,340	2,766,562
South Korea	30,985	34,213,931	Thailand	2,222	2,430,951
Japan	22,155	24,999,101	Mexico	1,884	2,611,700
Chinese Taiwan	11,964	13,143,064	Spain	1,553	1,742,241
USA	4,916	5,303,803	Iran	1,550	1,673,859
Netherlands	3,399	3,402,943	Chile	1,465	1,719,237
Malaysia	2,523	2,614,091	Pakistan	1,425	1,469,410

In March, China exported about 5,402 tons of ferrosilicon-manganese, a great decline of 92.6% y-o-y

In March, China exported about 5,402 tons of ferrosilicon-manganese, down by 63.38% over the month ago and a great decline of 92.6% year-on-year. China's ferrosilicon-manganese was mainly exported to Japan, China's Hong Kong and Chinese Taiwan with quantities of 3,371 tons, 1,593 tons and 200 tons respectively. During January-March, China's exports of ferrosilicon-manganese declined greatly by 85.1% year-on-year to about 30,357 tons, accounting for 10.9% of the total ferroalloy exports. Japan, China's Hong Kong and South Korea were the main ferrosilicon-manganese importers with quantities of 20,496 tons, 5,117 tons and 1,700 tons separately, accounting for 67.5%, 16.9% and 5.6% respectively of the total ferrosilicon-manganese exports.

China's ferrosilicon-manganese exports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	30,357	50,412,843	South Korea	1,700	2,988,059

Japan	20,496	32,982,455	Malaysia	1,283	2,310,400
China's Hong Kong	5,117	9,680,485	Chinese Taiwan	895	1,343,011

In March, China exported about 26,392 tons of ferrochromium, a fall of 41.7% y-o-y

In March, China exported about 26,392 tons of ferrochromium, greatly up by 106% over February and down by 41.7% year-on-year. China's exports to Japan and South Korea were about 23,212 tons and 1,993 tons respectively. In the first three months in 2009, China's exports of ferrochromium totaled about 50,670 tons, a large drop of 53.0% year-on-year, taking up 18.3% of the total ferroalloy exports. China's exports to Japan and South Korea were about 39,196 tons and 7,223 tons respectively during January-March, accounting for 77.4% and 14.3% separately of the total ferrochromium exports.

In March, China's imports of ferrochromium reached about 177,651 tons, down by 24.4% y-o-y

In March, China's imports of ferrochromium reached about 177,651 tons, up by 72.5% over the month ago and down by 24.4% year-on-year. China's ferrochromium imports from India, Kazakhstan and India were about 61,933 tons, 51,468 tons and 47,361 tons respectively. In Q1, total imports of ferrochromium fell down by 10.9% year-on-year to 368,574 tons, taking up 80.0% of the total ferroalloy imports. China's imports of ferrochromium from Kazakhstan, India, and South Africa were about 132,901 tons, 115,879 tons and 91,940 tons separately during that period, accounting for 36.1%, 31.4% and 24.9% separately of the total ferrochromium imports.

China's ferrochromium imports and exports by country during January-March

Country	Import		Country	Export	
	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)		Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	368,574	313,640,564	Total	50,670	55,583,308
Kazakhstan	132,901	125,065,814	Japan	39,196	36,790,723
India	115,879	99,574,333	South Korea	7,223	8,705,024
South Africa	91,940	64,225,590	India	1,517	4,259,500
Mozambique	11,300	7,802,882	Chinese Taiwan	625	1,215,059

In March, China exported about 4,087 tons of ferromanganese, a significant fall of 86.4% y-o-y

In March, China exported about 4,087 tons of ferromanganese, up by 64.08% over the month ago and a significant drop of 86.4% year-on-year. China's ferromanganese exports to the USA, Iran and South Korea were about 1,485 tons, 1,086 tons and 740 tons respectively. In Q1, total exports of ferromanganese fell down by 80.2% year-on-year to about 15,461 tons, taking up 5.6% of the total ferroalloy exports. China's ferromanganese exports to Japan, the USA and South Korea were about 4,381 tons, 2,795 tons and 2,059 tons respectively during that period, accounting for 28.3%, 18.1% and 13.3% separately of the total ferromanganese exports.

China's ferromanganese exports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	15,461	34,917,661	Chinese Taiwan	1,187	1,305,700
Japan	4,381	7,616,420	Iran	1,086	3,579,000
USA	2,795	8,071,002	Netherlands	539	1,425,200
South Korea	2,059	4,951,450	Malaysia	510	1,374,440

China's Hong Kong	1,550	3,668,877	Mexico	300	582,000
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In March, China imported about 218,743 tons of ferroalloys, up by 37.3% y-o-y

In March, China imported about 218,743 tons of ferroalloys, up by 54.64% over February and up by 37.3% year-on-year. China's imports of ferroalloy from South Africa, Kazakhstan, and India were about 61,933 tons, 56,203 tons and 47,856 tons respectively. During January-March, China's imports of ferroalloy totaled about 460,950 tons, a decline of 1.5% year-on-year. China's imports of ferroalloys from Kazakhstan, India and South Africa were about 151,948 tons, 116,385 tons and 91,940 tons separately during that period, accounting for 33.0%, 25.2% and 19.9% respectively of the total ferroalloy imports.

China's ferroalloy imports by country during January-March

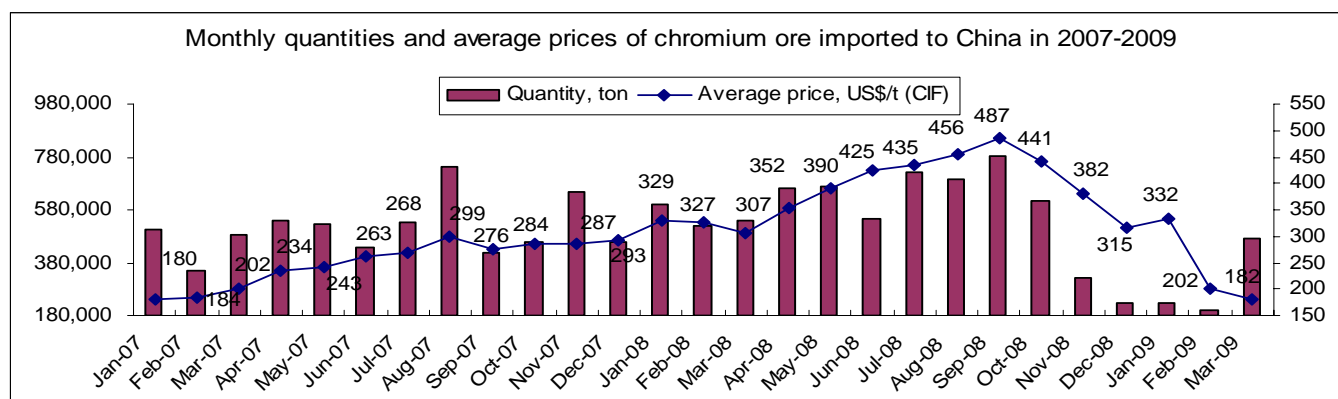
Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	460,950	1,052,643,550	Mozambique	11,300	7,802,882
Kazakhstan	151,948	141,302,435	China's Hong Kong	9,246	42,093,634
India	116,385	101,076,419	USA	4,039	104,743,818
South Africa	91,940	64,225,590	DPRK	2,612	2,110,414
Japan	20,143	108,602,056	Singapore	2,270	27,899,102
Columbia	17,523	56,970,754	Brazil	1,674	28,961,654
New Caledonia	15,251	36,669,593	France	1,371	8,287,533

In March, China imported about 474,732 tons of chromium ore, a fall of 12.3% y-o-y

In March, China imported about 474,732 tons of chromium ore, a sharp rise of 137.2% over February and a fall of 12.3% compared to the same month in 2008. China's chromium ore imports from South Africa, Turkey and Iran were about 171,709 tons, 74,337 tons and 25,171 tons respectively. Average import prices for chromium ore decreased to US\$181.7/t (CIF) in March from US\$201.8/t (CIF) in February. During January-March, total imports of chromium ore were about 884,956 tons, down by 46.7% year-on-year. China's imports of chromium ore from South Africa, Turkey and Iran were about 349,941 tons, 117,003 tons, and 93,941 tons respectively during that period, taking up 39.5%, 13.2%, and 10.6% separately of the total chromium ore imports.

China's chromium ore imports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	884,956	196,299,702	UAE	20,314	2,117,607
South Africa	349,941	69,514,738	China's Hong Kong	18,399	1,720,619
Turkey	117,003	29,625,711	Madagascar	18,028	10,661,628
Iran	93,941	26,811,283	Philippines	16,008	2,331,787
Oman	50,535	6,693,685	Albania	12,098	2,059,452
Mozambique	48,366	6,398,460	Vietnam	9,420	1,866,624
India	47,102	19,739,018	Sudan	8,237	3,982,334
Brazil	38,410	4,774,875	Kazakhstan	6,752	1,482,252
Pakistan	27,857	6,051,099	Indonesia	1,490	284,318

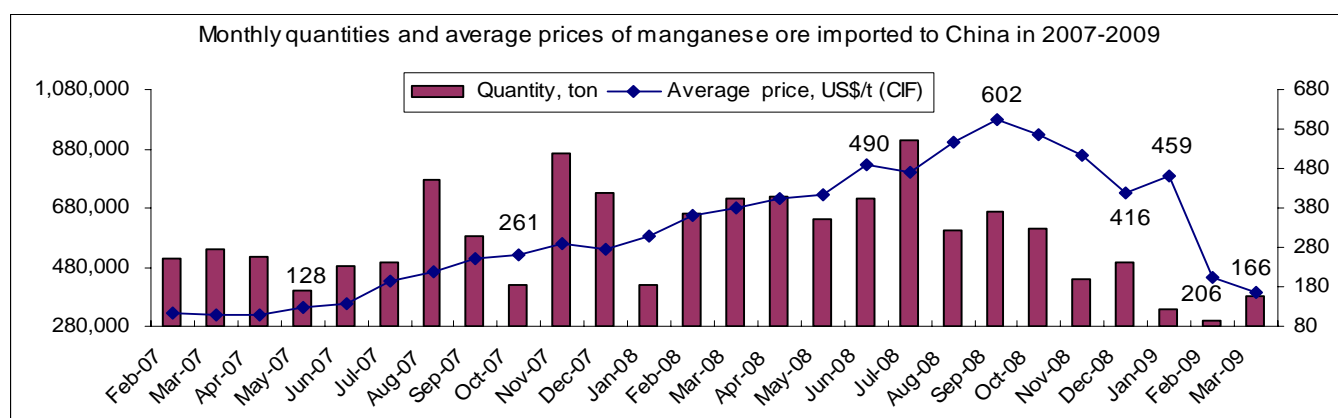


In March, China imported about 383,936 tons of manganese ore, a great fall of 46.1% y-o-y

In March, China imported about 383,936 tons of manganese ore, an increase of 29.0% over February and a great fall of 46.1% compared to the same month in 2008. Average import prices for manganese ore reduced to US\$165.9/t (CIF) in March from US\$206.0/t (CIF) in February. China's manganese ore was mainly imported from Australia, South Africa and Burma with quantities of 169,398 tons, 16,619 tons and 62,634 tons respectively. During January-March, total imports of manganese ore reached about 1.016 million tons, down by 43.3% year-on-year. Australia, South Africa and Burma were the main source countries. China's imports of manganese ore from the above three countries were about 265,864 tons, 132,996 tons and 126,661 tons respectively during that period, accounting for 26.2%, 13.1% and 12.5% separately of the total manganese ore imports.

China's manganese ore imports by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	1,015,834	278,240,629	Morocco	25,610	3,785,502
Australia	265,864	91,593,322	Vietnam	24,436	2,324,321
South Africa	132,996	45,978,485	USA	15,183	3,020,322
Burma	126,661	13,033,282	Namibia	14,264	2,821,035
Gabon	111,142	55,983,971	The Republic of Coted Ivorie	4,720	916,760
India	88,540	8,833,283	China's Hong Kong	4,264	1,008,244
Malaysia	76,014	8,858,312	Thailand	3,186	455,677
Brazil	55,961	24,554,792	Turkey	2,310	303,151
Indonesia	29,038	8,412,373	Zambia	2,043	610,529
Kazakhstan	26,969	4,310,864	Nigeria	1,474	166,885



Steel Scrap

In May, steel scrap prices firstly presented minor risings due to the raised purchase prices, and then presented small oscillations

In May, steel scrap prices firstly presented minor risings in most areas due to the raised purchase prices in some steel enterprises caused by the recovered demand from the better situation in domestic steel market, and then presented small oscillations along with the price movement in steel product market. At the end of May, the price for 6-8mm steel scrap in Jiangsu rose to about RMB2,530/t, a growth of RMB100/t over a month ago. It is predicted that the prices for steel scrap will keep on fluctuating owing to the price frequent movements in steel product market.

The prices for imported steel scrap rose slightly owing to the growing international marine freight in May

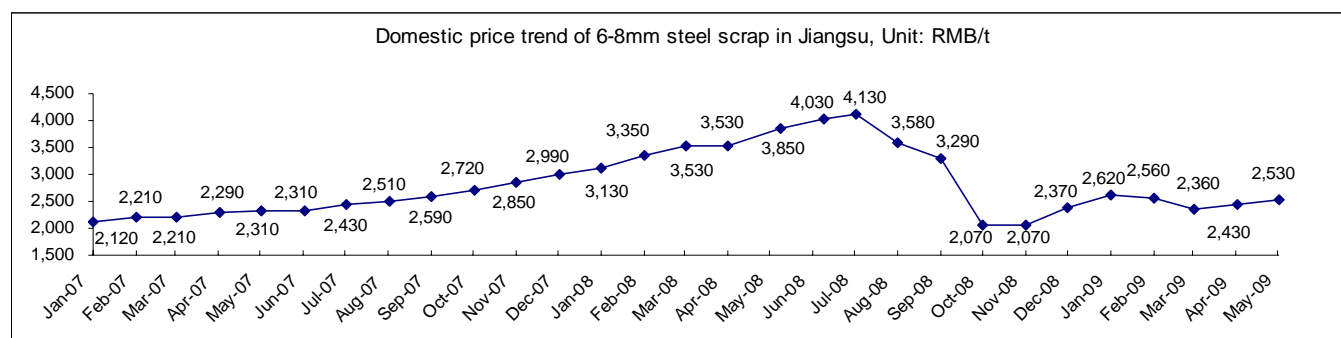
In May, imported steel scrap prices rose slightly due to the growing international marine freight. In late May, the prices for H2 steel scrap from Japan quoted at US\$254.8/t (FOB), about US\$10/t higher over a month ago. The price for HMS 1&2 (80:20 mix) steel scrap from America increased to US\$235-240/t in late May from US\$225-230/t a month ago.

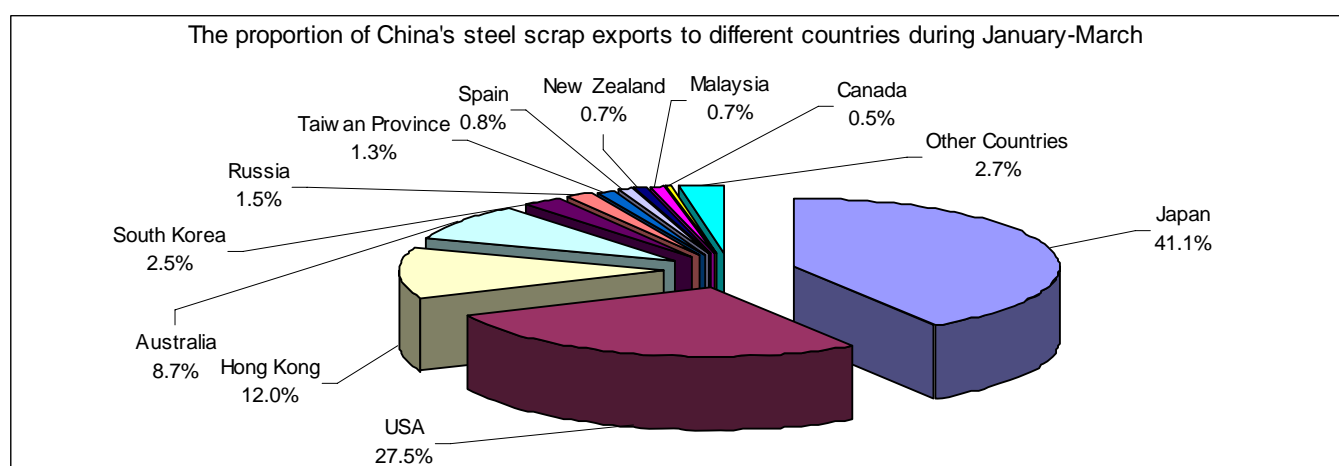
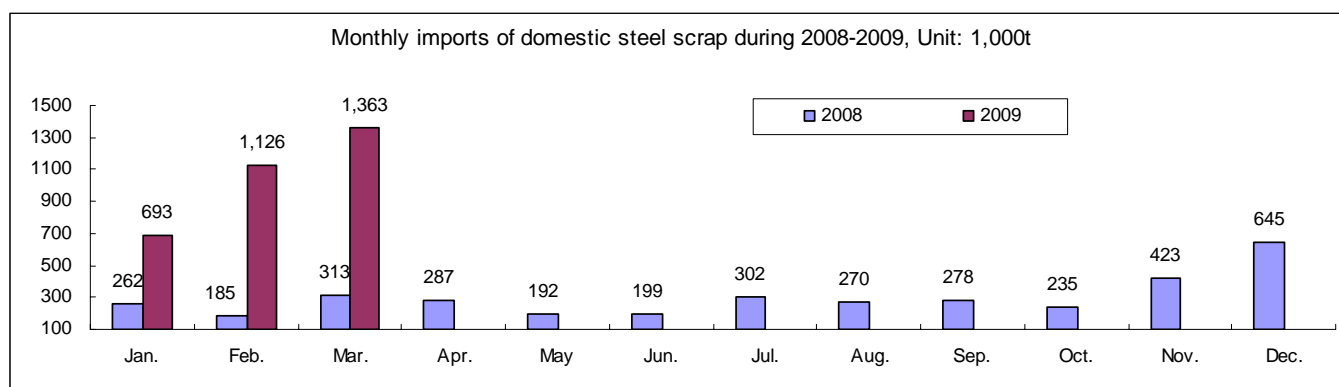
In March, China's imports of steel scrap reached at 1.363Mt, up by 21.1% m-o-m. Total imports of steel scrap reached 3.182Mt in Q1, a jump of 318.8% y-o-y

In March, China imported about 1.363 million tons of steel scrap, a rise of 21.1% over the month ago. China's imports of steel scrap were mainly from Japan, the USA, Hong Kong and Australia with quantities of 548,870 tons, 383,759 tons, 155,181 tons and 147,175 tons respectively in that month. In the first three months of 2009, China's imports of steel scrap amounted to about 3.182 million tons, a jump of 318.8% compared with the same period of last year. The imports of steel scrap from the above four countries and region were about 1.307 million tons, 876,422 tons, 380,917 tons and 275,410 tons respectively during that period, accounting for 41.1%, 27.5%, 12.0% and 8.7% separately of the total scrap imports.

In March, China exported 540t steel scrap, a rise of 9.0% over February

In March, China exported about 540 tons of steel scrap, a rise of 9.0% over the month ago. About 527 tons of steel scrap were exported to South Korea. In Q1, the exports of steel scrap totaled about 1,210 tons, a great decline of 97.7% year-on-year. China's exports of steel scrap to South Korea amounted to about 1,143 tons during January-March, taking up 94.5% of the total scrap exports.





China's imports of steel scrap by country during January-March

Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)	Country	Quantity (ton)	Value (US\$)
Total	3,181,980	1,049,654,791	Canada	15,567	4,060,949
Japan	1,306,617	412,718,775	Macao	14,997	8,405,845
USA	876,422	269,670,672	France	10,963	7,574,054
Hong Kong	380,917	159,713,913	DPRK	9,822	1,488,978
Australia	275,410	77,918,878	Singapore	9,350	2,588,852
South Korea	80,624	34,043,768	Philippines	8,585	3,273,192
Russia	48,231	12,093,384	Panama	7,479	1,951,103
Chinese Taiwan	39,974	14,214,754	Thailand	6,563	1,987,585
Spain	25,715	12,260,350	Kirghizstan	4,920	1,008,550
New Zealand	23,755	6,650,196	Netherlands	2,076	2,842,523
Malaysia	23,405	9,592,645	Sweden	1,955	738,094

Macro-economy & Policy

MIIT: curbing the fast growth of steel production

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of China (MIIT) recently released an urgent notice on curbing the fast growth of steel output.

MIIT pointed that Chinese steel industry has been facing very serious difficulties mainly from overcapacity, high proportion of out-of-date capacity, unreasonable product mix, high dependency on imported iron ore etc.

MIIT required local governments should take effective measures to eliminate the obsolete ironmaking, steelmaking and rolling lines. The commercial banks should halt loans to steelmakers that expand productions blindly despite market demand. CISA should coordinate steelmakers to cut their outputs of the products, especially for some flats. By the end of 2008, Chinese production capacity of HR sheets/strips reached about 268Mt including about 36Mt out-of-date HR narrow strip capacities, far more than the demand.

CISA proposes to better export circumstances for steel products

China's steel exports slumped by 59.7% y-o-y, however, the imports grew by 9.9% during the first four months of 2009. This terribly hit domestic steel market under the condition of oversupply and obvious shrinkage of demand.

CISA believes that the main factors for the big fall of steel exports are as follows: First of all the demand for steel products decreased largely in international market. The second is the trade protectionism in some foreign countries which is curbing the import of China's steel products. Moreover, the exchange rate among currencies is not favorable for China to export its products. Apart from these, the exporting enterprises also feel pressure from the export tariffs.

In addition to those above, China's steel products do not have any advantage in prices, so their competitiveness weakens dramatically in the world market.

CISA proposed that authorities should fulfill some measures ASAP to better the export circumstance for China's steel products and adjust the export tariffs to a rational level to get a stable market.

Rio Tinto announces 2009 iron ore price settlement

Rio Tinto subsidiary Hamersley Iron has recently reached an agreement with Japan's Nippon Steel Corporation on the price for Hamersley iron ore deliveries for the contract year commencing on April 1, 2009. Under this agreement, the new prices for Hamersley products will be: US cents 97 per dry metric ton unit for Pilbara Blend Fines, US cents 97 per dry metric ton unit for Yandicoogina Fines and US cents 112 per dry metric ton unit for Pilbara Blend Lump, down by 32.94%, 32.94% and 44.46% respectively compared with those in 2008. The falls are lower than the expectation of CISA.

China's PMI rose by 1.1 percent over a month ago to 53.5% in April

According to the latest data released by China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing (CFLP), the purchasing managers' index (PMI) was about 53.5% in April, 1.1 percent higher over a month ago.

The new order index continued to climb up, sustaining at over 50% for consecutive three months. This index went up by 2.0 percent over a month ago to about 56.6% in April. Moreover, the new export order index was close to 50%, up by 1.6 percent over a month ago to 49.1%. As for the steel industry, its export order index was under 30%. The production index rose by 0.5 percent over a month ago to about 57.4% in April, exceeding 50% for the consecutive three months. In addition, the purchase price index went up by 3.0 percent over a month ago to about 51.3% in April. This is the first time for the purchase price index to exceed 50% since October 2008.

Industry News

73 steel enterprises lost 5.179bn RMB during January-April

According to statistics of CISA, its 73 steel enterprise members achieved 575.59bn RMB sales revenue during January-April, with a fall of 18.9% year-on-year. All these steel enterprises lost 5.179bn RMB during the first four months, a big contrast to the profits of 63.401bn RMB in the corresponding period of last year. About 29 steel enterprises were in deficits during the period, five more than that during January-March.

China's coke and iron ore outputs dropped greatly by 14.1% and 16.5% y-o-y in April

According to the latest statistics, China's coke output dropped by 14.1% year-on-year and 4.76% month-on-month to 24.73Mt in April, and totaled 98.40Mt in the first four months of 2009, down by 8.3% year-on-year. Iron ore output was about 60.79Mt in April, down by 16.5% year-on-year and 1.51% month-on-month. Total output of iron ore was 228.42Mt during January-April, a fall of 3.5% year-on-year.

Apparent consumption of crude steel grew by 6.92% during Jan.-Apr.

According to statistics, China's apparent consumption of crude steel was 170.4308Mt in the first four months of 2009, a rise of 11.0324Mt or 6.92% compared to the corresponding period of last year. The demand for steel products showed weakening clearly, however. This is believed as the main reason for the oversupply in domestic market.

New orders of ship fell in April

Chinese ship industry kept a stable development as a whole during January-April. About 1774 ship enterprises with certain business scale completed 156.8bn RMB in gross output value, up by 39.4% y-o-y, consisting of 119.8bn RMB in ship manufacturing, 16.7bn RMB in ship auxiliary facility manufacturing and RMB20.1bn in ship repairing and dismantling.

Ship completions were 7.06M DWT in major ship enterprises during the period, up by 54% year-on-year. New orders were about 640,000DWT, down by 96%. By the end of April, the total order-book in ship enterprises was 165.59M DWT, up by 10% year-on-year, but down by 1.4% compared with that in the end of March and 3.4% compared with that at the beginning of the year. Some experts predict that the overcapacity would come earlier in 2010.

Baosteel signed strategic cooperation agreement with home appliance manufacturers

Baosteel Group recently signed strategic cooperation agreements with leading home appliance manufacturers, Midea and Galanz, aiming to improve the industrial chains of steel and home appliance enterprises, to consolidate a long-term and stable relationship as well as to deepen their cooperation in steel procurement, product development and technology. The two large home appliance manufacturers are famous for their air conditioners, micro-wave ovens and others.

China's first international iron ore trade center unveiled in Rizhao

Rizhao International Iron Ore Trade Center, China's first iron ore trade platform, was unveiled on May 25 in Shandong Province. This center is invested by five local private companies with capacity of 20M RMB and is expected to start operation formally in August.

Currently, Rizhao port is the biggest one in China for importing iron ore in China with over 76Mt in 2008. In the first four months of 2009, over 30Mt iron ore were imported from this port, keeping the No.1 in the country.

The trade center will offer services including electronic transaction, information exchange, quality inspection, storage, transportation, insurance, and settlement for the two parties in iron ore trading, etc. Besides, it will set a Rizhao Index for iron ore price, becoming a signal of iron ore transaction price all over the world.

Shaanxi to merge existing three steelmakers into a steel group

Shaanxi province plans to merge the existing three steelmakers, Shaanxi Hanzhong Iron and Steel (Group) Co., Ltd, Shaanxi Lueyang Iron and Steel Limited Company and Shaanxi Longmen Iron and Steel (Group) Company, into one steel group named as Shaanxi Iron and Steel Group.

The provincial development and reform commission together with other departments will carry out survey in advance for the action. According to the plan, the government will support technological upgrading and promote equipment modernization in these steel mills.

It is said that Longmen Steel has launched its construction of two 1280m³ blast furnaces. In 2008, the crude steel output of Shaanxi province was only about 3Mt.

Chinalco and Rio Tinto's deal obtained clearance from CFIUS

Chinalco announced on May 15 that the deal between Chinalco and Rio Tinto has obtained clearance from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) regarding the proposed issue of convertible bonds to Chinalco and the indirect minority investment in Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation, as contemplated by the strategic transaction announced by Rio Tinto and Chinalco on February 12, 2009. Rio Tinto and Chinalco jointly filed a voluntary notice with CFIUS in connection with the transaction. The receipt of CFIUS clearance satisfied a regulatory pre-condition to the transaction. Up to now, the two companies have not got clearance from the Foreign Investment Review Board of Australia.

Foshan Baosteel Can Making Co., Ltd goes into operation

Foshan Baosteel Can Making Co., Ltd, the fourth can making company for Baosteel, held an opening ceremony on May 23, marking the startup of Baosteel's deep processing project in the south of China. This project is invested with 375M RMB in the first phase for setting up an automatic production line with 2000 CPM and 700 million cans annually. Its products will be used by Coco-cola, Pepsi etc. At present, there is the biggest market for can in the south of China and the demand is estimated to be 6bn cans annually, taking about 45% market shares in the country.

Statement by Chief Editor

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The Outputs of China's Main Metallurgical Products & Rolled Steel Products in April 2009

Unit: 1,000t

	Apr. 09	y-o-y, %	Jan.-Apr. 09	Jan.- Apr. 08	Increment	y-o-y, %
Crude steel	43,412.6	-3.9	170,669.3	170,566.7	102.6	0.1
Pig iron	41,630.8	0.4	163,786.4	158,738.0	5,048.4	3.2
Coke	24,736.5	-14.1	98,402.7	107,302.9	-8,900.2	-8.3
Iron ore	60,788.3	-16.5	228,415.9	236,628.1	-8,212.2	-3.5
Ferroalloy	1,575.0	-9.6	5,513.2	5,950.7	-437.5	-7.4
Rolled steel products	52,914.5	2.6	196,980.6	191,756.1	5,224.5	2.7
Rail steel	476.0	13.3	1,960.7	1,442.0	518.7	36.0
<i>-Heavy rail</i>	366.6	74.2	1,481.8	662.7	819.1	123.6
<i>-Light rail</i>	70.0	-22.7	301.2	500.4	-199.2	-39.8
Large section	681.6	-25.5	2,873.6	3,381.1	-507.5	-15.0
Medium & small section	3,546.1	16.8	11,512.2	9,600.1	1,912.1	19.9
Bar	4,534.0	-2.4	15,862.0	17,116.9	-1,254.9	-7.3
Rebar	9,686.4	17.9	36,699.3	30,614.6	6,084.7	19.9
Wire rod	7,481.9	10.3	28,191.5	25,951.3	2,240.2	8.6
Ultra-heavy plate	362.9	-2.2	1,557.9	1,492.2	65.7	4.4
Heavy plate	1,341.7	-21.0	5,767.4	6,403.3	-635.9	-9.9
Medium plate	2,630.6	-20.0	10,120.7	12,405.0	-2,284.3	-18.4
HR sheet	636.4	5.9	2,774.8	2,175.0	599.8	27.6
CR sheet	1,282.7	-1.2	4,417.2	4,600.9	-183.7	-4.0
Heavy& medium wide strip	5,834.7	-12.1	23,591.8	25,737.3	-2,145.5	-8.3
HR thin & wide strip	1,459.9	-4.5	6,431.1	6,410.0	21.1	0.3
CR thin & wide strip	1,624.2	-3.6	5,912.6	6,640.3	-727.7	-11.0
HR narrow strip	3,597.5	14.9	12,356.2	12,137.2	219.0	1.8
CR narrow strip	560.5	-4.2	1,756.7	1,942.9	-186.2	-9.6
Coated sheet (strip)	1,328.6	-11.6	5,043.6	5,515.5	-471.9	-8.6
Color-coated sheet (strip)	300.3	-19.3	1,134.9	1,308.5	-173.6	-13.3
Electrical plate (strip)	336.4	-6.9	1,252.2	1,416.7	-164.5	-11.6
Seamless pipe	1,667.1	-2.7	6,468.0	6,085.1	382.9	6.3
Welded pipe	2,656.4	25.2	8,039.8	6,917.5	1,122.3	16.2
Others	890.0	35.7	3,256.8	2,463.4	793.4	32.2

China's Crude Steel and Pig Iron Outputs by Regions in April

Unit: 1,000t

Provinces	Crude steel			Provinces	Pig iron		
	Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y		Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y
Total	43,412.6	170,669.3	0.1	Total	41,630.8	163,786.4	3.2
Beijing	394.9	1,571.2	-20.5	Beijing	374.2	1,500.4	-20.5
Tianjin	1,540.5	6,180.5	1.1	Tianjin	1,366.2	5,236.0	-0.4
Hebei	10,570.3	40,967.3	8.3	Hebei	10,622.3	41,524.5	12.5
Shanxi	1,813.0	7,345.1	-10.4	Shanxi	2,007.2	8,051.2	-16.9
Inner Mongolia	953.9	4,262.7	9.3	Inner Mongolia	1,048.1	4,195.0	6.0
Liaoning	3,647.7	14,418.0	2.6	Liaoning	3,788.0	14,810.3	9.5
Jilin	684.5	2,286.7	-6.4	Jilin	459.9	1,794.5	-18.6
Heilongjiang	427.9	1,574.5	0.1	Heilongjiang	383.2	1,454.1	18.3
Shanghai	1,504.0	5,887.7	-15.3	Shanghai	1,393.6	5,347.7	-10.1
Jiangsu	4,073.6	16,177.4	-2.7	Jiangsu	3,508.1	14,055.2	5.5
Zhejiang	807.0	3,042.6	6.1	Zhejiang	217.9	874.1	-12.6
Anhui	1,369.6	5,348.8	-9.9	Anhui	1,194.1	4,643.6	-7.6
Fujian	578.7	2,234.6	2.1	Fujian	457.4	1,844.0	0.3
Jiangxi	1,182.2	4,549.7	8.1	Jiangxi	1,058.1	4,057.4	18.9
Shandong	3,946.6	15,851.8	-5.1	Shandong	4,189.0	17,134.5	-1.6
Henan	1,708.4	7,007.6	-4.6	Henan	1,422.9	5,725.7	-0.1
Hubei	1,473.8	5,960.2	-10.8	Hubei	1,462.5	5,826.7	-8.8
Hunan	1,104.9	4,378.0	8.5	Hunan	1,060.2	4,273.4	13.6
Guangdong	790.5	3,129.3	-13.7	Guangdong	568.6	2,146.8	-14.1
Guangxi	720.0	2,950.2	20.1	Guangxi	678.6	2,812.2	32.9
Hainan	24.9	66.8	172.7	Hainan	2.8	9.2	-81.0
Chongqing	279.1	1,111.8	-10.3	Chongqing	273.8	1,049.0	-5.4
Sichuan	1,216.7	4,823.0	5.0	Sichuan	1,237.4	4,918.7	6.9
Guizhou	282.5	1,036.2	-11.4	Guizhou	308.1	1,088.3	0.4
Yunnan	850.6	3,010.8	-3.6	Yunnan	1,028.6	3,665.9	-5.4
Shaanxi	416.4	1,413.2	39.2	Shaanxi	421.2	1,441.2	43.9
Gansu	490.8	1,945.5	15.9	Gansu	469.0	1,874.3	-4.5
Qinghai	95.1	397.3	-2.8	Qinghai	83.4	330.7	-1.0
Ningxia				Ningxia	15.3	108.7	-6.2
Xinjiang	464.5	1,740.8	8.2	Xinjiang	531.1	1,993.1	33.2

China's Finished Steel Products and Coke Outputs by Regions in April

Unit: 1,000t

Provinces	Finished steel products			Provinces	Coke		
	Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y		Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y
Total	52,914.5	196,980.6	2.7	Total	24,736.5	98,402.7	-8.3
Beijing	633.0	2,501.2	1.3	Beijing	136.5	546.0	-6.7
Tianjin	3,394.1	11,669.0	16.1	Tianjin	247.5	914.6	-13.9
Hebei	10,780.8	40,451.7	10.0	Hebei	3,393.4	13,119.9	0.9
Shanxi	1,610.7	6,444.2	-4.7	Shanxi	4,576.2	19,485.2	-34.1
Inner Mongolia	1,044.8	4,037.1	27.8	Inner Mongolia	1,337.9	5,295.3	18.8
Liaoning	3,488.3	14,118.3	5.8	Liaoning	1,496.9	5,777.0	-0.6
Jilin	761.0	2,511.2	-4.4	Jilin	304.5	1,214.3	-5.2
Heilongjiang	361.8	1,450.4	5.6	Heilongjiang	696.6	2,555.9	-5.5
Shanghai	1,603.4	6,368.4	-19.3	Shanghai	523.7	2,229.1	-11.9
Jiangsu	6,097.1	22,948.4	-5.0	Jiangsu	1,022.9	3,800.8	-1.3
Zhejiang	1,842.8	6,101.2	10.5	Zhejiang	202.7	699.1	26.1
Anhui	1,576.8	6,087.6	-1.5	Anhui	562.3	2,315.1	-8.1
Fujian	1,105.6	4,146.1	11.5	Fujian	102.7	430.3	42.6
Jiangxi	1,245.4	4,590.0	7.9	Jiangxi	476.0	1,760.9	10.8
Shandong	5,116.5	18,399.3	0.7	Shandong	2,585.9	10,332.7	8.0
Henan	2,158.5	8,144.4	-6.3	Henan	1,596.8	6,408.7	7.2
Hubei	1,657.2	6,206.6	-8.1	Hubei	609.5	2,602.2	6.0
Hunan	1,133.9	4,429.0	13.6	Hunan	418.3	1,557.5	4.7
Guangdong	1,787.4	6,113.6	-9.5	Guangdong	147.1	566.8	80.9
Guangxi	802.5	3,003.0	11.6	Guangxi	246.9	1,042.3	13.7
Hainan	8.4	31.4	11.3	Hainan			
Chongqing	376.0	1,311.4	-8.2	Chongqing	215.3	794.5	-6.9
Sichuan	1,483.8	5,680.3	5.2	Sichuan	864.4	3,449.2	-1.6
Guizhou	279.2	992.8	-11.9	Guizhou	580.4	2,029.0	-26.7
Yunnan	757.4	2,671.2	-4.6	Yunnan	935.2	3,730.6	-11.0
Shaanxi	705.2	2,372.6	61.8	Shaanxi	583.7	2,217.7	-1.6
Gansu	493.4	1,894.6	-5.9	Gansu	192.6	773.2	15.3
Qinghai	97.4	368.6	-3.5	Qinghai	97.3	476.5	-5.2
Ningxia	19.8	96.1	9.6	Ningxia	124.7	465.8	16.8
Xinjiang	492.3	1,840.9	8.1	Xinjiang	458.6	1,812.5	10.6

China's Raw Ore and Ferroalloy Outputs by Regions in April

Unit: 1,000t

Raw ore				Ferroalloy			
Provinces	Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y	Provinces	Apr. 09	Jan.-Apr. 09	% y-o-y
Total	60,788.3	228,415.9	-3.5	Total	1,575.0	5,513.2	-7.4
Beijing	1,594.1	6,107.0	3.7	Beijing	0.8	3.3	22.2
Tianjin				Tianjin	0.8	2.3	15.0
Hebei	22,186.2	91,207.6	-10.2	Hebei	8.5	32.4	-34.1
Shanxi	2,334.3	8,134.1	-27.5	Shanxi	59.9	238.6	-38.1
Inner Mongolia	5,217.2	15,588.9	-13.4	Inner Mongolia	303.4	915.3	-16.6
Liaoning	10,109.0	36,119.7	0.8	Liaoning	60.1	215.7	-1.8
Jilin	643.1	2,979.0	14.7	Jilin	34.9	146.7	-32.5
Heilongjiang	43.9	146.4	27.9	Heilongjiang			
Shanghai				Shanghai			
Jiangsu	447.9	1,849.5	1.2	Jiangsu	23.7	96.3	-8.0
Zhejiang	248.9	683.5	27.9	Zhejiang	31.2	110.0	23.7
Anhui	2,335.0	7,061.5	8.4	Anhui	0.1	0.3	
Fujian	750.3	3,200.8	16.2	Fujian	14.5	41.6	-4.4
Jiangxi	388.1	1,431.7	-6.2	Jiangxi	2.7	13.1	-23.4
Shandong	1,495.3	5,566.3	-3.1	Shandong	51.4	178.8	43.6
Henan	578.2	2,131.8	-20.6	Henan	81.7	351.0	-17.0
Hubei	914.7	3,362.0	11.2	Hubei	15.3	64.2	12.8
Hunan	242.7	1,213.6	97.2	Hunan	152.7	528.7	24.8
Guangdong	807.2	3,296.2	-9.5	Guangdong	0.5	15.1	-17.9
Guangxi	76.2	378.8	21.1	Guangxi	180.7	650.9	-3.4
Hainan	419.2	1,607.8	-8.1	Hainan			
Chongqing	18.1	117.6	12.4	Chongqing	26.3	86.7	-3.3
Sichuan	6,453.9	24,756.2	22.6	Sichuan	139.3	501.2	34.0
Guizhou	50.2	139.6	26.2	Guizhou	159.4	555.4	25.1
Yunnan	1,598.5	5,431.7	18.1	Yunnan	33.0	151.2	3.1
Tibet	304.7	1,137.6	25.2	Shaanxi	24.2	59.9	-32.8
Shaanxi	557.4	2,308.1	12.1	Gansu	61.8	194.1	-38.4
Gansu	20.8	32.5	-65.8	Qinghai	52.1	190.0	-1.9
Qinghai				Ningxia	52.7	157.3	-48.6
Ningxia	953.2	2,426.4	4.1	Xinjiang	3.3	13.1	-67.7
Xinjiang	1,093.2	4,641.8	35.9				

The imports and exports of stainless steel products during January-March

Products	Specification(mm)	Imports (ton)		Exports (ton)				
		Mar. 09	Jan.-Mar. 09	Mar. 09	Jan.-Mar. 09			
Semis	Ingot	433	46,204	0	1			
	Slab	31,510	39,442	0	2			
	Others	2,541	5,059	0	2			
	Total of semis	34,484	90,705	0	5			
Flat products	width>=600mm	HR coil	Thickness s>10	49	177	338	662	
				4.75 ≤s<10	2,508	4,593	3,349	7,743
				3≤s<4.75	12,845	45,706	785	1,395
				S<3	587	1,416	2,080	3,203
		HR plate	Thickness s>10	1,495	3,683	2,224	5,461	
				4.75≤s≤10	827	1,755	710	1,489
				3≤s<4.75	382	626	116	242
		HR sheet	S<3	132	237	61	97	
				Incl:	1≤s<3	117	202	51
				0.5≤s≤1	12	28	10	13
				S<0.5	2	6	0	0
		Sub-total		18,824	58,192	9,664	20,293	
		CR plate	s≥4.75	315	571	32	321	
					3≤s<4.75	979	1,678	360
		CR sheet	1<s<3	6,146	18,321	3,369	7,572	
					0.5≤s<1	9,566	26,165	2,437
				S<0.5	2,366	6,043	552	1,707
		sub-total		19,373	52,779	6,750	15,551	
		Unlisted		498	1,379	386	1,081	
		Total		38,696	112,351	16,800	36,925	
		Width<600mm	HR strip	s≥4.75	357	687	17	99
						s<4.75	287	622
		CR strip	Sub-total	2,021	4,182	729	1,774	
				S≤0.35	2,665	5,491	1,812	3,782
			2,087	5,877	1,222	2,262		
			8,329	19,442	4,560	9,501		
			S≥3	76	423	4	292	
	Total		13,157	31,233	7,599	15,838		
	Total of flat products		51,853	143,584	24,399	52,763		
Long products	Hot rolled coiled bar		5,487	10,443	277	450		
	Hot rolled, hot drawn or hot pressed round bar		505	1,318	406	1,126		
	Hot rolled, hot drawn or hot pressed non-round bar		151	578	163	290		
	Cold-formed or cold processed bar		678	2,097	608	1,595		
	Other bars		528	1,144	214	526		
	Angle, section, and special section		139	648	1,157	3,037		
	Wires		1,033	2,800	2,169	5,822		
	Total of long products		8,522	18,989	4,994	12,846		
	Pipes and tubes	HR seamless boiler pipe		258	643	33	47	
CR or cold drawn seamless boiler pipe		2,035	5,030	302	372			
Other HR seamless pipe		333	1,351	134	342			
Other CR or cold drawn seamless pipe		405	983	4,137	13,453			
Welded pipe(external diameter less than 406.4mm)		735	3,017	3,072	7,274			
Seamless pipe for pipeline		135	589	1,064	2,857			
Seamless drilling pipes		0	0	361	416			
Oil & gas seamless casing and guiding pipes		0	1,247	28	127			
Oil & gas welded tubes		17	350	201	544			
Fittings of stainless steel pipe		326	927	4,889	12,303			
Total of pipes and tubes		4,244	14,137	14,221	37,735			
Total		99,103	267,415	43,614	103,349			

Average sales prices for domestic steel products during May 2008-May 2009

Unit: RMB/t

Steel products	May-08	Jun.-08	Jul.-08	Aug-08	Sep.-08	Oct.-08	Nov-08	Dec.-08	Jan.-09	Feb.-09	Mar-09	Apr.-09	May-09
Wire rod Ø6.5mm	5,940	5,872	5,733	4,979	4,710	3,670	3,634	3,675	3,831	3,592	3,353	3,398	3,573
Rebar HRB335 Ø12mm	5,835	5,733	5,654	5,179	4,891	3,829	3,837	3,876	4,012	3,810	3,581	3,610	3,787
I-steel 25#	5,803	5,850	5,837	5,664	5,438	4,417	4,032	4,032	4,087	3,963	3,747	3,622	3,667
Common plate 8mm	7,003	7,033	7,019	6,513	5,981	4,560	4,143	4,220	4,373	4,113	3,885	3,724	3,816
HR coils 3mm	5,963	6,071	6,080	5,547	4,916	3,582	3,592	3,885	4,154	3,744	3,595	3,453	3,609
HR coils 4.75mm	5,861	5,917	5,878	5,170	4,622	3,337	3,407	3,691	3,982	3,518	3,401	3,323	3,483
CR sheet 0.5mm	7,245	7,361	7,273	6,777	6,352	4,925	4,568	4,780	4,962	4,768	4,619	4,458	4,563
CR sheet 1mm	7,028	7,215	7,148	6,528	5,949	4,375	4,179	4,440	4,655	4,444	4,298	4,152	4,371
Galvanized sheet 0.5mm	7,464	7,752	7,710	7,075	6,612	4,966	4,609	4,829	5,003	4,784	4,454	4,364	4,592
Galvanized sheet 1.0mm	7,154	7,465	7,436	6,831	6,183	4,646	4,273	4,514	4,661	4,457	4,187	4,114	4,345
Color-coated sheet 0.476mm	8,462	8,850	8,581	8,136	7,695	6,114	5,684	5,911	6,036	5,911	5,482	5,361	5,599
Seamless steel pipe Ø219*6mm	7,257	8,145	8,059	7,810	7,371	6,148	5,395	5,267	5,313	5,226	4,790	4,543	5,050
Stainless steel sheet 304/2B 2.0mm CR	27,600	26,138	25,588	24,738	23,688	17,675	16,863	16,688	16,388	15,138	14,163	15,113	16,813
Silicon steel WW600	8,090	8,340	8,230	8,030	7,880	5,290	5,030	4,910	5,720	5,530	5,390	5,180	5,310
Tool steel Cr12MoV	17,150	17,810	17,690	17,630	17,550	17,240	15,800	15,620	15,590	16,250	15,960	15,960	15,960

Note: the prices for steel products are average prices in main cities at the end of each month

Sales prices for various raw materials during May 2008-May 2009

Unit: RMB/t

	May-08	Jun-08	Jul.-08	Aug-08	Sep.-08	Oct.-08	Nov-08	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09
Iron concentrate 66% dry in Tangshan	1,535	1,555	1,570	1,340	1,100	735	790	880	850	790	690	670	680
Imported Indian fine ore (63.5%, CIF)	1,440	1,430	1,435	1,290	975	590	595	645	655	625	565	540	535
Coke in Shanghai	2,440	2,890	3,100	3,240	2,600	1,900	1,200	1,400	1,700	1,920	1,670	1,670	1,630
Coke export price US\$/t (FOB)	464.8	498.4	515.6	554.5	620.0	609.0	560.9	446.4	365.1	329.0	365.0	337.8	
Steel scrap 6-8mm in Jiangsu	3,850	4,030	4,130	3,580	3,290	2,070	2,070	2,370	2,620	2,560	2,360	2,430	2,530
Plain carbon billet Q235 in Tangshan	5,450	5,300	5,280	4,600	4,300	3,150	3,100	3,420	3,220	3,000	2,900	3,000	3,100
FeSi 75%Si	10,000	9,500	8,200	7,700	7,500	6,500	5,100	5,200	5,400	5,400	5,700	5,300	5,250
SiMn 65%Mn, 17%Si	11,500	12,500	13,700	13,100	11,200	8,800	7,500	8,000	8,250	7,900	6,850	6,650	6,450
HC FeMn 65%Mn	12,300	13,000	14,500	14,500	13,500	10,800	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,300	7,200	6,700	6,500
HC FeCr 50%Cr	15,800	13,800	14,350	13,800	12,200	9,000	7,200	7,000	6,800	6,750	6,100	6,500	6,500
FeMo 60%Mo	277,000	282,000	276,000	270,000	250,000	168,000	140,000	125,000	128,000	114,000	107,000	108,000	116,000
FeV 50%V	245,000	232,000	235,000	255,000	188,000	135,000	121,000	117,000	115,000	108,000	97,000	87,000	99,000
Manganese ore imported from Brazil	120	130	135	125	110	78	60	62	65	46	42	38	30
45%Mn, US\$/tu													
Chromium ore imported from India	120	118	130	130	123	85	68	63	63	60	49	46	47
50%Cr, US\$/tu													