

Manufacturing: Stocks of primary steel products on hand P3044

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STOCKS OF PRIMARY STEEL PRODUCTS REMAIN ON HIGHER LEVEL

The stockpiling of primary steel products, which was evident in the second and third quarters of 1997, stabilised in the fourth quarter of 1997. The stocks of primary steel products on hand at the end of the fourth quarter of 1997 are only 0,4% higher after seasonal adjustment than at the end of the third quarter. However, stocks at the end of 1997 were 8,8% higher than at the end of 1996.

Noticeable changes in stock levels between September 1997 and December 1997 occurred in ingots and other primary forms (-52 375 metric tons), unclad flat-rolled products wider than 600 mm, in coils (+69 208 metric tons), wire, bars and rods (+46 428 metric tons) and other profile products (+28 337 metric tons). These fluctuations were mainly reported by the basic iron and steel industries. Changes in stocks of other industries remained virtually on the same level.

The increase of 8,8% in stocks between 1996 and 1997 can mainly be attributed to an increase of 68 565 metric tons in wire, bars and rods which were reported by the basic iron and steel industries as well as an increase of 25 219 metric tons reported by other industries. Stocks of basic primary forms remained on the same level as a year ago.

GENERAL

The stocks of primary steel products on hand were revised according to the results of a complete survey in respect of 30 September 1989. The classification of products was revised in collaboration with the SA Rolled Steel Producers' Co-ordinating Council.

The data are collected on a sample basis and raised to obtain estimated total figures and refer to the end of the month or quarter shown. The raising factors were based on the results of the aforementioned survey.

Separate data are published for basic iron and steel industries and all other industries.

Particulars of all stocks on hand are included, irrespective of whether these stocks are materials of own manufactures or factored goods (i.e. goods sold without any further processing). Stocks allocated for further processing or use are also included.

In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month or quarter may have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised as soon as better information is available.

Symbols used

.. = not publishable due to confidentiality

TABLE 1 - TOTAL STOCKS OF PRIMARY STEEL PRODUCTS ON HAND
(excluding ferrous waste and scrap)

HISTORICAL TABLE
Metric tons

ACTUAL					
Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
J	3 053 541	2 743 133	2 667 151	2 859 846	
F	3 069 839	2 670 034	2 535 928	2 835 198	
M	2 908 822	2 670 228	2 482 848	2 863 130	2 458 536*
A	2 924 020	2 800 672	2 545 206	2 766 936	
M	2 776 585	2 868 180	2 537 065	2 702 954	
J	2 636 968	2 670 170	2 480 735	2 618 501	2 491 371
J	2 621 644	2 645 161	2 644 046	2 543 347	
A	2 505 688	2 671 851	2 673 047	2 536 331	
S	2 428 053	2 495 005	2 651 830	2 561 129	2 635 005*
O	2 428 471	2 459 527	2 637 550	2 433 575	

N	2 417 221	2 416 456	2 655 119	2 407 845	
D	2 673 536	2 618 139	2 838 485	2 479 227	2 697 317

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

J					
F					
M	2 885 143	2 646 919	2 460 558	2 838 941	2 437 738
A					
M					
J	2 678 383	2 720 928	2 533 047	2 676 223	2 547 662
J					
A					
S	2 466 424	2 529 060	2 679 431	2 577 936	2 646 518
O					
N					
D	2 611 828	2 557 880	2 777 665	2 432 658	2 652 038

* Revised

TABLE 2.1 - TOTAL STOCKS OF PRIMARY STEEL PRODUCTS ON HAND BY ALL INDUSTRIES AT THE END OF THE QUARTER

Metric tons

PRODUCTS	December	September*	December
	1997		1996
BASIC PRIMARY FORMS AND PRODUCTS, AS WELL AS THOSE IN GRANULAR OR POWDER FORM	382 322	386 827	382 296
Pig iron and spiegeleisen in pigs, blocks or other primary forms	120 059	134 412	162 760
Ferro-alloys	187 680	187 009	167 574
Other, including ferrous products obtained by the direct reduction of iron ore and other spongy ferrous products, granules and powders	74 583	65 406	51 962
IRON AND NON-ALLOY STEEL			
Ingots, other primary forms and semi-finished products	387 761	440 136	311 746
Flat-rolled products	1 144 486	1 094 895	1 062 213
Flat-rolled products - width 600mm or more			

-Not clad, plated or coated			
In coils, hot-rolled	448 066	378 858	378 674
Not in coils, hot-rolled			
Thickness less than 4,75mm	72 900	76 553	68 705
Thickness 4,75mm or more	183 402	171 507	156 911
In coils, cold-rolled	170 763	187 790	184 192
Not in coils, cold-rolled	66 110	63 468	74 878
-Clad, plated or coated			
With zinc (galvanised), including profile sheet	117 071	123 515	107 043
With other e.g.tin,lead,aluminium	67 014	72 068	71 598
Flat-rolled products - width less than 600mm			
-Not clad, plated or coated			
Hot-rolled	11 233	12 023	11 935
Cold-rolled	6 008	6 815	5 557
-Clad, plated or coated with zinc and other elements	1 919	2 298	2 720
Profile products	618 448	543 686	542 977
Angles, shapes and sections			
U, I, or H sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	120 101	111 142	112 475
L or T sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	68 196	76 952	73 639
Round, cross-section less than 45mm	90 840	78 491	121 012
Round, cross-section 45mm or more	27 207	26 161	24 253
Squares	11 096	11 158	10 596
Flats and flat bars	68 430	55 998	59 097
Other	30 957	28 591	34 068
Wire, bars and rods	201 621	155 193	107 837
Stainless steel products	57 430	72 676	79 272
OTHER ALLOY STEEL (EXCLUDING STAINLESS STEEL)	3 486	4 105	4 621
OTHER PRODUCTS OF IRON AND STEEL			
Railway or tramway track construction material	14 537	12 828	15 700
Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles	88 847	79 852	80 402

* Revised

TABLE 2.2 - TOTAL STOCKS OF PRIMARY STEEL PRODUCTS ON HAND BY BASIC IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES AT THE END OF THE QUARTER

Metric tons

PRODUCTS	December	September	December
	1997		1996
BASIC PRIMARY FORMS AND PRODUCTS, AS WELL AS THOSE IN GRANULAR OR POWDER FORM	..	..	..
Pig iron and spiegeleisen in pigs, blocks or other primary forms	118 050	131 533	161 305
Ferro-alloys	185 230	184 124*	165 927
Other, including ferrous products obtained by the direct reduction of iron ore and other spongy ferrous products, granules and powders	..	..	..
IRON AND NON-ALLOY STEEL			
Ingots, other primary forms and semi-finished products	355 404	408 073	284 237
Flat-rolled products	522 733	468 349	461 491
Flat-rolled products - width 600mm or more			
-Not clad, plated or coated			
In coils, hot-rolled	..	..	..
Not in coils, hot-rolled			
Thickness less than 4,75mm	2 376	1 706	3 663
Thickness 4,75mm or more	28 786	20 113	22 883
In coils, cold-rolled	95 289	110 468	98 586
Not in coils, cold-rolled	1 863	1 015	2 295
-Clad, plated or coated			
With zinc (galvanised), including profile sheet	46 060	48 325	35 226
With other e.g.tin,lead,aluminium	17 360	21 023	18 049
Flat-rolled products - width less than 600mm			
-Not clad, plated or coated			
Hot-rolled	..	..	..
Cold-rolled	..	..	..
-Clad, plated or coated with zinc and other elements	530	871	1 058
Profile products	203 751	138 687	177 244
Angles, shapes and sections			
U, I, or H sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	..	..	..
L or T sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	17 985	23 692	22 870

Round, cross-section less than 45mm	51 510	33 789	87 753
Round, cross-section 45mm or more	15 550	14 607	13 253
Squares	1 253	999	1 900
Flats and flat bars	..	..	..
Other	5 415	4 948	5 602
Wire, bars and rods	90 196	46 531	21 631
Stainless steel products	..	..	..
OTHER ALLOY STEEL (EXCLUDING STAINLESS STEEL)	961	1 050	993
OTHER PRODUCTS OF IRON AND STEEL			
Railway or tramway track construction material	4 188	3 714	8 336
Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles	54 989	49 241	46 454

* Revised

**TABLE 2.3 - TOTAL STOCKS OF PRIMARY STEEL PRODUCTS ON HAND BY
ALL OTHER INDUSTRIES AT THE END OF THE QUARTER**

PRODUCTS	Metric tons		
	December	September*	December
	1997		1996
BASIC PRIMARY FORMS AND PRODUCTS, AS WELL AS THOSE IN GRANULAR OR POWDER FORM	..	..	..
Pig iron and spiegeleisen in pigs, blocks or other primary forms	2 009	2 879	1 455
Ferro-alloys	2 450	2 885	1 647
Other, including ferrous products obtained by the direct reduction of iron ore and other spongy ferrous products, granules and powders	..	..	..
IRON AND NON-ALLOY STEEL			
Ingots, other primary forms and semi-finished products	32 357	32 063	27 509
Flat-rolled products	621 753	626 546	600 722
Flat-rolled products - width 600mm or more -Not clad, plated or coated			

In coils, hot-rolled	..	..	..
Not in coils, hot-rolled			
Thickness less than 4,75mm	70 524	74 847	65 042
Thickness 4,75mm or more	154 616	151 394	134 028
In coils, cold-rolled	75 474	77 322	85 606
Not in coils, cold-rolled	64 247	62 453	72 583
-Clad, plated or coated			
With zinc (galvanised), including profile sheet	71 011	75 190	71 817
With other e.g.tin,lead,aluminium	49 654	51 045	53 549
Flat-rolled products - width less than 600mm			
-Not clad, plated or coated			
Hot-rolled	..	..	..
Cold-rolled	..	..	..
-Clad, plated or coated with zinc and other elements	1 389	1 427	1 662
Profile products	414 697	404 999	365 733
Angles, shapes and sections			
U, I, or H sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	..	..	..
L or T sections, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded	50 211	53 260	50 769
Round, cross-section less than 45mm	39 330	44 702	33 259
Round, cross-section 45mm or more	11 657	11 554	11 000
Squares	9 843	10 159	8 696
Flats and flat bars	..	..	..
Other	25 542	23 643	28 466
Wire, bars and rods	111 425	108 662	86 206
Stainless steel products	..	..	..
OTHER ALLOY STEEL (EXCLUDING STAINLESS STEEL)	2 525	3 055	3 628
OTHER PRODUCTS OF IRON AND STEEL			
Railway or tramway track construction material	10 349	9 114	7 364
Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles	33 858	30 611	33 948

* Revised

**TABLE 3 - STOCKS OF FERROUS WASTE AND SCRAP
BY ALL INDUSTRIES AT THE END OF THE QUARTER**

Metric tons

PRODUCT	December	September*	December
	1997		1996
Ferrous waste and scrap	260 799	300 186	393 866

* Revised

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