

**STAINLESS STEEL AND ALLOY TOOL STEEL:
U. S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS,
EMPLOYMENT, MAN-HOURS, AND PRICES
SECOND CALENDAR QUARTER 1978**

**Report to the President
on Investigation No. 332-94
Under Section 332
of the Tariff Act of 1930**



**PUBLICATION NO. 903
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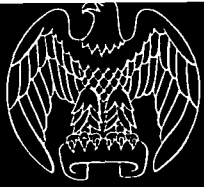
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USITC REPORTS RESULTS OF SURVEY OF THE SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY

The United States International Trade Commission has completed its ninth quarterly survey of U.S. producers in connection with the quantitative limitations imposed on imports of specialty steel. The survey, required by Presidential Proclamation No. 4445, covers the second quarter of 1978.

Major findings of the survey indicate that total stainless and alloy tool steel shipments increased about 30,131 tons (10 percent) during the second quarter of 1978 over such shipments during the first quarter of 1978. Stainless steel shipments in all categories increased except plate.

The average number of production and related workers employed in the specialty steel industry declined by 284 (2 percent) during the second quarter of 1978 compared to the first quarter of 1978. However, small increases in employment occurred in stainless steel bar, rod and alloy tool steel. The strike at one U.S. producer's facility, which began during the third quarter of 1977, ended in the second quarter of 1978.

Man-hours worked in the specialty steel industry during April-June 1978 increased about 5 percent from the previous quarter. Man-hours worked increased in all product categories except stainless steel plate.

more

USITC REPORTS RESULTS OF THE SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY

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Average quarterly prices increased for 8 of 16 products surveyed, decreased for 4 products, and were unchanged for 2 products compared to the last quarterly period. No data were submitted on 2 products. The average price increase was 4.9 percent and the average price decrease was 2.6 percent.

Copies of the report (USITC Publication 903) can be obtained by calling (202) 523-5178 or from the Office of the Secretary, 701 E St. NW., Washington, D.C. 20436.

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Table 1.--Stainless steel and alloy tool steel: U.S. production, by types, 1974-77 and specified periods, January 1977-June 1978

(In tons)

Period	Stainless steel					Total	Tool steel, all forms
	Sheet and strip	Plate	Bar	Rod			
1974-----	820,025	144,344	176,245	63,281	1,203,895	124,537	
1975-----	417,308	111,760	100,073	28,306	657,447	65,489	
1976-----	743,036	95,921	119,529	36,152	994,638	68,668	
1977 1/-----	754,170	106,121	142,488	31,536	1,034,315	67,481	
1977:							
January-March-----	196,277	24,657	34,786	7,612	263,332	16,966	
April-June-----	225,545	29,804	40,454	9,014	304,817	20,237	
July-September----	173,549	23,746	33,014	8,271	238,580	13,876	
October-December--	169,976	27,952	34,426	6,654	239,008	16,236	
1978:							
January-March-----	192,870	32,467	37,760	6,511	269,608	18,045	
April-June-----	237,356	31,877	39,934	10,542	319,709	18,903	
1978:							
January-----	56,651	9,684	11,248	1,828	79,411	5,444	
February-----	62,595	9,825	11,304	1,973	85,697	5,694	
March-----	73,624	12,958	15,208	2,710	104,500	6,907	
April-----	81,263	10,557	12,786	2,870	107,476	5,796	
May-----	72,094	10,380	12,980	3,615	99,069	6,688	
June-----	83,999	10,940	14,168	4,057	113,164	6,419	

1/ The total for 1977 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1977 because of adjustments and corrections made by some companies in their questionnaires to the Commission.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 2.--Stainless steel and alloy tool steel: U.S. producers' shipments, by types, 1974-77 and specified periods, January 1977-June 1978

(In tons)

Period	Stainless steel					Total	Tool steel, all forms
	Sheet and strip	Plate	Bar	Rod			
1974-----	825,298	140,167	168,460	25,816	1,159,741	104,555	
1975-----	440,696	109,696	111,781	10,453	672,626	71,272	
1976-----	692,399	93,668	120,893	17,397	924,357	69,111	
1977 1/-----	728,487	98,587	139,006	22,989	989,069	67,960	
1977:							
January-March-----	188,364	22,303	36,706	6,131	253,504	16,683	
April-June-----	205,869	26,847	38,096	6,745	277,557	18,346	
July-September----	179,485	25,556	30,810	5,214	241,065	15,204	
October-December--	166,295	23,795	33,748	4,914	228,752	17,023	
1978:							
January-March-----	197,180	33,081	36,288	5,329	271,878	16,513	
April-June-----	225,815	29,435	38,206	6,188	299,644	18,878	
1978:							
January-----	60,691	9,494	11,288	1,428	82,901	5,225	
February-----	66,683	10,312	11,734	1,700	90,429	5,768	
March-----	69,806	13,275	13,266	2,201	98,548	5,520	
April-----	68,863	8,971	11,802	1,747	91,383	5,946	
May-----	76,300	10,472	12,646	2,017	101,435	6,296	
June-----	80,652	9,992	13,758	2,424	106,826	6,636	

1/ The total for 1977 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1977 because of adjustments and corrections made by some companies in their questionnaires to the Commission.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 3.--Average number of all persons employed in U.S. establishments in which stainless steel and alloy tool steel were produced, 1974-77 and specified periods, January 1977-June 1978

Period	Stainless steel					Total	Tool steel, all forms
	Sheet and strip	Plate	Bar	Rod			
1974-----	15,271	3,130	6,666	734		25,801	6,210
1975-----	9,288	2,236	5,050	386		16,960	4,741
1976-----	11,903	2,307	5,249	618		20,077	4,690
1977 <u>1/</u> -----	11,566	2,253	5,703	656		20,178	4,157
1977:							
January-March-----	12,592	2,117	5,936	656		21,301	4,528
April-June-----	12,350	<u>2/</u> 2,333	6,130	772	<u>2/</u>	21,585	4,649
July-September-----	11,512	2,316	5,648	632		20,108	4,089
October-December-- <u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u> 10,742	2,140	<u>2/</u> 5,799	538	<u>2/</u>	19,218	3,360
1978:							
January-March-----	11,934	2,628	5,832	535		20,929	3,886
April-June-----	11,297	2,389	5,892	659		20,237	3,986
1978:							
January-----	11,642	2,427	5,984	441		20,494	3,837
February-----	11,476	2,525	5,627	537		20,165	3,868
March-----	12,685	2,931	5,884	627		22,127	3,954
April-----	10,938	2,300	5,831	593		19,662	3,911
May-----	11,134	2,428	5,927	628		20,117	4,016
June-----	11,818	2,438	5,917	757		20,930	4,029

1/ The total for 1977 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1977 because of adjustments and corrections made by some companies in their questionnaires to the Commission.

2/ Revised.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 4.--Average number of production and related workers employed in U.S. establishments in which stainless steel and alloy tool steel were produced, 1974-77 and specified periods, January 1977-June 1978

Period	Stainless steel					Total	Tool steel, all forms
	Sheet and strip	Plate	Bar	Rod			
1974-----	12,439	2,397	4,136	501	19,473	4,351	
1975-----	7,331	1,807	3,255	288	12,681	3,421	
1976-----	9,360	1,715	3,613	439	15,127	3,497	
1977 <u>1/</u> -----	9,302	1,656	4,001	455	15,414	3,059	
1977:							
January-March-----	9,960	1,561	4,169	481	16,171	3,415	
April-June----- <u>2/</u>	9,939	<u>2/</u> 1,761	<u>2/</u> 4,401	544	<u>2/</u> 16,645	<u>2/</u> 3,493	
July-September-----	9,166	1,714	3,967	426	15,273	2,865	
October-December--	8,145	1,577	<u>2/</u> 4,165	359	<u>2/</u> 14,246	2,466	
1978:							
January-March-----	9,468	2,008	4,086	368	15,930	2,797	
April-June-----	9,138	1,725	4,203	457	15,523	2,920	
1978:							
January-----	9,260	1,869	4,130	315	15,574	2,761	
February-----	9,128	1,945	3,907	357	15,337	2,780	
March-----	10,017	2,210	4,220	433	16,880	2,851	
April-----	8,890	1,667	4,146	411	15,114	2,857	
May-----	8,979	1,751	4,247	436	15,413	2,939	
June-----	9,545	1,757	4,215	524	16,041	2,965	

1/ The total for 1977 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1977 because of adjustments and corrections made by some companies in their questionnaires to the Commission.

2/ Revised.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 5.--Man-hours worked by production and related workers in U.S. establishments in which stainless steel and alloy tool steel were produced, 1974-77 and specified periods, January 1977-June 1978

(In thousands)

Period	Stainless steel					Total	Tool steel, all forms
	Sheet and strip	Plate	Bar	Rod			
1974-----	21,858	4,977	9,748	1,068	37,651	9,942	
1975-----	12,974	3,266	6,604	428	23,272	5,624	
1976-----	16,767	3,033	7,014	682	27,496	6,025	
1977 <u>1</u> /-----	17,816	3,044	8,201	917	29,878	5,628	
1977:							
January-March-----	4,769	732	1,987	229	7,717	1,417	
April-June----- <u>2</u> /	4,829	801	2,245	<u>2</u> / 278	<u>2</u> / 8,153	<u>2</u> / 1,665	
July-September-----	4,252	772	1,905	212	7,141	1,221	
October-December--	4,024	740	2,005	202	6,971	1,344	
1978:							
January-March-----	4,687	949	2,110	174	7,920	1,355	
April-June-----	4,990	869	2,220	229	8,308	1,461	
1978:							
January-----	1,486	286	710	51	2,533	442	
February-----	1,485	300	652	57	2,494	427	
March-----	1,716	363	748	66	2,893	486	
April-----	1,593	271	687	65	2,616	468	
May-----	1,641	299	724	73	2,737	475	
June-----	1,756	299	809	91	2,955	518	

1/ The total for 1977 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1977 because of adjustments and corrections made by some companies in their questionnaires to the Commission.

2/ Revised.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Table 6.—Stainless steel sheet (cold rolled): Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of sheet to steel service centers or distributors, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade 430, 2B finish, 20 gauge x coil						
1978:						
January-----	102-103	102	102-103	102		102
February-----	102-103	102	102-103	102		102
March-----	102-103	103	102-103	103		102
April-----	-	-	-	-		-
May-----	-	-	-	-		-
June-----	-	-	-	-		-
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						
Grade 304, 2B finish, 8-14 gauge x 36" x coil						
1978:						
January-----	71-78	74	71-78	74		74
February-----	69-78	73	70-78	73		73
March-----	69-78	73	70-78	73		73
April-----	70-74	71	70-74	72		72
May-----	68-74	69	68-74	71		71
June-----	68-78	74	74-78	76		75
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 7.--Stainless steel plate (hot rolled): Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of plate to steel service centers or distributors, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)

Grade 304, HRAP, 1/4" x 72" x 240"						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1978:						
January-----	82-89	85	84-89	85		85
February-----	82-89	85	84-89	85		85
March-----	82-89	86	84-89	86		86
April-----	84-89	86	84-89	87		87
May-----	84-89	86	84-89	87		87
June-----	84-89	86	84-89	87		87
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 8.--Stainless steel bars: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to steel service centers or distributors, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade 303, cold finish, 1/2" round						
1978:						
January-----	109-119	115	109-140	120		117
February-----	109-119	114	109-140	119		117
March-----	109-119	111	109-140	116		117
April-----	109-130	116	111-130	114		114
May-----	116-130	120	116-130	119		120
June-----	112-130	118	112-130	119		119
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						
Grade 304, cold finished, 1-1/2" round						
1978:						
January-----	94-100	96	94-103	100		99
February-----	98-104	100	98-107	103		103
March-----	98-100	100	98-104	103		103
April-----	95-106	96	95-118	104		103
May-----	94-106	96	94-118	103		99
June-----	94-106	95	94-118	104		103
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 9.--Stainless steel bar: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bar to steel service centers or distributors, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)

Grade 416, cold finished, 2" round						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1978:						
January-----	85- 88	86	85- 92	88		89
February-----	85-108	87	85-108	89		90
March-----	85-111	90	85-111	92		91
April-----	89- 95	90	89- 95	93		93
May-----	89- 95	90	89- 96	92		92
June-----	89- 95	90	91- 96	93		93
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 10.--High-speed tool steel bars: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to steel service centers or distributors, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)					
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average	
Grade M2, 1" round x random lengths					
1978:					
January-----	263-338	281	263-338	290	293
February-----	294-436	320	331-436	329	332
March-----	263-394	300	263-394	309	312
April-----	280-313	305	280-352	330	324
May-----	313-394	349	352-418	381	369
June-----	280-394	298	280-394	316	310
July-----					
August-----					
September-----					
October-----					
November-----					
December-----					
Grade 0-1, 1" x 4", cold finished, decarb free.					
1978:					
January-----	134-150	143	150-168	157	151
February-----	141-157	147	151-157	153	152
March-----	141-157	147	148-174	162	158
April-----	141-157	147	141-157	154	151
May-----	141-159	156	141-165	164	163
June-----	141-157	155	157-174	170	168
July-----					
August-----					
September-----					
October-----					
November-----					
December-----					

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 11.--Stainless steel strip: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of strip to end-use customers, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade 430, 2 finish, .060" x 3" to 12" x coil						
1978:						
January-----	81	81	81	81	81	81
February-----	79-81	80	79-81	80	80	80
March-----	81	81	81	81	81	81
April-----	79	79	79	79	79	79
May-----	79	79	79	79	79	79
June-----	79	79	79	79	79	79
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						
Grade 430, 2 finish, .02" x 1" to under 1-1/2" x coil						
1978:						
January-----	90-96	94	90-96	94	94	94
February-----	90-91	91	90-91	91	91	91
March-----	90-91	91	90-91	91	91	91
April-----	89	89	89	89	89	89
May-----	89	89	89	89	89	89
June-----	89	89	89	89	89	89
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 12.--Stainless steel strip: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of strip to end-use customers, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)

Grade 434, 2 finish, BA .017 to under .020" x 1" to under 1-1/2" x coil						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1978:						
January-----	99	99	99	99	99	99
February-----	99	99	99	99	99	99
March-----	99	99	99	99	99	99
April-----	97	97	97	97	97	97
May-----	97	97	97	97	97	97
June-----	97	97	97	97	97	97
July-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
August-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
September-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
October-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
November-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
December-----	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 13.--Stainless steel sheet (cold rolled): Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of sheet to end-use customers, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)						
Grade 304, 2 finish, .035" to under .050" x over 12" to under 18" coil						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1977:						
January-----	79-84	82	84-92	89	87	
February-----	79-84	82	79-84	82	82	
March-----	79-84	82	84-92	88	86	
April-----	89-95	93	89-95	93	93	
May-----	89-95	93	89-95	93	93	
June-----	89-95	93	89-95	93	93	
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 14.--Stainless steel wire rod: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of rod to end-use customers, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)

Grade 304, .250" to .287" round						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1978:						
January-----	79-84	81	84- 92	88		86
February-----	79-84	81	79- 84	83		82
March-----	79-84	83	85- 92	86		85
April-----	80-83	81	80- 84	82		82
May-----	80-82	81	79- 83	82		82
June-----	81-82	81	81- 83	82		82
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 15.--High speed tool steel bars: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to end-use customers, by months, January 1977-June 1978

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade M-7, 1" round x cold finished						
1978:						
January-----	203-264	225	203-264	225		225
February-----	203-264	225	203-264	225		225
March-----	203-264	215	203-264	215		215
April-----	204-225	223	204-246	245		240
May-----	204-241	208	241-242	241		224
June-----	203-240	230	203-258	249		238
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						
Grade M-2, 1" round x random lengths, cold finished						
1977:						
January-----	275-276	276	275-345	315		310
February-----	275-283	278	345-357	351		340
March-----	275-303	287	303-345	355		330
April-----	293-306	299	357-366	360		339
May-----	293-333	321	366-378	374		361
June-----	291-293	293	328-366	349		345
July-----						
August-----						
September-----						
October-----						
November-----						
December-----						

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.

Table 16.—High-speed tool steel rod: Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices and price at which the largest volume was shipped, and weighted average price of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of rod to end-use customers, by months, January 1978-June 1978

(In cents per pound)

Grade M-7, .250" round x HRA coil						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Weighted average price of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1978:						
January-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
February-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
March-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
April-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
May-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
June-----	--	--	--	--	--	--
July-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
August-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
September-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
October-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
November-----	:	:	:	:	:	:
December-----	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to questionnaires of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Note.--The number of domestic producers responding to the request for price data varied from month to month.