

**STAINLESS STEEL AND ALLOY TOOL STEEL:  
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS,  
EMPLOYMENT, MAN-HOURS, AND PRICES  
SECOND CALENDAR QUARTER  
1979**

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



**USITC PUBLICATION 996**

**AUGUST 1979**

# UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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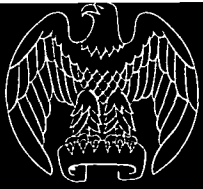
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# NEWS

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## USITC PUBLISHES 13TH QUARTERLY REPORT ON CERTAIN STATISTICS FOR THE SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY

The United States International Trade Commission has completed its 13th quarterly statistical report on specialty steel, required under Presidential Proclamation No. 4445. The report, covering the second quarter of 1979, provides information necessary for the monitoring of the orderly marketing agreement (OMA) between the United States and Japan, which limits imports into the United States of specialty steel from Japan, and quantitative limitations imposed on imports of specialty steel from other countries. The data cover U.S. production, shipments, employment, and net selling prices.

According to the USITC report, domestic production of specialty steel for the second quarter of 1979 was 350,000 tons, or 4 percent higher than in the corresponding period of 1978. Domestic shipments increased in April-June 1979 to 324,000 tons, compared with 321,000 tons in April-June 1978.

Employment in the specialty steel industry during April-June 1979 averaged 26,731 workers, up 2,186 workers or 9 percent from the April-June 1978 average; production and related workers accounted for 76 percent of total employment. Increases in employment occurred in all stainless steel and alloy tool steel categories, except bar.

more

USITC PUBLISHES 13TH QUARTERLY REPORT ON CERTAIN STATISTICS FOR THE SPECIALTY  
STEEL INDUSTRY

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Man-hours worked in the specialty steel industry increased from 9.8 million man-hours in April-June 1978 to 10.2 million man-hours in the corresponding period of 1979, or by about 4 percent. Man-hours worked increased in only stainless steel plate and rod and alloy tool steel categories.

Average quarterly prices increased for 8 of 16 products surveyed and decreased for 7 products; price data were not provided for 1 product. The average price increase was 6.0 percent, and the average price decrease was 4.0 percent.

The report is sent to the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, who is responsible for monitoring the OMA implemented by the Presidential proclamation.

Copies of the report (USITC Publication 996) can be obtained by calling (202) 523-5178, or from the Office of the Secretary, 701 E Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20436.

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Summary Highlights of Economic Conditions in the Stainless Steel and Alloy Tool Steel Industry in the Second Calendar Quarter of 1979

U.S. production

Production of stainless steel and alloy tool steel in the second quarter of 1979 was 350,000 tons, an increase of 4 percent over the same period in 1978, and 0.2 percent over the first quarter of 1979.

U.S. shipments

Shipments of stainless steel and alloy tool steel in the second quarter of 1979 were 324,000 tons, an increase of 0.9 percent over the same period on 1978 and a decline of 6 percent over the first quarter of 1979.

Employment

The number of persons employed in establishments in which stainless steel and alloy tool steel were produced averaged 26,731 in the second quarter of 1979, an increase of 9 percent over the same period in 1978, and a decline of 1 percent over the first quarter of 1979. The number of production and related workers employed in these establishments in the second quarter of 1979 averaged 20,196, an increase of 15 percent over the same period in 1978, and a decline of 1 percent over those employed in the first quarter of 1979.

Man-hours worked

Man-hours worked in the production of stainless steel and alloy tool steel totaled 10.2 million man-hours in the second quarter of 1979, an increase of 4 percent over the second quarter of 1978 and a decline of 1 percent compared to the first quarter of 1979.

Prices

Average quarterly prices for eight products increased an average of 6.0 percent; prices for seven products declined an average of 4.0 percent.





Table 1.--Stainless steel and alloy tool steel: U.S. production, by types, 1974-78 and specified periods, January 1978-June 1979

(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-----	754,170	106,121	142,488	31,536	1,034,315	67,481	
1978 1/-----	859,885	132,973	148,127	39,936	1,180,921	72,869	
1978:							
January-March-----	192,870	32,467	37,760	6,511	269,608	18,045	
April-June-----	235,311	31,877	43,459	8,619	319,266	18,588	
July-September----	216,016	29,078	31,891	11,704	288,689	18,017	
October-December--	212,459	30,939	40,058	11,770	295,226	20,285	
1979:							
January-March-----	230,089	38,322	46,448	14,083	328,942	20,351	
April-June-----	226,980	43,308	43,439	14,748	328,475	21,346	
1979:							
January-----	72,933	12,245	14,832	4,456	104,466	6,864	
February-----	71,993	10,609	15,001	3,496	101,099	6,240	
March-----	85,163	15,468	16,615	6,131	123,377	7,247	
April-----	72,539	11,492	14,447	4,572	103,050	6,638	
May-----	76,386	17,277	14,855	4,987	113,505	6,630	
June-----	78,055	14,539	14,137	5,189	111,920	8,078	

1/ The total for 1978 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1978 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, 1974-78 and specified periods, January 1978-June 1979

(In tons)							Tool
Period	Stainless steel					Total	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-----	728,487	98,587	139,006	22,989	989,069	67,960	
1978 1/-----	826,105	129,811	152,914	25,346	1,134,176	74,052	
1978:							
January-March-----	197,180	33,081	36,288	5,329	271,878	16,513	
April-June-----	223,793	29,435	41,809	7,004	302,041	19,425	
July-September----	201,359	30,513	34,734	6,091	272,697	18,988	
October-December--	198,507	30,709	38,110	7,878	275,204	18,786	
1979:							
January-March-----	234,367	35,945	42,113	9,116	321,541	22,843	
April-June-----	217,804	37,994	40,574	8,935	305,307	19,172	
1979:							
January-----	76,562	11,747	13,794	2,858	104,961	7,067	
February-----	72,274	11,904	11,392	2,262	97,832	6,898	
March-----	85,531	12,294	16,927	3,996	118,748	8,878	
April-----	45,983	9,905	10,645	2,501	69,034	5,818	
May-----	93,918	15,421	15,333	2,983	127,655	6,732	
June-----	77,903	12,668	14,596	3,451	108,618	6,622	

1/ The total for 1978 does not equal the quarterly totals for 1978 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, 1974-78 and specified periods, January 1978-June 1979

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-----	11,566	2,253	5,703	656	20,178	4,157	
1978-----	11,788	2,507	5,919	686	20,900	4,286	
1978:							
January-March-----	11,934	2,628	5,832	535	20,929	3,886	
April-June-----	11,274	2,389	6,137	643	20,443	4,102	
July-September----	12,131	2,575	5,742	723	21,171	4,622	
October-December--	11,810	2,437	5,966	844	21,057	4,535	
1979:							
January-March-----	12,519	2,586	6,485	882	22,472	4,632	
April-June-----	12,466	2,992	6,047	902	22,457	4,274	
1979:							
January-----	12,462	2,552	6,376	811	22,201	4,607	
February-----	12,467	2,486	6,356	756	22,065	4,510	
March-----	12,628	2,719	6,724	1,079	23,150	4,779	
April-----	11,234	2,648	5,879	850	20,611	4,327	
May-----	13,205	3,157	6,273	854	23,489	4,253	
June-----	12,960	3,170	6,140	1,001	23,271	4,243	

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, 1974-78 and specified periods, January 1978-June 1979

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-----	9,302	1,656	4,001	455	15,414	3,059	
1978-----	9,425	1,857	4,152	482	15,916	3,100	
1978:							
January-March----	9,468	2,008	4,086	368	15,930	2,797	
April-June-----	9,132	1,725	4,328	470	15,655	2,930	
July-September----	9,781	1,872	3,999	501	16,153	3,363	
October-December--	9,320	1,824	4,195	589	15,926	3,308	
1979:							
January-March----	9,968	1,882	4,547	674	17,071	3,392	
April-June-----	9,961	2,166	4,264	626	17,017	3,179	
1979:							
January-----	9,967	1,867	4,488	626	16,948	3,389	
February-----	9,977	1,797	4,425	574	16,773	3,393	
March-----	9,961	1,981	4,728	823	17,493	3,393	
April-----	9,098	1,912	4,079	574	15,663	3,221	
May-----	10,541	2,290	4,406	597	17,834	3,166	
June-----	10,243	2,297	4,307	707	17,554	3,150	

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, 1974-78 and specified periods, January 1978-June 1979

Period	(In thousands)						Tool steel, all forms
	Stainless steel					Total	
	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-----	17,816	3,044	8,201	917	29,878	5,628	
1978 1/-----	18,849	3,580	8,546	961	31,936	5,210	
1978:							
January-March-----	4,687	949	2,110	174	7,920	1,355	
April-June-----	4,979	869	2,291	229	8,368	1,479	
July-September----	4,749	907	1,854	241	7,751	1,465	
October-December--	4,553	846	2,044	297	7,740	1,558	
1979:							
January-March-----	4,982	964	2,322	326	8,594	1,748	
April-June-----	4,891	1,143	2,191	324	8,549	1,608	
1979:							
January-----	1,648	314	752	103	2,817	590	
February-----	1,598	295	719	86	2,698	550	
March-----	1,736	355	851	137	3,079	608	
April-----	1,455	332	661	96	2,544	527	
May-----	1,710	413	742	104	2,969	528	
June-----	1,726	398	788	124	3,036	553	

1/ The total for 1978 does not equal the quarterly total for 1978 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 6.--Stainless steel sheet (cold rolled): Ranges and weighted averages of lowest net selling prices, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of sheet to steel service centers or distributors, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)					
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average	
Grade 430, 2B finish, 20 gauge x coil					
1979:					
January-----	95	95	95	95	95
February-----	95	95	95	95	95
March-----	95	95	95	95	95
April-----	-	-	-	-	-
May-----	-	-	-	-	-
June-----	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 304, 2B finish, 8-14 gauge x 36" x coil					
1979:					
January-----	80-84	82	80-84	83	83
February-----	80-84	82	80-84	83	83
March-----	80-84	82	80-84	83	83
April-----	74-84	78	74-84	78	78
May-----	74-84	77	76-84	77	77
June-----	74-84	77	76-84	77	77

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of plate to steel service centers or distributors, by months, 1979

(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		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1979:						
January-----	88-95	90	90-95	91	91	
February-----	88-95	92	90-95	93	93	
March-----	88-95	92	90-95	93	93	
April-----	89-96	90	89-96	90	90	
May-----	90-94	90	90-94	90	90	
June-----	90	90	90	90	90	

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to steel service centers or distributors, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)					
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average	
Grade 303, cold finish, 1/2" round					
1979:					
January-----	118-130	122	124-130	127	127
February-----	118-130	122	124-130	127	127
March-----	118-130	122	124-130	127	127
April-----	117-136	129	123-136	129	129
May-----	117-136	123	121-136	127	125
June-----	125-147	136	134-147	141	138
Grade 304, cold finished, 1-1/2" round					
1979:					
January-----	101-107	103	101-118	110	109
February-----	103-111	108	103-118	110	110
March-----	105-111	110	103-118	110	110
April-----	103-111	106	105-123	108	107
May-----	103-111	109	104-123	108	108
June-----	98-120	108	104-133	114	110

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bar to steel service centers or distributors, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)

Grade 416, cold finished, 2" round						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1979:						
January-----	95-102	97	100	100	100	98
February-----	95	95	100	100	100	99
March-----	95-100	97	100	100	100	98
April-----	92-100	98	96-100	99	99	99
May-----	95-100	99	95-104	100	100	99
June-----	102-118	108	108-118	110	110	109

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to steel service centers or distributors, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade M2, 1" round x random lengths						
1979:						
January-----	294-473	367	294-473	375		370
February-----	297-575	389	297-575	415		401
March-----	295-417	349	297-417	385		365
April-----	332	332	374	374		374
May-----	352	352	396	396		396
June-----	347-352	348	347-396	374		361
Grade 0-1, 1" x 4", cold finished, decarb free						
1979:						
January-----	154-202	176	154-202	176		176
February-----	154-202	176	154-202	176		176
March-----	154-202	172	172-202	184		184
April-----	179	179	179	179		179
May-----	173-179	176	173-179	176		176
June-----	167-179	174	167-779	174		174

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of strip to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)					
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average	
Grade 430, 2 finish, .060" x 3" to 12" x coil					
1979:					
January-----	76-82	80	83	83	82
February-----	76-86	82	86	86	84
March-----	76-85	81	85	85	83
April-----	85	85	85	85	85
May-----	85-87	86	85-87	86	86
June-----	85	85	85	85	85
Grade 430, 2 finish, .02" x 1" to under 1-1/2" x coil					
1979:					
January-----	86-89	87	89	89	88
February-----	86-95	90	93-95	94	92
March-----	86-95	90	95	95	92
April-----	90-95	93	90-95	93	93
May-----	90-95	94	90-95	94	94
June-----	95	95	95	95	95

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of strip to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(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		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1979:						
January-----	92-105	98	92-105	98	98	98
February-----	92-105	98	92-105	98	98	98
March-----	92-105	98	92-105	98	98	98
April-----	105	105	105	105	105	105
May-----	105	105	105	105	105	105
June-----	105	105	105	105	105	105

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of sheet to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(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		Average unit value of total quantity shipped
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average	
1979:					
January-----	94- 99	95	94- 99	95	95
February-----	94-104	99	94-104	99	99
March-----	93-104	99	93-104	99	99
April-----	78-104	79	78-104	79	79
May-----	78-104	81	78-104	81	81
June-----	78-104	91	78-104	91	91

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of rod to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)

Grade 304, .250" to .287" round						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1979:						
January-----	90	90	98	98	95	
February-----	90-99	95	99	99	97	
March-----	90-99	95	98	98	97	
April-----	86-99	93	89-106	95	94	
May-----	92-100	93	97-106	102	98	
June-----	88	88	90	90	89	

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of bars to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
Grade M-7, 1" round x cold finished						
1979:						
January-----	220-260	242	220-260	242		242
February-----	249-260	256	249-260	256		256
March-----	220-260	246	220-260	246		246
April-----	264-309	274	264-309	274		274
May-----	220-267	260	220-290	266		264
June-----	249-270	264	249-270	264		264
Grade M-2, 1" round x random lengths, cold finished						
1979:						
January-----	311-360	331	333-375	358		350
February-----	311-359	331	333-379	363		351
March-----	311-358	331	333-379	363		351
April-----	311-420	393	360-420	394		393
May-----	311-360	325	332-396	376		352
June-----	330-383	350	360-396	386		372

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, price at which the largest volume was shipped, and average unit value of total quantity shipped by U.S. producers of selected types of rod to end-use customers, by months, 1979

(In cents per pound)						
Grade M-7, .250" round x HRA coil						
Year and month	Lowest price		Price at which largest volume was shipped		Average unit value of total quantity shipped	
	Range	Weighted average	Range	Weighted average		
1979:						
January-----	245	245	245	245	245	245
February-----	245	245	245	245	245	245
March-----	245	245	245	245	245	245
April-----	245	245	245	245	245	245
May-----	-	-	-	-	-	-
June-----	312	312	312	312	312	312

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.



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