



# AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STEEL, INC.

*Economic Growth through Competition in Steel Trade*

**News from AIIS**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**April 18, 2013**

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## **Steel Exports Decline again in February Weakness in NAFTA Markets of Concern**

Falls Church, VA, April 18, 2013 – Steel exports declined 3.8 percent in February 2013 compared to January according to government data. “Weakness in NAFTA markets showed up powerfully in the February data, with the decline to our NAFTA partners more than the total decline for the month. Increases in exports to the much smaller markets in the rest of the Western Hemisphere, along with a slight improvement in exports to Europe and Africa offset some of the large decline experienced in exports to North American markets,” said David Phelps, president, AIIS.

For the year-to-date data through February, steel exports declined by 14.5 percent. “The stalled economic recovery in North America, along with the serious problems facing our European trading partners have put a damper on steel exports so far this year. While we expect the US market to improve later and Asia to regain momentum, there is little expectation at this point that European markets will become healthy in 2013, limiting exports to that small export market for US-made steel. We would expect that given the lag in orders to actual export shipments, it will take some more months before the data show improvements however. We are hopeful that exports will improve as we move into the summer months,” concluded Phelps.

Total Steel exports in February 2013 were 1.036 million tons compared to 1.077 million tons in January 2013, a 3.8 percent decrease, and a 14.4 percent decrease compared to February 2012. According to year-to-date figures, exports decreased 14.5% compared to 2012 or from 2.473 million tons in 2012 to 2.114 million tons in 2013.

*The American Institute for International Steel is the only steel related association which supports free trade. The Institute accomplishes our mission through Advocacy, Networking, Communications and Education.*

### **Steel Export Analysis**

**(net tons)**

| <u>U.S. Exports of Steel</u> |                 |                |                |                 |                |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                              | <u>February</u> | <u>January</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>February</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
|                              |                 |                |                |                 |                |

|                           | <u>2013</u>     | <u>2013</u>     | <u>Change</u>         | <u>2012</u> | <u>Change</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Total                     | 1,036,455       | 1,077,346       | -3.8%                 | 1,211,177   | -14.4%        |
| Canada                    | 529,234         | 575,623         | -8.1%                 | 639,598     | -17.3%        |
| Mexico                    | 323,571         | 344,261         | -6.0%                 | 351,783     | -8.0%         |
| EU                        | 35,531          | 27,372          | 29.8%                 | 42,307      | -16.0%        |
| Russia                    | 1,092           | 855             | 27.7%                 | 530         | 106.0%        |
| Turkey                    | 2,848           | 1,317           | 116.2%                | 1,180       | 141.4%        |
| Brazil                    | 3,689           | 3,633           | 1.5%                  | 21,719      | -83.0%        |
| Venezuela                 | 1,663           | 1,014           | 64.0%                 | 20,427      | -91.9%        |
| Ecuador                   | 704             | 402             | 75.1%                 | 572         | 23.1%         |
| Argentina                 | 529             | 181             | 192.3%                | 147         | 259.9%        |
| Colombia                  | 6,306           | 7,501           | -15.9%                | 6,447       | -2.2%         |
| Trinidad and Tobago       | 1,026           | 942             | 8.9%                  | 1,728       | -40.6%        |
| Peru                      | 1,606           | 2,070           | -22.4%                | 17,566      | -90.9%        |
| Chile                     | 1,510           | 1,941           | -22.2%                | 1,289       | 17.1%         |
| Dominican Republic        | 39,712          | 1,529           | 2497.3%               | 3,721       | 967.2%        |
| Panama                    | 6,637           | 40,795          | -83.7%                | 3,296       | 101.4%        |
| Other Western Hemishpere  | 20,393          | 14,399          | 41.6%                 | 17,097      | 19.3%         |
| Africa                    | 11,559          | 4,948           | 133.6%                | 13,127      | -11.9%        |
| Australia                 | 2,397           | 1,660           | 44.4%                 | 3,204       | -25.2%        |
| China                     | 7,142           | 7,211           | -1.0%                 | 8,813       | -19.0%        |
| Korea                     | 4,258           | 4,992           | -14.7%                | 4,073       | 4.5%          |
| India                     | 8,091           | 6,430           | 25.8%                 | 7,964       | 1.6%          |
| UAE                       | 2,625           | 3,440           | -23.7%                | 2,750       | -4.5%         |
| Pakistan                  | 2,987           | 3,020           | -1.1%                 | 3,346       | -10.7%        |
| Singapore                 | 2,075           | 1,237           | 67.7%                 | 1,625       | 27.7%         |
| Vietnam                   | 2,120           | 1,998           | 6.1%                  | 1,327       | 59.8%         |
| Japan                     | 2,248           | 1,573           | 42.9%                 | 2,331       | -3.6%         |
| Taiwan                    | 1,832           | 3,235           | -43.4%                | 5,287       | -65.3%        |
| Other Asia                | 12,615          | 13,007          | -3.0%                 | 25,437      | -50.4%        |
| Others                    | 455             | 760             | -40.1%                | 2,486       | -81.7%        |
|                           |                 |                 |                       |             |               |
| <u>Cumulative Exports</u> |                 |                 |                       |             |               |
|                           | <u>YTD 2013</u> | <u>YTD 2012</u> | <u>Percent Change</u> |             |               |
| Total                     | 2,113,801       | 2,473,290       | -14.5%                |             |               |

|                          |                           |                           |                |  |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Canada                   | 1,104,857                 | 1,302,152                 | -15.2%         |  |  |
| Mexico                   | 667,832                   | 718,102                   | -7.0%          |  |  |
| EU                       | 62,903                    | 81,827                    | -23.1%         |  |  |
| Russia                   | 1,946                     | 1,424                     | 36.7%          |  |  |
| Turkey                   | 4,165                     | 3,255                     | 28.0%          |  |  |
| Brazil                   | 7,322                     | 34,313                    | -78.7%         |  |  |
| Venezuela                | 2,677                     | 29,394                    | -90.9%         |  |  |
| Ecuador                  | 1,106                     | 2,365                     | -53.2%         |  |  |
| Argentina                | 709                       | 829                       | -14.5%         |  |  |
| Colombia                 | 13,807                    | 20,995                    | -34.2%         |  |  |
| Trinidad and Tobago      | 1,968                     | 3,053                     | -35.5%         |  |  |
| Peru                     | 3,676                     | 19,155                    | -80.8%         |  |  |
| Chile                    | 3,451                     | 4,442                     | -22.3%         |  |  |
| Dominican Republic       | 41,241                    | 21,226                    | 94.3%          |  |  |
| Panama                   | 47,432                    | 13,911                    | 241.0%         |  |  |
| Other Western Hemisphere | 34,793                    | 44,273                    | -21.4%         |  |  |
| Africa                   | 16,507                    | 22,986                    | -28.2%         |  |  |
| Australia                | 4,057                     | 7,449                     | -45.5%         |  |  |
| China                    | 14,353                    | 18,069                    | -20.6%         |  |  |
| Korea                    | 9,250                     | 8,598                     | 7.6%           |  |  |
| India                    | 14,522                    | 14,883                    | -2.4%          |  |  |
| UAE                      | 6,065                     | 6,211                     | -2.4%          |  |  |
| Pakistan                 | 6,007                     | 5,562                     | 8.0%           |  |  |
| Singapore                | 3,312                     | 3,832                     | -13.6%         |  |  |
| Vietnam                  | 4,118                     | 1,637                     | 151.6%         |  |  |
| Japan                    | 3,857                     | 4,130                     | -6.6%          |  |  |
| Taiwan                   | 5,067                     | 24,391                    | -79.2%         |  |  |
| Other Asia               | 25,585                    | 51,224                    | -50.1%         |  |  |
| Others                   | 1,216                     | 3,602                     | -66.2%         |  |  |
|                          |                           |                           |                |  |  |
| Analysis                 | <u>YTD</u><br><u>2013</u> | <u>YTD</u><br><u>2012</u> | Percent Change |  |  |
|                          |                           |                           |                |  |  |
| Total Exports            | 2,113,801                 | 2,473,290                 | -14.5%         |  |  |
| NAFTA                    |                           |                           | -12.3%         |  |  |

|                                    |           |           |        |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--|--|
|                                    | 1,772,689 | 2,020,254 |        |  |  |
| non-NAFTA<br>Western<br>Hemishpere | 158,182   | 193,956   | -18.4% |  |  |
| EU                                 | 62,903    | 81,827    | -23.1% |  |  |
| Africa                             | 16,507    | 22,986    | -28.2% |  |  |
| Total Asia                         | 92,136    | 138,537   | -33.5% |  |  |