Mineral Industry Surveys

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CHROMIUM IN JULY 2025

Chromium is an essential feedstock in the production of stainless steel owing to its abilities to impart corrosion and oxidation resistance, increase hardenability, improve wear resistance, and bolster strength at elevated temperatures. Stainless steel production was 178,000 metric tons (t) in July 2025, unchanged from production in June 2025 and an increase of 15% compared with production in July 2024 (table 1). In July 2025, the leading import sources for ferrochromium into the United States were, in descending order of quantity by gross weight and chromium content, Kazakhstan, South Africa, and India (table 4). The leading import sources for chromium metal, in descending order of quantity by gross weight, were the United Kingdom, China, and France (table 5).

Imports of chromite ore, chromium ferroalloys, stainless steel, and stainless-steel scrap commonly fluctuate from month to month (table 1). Imports of chromite ore in July 2025 increased by 4% compared with those in June 2025 and decreased by 24% compared with those in July 2024. Chromium ferroalloy imports in July 2025 decreased by 51% compared with imports in June 2025 and were more than double compared with imports in July 2024 (fig. 1, tables 1, 3).

Stainless steel imports in July 2025 increased by 5% compared with imports in June 2025 and decreased by 17% compared with those in July 2024. Stainless-steel scrap imports in July 2025 increased by 13% compared with imports in June 2025 and by 35% compared with those in July 2024 (fig. 1, table 1).

Exports of stainless steel decreased by 32% in July 2025

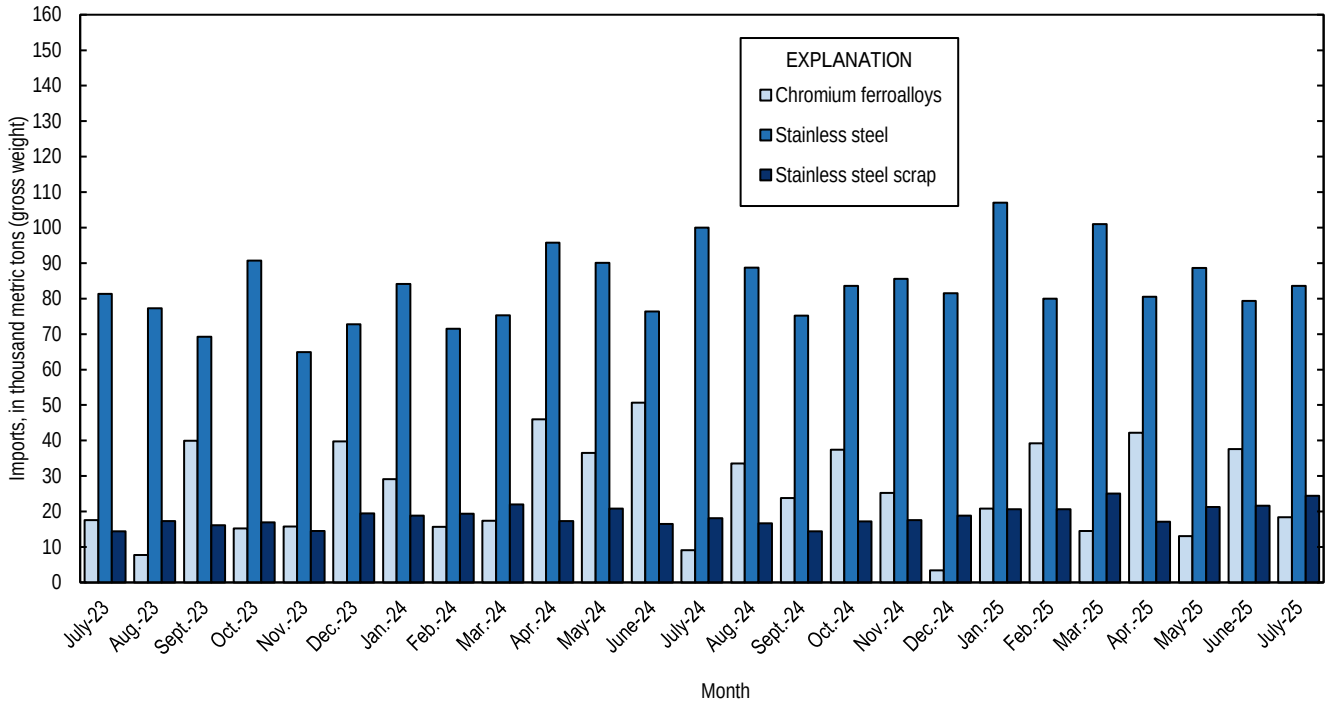

Figure 1. Chromium ferroalloys, stainless steel, and stainless steel scrap imports from July 2023 through July 2025. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

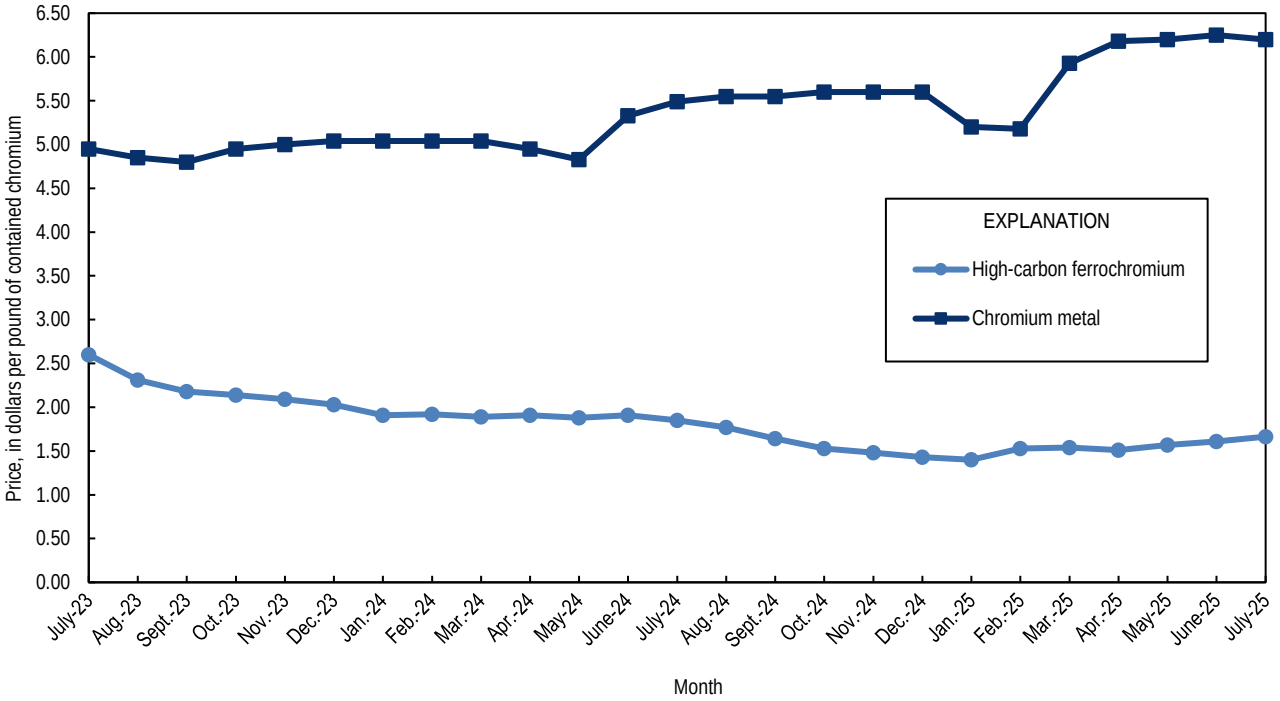

Figure 2. Average monthly prices for U.S. high-carbon ferrochromium (FeCr) and chromium metal from July 2023 through July 2025. Source: Argus Media, Argus Non-Ferrous Markets.

compared with those in June 2025 and by 40% compared with those in July 2024. Exports of stainless-steel scrap decreased by 18% in July 2025 compared with those in June 2025 and by 43% compared with those in July 2024 (tables 1, 6). Exports of chromium metal, chromite ore, and chromium ferroalloys are likely re-exports, as the United States does not produce those materials.

In July 2025, the average U.S. price for chromium metal (99% chromium) average assessed price was $6.20 per pound, a decrease from $6.25 in June 2025 and an increase of 13% compared with the average price in July 2024. The U.S. high-carbon ferrochromium (mininum 62% chromium) average assessed price was $1.67 per pound of contained chromium in July 2025, a 3% increase compared the average price in June 2025 and a 10% decrease compared with the average price in July 2024 (fig. 2) (Argus Media, Argus Non-Ferrous Markets, 2025).

Industry News

GSA Ferrokrom (Albania) temporarily shut down ferrochromium production at its plant in Elsban, Albania, for routine maintenance in July. The plant produced high-carbon ferrochromium with a mininum of 65% chromium content from two furnaces. The total annual capacity of the plant was 50,000 t. No word was given on when production would resume (Patel-Campbell, 2025).

Oman Chromite Company (S.A.O.G.) (Oman) increased its investment in Gulf Alloys and Metals (FZC) LLC, a low-carbon ferrochromium producer, in July from 20% to an undisclosed amount. Gulf Alloys' low-carbon ferrochromium smelter in the SOHA Port and Freezone began operations last year and added a second production line in January 2025 (Al Ajmi, 2025).

Industry Participation

Industry participation is key to the publication of aggregated totals of domestic chromium statistics, such as components of U.S. supply and consumption of chromium materials. The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) National Minerals Information Center canvasses the nonfuel mining and mineral processing industry in the United States for data on mineral production, consumption, recycling, stocks, and shipments. Data may be withheld or estimated, as marked in the accompanying tables, owing to lack of industry response or to withhold proprietary data.

Companies may report on a monthly, quarterly, semiannual, and (or) annual basis, depending on the frequency of the surveys. Companies already registered with the USGS can sign up to report electronically by selecting the "Sign up" link at https://mids.er.usgs.gov. To notify the USGS of a new operation, or for further information on registering for electronic submissions, visit https://mids.er.usgs.gov. The surveys that collect data for chromium materials include the USGS iron and steel scrap survey, which has a canvas code of G01, and the USGS consolidated consumers report, with a canvas code of G05. For more information on how to participate in the chromium surveys, please contact Ruth Schulte using the contact information listed above.

References Cited

Al Ajmi, Nasrulah, 2025, Oman Chromite boosts stake in ferrochrome venture: Muscat, Oman, Oman Observer, July 7. (Accessed September 10, 2025, at https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1173107/business/oman-chromite-boosts-stake-in-ferrochrome-venture.)

Argus Media, Argus Non-Ferrous Markets, 2025, Prices & data: Argus Media Group, July 31. (Accessed September 8, 2025, via https://www.argusmedia.com/metals.)

Patel-Campbell, Claire, 2025, GSA Ferrokrom to shut down for maintenance from July 1: London, United Kingdom, Fastmarkets Global Ltd., June 24. (Accessed September 8, 2025, via https://www.fastmarkets.com/.)

A worksheet has been added to the Excel table files that includes a button to remove text and numerical footnotes from data cells. This will allow users to only have numbers in data cells. Please see the worksheet titled RemoveTextButton for instructions in how to use the tool. Note: you must download the excel file in order to use the tool.

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Table 1. Salient United States chromium statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. W, withheld to avoid closing company proprietary data. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Product	2024	2025			
	January–December[1]	May	June	July	January–July[1]
U.S. production					
Stainless steel[2]	1,950,000	198,000	178,000	178,000	1,290,000
Components of U.S. supply					
Stainless steel scrap receipts	606,000	W	W	W	W
Stainless steel scrap consumption	959,000	W	W	W	W
Imports for consumption (gross weight)					
Chromite ore	114,000	26,000	7,890	8,240	71,400
High-carbon ferrochromium[3]	289,000	9,180	32,500	15,600	163,000
Medium-carbon ferrochromium[4]	90	172	3	84	305
Low-carbon ferrochromium, more than 0.5% but not more than 3% carbon	2,000	335	325	25	1,140
Low-carbon ferrochromium, not more than 0.5% carbon	33,900	2,730	4,700	2,200	18,700
Ferrochromium silicon	3,110	669	0	536	2,680
Total ferroalloy imports	328,000	13,100	37,600	18,400	186,000
Chromium metal[5]	19,300	1,080	1,090	1,300	10,000
Stainless steel	1,010,000	88,600	79,300	83,600	620,000
Stainless-steel scrap	218,000	21,300	21,600	24,400	151,000
Exports (gross weight)					
Chromite ore	2,230	154	234	87	1,170
High-carbon ferrochromium[3]	1,720	91	55	1	595
Low-carbon ferrochromium[6]	246	22	11	22	216
Ferrochromium silicon	33	3	0	1	3
Total ferroalloy exports	2,000	116	65	23	815
Chromium metal[5]	531	46	42	20	236
Stainless steel	515,000	46,800	44,100	29,900	293,000
Stainless-steel scrap	369,000	24,200	25,500	20,900	153,000

[1]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

[2]Data on stainless steel production reported by American Iron and Steel Institute; monthly, quarterly, and year–to–date production of stainless and heat-resisting raw steel.

[3]Ferrochromium containing more than 4% carbon.

[4]Ferrochromium containing more than 3% carbon but not more than 4% carbon.

[5]Includes waste and scrap and other.

[6]Ferrochromium containing not more than 3% carbon.

Table 2. U.S. exports of chromite, chromium ferroalloys, and metal.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Period	Chromite ore		Chromium ferroalloys[1]			Chromium metal[2]	
	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Gross weight (metric tons)	Content (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value (thousand dollars)
2024							
July	59	$50	201	64	$239	21	$804
August	328	250	206	76	183	24	496
September	77	80	396	117	355	67	1,230
October	90	80	31	18	55	29	744
November	179	135	90	54	179	28	1,060
December	101	105	117	65	278	15	576
January–December[3]	2,230	1,950	2,000	739	2,320	531	11,400
2025							
January	82	82	97	58	174	18	494
February	96	114	163	98	259	28	927
March	409	382	270	162	490	32	1,140
April	106	101	80	53	294	50	1,590
May	154	152	116	61	154	46	1,210
June	234	218	65	37	109	42	1,090
July	87	84	23	14	86	20	812
January–July[3]	1,170	1,130	815	483	1,570	236	7,260

[1]Includes low- and high-carbon ferrochromium and ferrochromium silicon.

[2]Includes chromium metal, waste and scrap, and unwrought powders.

[3]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).

Table 3. U.S. imports for consumption of chromite ore, ferrochromium, and chromium metal.
[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Product	2024	2025		
	January–December[1]	June	July	January–July[1]
Chromite ore, not more than 40% chromic oxide				
Gross weight	1,190	1,470	2,280	10,100
Chromic oxide content	458	477	427	2,120
Chromite ore, more than 40% but less than 46% chromic oxide				
Gross weight	29,200	3,720	5,310	24,500
Chromic oxide content	12,600	1,650	2,280	10,600
Chromite ore, 46% or more chromic oxide				
Gross weight	83,400	2,710	653	36,800
Chromic oxide content	62,200	1,330	353	30,000
Chromite ore, total, all grades				
Gross weight	114,000	7,890	8,240	71,400
Chromic oxide content	75,300	3,450	3,060	42,700
Ferrochromium, low-carbon, not more than 0.5% carbon				
Gross weight	33,900	4,700	2,200	18,700
Chromium content	23,300	3,270	1,530	13,000
Ferrochromium, low-carbon, more than 0.5% but not more than 3% carbon				
Gross weight	2,000	325	25	1,140
Chromium content	1,350	200	15	718
Ferrochromium, low-carbon, total				
Gross weight	35,900	5,030	2,230	19,900
Chromium content	24,600	3,470	1,540	13,700
Medium-carbon[2]				
Gross weight	90	3	84	305
Chromium content	62	2	45	168
High-carbon[3]				
Gross weight	289,000	32,500	15,600	163,000
Chromium content	158,000	16,900	9,200	89,000
Total ferrochromium, all grades				
Gross weight	325,000	37,600	17,900	183,000
Chromium content	183,000	20,300	10,800	103,000
Chromium metal				
Unwrought powders	17,000	759	921	7,450
Waste and scrap	429	92	50	384
Other than waste and scrap and unwrought powders	1,900	243	324	2,190
Total, all grades	19,300	1,090	1,300	10,000

[1]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).
[2]Ferrochromium containing more than 3% carbon but not more than 4% carbon.
[3]Ferrochromium containing more than 4% carbon.

Table 4. U.S. imports for consumption of ferrochromium in 2025, by grade and country or locality.
[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Grade and country or locality	July			January-July[1]		
	Gross weight (metric tons)	Content (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)	Gross weight (metric tons)	Content (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)
High-carbon ferrochromium[3]						
Albania	101	67	$160	155	101	$242
Brazil	0	0	0	1,990	1,090	2,070
Finland	0	0	0	18,000	9,440	20,200
Gabon	0	0	0	12	8	46
India	2,900	1,790	3,960	7,080	4,320	9,820
Kazakhstan	6,430	4,400	12,300	31,900	22,000	59,400
Oman	0	0	0	1,520	936	2,460
South Africa	6,140	2,940	6,960	102,000	50,900	105,000
Sweden	0	0	0	295	199	647
Turkey	0	0	0	72	47	145
Total	15,600	9,200	23,400	163,000	89,000	200,000
Medium-carbon ferrochromium[4]						
China	84	45	111	285	153	317
India	0	0	0	20	14	107
Total	84	45	111	305	168	424
Low-carbon ferrochromium, more than 0.5% but not more than 3% carbon						
Brazil	25	15	56	950	589	2,300
India	0	0	0	29	20	52
Kazakhstan	0	0	0	156	109	527
Total	25	15	56	1,140	718	2,880
Low-carbon ferrochromium, not more than 0.5% carbon						
Brazil	0	0	0	827	507	1,800
China	0	0	0	21	15	96
Germany	1,050	724	5,270	7,540	5,230	38,200
India	54	33	130	819	516	2,410
Japan	308	211	1,650	1,380	956	7,490
Kazakhstan	393	285	1,430	6,160	4,430	19,600
Netherlands	0	0	0	50	35	145
Oman	0	0	0	20	8	58
Singapore	0	0	0	(5)	(5)	5
Sweden	0	0	0	2	1	21
Turkey	400	276	994	1,910	1,320	5,430
Total	2,200	1,530	9,470	18,700	13,000	75,300
All grades						
Albania	101	67	160	155	101	242
Brazil	25	15	56	3,770	2,190	6,170
China	84	45	111	305	169	413
Finland	0	0	0	18,000	9,440	20,200
Gabon	0	0	0	12	8	46
Germany	1,050	724	5,270	7,540	5,230	38,200
India	2,950	1,820	4,090	7,940	4,870	12,400
Japan	308	211	1,650	1,380	956	7,490
Kazakhstan	6,820	4,690	13,700	38,200	26,600	79,600
Netherlands	0	0	0	50	35	145
Oman	0	0	0	1,540	944	2,520
Singapore	0	0	0	(5)	(5)	5
South Africa	6,140	2,940	6,960	102,000	50,900	105,000
Sweden	0	0	0	297	200	668
Turkey	400	276	994	1,980	1,370	5,570
Total	17,900	10,800	33,000	183,000	103,000	278,000

[1]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).
[2]Customs import value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the merchandise into the United States.
[3]Ferrochromium containing more than 4% carbon.
[4]Ferrochromium containing more than 3% carbon but not more than 4% carbon.
[5]Less than ½ unit.

Table 5. U.S. imports for consumption of chromium metal in 2025 by grade and by country or locality. [Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Grade and country or locality	July		January-July[1]	
	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)
Unwrought powders				
China	304	$2,490	3,500	$30,300
France	3	12	40	1,070
Germany	24	83	683	4,830
India	50	548	170	1,870
Italy	0	0	(3)	8
Kazakhstan	(3)	7	(3)	7
Mexico	5	53	31	366
Russia	0	0	80	586
South Africa	0	0	18	50
United Kingdom	535	8,780	2,920	46,700
Total	921	12,000	7,450	85,800
Waste and scrap				
Canada	28	263	89	828
China	(3)	11	10	51
Germany	0	0	(3)	4
Japan	0	0	1	12
Mexico	0	0	2	15
Singapore	0	0	3	29
Sweden	0	0	20	136
Taiwan	0	0	22	179
United Kingdom	23	222	237	1,370
Total	50	495	384	2,620
Other than waste and scrap and unwrought powders				
China	1	167	302	3,620
France	267	3,470	1,510	20,800
Germany	(3)	10	22	349
Israel	0	0	(3)	3
Italy	(3)	7	(3)	7
Japan	0	0	1	30
Malaysia	0	0	(3)	28
Russia	10	195	10	195
Spain	46	255	326	1,780
Taiwan	0	8	(3)	101
United Kingdom	0	0	20	181
Total	324	4,110	2,190	27,100
All grades				
Canada	28	263	89	828
China	306	2,670	3,820	34,000
France	270	3,480	1,550	21,900
Germany	24	93	706	5,190
India	50	548	170	1,870
Israel	0	0	(3)	3
Italy	(3)	7	(3)	15
Japan	0	0	2	42
Kazakhstan	(3)	7	(3)	7
Malaysia	0	0	(3)	28
Mexico	5	53	34	381
Russia	10	195	90	781
Singapore	0	0	3	29
South Africa	0	0	18	50
Spain	46	255	326	1,780
Sweden	0	0	20	136
Taiwan	0	8	22	280
United Kingdom	557	9,000	3,180	48,200
Total	1,300	16,600	10,000	116,000

[1]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).
[2]Customs import value generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the merchandise into the United States.
[3]Less than ½ unit.

Table 6. U.S. stainless steel trade, by product, in 2025.
[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Source: U.S. Census Bureau (https://usatrade.census.gov/).]

Stainless steel product	July		January-July[1]	
	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)	Gross weight (metric tons)	Value[2] (thousand dollars)
Exports				
Ingot	773	$4,880	6,760	$41,100
Flat-rolled (width > 600 mm)	20,200	61,000	217,000	568,000
Flat-rolled (width < 600 mm)	3,640	33,800	27,200	277,000
Bars and rods in irregular coils	79	575	942	6,420
Other bars and rods	1,970	39,700	17,200	294,000
Wire	393	13,800	2,790	90,400
Tubes, pipes, hollow profiles	2,860	39,300	21,700	272,000
Total	29,900	193,000	293,000	1,550,000
Stainless steel scrap	20,900	26,800	153,000	184,000
Grand total	50,800	220,000	446,000	1,730,000
Imports				
Ingot	11,300	27,100	90,600	229,000
Flat-rolled (width > 600 mm)	31,200	86,400	236,000	647,000
Flat-rolled (width < 600 mm)	4,700	17,600	29,800	128,000
Bars and rods in irregular coils	3,940	15,700	22,000	93,900
Other bars and rods	11,500	51,800	79,200	376,000
Wire	3,960	17,500	28,000	128,000
Tubes, pipes, hollow profiles	17,000	101,000	134,000	798,000
Total	83,600	317,000	620,000	2,400,000
Stainless steel scrap	24,400	33,100	151,000	178,000
Grand total	108,000	350,000	771,000	2,580,000

[1]May include revised data that are not broken out by specific month(s).
[2]Export value is free alongside ship. Import value is Customs import value, which generally represents a value in the foreign country and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the merchandise into the United States.