



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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**COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT**

*Accompanying the*

**Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on  
the Competitiveness of the Metals Industries**

{COM(2008) 108 final}

In 2005, the EU 27 metals industries generated a turnover of approximately € 316 billion and employed 1.1 million people.

Over the last few years, world metal markets have been rapidly changing under pressure from new producers and consumers. The growth currently being seen in some big emerging economies is accelerating the consumption of natural resources at a very fast pace; this phenomenon has put unprecedented pressure on commodity prices which have reached record levels.

The competitiveness of the EU metals industry is based on strength factors related to high added value given by integration, organisation, efficiency, skilled manpower, quality of production, innovation. Its weakness factors are namely linked to the raw materials and energy cost and availability, cost of manpower, regulations.

**Table 1 Basic metals industries in EU 27: Structural data**

2005	Value added at factor cost		Employment		Turnover (billion €)	Value added per employee (1000 €)
	billion €	Share of total EU27 manufacturing (%)	Numbers	Share of total EU27 manufacturing (%)		
Iron & Steel	48,84	2,99%	748.200	2,29%	220,32	62.05
Aluminium	11,9	0,73%	211.700	0,64%	51,62	55.36
Other non-ferrous metals	8,33	0,51%	132.200	0,41%	44,01	62.32

Source: Eurostat

Iron & Steel include casting of iron & steel (Nace Codes DJ 27.1, 2, 3, 51, 52)

Aluminium: includes casting of light metals (Nace codes DJ 2742 and DJ 2753)

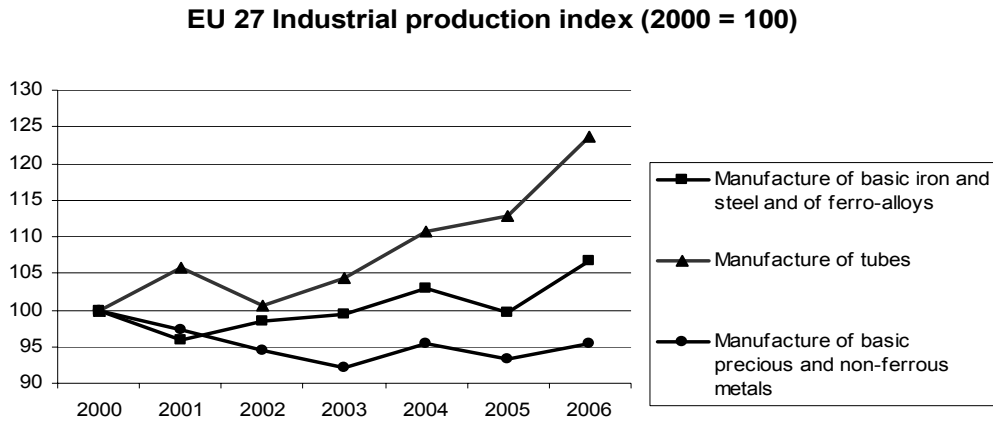
Basic precious and non-ferrous metals other than aluminium, including casting of other non-ferrous metals (DJ 2741, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2754)

**Table 2 Basic metals industries production in Member States**

<b>2006</b>	<b>Steel 1000t</b>	<b>Refined Aluminium 1000t</b>	<b>Refined Copper 1000t</b>	<b>Refined Nickel 1000t</b>	<b>Slab Zinc 1000t</b>
Austria	7.129	0	73	0	0
Belgium	11.631	0	383	0	220
Bulgaria	2.124	0	65	0	70
Cyprus		0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	6.862	0	0	0	0
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0
Estonia	0	0	0	0	0
Finland	5.054	0	137	47	282
France	19.852	440	0	14	210
Germany	47.224	516	658	0	335
Greece	2.416	165	0	18	0
Hungary	2.089	0	0	0	0
Ireland	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	31.624	194	36	0	109
Latvia	550	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	0
Luxemburg	2.802	0	0	0	0
Malta	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	6.372	326	0	0	221
Poland	10.008	50	557	0	155
Portugal	1.400	0	0	0	4
Romania	6.263	258	20	0	40
Slovakia	5.093	157	0	0	0
Slovenia	628	140	0	0	0
Spain	18.391	349	255	0	503
Sweden	5.466	101	229	0	0
United Kingdom	13.871	360	0	37	0
<b>Total EU27</b>	<b>206.842</b>	<b>3.056</b>	<b>2.413</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>2.149</b>

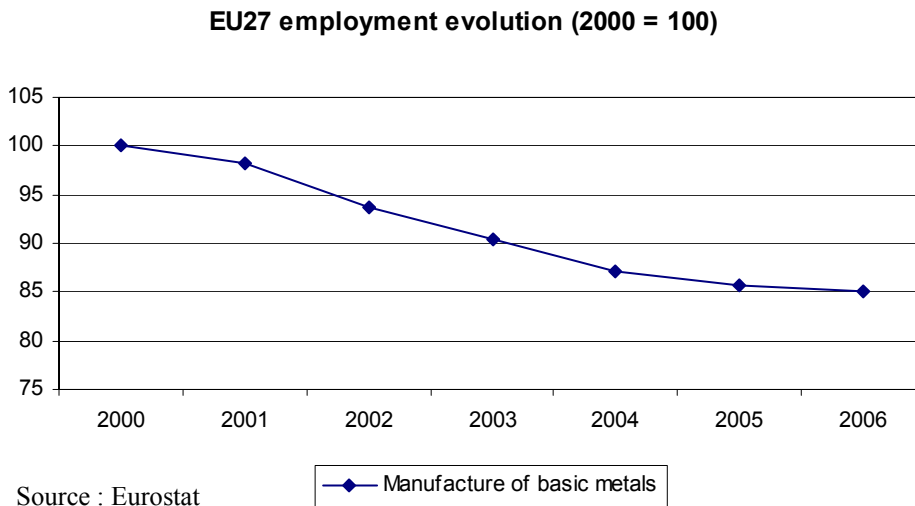
Source: IISI &amp; World Metal Statistics

**Figure 1 Production of basic metals 2000-2006 in EU 27**



Source : Eurostat

**Figure 2 Employment 2000-2006 in Basic metals industries in EU 27**



Source : Eurostat

**Table 3 Basic metals industries in EU 27: International trade 2000-2007 (1000 €)**

EUR 27	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(*)
<b>STEEL</b>								
Import	8.265.296	8.253.389	7.665.217	8.736.940	13.129.614	14.961.480	22.116.298	32.687.619
Export	17.312.610	17.421.642	17.872.649	18.688.903	23.525.243	29.592.271	32.873.359	36.865.969
Balance	9.047.314	9.168.253	10.207.432	9.951.963	10.395.629	14.630.791	10.757.062	4.178.350
<b>UNWROUGHT ALUMINIUM</b>								
Import	6.298.724	6.204.657	5.788.240	5.726.391	6.607.540	6.607.581	10.106.789	11.685.605
Export	349.304	274.181	274.804	236.121	340.244	402.984	419.844	392.657
Balance	-5.949.420	-5.930.476	-5.513.436	-5.490.270	-6.267.296	-6.204.597	-9.686.945	-11.292.948
<b>UNWROUGHT NICKEL</b>								
Import	2.549.055	2.000.216	2.023.073	2.323.583	2.011.225	1.779.221	2.529.465	2.999.079
Export	269.795	239.745	197.413	282.286	410.445	447.420	781.927	1.073.164
Balance	-2.279.260	-1.760.470	-1.825.660	-2.041.297	-1.600.780	-1.331.801	-1.747.538	-1.925.915
<b>COPPER, REFINED, AND COPPER ALLOYS, UNWROUGHT</b>								
Import	4.197.893	3.777.313	3.036.135	2.709.911	4.382.043	4.742.033	10.195.225	9.999.923
Export	260.618	241.773	305.420	295.739	464.687	651.743	728.010	729.916
Balance	-3.937.275	-3.535.540	-2.730.715	-2.414.172	-3.917.356	-4.090.290	-9.467.215	-9.270.007
<b>UNWROUGHT ZINC</b>								
Import	535.674	380.356	278.895	287.573	350.256	391.195	1.220.104	2.010.261
Export	152.867	132.834	146.183	103.324	149.612	181.326	351.090	318.977
Balance	-382.807	-247.522	-132.712	-184.249	-200.644	-209.869	-869.014	-1.691.283

Source :Eurostat , Comext

Steel CN codes from 7206 to 7307, other 7601,7502,7403,7901

(\*) Dec. estimated

**Table 4 Top 3 suppliers to EU 27 of basic metals 2000-2007 (1000 €)**

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007(*)	
	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Value	Share	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share
<b>TOP 3 Suppliers of steel</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>8.265.296</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>8.253.389</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>7.665.217</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>8.736.940</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>13.129.614</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>14.961.480</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>22.116.298</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>32.687.619</b>	<b>100,0</b>
China	258.623	3,1	197.677	2,4	261.531	3,4	305.527	3,5	592.699	4,5	1.101.960	7,4	3.594.749	16,3	8.110.331	24,8
Russia	1.163.690	14,1	1.163.557	14,1	1.207.544	15,8	1.489.133	17,0	2.336.493	17,8	2.680.770	17,9	3.313.407	15,0	4.084.817	12,5
Ukraine	586.920	7,1	778.133	9,4	757.783	9,9	808.248	9,3	1.607.854	12,2	1.679.643	11,2	2.222.798	10,1	2.414.617	7,4
<b>TOP 3 Suppliers of unwrought aluminium</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>6.298.724</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>6.204.657</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.788.240</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.726.391</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>6.607.540</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>6.607.581</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>10.106.789</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>11.685.605</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Norway	2.047.378	32,5	2.045.173	33,0	1.910.109	33,0	1.949.680	34,0	2.268.409	34,3	2.503.172	37,9	3.427.956	33,9	3.629.955	31,1
Russia	1.955.317	31,0	1.439.442	23,2	1.211.299	20,9	1.312.662	22,9	1.515.415	22,9	1.233.984	18,7	1.823.859	18,0	1.968.838	16,8
Mozambique	21.576	0,3	380.383	6,1	463.799	8,0	483.879	8,4	733.389	11,1	882.206	13,4	1.112.804	11,0	1.158.448	9,9
<b>TOP 3 Suppliers of Copper, refined, and copper alloys, unwrought</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>4.197.893</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.777.313</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.036.135</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.709.911</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.382.043</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.742.033</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>10.195.225</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>9.999.923</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Chile	2.020.502	48,1	1.914.691	50,7	1.699.802	56,0	1.717.921	63,4	2.822.438	64,4	2.921.095	61,6	5.597.662	54,9	5.925.873	59,3
Russia	1.275.711	30,4	1.029.975	27,3	706.696	23,3	551.215	20,3	900.402	20,5	929.339	19,6	1.424.887	14,0	1.463.208	14,6
Kazakhstan	218.917	5,2	242.316	6,4	189.781	6,3	58.756	2,2	88.887	2,0	228.761	4,8	890.953	8,7	444.892	4,4

<b>TOP 3 Suppliers of unwrought nickel</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>2.549.055</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.000.216</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.023.073</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.323.583</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.011.225</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>1.779.221</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.529.465</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.999.079</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Russia	1.295.026	50,8	992.662	49,6	946.186	46,8	1.291.082	55,6	1.212.193	60,3	1.008.735	56,7	1.547.108	61,2	1.514.859	50,5
Australia	323.767	12,7	279.526	14,0	301.353	14,9	256.812	11,1	338.270	16,8	328.997	18,5	454.726	18,0	636.146	21,2
Norway	115.867	4,5	106.068	5,3	128.257	6,3	129.956	5,6	132.979	6,6	146.887	8,3	220.051	8,7	334.478	11,2
<b>TOP 3 Suppliers of unwrought zinc</b>																
<b>Extra EU 27</b>	<b>535.674</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>380.356</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>278.895</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>287.573</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>350.256</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>391.195</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>1.220.104</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.010.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Norway	164.805	30,8	135.222	35,6	118.870	42,6	101.894	35,4	125.473	35,8	150.088	38,4	407.237	33,4	418.161	20,8
Namibia	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	9.366	3,3	18.946	5,4	55.776	14,3	155.588	12,8	272.914	13,6
India	0	0,0	0	0,0	97	0,0	0	0,0	44	0,0	4.663	1,2	114.609	9,4	192.104	9,6

Source :Eurostat , Comext

Steel CN codes from 7206 to 7307, other 7601,7502,7403,7901

(\*) Dec. estimated

**Table 5 Top 3 export markets for EU 27 Basic metals industries 2000-2007 (1000 €)**

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007(*)	
	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share	Value	Share
<b>TOP 3 Markets of steel</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>17.312.610</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>17.421.642</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>17.872.649</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>18.688.903</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>23.525.243</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>29.592.271</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>32.873.359</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>36.865.969</b>	<b>100,0</b>
USA	4.935.296	28,5	4.154.119	23,8	3.517.744	19,7	2.682.798	14,4	4.248.397	18,1	5.012.640	16,9	5.671.991	17,3	5.765.182	15,6
Turkey	1.084.473	6,3	830.102	4,8	1.077.858	6,0	1.501.024	8,0	1.879.590	8,0	2.404.522	8,1	2.643.804	8,0	3.126.449	8,5
China	467.490	2,7	719.711	4,1	1.097.291	6,1	1.951.491	10,4	1.783.542	7,6	2.467.452	8,3	2.630.135	8,0	2.234.628	6,1
<b>TOP 3 Markets of unwrought aluminium</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>349.304</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>274.181</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>274.804</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>236.121</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>340.244</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>402.984</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>419.844</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>392.657</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Switzerland	67.291	19,3	71.791	26,2	54.855	20,0	55.760	23,6	55.997	16,5	64.735	16,1	106.161	25,3	115.244	29,3
USA	77.729	22,3	16.617	6,1	30.311	11,0	17.292	7,3	57.762	17,0	78.599	19,5	41.919	10,0	25.589	6,5
Serbia	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	6.127	1,5	32.491	7,7	13.820	3,5
<b>TOP 3 Markets of Copper, refined, and copper alloys, unwrought</b>																
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>260.618</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>241.773</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>305.420</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>295.739</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>464.687</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>651.743</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>728.010</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>729.916</b>	<b>100,0</b>
China	51.494	19,8	66.554	27,5	95.692	31,3	97.674	33,0	132.898	28,6	181.284	27,8	241.343	33,2	230.727	31,6
USA	43.416	16,7	16.809	7,0	18.019	5,9	22.772	7,7	81.078	17,4	165.667	25,4	158.415	21,8	71.985	9,9
Serbia	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0	0	0,0	0	0,0	65	0,0	35.200	4,8	113.761	15,6



**TOP 3 Markets of unwrought nickel**

<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>269.795</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>239.745</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>197.413</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>282.286</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>410.445</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>447.420</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>781.927</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>1.073.164</b>	<b>100,0</b>
China	17.798	6,6	24.296	10,1	26.430	13,4	24.845	8,8	63.360	15,4	78.483	17,5	204.366	26,1	168.178	15,7
USA	112.718	41,8	111.604	46,6	52.953	26,8	69.727	24,7	90.602	22,1	75.287	16,8	139.220	17,8	132.092	12,3
Taiwan	17.712	6,6	5.007	2,1	6.437	3,3	18.599	6,6	15.026	3,7	49.884	11,1	115.695	14,8	211.276	19,7

**TOP 3 Markets of unwrought zinc**

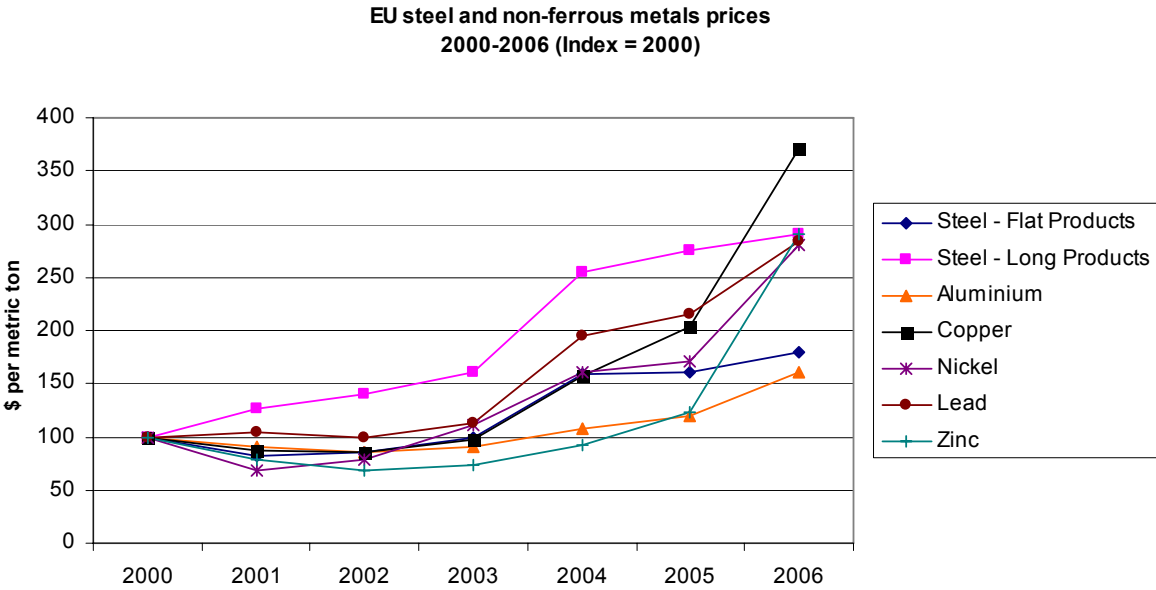
<b>EXTRA EU27</b>	<b>152.867</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>132.834</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>146.183</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>103.324</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>149.612</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>181.326</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>351.090</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>318.977</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Turkey	28.009	18,3	21.830	16,4	35.419	24,2	33.961	32,9	75.574	50,5	98.684	54,4	194.459	55,4	172.393	54,0
Saudi Arabia	5.933	3,9	3.020	2,3	3.654	2,5	1.309	1,3	1.259	0,8	10.489	5,8	29.730	8,5	37.723	11,8
Russia	699	0,5	774	0,6	288	0,2	210	0,2	154	0,1	106	0,1	15.476	4,4	203	0,1

Source :Eurostat , Comext

Steel CN codes from 7206 to 7307, other 7601,7502,7403,7901

(\*) Dec. estimated

**Figure 3 Steel and non-ferrous metals prices**



Steel Average Transaction Price and Non-Ferrous Metal LME Prices