

# India Iron Steel Market Size, Growth Drivers and Forecast 2034 | At a Thriving CAGR of 4.3%

The India Iron Steel market is projected to grow at a CAGR of 4.3% between 2025 and 2034, reaching a value of USD 312.61 billion by 2034.

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, August 6, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The iron and steel industry is one of the most significant sectors in India's economy, contributing notably to the country's GDP and serving as the backbone of industrial development. From infrastructure to automotive, railways, construction, energy, defense, and manufacturing, iron and steel products are indispensable across various



India Iron Steel Market

domains. India, being one of the largest producers and consumers of steel in the world, plays a vital role in shaping the steel landscape.

The <u>India Iron Steel Market Size</u> was valued at USD 205.15 Billion in 2024. The Iron Steel industry is projected to grow from USD 213.98 Billion in 2025 to USD 312.61 Billion by 2034, exhibiting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.3% during the forecast period (2025 - 2034).

#### **Demand Drivers**

Several key sectors fuel the demand for iron and steel in India:

### Infrastructure and Construction:

The government's emphasis on building infrastructure through projects like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, Smart Cities, and Housing for All has significantly increased steel consumption. Structural steel, reinforcement bars, and other long products see high demand in this sector.

## Automotive Industry:

The automotive sector is one of the largest consumers of flat steel products. As India continues

to grow as a manufacturing hub for two-wheelers, cars, and commercial vehicles, the demand for quality steel also rises.

## Railways and Metro Projects:

Indian Railways is undergoing major modernization, including track electrification, the introduction of high-speed trains, and expansion of metro networks in urban areas, all of which require massive steel inputs.

## Oil & Gas and Energy Sector:

Pipelines, transmission towers, and equipment for energy generation and distribution heavily rely on steel products.

## Consumer Durables and Capital Goods:

With rising income levels and urbanization, the consumption of white goods and machinery has expanded, further pushing steel demand.

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## Technological Advancements and Sustainability

India's steel industry is undergoing a transformation in terms of adopting modern technologies and embracing sustainability. The use of automation, artificial intelligence, and data analytics in steelmaking processes is gaining traction to optimize operations and reduce costs.

Environmental concerns have also prompted the industry to shift towards cleaner production technologies. The adoption of <u>energy-efficient equipment</u>, waste heat recovery, carbon capture, and renewable energy integration are all steps toward reducing the carbon footprint.

The push towards hydrogen-based steelmaking and electric arc furnaces powered by renewable energy is gaining momentum as India works towards its net-zero emissions goal.

## **Export and Import Dynamics**

India has emerged as a significant exporter of finished steel, particularly to Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and parts of Europe. However, the export performance can vary depending on demand, geopolitical developments, and trade policies.

While India is self-sufficient in raw materials like iron ore, it still imports coking coal in large quantities due to the limited availability of high-grade coal domestically. Also, certain specialty steel grades and high-value-added products continue to be imported, which the PLI scheme aims to reduce.

# Regional and State-Level Distribution

Several Indian states play pivotal roles in steel production:

Odisha: Home to large integrated steel plants and vast iron ore reserves. Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand: Known for their mineral wealth and contribution to both primary and secondary steel production. Karnataka: Hosts several key steel production facilities, particularly in the Bellary-Hospet region. Maharashtra and Gujarat: Major centers for flat steel production and consumer durables manufacturing. This state-level distribution ensures geographic balance in supply, proximity to raw material sources, and access to port and rail infrastructure. Key Players in the Iron Steel Companies Include: APL Apollo Tubes Ltd **Electro Steel Castings Ltd** Godawari Power & Ispat Ltd Hindalco Ltd Jayaswal Neco Industries Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL) Maharashtra Seamless Ltd Mukand Steel **NMDC** JSW Steel Ltd.

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Challenges in the Indian Iron and Steel Market

Despite its rapid growth, the sector faces certain challenges:

## **High Input Costs:**

Prices of raw materials like coking coal and ferroalloys remain volatile, impacting production costs.

## Logistics and Infrastructure Bottlenecks:

Transporting bulky raw materials and finished goods can be inefficient due to inadequate infrastructure in some regions.

## **Environmental Regulations:**

Stricter norms on emissions and waste management require heavy investments in pollution control technologies.

## Competition:

Dumping of cheap steel, especially from surplus-producing nations, has occasionally hurt the domestic industry.

## Low Per Capita Consumption:

Although India is a large producer, its per capita steel consumption remains lower than the average, indicating untapped potential but also reflecting slower penetration in rural and tier-3 cities.

# Current Market Landscape

India is currently the second-largest steel producer ly, after China. The country boasts a robust production base comprising large integrated steel plants, mini steel plants, and re-rolling mills. It has a total crude steel production capacity exceeding 150 million tonnes per annum (MTPA), with ongoing plans for expansion.

The domestic iron ore reserves, mainly in states like Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Karnataka, provide a steady supply of raw material, reducing dependency on imports. However, challenges related to logistics, environmental compliance, and mining regulations sometimes affect raw material availability.

The steel production in India is primarily dominated by two routes: the blast furnace-basic oxygen furnace (BF-BOF) route and the electric arc furnace (EAF) or induction furnace (IF) route. While the BF-BOF route is favored for integrated operations and primary steel production, EAF and IF routes are widely used in the secondary steel sector for recycling scrap into steel.

### **Future Outlook**

The long-term outlook for the Indian iron and steel market remains robust. Urbanization, industrialization, and the government's focus on infrastructure development will continue to drive demand. With the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and Gati Shakti initiative laying a

roadmap for multi-sector growth, steel consumption is poised to grow consistently.

The emphasis on value-added products, specialty steels, and sustainable manufacturing practices will define the next phase of growth. Additionally, increasing automation and digitalization across the supply chain will enhance productivity, reduce waste, and ensure higher quality.

The domestic market's resilience, vast resource base, growing skilled workforce, and supportive policies make India a formidable player in the steel ecosystem.

India's iron and steel market is undergoing a transformative phase driven by rapid industrial growth, infrastructure development, and strategic policy support. With ambitious targets for capacity enhancement, technology upgradation, and sustainability, the sector is well-positioned for long-term expansion.

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