

In the United States, for example, imports increased from 3.4 million tons in 1960 to 10.8 million tons in 1966, while production rose from 99.3 million tons to 134.1 million tons. The increase in production was five times greater than the increase in imports. Yet in both years, the industry had approximately the same number of wage employees (ca. 447,000).

In the European Coal and Steel Community, the same trends are in evidence. Between 1959 and 1965, imports increased by 6.5 million tons while production increased by 25 million tons—or four times as much. Yet, in both years, the number of wage employees in the industry was almost identical (ca. 464,000).

TABLE II-1.—EMPLOYMENT, PRODUCTION, AND IMPORT TRENDS, ECSC AND THE UNITED STATES, 1959-67

Year	ECSC				United States			
	Employment ¹	Raw steel production	Average tons per employee	Imports	Employment	Raw steel production	Average tons per employee	Imports
1959.....	464,467	69,625,000	149.9	8,467,000	399,738	93,446,000	233.8	4,396,354
1960.....	482,453	80,287,000	166.4	11,981,000	449,888	99,282,000	220.7	3,358,725
1961.....	483,351	80,739,000	167.0	12,080,000	405,924	98,014,000	241.5	3,163,686
1962.....	479,466	80,465,000	167.8	13,531,000	402,662	98,328,000	244.2	4,100,039
1963.....	469,326	80,698,000	171.9	15,508,000	405,536	109,261,000	269.4	5,446,326
1964.....	477,513	91,334,000	191.3	16,611,000	434,654	127,076,000	292.4	6,439,635
1965.....	464,707	94,792,000	204.0	15,068,000	458,539	131,462,000	286.7	10,383,021
1966.....	439,949	93,819,000	213.2	17,013,000	446,712	134,101,000	300.2	10,753,022
1967.....	428,499	99,085,000	231.2		424,153	127,213,000	299.9	11,454,502

¹ Number of wage employees as of December of each year, 1959-66, and as of September 1967.

² Preliminary.

Source: AISI, Annual Statistical Reports, 1960-67. Statistisches Bundesamt, Eisen und Stahl, 4. Vierteljahreshft, 1967.

(2) Between 1962 and 1967, while U.S. steel imports more than doubled, separation rates in the steel industry have been consistently below the average for durable goods and for manufacturing as a whole. In May 1967, total separations for the steel industry were at the rate of 2.5 per 100, compared to 4.1 for all manufacturing—substantially the same proportions as in 1962.

(3) Total insured unemployment in June 1967, in nine areas identifiable as steel centers (such as Allentown, Bethlehem, Buffalo, Gary-Hammond, and Pittsburgh) shows a sharp decline since 1960—again during a period of rising imports. Thus, while 12 percent of the Youngstown labor force was unemployed in 1960, the rate had dropped to 3.3 percent by February 1965. Rising imports cannot be associated with rising unemployment. If anything, the correlation points to the reverse.

(4) The United Steelworkers of America have not been able to furnish us with precise data on unemployment of steel labor. Nor do the published sources indicate that there is more than minimal unemployment at this time. On the contrary, there is some evidence of periodic shortages of steel labor in some production centers.

(5) During the post-World War II period, the *long-run* trend of employment in the steel industry has moved downward. However, as Table II-1 shows, this is due to an increase in productivity (i.e., mechanization and automation) and not to an increase in imports. Employment has tended to decline *even though production has increased*, for the simple reason that output per man and output per man-hour have increased substantially. Again, this is true both for the United States and the European Coal and Steel Community.

As Meyer Bernstein of the United Steel Workers explained to the Congress (testimony on S. Res. 149, June 2, 1966): "Another point to be kept in mind is that as far as employment in the steel industry is concerned, the rate of national industrial activity is much more important than the balance of imports and exports. A prosperous year will increase employment of steelworkers far greater than a surge of imports will reduce such employment. It should be remembered that 1965 was not only the year of highest steel products imports, it was also the year of highest American steel industry production. We achieved this record