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Report : Crude Steel Production in Arab Countries for January – October 2025

The steel sector in the Arab region recorded a steady and balanced performance during October 2025 across the Gulf, North Africa, and the Eastern Mediterranean. Most Arab countries achieved notable growth in production, supported by continued industrial expansion and rising local and regional demand for steel products.

Aggregated data for the period from January to October 2025 confirms an upward trend in Arab steel production, with a growth rate of 7.2% compared to the previous year, reinforcing the strengthening role of Arab countries within the global steel landscape.

Strong Performance in the Gulf Area

Gulf countries posted solid growth in crude steel production during October 2025, driven primarily by a significant increase in Saudi Arabia, where output rose by 12.8%, maintaining its leading position with a cumulative production of 8.866 million tons, up 12.9%. Qatar and Kuwait also achieved growth during the month, while the UAE recorded a slight decline of -0.3%, despite maintaining positive cumulative growth of 3.7%.

Although Oman and Bahrain saw minor decreases, total Gulf production in October reached 1.824 million tons, marking a 5.8% increase. Cumulative production for January–October grew by 9.3% to 17.785 million tons, representing one of the highest regional growth rates in the Arab world.

Country	October 25 (000 tons)	Change – October 24/25	Jan. – Oct. 2025 (000 tons)	Change – 24/25
Saudi Arabia	948	12.8%	8,866	12.9%
UAE	344	-0.3%	3,152	3.7%
Oman	250	-3.8%	2,510	-1.2%
Bahrain	95	-5.0%	993	-1.2%
Qatar	102	4.5%	1,367	37.7%
Kuwait	85	6.3%	896	5.9%
Total	1,824	5.8%	17,785	9.3%

Continued Improvement in North Africa

North Africa delivered a positive performance in October 2025, led by Algeria, which recorded strong annual growth of 15%, followed by Morocco. Despite a significant decline in Libya's October output of -15.1%, the country achieved exceptional cumulative growth of 39.8%. Egypt, the region's largest producer, remained relatively stable with a modest 0.6% increase in October, despite a cumulative decline of -2.8%. Overall, North Africa produced 1.631 million tons in October, up 4.2%, while cumulative production for January–October reached 15.420 million tons, rising 6.3%, reflecting a notable recovery in production capacity across most countries in the region.



Country	October 25 (000 tons)	Change – October 24/25	Jan. – Oct. 2025 (000 tons)	Change – 24/25
Egypt	956	0.6%	8,650	-2.8%
Algeria	460	15.0%	4,520	22.2%
Morocco	128	11.3%	1,253	6.6%
Libya	80	-15.1%	932	39.8%
Tunisia	7	16.7%	65	8.3%
Total	1,631	4.2%	15,420	6.3%

Stable Performance in the Eastern Mediterranean

The Eastern Mediterranean region recorded stable crude steel production in October, with Iraq and Jordan maintaining the same output levels as last year, while Yemen continued to experience declines.

Between January and October 2025, the region produced 2.844 million tons, a slight increase of 0.1%, with Iraq remaining the largest contributor. Yemen's results highlight the ongoing challenges facing the sector there. Total production in the Eastern Mediterranean during October reached 282 thousand tons, down -0.7%, indicating overall stability compared with other regions.

Country	October 25 (000 tons)	Change – October 24/25	Jan. – Oct. 2025 (000 tons)	Change – 24/25
Iraq	250	0.0%	2,515	0.4%
Jordan	25	0.0%	250	0.0%
Yemen	7	-22.2%	79	-9.2%
Total	282	-0.7%	2,844	0.1%

Clear Growth in Total Arab Steel Production

Supported by strong performances from the Gulf and North Africa, crude steel production in the Arab countries continued its upward trajectory during October 2025, reaching 3.737 million tons, an increase of 4.6% over the previous year.

Cumulative production for January–October totaled 36.048 million tons, growing by 7.2%, reflecting expanded production capacity and higher operating levels across numerous Arab steel plants.

This overall performance confirms that the Arab region is steadily strengthening its presence in the global steel industry.

	October 25 (000 tons)	Change – October 24/25	Jan. – Oct. 2025 (000 tons)	Change – 24/25
Arab Countries	3,737	4.6%	36,048	7.2%



North Africa

Rebar Prices in Egypt – October 24, 2025

Rebar prices in Egypt ranged this week between EGP 31,500 and EGP 34,200 per ton.

Major producers maintained stable prices compared to the previous week, with Ezz Steel holding at EGP 34,200 per ton, while Suez Steel remained at EGP 33,700, Beshay Steel at EGP 34,000, and El Marakby Steel at EGP 34,000. Egyptian Steel also kept its price unchanged at EGP 34,100 per ton.

In contrast, several other companies recorded varying declines in their prices during the same week. Ashry Steel posted EGP 33,500, down by EGP 1,300, while Garhy Steel dropped to EGP 33,400, a decrease of EGP 1,600. Misr Steel reported EGP 33,900, marking a decline of EGP 800 compared to last week.

El Komy Steel also recorded a decline, with the price dropping to EGP 31,500, down EGP 1,500, while El Ola Steel reached EGP 30,800, decreasing by EGP 700. Meanwhile, Al Gioshy Steel posted the largest drop, with prices falling to EGP 31,500 per ton, a decline of EGP 1,800.

Rebar prices were as follows compared to the week last:

Company	EGP/t	Pointer	w-w
Ezz Steel	38,200	-	0
Suez Steel	37,900	-	0
Beshay Steel	37,000	-	0
El Marakby Steel	35,000	-	0
Egyptian Steel	38,100	-	0
Ashry Steel	33,500	▼	1300-
Garhy Steel	33,400	▼	1600-
Misr Steel	33,900	▼	800-
El komy Steel	31,500	▼	1500-
El Ola steel	30,800	▼	700-
Al Gioshy steel	31,500	▼	1800-

Prices include 14% VAT



Afro-Asian Investors Union's Chamber of Metal Industries Holds Its First Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Metal Industries at the Afro-Asian General Union of Investors held its first meeting on the sidelines of the Middle East Iron and Steel Conference in Dubai. The meeting addressed the major transformations taking place in the global iron and steel industry, particularly shifts in trade flows, the rise of protectionist policies, and the accelerating move toward low-carbon production.

In a statement, the Board of Directors of the Afro-Asian General Union of Investors announced the formation of the Chamber of Metal Industries under the chairmanship of Ayman El-Ashry, President of the Cairo Chamber of Commerce, in recognition of his strong contributions and extensive international expertise in the steel industry.

The statement added that the Chamber's Board of Directors includes a group of experts and producers from the metal industries sector, among them Jasem Mohammed Al-Abbas, Vice Chairman of the National Iron Industry Committee at the Federation of Saudi Chambers; Assem Hussein, Founder and CEO of Gulf Steel Group from the United Arab Emirates; Fadi Al-Debaei, former member of the Syrian Iron and Steel Council; Mostafa Saber, Head of the Gold and Precious Metals Division; and Dr. Mohamed Sherif Saleh, Head of the Aluminum Division at the Union.

The CEO of Al Ittifaq Steel Company stated that the current focus is on GCC markets due to global steel price conditions.

Sharjeel Azhar, CEO of Al-Ittifaq Steel, stated that the company's largest markets are concentrated within the region and explained that Al-Ittifaq Steel was the first Saudi exporter to Canada, and has also exported to Hong Kong, Singapore, and countries in the Far East. However,

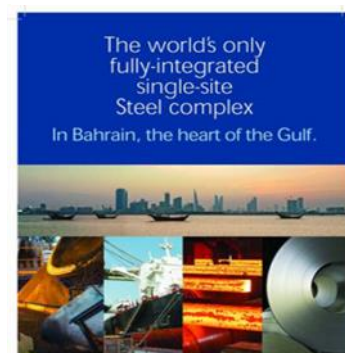
With current global steel price levels, Azhar believes the main focus at this stage will be on the GCC markets, with the possibility of expanding beyond them when market conditions allow.

Regarding the targeted markets within the Gulf, Azhar confirmed that the UAE market looks very promising, although the company has not yet started exporting to it, but it is one of the first Saudi mills to have obtained the necessary certification for that.

In assessing demand within the GCC and the Middle East, Azhar said that Saudi Arabia and the UAE are the most active markets, with the UAE market experiencing positive growth, while Saudi Arabia is working on implementing huge projects that provide significant support for demand.

He added that the biggest global challenge is the oversupply compared to demand, but he remains optimistic about the Saudi market, supported by a young population, strong spending, and large infrastructure projects. He noted that the Middle East and North Africa region grew by about 4% last year, with Saudi Arabia expected to continue its strong growth in the near term.

Azhar revealed that the company has been considering initial public offering plans for some time, and is currently seeking to complete internal restructuring processes before moving to the public offering step in the Saudi market within a medium-term vision.



ADNOC Gas and EMSTEEL sign \$4 billion 20-year natural gas supply deal

ADNOC Gas announced on Wednesday the signing of a landmark agreement with EMSTEEL valued between \$3.5 and \$4.2 billion. The 20-year agreement, effective January 1, 2027, secures a stable and reliable supply of lower-carbon natural gas to power EMSTEEL’s operations and future growth.

“This landmark agreement to supply EMSTEEL with lower-carbon natural gas underpins ADNOC Gas’ role in boosting the UAE’s industrial growth and economic development. We remain firmly committed to delivering reliable, lower-carbon energy that powers national industries, drives value creation and helps secure the UAE’s long-term prosperity,” said Fatema Al Nuaimi, CEO of ADNOC Gas.

This milestone reinforces the long-standing partnership between ADNOC Gas and EMSTEEL and demonstrates both companies’ commitment to driving sustainable economic growth in the UAE.

The agreement not only secures a dependable energy supply for one of the country’s leading industrial producers but also strengthens ADNOC Gas’ competitive position as a key enabler of industrial resilience and cleaner energy transition.

“EMSTEEL is proud to extend its long-standing partnership with ADNOC Gas through this landmark agreement, which reflects the strength of collaboration between two national champions driving the UAE’s industrial and economic transformation,” said Engineer Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi, group CEO of EMSTEEL.

Al Remeithi added that the strategic partnership not only ensures a secure and sustainable energy supply for EMSTEEL’s operations but also reinforces the shared commitment to maximizing In-Country Value and supporting national economic resilience.



World

Iron prices rise to a three-week high as global exports decline

Iron ore futures jumped to their highest level in three weeks after data showed a decline in shipments from the world's largest producers of the raw material used in steelmaking.

Iron ore was trading at around \$106 per ton in Singapore on Tuesday. Shipments from Australia and Brazil fell by 2.7 million tons last week compared to the previous seven days, according to the latest figures from consultancy Mysteel.

On a macro level, the Chinese economy received a boost from the People's Bank of China's plans to auction 1 trillion yuan (\$141 billion) of a one-year medium-term lending instrument today. According to the Shanghai Securities News, the sale highlights the Chinese central bank's use of a mix of monetary policy tools to ensure ample liquidity within the economy.

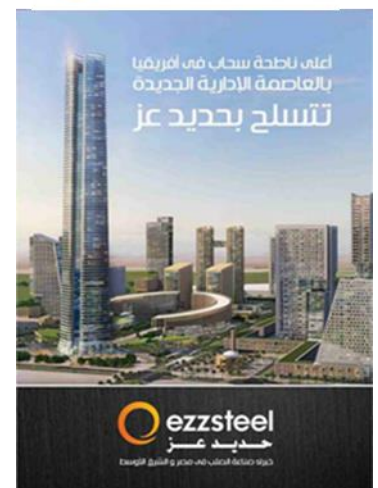
Iron ore futures in Singapore rose 0.9% to \$105.95 a ton. Prices also climbed 1% on the Dalian exchange, and steel futures in Shanghai also advanced.

ArcelorMittal calls for urgent adoption of EU tariff quota and reassures European customers

ArcelorMittal continues to call for the urgent introduction of the new tariff quota announced by the European Commission in October 2025. The proposal is a crucial measure that is vital for the survival of the steel industry in Europe, and the long-term security of the manufacturing sector. Steel imports into the EU continue at record levels, causing serious harm to the EU steel industry.

In anticipation of the new trade tool coming into effect, ArcelorMittal wants to reassure manufacturers and distributors that the company will continue to meet their needs for steel. ArcelorMittal is preparing to ramp up production at its facilities across Europe, anticipating the net change in demand due to the EU tariff quota measure. Taking these measures will allow ArcelorMittal to meet demand promptly and maintain stability in the supply chain; of equal importance, this increase in production will also support European jobs, and create significant value for the European economy.

Speaking on the topic, Geert Van Poelvoorde, CEO ArcelorMittal Europe, said: "I am aware that some steel users are concerned about the impact of the new trade tool, namely potential supply shortages, price volatility, and access to specialised products. However, I can assure them that we are able to adequately meet European customer demand, with steel produced in Europe. We therefore stand ready to ramp up production, in line with demand.



Top 10 steel-producing countries

Country	Oct 2025 (Mt)	% change Oct 25/24	Jan-Oct 2025 (Mt)	% change Jan-Oct 25/24
China	72.0	-12.1	817.9	-3.9
India	13.6	5.9	136.0	10.0
United States	7.0	9.4	68.4	2.8
Japan	6.9	-1.0	67.3	-4.1
Russia	5.3	-6.2	56.5	-4.9
South Korea	5.1	-5.8	51.1	-3.6
Türkiye	3.2	3.1	31.3	1.2
Germany	3.1	-3	28.5	-9.9
Brazil	3.0	-2.7	28.0	-1.8
Iran	3.3	12	25.4	-1.0

The European Union refuses to relax digital rules in exchange for lower US steel tariffs

The European Union rejected a US request to ease its strict digital regulations in exchange for a reduction in US tariffs on steel and aluminum.

The rejection came after US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick directly linked the EU's digital regulations to the 50% tariffs on European metal imports.

The European Commission has asserted that its digital framework is non-negotiable and aims to protect consumers and ensure fair competition. Brussels is seeking exemptions from US tariffs while simultaneously imposing hefty fines on American technology companies like Apple and Meta.

The dispute comes at a time when Europe fears that the range of goods subject to high tariffs could widen, potentially weakening the recent trade agreement between the two sides.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick had pledged to reduce tariffs on steel and aluminum products imported from the European Union if the EU amended its rules for the digital technology sector, following his meeting with EU trade ministers in Brussels.

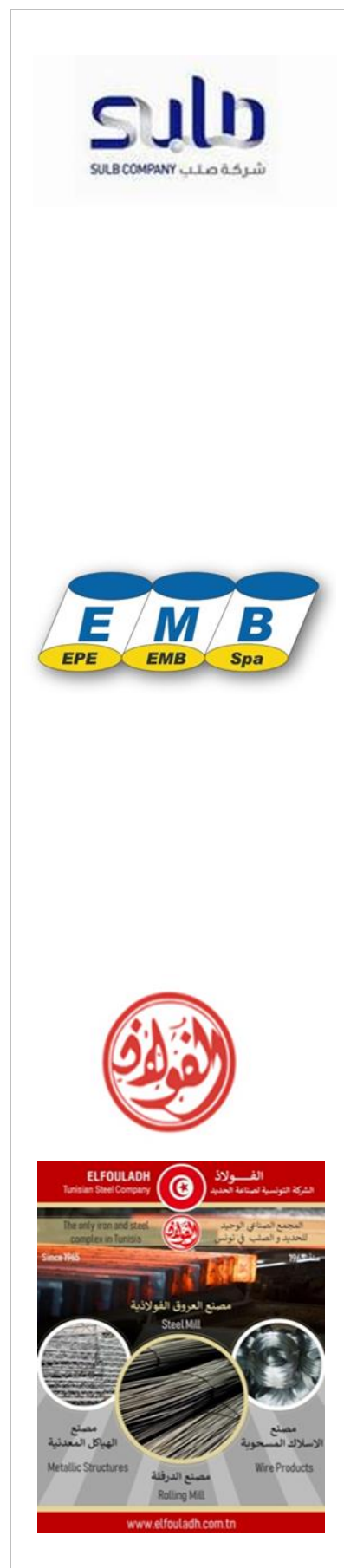
"If the ministers can come up with a balanced approach, which I believe they can, we will work with them to address the steel and aluminum issues," Lutnick said after the meeting.

The European Union is striving to find a way to reduce the 50% tariffs imposed by Washington on steel and aluminum imports from the bloc. These tariffs are particularly burdensome for German industry.

Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump has consistently criticized the European Union's digital rules in light of numerous lawsuits filed by the European Commission against US technology companies, including Google, Amazon, Apple and Microsoft.

The EU's Digital Services Act and Digital Markets Act are causing sharp disagreements with Washington.

"The United States has been very concerned for many years about the Digital Markets Act and similar legislation in the European Union," said U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, who participated in the talks, adding that U.S. companies are often almost exclusively affected, that enforcement of the law is "sometimes very strict," and that fines can be exorbitant.



Arab Iron and Steel Union



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To subscribe, please contact us on

E-mail info@aisusteel.org

General Secretariat

P.O. Box 04 Chéraga - Algeria

Tel: + 21320343324

Fax: + 21320343194

Email: relex@solbarab.org

www.aisusteel.org

Cairo Regional Office

P.O. Box: 515 Dokki - Giza - Egypt

Tel: + 20233356219

Fax: + 20233374790

Email: aisucairo@solbarab.org

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