

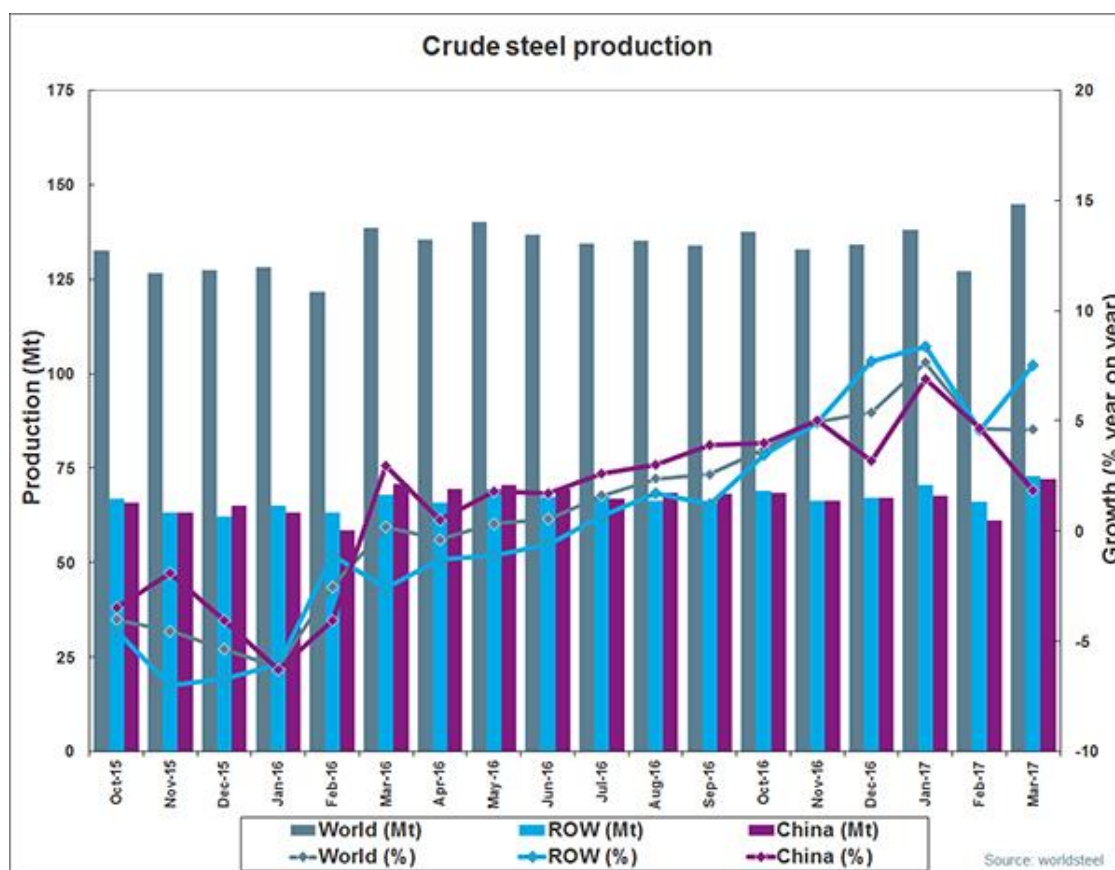
**PRESS RELEASE**

**March 2017 crude steel production for the 67 countries reporting to worldsteel**

**Brussels, 24 April 2017 - World crude steel production for the 67 countries reporting to the World Steel Association (worldsteel) was 145.0 million tonnes (Mt) in March 2017, a 4.6% increase compared to March 2016.**

World crude steel production was 410.5 Mt in the first three months of 2017, up by 5.7% compared to the same period in 2016. Asia produced 280.6 Mt of crude steel, an increase of 5.4% over the first quarter of 2016. The EU produced 42.5 Mt of crude steel in the first quarter of 2017, up by 3.8% compared to the same quarter of 2016. North America's crude steel production in the first three months of 2017 was 29.3 Mt, an increase of 7.1% compared to the first quarter of 2016. The C.I.S. produced 25.9 Mt of crude steel in the first three months of 2017, an increase of 4.0% over the same months of 2016.

China's crude steel production for March 2017 was 72.0 Mt, an increase of 1.8% compared to March 2016. Japan produced 8.9 Mt of crude steel in March 2017, an increase of 1.8% compared to March 2016.



In the EU, Germany produced 3.9 Mt of crude steel in March 2017, an increase of 1.9% compared to March 2016. Italy produced 2.2 Mt of crude steel, up by 9.5% on March 2016. Spain produced 1.4 Mt of

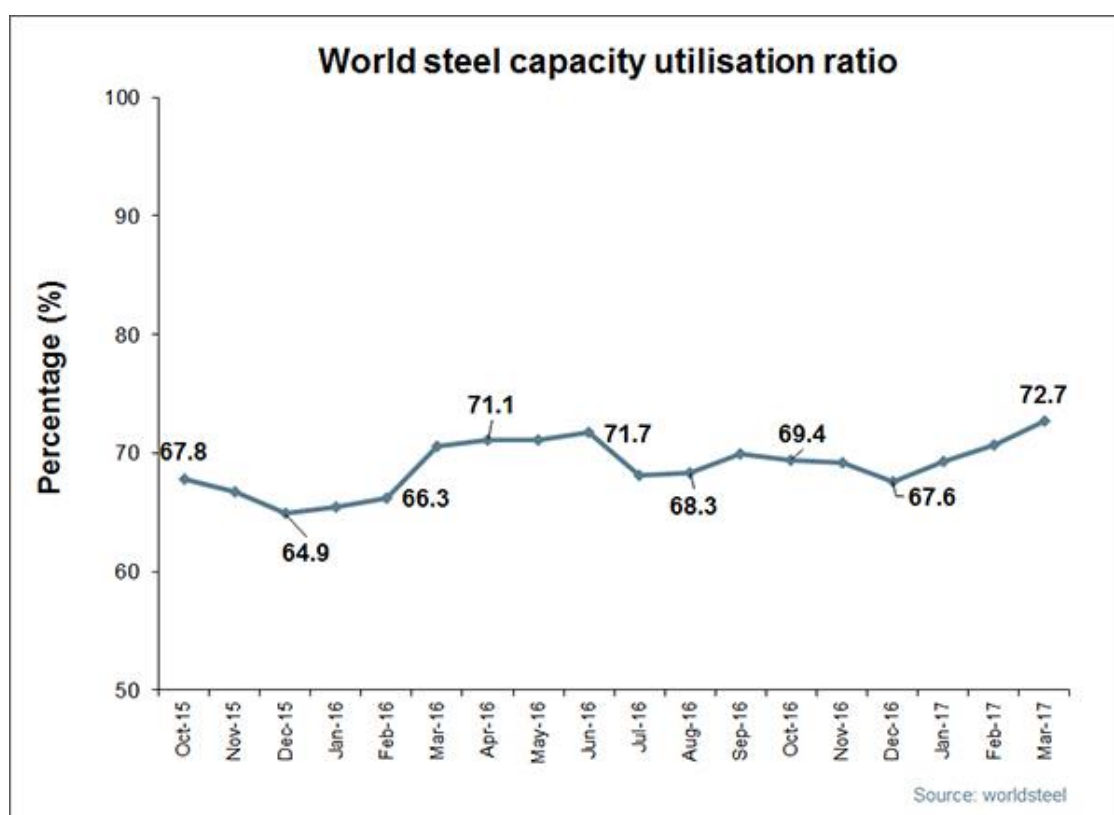
crude steel, up by 15.7% on March 2016. France produced 1.3 Mt of crude steel, up by 18.1% compared to March 2016.

Turkey's crude steel production for March 2017 was 3.1 Mt, up by 14.0% on March 2016.

The US produced 7.0 Mt of crude steel in March 2017, an increase of 3.4% compared to March 2016.

Brazil's crude steel production for March 2017 was 2.9 Mt, up by 13.7% on March 2016.

The crude steel capacity utilisation ratio of the 67 countries in March 2017 was 72.7%. This is 2.2 percentage points higher than March 2016. Compared to February 2017, it is 2.0 percentage points higher.



# Ends #

**Notes to Editors:**

- The World Steel Association (worldsteel) is one of the largest and most dynamic industry associations in the world. worldsteel members represent approximately 85% of the world's steel production, including over 160 steel producers with 9 of the 10 largest steel companies, national and regional steel industry associations, and steel research institutes.
- The monthly crude steel capacity utilisation ratio is calculated based on crude steel production information available at worldsteel and OECD capacity estimates.