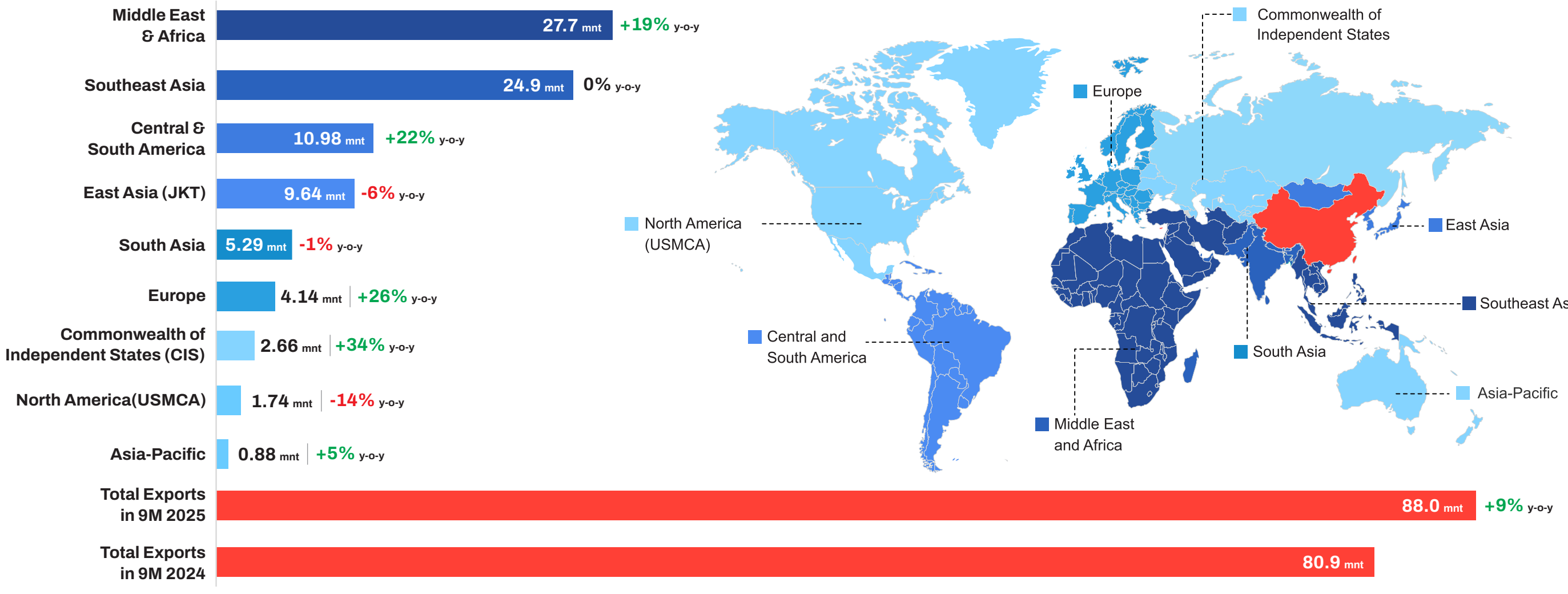


# China's steel exports rise 10% y-o-y in Jan-Sep'25 despite trade and tariff barriers

Steel exports by China in the January-September 2025 period (9MCY'25) increased by 9% y-o-y to around 88 million tonnes (mnt) from 80.9 mnt in the corresponding period last year, as per BigMint data. China's steel exports for September 2025 stood at 10.46 mnt, up by 3.1% y-o-y as compared to 10.15 mnt in September 2024, as per General Administration of Customs. Steel exports remained elevated even against a high base and despite Chinese crude steel production dropping by 2.9% y-o-y in 9MCY'25. The surge in exports is entirely due to the weakness in domestic demand. This can be explained by the sustained downtrend in the real estate and property markets in China for the fifth straight year in 2025. The building construction sector still accounts for over 40% of Chinese steel demand.

New home sales are projected to drop by 8% from last year to between RMB 8.8 trillion and RMB 9 trillion. With sales projected to be RMB 9 trillion or less this year, China's property market will have halved in just four years, from RMB 18.2 trillion in 2021, according to a recent study. So, domestic demand weakness is driving exports by China at a time when planned reduction in crude steel output is being carried out only gradually. Interestingly, the channeling of increased export volumes to diverse geographies such as the Middle East, Africa, South America and even the CIS countries has provided China a key counterweight to US tariffs and safeguard measures being adopted by the EU.

## China's region-wise steel exports in 9M 2025 (Jan-Sep)



JKT: Japan, South Korea, Taiwan | USMCA: United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement  
All above figures are rounded off. | Quantity in million tonnes (mnt) | % change in year-on-year (y-o-y) | Source: BigMint

## Region-wise list of exporting countries

Country	Exports in Sep'25	Exports in Aug'25	% change in m-o-m	Total Exports in 9M 2025 (Jan-Sep)	Total Exports in 9M 2024 (Jan-Sep)	% change	Total Exports in 2024 (Jan-Dec)
<b>Middle East and Africa</b>							
United Arab Emirates	0.48 mnt	0.51 mnt	-4% m-o-m	4.24 mnt	3.85 mnt	+10% y-o-y	5.50 mnt
Saudi Arabia	0.65 mnt	0.34 mnt	+92% m-o-m	4.06 mnt	3.27 mnt	+24% y-o-y	4.77 mnt
Türkiye	0.22 mnt	0.24 mnt	-8% m-o-m	2.89 mnt	3.12 mnt	-7% y-o-y	4.12 mnt
Nigeria	0.17 mnt	0.14 mnt	+21% m-o-m	1.45 mnt	0.79 mnt	+84% y-o-y	1.30 mnt
Egypt	0.18 mnt	0.17 mnt	+5% m-o-m	1.11 mnt	1.18 mnt	-6% y-o-y	1.48 mnt
Others	1.80 mnt	1.46 mnt	+23% m-o-m	13.93 mnt	11.00 mnt	+27% y-o-y	15.92 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.51 mnt</b>	<b>2.87 mnt</b>	<b>+22% m-o-m</b>	<b>27.69 mnt</b>	<b>23.20 mnt</b>	<b>19% y-o-y</b>	<b>33.08 mnt</b>
<b>Southeast Asia</b>							
Vietnam	0.83 mnt	0.71 mnt	+17% m-o-m	7.12 mnt	9.48 mnt	-25% y-o-y	12.77 mnt
Philippines	0.62 mnt	0.49 mnt	+25% m-o-m	4.33 mnt	3.86 mnt	+12% y-o-y	5.05 mnt
Thailand	0.46 mnt	0.39 mnt	+17% m-o-m	4.29 mnt	3.86 mnt	+11% y-o-y	5.12 mnt
Indonesia	0.42 mnt	0.41 mnt	+2% m-o-m	3.55 mnt	3.44 mnt	+3% y-o-y	4.84 mnt
Malaysia	0.25 mnt	0.25 mnt	+2% m-o-m	2.25 mnt	2.11 mnt	+7% y-o-y	2.90 mnt
Others	0.34 mnt	0.30 mnt	+15% m-o-m	3.40 mnt	2.23 mnt	+53% y-o-y	3.02 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.92 mnt</b>	<b>2.56 mnt</b>	<b>+14% m-o-m</b>	<b>24.93 mnt</b>	<b>24.98 mnt</b>	<b>0% y-o-y</b>	<b>33.69 mnt</b>
<b>Central and South America</b>							
Brazil	0.26 mnt	0.18 mnt	+42% m-o-m	2.54 mnt	2.75 mnt	-8% y-o-y	3.76 mnt
Peru	0.19 mnt	0.17 mnt	+11% m-o-m	1.72 mnt	1.24 mnt	+39% y-o-y	1.79 mnt
Chile	0.12 mnt	0.15 mnt	-22% m-o-m	1.32 mnt	1.05 mnt	+26% y-o-y	1.39 mnt
Colombia	0.13 mnt	0.15 mnt	-18% m-o-m	1.19 mnt	1.05 mnt	+13% y-o-y	1.54 mnt
Ecuador	0.09 mnt	0.07 mnt	+21% m-o-m	0.78 mnt	0.45 mnt	+74% y-o-y	0.65 mnt
Others	0.36 mnt	0.51 mnt	-29% m-o-m	3.44 mnt	2.47 mnt	+39% y-o-y	3.63 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.14 mnt</b>	<b>1.24 mnt</b>	<b>-8% m-o-m</b>	<b>10.98 mnt</b>	<b>9.01 mnt</b>	<b>+22% y-o-y</b>	<b>12.77 mnt</b>
<b>East Asia (JKT)</b>							
South Korea	0.63 mnt	0.63 mnt	0% m-o-m	5.70 mnt	6.26 mnt	-9% y-o-y	8.19 mnt
China Hong Kong	0.15 mnt	0.19 mnt	-23% m-o-m	1.47 mnt	0.93 mnt	+57% y-o-y	1.45 mnt
Japan	0.10 mnt	0.11 mnt	-7% m-o-m	0.94 mnt	0.90 mnt	+4% y-o-y	1.97 mnt
Taiwan, China	0.10 mnt	0.09 mnt	+5% m-o-m	0.93 mnt	1.56 mnt	-40% y-o-y	1.27 mnt
Mongolia	0.07 mnt	0.07 mnt	-1% m-o-m	0.55 mnt	0.49 mnt	+12% y-o-y	0.55 mnt
Others	0.01 mnt	0.01 mnt	-17% m-o-m	0.06 mnt	0.06 mnt	-1% y-o-y	0.09 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.06 mnt</b>	<b>1.11 mnt</b>	<b>-4% m-o-m</b>	<b>9.64 mnt</b>	<b>10.21 mnt</b>	<b>-6% y-o-y</b>	<b>13.52 mnt</b>
<b>South Asia</b>							
Pakistan	0.30 mnt	0.17 mnt	+76% m-o-m	2.33 mnt	1.85 mnt	+26% y-o-y	2.41 mnt
India	0.17 mnt	0.17 mnt	+1% m-o-m	1.62 mnt	2.35 mnt	-31% y-o-y	3.02 mnt
Bangladesh	0.15 mnt	0.10 mnt	+53% m-o-m	0.94 mnt	0.81 mnt	+16% y-o-y	1.09 mnt
Sri Lanka	0.05 mnt	0.05 mnt	+4% m-o-m	0.38 mnt	0.31 mnt	+22% y-o-y	0.38 mnt
Nepal	0.004 mnt	0.003 mnt	+24% m-o-m	0.03 mnt	0.02 mnt	+51% y-o-y	0.03 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.67 mnt</b>	<b>0.49 mnt</b>	<b>+38% m-o-m</b>	<b>5.29 mnt</b>	<b>5.34 mnt</b>	<b>-1% y-o-y</b>	<b>6.94 mnt</b>
<b>Europe</b>							
Italy	0.12 mnt	0.15 mnt	-16% m-o-m	0.92 mnt	0.93 mnt	0% y-o-y	1.13 mnt
Belgium	0.09 mnt	0.10 mnt	-16% m-o-m	0.64 mnt	0.53 mnt	+20% y-o-y	0.75 mnt
Spain	0.04 mnt	0.06 mnt	-34% m-o-m	0.39 mnt	0.32 mnt	+23% y-o-y	0.42 mnt
Poland	0.04 mnt	0.04 mnt	-13% m-o-m	0.35 mnt	0.24 mnt	+44% y-o-y	0.34 mnt
Netherlands	0.04 mnt	0.02 mnt	+135% m-o-m	0.28 mnt	0.17 mnt	+67% y-o-y	0.27 mnt
Others	0.15 mnt	0.21 mnt	-26% m-o-m	1.56 mnt	1.11 mnt	+41% y-o-y	1.54 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.48 mnt</b>	<b>0.58 mnt</b>	<b>-17% m-o-m</b>	<b>4.14 mnt</b>	<b>3.29 mnt</b>	<b>+26% y-o-y</b>	<b>4.44 mnt</b>
<b>Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)</b>							
Russia	0.11 mnt	0.15 mnt	-24% m-o-m	0.94 mnt	0.97 mnt	-3% y-o-y	1.27 mnt
Kazakhstan	0.08 mnt	0.06 mnt	+40% m-o-m	0.51 mnt	0.28 mnt	+81% y-o-y	0.38 mnt
Uzbekistan	0.07 mnt	0.06 mnt	+15% m-o-m	0.48 mnt	0.38 mnt	+25% y-o-y	0.57 mnt
Kyrgyzstan	0.05 mnt	0.05 mnt	+15% m-o-m	0.24 mnt	0.07 mnt	+229% y-o-y	0.11 mnt
Tajikistan	0.02 mnt	0.02 mnt	+22% m-o-m	0.13 mnt	0.06 mnt	+112% y-o-y	0.10 mnt
Others	0.05 mnt	0.04 mnt	+10% m-o-m	0.36 mnt	0.22 mnt	+64% y-o-y	0.34 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.39 mnt</b>	<b>0.38 mnt</b>	<b>+3% m-o-m</b>	<b>2.66 mnt</b>	<b>1.99 mnt</b>	<b>+34% y-o-y</b>	<b>2.77 mnt</b>
<b>North America (USMCA)</b>							
Mexico	0.07 mnt	0.09 mnt	-25% m-o-m	0.76 mnt	0.85 mnt	-11% y-o-y	1.17 mnt
U.S.	0.08 mnt	0.05 mnt	+76% m-o-m	0.61 mnt	0.64 mnt	-4% y-o-y	0.89 mnt
Canada	0.05 mnt	0.06 mnt	-19% m-o-m	0.37 mnt	0.54 mnt	-31% y-o-y	0.68 mnt
Others	0.0002 mnt	0.0002 mnt	+2% m-o-m	0.003 mnt	0.002 mnt	+5% y-o-y	0.003 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.20 mnt</b>	<b>0.20 mnt</b>	<b>+1% m-o-m</b>	<b>1.74 mnt</b>	<b>2.03 mnt</b>	<b>-14% y-o-y</b>	<b>2.74 mnt</b>
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>							
Australia	0.08 mnt	0.06 mnt	+25% m-o-m	0.59 mnt	0.59 mnt	+1% y-o-y	0.78 mnt
New Zealand	0.01 mnt	0.01 mnt	+38% m-o-m	0.09 mnt	0.09 mnt	+8% y-o-y	0.11 mnt
Papua New Guinea	0.01 mnt	0.01 mnt	-32% m-o-m	0.09 mnt	0.08 mnt	+16% y-o-y	0.12 mnt
Fiji	0.004 mnt	0.004 mnt	-14% m-o-m	0.03 mnt	0.02 mnt	+37% y-o-y	0.03 mnt
Solomon Islands	0.001 mnt	0.004 mnt	-77% m-o-m	0.02 mnt	0.01 mnt	+33% y-o-y	0.02 mnt
Others	0.006 mnt	0.006 mnt	+6% m-o-m	0.05 mnt	0.05 mnt	+11% y-o-y	0.07 mnt
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.11 mnt</b>	<b>0.10 mnt</b>	<b>+12% m-o-m</b>	<b>0.88 mnt</b>	<b>0.83 mnt</b>	<b>+5% y-o-y</b>	<b>1.12 mnt</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10.5 mnt</b>	<b>9.5 mnt</b>	<b>+10% m-o-m</b>	<b>88.0 mnt</b>	<b>80.9 mnt</b>	<b>+9% y-o-y</b>	<b>111 mnt</b>

All above figures are rounded off. | Quantity in million tonnes (mnt) | % change in month-on-month (m-o-m) % change in year-on-year (y-o-y) | Source: BigMint

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