

The annual consumption since 1910 is shown in the following table:—

Consumption of Pig-Iron and Ferro-alloys.

Year.	Used in steel furnaces.		Available for foundry and other uses.	Total consumption.* Short tons.
	Pig-iron.	Ferro-alloys.		
1910.....	690,913	8,143	361,914	1,060,970
1911.....	700,679	21,359	422,847	1,144,885
1912.....	735,559	24,237	548,024	1,307,820
1913.....	915,722	29,408	454,710	1,397,840
1914.....	617,030	20,252	233,170	872,452
1915.....	748,114	13,941	197,199	959,254
1916.....	949,444	25,940	249,302	1,224,686

*Production of pig-iron and ferro-alloys plus excess of imports over exports.

STEEL.

Production of steel during 1916 has been reported from 24 separate plants (including 7 electric furnace plants) operated by 21 companies.

The total production of steel ingots and castings during the year was 1,428,249 short tons, as compared with 1,020,896 tons in 1915, and 829,411 tons in 1914. The increase in 1916 over the previous year was 407,353 tons or nearly 40 per cent. The highest previous production was 1,168,993 tons in 1913. The 1916 production included, according to returns furnished: open-hearth ingots 1,377,387 tons; Bessemer ingots 1,416 tons; electric steelingots 17,939 tons; other steels 961 tons; direct castings open-hearth 23,496 tons; electric 1,700 tons; other castings 5,350 tons. The 1915 production included: open-hearth ingots 962,411 tons; Bessemer ingots 19,448 tons; electric steel and other ingots 7,970 tons; direct open-hearth castings 28,384 tons, and other direct castings 2,683 tons. The total production of electric steel in 1916 was 19,639 tons, as against 5,625 tons in 1915, and 61 tons reported for 1914.

Statistics of the production of steel ingots and castings since 1894 are given in the following table, the figures for 1894 to 1906 inclusive having been collected and published by the American Iron and Steel Association; those for the years 1907 to 1916 have been collected by this Department.