# STEEL MARKET UPDATE

#### part of the 🕅 Group

### SMU Flat Rolled Market Trends Analysis Responses from our May 24-26, 2021 Market Survey

# Steel Market Update





SMU Newsletter developed for active buyers & sellers of flat rolled steel. **Prices – Momentum – Trends – Analysis – with a guarantee** For more information visit <u>www.SteelMarketUpdate.com</u>



Steel 101 Workshop, Severstal Dearborn 2012

Our goal is to provide quality information to the flat rolled steel industry.

We invite over 500 companies to participate in our surveys.

Normal response rate is 100-150 individuals on any one survey.

All responses are kept confidential and are never attributed to the individual or company responding.

Date	Conference	Status	Venue
June 2-3	Steel Hedging 101	Virtual	Online
July 14	Galvanized Hedging	Virtual	Online
July 20-21	Steel 101	Virtual	Online
August 3-4	Steel Hedging 201	Virtual	Online
August 23-25	SMU Steel Summit	Live	Georgia International Convention Center
September TBD	Steel 201	Virtual	Online

If you would like more information about any of our workshops, you may visit <u>SteelMarketUpdate.com/Events</u> or e-mail our team at <u>Events@SteelMarketUpdate.com</u>

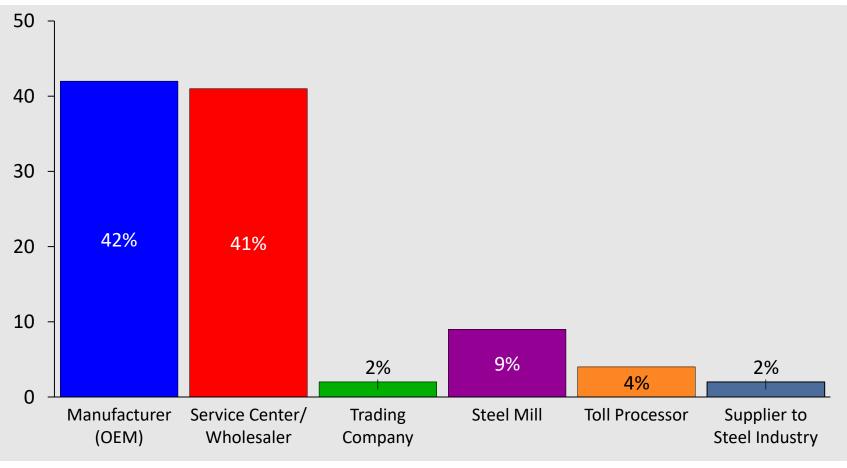
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# **Survey Participants**



Our survey is by invitation only- Over 500 companies, mostly in the manufacturing or distribution industries, are asked to participate. Here are the percentages of participation in this week's survey by market sector.

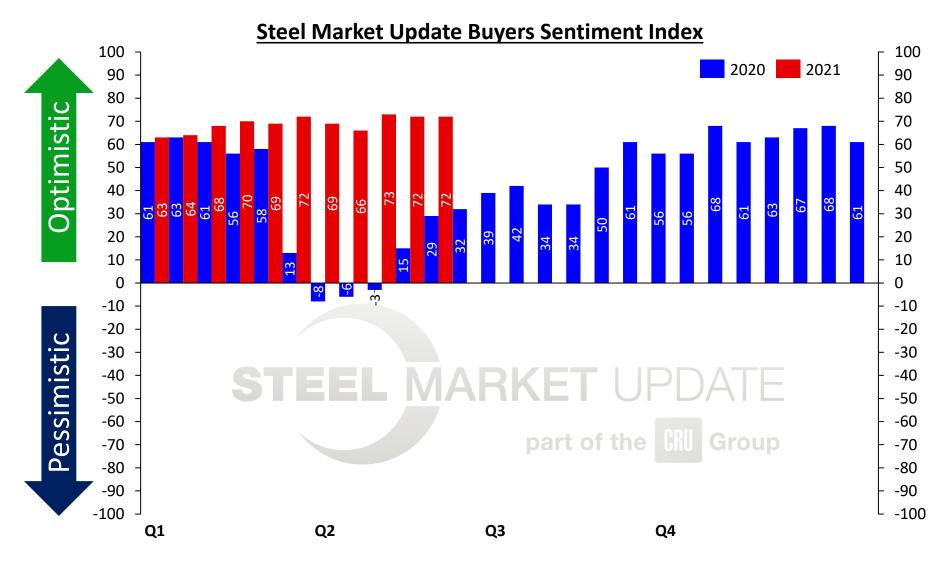


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### SMU Buyers Sentiment Index

Unchanged at +72

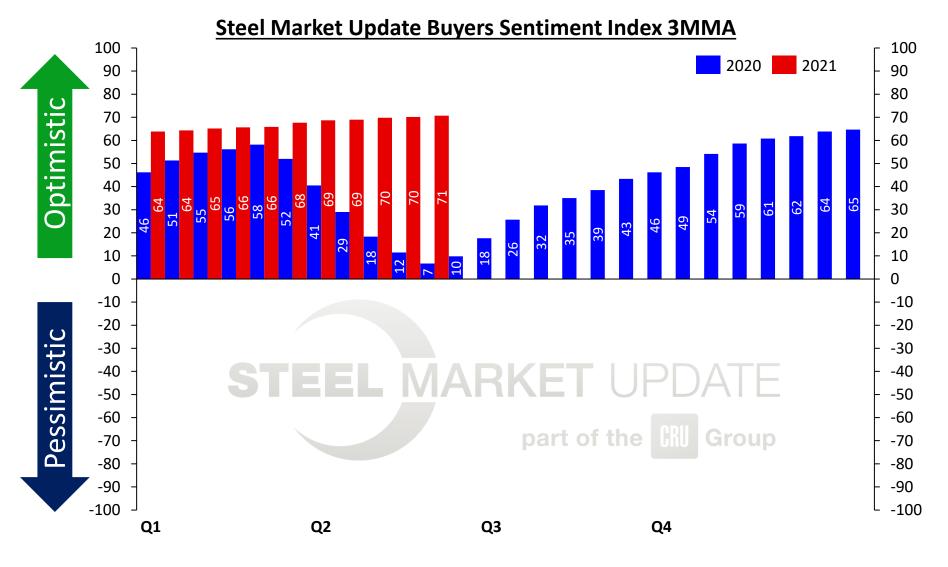




# SMU Buyers Sentiment Index

Three Month Moving Average at +70.67

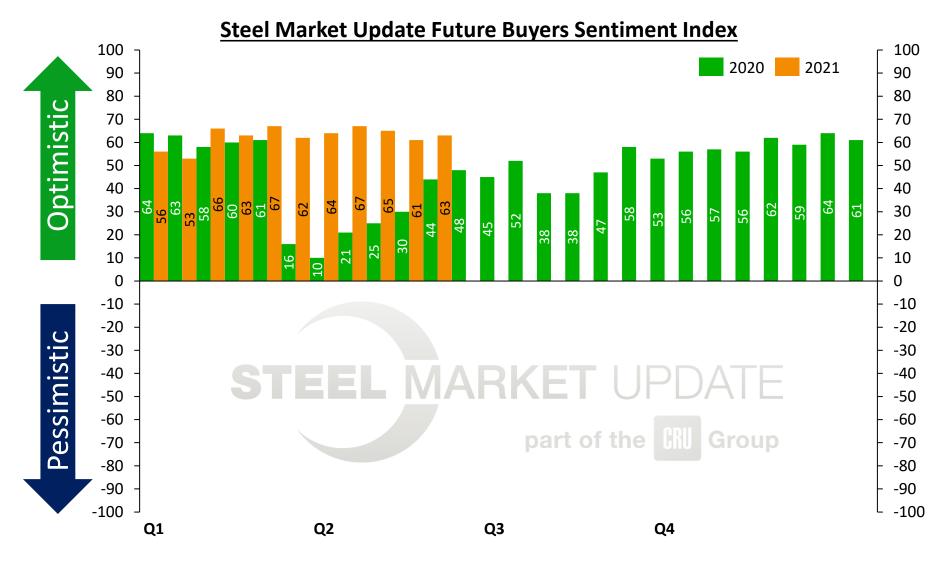




#### **SMU Future Buyers Sentiment Index**

Up 2 points to +63

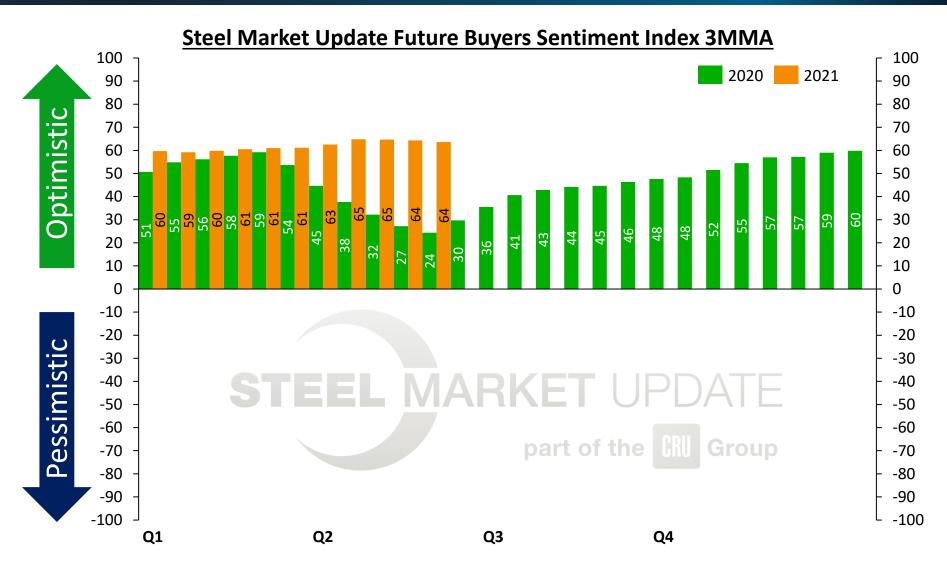
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#### **SMU Future Buyers Sentiment Index**

Three Month Moving Average at +63.67

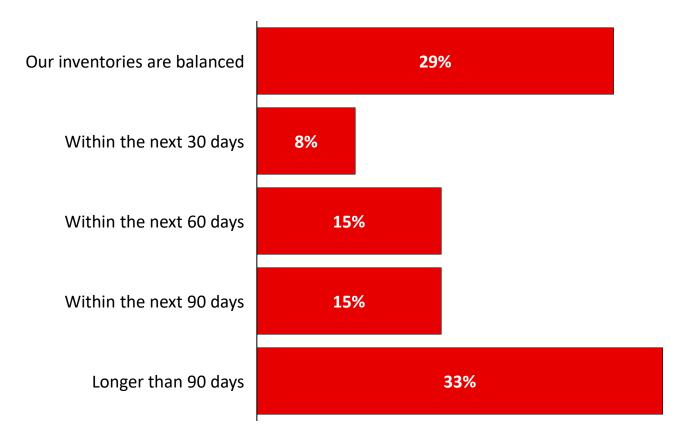
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### **Inventory Levels**



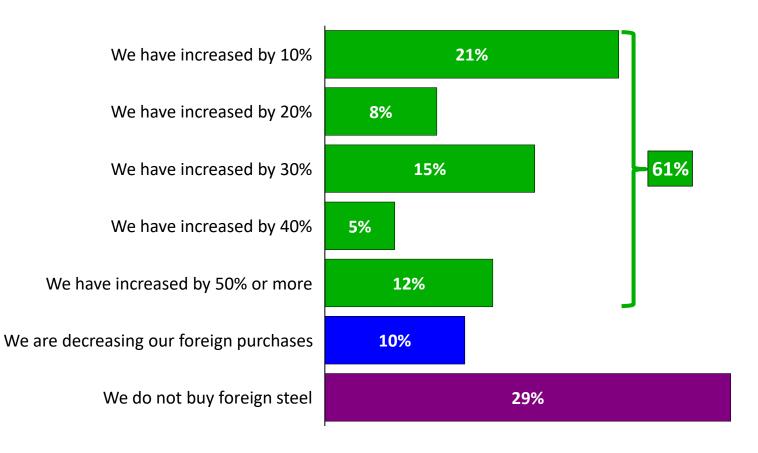
When will your inventories become balanced or at a comfortable level given current market conditions?



### **Foreign Purchases**

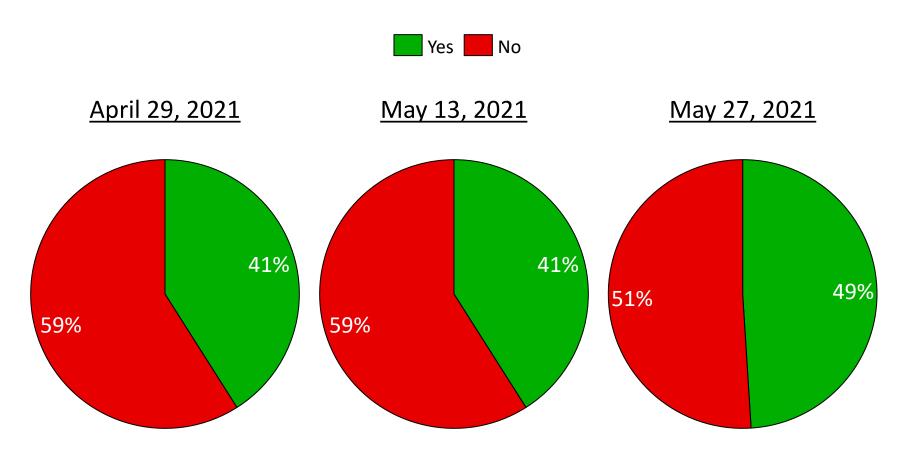


Have you increased your purchases of foreign steel since the beginning of the year?



### Material Availability

Are you able to purchase enough steel to run your business and satisfy customers?



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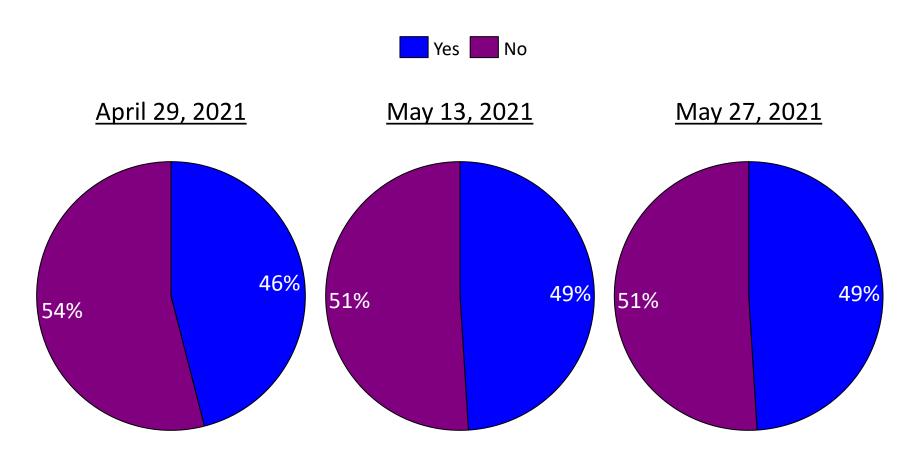
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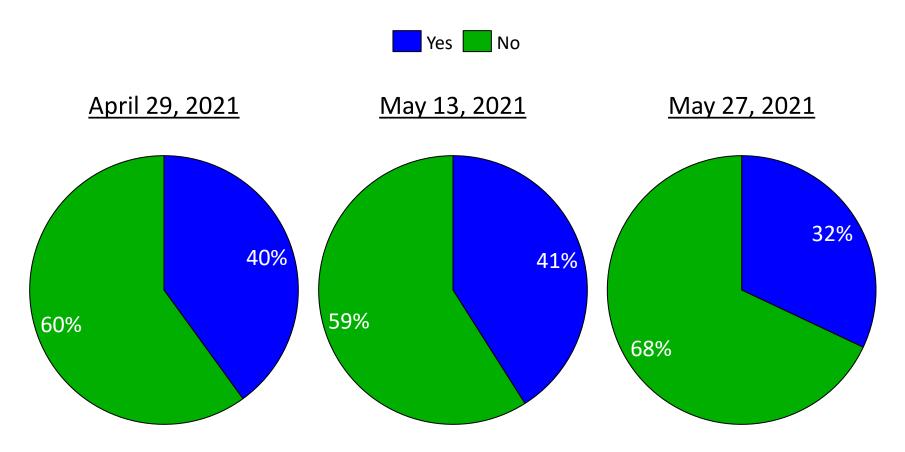
Are record-high steel prices nearing a tipping point?







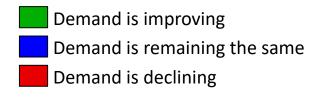
Are you seeing any variance in fob prices between mills in the north and those in the south?

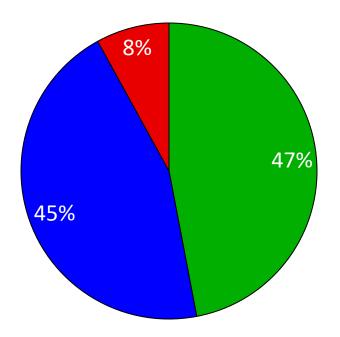


### **Overall Demand**



How are you seeing demand for your products?

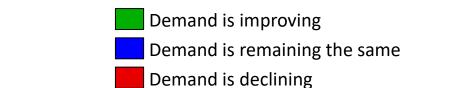


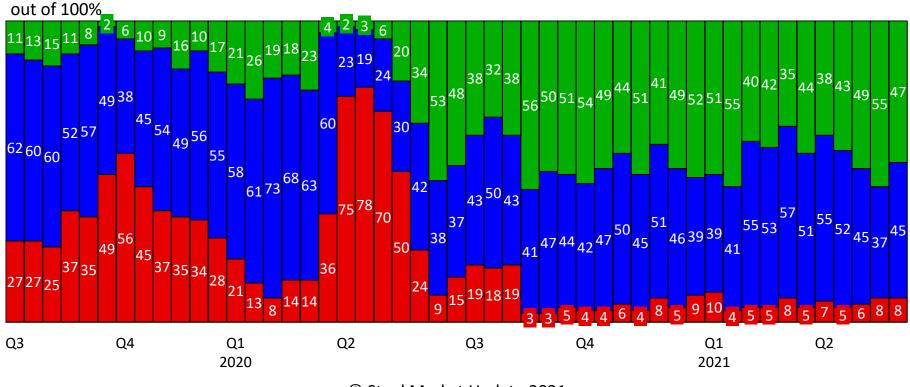


# **Overall Demand History**



How are you seeing demand for your products?

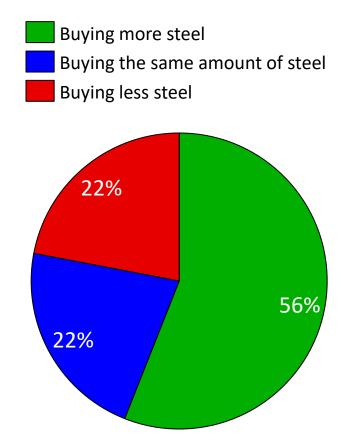




### Manufacturer Purchases



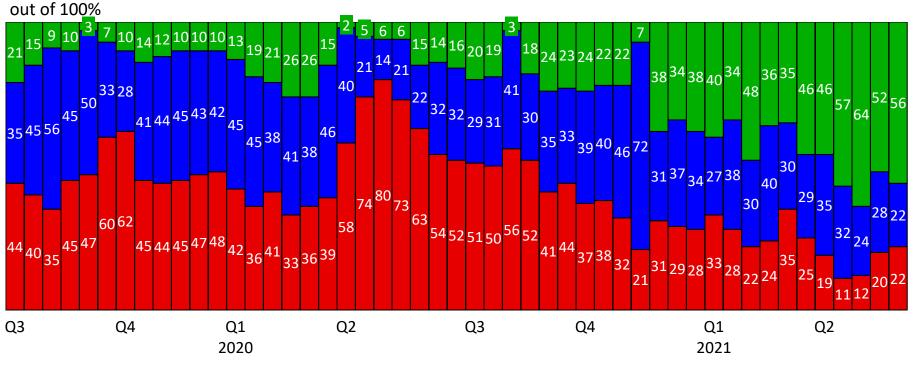
Manufacturers- Compared to this time last year – is your company buying more, less or the same amount of flat rolled steel as one year ago?



# History of Manufacturer Purchases STEEL MARKET

Manufacturers- Compared to this time last year – is your company buying more, less or the same amount of flat rolled steel as one year ago?

Buying more steel
Buying the same amount of steel
Buying less steel



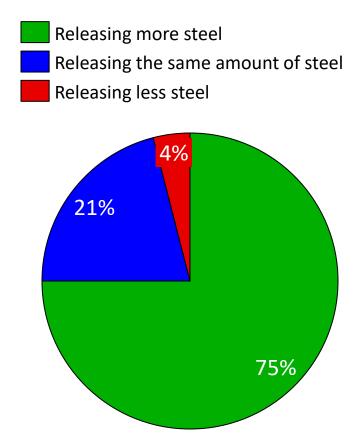
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### Service Center Releases



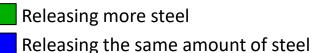
**Service Centers-** How do you see your customers releases (demand) for the products your company provides this year compared to this time last year?

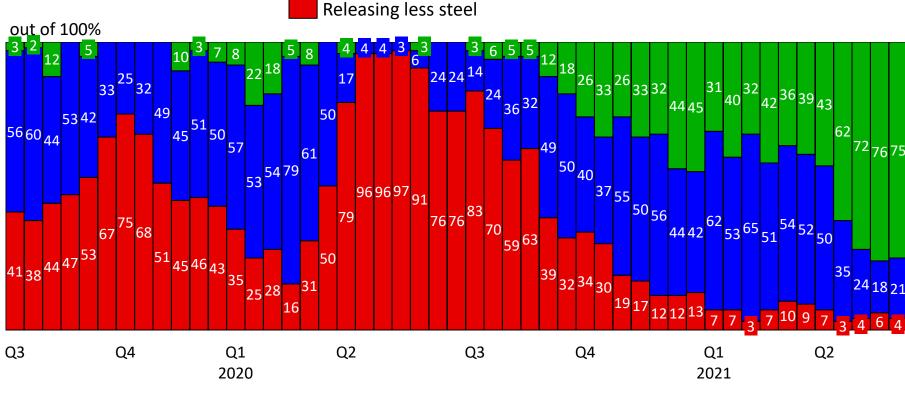


### Service Center Release History



**Service Centers-** How do you see your customers releases (demand) for the products your company provides this year compared to this time last year?



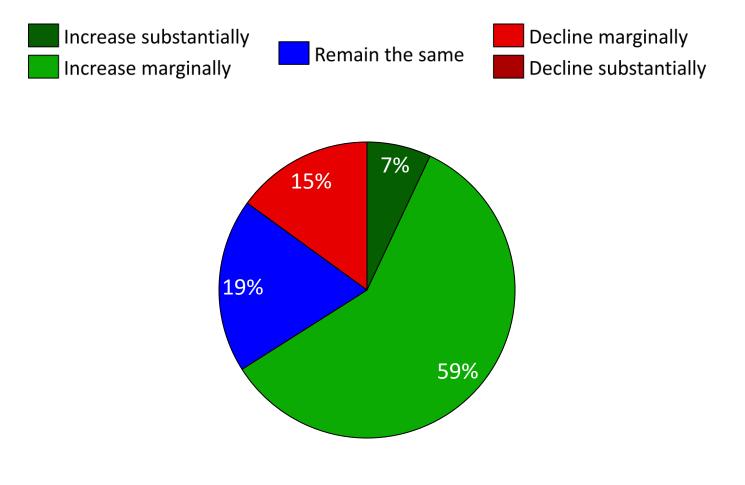


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### Manufacturer Demand

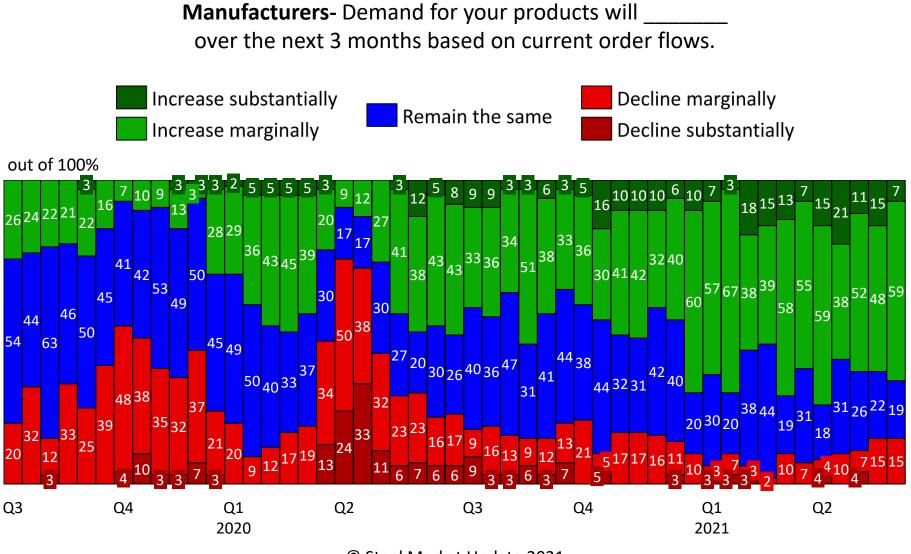


Manufacturers- Demand for your products will \_\_\_\_\_\_ over the next 3 months based on current order flows.

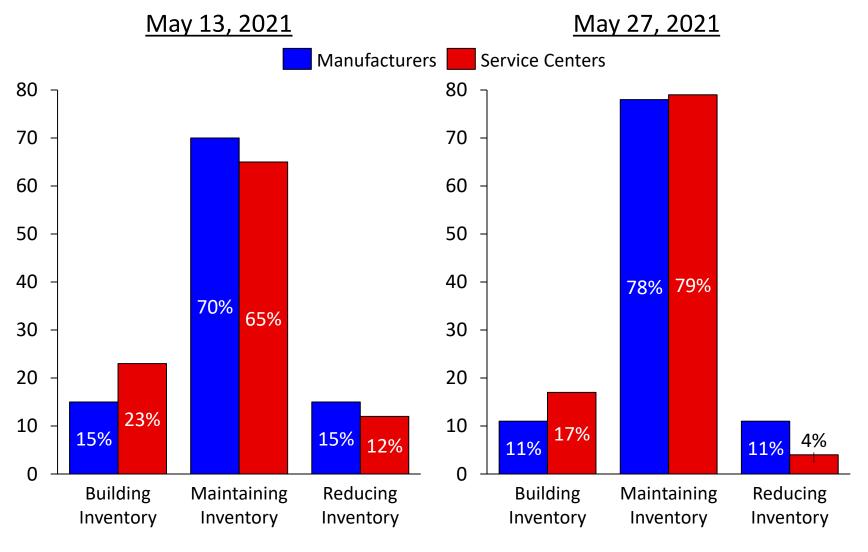


# Manufacturer Demand History

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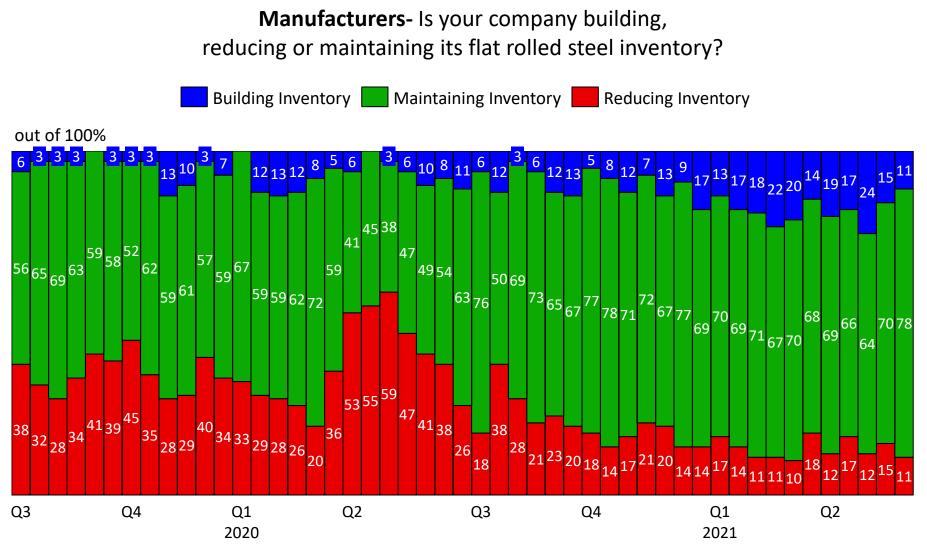


Manufacturer and Service Center Inventory Buying Patterns



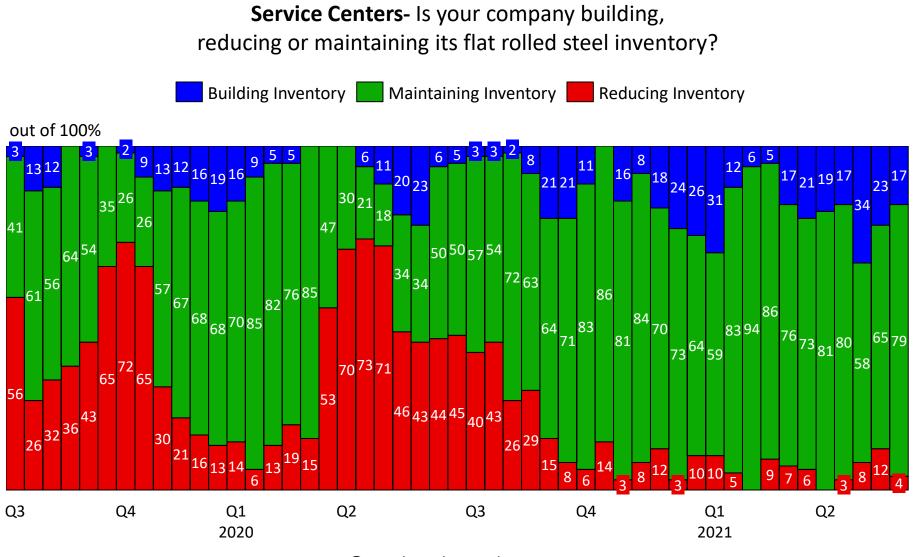
### Manufacturer Inventory Buying History





### Service Center Inventory Buying History





#### Service Center Inventories



**Service Centers-** Does your company need to build back inventories or are you comfortable with the levels you are holding on your floor?

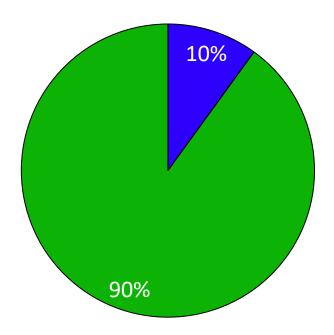


#### Manufacturer's View of Service Center Selling Prices



**Manufacturers-** Which comment do you feel is representative of service center pricing right now compared to two weeks ago?

We are seeing prices decreasing from our service centers
We are seeing prices stable from our service centers
We are seeing prices rising from our service centers



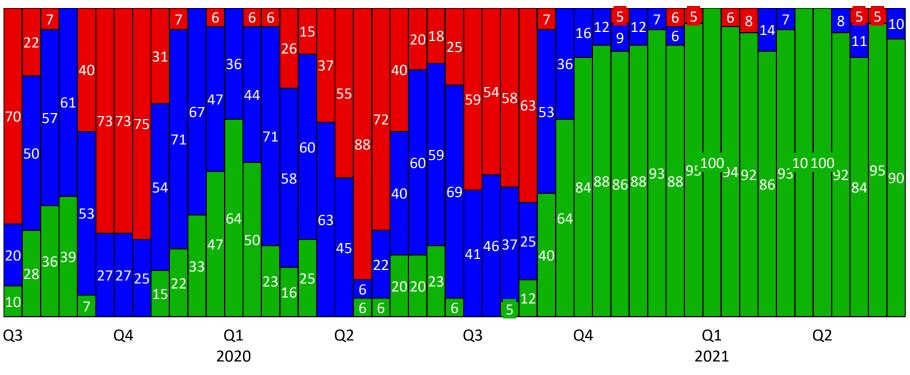
### Manufacturer's View of Service Center Selling Prices History



**Manufacturers-** Which comment do you feel is representative of service center pricing right now compared to two weeks ago?

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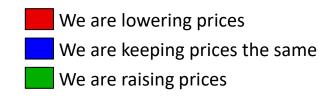
out of 100%

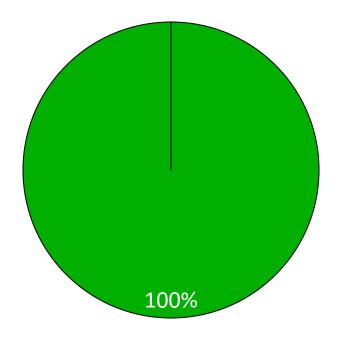


### Service Center View of Selling Prices

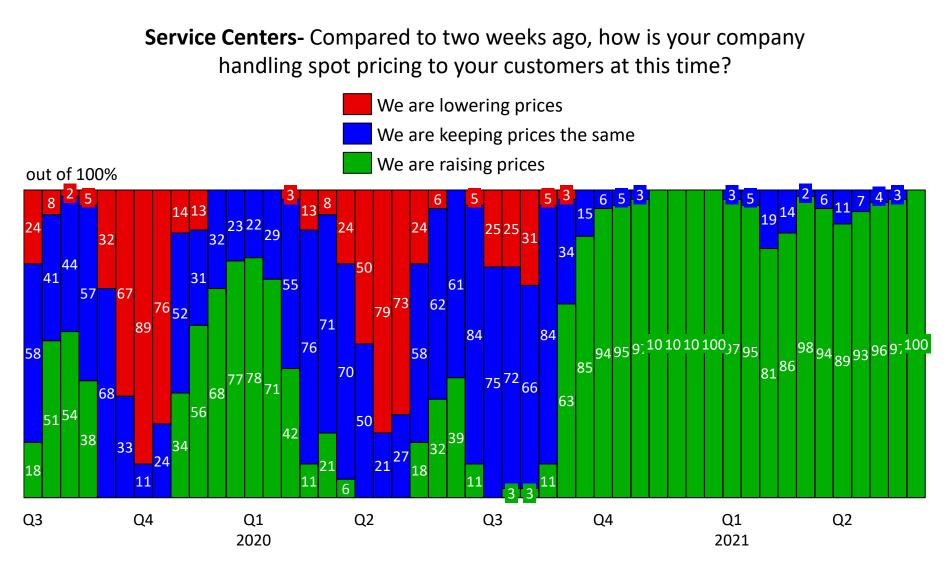


Service Centers- Compared to two weeks ago, how is your company handling spot pricing to your customers at this time?





### Service Center View of Selling Prices History STEEL MARKET UPDATE



### Service Center View of Selling Prices History STEEL MARKET UPDATE

**Service Centers-** Compared to two weeks ago, how is your company handling spot pricing to your customers at this time? We are lowering prices We are keeping prices the same **Historical Nucor Flat Rolled** We are raising prices Price Increase Announcements +\$40 +\$40 +\$40 +\$40 +\$30 +\$40 +\$40 +\$40 +\$50 +\$40 +\$50 +\$408 1413 23<sup>22</sup>29 19 2525<sub>31</sub> 24 32 32 34 44 50 41 31 55 61 57 67 76<mark>52</mark> 62 79 71 89 84 84 94 95 9<sup>, 10</sup> 10 10 100,7 95 <sup>98</sup>94<sub>89</sub>93<sup>96</sup>97100 76 58 58 81 86 85 70 75<sup>72</sup>66 78 68 68 63 56 51<sup>54</sup> 50 38 33 32 27 21 18 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 2020 2021

# **Passing Along Higher Prices**



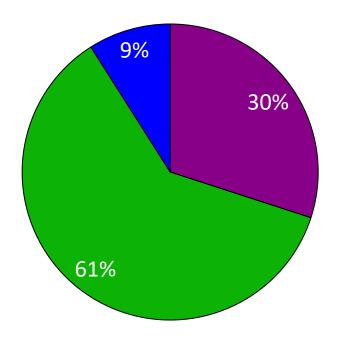
Service Centers- Are you having any difficulties in passing along the new higher prices to your customers? No Yes <u>April 29, 2021</u> <u>May 13, 2021</u> <u>May 27, 2021</u> 12% 15% 18% 82% 85% 88%

#### Service Centers on Manufacturer Orders

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Service Centers- Are your manufacturing customers increasing orders, keeping them the same or reducing orders at this time?

Our manufacturing customers are increasing orders Our manufacturing customers are maintaining their orders Our manufacturing customers are reducing their orders

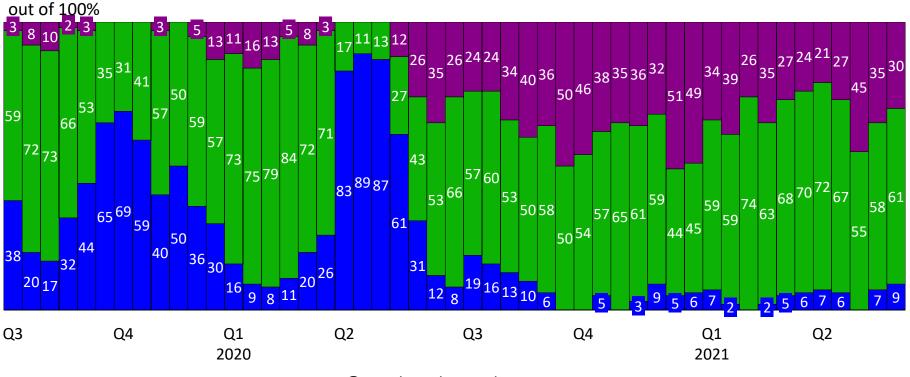


#### Service Centers on Manufacturer Orders History



**Service Centers-** Are your manufacturing customers increasing orders, keeping them the same or reducing orders at this time?

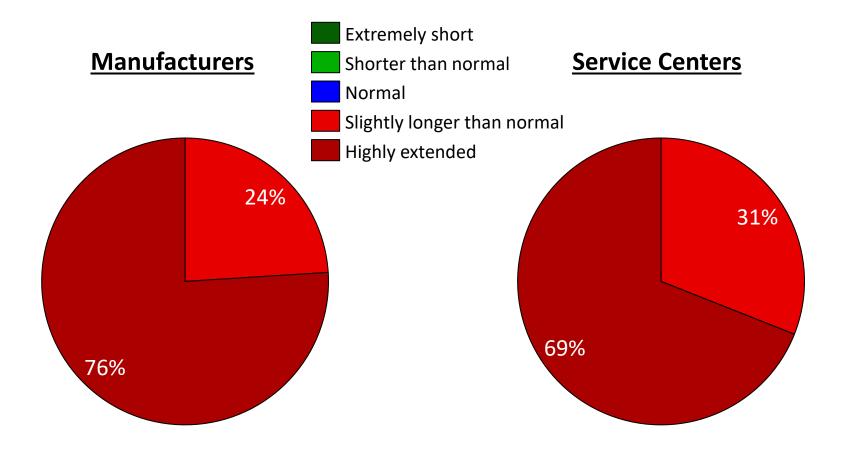
Our manufacturing customers are increasing orders
Our manufacturing customers are maintaining their orders
Our manufacturing customers are reducing their orders



# Mill Lead Times

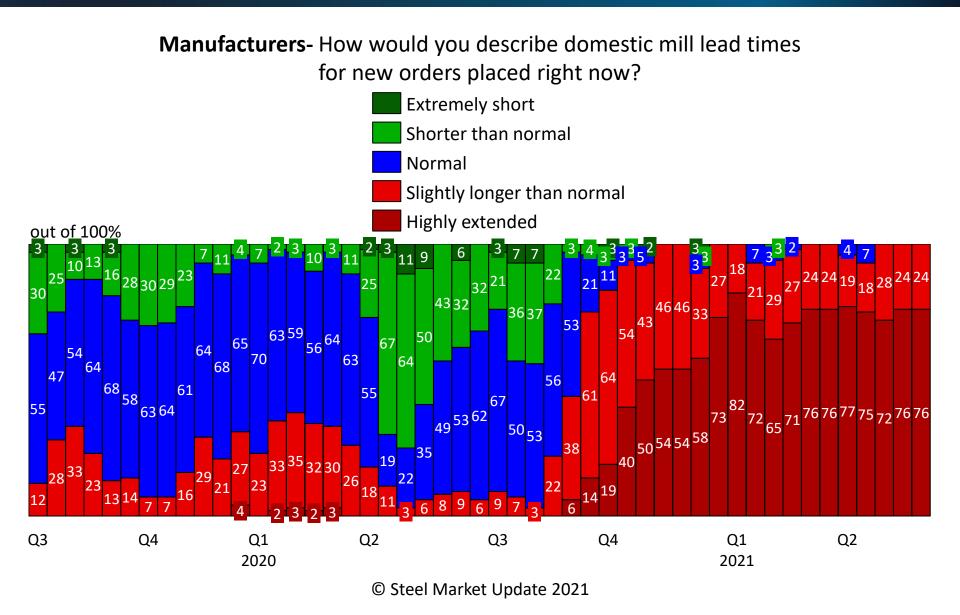


How would you describe domestic mill lead times for new orders placed right now?



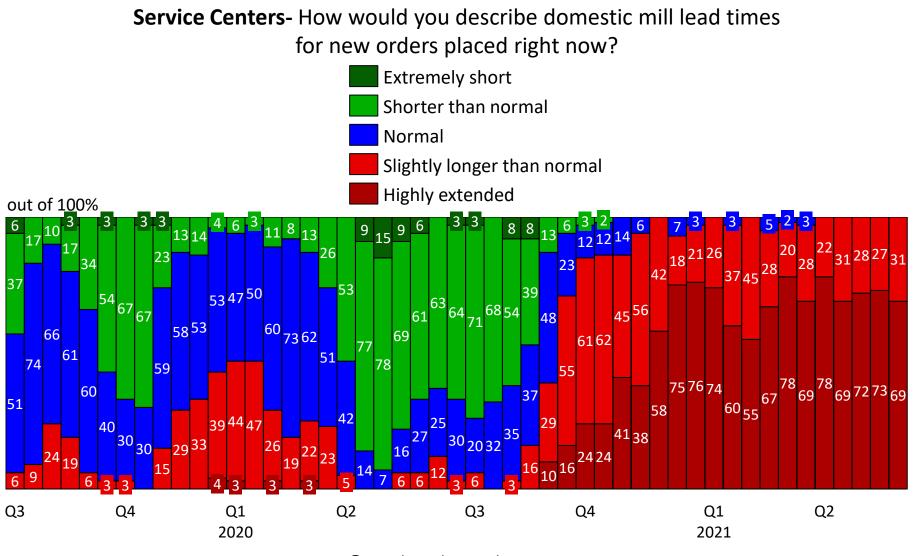
# Mill Lead Times History





# Mill Lead Times History

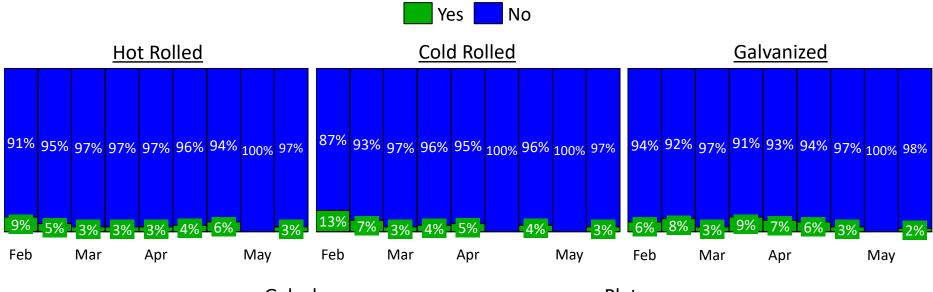


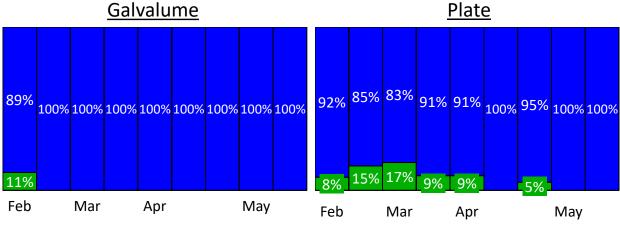


# Mill Negotiations

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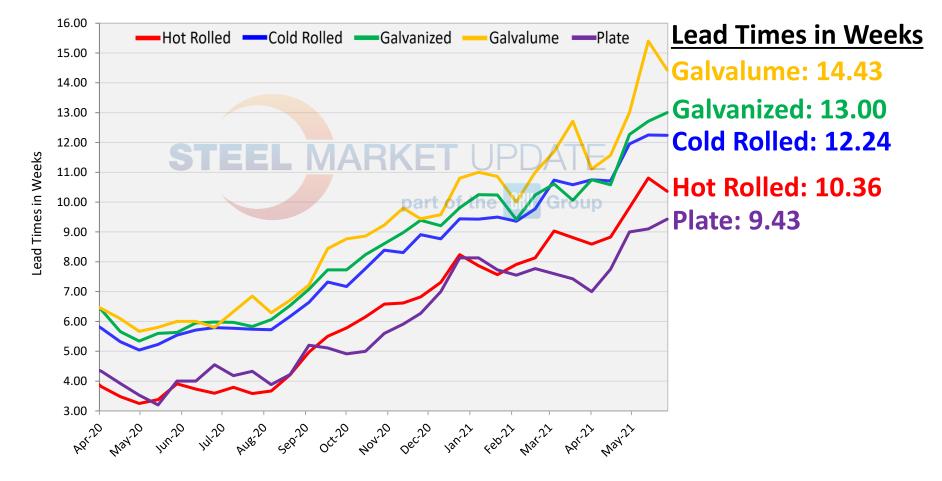
Are you finding the domestic mills are willing to negotiate pricing on brand new orders placed this week?





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# Mill Lead Times



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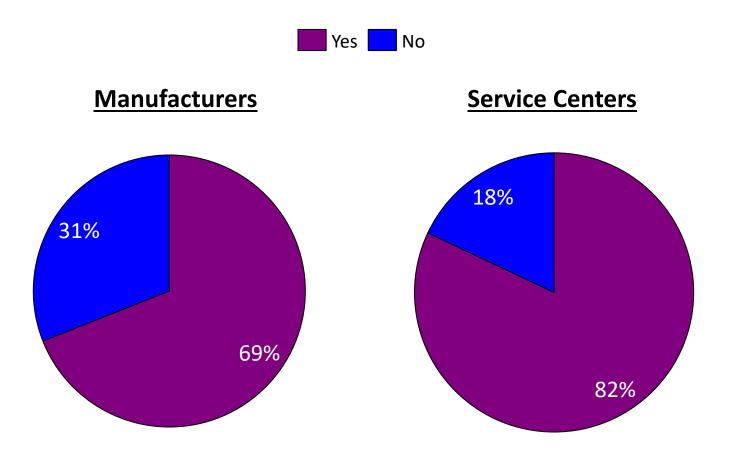
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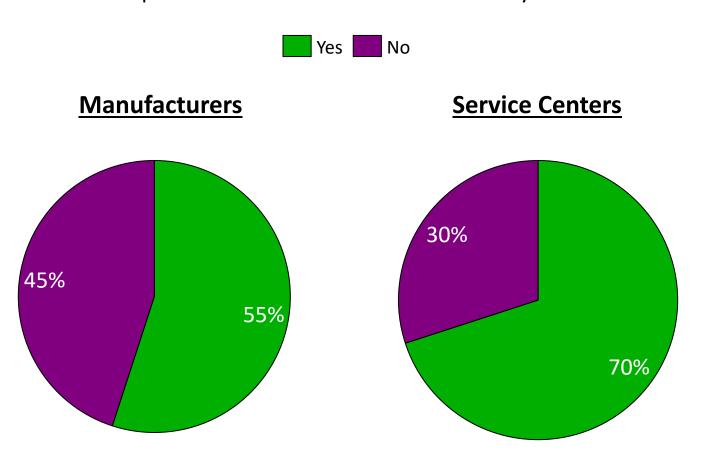
Does your company buy foreign steel?



#### **Foreign Steel**



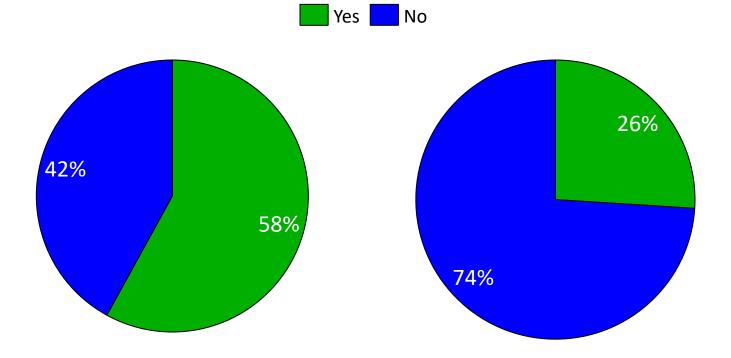
Are your foreign steel suppliers quoting you competitive prices for new orders for future delivery?



#### **Foreign Steel**



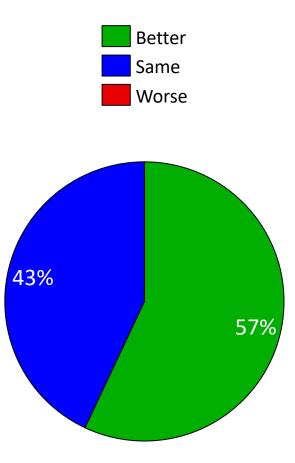
Manufacturers- Are you buying new orders of foreign steel for future delivery? Service Centers- Are you decreasing the percentage of foreign steel on your order book?



#### **Steel Mills**



The current order book at your mill is better or worse than last month?

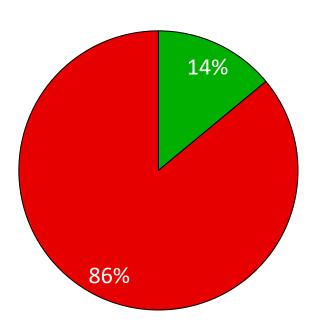






Will restarts of blast furnaces at the integrated mills add enough supply to affect steel prices this year?

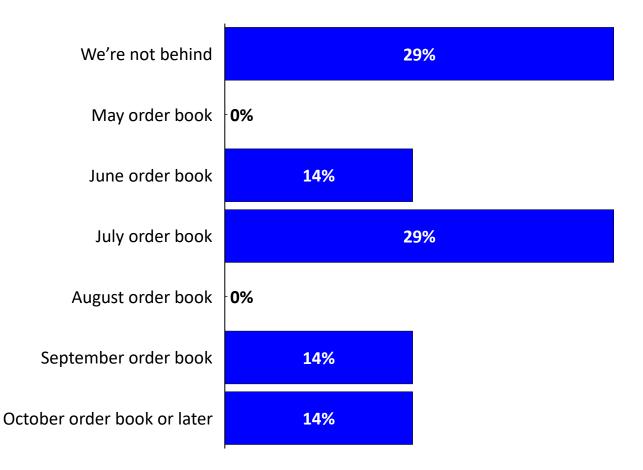




#### **Steel Mills**



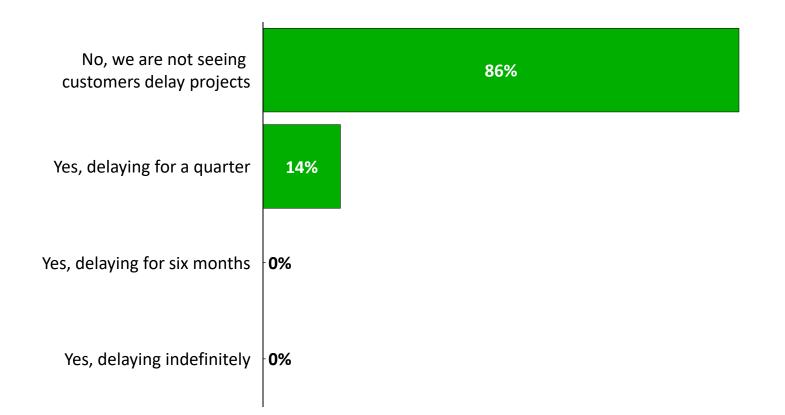
If you are behind on orders, how long do you think it will take you to catch up?



#### **Steel Mills**



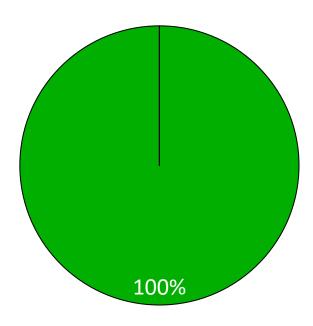
Are you seeing customers delay projects because of high prices? And, if yes, for how long?





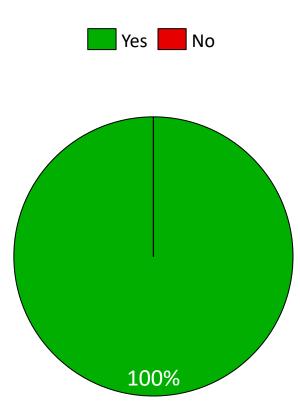
At this time, are you seeing an increase or decrease in orders from your North American buyers?







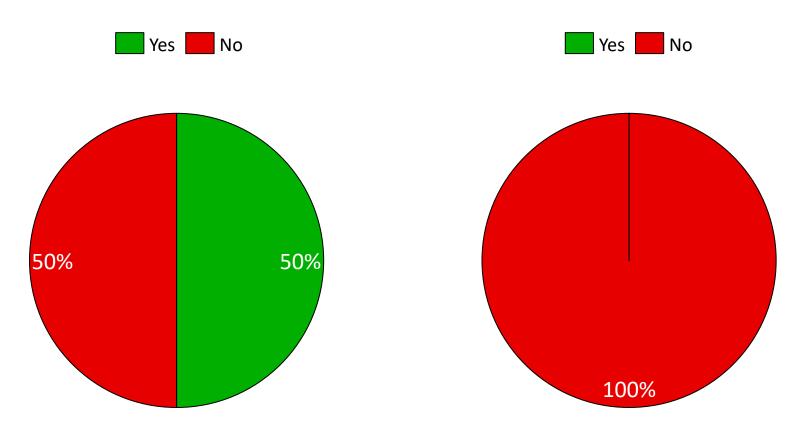
With prices so high out of the domestic steel mills, are foreign products now attractive to U.S. steel buyers?



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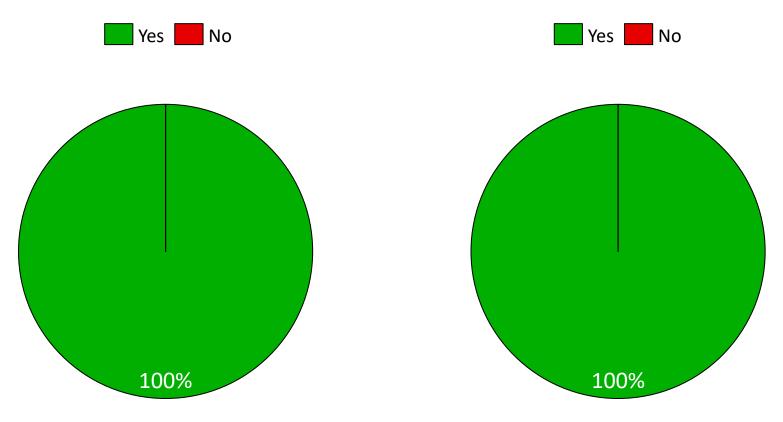
Are you able to offer hot rolled pricing that is attractive to buyers right now?

Are you able to offer plate pricing that is attractive to buyers right now?





Are your galvanized prices competitive enough right now to get orders (including duties)? Are your Galvalume prices competitive enough right now to get orders (including duties)?



# Questions?



If you have any questions regarding the information presented here, please contact us at info@SteelMarketUpdate.com.

If you would like a copy of this presentation, please send an email to the above email address with your request.

We always appreciate referrals- tell your friends, suppliers, and customers to sign up for a free trial at <u>SteelMarketUpdate.com</u>.

# Look for our next survey the week of June 7, 2021



#### When you need answers... www.SteelMarketUpdate.com