

## FACTSHEET METALWORKING INDUSTRY

Ranked highly as a driving factor of Germany's economy, the metalworking industry is further considered a base of all industrial sectors. Its origins date back to the Industrial Revolution in Europe, at the beginning of the 19th century, when faster and easier ways to melt and form metal, especially iron, were developed.

Currently, the most important metal-producing companies in Germany include Thyssenkrupp, Salzgitter AG, and Aurubis. North Rhine-Westphalia is by far the federal state with the highest turnover in the metal industry.

Overall, the industry consists mainly of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It noted a total turnover of €142.99 billion in 2022 which has increased by €26.1 billion (+22.32%) compared to the previous year. Around 228,000 employees worked in the industry in 2023. Compared to the previous year, this represents an increase of approximately 1,000 employees. Thus, the German metalworking industry recovered from the slump of 2020 at a low of €91.84 billion. Nevertheless, particularly Asian competitors continuously force German companies to specialize and develop their product range.

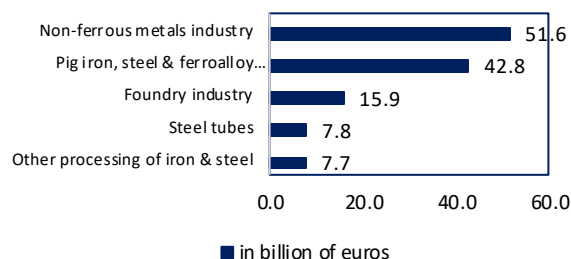
The German steel and metal industry is divided into the following compartments: non-ferrous metals, ferroalloy, foundry, and steel working. It is closely linked to other industrial sectors such as construction, automotive, electrical, and mechanical engineering industry. As a fundamental industry, it develops new materials and intermediate goods and thus plays an essential role in the success of the process industries mentioned above.

### Business Activity

In 2023, the steel- & metalworking sector's sales are broken down into non-ferrous metals

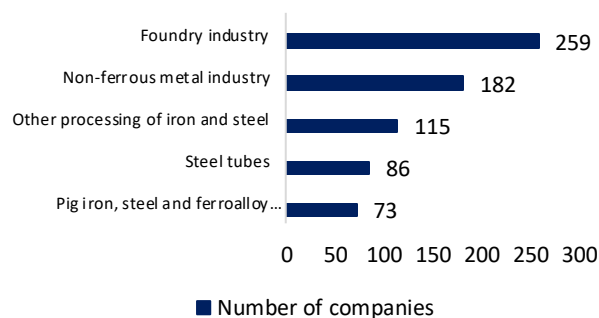
[with a turnover of €51,6 billion], the production of pig iron, steel, and foundry production [€15,9 billion] as well as steel tubes [that made up to €7,8 billion] and other processing of iron and steel [€7,7 billion]).

Turnover in the German metal industry by sector in 2023

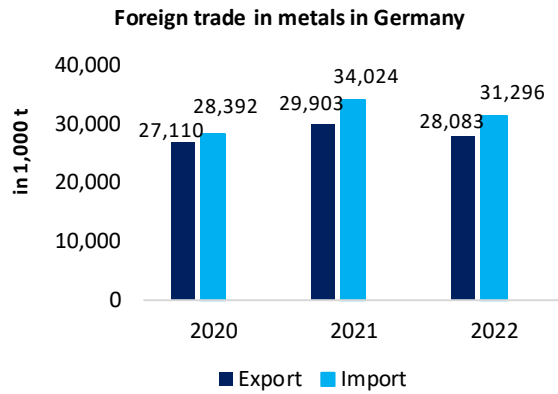


In 2023, the metalworking sector reached an accumulation of 715 companies. Noticeable that the foundry industry is presenting the largest number of 259 companies, yet this industry sector generates a lower overall turnover compared to the non-ferrous metals and ferroalloy industry.

German metal industry by sector in 2023



Whereas Germany counts as the leading country in terms of overall exports, the ratio between imports and exports of metals is relatively balanced in Germany. In the past years, Germany's imports of metal slightly out-reached the exports, at 31.296 tonnes and 28.083 tonnes respectively.



The most important suppliers are Belgium, Italy, and Switzerland, while the most important buyers to which Germany exports are Austria, France, and the United States.

### In conclusion

As a fundamental industry, the metalworking industry is of particular importance for the value-creation chain in Germany. Its numerous innovations and its close interrelations with other sectors contribute to the success of various industries such as the automotive and machine manufacturing industry. It supplies around one-fifth of the input purchases for machine manufacturing and 12% for the automotive industry.

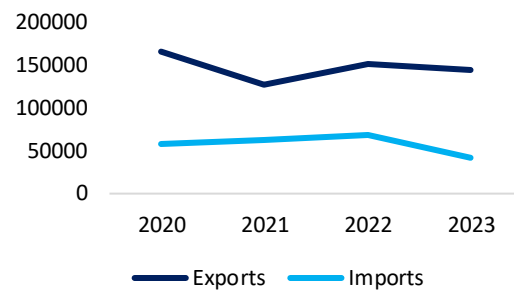
Other important sectors include electrical engineering, construction, and steel and metal processing.

### Business Opportunities

In addition to the EU, which is the most important business market, Arab countries continuously increase their market role and attractiveness. Demand is high, especially in fields of renewable energies, where Egypt is seeking to revolutionize its infrastructure.

### Metalworking trade activity with Egypt

Total values of the years 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 of the following categories metallurgical ores and metal waste, iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, and metal products are examples to depict the imports and exports between Germany and Egypt: German exports to Egypt are significantly higher than imports from Egypt.



*All information has been researched and compiled thoroughly. The publisher (and the writers) does not accept liability for the accuracy and completeness of the content, as well as interim changes.*

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