

EXPECTATIONS
FOR Q1

END USE
SECTORS
REVIEW

TRADE DATA
ANALYSED

BREAKING FREE OF CORONAVIRUS

As the coronavirus epidemic in China begins to slow the country is beginning to count the economic cost of the outbreak. For steel as much as any other sector, a lack of economic activity has hit demand hard. But how hard has yet to be seen in available data. In this issue we look at our expectations for Q1 overall.

In the absence of new Chinese trade data, we also take the opportunity to put Chinese data in the context of its northeast Asian exporter siblings Japan and Korea. The three major exporting steel economies form a powerhouse of the global industry and their trade flows matter to the rest of the world.

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Breaking News Coronavirus

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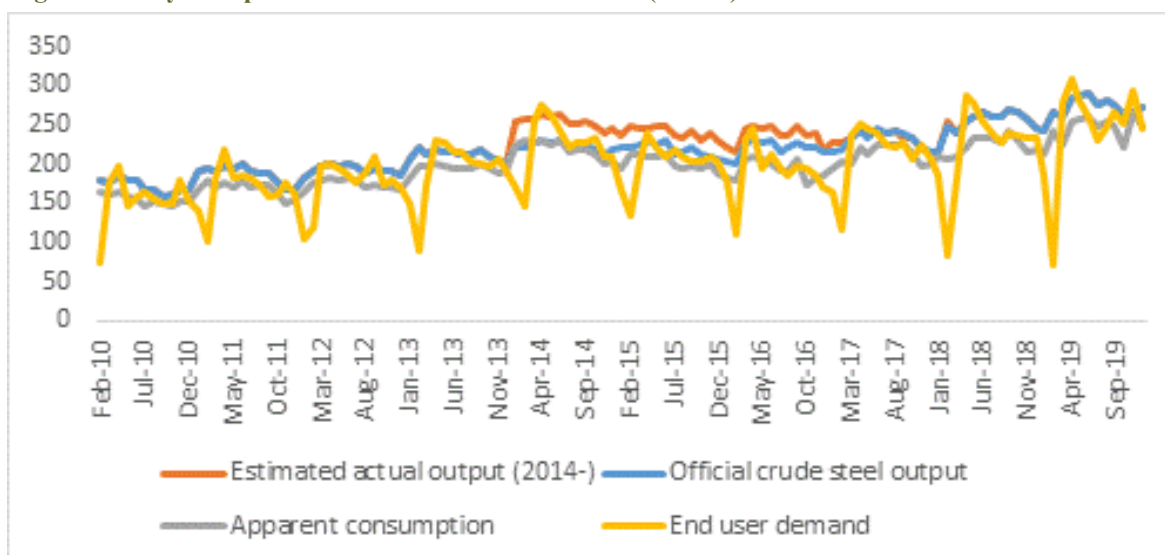
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Table 1. Supply and Demand (million tonnes)

	2018	2019 full year	Y-o-y	2020 outlook	Y-o-y
Official crude steel output	928.3	996.3	8.30%	1003.9	1.40%
Apparent consumption	825.5	894.5	9.40%	901.5	1.10%
End user demand	827.6	894.5	9.13%	896	0.90%

Source: Kallanish

Figure 1. Daily steel production and demand 2010-2019 (tonnes)



Source: NBS, Kallanish



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