Canadian Iron and Steel Mills and Ferro Alloy Manufacturing Industry (NAICS 3311)
Energy Use and Related Data, 1990 - 2015

2017 FACT SHEET

PRODUCTION
Physical production, measured in terms of annual quantity of steel produced (production) and shipped (disposition), peaked in 2000 and has fluctuated thereafter, dropping substantially in 2009 in response to the recession. Since then, production has returned to about 6% below adjusted 1990 levels. GDP mirrors the physical production trend.

ENERGY USE AND INTENSITY
Energy use closely reflects the trend in physical production and by 2015, total energy used is down 26% from the adjusted 1990 value.

Energy Use

Overall, physical intensity indicators (energy/tonne) decline over the period, but have remained relatively stable in the last decade. The monetary indicator (energy/GDP) fluctuates slightly more than the physical indicator, but is less dependable because other unrelated economic factors have an influence.

Energy Intensity

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND INTENSITY
Total greenhouse gas emissions levels have decreased consistently to 2015, down 31.5% since 1990 and almost 18% since 2005. GHG emissions track the trend in energy use indicating the degree to which emissions are tied to fuel type.

Emissions

Emissions intensity closely follows the trend seen in energy intensity. The GHG intensity of the fuel, CO₂/t product, is very flat, indicating that little fuel switching occurs in this industry.

Emissions Intensity

1 In 1990, the steel industry experienced a six-month long labour disruption at its two largest plants. To “normalize” efficiency and emissions indicators the CSPA developed adjusted 1990 values for use in trend analysis.