NO **68211003** 



# STEEL PRICE ANALYSIS REPORT FROM DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY

Key words: coke price, Thermal coal, market demand, supply

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2021.11.16

Abstract: The market demand has fallen, the prices of production factors have continued to rise, and the risk of stagflation has increased. Under such a background, steel prices will gradually break away from excessive premiums and slowly return to regular price fluctuations.



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# I .Cost of production

Steel production cost is composed of raw material —— iron ore, energy cost, financing cost, machine damage maintenance, labor cost.

#### 1.Raw material

According to the forward iron ore price index, Third quarter prices are still down about 30% from 2018. As the rising price of factors of production such as labor, it is impossible to return back to 2018. So iron ore prices will remain at third-quarter levels, floating slightly.



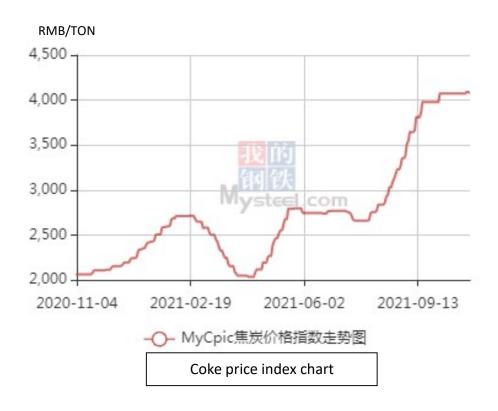
## 2. Energy cost

As global energy prices rise and coal prices hit a record high, parts of China liberalize electricity prices and allow electricity prices to fluctuate. This would directly lead to increased production costs for steel mills using electric furnaces. However, according to research on government documents, power prices do not rise indefinitely, up by up to 20 percent from the previous three quarters

At the same time, due to the arrival of winter and increased heating demand, the Chinese government has adjusted domestic power coal production capacity to control coal prices while increasing coal supply. Coal futures are fallen for three consecutive times, but coke prices are still rising.

Steel plant production costs have increased further under this impact.

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Metallurgical coke Shanxi market price 2021-08-06 2021-11-04

Grade: first grade metallurgical coke



## 3. Financing cost

According to the monetary policy implementation report of the People's Bank of China in the second quarter and the financial data analysis published in the third quarter, the financial policy for 2021 tends to be good for the real economy. Steel mills as a huge capital to occupy the real economy industry, a long-term need to occupy a large amount of capital. This policy is very good for production costs.

# II .Relation between supply and demand

#### 1.International market demand

According to the manufacturing PMI, almost always the world's PMI is greater than 50. Global demand remains on the rise.But European PMI has slowed in the last three months.

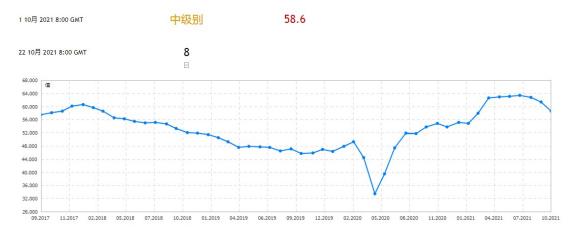
Growth in the United States and Brazil has increased further. It is expected to peak by February. Overall demand for steel will continue to increase, but it takes at least a quarter away to reach balance.

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# 德国Markit制造业采购经理人指数(PMI) (Markit Germany Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI))



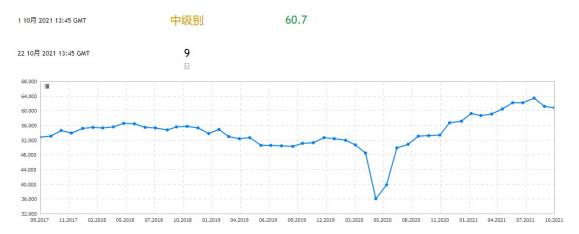
# 欧盟Markit制造业采购经理人指数(PMI) (Markit European Union Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI))



# 澳大利亚联邦银行制造业采购经理人指数(PMI) (Commonwealth Bank Australia Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI))



#### 美国Markit制造业采购经理人指数(PMI) (Markit United States Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI))



#### 巴西Markit制造业采购经理人指数(PMI) (Markit Brazil Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI))



#### 2. Domestic market demand

As the real estate market shrinks, the construction industry shrinks, and steel demand decreases. In addition, according to the market steel inventory situation in the third quarter, it can also be seen that the domestic market demand has declined.

At the same time, domestic market demand has a greater impact on China's steel prices. Therefore, due to the downward impact of market demand in the future, extremely high prices will not appear.

## 3. Supply

Domestic supply is affected by the carbon neutral policy, showing a contraction state. Although the power problem has already sounded the alarm for the government, blind carbon neutrality will have a huge impact on production and life. However, in the foreseeable future, coal should be relatively relaxed, and steel production as a high-energy-consuming enterprise will still be further restricted. In the coming quarter, in the chaotic steel market in the past year, the Chinese government has learned enough experience to avoid the extreme

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prices in the second quarter of this year.

**III.Conclusion** 

In the coming quarter, as domestic demand cools and supply stabilizes, steel prices will gradually

deviate from the premium that was much higher than the cost in the first half of the year, and

return to regular cost fluctuations. But still affected by the increase in the prices of various production factors brought about by the epidemic, the overall price will not see a cliff-like

decline.

**Procurement suggestion:** 

Combining the price rules of previous years and market estimates, orders can be placed in

November-January. The price will be low in the near term. If there is a need to stock up raw

materials, it can also be completed recently.

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