

## Steel Price Tracker

## Global steel prices mostly down; Brazil steel price hike discussions ongoing

**Industry Overview** 

## Tracking global steel and raw materials price variations

Our Steel Price Tracker aims to track variations in steel prices across the globe, as well as regional simplified cash margins. We also provide a snippet of key news articles related to price movements, as well as a weekly tracking of import parity premiums in Brazil and a summary of the latest industry data.

We hope you find it useful. We welcome any feedback or suggestions readers may have.

## Exhibit 1: Snapshot of steel prices (USD/t)

Summary of weekly price movements

| Steel Price Reference | Current Price (USD/t) | w/w Change (USD/t) | w/w Change (%) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| China Domestic        |                       |                    |                |
| HRC                   | 553.3                 | -15.17             | -2.67%         |
| Rebar                 | 535.2                 | -6.77              | -1.25%         |
| China Export          |                       |                    |                |
| HRC                   | 553.0                 | -8.00              | -1.43%         |
| Rebar                 | 566.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          |
| Brazil Domestic*      |                       |                    |                |
| HRC                   | 4,000.0               | 0.00               | 0.00%          |
| Rebar                 | 3,750.0               | 0.00               | 0.00%          |
| US Domestic           |                       |                    |                |
| HRC                   | 1,168.4               | -22.05             | -1.85%         |
| Rebar                 | 870.0                 | -5.00              | -0.57%         |
| Türkiye Export        |                       |                    |                |
| HRC                   | 690.0                 | 10.00              | 1.47%          |
| Rebar                 | 612.5                 | -5.00              | -0.81%         |
| Raw Materials         |                       |                    |                |
| HCC Australia         | 322.0                 | -7.75              | -2.35%         |
| HCC China             | 324.0                 | -1.00              | -0.31%         |
| Iron Ore 58           | 115.8                 | -5.60              | -4.61%         |
| Iron Ore 62           | 128.0                 | -8.15              | -5.99%         |
| Iron Ore 65           | 140.7                 | -7.70              | -5.19%         |
| Iron Ore Pellet       | 151.5                 | -4.20              | -2.70%         |
| Brazil Pig Iron       | 452.5                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          |
| Black Sea Pig Iron    | 400.0                 | 10.00              | 2.56%          |
| Scrap                 |                       |                    |                |
| US                    | 447.8                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          |
| Brazil                | 191.1                 | -2.32              | -1.20%         |
| Türkiye               | 422.5                 | 2.50               | 0.60%          |
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Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

(\*) Brazilian prices in BRL

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

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HRC = hot rolled coil

CRC = cold rolled coil

HDG = hot dip galvanized

HMS = heavy melting scrap

HCC = hard coking coal

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## Weekly news flow

## Asia: Prices mixed w/w; BF op rates stable at 83.57%

Steel export prices were mixed w/w in China last week, with Chinese exported hot rolled coil (HRC) down \$8/t to \$553/t, and rebar flat w/w at \$566/t. Chinese steel spot cash margins rose RMB32/t w/w to -RMB372/t for rebar and RMB3/t w/w to -RMB525/t for HRC. Weekly production fell 4.9% w/w for rebar but rose 3.9% w/w for HRC, while apparent consumption dropped 28.8% w/w for rebar but rose 0.5% w/w for HRC. Mill inventory rose 3.6% w/w, while social inventory rose 9.6% w/w. Our team noted that as the spring festival is approaching, rebar consumption and steel trading volume collapsed rapidly, while both social & mill inventory jumped WoW due to collective restocking before holiday (see BofA's Basic Materials team update). The blast furnace (BF) capacity utilization rate among the 247 Chinese steel producers under Mysteel's regular tracking were flattish during the week, at 83.57% between Jan 26 and Feb 1.

#### China property - Major cities' weekly new home sales volume -24% y/y

Primary home sales volume in 33 major cities decreased by 24% y/y during the past week (Jan 28 to Feb 3), or -3% w/w. Across different cities, new home sales volume increased by 8% y/y in Tier-1 cities but declined by 26%/37% y/y in Tier-2/3 cities. MTD, new home sales volume in major cities declined by 41% y/y. During the past week, secondary home sales in 11 major cities increased by 7% y/y but declined by 12% w/w (ink to our team's tracker).

## Türkiye: prices pressured by weak demand

Turkish export rebar prices were down \$5/t w/w to \$612.5/t last week. Platts reported that demand was weak and the market for Turkish rebar was quieter throughout the week, which led to prices being pressured. Most of Platts' contacts mentioned prices were considered tradable between \$610-615/t. Scrap prices were not expected to drop, so that would limit further downside for rebar prices. Platts assessed the Turkish heavy melting scrap at \$422.5/t. The spread between rebar and scrap was \$190/t.

## **Europe: buyers reducing orders**

Platts reported that European steel buyers were reducing their purchased volumes given high inventories. Volumes that were previously bought from European steelmakers and imported arrived, which drove inventories up. With the higher inventories, steel buyers were no longer accepting higher prices. Some market participants were also cautious on prices, given the still weak real steel demand and higher supply as steelmakers restarted idled blast furnaces. Some of Platts contacts mentioned that now no one was looking for imports, given the long lead times and potential disruptions due to the conflict in the Red Sea.

## North America: service centers believed prices peaked

Platts' weekly prices were down \$22.05/t w/w to \$1,168.4/t for US HRC and down \$5/t w/w to \$870/t for rebar last week. Platts' US lead times dropped w/w to 6.5 weeks for HRC and 8.1 weeks for CRC. Platts reported that HRC prices were dropping in the US as service centers were reducing their purchase orders, as they were unwilling to build inventories. Most service centers believed prices had peaked and were expecting further downside to prices, while some mill sources mentioned that more value-added products were tighter, and prices were holding up. As for rebar, Platts reported that mills held firm to their prices, despite buyers' efforts to achieve discounts.

#### **Tampa Steel Conference feedback**

Last week our North American colleagues attended the 35th annual Steel Market Update (SMU) Tampa Steel Conference. A key theme was the continued resilience of the U.S. economy. Despite this, many think U.S. hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices have risen too high and should correct in the coming months. Supporting this view was Service Center (SC) representatives indicating they were out of the market. In the longer-term, most see U.S. steel prices generally well-supported by demand, slightly tempered by an expected



increase in supply. A majority of conference participants saw U.S. sheet pricing at a cyclical peak and under pressure from limited spot ordering (<u>link to report</u>).

#### Latin America: hikes discussions this week

Brazilian steel prices were flat w/w at R\$3,750/t for rebar and at R\$4,000/t for HRC. Platts again reported that steelmakers were putting out HRC hikes in Brazil of up to 6.5%. According to Platts' contacts, major producers were increasing prices by 5%, while smaller players were increasing by 6-6.5%. Most of its contacts mentioned the price hike efforts were likely to step up this week. As for rebar, Platts reported that producers came out with 4-10% hikes and negotiations were scheduled for this week. According to Platts' contacts, results of negotiations should only appear in ten days and that demand remained pressured by international prices, uncertainties and the slower demand in February due to the Carnival holiday.



# **Exhibit 2: Summary of steel price movements**Snapshot of steel price movements

| Steel Price Reference | Current Price (USD/t) | w/w Change (USD/t) | w/w Change (%) | m/m Change (%)                          | y/y Change (%) | Last Change |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|---|----------------|-------------|
| China Domestic        | <u> </u>              |                    | <u> </u>       | • |                | Ĭ           |
| HRC                   | 553.3                 | -15.17             | -2.67%         | -3.52%                                  | -9.46%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| HRC Cash Margin       | -44.5                 | 1.48               | 3.22%          | -7.86%                                  | -138.83%       | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 535.2                 | -6.77              | -1.25%         | -3.13%                                  | -13.46%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | -52.8                 | 7.69               | 12.71%         | 3.19%                                   | -9332.14%      | 2-Feb-24    |
| China Export          |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 553.0                 | -8.00              | -1.43%         | -2.98%                                  | -13.46%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 566.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 1.07%                                   | -12.11%        | 26-Jan-24   |
| Brazil Domestic*      |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 4,000.0               | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | -14.89%        | 15-Sep-23   |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 2,035.6               | 77.50              | 3.96%          | 6.87%                                   | -22.41%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 3,750.0               | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | -8.54%         | 27-Oct-23   |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 2,800.0               | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | -9.80%         | 22-Jan-24   |
| Mexico Domestic       |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 1,160.2               | -23.31             | -1.97%         | 1.62%                                   | 38.38%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 712.4                 | -23.31             | -3.17%         | 4.15%                                   | 69.56%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 1,005.7               | -14.57             | -1.43%         | -2.04%                                  | -4.58%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 557.9                 | -14.57             | -2.55%         | -1.95%                                  | -12.25%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Argentina Domestic    |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 889.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | 0.00%          | 1-Mar-18    |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 493.8                 | 20.57              | 4.35%          | 6.64%                                   | 3.45%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 805.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | -4.17%         | 14-Dec-23   |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 409.8                 | 20.57              | 5.29%          | 8.11%                                   | -4.33%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| US Domestic           |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 1,168.4               | -22.05             | -1.85%         | -3.64%                                  | 35.03%         | 1-Feb-24    |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 720.6                 | -22.05             | -2.97%         | -4.54%                                  | 61.21%         | 1-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 870.0                 | -5.00              | -0.57%         | -1.14%                                  | -6.95%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 422.2                 | -5.00              | -1.17%         | -0.04%                                  | -18.29%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Türkiye Domestic      |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 700.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | -1.41%                                  | -6.67%         | 26-Jan-24   |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 277.5                 | -2.50              | -0.89%         | -5.93%                                  | -13.95%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 755.2                 | -0.42              | -0.06%         | 4.78%                                   | -9.20%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 332.7                 | -2.92              | -0.87%         | 8.80%                                   | -17.69%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Türkiye Export        |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 690.0                 | 10.00              | 1.47%          | 2.99%                                   | -6.76%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 612.5                 | -5.00              | -0.81%         | 2.94%                                   | -12.50%        | 1-Feb-24    |
| Russia Domestic       |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 463.4                 | 8.43               | 1.85%          | 2.33%                                   | 5.77%          | 31-Jan-24   |
| HRC Cash Margin       | 68.2                  | 29.00              | 74.00%         | 153.37%                                 | 157.96%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Rebar                 | 421.3                 | 8.43               | 2.04%          | 2.67%                                   | 19.23%         | 31-Jan-24   |
| Rebar Cash Margin     | 26.1                  | 29.00              | n.m.           | n.m.                                    | n.m.           | 2-Feb-24    |
| Black Sea Export      |                       |                    |                |   |                |             |
| HRC                   | 600.0                 | 10.00              | 1.69%          | 2.56%                                   | -13.67%        | 31-Jan-24   |
| Rebar                 | 550.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%                                   | -9.09%         | 1-Jan-24    |

**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts

(\*) Brazilian prices in BRL



# **Exhibit 3: Summary of raw materials price movements** Snap shot of raw materials price movements

| Steel Price Reference                | Current Price (USD/t) | w/w Change (USD/t) | w/w Change (%) | m/m Change (%) | y/y Change (%) | Last Change |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Raw Materials                        |                       |                    |                |                |                |             |
| HCC Australia                        | 322.0                 | -7.75              | -2.35%         | -0.85%         | -8.07%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| HCC China                            | 324.0                 | -1.00              | -0.31%         | -2.11%         | -0.92%         | 30-Jan-24   |
| Iron Ore 62 Kallanish                | 126.3                 | -9.95              | -7.30%         | -12.59%        | 0.25%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 58                          | 115.8                 | -5.60              | -4.61%         | -9.96%         | 9.56%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 62                          | 128.0                 | -8.15              | -5.99%         | -11.08%        | 2.28%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 65                          | 140.7                 | -7.70              | -5.19%         | -8.67%         | 0.93%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 58 Discount to 62           | 12.3                  | -2.55              | -17.23%        | -20.45%        | -37.18%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 65 Premium to 62            | 12.7                  | 0.45               | 3.67%          | 25.74%         | -10.88%        | 1-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore 62 Lump                     | 139.3                 | -6.12              | -4.21%         | -9.33%         | 7.22%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Iron Ore Pellet                      | 151.5                 | -4.20              | -2.70%         | -5.03%         | 0.91%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Brazil Pig Iron                      | 452.5                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 2.84%          | -5.73%         | 8-Jan-24    |
| Black Sea Pig Iron                   | 400.0                 | 10.00              | 2.56%          | 3.23%          | 0.63%          | 2-Feb-24    |
| Scrap                                |                       |                    |                |                |                |             |
| US                                   | 447.8                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | -2.15%         | 7.06%          | 11-Jan-24   |
| Brazil                               | 191.1                 | -2.32              | -1.20%         | -1.03%         | -3.20%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Türkiye                              | 422.5                 | 2.50               | 0.60%          | 1.81%          | -1.17%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Semi-Finished                        |                       |                    |                |                |                |             |
| Türkiye Billet                       | 570.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | -8.06%         | 1-Jan-24    |
| Black Sea Billet                     | 522.5                 | 12.50              | 2.45%          | 5.56%          | -6.70%         | 1-Feb-24    |
| Southeast Asia Billet                | 542.0                 | -6.00              | -1.09%         | 0.00%          | -9.52%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| Latin America Billet                 | 545.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.93%          | 18.48%         | 11-Jan-24   |
| Black Sea Slab                       | 540.0                 | 20.00              | 3.85%          | 8.00%          | -9.24%         | 31-Jan-24   |
| Southeast Asia Slab                  | 620.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 1.64%          | 1-Jan-24    |
| Brazil Slab                          | 670.0                 | 0.00               | 0.00%          | -2.90%         | -4.29%         | 26-Jan-24   |
| Futures                              |                       |                    |                |                |                |             |
| Iron Ore Active Contract             | 94.0                  | -0.21              | -0.22%         | -0.61%         | -23.97%        | 2-Feb-24    |
| China HRC Active Contract            | 552.6                 | -18.66             | -3.27%         | -5.10%         | N/A            | N/A         |
| China Rebar Active Contract          | 779.0                 | -1.75              | -0.22%         | -0.61%         | -6.43%         | 2-Feb-24    |
| China HRC Simplified Cash Margin**   | 402.2                 | -18.32             | -4.36%         | -6.68%         | n.m.           | N/A         |
| China Rebar Simplified Cash Margin** | 628.7                 | -1.41              | -0.22%         | -0.61%         | -0.96%         | 2-Feb-24    |

**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts, MySteel, Bloomberg

 $(\ensuremath{^{\star\star}})$  Simplified cash margins calculated based on steel futures prices - iron ore futures



## **Exhibit 4: Steel price period comparison**

Price snapshot

| Steel Price Reference     | Current Price | Last Week Price | Last Month Price | Last Year Price | 12M Average | 5Y Average                              |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| China Domestic            |               |                 |                  |                 |             |   |
| HRC                       | 553           | 568             | 573              | 611             | 562         | 632                                     |
| HRC Cash Margin           | -44           | -46             | -41              | -19             | -17         | 30                                      |
| Rebar                     | 535           | 542             | 552              | 618             | 542         | 612                                     |
| Rebar Cash Margin         | -53           | -61             | -55              | -1              | -13         | 36                                      |
| China Export              |               |                 |                  |                 |             |   |
| HRC                       | 553           | 561             | 570              | 639             | 571         | 615                                     |
| Rebar                     | 566           | 566             | 560              | 644             | 566         | 579                                     |
| Brazil Domestic*          |               |                 |                  |                 |             |   |
| HRC                       | 4,000         | 4,000           | 4,000            | 4,700           | 4,368       | 4,348                                   |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 2,036         | 1,958           | 1,905            | 2,624           | 2,520       | 2,659                                   |
| Rebar                     | 3,750         | 3,750           | 3,750            | 4,100           | 3,817       | 3,762                                   |
| Rebar Cash Margin         | 2,800         | 2,800           | 2,800            | 3,104           | 2,800       | 2,645                                   |
| Mexico Domestic           | 7.5.5.5       |                 | ,,,,,            | -, -            | ,           | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
| HRC                       | 1,160         | 1,183           | 1,142            | 838             | 1,010       | 1,002                                   |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 712           | 736             | 684              | 420             | 580         | 620                                     |
| Rebar                     | 1,006         | 1,020           | 1,027            | 1,054           | 1,009       | 856                                     |
| Pebar Cash Margin         | 558           | 572             | 569              | 636             | 579         | 474                                     |
| rgentina Domestic         | 333           | 3,2             |                  | -200            | 2.3         | ., .                                    |
| HRC                       | 889           | 889             | 889              | 889             | 889         | 889                                     |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 494           | 473             | 463              | 477             | 517         | 551                                     |
| Rebar                     | 805           | 805             | 805              | 840             | 799         | 885                                     |
| Rebar Cash Margin         | 410           | 389             | 379              | 428             | 428         | 547                                     |
| JS Domestic               | 110           | 303             | 373              | 120             | 120         | 317                                     |
| HRC                       | 1,168         | 1,190           | 1,213            | 865             | 1,048       | 1,050                                   |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 721           | 743             | 755              | 447             | 618         | 667                                     |
| debar                     | 870           | 875             | 880              | 935             | 896         | 873                                     |
| Pebar Cash Margin         | 422           | 427             | 422              | 517             | 466         | 491                                     |
| Türkiye Domestic          | 122           | 127             | 122              | 317             | 100         | 151                                     |
| HRC                       | 700           | 700             | 710              | 750             | 705         | 703                                     |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 278           | 280             | 295              | 323             | 308         | 325                                     |
| Rebar                     | 755           | 756             | 721              | 832             | 750         | 698                                     |
| Rebar Cash Margin         | 333           | 336             | 306              | 404             | 353         | 320                                     |
| Türkiye Export            | 333           | 330             | 300              | 404             | 333         | 320                                     |
| HRC                       | 690           | 680             | 670              | 740             | 682         | 687                                     |
| Rebar                     | 613           | 618             | 595              | 700             | 615         | 589                                     |
| Russia Domestic           | 015           | 010             | 293              | 700             | 015         | 303                                     |
| IRC                       | 463           | 455             | 453              | 438             | 447         | 576                                     |
| HRC Cash Margin           | 68            | 39              | 27               | 26              | 75          | 238                                     |
| Rebar                     | 421           | 413             | 410              | 353             | 404         | 489                                     |
| Rebar Cash Margin         | 26            | -3              | -16              | -58             | 33          | 151                                     |
| Black Sea Export          | 20            | -5              | -10              | -30             | 33          | 131                                     |
| IRC                       | 600           | 590             | 585              | 695             | 639         | 631                                     |
| Rebar                     | 550           | 550             | 550              | 605             | 553         | 552                                     |
| Raw Materials             | 330           | 230             | 220              | 003             | 333         | 332                                     |
| ACC Australia             | 322           | 330             | 325              | 350             | 297         | 240                                     |
|                           | 324           | 325             |                  | 350             |             |   |
| ACC China                 | 126           | 136             | 331<br>144       | 126             | 283<br>121  | 267                                     |
| ron Ore 62 Kallanish      |               |                 |                  |                 |             | 121                                     |
| ron Ore 58                | 116           | 121             | 129              | 106             | 105         | 98                                      |
| ron Ore 62                | 128           | 136             | 144              | 125             | 121         | 121                                     |
| ron Ore 65                | 141           | 148             | 154              | 139             | 133         | 138                                     |
| ron Ore 58 Discount to 62 | 12            | 15              | 15               | 20              | 15          | 23                                      |
| ron Ore 65 Premium to 62  | 13            | 12              | 10               | 14              | 12          | 16                                      |
| ron Ore 62 Lump           | 139           | 145             | 154              | 130             | 132         | 140                                     |
| ron Ore Pellet            | 151           | 156             | 160              | 150             | 143         | 164                                     |
| Brazil Pig Iron           | 453           | 453             | 440              | 480             | 453         | 452                                     |
| Black Sea Pig Iron        | 400           | 390             | 388              | 398             | 373         | 413                                     |
| icrap                     |               |                 |                  |                 |             |   |
| JS                        | 448           | 448             | 458              | 418             | 430         | 382                                     |
| Brazil                    | 191           | 193             | 193              | 197             | 205         | 224                                     |
| - ürkiye                  | 423           | 420             | 415              | 428             | 397         | 378                                     |



# **Exhibit 4: Steel price period comparison** Price snapshot

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|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Steel Price Reference                | Current Price | Last Week Price | Last Month Price | Last Year Price | 12M Average | 5Y Average |
| Semi-Finished                        |               |                 |                  |                 |             |            |
| Türkiye Billet                       | 570           | 570             | 570              | 620             | 571         | 545        |
| Black Sea Billet                     | 523           | 510             | 495              | 560             | 510         | 506        |
| Southeast Asia Billet                | 542           | 548             | 542              | 599             | 540         | 541        |
| Latin America Billet                 | 545           | 545             | 540              | 460             | 528         | 510        |
| Black Sea Slab                       | 540           | 520             | 500              | 595             | 534         | 537        |
| Southeast Asia Slab                  | 620           | 620             | 620              | 610             | 572         | 568        |
| Brazil Slab                          | 670           | 670             | 690              | 700             | 667         | 620        |
| Futures                              |               |                 |                  |                 |             |            |
| Iron Ore Active Contract             | 94            | 94              | 95               | 124             | 106         | 119        |
| China HRC Active Contract            | 553           | 571             | 582              | N/A             | N/A         | N/A        |
| China Rebar Active Contract          | 779           | 781             | 784              | 833             | 788         | 700        |
| China HRC Simplified Cash Margin**   | 402           | 421             | 431              | N/A             | N/A         | N/A        |
| China Rebar Simplified Cash Margin** | 629           | 630             | 633              | 635             | 619         | 613        |

**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts, MySteel, Bloomberg



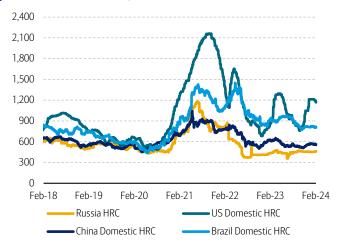
<sup>(\*)</sup> All prices are quoted in USD per metric ton, except Brazil Domestic prices and margins which are quoted in BRL per metric ton. (\*\*) Simplified cash margins calculated based on steel futures prices – iron ore futures BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

## **Key charts**

## Main global steel references

## Exhibit 5: HRC price comparison around the globe (US\$/t)

US HRC prices are correcting

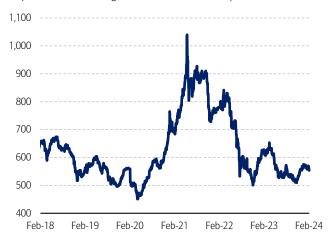


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 7: China HRC domestic prices (US\$/t)

HRC prices are rebounding, but remain below recent peaks

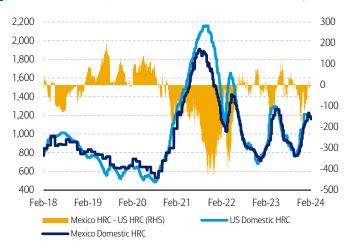


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 6: Mexico HRC and US HRC prices (US\$/t)

Mexican HRC historically follows US prices, and both were increasing

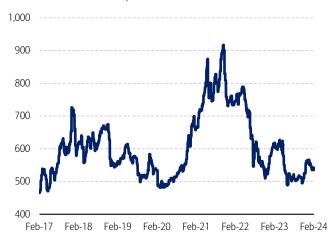


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 8: China rebar domestic prices (US\$/t)

Prices remain below recent peaks, close to 2019 levels



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

## Exhibit 9: China HRC margins (US\$/t)

Margins are below the historical average



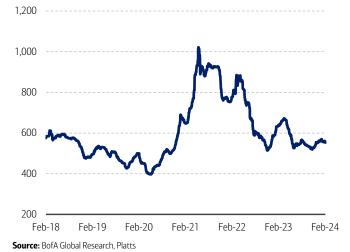
Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## **China Exports**

## Exhibit 11: China HRC export prices (US\$/t)

HRC prices began 2024 increasing



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## Exhibit 10: China rebar margins (US\$/t)

Margins are below the historical average



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 12: China rebar export prices (US\$/t)

Prices are recovering early in 2024



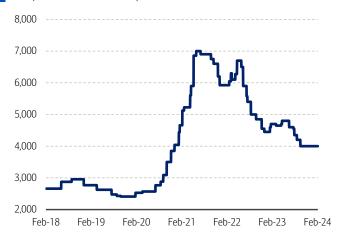
Source: BofA Global Research, Platts



#### **Brazil**

#### Exhibit 13: Brazil HRC domestic prices (R\$/t)

HRC prices have been under pressure

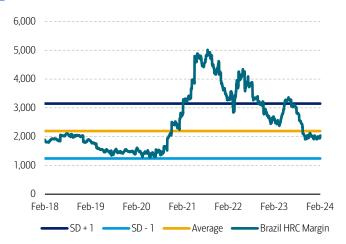


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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### Exhibit 15: Brazil HRC margins (R\$/t)

Margins are close to the historical avg. of ~R\$2,200/t



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 14: Brazil rebar domestic prices (R\$/t)

Long steel prices started to drop in the second half of 2022 and remain flat



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 16: Brazil rebar margins (R\$/t)

Margins are still above average



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 17: Brazil HRC parity premium/discount calculation

We estimate Brazilian HRC at an 5.9% premium, considering a \$60/t freight

| Brazilian HRC import parity calculation |       |  |  |  |
|---|-------|--|--|--|
| Chinese HRC price (US\$/t)              | 553   |  |  |  |
| Freight (US\$/t)                        | 60    |  |  |  |
| Insurance rate (%)                      | 0.5%  |  |  |  |
| Insurance (US\$/t)                      | 3.1   |  |  |  |
| Import tariff rate (%)                  | 12.0% |  |  |  |
| Import tariff (US\$/t)                  | 73.9  |  |  |  |
| Other costs (US\$/t)                    | 70    |  |  |  |
| Total (US\$/t)                          | 760   |  |  |  |
| USDBRL                                  | 4.97  |  |  |  |
| Imported HRC price (R\$/t)              | 3,777 |  |  |  |
| Brazilian HRC price (R\$/t)             | 4,000 |  |  |  |
| Premium/discount                        | 5.9%  |  |  |  |

Source: BofA Global Research, Platts, Bloomberg

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#### Exhibit 18: Brazil Rebar parity premium/discount calculation

We estimate Brazilian Rebar at a 7.0% discount, considering a \$55/t freight

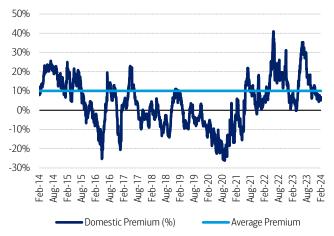
| Brazilian rebar import parity calculation |       |
|---|-------|
| Turkish Rebar price (US\$/t)              | 613   |
| Freight (US\$/t)                          | 55    |
| Insurance rate (%)                        | 0.5%  |
| Insurance (US\$/t)                        | 3.34  |
| Import tariff rate (%)                    | 12.0% |
| Import tariff (US\$/t)                    | 81    |
| Other costs (US\$/t)                      | 60    |
| Total (US\$/t)                            | 811   |
| USDBRL                                    | 4.97  |
| Imported rebar price (R\$/t)              | 4,033 |
| Brazilian rebar price (R\$/t)             | 3,750 |
| Premium/discount                          | -7.0% |

Source: BofA Global Research, Platts, Bloomberg

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## Exhibit 19: Brazilian historical premium/discount to Chinese HRC landed prices (%)

The premium is currently at ~5.9%

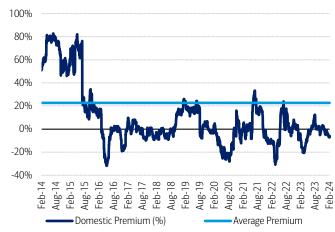


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts, Bloomberg

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## Exhibit 20: Brazilian historical premium/discount to Turkish rebar landed prices (%)

The discount is currently at ~6.5%



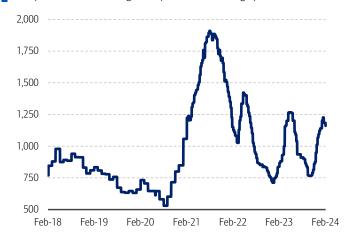
Source: BofA Global Research, Platts, Bloomberg



#### Mexico

#### Exhibit 21: Mexico HRC prices (US\$/t)

HRC prices were increasing as US prices were moving up

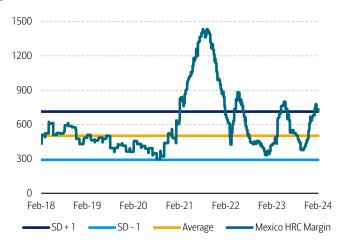


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 23: Mexico HRC margins (US\$/t)

Margins are now above the historical average

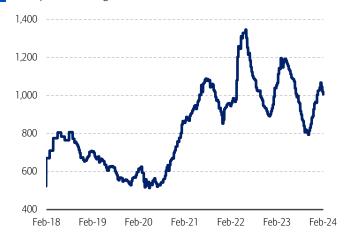


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 22: Mexico rebar prices (US\$/t)

Rebar prices are rising

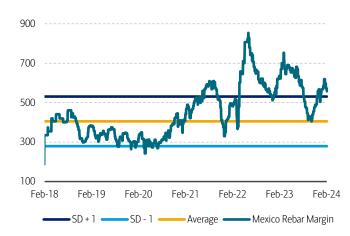


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 24: Mexico rebar margins (US\$/t)

Rebar margins are above historical average



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

## **Argentina**

#### Exhibit 25: Argentina rebar prices (US\$/t)

Rebar prices remained low by early 2024



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### US

#### Exhibit 27: US HRC prices (US\$/t)

US HRC prices are increasing recently



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 29: CRU – US monthly steel prices

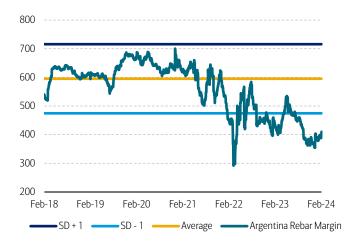
Prices were mostly up m/m in the US

|  | Jan-23 | Dec-23 | m/m%  | y/y%   |
|--|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| U.S.                                   |        |        |       |        |
| HRC price (\$/st)                      | 1,081  | 1,077  | 0.4%  | 51.0%  |
| Scrap price (\$/gt)                    | 410    | 410    | 0.0%  | 17.1%  |
| Rebar prices (\$/st)                   | 880    | 830    | 6.0%  | -2.2%  |
| Metal spread (rebar vs. scrap) (\$/gt) | 566    | 511    | 10.8% | -12.5% |
| Beam price (\$/st)                     | 1,345  | 1,295  | 3.9%  | 1.9%   |
| M. bar price (\$/st)                   | 1,176  | 1,116  | 5.4%  | 5.4%   |
| Source: BofA Global Research, CRU      |        |        |       |        |

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#### Exhibit 26: Argentina rebar margins (US\$/t)

Margins are below historical average in Argentina



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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### Exhibit 28: US rebar prices (US\$/t)

Rebar prices are recovering in the US



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 30: CRU - US weekly prices

Prices mostly down w/w in the US

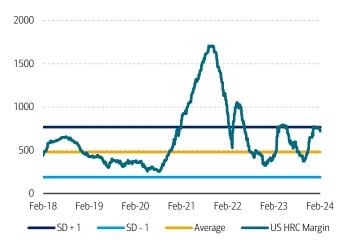
|                        | 31-Jan-24 | w/w%  | m/m%  | y/y%  |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| U.S. Flat steel weekly |           |       |       |       |
| HRC price (\$/st)      | 1,053     | -2.8% | -4.1% | 36.8% |
| CRC price (\$/gt)      | 1,311     | -0.5% | 0.1%  | 32.8% |
| HDG (\$/st)            | 1,353     | -2.4% | -4.2% | 28.7% |
| Plate (\$/gt)          | 1,351     | 0.0%  | -2.8% | -5.7% |
|                        |           |       |       |       |

Source: BofA Global Research, CRU



#### Exhibit 31: US HRC margins (US\$/t)

Margins have followed price's movements and are above the historical avg



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 33: US rebar prices (US\$/short ton)

Rebar prices are currently above the historical average

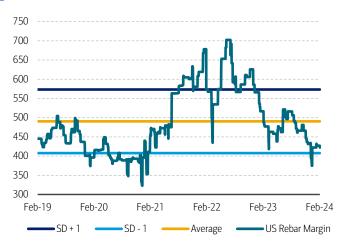


Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

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#### Exhibit 32: US rebar margins (US\$/t)

Margins are below the historical average



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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### Exhibit 34: US beam prices (US\$/short ton)

Beam prices are currently above the historical average



Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

#### Exhibit 35: US M. bar prices (US\$/short ton)

M. bar prices are currently above the historical average



Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

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#### Exhibit 37: US scrap prices (US\$/gross ton)

US scrap prices are above the historical average

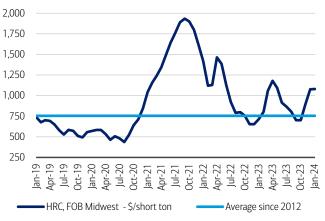


Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

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#### Exhibit 36: US HRC prices (US\$/short ton)

US HRC prices are above the historical average

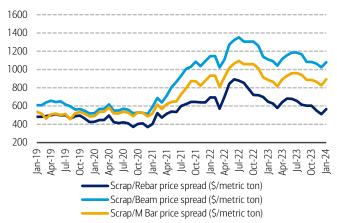


Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

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#### Exhibit 38: Long steel metal spreads (US\$/t)

Spreads are rebounding



Source: BofA Global Research, CRU

## Türkiye

#### Exhibit 39: Türkiye HRC prices (US\$/t)

HRC prices declined after peak post the Russian invasion in Ukraine

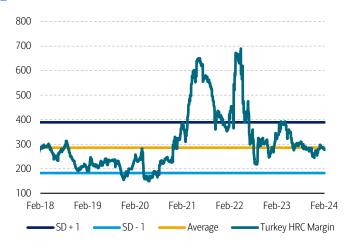


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 41: Türkiye HRC margins (US\$/t)

Margins are close to the historical level



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 40: Türkiye rebar prices (US\$/t)

Rebar prices dropped from peaks in 2022

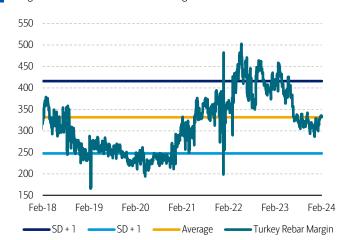


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 42: Türkiye rebar margins (US\$/t)

Margins are close to the historical average

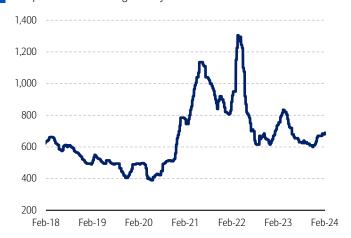


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

## Türkiye & Black Sea exports

#### Exhibit 43: Türkiye HRC export prices (US\$/t)

HRC prices are rebounding recently



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 45: Black Sea HRC export prices (US\$/t)

Prices for Black Sea HRC are declining

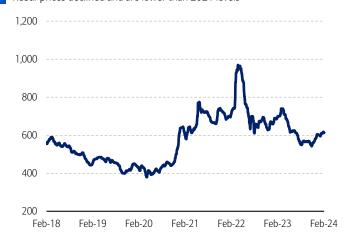


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 44: Türkiye rebar export prices (US\$/t)

Rebar prices declined and are lower than 2021 levels



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 46: Black Sea rebar export prices (US\$/t)

Prices for Black Sea's rebar have corrected, but remain above past years



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

#### Russia

#### Exhibit 47: Russia HRC prices (US\$/t)

Russia HRC prices dropped sharply since conflict with Ukraine



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 49: Russia HRC margins (US\$/t)

HRC margin levels have bottomed and are now way below historical average

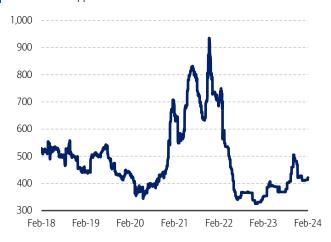


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 48: Russia rebar prices (US\$/t)

Russia rebar dropped after a rebound

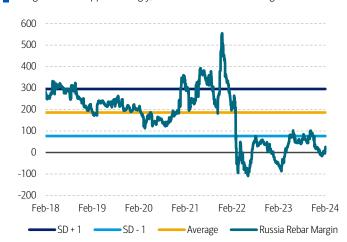


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 50: Russia rebar margins (US\$/t)

Margins have dropped strongly, now below historical average

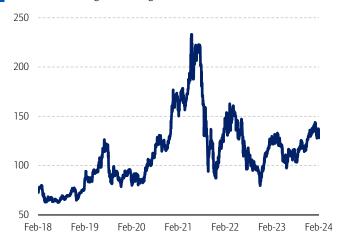


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

#### **Raw Materials**

#### Exhibit 51: Iron ore 62% CFR China prices (US\$/t)

Prices are correcting after having increased



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 52: Iron ore grade discount/premium to 62% Fe content benchmark product (US\$/t)

Discounts dropped from higher levels



**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts

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## Exhibit 53: Iron ore prices by grade (US\$/t)

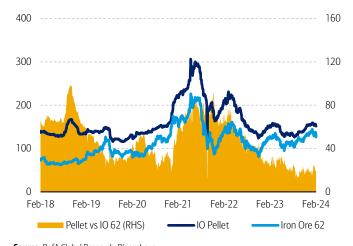
Prices have been increasing since the end of 2022



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

#### Exhibit 54: Iron ore pellets (US\$/t)

Iron ore pellet prices are increasing, premium below 2022 level



Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

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#### Exhibit 56: Pig iron prices (US\$/t)

Pig iron close to 2020 levels

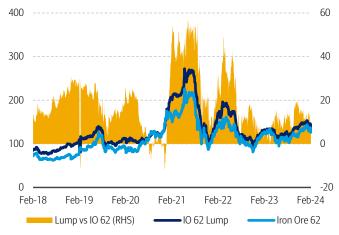


**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 55: Iron ore 62% lump (US\$/t)

Iron ore lump premium showing positive recover after bottom by the end of 2021



Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

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#### Exhibit 57: Hard cooking coal (HCC) prices (US\$/t)

Coal prices are increasing again in Australia and China



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

#### Exhibit 58: Scrap prices (US\$/t)

Scrap prices remain on elevated levels, especially for Türkiye and the US, while Brazilian scrap started to correct



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Semi-Finished

#### Exhibit 59: Türkiye billet prices (US\$/t)

Türkiye billet prices started to normalize after the peak in 2021, but still at high levels  $\,$ 

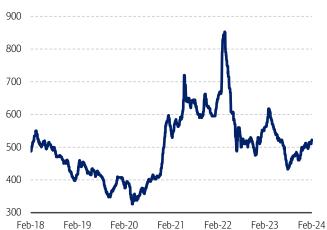


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 60: Black Sea billet prices (US\$/t)

Black Sea billet prices are mainly dropping during 2023

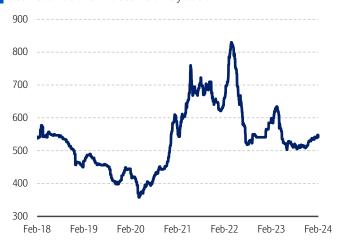


Source: BofA Global Research, Platts



#### Exhibit 61: Southeast Asia billet prices (US\$/t)

Southeast Asia billet has been relatively stable



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

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### Exhibit 63: Black Sea slab prices (US\$/t)

Black Sea slab prices are decreasing

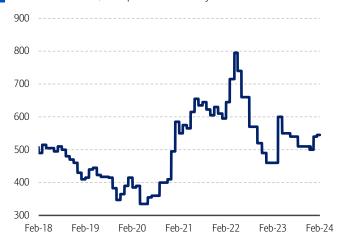


**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts

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#### Exhibit 62: Latin America billet prices (US\$/t)

As for Latin America, billet prices are currently above US\$500/t

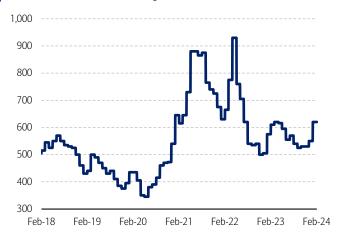


**Source:** BofA Global Research, Platts

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### Exhibit 64: Southeast Asia slab prices (US\$/t)

Southeast Asian slab started rising in the end of 2022



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts

# **Exhibit 65: Brazil slab prices (US\$/t)**Brazilian slab prices are recovering recently



Source: BofA Global Research, Platts



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