

OPIS Global Recycled Plastics Market Methodology

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This document outlines the methodology employed by OPIS, a Dow Jones company, in the assessment of weekly Global Recycled Plastics prices.

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Introduction

OPIS methodologies are developed in consultation with market stakeholders to ensure fair, accurate, and representative price assessments. Each benchmark is underpinned by clearly defined processes that reflect actual market behavior and conditions. [View OPIS Spot Price Assessment General Methodology here.](#)

Price Discovery

OPIS applies a full-day assessment process across all covered markets, gathering, testing and evaluating pricing data throughout the trading session. OPIS Global Recycled Plastics assessments are published weekly on Thursday.

Data submission timeframes are specified in this guide for each region's price assessments. Information on publishing dates is made publicly available through the [OPIS Holiday Publishing Schedule](#). Registered stakeholders are notified in advance of any schedule changes.

OPIS Average prices represent the numerical mid-point of the OPIS Low and the OPIS High, assessed using spot market data discovered during the data submission timeframe. Locate the market specific OPIS Price Code reference and API codes [here](#).

Americas Recycled Plastics

OPIS U.S. Recycled Plastics Low, High, Average, and Month-to-Date average (MTD) assessments reflect generic recycled material understood to be certified as such by a major producer, distributor or consumer, and made from plastics that have been previously used and processed that offer a sustainable alternative to prime or virgin plastics.

Data Submissions

Americas Recycled Plastics assessments reflect pricing information for generic recycled material collected between 9 a.m. Eastern Time on Friday through 4 p.m ET the following Thursday. Pricing information submitted for branded material may be considered in the absence of information for generic material.

Products & Specifications

Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)

- **rPET PCR Clear Fiber-Grade Flake:** Flake made from post-consumer bottles and containers, predominantly – but not exclusively – imported from South America.
- **rPET PCR Clear Packaging-Grade Flake:** Flake made from post-consumer bottles and containers, predominantly – but not exclusively – imported from South America.
- **rPET PCR Green Fiber-Grade Flake:** Flake made from post-consumer bottles and containers, manufactured in the U.S.
- **rPET PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Flake made from post-consumer bottles and containers collected in the United States.
- **rPET PCR FDA Clear Pellet:** Letter of No objection (LNO) designation from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for food-grade use.

- **rPET PCR Non-FDA Green Pellet:** No LNO designation. Pellet produced from PET scrap for non-food-grade applications, such as fiber and strapping tape.
- **PET Grade A Bale:** PET bottles and containers collected at California Redemption Centers. Specifications follow APR Model Bale guidelines for PET Bottles (No PET Thermoforms)
- **PET Mixed Colors (MC) Curbside Bale:** Specifications follow APR Model Bale guidelines for PET Bottles (No PET Thermoforms).
- **PET Prime/Virgin Bottle Grade Resin:** PET resin produced in the United States; intrinsic viscosity (IV) from 0.76-0.84.

Recycled Polyethylene (PE)

- **HDPE PCR Natural (Nat) Bale Curbside:** Specifications follow APR Model Bale guidelines for HDPE Natural Bottles.
- **HDPE PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Bale Curbside:** Specifications follow APR Model Bale guidelines for HDPE Colored Bottles.
- **LDPE Film PCR Grade A Bale:** Specifications follow APR Model Bale guidelines for PE Clear Film (Grade A).
- **rLLDPE Film PIR Mixed Colors (MC) Pellet:** Made from post-industrial LLDPE flake, suitable for non-food-grade applications.
- **rLDPE Film PIR Mixed Colors (MC) Pellet:** Made from post-industrial LDPE flake, suitable for non-food-grade applications.
- **rHDPE PCR FDA Natural (Nat) Pellet:** Letter of non-objection (LNO) designation from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for food-grade use.
- **rHDPE PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Pellet:** Can include a letter of non-objection (LNO) designation from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for food-grade use. However, not all HDPE mixed color post-consumer resins that fall within this assessment include the LNO designation, so FDA not stipulated in title.
- **rHDPE PCR FDA Natural (Nat) Pellet:** Letter of non-objection (LNO) designation from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for food-grade use.
- **rHDPE High-Molecular Weight (HMW) PCR Pellet:** Made from HMWPE flake, suitable for pipe and other industrial applications.
- **rHDPE Frac Melt PCR Black Pellet:** Made from post-consumer HDPE frac melt flake.
- **rLDPE Injection (Inj) PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Melt flow index range 6-20
- **rHDPE Frac Melt PIR/PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Made from post-industrial and/or post-consumer HDPE mixed colors bales.
- **rHDPE Injection (Inj) Crate PIR/PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Made from post-consumer and/or post-industrial HDPE injection crate bales.
- **rHDPE Dirty High-Molecular Weight (HMW) Drums PIR/PCR Flake:** Unwashed flake made from post-consumer and/or post-industrial scrap HMW drums.

Recycled Polypropylene (PP)

- **rCoPP Injection (Inj) PIR/PCR Black Flake:** Melt flow index (MFI) range 5-10
- **rHoPP Injection (Inj) PIR/PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Melt flow index (MFI) range, 5-10.
- **rCoPP Injection (Inj) PCR FDA Black Pellet:** Letter of non-objection (LNO) designation from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for food-grade use.
- **rHoPP Injection (Inj) PIR/PCR Black Pellet:** Melt flow index (MFI) range 20-30.

Recycled Nylon

- **rNylon PA6 Solution-Dyed PIR Pellet:** Made from post-industrial PA6 fiber and scrap.
- **rNylon PA6 PIR Natural (Nat) Fiber Bale:** Collected from nylon fiber extrusion manufacturing plants.
- **rNylon PA66 PIR Natural (Nat) Fiber Bale:** Collected from nylon fiber extrusion manufacturing plants.

Recycled Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)

- **rPVC PIR/PCR Mixed Colors (MC) Flake:** Made from post-industrial and/or post-consumer scrap PVC pipe.

[View the Association of Plastic Recyclers \(APR\) Model Bale Specifications here.](#)

Locations

- **Delivered East of Mississippi:** Truck delivered to any location in the continental United States east of the Mississippi River.
- **Delivered East of Rockies (Del EOR):** Truck delivered to any location in the continental United States east of the Rocky Mountains.
- **Delivered Midwest:** Truck delivered to any location in the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- **Delivered Midwest Railcar (Del MW Rail):** Railcar delivered to any location in the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- **Delivered Southeast:** Truck delivered to any location in the following states: West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Florida.
- **Ex-Works US South:** Loaded by buyer at seller's plant/warehouse in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- **FOB East of Rockies (FOB EOR):** Loaded by buyer at any location in the continental United States east of the Rocky Mountains.
- **FOB New York/New Jersey Ports:** Loaded at any port operated by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.
- **FOB Southeast:** Loaded at any port, warehouse or plant in the southeastern United States, which includes the following states: West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Florida.
- **FOB Southern California:** Loaded at any port, warehouse or plant in Southern California.
- **FOB US South:** Loaded at any port, warehouse or plant in the U.S. South, which includes the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Timing: Any timing, delivery or loading within 30 days

Volume: Minimum 20 metric tons (one standard truckload)

Pricing mechanism: US\$ per pound

EMEA Recycled Plastics

OPIS EMEA Recycled Plastics Low, High, Average, and Month-to-Date average (MTD) assessments reflect generic recycled material understood to be certified as such by a major producer, distributor or consumer, and made from plastics that have been previously used and processed that offer a sustainable alternative to prime or virgin plastics.

Data Submissions

EMEA Recycled Plastics assessments reflect pricing information for generic recycled material collected between 9 a.m. BST/GMT on Friday through 5 p.m. BST/GMT the following Thursday. Pricing information submitted for branded material may be considered in the absence of information for generic material.

Northwest Europe Products & Specifications

Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)

- **PET PCR Light Blue Bale:** Post-consumer recycling compressed bottles and plastics
- **PET PCR Mixed Colors Bale:** Post-consumer recycling compressed bottles and plastics
- **PET PCR Transparent Bale:** Post-consumer recycling compressed bottles and plastics
- **rPET PCR EFSA Transparent Flake:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, hot-washed and sorted, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) grade for food contact applications
- **rPET PCR EFSA Transparent Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, hot-washed and sorted, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) grade for food contact applications

Recycled Polyethylene (PE)

- **rHDPE PCR Grey Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index approximate 1.0-2.5 g/10 min
- **rHDPE PCR Natural Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index approximate 0.15-2.5 g/10 min
- **rHDPE PCR White Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index approximate 0.15-2.5 g/10 min
- **rLDPE PCR Black Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index 0.5-3.2 g/10 min
- **rLDPE PCR Grey Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index 0.8-2.5 g/10 min

Recycled Polypropylene (PP)

- **rPP PCR Black Pellet:** Made from post-consumer waste, mechanically recycled, melt flow index approximate 0.8-10 g/10 min

Locations

- **DDP Northwest Europe:** Delivered Duty Paid to warehouses in the northwest Europe region, including Germany, the Benelux region and Amsterdam, Rotterdam & Antwerp hub
- **DDP Spain:** Delivered Duty Paid to warehouses in Spain
- **DDP Italy:** Delivered Duty Paid to warehouses in Italy

Timing: Any timing, delivering within 30 days

Volume: Minimum 20 metric tons (one standard truckload); Smaller-volume transactions may be considered and will be normalized as relative to the volumes specified above.

Pricing mechanism: Euro per metric ton

APAC Recycled Plastics

OPIS APAC Recycled Plastics low, high, average, and month-to-date average (MTD) assessments reflect generic recycled material understood to be certified as such by a major producer, distributor or consumer, and made from plastics that have been previously used and processed that offer a sustainable alternative to prime or virgin plastics.

Data Submissions

APAC Recycled Plastics assessments reflect pricing information for generic recycled material collected between 9 a.m. SGT on Friday through 5 p.m. SGT the following Thursday. Pricing information submitted for branded material can be considered in the absence of information for generic material.

Products & Specifications

Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)

- **rPET PCR Regular Flake:** Post-consumer recycling, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) contamination content 51-100 ppm, minimum intrinsic viscosity (IV) 0.7 dL/g, maximum IV 0.78 dL/g.
- **rPET PCR Premium Flake:** Post-consumer recycling, PVC content of 0-50 ppm, minimum IV 0.7 dL/g, maximum IV 0.78 dL/g. Premium flakes can include food grade flakes that are certified with the US Food or Drug Administration (FDA) or evaluated by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to be compliant and suitable for use as food contact material. However, for the purpose of this assessment, not all premium flakes that fall within this 0-50 ppm range are FDA approved, so FDA not stipulated in title.
- **rPET PCR Pellet FOB Asia:** Post-consumer recycling, colourless, minimum IV 0.8dL/g.

- **PET PCR Bale With Labels:** Post-consumer recycling compressed bottles and plastics with labels
- **PET PCR Bale Without Labels:** Post-consumer recycling compressed bottles and plastics without labels

Locations

- **FOB Southeast Asia:** includes ports in Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar.
- **Domestic Delivered at Place**
 - Domestic DAP China
 - Domestic DAP India
 - Domestic DAP Indonesia
 - Domestic DAP Malaysia
 - Domestic DAP Pakistan

Timing

- **FOB Southeast Asia to Asia-Pacific:** Any timing, loading within 30 days
- **FOB Southeast Asia to Europe and US:** Any timing, loading within 6-8 weeks
- **FOB Asia to Asia-Pacific:** Any timing, loading within 30 days
- **FOB Asia to Europe and US:** Any timing, loading within 6-8 weeks
- **FOB Asia:** includes ports in Thailand, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, India.
- **Domestic DAP:** Domestic loading within 1-7 days

Volume

- **FOB:** Minimum 20 metric tons (one standard truckload)
- **DAP:** Minimum 1 metric ton

Pricing mechanism: US\$ per metric ton