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Plastic Scrap Exports Update: Exports in January-October Down 0.06% Year to Year
The U.S. exported 352,368 metric tons of plastic scrap over the first ten months of 2024 -- an estimated 18,546 shipping containers -- down 0.06% from the same period of last year, according to Census Bureau data released Thursday. The Customs value of the 2024 exports -- excluding the value of polyethylene scrap exports to Vietnam due to a Census Bureau database error -- was \$179.7 million, down from \$186.2 million, or 3.5%, in the 2023 months. Plastic scrap exports, and imports, are categorized into polyethylene, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene terephthalate and unsorted "other." There is no category for polypropylene, the world's most widely used plastic after PET and PE. Plastic scrap includes water and beverage bottles, takeout containers, jars, buckets, caps, crates, furniture, pallet wrap, pipe and many other waste items. The top export category by volume in January-October 2024 was "other" at 134,036 mt, up 1.6% from the 2023 period. Canada was the top destination of other plastic scrap exports in the 2024 months at 93,440 mt, 69.7% of the total. PET scrap exports in the first ten months of 2024 totaled 71,530 mt, valued at \$41.9 million; 41,121 mt, or 57.5% of the total, was exported to Mexico, with 28,934 mt coming from San Diego, Calif. PE scrap exports totaled 111,742 mt in January-October 2024, down 15.3% year to year; the top destination in the 2024 months was India at 28,477 mt, 25.5% of the total.

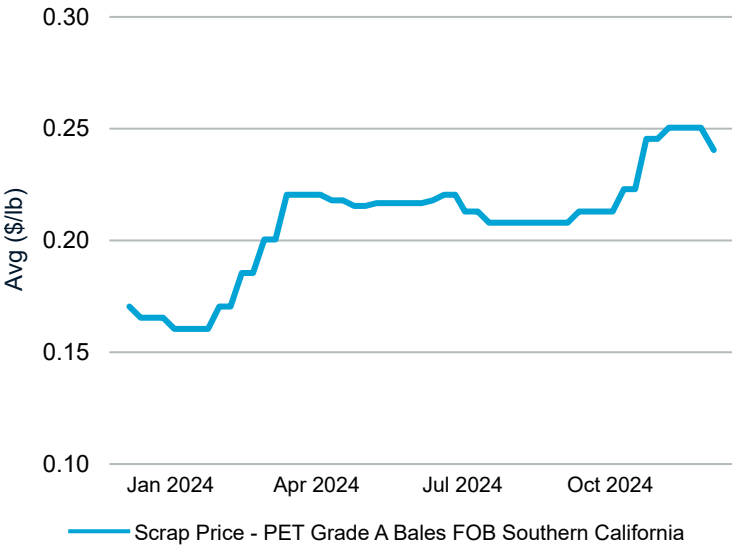
PET Bales, Bid Offerings
New York State: The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority in Utica, New York in a bid offering on Monday sold PET bales at 15.1cts/lb FOB (picked-up) Oneida-Herkimer facility.
California: Grade A (deposit) PET bales were done in a bid offering Tuesday at 24cts/lb delivered Southern California and Northern California, down 1 cent from the previous sale two weeks earlier. Grade B PET bales, including PET waste collected curbside and other sources, were done at 14.5 cts/lb, while Grade B PET bales with thermoforms, such as clamshell takeout containers, were done at 13.25 cts/lb, same terms and delivery locations. The next Golden State PET bale bid offering is set for December 17.

Elsewhere in PET Bales/Scrap: Curbside PET mixed colors (MC) bales were down 1 cent for a second consecutive week on bloated supply in markets east of the Rockies, a typical supply/demand dynamic in the final month of the year as

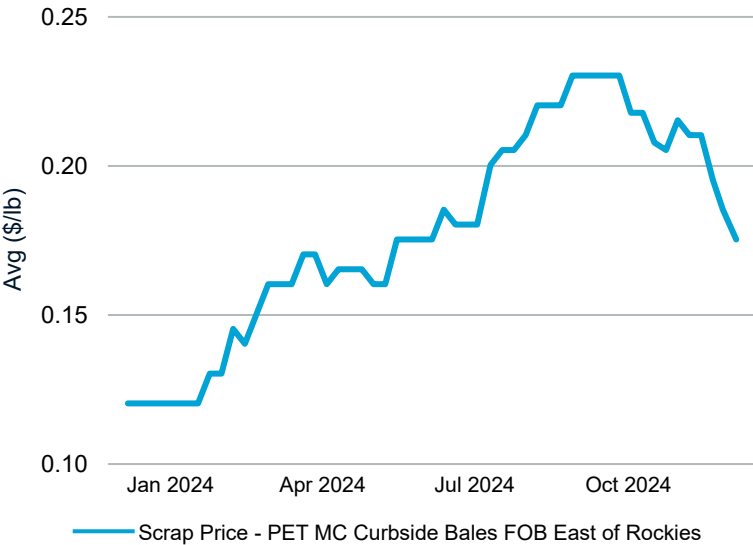
PET (polyethylene terephthalate)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Chg	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Regrind Price - rPET Clear Fiber Del East of Rockies	0.675	0.680	0.678	0.000	0.01	0.6775
Regrind Price - rPET Clear Packing Del East of Rockies	0.675	0.680	0.678	0.000	0.01	0.6775
Regrind Price - rPET Green Fiber Del East of Rockies	0.420	0.470	0.445	0.000	0.00	0.4450
Regrind Price - rPET MC Del East of Rockies	0.240	0.260	0.250	0.000	0.00	0.2500
Repro Price - rPET FDA Clear FOB US South	0.780	0.820	0.800	0.000	0.02	0.8000
Repro Price - rPET Non FDA Green FOB US South	0.420	0.470	0.445	0.000	0.00	0.4450
Scrap Price - PET Grade A Bales FOB Southern California	0.238	0.243	0.240	-0.010	-0.01	0.2400
Scrap Price - PET MC Curbside Bales FOB East of Rockies	0.170	0.180	0.175	-0.010	-0.04	0.1750
Weekly Closing Price - Prime PET Bottle grade, delivered Midwest Rail	0.560	0.600	0.580	0.000	0.00	0.5800

Scrap Price - PET Grade A Bales FOB Southern California



Scrap Price - PET MC Curbside Bales FOB East of Rockies



MRF supply remains steady while recyclers (reclaimers) rPET orders decline. Regionally, bales were available at 17-18cts/lb FOB (picked-up) on the East Coast. Back flush PET purge was steady from late November at 12cts/lb FOB U.S. South. Clear PET lump-and-chunk purge was available in the high-20s cts/lb delivered Florida and the Carolinas.

rPET FLAKE/PELLET: Clear PET preform regrind (with minimal green material) was available at 46cts/lb FOB Southeast. rPET post-consumer flake imported from South America was steady from last week at 67.5-68cts/lb delivered Eastern Seaboard for inland delivery.

PET RESIN/OFFGRADE/RAWS: PET resin prices were unchanged on the week on weak demand during the holiday period during which many buyers and sellers have completed their activity for the year (see price table). Wide spec PET resin was available at 57-58 cts/lb railcar delivered Midwest. “PET demand is low now,” said a supplier. “That’s normal for December. Large savvy buyers bought already out through Q1 [2025], some through Q2.” November North American PET feedstock prices (raws), used to calculate resin pricing for contract business, settled near 61.5-62cts/lb, according to a supplier source said.

Bale Bid offerings

New York State: The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority in Utica, New York in a bid offering Monday sold HDPE natural (dairy) bales at 72.49cts/lb FOB (picked-up) Oneida-Herkimer facility. It also sold ferrous scrap at \$267.26/ton.

PE Bales/Scrap, East of the Rockies, and Ontario, Canada: HDPE natural (dairy) bale prices were up 1 cent this week at 73cts/lb FOB east of the Rockies. HDPE frac melt mixed colors bales were available from a large volume supplier at 12cts/lb also FOB east of the Rockies, unchanged; buying interest was as low as 8cts/lb FOB Midwest with no sellers seen at this number. Bales of lightly shredded HMWPE intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) were available at about 10cts/lb FOB Southeast. “They smelled like they had juice concentrate in them, they came from Florida, maybe orange juice,” explained the buyer. LDPE film post-industrial (PI) scrap was available at 25cts/lb delivered recycler Ontario, Canada (netted to U.S. cents).

PE Bales/Scrap, U.S. West Coast:

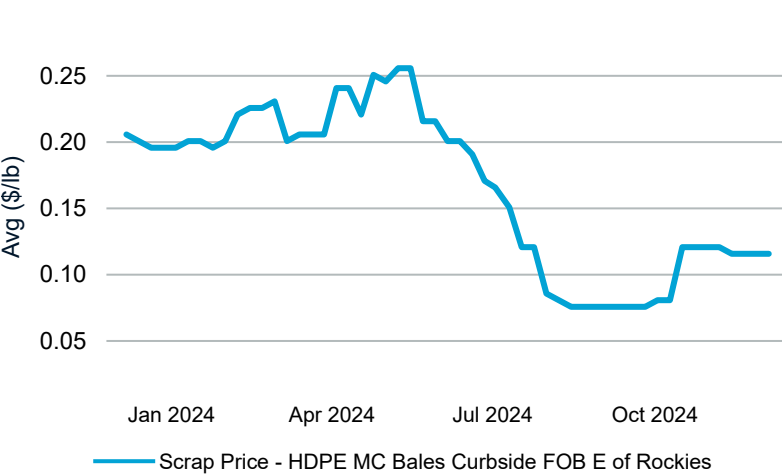
Grade A LDPE film bales (2% maximum mixed colors) were available at 20cts/lb delivered Southern California. Grade B LDPE film bales (25% maximum mixed colors) were available at 5cts/lb FOB Phoenix. Buying interest for HDPE post-industrial natural (dairy) jugs and bottles was at 5cts/lb FOB Arizona plant.

PE REGRIND/REPRO/PCR: HDPE PI 5502 regrind was available at 23cts/lb FOB U.S South. “We’re grinding away,” said a recycler taking in multiple

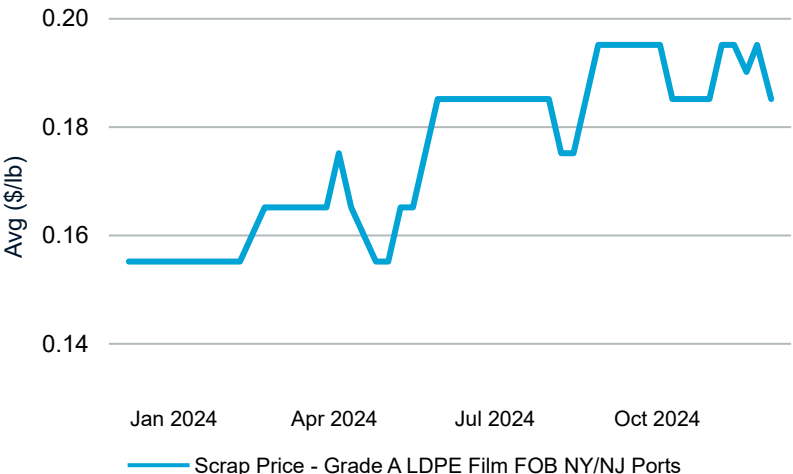
Polyethylene (PE)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Scrap Price - HDPE Nat Bales Curbside FOB E of Rockies	0.720	0.740	0.730	0.010	0.13	0.7300
Scrap Price - HDPE MC Bales Curbside FOB E of Rockies	0.110	0.120	0.115	0.000	-0.01	0.1150
Scrap Price - Grade A LDPE Film FOB NY/NJ Ports	0.180	0.190	0.185	-0.010	-0.01	0.1850
Repro Price - LLDPE Film MC FOB East of Rockies	0.330	0.350	0.340	0.010	0.00	0.3400
Repro Price - LDPE Film MC FOB East of Rockies	0.330	0.350	0.340	0.010	0.00	0.3400
Repro Price - HDPE PCR Natural FOB Southern CA	0.470	0.520	0.495	0.000	0.00	0.4950
Repro Price - HDPE PCR MC FOB Southeast	0.500	0.550	0.525	0.000	0.00	0.5250
Repro Price - HDPE PCR Gray FOB Southern CA	0.550	0.600	0.575	0.000	0.00	0.5750
Repro Price - HDPE Natural PCR FOB Southeast	1.030	1.200	1.115	0.035	0.03	1.1150
Repro Price - HDPE HMW FOB Southeast	0.350	0.390	0.370	0.000	-0.01	0.3700
Repro Price - HDPE Frac Melt Black FOB East of Rockies	0.300	0.320	0.310	0.000	0.00	0.3100
Regrind Price - LDPE Injection MC FOB East of Rockies	0.240	0.250	0.245	0.000	0.00	0.2450
Regrind Price - HDPE PI Frac Melt MC FOB East of Rockies	0.220	0.240	0.230	0.000	-0.01	0.2300
Regrind Price - HDPE Injection Crate MC FOB East of Rockies	0.230	0.250	0.240	-0.010	-0.03	0.2400
Regrind Price - Dirty HDPE HMW Drums FOB Southeast	0.120	0.140	0.130	-0.020	0.00	0.1300

Scrap Price - HDPE MC Bales Curbside FOB E of Rockies



Scrap Price - Grade A LDPE Film FOB NY/NJ Ports



truckloads of HDPE PI scrap arriving daily at his plant. HDPE frac melt natural (dairy) post-consumer resin was available at 120cts/lb FOB east of the Rockies, the high end of the price range. HDPE frac melt mixed colors PCR and HDPE injection black PCR were both available at 50cts/lb FOB east of the Rockies. HDPE mixed colors frac melt regrind was available at 25-27cts/lb delivered Midwest Mississippi River location. HDPE PI natural and mixed colors regrind for pelletizing was available at 20cts/lb delivered Long Beach, Calif. HDPE injection crate regrind was available at 28cts/lb delivered Midwest. HMWPE pellets made from post-consumer intermediate bulk container shred were available at 44cts/lb delivered Iowa. LDPE film PI regrind was available at 24-25cts/lb delivered Ontario, Canada; LDPE film pellet made from this regrind was available at 34-35cts/lb delivered U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes locations.

PRIME/OFFGRADE PE: December HDPE BM HIC was assessed flat at 34cts/lb railcar FOB Houston; some Asia-bound cargo has been fixed at 33cts/lb. HMWPE film was seen at 35cts/lb railcar FOB Houston. HDPE IM for export was around 33cts/lb railcar FOB Houston. Offgrade HDPE frac melt suitable for non-pressure pipe was around 39cts/lb railcar delivered to processor.

PP SCRAP: Curbside PP bales were available for a third consecutive week at 13cts/lb FOB (picked-up) east of the Rockies. Once used PP supersacks were last available at 5cts/lb FOB Midwest.

PP REPRO/REGRIND/PCR: CoPP 12 melt black repro was available at 55cts/lb FOB east of the Rockies. PP 20 melt light grey post-consumer resin was available at 71 cts/lb, also FOB east of the Rockies. CoPP injection post-industrial regrind was available in the mid-20s cts/lb FOB U.S. South.

PRIME/OFFGRADE PP: December HoPP raffia/IM export availability was heard in the low-40s cts/lb railcar FOB Houston, but no transactions have been confirmed. HoPP raffia/IM for Mexico was available in the high 40s cts/lb railcar DAP Laredo, based on indicated monomer spreads.

PS REPRO/REGRIND: Black HIPS post-industrial (PI) regrind and clear GPPS PI regrind were available at 30cts/lb FOB North Carolina, unchanged from mid-November.

PS PRIME/OFFGRADE: Generic prime HIPS was at 85cts/lb and generic prime GPPS was at 78cts/lb railcar delivered, steady from last week.

ABS: ABS regrind and repro prices were steady for a fourth consecutive week (see price table).

Polypropylene (PP)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Regrind Price - CoPP Injection Black FOB East of Rockies	0.220	0.240	0.230	0.000	-0.02	0.2300
Regrind Price - HoPP Injection MC FOB East of Rockies	0.220	0.240	0.230	0.000	-0.02	0.2300
Repro Price - CoPP Injection Black PCR Del East of Rockies	0.650	0.710	0.680	-0.020	0.05	0.6800
Repro Price - HoPP Injection Black FOB East of Rockies	0.320	0.340	0.330	0.000	-0.02	0.3300

Polystyrene (PS)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Repro Price - HIPS White FOB East of Rockies	0.450	0.470	0.460	0.000	0.00	0.4600
Repro Price - HIPS Black FOB East of Rockies	0.440	0.460	0.450	0.000	0.00	0.4500
Repro Price - GPPS White FOB East of Rockies	0.270	0.300	0.285	0.000	0.00	0.2850
Repro Price - GPPS Clear FOB East of Rockies	0.270	0.300	0.285	0.000	0.00	0.2850
Repro Price - GPPS Black FOB East of Rockies	0.270	0.320	0.295	0.000	0.00	0.2950
Regrind Price - HIPS White Del Midwest	0.290	0.310	0.300	0.000	0.01	0.3000
Regrind Price - HIPS MC Del Midwest	0.260	0.280	0.270	0.000	0.00	0.2700
Regrind Price - GPPS MC Del Midwest	0.180	0.200	0.190	0.000	0.00	0.1900
Regrind Price - GPPS Clear Del Midwest	0.180	0.200	0.190	0.000	0.00	0.1900

Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Regrind Price - ABS General Purpose MC Del Midwest	0.220	0.320	0.270	0.000	0.00	0.2700
Repro Price - ABS General Purpose Black Del Midwest	0.420	0.440	0.430	0.000	0.00	0.4300

Nylon

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Repro Price - Nylon 6 De-Lustered MC FOB US South	0.260	0.270	0.265	-0.020	-0.02	0.2650
Repro Price - Nylon 6 Solution-Dyed Del East of Mississippi	0.480	0.510	0.495	-0.020	-0.02	0.4950
Scrap Price - Nylon 6 Natural Fiber, Bales FOB US South	0.250	0.300	0.275	-0.020	-0.02	0.2750
Scrap Price - Nylon 66 Natural Fiber, Bales Ex-Works US South	0.750	0.800	0.775	-0.020	-0.02	0.7750

PVC (polyvinyl chloride)

Product (\$/lb)	Low	High	Avg	1-Week Change	4-Week Change	Monthly Avg
Regrind Price - PVC PI MC Del Southeast	0.100	0.110	0.105	0.000	0.00	0.1050

Styrene Chain: December spot styrene was unchanged on Wednesday at 43.09-44.00cts/lb (\$950-970/mt). Spot benzene was higher. December was bid at 278cts/gal DDP HTC and had no offers. January was bid at 286cts/gal and was offered at 295cts/gal DDP HTC. February was bid at 290cts/gal and was offered at 299cts/gal.

NYLON: Nylon PA66 demand was weak at the start of the month. "December sales are slow, like it was in November," a supplier lamented. "Very few incoming emails or telephone calls for PA66." The following PA66 post-industrial scrap material was available, ex-works Tennessee: near prime pellets, 113cts/lb; natural blended pellets, 95-97cts/lb; bright fiber bales, 95cts/lb; mixed luster fiber bales, 87cts/lb; bright regrind, 83cts/lb; floor sweeps (pellets, limited dirt), 50cts/lb.

PVC: Garden hose PVC regrind used to make footwear soles was last available in the mid-20s cts/lb delivered border locations for export to Mexico. No new PVC pipe regrind business was seen this week.

OPIS News: Dow Chemical Sees Continued Plastic Packaging Demand Resilience in 2025
Dow Chemical remains optimistic about demand growth for consumer packaging in 2025, although the fourth quarter of 2024 has brought an unexpected price decrease for U.S. polyethylene prices, Chief Financial Officer Jeff Tate said on Tuesday. Addressing Q4 market conditions at the Citi Basic Materials Conference in New York City, Tate said Dow was seeing normal seasonal slowdowns in its building and construction applications. The company had expected flat PE pricing for its Packaging & Specialty Plastics segment during the quarter, but instead saw U.S. PE contract prices drop by 3cts/lb in October. "We see some resilient areas of demand in packaging," Tate said. "Flexible food and beverage [packaging] has been very strong, especially in North America." He also noted robust demand for wire and cable products, driven by energy transition spending, and silicone products for electronics. Dow's construction and durables end-markets remain under pressure, but the company is looking for interest rate cuts in the U.S. and stimulus measures in China to bring positive trends in 2025. The company is reviewing specific assets in its durables-focused Industrial Intermediates & Infrastructure segment, representing about 20% of segment revenues. Tate highlighted three main drivers of earnings improvement in 2025. The company has penciled in \$1 billion in Ebitda growth versus 2024, including a \$300 million benefit from having its TX-8 cracker in Freeport, Texas, and its Glycol-2 unit in Louisiana back online after unplanned outages this year.

Dow expects another \$400 million bump to earnings from 3% volume growth across the business. That includes volume growth in Dow's plastic packaging business, which typically grows at 1.2 to 1.4 times GDP, and new silicones end markets, Tate said. The final \$300 million of projected earnings growth is related to capital investments, including additional U.S. Gulf polymers capacity that will absorb some of Dow's surplus ethylene. Looking further ahead, Tate said Dow's ethylene capacity additions in Fort Saskatchewan, Canada, which will become the world's first net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions cracker complex, are on schedule and on budget. The first phase is expected online in 2027, bringing an additional 1.3 million metric tons of ethylene capacity. The second phase, a 600,000 mt/year expansion, is expected online in 2029. Dow is spending \$6.5 billion on that project, \$1.5 billion of which will be offset by incentives from the Canadian and local governments.

--Reporting by David Barry, dbarry@opisnet.com; Editing by Adam Burkin,

OPIS News: Shell, Equinor to Merge UK Oil and Gas Production Portfolios
Shell and Equinor announced Thursday that they have reached a deal to merge their U.K. offshore oil and gas production assets, forming a new company which will become the largest independent producer in the North Sea. The two companies said that they will jointly own the new entity on a 50/50 basis, but did not comment on the financials of the deal. Shell said that the new company will invest to provide a long-term future for individual fields and platforms in the U.K. North Sea region. These include Equinor's Mariner, Rosebank and Buzzard, and Shell's Shearwater, Penguins, Gannet, Nelson, Pierce, Jackdaw, Victory, Clair and Schiehallion. Shell currently produces over 100,000 oil equivalent barrels/day in the U.K., whereas Equinor produces 38,000 boe/d, so the new company is expected to produce around 140,000 boe/d in 2025. "With the once prolific basin now maturing and production naturally declining, the combination of portfolios and expertise will allow continued economic recovery of this vital U.K. resource," Shell said. Meanwhile, Shell will keep its Fife natural gas liquids plant, the St Fergus gas terminal, floating wind projects and will continue as technical developer of the Acorn carbon capture and storage project in Scotland. Several analysts said that the deal brings tax synergies because it combines Shell's mature portfolio with Equinor's higher growth assets. "Equinor currently has £6 billion (\$7.6 billion) of tax losses, while Shell's position is significantly smaller due its higher production rate and hence higher annual loss utilisation. The combined entity will utilise the combined tax loss position more quickly - a significant value drive," Barclays said. "With the U.K. not seen as a major growth market, this combination appears to make strategic sense in that it allows the two companies to pool resources and continue to grow while allocating less focus/capital to the region," RBC Capital Markets said.

--Reporting by Jaime Llinares Taboada, jllinares@opisnet.com; Editing by Rob Sheridan, rsheridan@opisnet.com

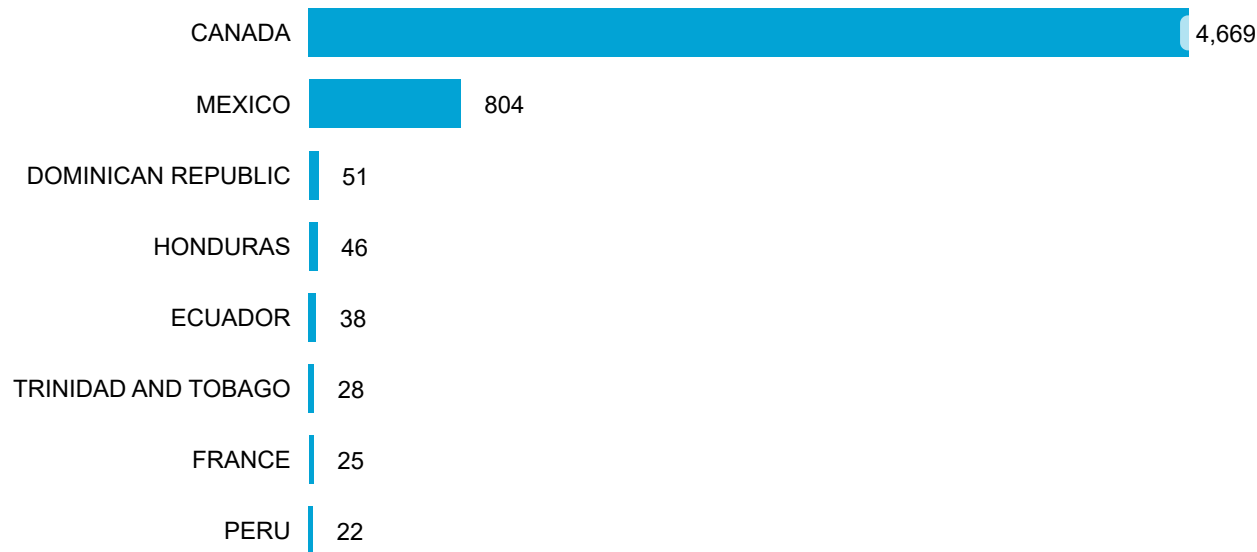
OPIS News: Applegreen Plans Expansion of Retail Fuel, EV Charging Networks
Fuel and convenience retailer Applegreen, of Dublin, Ireland, plans to invest about \$1 billion over the next five years to expand its business in Ireland, the U.K. and the U.S., according to multiple overseas reports. The company reportedly said it plans to expand its fuel stations as well as its electric vehicle charging network in Ireland and the U.K. Applegreen Electric's website says it has a growing network of about 1,000 EV fast chargers. Applegreen's website says that it operates more than 600 retail fuel sites across Ireland, the U.K. and America. In the U.S., Applegreen Travel Plazas has more than 80 sites in the Midwest and Northeast.

--Reporting by Donna Harris, dharris@opisnet.com; Editing by Michael Kelly, mkelly@opisnet.com

Recycled Plastics Weekly Trade Spotlight - Polyethylene

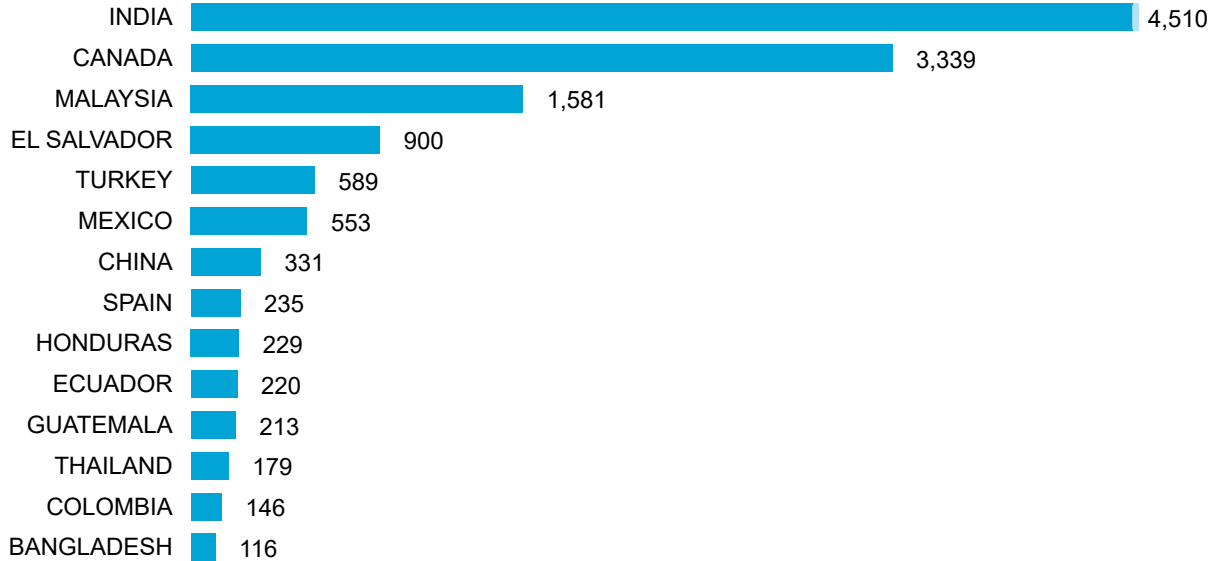
US PE Scrap Imports (metric tons)

October 2024



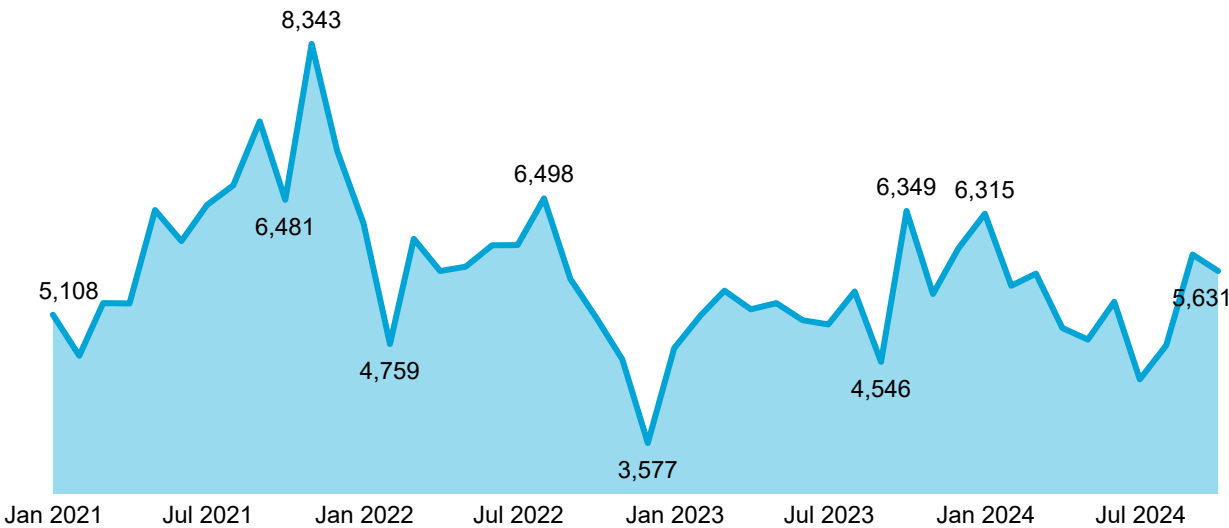
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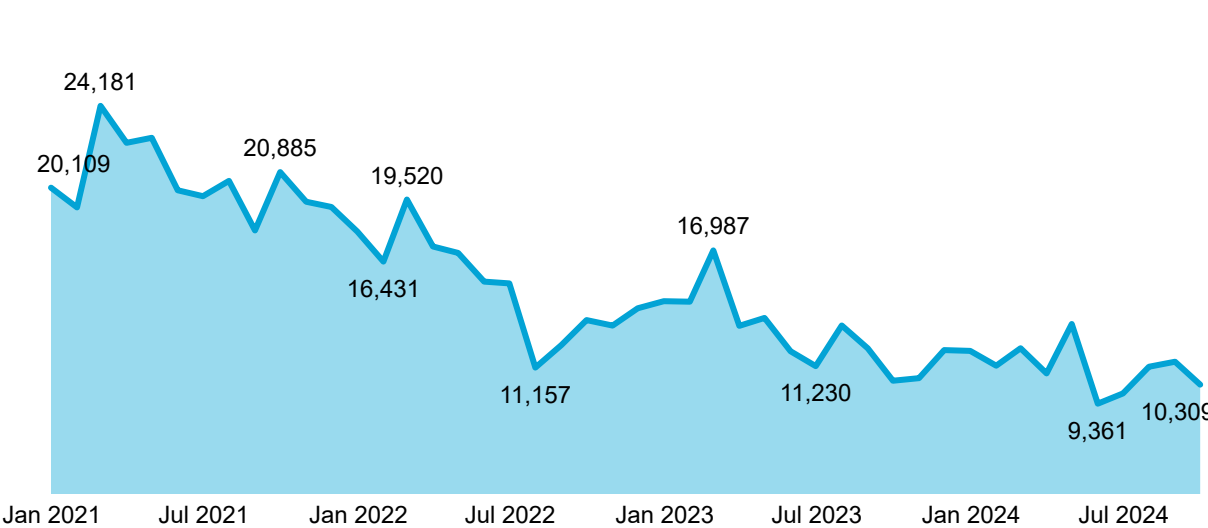
Total US PE Scrap Imports (metric tons)

October 2024



Total US PE Scrap Exports (metric tons)

October 2024



Source: Latest Available Data from USA Trade Online/US Census Bureau, Department of Commerce