United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

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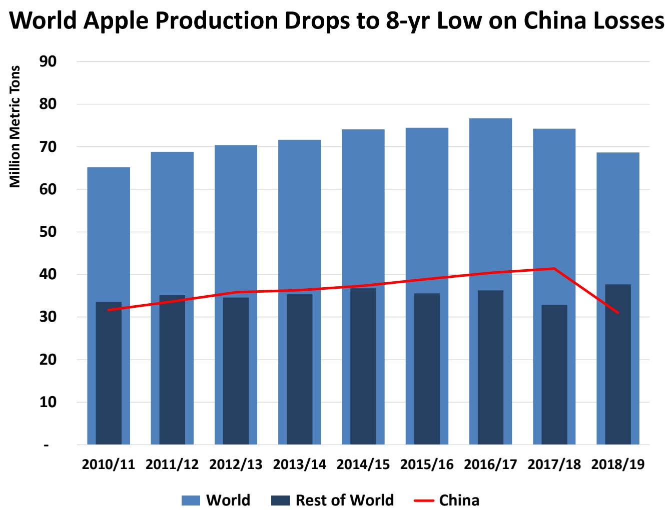
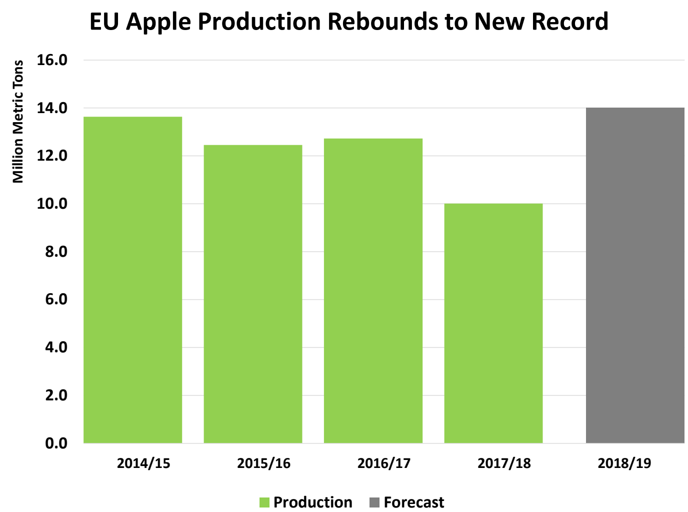
Fresh Apples, Grapes, and Pears: World Markets and Trade





FRESH APPLES

World production is forecast down to its lowest level in 8 years, falling 5.6 million metric tons (tons) to 68.6 million, as weather-induced losses in China more than offset gains in the European Union. Exports are projected down to 6.0 million tons on lower shipments by China and Iran, while imports are expected to remain nearly unchanged at 5.8 million.

China's production is projected to plummet 25 percent to 31.0 million tons, its lowest level in 9 years. Losses resulting from a severe April frost in major producing provinces were further magnified by heavy rain and hail in May. Exports are projected lower on reduced supplies, down 18 percent to 1.1 million tons, while imports are forecast up 7,000 tons to 75,000.

EU production is forecast to surge 40 percent to a record 14.0 million tons as orchards rebound from last year's severe spring frost and yields improve due to a mild winter. Rejuvenated supplies are expected to drive exports up 80 percent to 1.4 million tons, but also limit imports to 493,000 tons.

U.S. production is expected to remain nearly flat at 5.0 million tons as losses resulting from lower fruitset in top-grower Washington offsets gains in the majority of apple-growing states. The National Agricultural Statistics Service surveyed industry and published a U.S. forecast for apple production in the August 2018 *Crop Production* report. Exports are forecast down over 150,000 tons to 850,000 on lower shipments to top markets including Mexico, which placed a retaliatory tariff of 20 percent on U.S. apples effective June 5. Imports are expected to rise 16,000 tons to 150,000 on higher shipments from Canada and New Zealand as domestic supplies are flat.

Russia's output is projected up 143,000 tons to 1.5 million as commercial production rises over 100,000 tons on higher yield, surpassing non-commercial, or household production. Government support has spurred investment, from planting new orchards to improving orchard maintenance, resulting in commercial production exceeding non-commercial production in consecutive years for the first time since 2008/09. Higher supplies are expected to dampen imports, down slightly to 815,000 tons.

Chile's production is forecast nearly unchanged at 1.3 million on reduced planting area. This will be the sixth straight year of declining acreage as growers continue to switch orchards to more profitable crops such as cherries and tree nuts. Exports are also expected to decline, contracting 30,000 tons to 720,000 on lower supplies.

Mexico's production is set to decline for the third straight year, slipping over 50,000 tons to 660,000 as a late frost affected orchards in the states of Coahuila and Durango. In spite of lower supplies, imports are expected to contract slightly to 275,000 tons as a 20-percent retaliatory tariff on U.S. product limits imports.

Argentina's production is expected to rise slightly to 530,000 tons on higher yield while acreage continues its downward trend. High input costs and low returns continue to pressure growers into removing orchards from production or converting them to more profitable crops such as grapes. Higher output is forecast to lift exports to 100,000 tons.

New Zealand's production is forecast to continue its upward trend, rising 15,000 tons to 580,000, as good growing conditions and new plantings come into production. This will be the fourth record high in 7 years. Orchard expansion has been growing at an estimated rate of 3 to 4 percent annually, and nearly half of all planted area is now comprised of "club," or patented and trademarked, varieties. In line with production, exports are also projected to reach a new record, rising to 390,000 tons as shipments likely shift from the European Union with its record crop back towards Asian markets.

South Africa's production is projected up 36,000 tons to 850,000 as normal weather conditions and recuperating water supplies aid the recovery of orchards after years of drought. Exports are forecast to rise 21,000 tons to 550,000 as improved apple quality leads to greater exportable supplies.

Turkey's production is expected to rise to 3.0 million tons due to good growing conditions in the winter and during bloom and fruitset. Greater supplies are slated to boost exports 31,000 tons to 220,000, especially with higher shipments to Iraq.

India's production is forecast to rebound from last year's weather-affected crop, rising almost 400,000 tons to 2.3 million. The ongoing ban on China imports is expected to pressure imports downward to 225,000 tons.

Key Revisions to 2017/18

Country	Attribute	Previous	Current	Change	Reason
Belarus	Imports	250	223	-27	Reduced imports from the European Union
China	Production	44,500	41,390	-3,110	Revised official data
	Exports	1,200	1,280	80	Greater shipments to Russia
Iran	Exports	700	725	25	Larger shipments to Iraq
Iraq	Imports	360	307	-53	Lower shipments from Turkey
South Africa	Exports	485	529	44	Larger exportable supplies on improved availability of water
Turkey	Exports	150	189	39	Higher shipments to Russia
Ukraine	Imports	35	5	-30	Lower imports from EU
United States	Imports	170	134	-36	Lower shipments from Chile

*Note: All figures are in thousand metric tons.

FRESH TABLE GRAPES

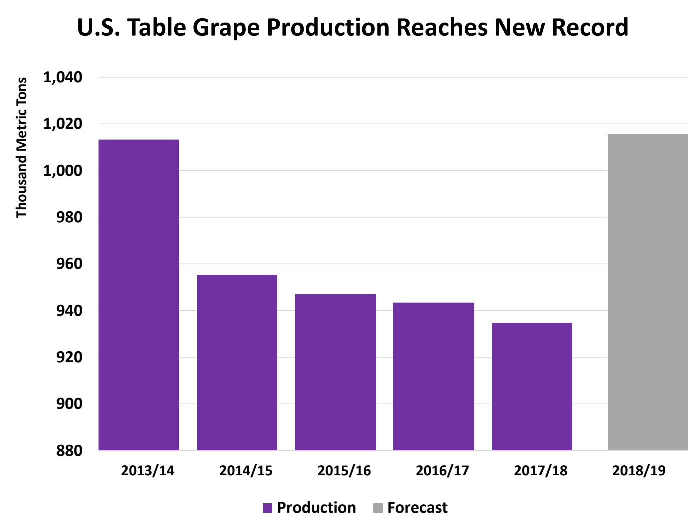
World production is expected to decline 1.2 million tons to 22.2 million due to weather-induced losses in China and Turkey. Lower global supplies are expected to keep exports nearly flat at 3.0 million tons, while lower demand in the United States and Russia contributes to slightly reduced imports, forecast at 2.9 million.

China's production is projected down over 1.0 million tons to 9.5 million as a severe frost caused significant crop losses in Hebei and Shaanxi Provinces. Reduced supplies are expected to lower exports 41,000 tons to 220,000. Despite production losses, imports are forecast lower to 200,000 tons as high retaliatory tariffs suppress shipments from the United States. The United States is China's top Northern Hemisphere supplier.

Turkey's production is forecast down 220,000 tons to 1.9 million due to heavy rains in August in the Aegean region. Lower supplies are expected to drop exports 45,000 tons to 235,000, as lower output reduces shipments to Russia and the EU.

EU production is expected to rise over 100,000 tons to 1.6 million as vineyards in Italy, the leading EU producer, rebound from last year's rain-damaged crop. EU planting area is again forecast up as growers replace vineyards with seedless varieties in response to consumer demand. Though slight, the increase builds on last year's growth, creating a new upward trend following a decade of decline. With imports little changed, greater supplies go towards domestic consumption and exports are nearly flat.

U.S. production is forecast to rise 80,000 tons to a record 1.0 million on good growing conditions. The National Agricultural Statistics Service surveyed industry and published a U.S. forecast for grape production in the August 2018 *Crop Production* report. Production gains and a good-quality crop are expected to lift exports only slightly to 340,000 tons as most of the additional supply supports the trend of higher domestic consumption. Higher supplies are expected to lower demand for imports, down 38,000 tons to 580,000.



Peru's production is projected to rebound from last year's rain-damaged crop, bumping up 35,000 tons to 658,000 and continuing its upward trend. Greater supplies are forecast to propel exports over 80,000 tons to 360,000 on higher shipments to Northern Hemisphere markets.

Chile's production is estimated to ease 10,000 tons to 905,000 on a slight decline in growing area. Exports are expected to parallel production, slipping to 720,000 tons on lower supplies.

Russia's production is forecast up to 31,000 tons, a slight improvement over last year as planting area remains stable. Imports are expected to fall 35,00 tons to 352,000 on lower demand during the winter season due to the higher cost of Southern Hemisphere supplies.

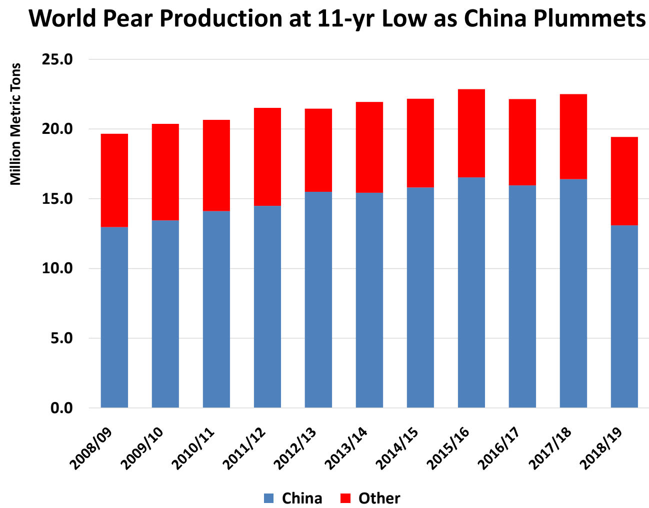
India's production is projected down 100,000 tons to 2.7 million as delayed rains pushed back pruning. Despite reduced supplies, exports are expected to improve slightly to 180,000 tons on stable demand in the EU during the winter and early spring.

Key Revisions to 2017/18

Country	Attribute	Previous	Current	Change	Reason
China	Production	11,200	10,500	-700	Revised official data
India	Production	3,000	2,800	-200	Damage from excessive rain
European Union	Imports	635	685	50	Higher imports from Egypt and Moldova
Hong Kong	Imports	230	250	20	Higher shipments from Chile and Australia
Australia	Exports	140	110	-30	Lower supplies due to high temperatures affecting yield
*Note: All figures are in thousand metric tons.					

FRESH PEARS

World production is forecast down 3.1 million tons to 19.4 million due to a damaging April frost in China. Exports are expected to contract slightly to 1.8 million tons on lower supplies, while imports are projected to remain flat at 1.7 million.



China's production is projected down 20 percent to 13.1 million tons due to a severe April freeze during bloom, especially in the major growing provinces of Hebei and Shandong. Reflecting smaller supplies, exports are forecast to drop over 20 percent to 430,000 tons, while imports are expected up slightly to 10,000 tons.

EU production is forecast to rise again, up almost 140,000 tons to 2.5 million on good growing conditions in the Netherlands and Poland. Higher output is expected to boost exports 20,000 tons to 365,000, including higher shipments to China. Greater market share in China is expected as the EU fills the supply gap left from anticipated lower U.S. shipments due to retaliatory tariffs. Imports are forecast down to 185,000 tons on higher domestic supplies.

U.S. production is expected to remain nearly unchanged at 667,000 tons as gains in Washington and Oregon offset losses incurred in California from a freeze during bloom and increased incidences of fire blight disease. The National Agricultural Statistics Service surveyed industry and published a U.S. forecast for pear production in the August 2018 *Crop Production* report. Exports are expected slightly higher at 125,000 tons on stronger demand from Mexico, while higher shipments from Argentina are expected to lift imports to 85,000 tons.

Argentina's production is projected higher to 580,000 tons, up 30,000 on improved yield as planted area continues its decline. Exports are forecast up 10,000 tons to 330,000 on higher demand in Brazil. For both production and exports, this year marks a second straight year of gains following several years of decline, however, the industry remains hampered by high input costs and its inability to attract investment.

Chile's production is expected to slip 10,000 tons to 252,000, a decline for the second straight year as planted area contracts while yield remains normal. Exports are forecast down 5,000 tons to 125,000 on lower output.

South Africa's production is forecast up to 420,000 tons on good growing conditions, including availability of irrigation water. Planted area will expand as the industry starts recovering from the recent drought. Prior to 2018/19, planting area had expanded 7 of the 8 previous years. The larger crop is expected to lift exports 10,000 tons to 240,000.

Russia's production is projected nearly flat at 211,000 tons on normal yield and unchanged planting area. With 95 percent of pears grown for non-commercial use, retailers depend heavily on imports; however, pear sensitivity to weather and pests is discouraging investment in production and is shifting commercial growers' attention towards apple cultivation. Underscoring retailer import-dependency, imports are forecast lower to 270,000 tons on lower demand as consumers shift to less expensive fruit.

Key Revisions to 2017/18

Country	Attribute	Previous	Current	Change	Reason
China	Production	19,000	16,410	-2,590	Revised official data
European Union	Production	2,336	2,386	51	Higher-than-expected production in Italy and Spain
	Imports	215	197	-18	Greater domestic supplies
India	Production	350	280	-70	Rain during bloom
Belarus	Imports	150	133	-17	Lower imports from the EU
Argentina	Exports	290	320	30	Higher shipments to Russia, the United States, and the European Union
*Note: All figures are in thousand metric tons.					

For additional information, please contact Elaine Protzman at 202-720-5588, or *elaine.protzman@usda.gov*

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Marketing Years:

Apples - The United States and Mexico are on an August-July marketing year. All other Northern Hemisphere countries are on a July-June marketing year. Southern Hemisphere countries are on a calendar year indicated as the second year of the split year.

Table Grapes - The United States and Mexico are on a May-April marketing year. All other Northern Hemisphere countries are on a June-May marketing year. As of this report, the Southern Hemisphere country of Peru is now on an October-September marketing year, along with Argentina, Chile, and South Africa.

Pears - Northern Hemisphere countries are on a July-June marketing year. Southern Hemisphere countries are on a calendar year indicated as the second year of the split year.

Apples, Fresh: Production, Supply and Distribution in Selected Countries

(1,000 Metric Tons)

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Dec 2018/19
Production						
China	36,300	37,350	38,900	40,393	41,390	31,000
European Union	11,865	13,636	12,453	12,723	10,014	14,009
United States	4,690	5,067	4,521	4,957	5,018	5,048
Turkey	2,930	2,289	2,740	2,900	2,750	3,000
Iran	2,413	2,500	2,799	2,799	2,799	2,799
India	2,498	2,498	2,520	2,258	1,920	2,300
Russia	1,417	1,409	1,311	1,509	1,360	1,503
Chile	1,310	1,210	1,335	1,310	1,300	1,250
Ukraine	1,085	1,180	1,099	1,099	1,099	1,099
Brazil	1,379	1,265	1,049	1,049	1,049	1,049
Other	5,735	5,688	5,732	5,680	5,532	5,588
Total	71,621	74,091	74,459	76,677	74,230	68,645
Fresh Dom. Consumption						
China	31,540	33,470	33,826	34,682	35,378	27,025
European Union	7,353	7,781	7,544	7,749	6,532	7,787
United States	2,498	2,702	2,538	2,787	2,625	2,838
Turkey	2,639	2,064	2,532	2,576	2,452	2,671
Iran	2,207	2,213	2,365	2,566	2,075	2,581
India	2,662	2,681	2,311	2,231	1,919	2,213
Russia	2,116	1,803	1,646	1,583	1,807	2,203
Other	9,838	9,975	10,382	10,280	9,829	9,817
Total	60,852	62,687	63,144	64,454	62,617	57,134
For Processing						
European Union	3,562	4,139	3,601	3,817	3,247	5,345
China	3,850	3,200	4,000	4,400	4,800	3,000
United States	1,562	1,492	1,393	1,473	1,519	1,510
Chile	295	332	320	310	306	291
Argentina	250	300	230	232	202	191
Canada	149	151	142	172	157	160
New Zealand	114	161	141	108	121	120
Other	869	805	778	859	687	404
Total	10,651	10,580	10,605	11,371	11,037	11,020
Imports						
Russia	1,254	820	746	657	859	815
European Union	622	400	451	424	528	493
Belarus	278	724	657	544	223	400
Mexico	227	314	218	267	287	275
Iraq	189	202	296	238	307	230
India	197	204	202	370	249	225
Canada	222	217	230	221	222	220
Egypt	158	201	267	145	72	190
Bangladesh	148	151	204	245	232	185
Saudi Arabia	119	150	162	174	154	175
Other	2,571	2,714	2,929	2,895	2,794	2,634
Total	5,983	6,099	6,362	6,180	5,928	5,842
Exports						
European Union	1,573	1,792	1,590	1,488	762	1,370
China	934	748	1,151	1,381	1,280	1,050
United States	843	1,037	778	868	1,008	850
Chile	820	628	765	716	750	720
South Africa	382	466	511	553	529	550
New Zealand	308	329	347	345	375	390
Turkey	193	128	109	215	189	220
Iran	206	288	435	233	725	218
Serbia	143	153	233	239	156	190
Argentina	144	106	91	78	90	100
Other	460	868	492	394	392	378
Total	6,006	6,542	6,502	6,510	6,255	6,036

Note: The United States and Mexico are on an August-July marketing year. All other Northern Hemisphere countries are on a July-June marketing year. Southern Hemisphere countries are on a calendar year indicated as the second year of the split year.

Grapes, Fresh Table: Production, Supply and Distribution in Selected Countries

(1,000 Metric Tons)

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Dec 2018/19
Production						
China	8,085	8,800	10,000	10,100	10,500	9,450
India	2,585	2,823	2,590	2,784	2,800	2,700
Turkey	2,200	2,350	2,005	2,350	2,120	1,900
Uzbekistan	1,441	1,579	1,580	1,580	1,580	1,580
European Union	1,816	1,638	1,753	1,718	1,453	1,557
United States	1,013	955	947	943	935	1,015
Brazil	1,454	1,498	985	985	985	985
Chile	1,055	939	868	917	915	905
Peru	500	500	540	611	623	658
South Africa	252	291	285	334	308	330
Other	1,124	1,212	1,164	1,058	1,143	1,072
Total	21,525	22,586	22,716	23,381	23,361	22,151
Fresh Dom. Consumption						
China	8,212	8,899	10,022	10,080	10,454	9,430
India	2,448	2,752	2,220	2,356	2,394	2,301
European Union	2,241	2,131	2,280	2,279	2,059	2,166
Turkey	1,997	2,094	1,831	2,178	1,841	1,666
Uzbekistan	1,422	1,521	1,474	1,483	1,454	1,510
United States	1,117	1,113	1,150	1,189	1,217	1,255
Brazil	1,460	1,495	982	964	973	970
Russia	407	389	346	228	412	382
Korea, South	329	324	293	294	293	309
Peru	273	222	231	294	336	296
Other	1,605	1,531	1,563	1,561	1,684	1,584
Total	21,509	22,471	22,390	22,906	23,117	21,868
Imports						
European Union	577	604	615	649	685	688
United States	519	547	530	593	618	580
Russia	349	302	256	213	387	352
Hong Kong	210	215	232	229	250	225
China	231	226	249	237	215	200
Canada	180	175	170	176	180	181
Thailand	87	89	131	157	143	120
Indonesia	46	48	49	68	81	85
Mexico	77	69	67	76	81	80
Vietnam	51	51	76	14	100	75
Other	329	360	369	397	370	358
Total	2,656	2,686	2,744	2,807	3,110	2,944
Exports						
Chile	728	761	688	731	731	720
Peru	228	280	297	311	276	360
United States	416	389	328	347	336	340
South Africa	226	264	255	304	280	300
Turkey	204	257	175	173	280	235
China	104	127	227	257	261	220
India	142	76	160	202	170	180
Hong Kong	164	172	190	212	214	170
Mexico	150	152	164	156	196	148
Australia	80	84	110	107	110	137
Other	213	216	238	237	246	187
Total	2,655	2,777	2,830	3,035	3,099	2,997

Note: The United States and Mexico are on a May-April marketing year. All other Northern Hemisphere countries are on a June-May marketing year. Southern Hemisphere producer countries of Argentina, Chile, Peru, and South Africa are on an October-September marketing year, and Australia and Brazil are on a calendar year indicated as the second year of the split year. Some countries may include raisin-type and/or table-type grapes.

Pears, Fresh: Production, Supply and Distribution in Selected Countries

(1,000 Metric Tons)

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Dec 2018/19
Production						
China	15,440	15,820	16,530	15,960	16,410	13,100
European Union	2,523	2,566	2,513	2,340	2,386	2,525
United States	795	754	729	668	663	667
Argentina	690	590	580	540	550	580
Turkey	415	305	415	440	420	450
South Africa	414	411	430	432	408	420
India	317	317	323	340	280	340
Japan	295	277	278	278	278	278
Chile	267	290	267	290	262	252
Korea, South	282	303	261	238	266	214
Other	503	552	536	618	592	595
Total	21,940	22,184	22,861	22,144	22,516	19,421
Fresh Dom. Consumption						
China	13,646	13,848	14,431	13,938	14,325	11,480
European Union	2,008	2,027	2,048	1,965	1,958	2,027
United States	409	414	387	406	399	411
Russia	528	400	397	390	411	405
Turkey	392	282	381	414	366	395
India	333	335	299	326	261	314
Japan	294	276	277	277	276	276
Brazil	227	201	162	171	172	185
Korea, South	258	273	228	202	223	179
Indonesia	96	86	92	155	180	165
Other	1,087	1,180	1,221	1,242	1,244	1,282
Total	19,277	19,321	19,923	19,486	19,814	17,119
For Processing						
China	1,500	1,650	1,700	1,520	1,550	1,200
European Union	300	294	356	275	281	318
United States	265	255	262	209	222	216
Argentina	186	153	170	160	140	150
South Africa	158	160	132	119	136	137
Chile	65	58	56	57	57	53
Russia	20	9	9	55	47	42
Turkey	10	7	10	10	10	10
Korea, South	0	6	10	10	11	7
India	0	0	7	7	6	7
Other	36	6	6	7	8	7
Total	2,539	2,599	2,718	2,430	2,468	2,147
Imports						
Russia	431	265	267	252	285	270
European Union	255	221	224	209	197	185
Brazil	208	179	147	156	157	170
Indonesia	96	86	92	155	180	165
Belarus	60	186	151	152	133	150
United States	82	89	76	73	79	85
Hong Kong	64	72	76	68	73	80
Other	505	538	585	591	597	604
Total	1,700	1,637	1,617	1,656	1,701	1,709
Exports						
China	299	332	407	509	543	430
European Union	470	417	310	309	345	365
Argentina	409	333	310	280	320	330
South Africa	207	205	250	266	230	240
Chile	117	144	129	152	130	125
United States	203	175	156	126	122	125
Belarus	38	163	122	92	83	85
Other	65	67	73	69	101	97
Total	1,808	1,836	1,758	1,800	1,874	1,797

Note: Northern Hemisphere countries are on a July-June marketing year. Southern Hemisphere countries are on a calendar year indicated as the second year of the split year.