



Rice Outlook: February 2022

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Rice Outlook monthly tables, in Excel format, can be found on the Rice Outlook report page on USDA's Economic Research Service website.

U.S. 2021/22 Rice Export Forecast Lowered 1.0 Million Cwt

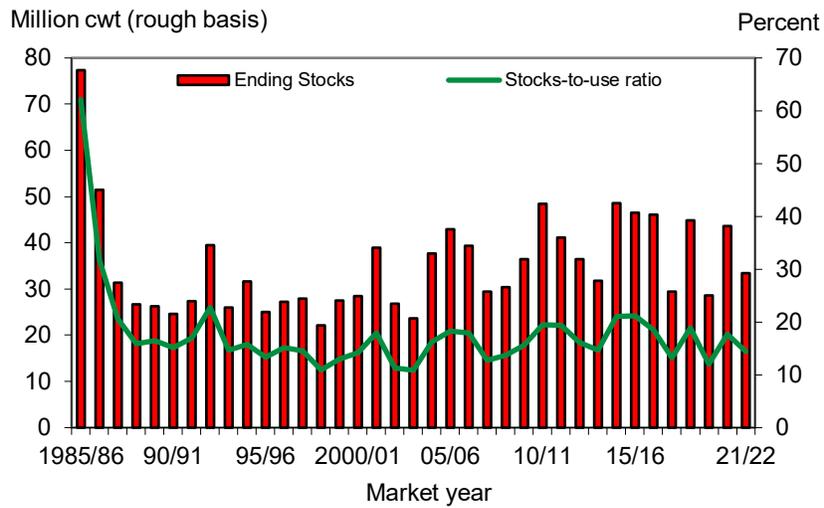
This month, both the 2021/22 U.S. import and export forecasts were lowered slightly, resulting in a higher projected carryout. The 2021/22 import forecast was reduced 0.5 million hundredweight (cwt) to 30.5 million, with medium- and short-grain accounting for all of the reduction. The all-rice export forecast was lowered 1.0 million cwt to 87.0 million, all medium- and short-grain milled rice. On balance, these supply and use revisions raised the ending stocks forecast 0.5 million cwt to 33.5 million cwt, still 23 percent below a year earlier. The 2021/22 season-average farm price (SAFP) forecasts were raised for both classes of rice, increasing the all-rice SAFP 60 cents to \$15.70 per cwt. In late-January, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service reported revised monthly cash prices and marketings for 2020/21 that raised the 2020/21 SAFP for medium- and short-grain rice in California and for the United States, as well as boosting the all-rice SAFP.

In the global rice market, the 2021/22 production forecast was increased 0.4 million tons to a record 510.3 million tons (milled basis). Upward production revisions were made for Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and the Philippines, while production forecasts for Brazil, Chile, Cuba, and Sri Lanka were lowered. Global rice consumption and residual use in 2021/22 is projected to be a record 510.4 million tons, up 0.1 million tons from the previous forecast, with forecasts raised for Ethiopia, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. The 2021/22 global ending stocks forecast was raised 0.3 million tons to 186.3 million, with ending stocks forecasts raised for Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and United States.

Global rice trade in calendar year 2022 is projected at 50.9 million tons (milled basis), up almost 1.5 million tons from the previous forecast, with India and Pakistan accounting for most of the upward revision in exports. China's and Colombia's 2022 import forecasts were revised up. Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's trading prices for most grades of regular (non-specialty) milled rice increased 7-9 percent, while Vietnam's quotes declined slightly. U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled- and rough-rice increased over the past month as well.

Figure 1

U.S. rice ending stocks in 2021/22 are projected to decline by more than 23 percent



Cwt = Hundredweight.

Sources: USDA, Economic Research Service, *Rice Yearbook* dataset; 1985/86–2018/19; USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural*

Domestic Outlook

U.S. 2021/22 Rice Import Forecast Lowered 0.5 Million Cwt to 30.5 Million Cwt

The U.S. 2021/22 all-rice import forecast was lowered almost 2 percent to 30.5 million, more than 10 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2018/19, the last full market year prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Medium- and short-grain account for all of the downward revision in imports.

Combined medium- and short-grain U.S. rice imports are projected at 6.5 million cwt, down 0.5 million cwt from the previous forecast and 3 percent below a year earlier. This month's downward revision was based on the expected timing of Puerto Rico's rice imports in 2021/22. Puerto Rico typically imports three or four shipments of approximately 21,000 tons of medium- and short-grain rice annually, with China the primary supplier. Thus far in 2021/22, Puerto Rico has taken one shipment from China that arrived in September, with two more shipments expected before the end of the August-July market year. In 2020/21, Puerto Rico imported four shipments of 21,000 tons of medium- and short-grain rice from Asia. In 2021/22, historically high freight costs, a global container shortage, and other supply chain constraints have slowed the rate of shipments to Puerto Rico to date.

For August-December 2021, the United States, including Puerto Rico, imported 67,340 tons (actual shipment weight) of medium- and short-grain rice, down 15 percent from a year earlier. Thailand, India, and China are the top suppliers of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States, accounting for well over 90 percent of these U.S. imports. For the first 5 months of the 2021/22 marketing year, the United States imported 27,233 tons of medium- and short-grain rice from Thailand, up 11 percent from a year earlier. Most of the rice imported by the United States from Thailand is a specialty rice classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as medium- and short-grain. India shipped 10,543 tons of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States in August-December 2021, down 57 percent from a year earlier, with much of the decline likely due to high freight costs, container shortages, and other supply chain disruptions. China shipped 21,337 tons of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States—almost all to Puerto Rico—for August-December 2021, virtually unchanged from a year earlier. Italy is the next-largest supplier of medium- and short-grain rice to the United States, shipping 1,520 tons for August-December 2021, up 12 percent from a year earlier. Italy typically ships 3,500–4,000 tons of *arborio* rice each year to the United States and has been a consistent long-term supplier of medium- and short-grain rice.

U.S. 2021/22 long-grain imports remain forecast at 24.0 million cwt, 12 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 2018/19. Through December 2021, the United States imported 303,667 tons (actual shipment weight) of long-grain rice, down 23 percent from a year earlier. In December, the United States imported 62,758 tons of long-grain rice, almost unchanged from the preceding 3 months.

From August to December 2021, Thailand shipped 193,789 tons of long-grain rice to the United States, nearly unchanged from a year earlier but 9 percent below the pre-pandemic August-December 2019 level. Thailand remains the largest supplier of long-grain rice to the United States, almost all it is Thailand's premium jasmine rice, an aromatic. In contrast, number two long-grain supplier India shipped just 69,311 tons to the United States from August to December 2021, down 31 percent from a year earlier. Almost all U.S. long-grain imports from India are its

premium basmati rice, also an aromatic. Like most Asian exporting countries, India's agricultural export sector is facing reduced availability of containers and ships that has resulted in a dramatic rise in shipping rates, as well as leading to port congestion and increased processing time for shipping. Number three U.S. long-grain supplier Pakistan shipped 10,833 tons of rice to the United States from August to December 2021, down 23 percent from a year earlier. Almost all of Pakistan's long-grain exports to the United States are its premium basmati rice. Although the United States produces and markets several aromatic rice varieties, these are not the same varieties grown in Asia and have somewhat different consumer qualities.

The 2021/22 U.S. all-rice carryin remains estimated at 43.7 million cwt, more than 52 percent above the year-earlier abnormally low level. The 2021/22 long-grain carryin remains estimated at 29.7 million cwt, 76 percent larger than in 2020/21. The 2021/22 medium- and short-grain carryin remains estimated at 11.5 million cwt, 7 percent larger than a year earlier.

The U.S. 2021/22 rice crop remains estimated at 191.8 million hundredweight (cwt), 16 percent below a year earlier. The production decline is the result of reduced harvested area. At 2.49 million acres, harvested area was almost 17 percent below a year earlier. In contrast, the U.S. average yield remains estimated at 7,709 pounds, 90 pounds above a year earlier and the highest on record.

U.S. 2021/22 Milled-Rice Export Forecast Lowered 1.0 Million Cwt to 53.0 Million

U.S. rice exports in 2021/22 are projected at 87.0 million cwt, 1.0 million cwt below the previous forecast, 7 percent below a year earlier and the smallest since 2000/01. This month's downward revision was largely based on monthly U.S. Bureau of the Census trade data through December, shipment and outstanding sales data through January 27 reported in the weekly *U.S. Export Sales*, and expectations regarding shipments and sales the remainder of the 2021/22 market year.

Long-grain exports in 2021/22 remain projected at 64.0 million cwt, nearly 2 percent smaller than a year earlier. The decline is primarily based on smaller supplies and higher U.S. prices. Through December, the United States exported 1.07 million tons of long-grain rice in 2021/22, up 1.5 percent from a year earlier. In December, the United States exported 167,622 tons of long-grain rice, down 47 percent from November. Through December 2021, U.S. long-grain exports to Mexico and Central America were well ahead of a year earlier. These are the two largest markets for U.S. long-grain rice, taking mostly rough-rice. In contrast, shipments to Haiti, the top market for U.S. long-grain milled rice exports, were reported at 186,661 tons through December 2021, 9 percent below a year earlier and lowest for this date since 2016. In late July 2021, the United States sold 120,000 tons of long-grain milled-rice to Iraq, with all of this rice shipped by late November. There have been no additional sales of U.S. rice to Iraq in 2021/22 and there were no shipments in 2020/21.

On the upside for U.S. long-grain exports, in late January, the Colombian Rice Export Quota, Inc. (COL-RICE) held the largest of its three 2022 quota auctions for the duty-free purchase of U.S. rice under the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement. A total of 85,913 metric tons (milled-rice equivalent) of U.S. rice import quota was made available to the market, providing an opportunity for quota holders in the U.S. to ship rough, brown, milled, or broken rice duty-free. The shipments are required to clear Colombian customs by June 30, 2022. The January auction

is the largest of the three scheduled for 2022. In 2021, the three quota auctions were largely unfilled.

Combined medium- and short-grain U.S. exports in 2021/22 are projected at 23.0 million cwt, down 1.0 million cwt from the previous forecast and 20 percent below 2020/21. This month's downward revision was based on U.S. Bureau of the Census shipment data through December, shipments and sales from the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report through January 27, and expectations regarding shipments and sales the remainder of the market year. According to *U.S. Export Sales*, through January 27, shipments of medium- and short-grain rice were 29 percent behind a year earlier, and outstanding sales were down 14 percent. Combined shipments and outstanding sales to Japan of 235,500 tons through January 27 were more than 6 percent behind a year ago, and, at 97,000 tons, almost 28 percent behind shipments to South Korea. These are the two largest markets for U.S. medium- and short-grain rice. Combined shipments and outstanding sales of medium- and short-grain rice of 50,600 tons to Jordan through January 27 were 20 percent behind a year earlier.

The year-to-year decline in medium- and short-grain exports is based on expectation of few sales outside the core U.S. markets in Northeast Asia—Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan—where the bulk of U.S. medium- and short-grain exports are shipped. U.S. medium- and short-grain sales to the Middle East are expected to be lower than in 2020/21, with Jordan and Saudi Arabia the main buyers. The United States is not expected to sell any rice to North Africa. The tighter U.S. supplies of medium- and short-grain rice are expected to reduce exportable sales and have already boosted U.S. trading prices, further reducing sales. In addition, by late spring, Australia is expected to be in position to increase its exports due to a strong area expansion in 2021/22, partly a response to higher expected global trading prices for medium-grain rice. Australia is expected to increase its market share in Northeast Asia and Oceania. China has abundant supplies of extremely low-priced Government-held stocks of medium- and short-grain rice available for export, with North Africa, the Middle East, and Oceania the major market destinations, as well as Puerto Rico, a smaller medium- and short-grain market.

By type, U.S. rough-rice exports in 2021/22 remain projected at 34.0 million cwt, down almost 2 percent from a year earlier. Based on data from the weekly *U.S. Export Sales* through January 27, combined U.S. rough-rice shipments and outstanding sales were well ahead of a year earlier to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico. In contrast, in 2021/22, the United States has yet to sell any rice to Brazil, compared with 120,000 tons of long-grain rough-rice shipped in early 2020/21. Brazil is an erratic buyer of U.S. rice, often going several years without any purchases. Almost all U.S. rough-rice exports are currently shipped to Latin America. Long-grain accounts for the vast majority of U.S. rough-rice exports.

U.S. milled-rice exports (milled-and brown-rice exports on a rough-rice basis) are projected at 53.0 million cwt, down 1.0 million from the previous forecast, 11 percent below a year earlier and the lowest since 1973/74. The monthly downward revision was largely based on expectations of weaker U.S. medium- and short-grain exports, primarily to East Asia and the Middle East. The United States is expected to make few sales of milled rice beyond Northeast Asia, Haiti, Canada, Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. However, Mexico, although primarily a rough-rice market, regularly imports small quantities of U.S. milled rice. Exports of U.S. milled-rice are limited by lower-priced rice from Asia, as well as increased competition from several South American exporters.

Total domestic and residual use in 2021/22 remains projected at 145.5 million cwt, almost 5 percent smaller than the year-earlier record. The year-to-year projected decline is based on smaller U.S. supplies—primarily a much smaller crop—which implies smaller post-harvest

losses in marketing and milling, and on smaller imports. Long-grain domestic and residual use remains projected at 113.0 million cwt, 6 percent below the year-earlier record. Combined medium- and short-grain domestic and residual use remains projected at 32.5 million cwt, nearly unchanged from a year earlier.

U.S. Ending Stocks Projection for 2021/22 Raised

The above supply and use revisions result in a 2021/22 ending stocks forecast of 33.5 million cwt, up 0.5 million cwt from the previous forecast but 23 percent less than a year earlier. The all-rice stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 14.4 percent, down from 17.7 percent a year earlier. Long-grain ending stocks remain projected at 21.4 million cwt, 28 percent below a year earlier. The long-grain stocks-to-use ratio remains projected at 12.1 percent, down from 16.0 percent a year earlier. Combined medium- and short-grain ending stocks are projected at 9.6 million cwt, up 0.5 million cwt from the previous forecast but 16 percent smaller than a year earlier. The 2021/22 medium- and short-grain stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 17.3 percent, down from 18.7 percent a year earlier.

There were several upward revisions this month to the 2021/22 season-average farm price (SAFP) forecasts. The revisions were based on USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) monthly reported cash prices and marketings through December, revised 2020/21 NASS SAFP estimates, and expectations regarding prices and marketings the remainder of the market year. The 2021/22 long-grain SAFP was raised 30 cents to \$13.50 per cwt, up 90 cents from a year earlier. The southern medium- and short-grain SAFP forecast was raised 10 cents to \$13.90 per cwt, up 90 cents from the 2020/21 revised SAFP and the highest since 2014/15. The California medium- and short-grain 2021/22 SAFP is forecast at \$26.00, up \$2.00 from the previous forecast and up \$3.40 from the 2020/21 revised estimate, the highest since the 2008/09 record of \$27.40 per cwt. The U.S. 2021/22 medium- and short-grain SAFP forecast was raised \$1.40 to \$22.10 per cwt, \$2.00 higher than the year-earlier revised SAFP. The 2021/22 U.S. all-rice SAFP is forecast at \$15.70 per cwt, up 60 cents from the previous forecast and \$1.30 above the year-earlier revised SAFP.

In late-January, NASS made revisions to the monthly cash prices and marketing for 2020/21 and for August-November 2021/22. These monthly revisions resulted in a revised SAFP for all reported SAFPs except long-grain, which remains estimated at \$12.60 per cwt. In contrast, the southern medium- and short-grain 2020/21 SAFP was lowered 10 cents to \$13.00 per cwt. The California medium- and short-grain SAFP was raised \$1.70 to \$22.60 per cwt. The U.S. 2020/21 medium- and short-grain SAFP was raised \$1.30 to \$22.10 per cwt. The U.S. all-rice SAFP was raised 40 cents to \$14.40 per cwt.

International Outlook

Production Forecasts for 2021/22 Raised for Bangladesh and Pakistan, but Lowered for Brazil, Cuba, and Sri Lanka

Global rice production in 2021/22 is forecast at a record 510.3 million tons (milled basis), up 0.4 million tons from the previous forecast and more than 2.8 million tons larger than a year earlier. Upward production revisions were made this month for Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and the Philippines, while projections for Brazil, Chile, Cuba, and Sri Lanka were lowered.

On an annual basis, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Senegal, South Korea, Tanzania, and Thailand account for the bulk of the projected global production increase in 2021/22, with Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, and Thailand showing the largest year-to-year increases. India's 2021/22 projected rice production of 125.0 million tons is up 2.7 million tons from a year earlier and is the sixth consecutive record rice crop for India. China's 2021/22 projected production of almost 149.0 million tons is up 0.7 million tons from a year earlier and is also the highest on record. China and India are the two largest rice producing countries in the world and account for more than half of annual global rice production.

In contrast, crops are projected to be smaller than a year earlier in Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, EU, Guyana, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Mali, Russia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, the United States, Uruguay, and Vietnam. The United States and Egypt are projected to show the largest production declines in 2021/22. Egypt's crop is projected to decline 1.1 million tons in 2021/22 to 2.9 million due to a 29-percent reduction in harvested area to 0.5 million hectares. The area decline is the result of stricter enforcement of Government-mandated area limits implemented to conserve water. U.S. production of 6.1 million tons is 16 percent below a year earlier, also result of a contraction in harvested area. The U.S. rice-harvested-area decline was due to more favorable price expectations for corn and soybeans at planting time in the Delta, severe drought in California, and persistent rainfall nearly all spring in much of the South that reduced plantings.

Global rice consumption and residual use in 2021/22 is projected to be a record 510.4 million tons, up 0.1 million tons from the previous forecast and nearly 7.7 million tons larger than a year earlier. Consumption and residual forecasts were raised this month for Ethiopia, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. The increases for Ethiopia, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka were largely based on higher imports. The consumption and residual forecast was raised for Pakistan based on a larger crop. In contrast, domestic and residual use forecasts were lowered this month for China, Cuba, India, Jordan, and Qatar. India's forecast was lowered 0.5 million tons to 103.0 million, still the highest on record, based on larger exports. The remaining reductions were much smaller. Cuba's forecast was reduced 34,000 tons to 0.66 million based on a reduced crop. Jordan's and Qatar's consumption and residual use forecasts were lowered based largely on smaller imports.

Table A - Global rice production, selected monthly revisions and year-to-year changes, February 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation and comments on year-to-year change or month-to-month revision
Rice production in 2021/22, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Bangladesh	35,850	350	3.6	↑	↑	Production forecast was raised based on a higher total harvested area estimate. At 11.62 million acres, total harvested area is up 0.2 million from the previous estimate and 0.12 million hectares above a year earlier. The 2022 fall harvested aman crop accounts for all of the harvested-area upward revision. The all-rice average yield was lowered less than 1 percent to 4.63 tons per hectare, still up 2.5 percent from a year earlier and the highest on record. The aman crop accounted for all of the yield reduction. In contrast, the summer harvested aus crop yield was raised slightly. Total production is unchanged from the 2019/20 record. Much of the information for these revisions was provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Dhaka.
Brazil	7,684	-340	-4.0	↓	↓	Lowered the production forecast based on a weaker yield. At 6.65 tons per hectare, the average yield is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and is 5 percent below a year earlier. The reduced yield is based on extreme heat and a lack of water for irrigation in the southeast, where the bulk of Brazil's crop is produced. Much of the country continues to experience severe drought.
Chile	96	-14	3.2	↓	↑	Production forecast was lowered based on a 3,000-hectare reduction in the harvested area estimate to 23,000 hectares due to unusually dry conditions that limited water for irrigation. The revised harvested area estimate is from the Ministry of Agriculture.
Cuba	176	-34	1.1	↓	↑	Reduced the production forecast based on a smaller harvested area estimate. At 75,000 hectares, harvested area is down 15,000 hectares from the previous estimate but unchanged from the revised 2020/21 estimate. These are the lowest harvested area estimates for Cuba since 1967/68. This month's revisions were based on yearend area and production data for 2020/21 reported in the <i>Cuba Statistical Yearbook 2020</i> that was published in December. Virtually no increase in area or yield is expected in 2021/22 from the 2020/21 crop that was sharply reduced by severe input—especially fuel scarcity—as well as drought in some areas during the spring and summer.
Kazakhstan	328	8	-9.4	↑	↓	Production estimate was raised slightly based on yearend area and yield estimates reported by the Government of Kazakhstan. Harvested area was raised 7,000 hectares to 97,000, while the average yield was lowered 5 percent to 5.21 tons per hectare.
Pakistan	8,700	500	3.3	↑	↑	Raised the production forecast to a record high based on both a higher estimated harvested area and a stronger yield forecast. Harvested area was increased 0.1 million hectares to a record 3.4 million. The yield forecast was increased 3 percent to a near-record 3.84 tons per hectare, up almost 3 percent from a year earlier. New and higher yielding hybrid rice varieties, improved agronomic practices, and increased planted area caused by farmers shifting out of cotton into rice are the main factors behind the increased production. The Government of Pakistan's policy of ensuring rice growers adequate inputs, which supported higher yields, also contributed to the record production. Much of the data and information for these revisions were provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Islamabad.
Philippines	12,400	100	-0.1	↑	↓	Production forecast was raised to a near-record based on a slightly higher harvested area estimate. At a near-record 4.8 million hectares, harvested area is up 50,000 hectares from the previous estimate and almost 1 percent above a year earlier. The higher area estimate was partly based on the Government of the Philippines' announcement in December 2021 of offering cash payments to farmers with 2 hectares of land or less to support rice production.
Sri Lanka	2,924	-136	-13.7	↓	↓	Reduced the rice crop based on both a smaller area estimate and yield forecast. At 975,000 hectares, harvested area is 25,000 hectares below the previous forecast and 11 percent below a year earlier. The average yield was lowered 2 percent to 4.41 tons per hectare, almost 4 percent below a year earlier. These reductions were largely based on the Government of Sri Lanka's recent forecast for the February-April harvested maha crop. The year-to-year decline in the maha crop is largely due to the April-November ban on inorganic fertilizers and other agrochemicals. Sri Lanka's rice imports have increased sharply since November, with imports exceeding 100,000 tons in December.
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation and comments on year-to-year change or month-to-month revision
Rice production in 2020/21, 1,000 metric tons (milled basis)						
Cuba	174	-36	-37.2	↓	↓	Lowered production estimate based on yearend data reported in the <i>Cuba Statistical Yearbook 2020</i> that indicated lower area. At 75,000 hectares, harvested area was down 15,000 from the previous forecast and 36 percent below a year earlier, the smallest harvested area since 1967/68. The substantial area decline was largely due to a severe shortage of inputs—mostly fuel—and abnormal dryness in western Cuba from March to August.
Dominican Republic	641	18	6.5	↑	↑	Raised the production estimate based on the Government of the Dominican Republic's revised monthly updates through December 2021. Harvested area was lowered 1,000 hectares to 190,000, while the average yield was increased more than 3 percent to 5.04 tons per hectare, virtually unchanged from a year earlier.
Pakistan	8,419	235	13.6	↑	↑	Increased the production estimate based on a higher yield reported by the Government of Pakistan. At 3.74 tons per hectare, the average yield is up 3 percent from the previous forecast and 2 percent above a year earlier. At 3.381 million hectares, harvested area was up 11 percent from a year earlier and second only to the record 3.4 million hectares harvested in 2021/22. New and higher-yielding hybrid rice varieties, improved agronomic practices, and increased planted area caused by farmers shifting from cotton were the main factors behind the increased production in 2020/21. Much of the data and information for these revisions were provided by the U.S. Agricultural Office in Islamabad.

Table B - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice importers, 2022						
Brazil	650	50	-5.1	↑	↓	Raised the import forecast based on a smaller 2021/22 rice crop.
Brunei	25	-10	31.6	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on a recent slower-than-expected pace of purchases.
Burkina Faso	650	50	0.0	↑	→	Raised the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected imports by Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire that are likely destined for shipment to Burkina Faso.
Chile	175	15	1.2	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on a smaller 2021/22 rice production forecast.
China	4,700	100	-4.5	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on expectations of continued purchases in 2022 of broken kernel rice from India.
Colombia	130	80	333.3	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on the total fulfillment in late January by the Colombian Rice Export Quota, Inc. of its 85,913-ton auction to purchase U.S. rice imports under the Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, allowing U.S. exporters to engage in sales to Colombia. The January auction is the largest of the three scheduled for 2022. In 2021, the three auctions were largely unfulfilled.
Ethiopia	950	100	11.8	↑	↑	Rice import forecast was raised based on high prices for other grains and food insecurity needs.
Guinea	800	50	-14.0	↑	↓	Increased the import forecast based the expectation that the larger-than-expected purchases from India in the last quarter of 2021 will continue in 2022.
Israel	150	10	-3.2	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on slightly larger-than-expected imports in 2021.
Jordan	220	-20	10.0	↓	↑	Lowered the import forecast based on reduced expectation regarding the import pace in 2022.
South Korea	440	30	0.2	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast is based on the expectation that some of the 2021 imports purchased as part of South Korea's World Trade Organization import commitments will be shipped in 2022.
Kuwait	240	-20	20.0	↓	↑	Smaller import forecast is based on reduced expectations regarding the import pace in 2022.
Nigeria	2,200	200	0.0	↑	→	Increased the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2021.
Peru	230	-20	11.7	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on the recent slower pace of purchases.
Philippines	2,900	400	-1.7	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on an expected continuation of the recent strong pace of purchases.
Qatar	200	-25	25.0	↓	↑	Smaller import forecast is based on reduced expectations regarding the purchase pace in 2022.
Singapore	375	15	-1.6	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on a stronger-than-expected pace of purchases in late 2021.
Sri Lanka	600	450	308.2	↑	↑	Raised the import forecast based on a smaller rice crop projection, recent large negotiations for imports by the Government of Sri Lanka, and rising domestic rice prices.
Syria	240	10	-4.0	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised based on slightly larger-than-expected imports from Turkey in 2021.
Turkey	450	-20	35.5	↓	↑	Reduced the import forecast based on a recent slower pace of purchases.
Venezuela	530	10	-7.0	↑	↓	Import forecast was raised slightly based on larger-than-expected imports in 2021.

Continued--

Table B - Selected rice importers at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2022--Continued						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice importers, 2021						
Angola	500	50	0.0	↑	→	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Brazil	685	-5	-21.8	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Burkina Faso	650	50	8.3	↑	↑	Raised the import estimate based on stronger-than-expected imports by Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire that are likely destined for shipment to Burkina Faso.
Cameroon	580	5	16.0	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
China	4,921	171	53.8	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Cuba	415	-35	-17.2	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Ethiopia	850	100	21.4	↑	↑	Rice import forecast was raised based on high prices for other grains and food insecurity needs.
Guinea	930	80	38.80	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on larger-than-expected purchases from India in the fourth quarter.
Iran	875	25	-22.2	↑	↓	Increased the import estimate based on yearend trade data that reported larger-than-expected purchases from India in December.
Iraq	1,280	30	32.0	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Japan	662	-23	-2.1	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
South Korea	439	29	-5.6	↑	↓	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Mexico	775	-25	-8.1	↓	↓	Lowered the import estimate based on a slower-than-expected pace of trade in late 2021.
Nigeria	2,200	300	22.2	↑	↑	Increased the import forecast based on stronger-than-expected purchases in 2021.
Peru	206	-14	-33.5	↓	↓	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Philippines	2,950	150	20.4	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Senegal	1,250	100	19.0	↑	↑	Raised the import estimate based on larger-than-expected purchases from India in the fourth quarter.
South Africa	1,000	-50	0.0	↓	→	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Sri Lanka	147	77	818.9	↑	↑	Import forecast was raised based on Government-to-Government negotiations to procure imports.
Syria	250	20	37.4	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Togo	300	-75	-14.3	↓	↓	Reduced the import forecast based on a slower-than-expected pace of purchases in late 2021.
Turkey	332	-38	-37.4	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
United Kingdom	600	-40	-8.3	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
United States	979	-21	-19.1	↓	↓	Import estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Venezuela	570	30	7.5	↑	↑	Import estimate was raised based on near-yearend trade data.

Source: Created by USDA, Economic Research Service with data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply, and Distribution database.

Table C - Selected rice exporters at a glance (1,000 metric tons), February 2022						
Country or region	Current forecast	Change from last month's forecast	Percent change from a year earlier	Month-to-month direction	Year-to-year direction	Explanation of year-to-year change in forecast or month-to-month change in forecast
Rice exporters, 2022						
Argentina	370	20	-7.5	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on a stronger-than-expected pace of sales in late 2021.
China	2,250	50	-6.5	↑	↓	Export forecast was raised on the expectation that the recent faster-than-expected pace of sales will continue in 2022.
Guinea	80	30	0.0	↑	→	Raised the export forecast based on expectations that the faster-than-expected pace of sales reported in the final quarter of 2021 will continue.
India	20,000	1,250	-5.7	↑	↓	Raised the export forecast based on expected continued growth in sales to West Africa, Ethiopia, and Sri Lanka. These sales are expected to partially offset weaker purchases by Bangladesh in 2022.
Pakistan	4,150	150	6.4	↑	↑	Export forecast was raised based on a larger crop forecast and expectations of more competitive prices.
Peru	20	-30	1900.0	↓	↑	Smaller export forecast is based on expectations that Peru's exports will be limited to 20,000 tons shipped to Ecuador.
Senegal	90	20	0.0	↑	→	Raised the export forecast based on expectations of continued sales to Mali.
Turkey	230	10	-4.6	↑	↓	Export forecast was raised based on a recent stronger-than-expected pace of sales.
United States	2,825	-25	-3.1	↓	↓	Lowered the export forecast based on slower-than-expected pace of sales and shipments of medium- and short-grain rice since August. U.S. medium- and short-grain export prices have risen 23 percent since June, mostly due to the severe drought in California that reduced the State's 2021/22 total rice crop 18 percent. California accounts for the bulk of U.S. medium- and short-grain exports.
Rice exporters, 2021						
Argentina	400	40	19.4	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Brazil	789	79	-36.4	↑	↓	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
China	2,407	57	6.3	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Guyana	406	-34	-21.9	↓	↓	Export estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
India	21,205	705	45.5	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised to a record-high based on yearend trade data. Although sales to Bangladesh declined in December, sales to Sri Lanka and the Middle East were up that month.
Paraguay	640	20	-20.3	↑	↓	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Senegal	90	20	350.0	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data, with all exports in 2021 shipped to Mali.
Thailand	6,062	162	6.2	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.
Turkey	241	26	3.0	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data. The bulk of Turkey's rice exports in 2021 were shipped to the Middle East and North Africa.
United States	2,915	-10	2.0	↓	↑	Export estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Uruguay	712	-48	-26.2	↓	↓	Export estimate was lowered based on yearend trade data.
Vietnam	6,272	22	1.7	↑	↑	Export estimate was raised based on yearend trade data.

On a year-to-year basis, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iraq, Liberia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, and the United Kingdom account for the bulk of the expected increase in global rice consumption and residual use in 2021/22. China's domestic and residual use is projected to increase more than 4.55 million tons to a record 154.8 million tons, the largest projected increase. Feed and other industrial uses account for most of the expected increase in China's domestic and residual use in 2021/22.

In contrast, consumption and residual use is projected to decline in 2021/22 in Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Mali, South Korea, and the United States. The decline in the two Northeast Asian countries is due to continued long-term shifts in diet away from rice to a more a Western diet and to a declining population in Japan and only negligible population growth in South Korea. Egypt's decline is based on a much smaller crop and resulting tighter supplies, despite record imports. The projected decline in the United States is based on a much smaller crop, which indicates a smaller residual use that includes post-harvest losses. Mali's reduction is based on smaller supplies.

In 2021/22, global ending rice stocks are forecast at 186.3 million tons, 0.3 million above the previous forecast but still 0.1 million tons below the year-earlier record. Ending stocks forecasts were raised this month for Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, and the United States, but lowered for Argentina, Brazil, India, Japan, and Thailand. China accounts for the bulk of the expected decline in global ending rice stocks in 2021/22. At 113.0 million tons, China's ending stocks are 3.5 million below the year-earlier record. In contrast, India's ending stocks are projected to increase 2.0 million tons to a record 38.0 million. In 2021/22, China is projected to account for 60 percent and India for 20 percent of global ending rice stocks. The 2021/22 global stocks-to-use ratio is projected at 36.5 percent, down from 37.1 percent in 2020/21.

Export Forecasts for 2022 Raised for India and Pakistan, Import Forecasts Raised for China and Colombia

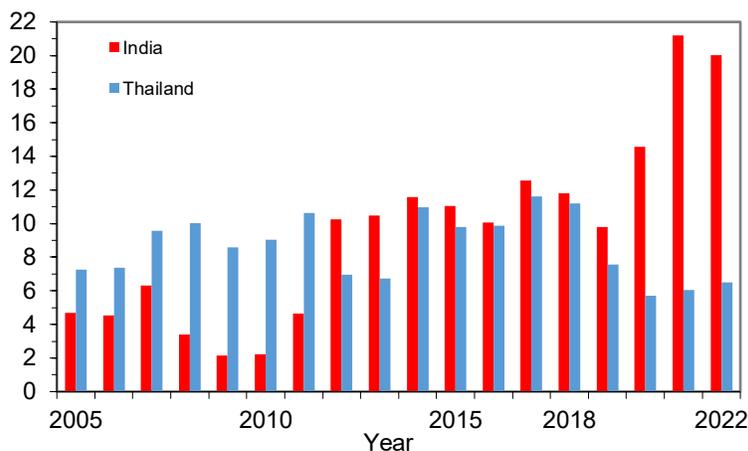
Global rice trade in calendar year 2022 is projected at 50.9 million tons (milled basis), up almost 1.5 million tons from the previous forecast but down more than 1 percent from the year-earlier revised record. Much of the expected year-to-year decline in global trade is the result of weaker imports of Indian rice by Bangladesh and Vietnam. India's 2022 exports are projected to drop 1.2 million tons from the revised 2021 record to 20.0 million, still the second-highest on record. Cambodia's exports are projected to drop 0.45 from the 2021 record to 1.4 million tons, and China's exports are projected to decline 0.16 million tons to 2.25 million tons. U.S. exports are forecast to drop 90,000 tons in 2022 to 2.83 million tons due to tighter supplies and resulting higher prices.

These declines in exports in 2022 are expected to be partially offset by increased exports from Australia, Brazil, Pakistan, Thailand, Uruguay, and Vietnam, with Thailand's exports projected to increase the most, up 0.44 million tons to 6.5 million. Australia's exports are projected to increase 210,000 tons to 270,000 tons based on recovery from drought. Brazil's exports are projected to increase 111,000 tons to 0.9 million based on larger supplies. Pakistan's exports are projected to increase 250,000 tons to a record 4.15 million, a result of a record crop. Vietnam's 2022 exports are projected to increase 0.23 million tons to 6.5 million tons, a result of large supplies.

Figure 2

**India's 2021 rice exports were a record 21.2 million tons;
Thailand's 2022 exports are projected to increase 7 percent**

Million tons



Notes: Rice exports are reported on a milled basis; 2022 are forecasts.

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *Production, Supply, and Distribution* database.

On the global 2022 import side, Bangladesh's imports are projected to drop almost 2.1 million tons to 0.6 million due to a record crop and rising supplies. Vietnam's imports are projected to decline 1.2 million tons to a more normal 0.60 million from last year's abnormally large 1.8 million tons. The bulk of Vietnam's imports have typically been border shipments from Cambodia, with Vietnam taking mostly rough rice. In 2021, however, Vietnam imported large quantities of broken-kernel rice from India for feed use, food processing, and beer and around 1.0 million tons of rice from Cambodia—a record high. These purchases are expected to be much smaller in 2022. Imports are also projected to decline in 2022 for Australia, Brazil, China, Guinea, the Philippines, Senegal, and Venezuela. Although China's imports are projected to drop 0.22 million tons to 4.7 million in 2022, China is expected to remain the largest global rice importer.

In contrast, imports are projected to increase in 2022 for Angola, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, EU, Gambia, Haiti, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, North Korea, Kuwait, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Nepal, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States, with the U.S. expansion projected to be small. Egypt is expected to show the largest import growth in 2022, with its imports projected to increase 480,000 tons to a record 0.8 million due to a much smaller crop. Sri Lanka's 2022 imports are projected to increase 453,000 tons to 600,000, the largest in 5 years, also a result of a much smaller crop. Mali's imports are projected to increase 250,000 tons to record 550,000, also largely due to a much smaller crop. Colombia's imports are projected to increase 100,000 tons to 130,000 from the 2021 abnormally low level.

Over the past month, quotes for Thailand's trading prices for most grades of regular (non-specialty) milled rice increased 7–9 percent from a month earlier, due primarily to strengthening of the Thai baht. Thailand's 100-percent Grade B long-grain milled rice for export was quoted at \$429 per ton for the week ending February 7, up \$32 from the week ending January 10. Prices for Thailand's 5-percent broken parboiled rice—a specialty rice—were quoted at \$411 per ton for the week ending February 7, up \$28 from the week ending January 10. Prices for Thailand's

jasmine rice—a premium aromatic—were quoted at \$728 per ton for the week ending February 7, up \$79 from the week ending January 10.

Price quotes for Vietnam's rice for the late-autumn crop have declined slightly from a month earlier, due to less trading activity as most businesses were closed for the Lunar New Year. For the week ending February 8, prices for Vietnam's 5-percent broken-kernel long-grain milled rice were quoted at \$395 per ton, down \$5 from the week ending January 25. Prices had remained at \$400 per ton since January 11 before declining. India's price quotes for 5-percent broken kernel rice rose \$5 per ton from the week ending January 11 to \$350 for the week ending February 8, still the most competitively priced source of Asian rice. Pakistan's price quote for 5-percent broken kernel rice declined \$10 per ton to \$355 over the same time.

Movements in South American exporter price quotes varied by source and grade. Uruguay's generic 5-percent broken-kernel long-grain milled rice remains quoted at \$545 per ton for the week ending February 8, unchanged from the week ending December 7. The price quote is \$80 per ton below the current U.S. price for long-grain milled rice for Latin American markets. In contrast, price quotes for higher priced nongeneric shipments from Uruguay declined \$10 per ton to \$600. Argentina's 5-percent broken kernels were quoted at \$495 per ton for the week ending February 8, down \$45 from the week ending January 11. Prices for Brazil's generic 5-percent broken-kernel rice were quoted at \$470 per ton for the week ending February 8, up \$30 from the week ending January 11.

U.S. trading prices for long-grain milled rice increased slightly over the past month. Prices for U.S. long-grain milled rice, Number 2 Grade, 4-percent broken kernels (free on board a vessel at a Gulf port, Iraqi specifications) were quoted at \$610 per ton for the week ending February 8, up \$5 from the week ending January 11. U.S. prices for Latin American milled-rice markets—Haiti, Colombia, and Mexico—were quoted at \$625 per ton for the week of February 8, up \$60 from the week ending January 11. U.S. rough-rice long-grain export prices were quoted at \$370 per ton from the week ending February 8, up \$25 from the week ending January 11.

Milled-rice prices in California slightly increased over the past month for certain market specifications. Prices for California Number 1 Grade, 4-percent broken kernels for the week ending February 8 were quoted at \$1,205 per ton (free on board at a domestic mill, Mediterranean specifications), up \$5 from the week ending January 11. Export prices for California rice for delivery to the Port of Oakland, California, medium-grain milled-rice (Korean specifications) remain quoted at \$1,350 per ton for the week ending February 8, unchanged since the first week of January. These are the highest prices for U.S. medium-grain milled rice. For listings of trading prices by exporter and grade of rice, see table 9 in the Excel file.

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