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2017 Outlook of the U.S. and World Sugar Markets, 2016-2026

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ABSTRACT

This report evaluates the U.S. and world sugar markets for 2016-2026 using the Global Sugar Policy Simulation Model. This analysis is based on assumptions that general economic conditions, agricultural policies, population growth, weather conditions, and technological changes remain at the long-run conditions.

Both the U.S. and world sugar economies are predicted to remain constant over the next ten years. World sugar prices increased from 18.7 cents/lb in 2009 to 27.0 cents/lb in 2010 and 32.0 cents/lb in 2011 before falling to 16.8 cents/lb in 2014, and 13.4 cents/lb in 2015. Prices increased to 16.6 cents/lb in 2016. World sugar production increased 3.0% in 2016 while consumption increased by less than 1%. World sugar prices are expected to decrease to 13.7 cents/lb by 2026. The U.S. wholesale price of sugar is projected to increase from 30.6 cents/lb in 2016 to near 33.1 cents/lb by 2026. It is projected that Mexican exports to the United States will increase from 1.60 million metric tons in 2016 to 1.93 million metric tons in 2026. World trade volumes of sugar are expected to increase throughout the forecast period.

Keywords: sugar, production, exports, consumption, ending stocks

HIGHLIGHTS

Total world sugar trade is projected to increase by 16.2% from 45.6 million metric tons to 53.0 million metric tons between 2016 and 2026. World sugar prices are projected to decrease from \$0.166/lb in 2016 to \$0.137/lb in 2026. U.S. wholesale sugar price is projected to increase from \$0.306/lb in 2016 to \$0.331/lb in 2026.

U.S. sugar imports are expected to increase slowly over the 2016-2026 period compared to the recent average import. U.S. sugar production is projected to increase by 8.6% between 2016 and 2026. U.S. sugar consumption is projected to increase by 9.4% and ending stocks are predicted to increase by 3.0%. However, the U.S. sugar industry could face some uncertainty, mainly because of recent increases in sugar imports from Mexico. The recent agreement with the Mexican government has stabilized the domestic sugar price.

Brazil's production is expected to increase by 10.7% from the 2014-2016 average of 36.1 million metric tons to 40.0 million metric tons in 2026. Exports could increase by 13.2% to 28.5 million metric tons in 2026, while consumption increases by 4.6%.

Canada's production is predicted to increase between 2016 and 2026. Canada's imports are expected to increase by 11.7%. Consumption is predicted to increase by 11.8% and ending stocks are predicted to increase by 9.0%.

Mexico's production is expected to increase by 15.6%, and exports are expected to increase by 73.3% from the 2014-2016 average due to increases in its exports to the United States.

The European Union (EU) is expected to remain as an importer due to the EU-28 sugar policy reform. Their production is predicted to decrease by 2.2%, while consumption will increase by 4.3%.

Exporting countries, such as Australia, Thailand, South Africa, Cuba, and Brazil are predicted to increase their production and exports during the forecasting period.

Most importing countries, except for Egypt and Japan, are predicted to increase their imports for the 2016-2026 period.

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INTRODUCTION

Sugar is produced in over 100 countries worldwide. In most years, over 70% of world sugar production is consumed domestically and the remainder is traded in the world. However, a significant share of this trade volume takes place under bilateral long-term agreements or on preferential terms. Since only a small proportion of world production is traded freely, small changes in production and government policies tend to have large effects on world sugar markets. As a result, sugar prices have been unstable in the world market.

During late 2005 and the first quarter of 2006, world sugar price increased from about \$0.12/lb to over \$0.18/lb because of increased use of sugarcane for ethanol production in Brazil. World sugar price fell to \$0.12/lb in late 2006 and \$0.11/lb by early 2007 due to increased production in other exporting nations. The yearly average price was \$0.19/lb in 2009 and increased to \$0.27/lb in 2010 and increased further to \$0.32/lb in 2011. The stocks to use ratio has varied between 34% in 1968 and 17% in 2010. The ICE (Intercontinental Exchange) No. 11 price follows an opposite relationship with the stocks to use ratio. When the stocks to use ratio is high (low), ICE prices are low (high). A decrease in the stocks to use ratio increased sugar price from \$0.08/lb in 2000 to \$0.27/lb in 2010. Similar price increases occurred in 1974-1975 and 1980-1981. However, the current stocks to use ratio of 13.1% which has increased since 2010, lowered the price of sugar. In 2013, the ICE No. 11 sugar price dropped to \$18.0/lb. By 2016, the price dropped to \$16.6/lb which is higher than in 2015.

This report evaluates the U.S. and world sugar industry for 2016-2026 using the Global Sugar Policy Simulation Model developed by Benirschka et al. (1996). This model was updated on the basis of 2016 data. The outlook projection is based on an assumption that farm and trade policies adopted by sugar exporting and importing countries remain unchanged over the 2016-2026 period.

Sugarcane is a perennial grass that is produced in tropical and subtropical climate zones. It matures in 12 to 16 months. Once the cane is harvested, the sucrose starts breaking down. Thus, sugarcane mills are located close to the cane fields to minimize transport costs and sucrose losses. Mills convert sugarcane into raw sugar which is shipped to refineries for further processing. In contrast to raw sugar producing mills, refineries are unconstrained by seasonal production patterns and operate throughout the year. Unlike sugarcane, sugarbeets are an annual crop of temperate climate zones. Because of disease problems, sugarbeets are always grown in crop rotations. Since sugarbeets are bulky and costly to transport, beet processing facilities are located close to production. In contrast to sugarcane, sugarbeets are directly processed into refined sugar. Raw sugar is produced only from sugarcane.

Raw sugar and refined sugar are two different products. They are both traded internationally. Beet sugar producing countries export refined sugar, while cane sugar producing countries export either raw or refined sugar. In recent years, the share of raw sugar in total sugar exports has been about 60%.

OVERVIEW OF THE WORLD SUGAR INDUSTRY AND SUGAR POLICIES

For the 2012-2016 period, annual global sugar production was approximately 174 million metric tons with about 32% of production exported from exporting countries. The largest sugar producing region is Brazil, followed by the India and the EU (Table 1).

Table 1. World Sugar Supply and Utilization, 2012 to 2016 Average

Country/ Region	Beet/ Cane	Consumption	Production	Net Exports	Ending Stocks	Per Capita Consumption
-----1,000 metric tons, raw value-----						Kg
Algeria	-	1,425	0	(1,428)	107	32
Australia	C	1,200	4,900	3,664	197	57
Brazil	C	11,033	36,127	25,140	503	57
Canada	B	1,245	100	(1,152)	253	34
China	B/C	17,519	9,787	(5,641)	4,805	11
Cuba	C	793	1,808	1,015	168	58
European Union	B	18,767	16,310	(1,529)	1,854	50
Egypt	B/C	2,927	2,126	(792)	267	35
Former Soviet Union	B/C	8,967	7,003	(1,940)	1,099	31
India	C	26,833	27,312	1,109	8,877	19
Indonesia	C	5,662	2,108	(3,302)	712	22
Japan	B/C	2,099	800	(1,306)	581	16
Korea	-	1,466	0	(1,556)	393	29
Mexico	C	4,683	6,502	1,328	1,090	39
South Africa	C	1,955	1,847	4	272	40
Thailand	C	2,594	9,935	8,017	4,365	37
Columbia	C	1,697	2,307	566	217	39
Guatemala	C	764	3,000	2,302	156	54
Pakistan	C	4,700	5,385	273	1,782	23
United States	B/C	10,962	8,156	(2,635)	1,524	34
Rest of World	B/C	42,541	28,126	31,133	10,886	20
World	B/C	169,833	173,639	55,574	40,110	21

Source: USDA-FAS, PS&D website.

Per capita sugar consumption was highest in Cuba followed by Brazil and Australia. Brazil converts a substantial portion of sugar cane into ethanol. Per capita sugar consumption in the United States was 34 kg, which is above world average per capita consumption (21 kg). Consumption was lowest in China at 11 kg per capita, but that may increase substantially as per capita income increases. Annual global sugar consumption for the 2012-2016 period was 170 million metric tons.

The major sugar exporting countries were Brazil, Thailand, Australia, and Guatemala. These countries accounted for 70% of global exports from 2012 to 2016. Some years India exports sugar. Relatively few countries dominate world sugar exports, but imports are less concentrated. Major importing countries were China, Indonesia, United States, Former Soviet Union (FSU), Korea, The EU, Algeria, Japan, and Canada. Imports by these countries accounted for about 37% of all sugar imports from 2012 to 2016.

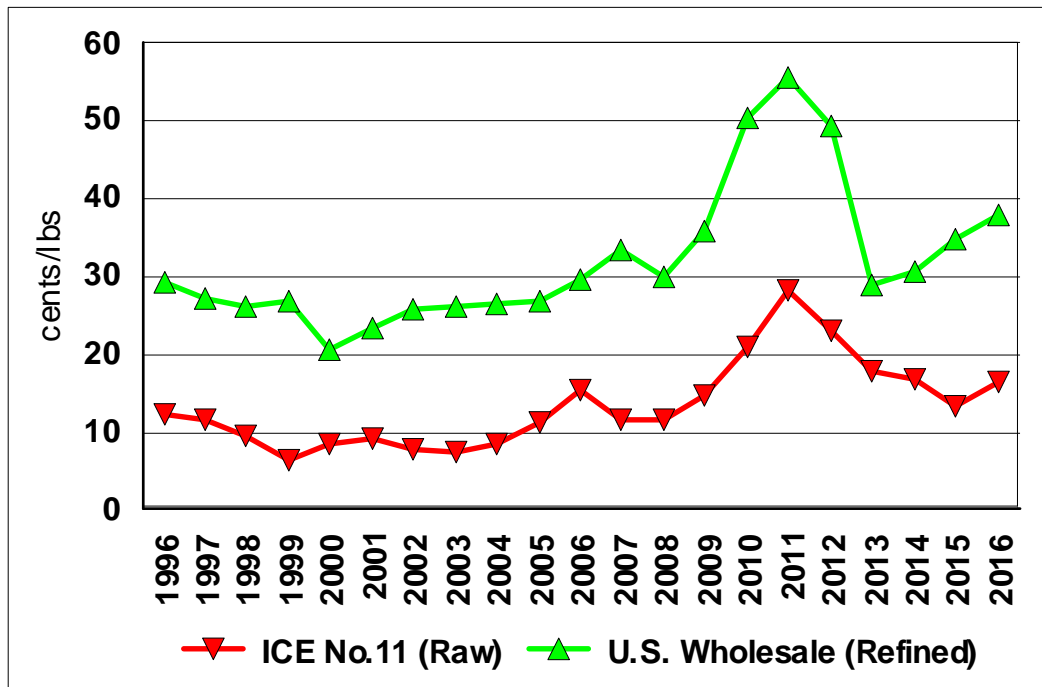


Figure 1. U.S. and World Sugar Prices (Nominal)

The ICE No.11 raw sugar price is usually considered to be the world market price for sugar. Except for years with high world market prices, there was a substantial wedge between the U.S. wholesale price of sugar and the world market price. Over the last decade, U.S. wholesale prices fluctuated between \$0.22/lb and \$0.56/lb. World market prices ranged between \$0.11/lb and \$0.28/lb (Figure 1). Figure 1 shows the dramatic increase in world sugar price in late 2008 and 2009. In 2003, the price averaged \$0.07/lb, but it had risen to \$0.12/lb in 2005 and it was \$0.18/lb in June 2006 before falling to \$0.11/lb in 2007. World sugar price increased to \$0.16/lb in 2009, \$0.22 in 2010 and \$0.28 in 2011. The high world sugar price also increased the U.S. wholesale price to \$0.30/lb in 2006, falling to \$0.26/lb in 2007, before increasing to \$0.28/lb in 2008, \$0.34 in 2009 and \$0.50 in 2010. U.S. wholesale prices peaked in 2011 at \$0.56/lb before falling to \$0.29/lb in 2013. However, in 2016 U.S. wholesale prices for refined beet sugar increased to \$0.38/lb.

Figure 2 shows the relationship between world stocks to use ratio and the world raw sugar price. The correlation between the two series is -0.52 indicating that there is a strong negative correlation between them. The stocks to use ratio has fallen from 31% in 2000 to 17% in 2010. That decrease increased sugar price from \$0.08/lb in 2000 to \$0.33/lb in 2011. However, that ratio increased to 27% in 2014 which explains the current decrease in sugar prices. Predicted carry-over stocks for 2016 are lower than in 2015, which will relieve some of the pressure on prices in the near term. World stocks reached a peak in 2014 before falling 17% in 2015 and 5% further in 2016.

The volatility of world sugar prices could be due to the nature of supply response to price changes stemming from high fixed costs of sugar production. An increase in sugar production in response to rising sugar prices requires significant investments in processing facilities, and it takes some time until new production capacity becomes available. Once the facilities are in place, they tend to be used at full capacity to spread the fixed costs. Thus, when prices fall, production remains at full capacity. Sugar production is relatively unresponsive to price in the short run; however, sugar price

does respond to changes in consumption. The increase in the world price of sugar in 2005 and 2006 is mainly because Brazil increased the production of ethanol from sugar cane. However, the price dropped in 2007 because of increased production of sugar from sugarcane in response to higher sugar prices in 2005 and 2006.

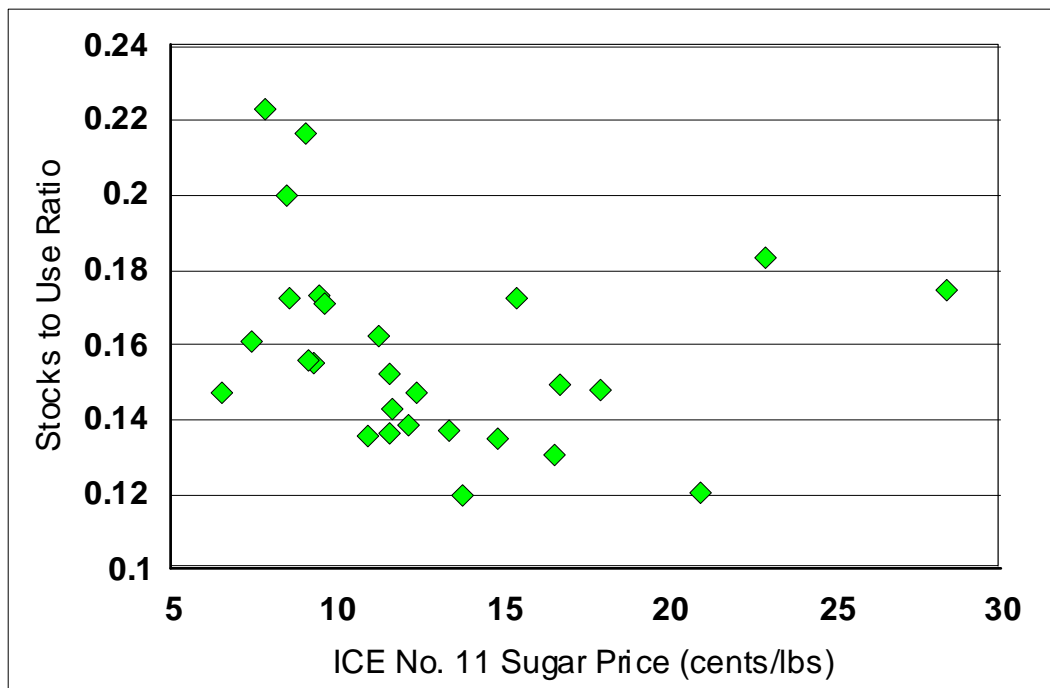


Figure 2. World Stocks to Use Ratio and ICE No. 11 Raw Sugar Prices, 1967-2016

The United States produces both beet and cane sugar. Cane sugar is produced mainly in Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. Beet sugar is produced largely in the Great Lakes region, Upper Midwest, Great Plains, and far western states. Cane sugar production increased by 19% and beet sugar increased 38% between 1996 and 2016 (Figure 3). U.S. total sugar production increased about 29% from 6.8 million metric tons in 1996 to 8.6 million metric tons in 2016 (Figure 4).

U.S. consumption of sugar increased by 24% from about 8.8 million metric tons in 1996 to 11 million metric tons in 2016 (Figure 5). The balance was imported from more than 40 countries. U.S. sugar imports decreased 71% from 4.5 million metric tons in 1974 to 1.3 million metric tons in 1987 and then increased to an average of 2.2 million metric tons per year during the 1996 to 2016 period. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Mexico was allowed to export unlimited quantities of sugar to the United States. However, the United States and Mexican governments agreed on a sugar trade suspension agreement which will limit Mexican imports of sugar into the United States. Mexico exported 732 thousand metric tons of sugar into the United States in 2009 and 1,549 thousand metric tons of sugar into the United States in 2010, 972 thousand metric tons in 2011, 1,927 thousand metric tons in 2012, 1,932 thousand metric tons in 2013, 1,453 thousand metric tons in 2014, 1,599 thousand metric tons in 2015 and 1,561 thousand metric tons in 2016.

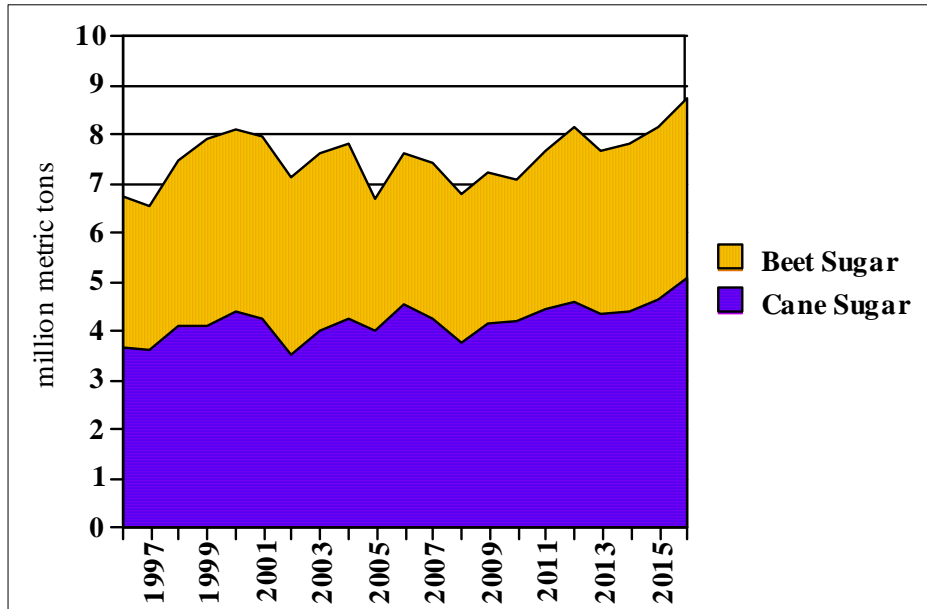


Figure 3. U.S. Beet and Cane Sugar Production

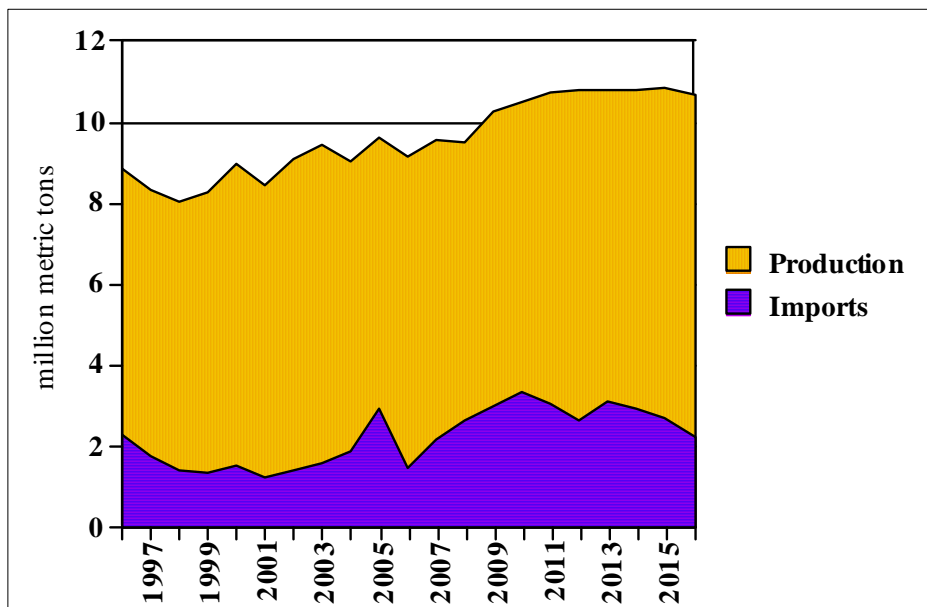


Figure 4. U.S. Sugar Production and Imports

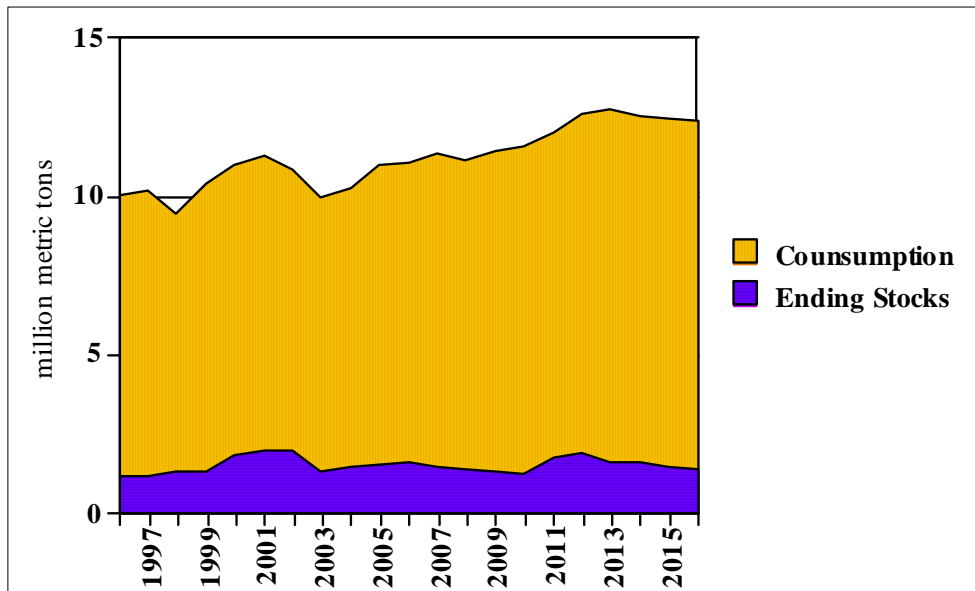


Figure 5. U.S. Sugar Consumption and Ending Stocks

U.S. Sugar Programs and Policies

The U.S. sugar program was established by the Food and Agricultural Act of 1981. Several modifications were made by the Food Security Act of 1985; the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996; the Farm Security and Rural Investment (FSRI) Act of 2002; the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008; and the Agricultural Act of 2014.

The core policy tools in the program are the loan program, import restrictions, and production allotments. The main purpose of the loan program is to maintain a minimum market price for U.S. producers. Processors use sugar as collateral for loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The program permits processors to store sugar rather than sell it for lower than desired prices. Loans can be taken for up to nine months. Processors pay growers for delivered beets and cane, typically about 60% of the loan. Final payments are made and the loan is repaid after the sugar has been sold.

Under the FSRI Act, the sugar loan rate was set at \$0.18/lb for raw cane sugar and \$0.229/lb for refined beet sugar. However, loan rates were increased under the 2008 Farm Bill to \$0.1875/lb for raw cane sugar and \$0.2409/lb for refined beet sugar. Loans under the 2008 Farm Bill become recourse loans if the tariff rate quota (TRQ) is at 1.5 million metric tons or below, regardless of the price. When the TRQ is set above 1.5 million metric tons, the loans are nonrecourse. Under the nonrecourse loan, a processor can forfeit collateral (sugar) to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) instead of loan repayment if market prices fall below the loan rates. Processors who obtain a nonrecourse loan must pay farmers an amount for their sugarbeets and sugarcane that is proportional to the loan value of sugar. This is the same as under previous legislation.

The Uruguay Round Agreement (URA) on agriculture made minor adjustments for sugar trade. U.S. import quotas on sugar were converted into TRQs, implying that a specified amount of sugar can be imported at the lower of two alternative duty rates. The amount of cane sugar subject to the lower duty rate increased from 1,117,195 metric tons to 1,231,497 metric tons for 2005 due

to production losses from Hurricane Katrina. The minimum low-duty import of refined sugar is 22,000 metric tons. The minimum low-duty imports for raw and refined sugar add up to 1.256 million metric short tons raw value of sugar per year. The high duty (about \$0.15/lb) is imposed on the amount of sugar imported over the import quota. The first-tier duty ranges from zero to \$0.0625/lb.

The second tier-duty for raw cane sugar was reduced from \$0.1762/lb in 1995 to \$0.1582/lb in 2000 under the URA. The duty for refined sugar was reduced from \$0.186/lb in 1995 to \$0.1621/lb in 2000. The duties have remained constant since 2000. The sugar quota has been allocated among more than 40 quota-holding countries, allowing imports of specific quantities of sugar at first-tier duty rates. The quota allocation is based on historical exports to the United States for the 1975 to 1981 period.

NAFTA allowed a rapid reduction in the second-tier duty for Mexican sugar over the past several years. This implies that Mexico is in a unique position to increase its exports of sugar to the United States above the allocated quota. Mexico is replacing sugar with High Fructose Corn Sweetener (HFCS) in their beverages. Mexico gained unlimited duty-free access to the U.S. sugar market on January 1, 2009. In 2009 before conversion, Mexico consumed 5.1 million metric tons of sugar. In 2013, that dropped to 4.2 million metric tons of sugar. By 2016 sugar consumption in Mexico was 4.7 million metric tons. HFCS consumption increased from 653 thousand metric tons in 2009 to 1.5 million metric tons in 2016.

In December 2014, the governments of Mexico and the United States agreed on an antidumping and countervailing duty document to suspend the duties on sugar from Mexico. The agreement includes a sugar export limit which is set at 100 percent of U.S. needs after accounting for U.S. production and imports from tariff rate quota countries. (U.S. needs are calculated based on USDA data.) For purposes of the agreement, “refined sugar” is defined as sugar with a purity of 99.5 percent or greater. “Other sugar” is sugar that does not meet the definition of refined sugar. The agreement caps exports of refined sugar at 53 percent of total exports from Mexico. The agreement establishes reference prices, or minimum prices, to guard against undercutting or suppression of U.S. prices. These minimum prices are \$0.26/pound by dry weight commercial value for refined sugar and \$0.2225/pound by dry weight commercial value for all other sugar. “Refined sugar” is defined as sugar with at least 99.5 percent purity or above. “Other sugar” is sugar that does not meet the definition of refined sugar.

The United States signed a free trade agreement in 2005 with the Central American countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. Currently, Mexican exports of sugar into the United States are duty free. CAFTA allows 130,000 metric tons of additional sugar to be imported into the United States in the first year of implementation of the agreement, with additional increases of about 3,000 metric tons per year up to a maximum of 151,000 metric tons. This increase, however, does not have a significant impact on the price of U.S. sugar or world trade flows. Trade negotiations with Australia in 2005 did not include increased sugar imports.

Domestic and Export Subsidies in South Africa and Mexico

South Africa has both internal price supports and export subsidies. South Africa reduced its subsidized exports by 200 thousand metric tons to 702 thousand metric tons although net exports for 2015 were only 40 thousand metric tons. Mexico also has subsidized exports and is subsidizing raw sugar storage.

Brazilian Production and Exports

Brazil is the largest sugar producing country in the world. The production of sugar has increased 353% since 1990. About 54% of Brazilian sugar cane is converted into ethanol for fuel. The USDA does not record sugar cane that is converted into ethanol in the production and consumption data. The only source for that information is through the Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) of the USDA. Exports have risen from 1.2 million metric tons in 1990 to 24.0 million metric tons in 2015. Sugar that is converted into ethanol is subsidized at prices higher than the world price. Higher world oil prices during the 2000s increased the price of ethanol which in turn increased Brazil's conversion of sugar into ethanol, reducing potential sugar exports from Brazil. Brazil decreased its exports by 7.8% in 2011 which provided strength for sugar prices in 2011 but Brazil increased exports in 2012 and 2013 before lowering them in 2014 and 2015. Export levels in 2016 were just short of record levels at 27.1 million metric tons.

Sugar Trade in Australia, China, and India

Australian sugar exports were handled by the Queensland Sugar Corporation (QSC) until 2008 when it was dissolved and replaced by a public corporation, the Queensland Sugar Limited (QSL), established under the Sugar Industry Act 2008. The QSL is responsible for the domestic marketing and exports of 90% of the raw sugar produced in the state of Queensland, which produces 95% of the sugar produced in Australia. State trading enterprises (STEs) were not addressed in the URA. Other countries, including China and India, handle their sugar trade through STEs similar to the QSC.

GLOBAL ECONOMETRIC SUGAR SIMULATION MODEL

The Global Econometric Sugar Simulation Model is used to analyze the United States and world sugar industries for the 2016-2026 period. The outlook projection assumes that current farm and trade policies adopted by sugar exporting and importing countries will remain unchanged. Assumptions associated with macroeconomic variables, such as GDP growth rates, interest rates, inflation rates, exchange rates, and consumer price indices in the United States and other countries, are based on projections obtained from the USDA website. Average weather conditions, historical rates of technological change, and current policies are also assumed to prevail during the projection period.

The model contains nine exporting countries and regions [Australia, Brazil, Columbia, Cuba, Guatemala, India, Mexico, South Africa, and Thailand] and 12 importing countries and regions [Algeria, Canada, China, Egypt, European Union, Former Soviet Union, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea, United States, and a Rest of the World region]. The model forecasts production, consumption, stocks, and exports or imports for sugar over a ten-year period. The model is solved for a set of equilibrium sugar prices in which demand for sugar equals supply for every year. The model used the predicted prices of all agricultural commodities, except sugar, from

UDSA. The model uses 2016 as the base year of the simulation.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WORLD SUGAR INDUSTRY

Total world sugar trade is projected to increase by 16.2%, from 45.6 to 53.0 million metric tons over the 2016-2026 period. Most exporting countries will increase their sugar exports for the same period. Exports will increase 13.2% for Brazil, and 13.8% for Thailand. Exports are also expected to increase for Cuba (17.1%) during the same time period. World sugar price, referred to as the ICE No. 11 price of sugar, is projected to decrease from \$0.166/lb in 2016 to \$0.137 in 2026 (Figure 6).

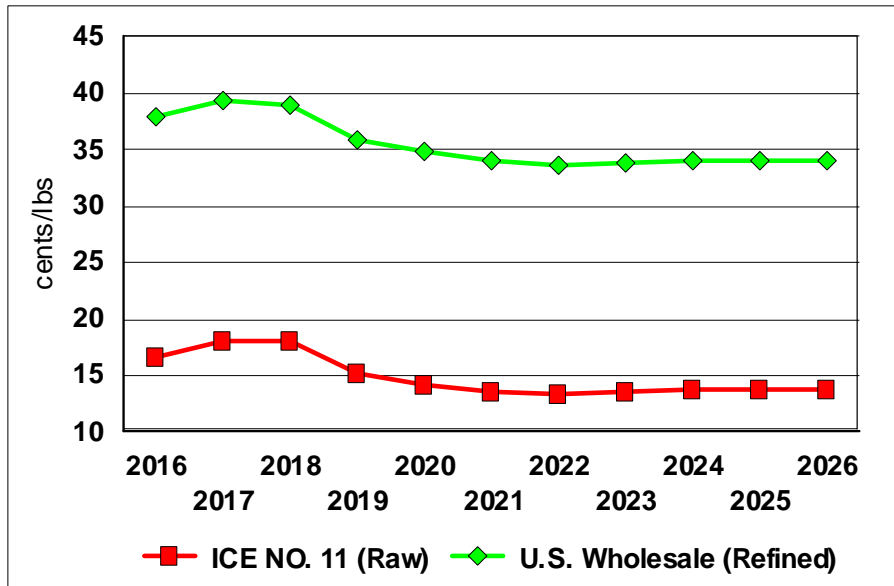


Figure 6. Estimated U.S. and World Sugar Prices

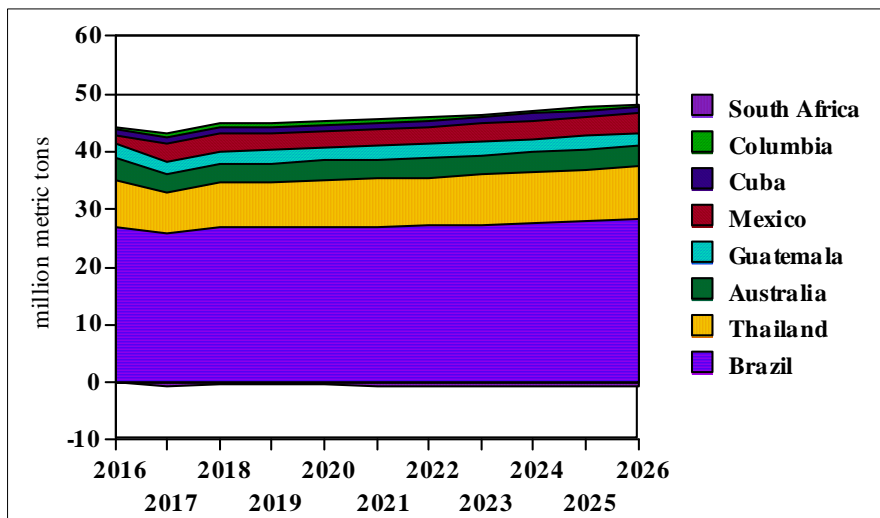


Figure 7. Projected World Sugar Exports by Country

United States

Table 2 shows production, consumption, imports, and ending stocks of sugar for the United States. U.S. sugar production is predicted to increase to 9.0 million metric tons in 2026. The increase in sugar production is due to an increase in both U.S. sugarbeet and sugar cane production. U.S. sugar consumption is predicted to increase by 9.4% from 11.0 million metric tons (the 2014-2016 average) to 12.0 million metric tons in 2026. Ending stocks are also expected to increase by 3.0% by 2026 (Table 2). Imports are predicted to increase by 15.5% through the period.

Table 2. U.S. Sugar Production, Consumption, Imports, and Carry-over Stocks, 2016-2026 Average

	Average (2014-2016)	2016	2026	% Change (2014-16) to 2026
	-----1,000 metric tons-----			
Production	8,251	8,751	8,961	8.6
Beet	4,741	5,106	5,079	7.1
Cane	3,510	3,646	3,882	10.6
Net Imports	2,635	2,241	3,043	15.5
Consumption	10,962	10,977	11,996	9.4
Carry-over Stocks	1,524	1,435	1,570	3.0
Per capita Consumption (kg)	33	34	34	3.0

Exporters

Figure 7 shows the projected sugar exports for the major exporting countries. Brazil is the largest sugar exporter followed by Thailand and Australia. Brazil's production is predicted to increase by 10.7% from 36.1 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 40.0 million metric tons in 2026 (Table 3). Brazil's exports are predicted to increase from 25.1 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 28.5 million metric tons in 2026. Its domestic consumption is predicted to increase by 4.6% from 11.0 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 11.5 million metric tons in 2026.

Thailand's exports are predicted to increase by 13.8% from the 2014-2016 average of 8.0 million metric tons to 9.1 million metric tons in 2026 (Table 3). Consumption increases from 2.6 million metric tons for the 2014-2016 average to 2.7 million metric tons in 2026. Sugar production in the country is predicted to increase by 19.0% from 10.0 million metric tons to 11.8 million metric tons in 2026.

Australia's exports are predicted to decrease by 7.1% from the 2014-2016 average to 3.4 million metric tons in 2026 (Table 3). Production is predicted to decrease by 3.1% from 4.9 million metric tons to 4.8 million metric tons in 2026. The main reason for the decrease in production is the large crop in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Sugar consumption is expected to increase by 12.1% from 1.2 million metric tons to 1.3 million metric tons in 2026.

Cuba's exports are predicted to increase by 17.2% from the 2014-2016 level to 2026 (Table 3). It is predicted that Cuba will increase its sugar production by 11.9%, and consumption is predicted to increase by 5.5%. These projections are based on the assumption that the political situation remains the same between the United States and Cuba.

Mexico's production is predicted to increase by 15.6% from 6.5 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 7.5 million metric tons in 2026. Mexico is expected to export 2.3 million metric tons per year by 2026, mainly to the United States under NAFTA. Sugar consumption is predicted to

increase by 11.5% from 4.7 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 5.2 million metric tons in 2026. Ending stocks are predicted to decrease by 15.7%.

Colombian exports are predicted to decrease by 3.4% from the 2014-2016 average to 547 thousand metric tons in 2026 (Table 3). Production is predicted to increase by 0.5% and sugar consumption is expected to increase by 15.1% from 1.7 million metric tons to 2.0 million metric tons in 2026.

Guatemala's exports are predicted to decrease by 2.1% from the 2014-2016 average of 2.3 million metric tons (Table 3). Consumption increases from 764 thousand metric tons for the 2014-2016 average to 854 thousand metric tons in 2026. Sugar production in the country is predicted to increase by 7.0% from 3.0 million metric tons to 3.2 million metric tons in 2026.

South African sugar production is expected to return to normal levels after several years of smaller than normal crops. South Africa's production is predicted to decrease by 3.9% to 1.8 million metric tons in 2026. Sugar consumption is predicted to increase by 15.1% and ending stocks are predicted to increase by 36.9%.

India's production is predicted to increase by 21.3% from 27.3 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 33.1 million metric tons in 2026. India is expected to export 2.7 million metric tons by 2026. Sugar consumption is predicted to increase by 13.1% and ending stocks are predicted to decrease by 22.5%.

Importers

Figures 8 through 10 show sugar imports by the major sugar importing countries. Sugar imports of selected Asian and African countries are expected to change by less than 1% and 13.0%, respectively, for the 2016-2026 period. Major Asian importers are Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, and China and major African importers are Algeria and Egypt.

Canada's production is predicted to increase from the 2014-2016 average of 100 thousand metric tons to 111 thousand tons by the year 2026, and consumption is predicted to increase from 1.2 million metric tons to 1.4 million metric tons in 2026 (Table 4). As a result, Canada's imports are predicted to increase by 11.5% from 1.2 million metric tons to 1.3 million metric tons in 2026.

The EU has changed the internal sugar policy by reducing domestic sugar support. This has reduced production. Because of that change, the EU has become a net importer of sugar. EU imports are predicted to increase from 1.5 million metric tons in 2014-2016 average to 3.6 million metric tons in 2026 (Figure 8). Sugar production in the EU is predicted to decrease by 2.2% and consumption is predicted to increase from 18.8 million metric tons from the 2014-2016 average to 19.6 million tons in 2026 (Table 4). Most of the increase in consumption is due to an increase in income for the Eastern European countries recently included in the EU.

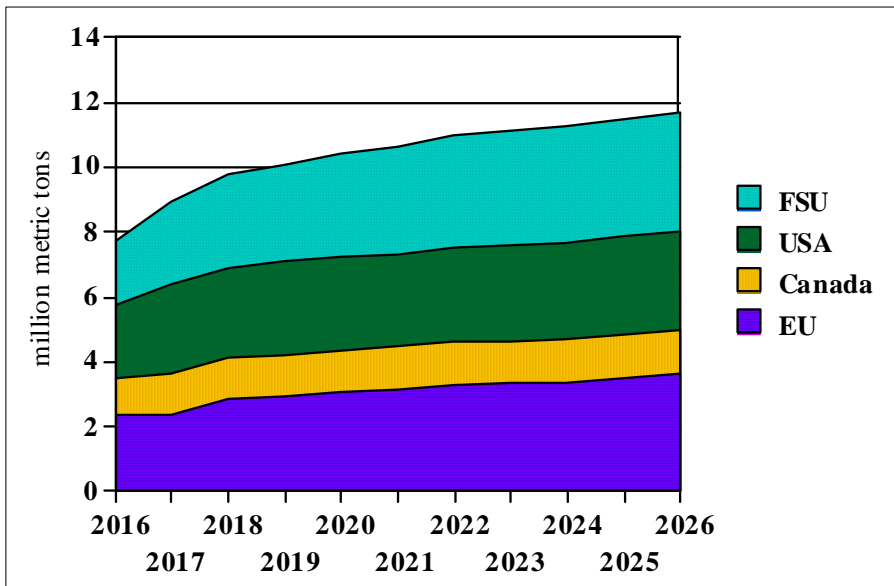


Figure 8. Projected World Sugar Imports by Country, Major Importers

The FSU's production is predicted to decrease by 2.3% from the 2014-2016 average of 7.0 million metric tons to 6.8 million metric tons in 2026, and consumption is predicted to increase by 10.0% from 9.0 million metric tons to 9.9 million metric tons for the same period. Imports are predicted to increase by 88.8% from the 2014-2016 average (Table 4).

China is expected to increase its imports by about 11.5% between 2014-2016 and 2026 (Table 4). China's production is predicted to increase by 23.3% from 9.8 million metric tons for the 2014-2016 average to 12.1 million metric tons in 2026, and consumption is predicted to increase by 2.1% from 17.5 million metric tons to 17.9 million metric tons for the period. The main reason for the large change in production is because of small crops in both 2015 and 2016.

Table 3. Sugar Production, Consumption, Exports, and Carry-over Stocks in Exporting Countries

	Average (2014-2016)	2016	2026	% change (2014-16) to 2026
-----1,000 metric tons-----				
Brazil				
Production	36,127	37,780	40,005	10.7
Net Exports	25,140	27,120	28,465	13.2
Consumption	11,033	10,800	11,540	4.6
Carry-over	503	210	478	-5.0
Thailand				
Production	9,935	9,270	11,822	19.0
Net Exports	8,017	8,000	9,126	13.8
Consumption	2,594	2,650	2,689	3.7
Carry-over	4,365	3,226	3,228	-26.0
Australia				
Production	4,900	5,100	4,750	-3.1
Net Exports	3,664	3,910	3,404	-7.1
Consumption	1,200	1,200	1,345	12.1
Carry-over	197	220	231	17.6
Cuba				
Production	1,808	1,950	2,024	11.9
Net Exports	1,015	1,200	1,190	17.2
Consumption	793	740	837	5.5
Carry-over	168	160	245	45.3
Mexico				
Production	6,502	6,678	7,516	15.6
Net Exports	1,328	1,394	2,302	73.3
Consumption	4,683	4,721	5,220	11.5
Carry-over	1,090	1,312	919	-15.7
Columbia				
Production	2,015	2,016	2,026	0.5
Net Exports	566	465	547	4.1
Consumption	1,697	1,764	1,953	15.1
Carry-over	217	266	211	-2.8
Guatemala				
Production	3,000	3,050	3,209	7.0
Net Exports	2,302	2,310	2,350	2.1
Consumption	764	784	854	11.7
Carry-over	156	112	161	2.7
India				
Production	27,312	23,945	33,141	21.3
Net Exports	1,109	100	2,767	149.4
Consumption	26,833	27,200	30,335	13.1
Carry-over	8,877	6,334	6,883	-22.5
South Africa				
Production	1,847	1,665	1,775	-3.9
Net Exports	4	(90)	(485)	NA
Consumption	1,955	1,957	2,251	15.1
Carry-over	89	272	373	36.9

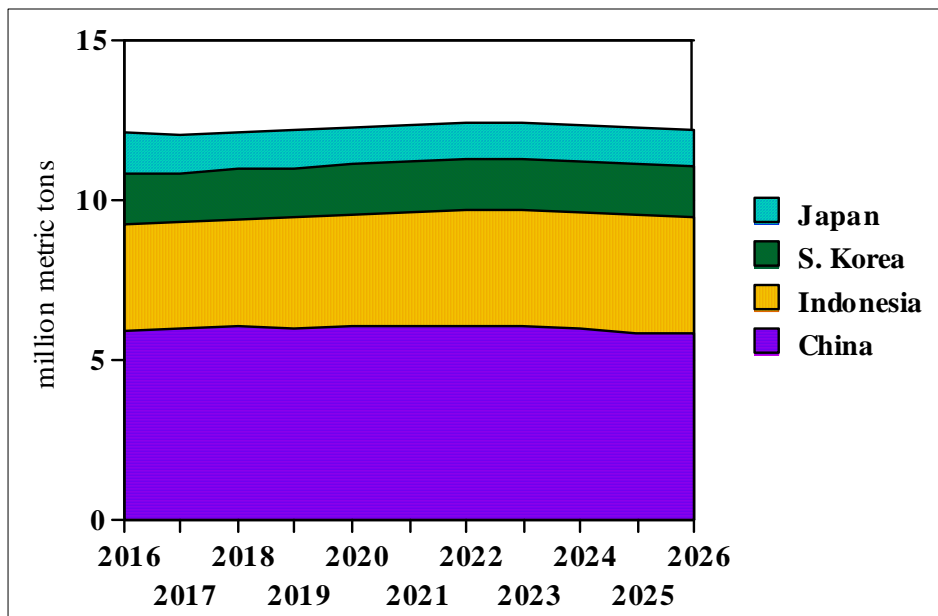


Figure 9. Projected World Sugar Imports by Country, Asian Countries

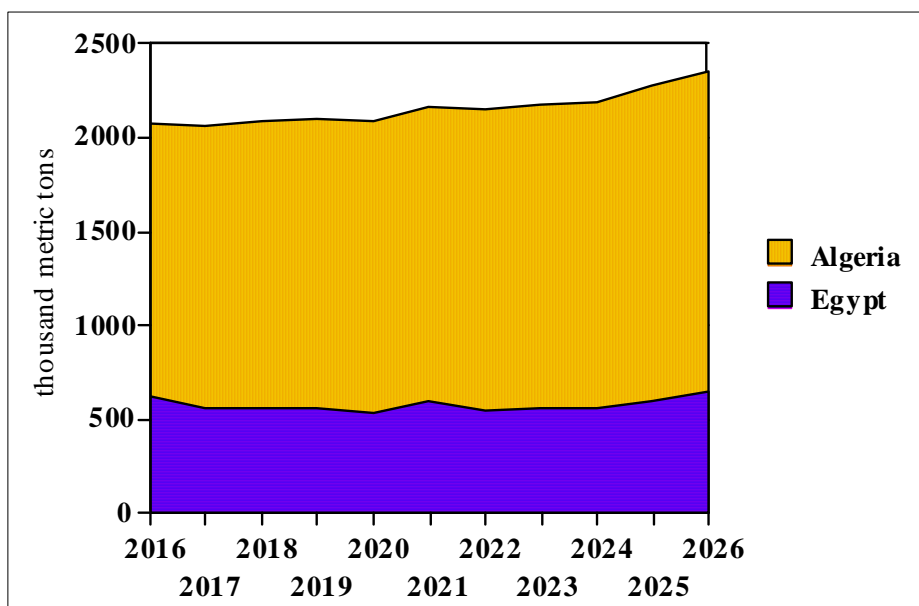


Figure 10. Projected World Sugar Imports by Country, African Countries

Japan’s imports are predicted to decrease by 13.1% from the 2014-2016 average to 1.1 million metric tons in 2026, due to a decrease in domestic consumption (Table 4).

In South Korea, consumption is predicted to increase by 4.4% for the time period and its imports are predicted to increase by 2.5% for the period. There is no domestic production of either sugar cane or sugar beets in South Korea.

In Algeria, consumption is predicted to increase by 29.6% from 1.4 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 1.7 million metric tons in 2026. The increase in consumption results in increasing imports from 1.4 million metric tons for the 2014-2016 average to 1.7 million metric tons in 2026.

Egypt's imports are predicted to decrease by 18.3% from 0.8 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 0.6 million metric tons in 2026, due mainly to increased production. Consumption is predicted to increase by 28.8% from 2.9 million metric tons to 3.8 million metric tons in 2026.

Indonesia's imports are predicted to increase by 12.0% from 3.3 million metric tons in 2014-2016 to 3.7 million metric tons in 2026. Consumption is predicted to increase from 5.7 million metric tons for the 2014-2016 average to 6.2 million metric tons in 2026.

Table 4. Sugar Production, Consumption, Imports, and Carry-over Stocks in Importing Countries

	Average (2014-16)	2016	2026	% change (2014-16) to 2026
-----1,000 metric tons-----				
Algeria				
Production	0	0	0	NA
Net Imports	1,428	1,450	1,704	19.3
Consumption	1,425	1,450	1,703	29.6
Carry-over	107	110	117	10.0
Canada				
Production	100	100	111	11.0
Net Imports	1,152	1,155	1,284	11.5
Consumption	1,245	1,255	1,392	11.8
Carry-over	253	255	276	9.0
China				
Production	9,787	9,530	12,068	23.3
Net Imports	5,641	5,955	5,838	3.5
Consumption	17,519	17,500	17,883	2.1
Carry-over	4,805	2,557	3,520	-26.7
Egypt				
Production	2,126	2,185	3,129	47.2
Net Imports	792	630	647	-18.3
Consumption	2,927	2,950	3,771	28.8
Carry-over	267	135	257	-3.7
European Union				
Production	16,310	16,200	15,954	-2.2
Net Imports	1,529	1,750	3,629	137.4
Consumption	18,767	18,800	19,572	4.3
Carry-over	1,854	281	808	-56.4
Former Soviet Union				
Production	7,003	6,850	6,216	-2.3
Net Imports	1,940	2,000	3,654	88.4
Consumption	8,967	8,858	9,861	10.0
Carry-over	1,099	1,025	1,056	-3.9
Indonesia				
Production	2,108	2,200	2,544	20.6
Net Imports	3,302	3,350	3,697	12.0
Consumption	5,662	5,650	6,239	10.2
Carry-over	712	544	567	-20.4
Japan				
Production	800	800	831	3.8
Net Imports	1,306	1,285	1,135	-13.1
Consumption	2,099	2,085	1,965	-6.4
Carry-over	581	580	591	1.6
Korea				
Production	0	0	0	NA
Net Imports	1,556	1,560	1,596	2.5
Consumption	1,466	1,530	1,593	4.4
Carry-over	393	410	390	-0.9

CONCLUDING REMARKS

This report provides an overview of the U.S. and world sugar markets for the 2016-2026 period using the Global Sugar Policy Simulation Model. The baseline projections are based on a series of assumptions about general economic conditions, agricultural policies, weather conditions, and technological change.

Total world sugar trade is projected to increase by 16.2% from 45.6 million metric tons in 2016 to 53.0 million metric tons in 2026. In early 2011, ICE No.11 sugar price increased to \$0.32/lb from a low of \$0.15/lb in early 2010. The price in early 2011 was about \$0.32/lb. The yearly average price for sugar in 2012 was \$0.22/lb. The price of world raw sugar decreased from to \$0.18/lb in 2013 to \$0.17/lb in 2014 and \$0.13/lb in 2015 before increasing to \$0.166 in 2016. The price of world raw sugar is expected to decrease slowly to \$0.137/lb in 2026. World sugar production increased 3% in 2016 while consumption increased less than 1% in 2016.

World ending stocks in 2016 have increased 4.4% since 2010. In 2010, carryover stocks were at 29.4 million metric tons and at the end of 2016 stocks were 30.8 million metric tons.

Imports by most importing countries are predicted to increase from the 2014-16 average to 2026 although Egyptian and Japanese imports are predicted to decrease. Imports by Algeria and Indonesia are predicted to increase by 19.3% and 12.0%, respectively.

U.S. sugar consumption is predicted to increase by 9.4% for the 2016-2026 period. Production is expected to increase by 7.1% for beet sugar and by 10.6% for cane sugar. Imports are expected to increase slowly during the forecast period.

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