

CUMENE

Cumene is the main feedstock for phenol/acetone production and demand is driven by market growth for the derivatives of phenol and acetone such as bis-phenol A, phenolic resins and caprolactam.

Other uses for cumene are as a thinner for paints, lacquers and enamels, and as a constituent of some petroleum-based solvents. It is also used in manufacturing polymerisation catalysts, catalyst for acrylic and polyester type resins, and as a raw material for peroxides and oxidation catalysts.

Cumene is considered a primary skin and eye irritant and excessive exposure can lead to headaches and narcosis. Cumene is stable at room temperature but must be kept well away from oxidising agents. It is a fire and explosion hazard and above 31°C explosive vapour/air mixtures may be formed.

Cumene is released to the environment as a result of its production and processing, from petroleum refining and the evaporation and combustion of petroleum products and by the use of a variety of products containing cumene. When released to the atmosphere, vapour phase cumene will react with photochemically generated hydroxyl radicals with an estimated half-life of 25 hours in polluted atmospheres and 49 hours in normal atmospheres. Cumene is a contaminant of air, sediments and surface, drinking and groundwater and a natural constituent of a variety of foods and vegetation.

ICIS pricing quotes cumene in the **USA**.

Frequency:

Published weekly on Fridays.

Cumene (USA)

Weekly Price Assessments:

Cumene Contract Prices

- FOB monthly (US CTS/LB & conversion to USD/MT):

General information:

Assessment window: Assessments are based on information supplied by market participants through the week up to 1800 hours in Houston on Fridays.

Standard cargo size: Spot prices are representative of typical domestic barge sizes ranging from 10,000-20,000 barrels.

Assessment Basis: A formula-based price assessment is updated monthly upon confirmation of benzene and refinery grade propylene prices. The formula is an average of several industry-referenced formulas.

The report offers market commentary that includes details of traced transactions, news on the supply/demand balance, export/import information, contract price negotiations and general sentiment for price direction. Where applicable there is product information, comments on up and downstream market developments and general market intelligence.