



Calculating Rolling Totals

Focus Sheet

What is a Rolling Total?

Some regulations and air permits require the owner or operator of a facility to track emissions or material usage as a “rolling total” (also known as “rolling sum”). This focus sheet explains how to calculate the most common rolling total, the 12-month rolling total. The same procedures can be applied to rolling totals for other time frames.

How Do I Calculate a 12-Month Rolling Total?

A 12-month rolling total is a sum of a variable (e.g., hours operated, emissions of a pollutant) from the previous 12 months. As a new month turns over, the amount from the most recent month is added and the amount from the “one-year-old” month is subtracted. The result is a 12-month total that has “rolled” forward to the new month. Below is an example.

In this example, the facility began operations in January 2022. For the 12-month total ending December 2022, the monthly emissions for each month from January 2022 through December 2022 are added together for a total of 12 months of operation. The 12-month total of emissions for the period ending December 2022 is 40 tons. To calculate the 12-month rolling total ending in January 2023, sum the tons emitted from February 2022 through January 2023. Repeat on a monthly basis to check that the rolling total is below applicable permit limits.

Month	Tons of Emissions	12-month rolling totals
Jan. 2022	2	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2022 = 40 tons </div> <div style="background-color: orange; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> Feb. 2022 – Jan. 2023 = 44 tons </div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> March 2022 – Feb. 2023 = 42 tons </div> <div style="background-color: lightgreen; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> April 2022 – March 2023 = 39 tons </div> </div>
Feb. 2022	4	
Mar. 2022	6	
Apr. 2022	4	
May. 2022	7	
Jun. 2022	5	
Jul. 2022	3	
Aug. 2022	1	
Sept. 2022	0.5	
Oct. 2022	0.5	
Nov. 2022	4	
Dec. 2022	3	
Jan. 2023	6	
Feb. 2023	2	
Mar. 2023	3	