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CHEESE REPORTER

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USDA Details New Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program

Agency Making $104 Million Available To Organic Dairy Operations To Help With Marketing Costs

Washington—USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) this week announced the availability of marketing assistance funding to organic dairy operations in the US.

Eligible Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP) participants will receive a one-time payment to assist with projected marketing costs for 2023, calculated based on a cost share of marketing costs on the pounds of organic milk marketed for the 2022 calendar year (or a projection of 2023 pounds of organic milk marketed if warranted in certain situations supported by documentation), not to exceed 5 million pounds per operation to target smaller organic dairy operations.

There is $104 million from Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds available for ODMAP assistance. ODMAP payments will be subject to availability of funding. FSA will make an initial payment to eligible appicants factored by 75 percent. If sufficient available funding remains at the conclusion of the application period, an additional payment of up to the remaining 25 percent may be made to each eligible applicant if USDA determines that additional assistance is still needed.

FSA began accepting applications for ODMAP on May 24, 2023. Eligible producers include certified organic dairy operations that produce milk from cows, goats and sheep.

Over the past several years, organic dairy farms have faced, and continue to face, a variety of challenges, and many are struggling to remain in business, USDA said.

Notably, organic dairy operations have limited ability to pass along cost increases to retailers or consumers without a decrease in domestic consumption of organic dairy and the cost increases have, in many cases, eliminated profit margins, especially among smaller operations that do not have the ability to take advantage of economies of scale.

Marketing and operational challenges may result in decisions to cease operations entirely without intervention, which will reduce the organic dairy market, USDA stated. Organic grain and forage commodities have traditionally been relatively small markets where the domestic US demand for organic feed has outstripped supply, resulting in the need for imports.

Input costs and availability, especially feed, have seen several years of sustained increases and volatility due to a variety of factors including drought in major forage production regions in the US, and transportation and trade challenges both in general post-pandemic and specific to the disruptions caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has traditionally been one of the major organic global feed suppliers, USDA pointed out.

In addition to these input costs and challenges, USDA noted that

• See **Organic Assistance**, p. 8

US Milk Production Rose 0.5% In April; Cow Numbers Fell 15,000 From March

Washington—US milk production in the 24 reporting states during April totaled 18.4 billion pounds, up 0.5 percent from April 2022, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reported last Friday.

The March milk production estimate for the 24 reporting states was revised up by 16 million pounds, so March output was up 0.7 percent from March 2022, rather than up 0.6 percent as initially estimated.

Production per cow in the 24 reporting states averaged 2,055 pounds for April, two pounds above April 2022.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 reporting states in April was 8.94 million head, 36,000 head more than April 2022, but 15,000 head less than March 2023.

For the entire US, April milk production totaled 19.2 billion pounds, up 0.3 percent from April 2022. Production per cow in the US averaged 2,037 pounds for April, one pound above April 2022. The number of milk cows on farms in the US in April was 9.43 million head, 26,000 head more than April 2022, but 16,000 head less than March 2023.

California's April milk production totaled 3.55 billion pounds,

• See **Milk Output Up**, p. 6

'Emmentaler' Can't Be Protected As EU Trademark For Cheeses: EU Court

Luxembourg—The term "emmentaler" cannot be protected as a European Union (EU) trademark for cheeses, the Court of Justice of the European Union decided this week.

Emmentaler Switzerland obtained, from the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the international registration of the word sign EMMENTALER for goods corresponding to the description "Cheeses with the protected designation of origin 'emmentaler'," the court noted.

That international registration was notified to the European Union Intellectual Property Office

• See **Emmentaler In EU,** p. 22

Percentage Of US Milk Marketed Through Federal Orders Rose In 2022

Class I Milk Fell To Record Low Of 27.0% In 2022

Washington—Milk marketed through federal milk marketing orders in 2022 accounted for 67 percent of all milk sold and 68 percent of fluid grade milk sold to US plants and milk dealers, according to a recent report from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

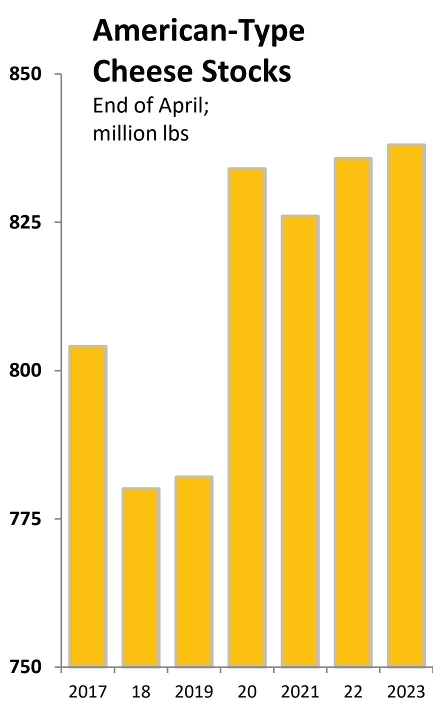
Those percentages are the highest in each category since 2019, when milk marketed through federal orders accounted for 72 percent of all milk sold in the US and 73 percent of fluid grade milk sold to US plants and milk dealers, statistics in the *Measures of Growth in Federal Orders* show. The California federal order became effective on Nov. 1, 2018, so 2019 was the first full year of that order.

Prior to 2018, the last time the percentage of all milk sold through federal orders was as high as it was last year was in 2006, when it was also 67 percent. In 2021, it had fallen to 61 percent, the lowest level since 2015.

For this report, the percentage of all milk sold is the amount of producer milk pooled on federal orders as a percentage of the total amount of milk sold to US plants and dealers, both as fluid grade (Grade A) and all milk sold.

Receipts of milk pooled under federal orders last year totaled

• See **27% Class I Use,** p. 22



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EDITORIAL COMMENT

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But the cheese production growth experienced in the Central region in the past decade-plus is mighty impressive. And the region should see some further impressive growth in the years ahead.

Central Region's Cheese Production Is Growing Impressively

Back in 1994, when we started publishing our annual *Dairy Production Extra* supplement, the overriding theme was that the US dairy industry was shifting to the West. That is, milk production was rising rapidly in the western states, and those states were also significantly boosting their production of cheese, butter and nonfat dry milk, among other dairy products.

That growth trend has continued for a number of years now, but has recently been matched, at least in the case of cheese production, by a different region rapidly growing its output: the Central region.

As reported this week in our *Dairy Production Extra* supplement, the Central region's cheese production has grown by 1 billion pounds since 2017 and by more than 2 billion pounds since 2011. At 6.86 billion pounds, the Central region's share of US cheese production last year was 48.8 percent, up from 44.3 percent in 2010.

To put the Central region's cheese production growth in some historical perspective, we went back to 1991, when USDA's National Ag Statistics Service first started reporting cheese and other dairy product production on a regional basis.

Back then, there were actually three "Central" regions: East North Central, West North Central and South Central. And in 1991, those three "Central" regions produced 3.9 billion pounds, or 64.9 percent of the nation's total cheese output.

NASS continued to report those three regions separately through 2004, then combined them into the Central region in 2005. And in 2005, the Central region's cheese production totaled just under 4.0 billion pounds, or all of 66.9 million pounds higher than in 1991.

In other words, over the 1991-2005 period, cheese production in the Central region grew by an average of less than 5 million pounds annually.

By contrast, the West region (which has remained unchanged since 1991) increased its cheese production from about 1.2 billion pounds in 1991 to 3.9 billion pounds in 2005, an increase of almost 2.7 billion pounds.

As might be expected, the West's share of US cheese production grew significantly during that period, from 19.8 percent in 1991 to 42.3 percent in 2005. Meanwhile, the Central region's share of US cheese output had fallen to 43.7 percent by 2005, a drop of over 20 percentage points since 1991.

But cheese production trends have changed over the past 15-plus years. Interestingly, both the Central and West regions first topped 4.0 billion pounds of cheese production in 2006, and that was also the first year in which the West topped the Central region in cheese production: the West's cheese output that year totaled 4.19 billion pounds, while the Central's cheese production totaled 4.03 billion pounds.

The West remained the leading cheese-producing regions in 2006 and 2007, but the Central moved back into the top spot in 2008 and has remained there ever since.

There are a couple of reasons for this statistical shift. First, after growing consistently and impressively from 1991 through 2007, the West's cheese production actually declined in both 2008 and 2009, by a total of about 104 million pounds. The West's cheese production didn't decline again until 2020, but by then the Central has expanded its lead to over 700 million pounds

That's because the Central region's cheese production started to increase fairly rapidly starting in 2008, and has only posted one decline since 2005; that was in 2019, when output of just under 6.0 billion pounds was down less than 1 million pounds from 2018.

The Central region's cheese production growth was particularly impressive in 2021, when output increased by about 480 million pounds from 2020. And last year's growth was also pretty impressive, at 210 million pounds.

All of this is not to downplay the growth in the West's cheese production. After all, as also noted in *Dairy Production Extra* this week, the West's cheese production has grown by more than 1 billion pounds since 2011, and by more than 2 billion pounds since 2003.

The West's cheese production last year, at 5.56 billion pounds, is more than the entire US produced back in 1987.

It's also worth remembering that the West is home to three of the nation's four leading cheese-producing states: California, Idaho and New Mexico ranked second, third and fourth, respectively, in cheese production last year.

But the cheese production growth experienced in the Central region in the past decade-plus is mighty impressive. And the region should see some further impressive growth in the years ahead.

That's because of the cheese plants that have opened, or are expected to open, in the next couple of years in Texas and Kansas. These projects are too numerous to mention in this space, but when you add those new plants to all the plant expansions taking place in states such as Wisconsin and South Dakota, it's not all that difficult to project that the Central region will be producing over 8 billion pounds of cheese annually by 2025.

Not bad for a region that barely grew its cheese output from 1991 to 2005.

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USDA Seeking To Buy 47.7 Million Pounds Of Cheddar, Mozz, Blends

Washington—USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service on Tuesday issued a solicitation for the procurement of multiple protein commodities, including cheese.

AMS is specifically seeking to purchase 7,257,600 pounds of shredded low moisture part skim shredded Mozzarella, 6/2-pound packages; 7,665,840 pounds of LMPS shredded Mozzarella, 12/1-pound packages; 6,415,200 pounds of yellow Cheddar chunks, 12/2-pound packages; 6,804,000 pounds of yellow Cheddar chunks, 12/1-pound packages; 6,486,480 pounds of yellow shredded Cheddar, 12/1-pound packages; 6,652,800 pounds of yellow shredded Cheddar, 6/2-pound packages; and 6,415,200 pounds of blended American process skim cheese, 12/2-pound loaves.

Bids are due on Monday, June 5, 2023 by 1:00 p.m. Central time. Questions regarding this procurement should be directed to LaShawne Brown, at *lashawne.brown@usda.gov*.

Offers must be submitted electronically via the Web-Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM). Capacity must be entered in full truckloads, USDA noted.

USDA earlier this month had announced plans to purchase a variety of protein items, including dairy products, to leverage US agriculture to feed children and families. The funds, provided through USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), are expected to support nearly $1 billion to purchase food for emergency food providers such as food banks.

Fluid milk products will be solicited under a separate solicitation, USDA said.

Meanwhile USDA on Monday also announced the awarding of contracts to three companies for butter and high protein yogurt.

The products were purchased in support of child nutrition and other related domestic food distribution programs. Deliveries are to be made from July 1 through Sept. 30, 2023.

USDA purchased 123,120 pounds of butter, as well as 578,334 pounds of high protein yogurt.

The yogurt products being purchased include 202,068 pounds of high protein blueberry yogurt, 24/4-ounce cups; 208,740 pounds of high protein strawberry yogurt, 24/4-ounce cups; 116,238 pounds of high protein vanilla yogurt, 24/4-ounce cups; and 51,288 pounds of high protein vanilla yogurt, 6/32-ounce tubs.

Contracts were awarded to the following:

Chobani LLC: a total of 383,934 pounds of high protein yogurt, at a total price of $655,006.02.

Darigold: a total of 123,120 pounds of butter, for $355,816.80.

De Lune Corp.: a total of 194,400 pounds of high protein yogurt, at a total price of $325,103.82.

Finally, USDA announced the awarding of contracts for a total of 769,500 containers of fluid milk for delivery in July.

This fluid milk acquisition includes 54,000 gallons and 340,200 half-gallons of 1 percent milk; 162,000 gallons and 178,200 half-gallons of 2 percent milk; and 10,800 gallons and 24,300 half-gallons of skim milk.

A total of five trucks of fluid milk were not purchased due to no bids received, USDA noted.

Contracts were awarded to:

Anderson Erickson Dairy: 3,600 gallons of 2 percent milk, at a total price of $11,988.00.

Cream-O-Land Dairy: 7,200 gallons of 2 percent milk, at a total price of $23,222.88.

Dairy Farmers of America (DFA): 39,600 containers of milk, at a total price of $80,744.40.

Darigold: 81,000 containers of milk, at a total price of $151,623.90.

DFA Dairy Brands Fluid LLC: 99,900 containers of milk, at a total price of $245,535.60.

Foster Dairy Farms: 35,100 containers of milk, at a total price of $82,872.00.

GH Dairy, Ontario, CA: 15,300 containers of milk, at $41,805.00.

Hiland Dairy Foods Company: 118,800 containers of milk, at a total price of $315,153.00.

Hollandia Dairy: 31,500 containers of milk, for $67,851.00.

McArthur Next, LLC: 27,900 containers of milk, for $61,216.74.

New Dairy Opco, LLC: 7,200 gallons of 2 percent milk, at a total price of $27,783.36.

Prairie Farms Dairy: 206,100 containers of milk, at a total price of $448,960.08.

Royal Crest Dairy: 7,200 gallons of 1 percent milk, for $28,800.00.

United Dairy Inc.: 64,800 containers of milk, for $164,934.90.

Upstate Niagara Cooperative: 24,300 containers for $42,158.88.

For more information on selling dairy and other food products to USDA, visit *www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food.*

For more information, visit www.natec-network.com/usa

Milk Prices Will Squeeze Producer Margins

Dairy Situation & Outlook - May 20

DR. BOB CROPP,
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Above-a-year-ago milk production has slowed. Milk production January through March was 1.0 percent higher than a year ago. April production was just 0.3 percent higher. While the number of milk cows were 26,00 higher than a year ago, or up 0.3 percent milk per cow was unchanged from a year ago. The number of milk cows increased month to month January through March but fell 16,000 in April.

Each of the five leading dairy states had production higher than a year ago except California. California had the same number of cows as a year ago but excess rain and flooding reduced milk per cow by 1.9 percent. Milk production was up just 0.1 percent in Wisconsin from 5,000 fewer cows. Milk production in Idaho was up 2.7 percent from 16,000 more cows. Texas had 5,000 more cows with milk production up 1.3 percent. New York had 10,000 more cows with milk production up 2.4.

Despite a slowdown in milk production cheese prices have declined steadily beginning in April and continuing in May. On The CME Cheddar barrels averaged $1.8175 per pound in March and $1.5921 in April. As of May 19, barrels were just $1.47 per pound. The 40-pound Cheddar blocks averaged $1.9372 per pound in March and $1.7574 in April. As of May 19, blocks were just $1.530 per pound.

Dry whey prices have also fallen averaging $0.4449 per pound in March and $0.3709 in April and as of May 19 just $0.2650 per pound. These lower prices will drop the Class III price which was $18.52 in April to around $16.30 in May.

The latest stock report showed total March 31st cheese stocks at the same level as a year ago but still at a relatively high level. While March total cheese production was just 0.2 percent higher than a year ago Cheddar cheese production was up 3.6 percent. Cheese sales are up some from a year ago.

Cheese exports were up year-to-date for 18 straight months but fell below year ago levels by 0.4 percent in both February and March. Increased competition from European cheese and economic uncertainty has impacted cheese exports. But year-to-date cheese exports were still 4.0 percent higher than a year ago.

March exports of other dairy products compared to a year ago were butter down 36 percent, nonfat dry milk/skim powder down 3.0 percent and dry whey products up 8 percent. On a milk solids equivalent basis, the volume of March exports was 0.4 percent lower than a year ago, the first decline in a year. Year-to-date exports were still 5 percent higher than a year ago.

Looking ahead the Class III price could stay in the $16's June and July. Class III prices are then Likely to increase for the rest of the year. The increase in milk production over the previous year should stay well below 1 percent. USDA forecast the number of milk cows to average for the year just 0.1 percent higher than a year ago with the increase in milk per cow just 0.8 percent resulting in 0.9% more milk production than 2022.

Milk production slows in the summer. Schools start opening in August which increases beverage milk sales. The building of butter and cheese stocks starts in late fall for the seasonal increased sales thanksgiving through Christmas. All of this will push the Class III price higher. By August, the Class III price could be in the high $17's, increase to $18 by September and peeking out in the high $18's by October and November.

Class III futures which had Class III in the $19's just a few weeks ago for the last quarter of the year now is in the $18's. USDA is not even quite this optimistic about the Class III price forward. USDA forecasts the Class III price to average just $17.75 for the year compared to the $21.96 average for 2022.

But all will depend upon what milk production does for the remainder of the year along with domestic sales and exports. But clearly milk prices will stay well below those of 2022. Dairy producer margins will be squeezed. Some relief in lower feed prices are expected by fall if final crop yields turn out as expected. BC

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 YEARS AGO

May 25, 1973: Washington—Some thoughts on groundwork for converting to the metric system were offered by Eric Vadelund of the National Bureau of Standards this week. Vadelund said the dairy industry, through its professional organizations, should take the lead in developing guidelines for metric packaging.

Washington—The Occupational Safety & Health Administration should be viewed by employers "not as a negative force that threatens their efforts," but as "a positive force that will eventually reduce their expenses," a top OSHA official said recently.

25 YEARS AGO

May 22, 1998: Franklin Park, IL—Dean Foods Company has completed the acquisition of Purity Dairies, Nashville, TN. Purity processes and distributes fluid milk, ice cream and other dairy products with annual sales over $100 million.

Washington—Four US senators – Wisconsin Democrats Russ Feingold and Herb Kohler, Arizona Republicans John McCain and Jon Kyl, petitioned FTC to conduct a "non-enforcement economic investigation of "potentially anti-competitive practices of California dairy policy," which "may adversely affect" milk and dairy product commerce and cause California consumers to pay high milk prices.

10 YEARS AGO

May 24, 2013: Lukeville, AZ—US Customs & Border Protection ag specialists at the Port of Lukeville discovered nearly 223 pounds of undeclared, unpasteurized cheese in a passenger vehicle earlier this month.

Baraboo, WI—Hundreds of raw milk advocates attended a Wisconsin dairy farmer's trial here this week, even if the trial itself didn't focus on raw milk. Dairy farmer Vernon Hershberger and his supporters said he has been targeted for selling raw milk, which is illegal in Wisconsin. But state officials said the only issue in the case is licensing, and even farmers selling pasteurized milk need the right permits.

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New FDA Guide Aims To Help Small Firms Comply With Traceability Rule

College Park, MD—The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) earlier this month published a "Small Entity Compliance Guide" that's s intended to help small entities, including farms and small businesses, comply with the requirements of the agency's Food Traceability Rule.

FDA's food traceability final rule, which was issued in November 2022, establishes additional recordkeeping requirements for persons who manufacture, process, pack, or hold foods FDA has designated for inclusion on the Food Traceability List (FTL). The final rule became effective on Jan. 1, 2023, but has a compliance date of Jan. 20, 2026.

The additional recordkeeping requirements included in the final traceability rule apply to the foods specifically listed on the FTL, and to foods that contain listed foods as ingredients, provided that the listed food that is used as an ingredient remains in the same form (e.g., fresh) in which it appears on the list.

FDA's Food Traceability List includes categories for cheeses, other than hard cheeses:

Cheese (made from pasteurized milk), fresh soft or soft unripened. Examples of these soft unripened/fresh soft cheeses include, but are not limited to, Cottage, Chevre, Cream cheese, Mascarpone, Ricotta, Queso Blanco, Queso Fresco, Queso de Crema, and Queso de Puna. This does not include cheeses that are frozen, shelf stable at ambient temperature, or aseptically processed and packaged.

Cheese (made from pasteurized milk), soft ripened or semi-soft. Examples of these soft ripened/semi-soft cheeses include, but are not limited to, Brie, Camembert, Feta, Mozzarella, Taleggio, Blue, Brick, Fontina, Monterey Jack, and Muenster. This does not include cheeses that are frozen, shelf stable at ambient temperature, or aseptically processed and packaged.

Cheese (made from unpasteurized milk), other than hard cheese. This includes all cheeses made with unpasteurized milk, other than hard cheeses. It does not include cheeses that are frozen, shelf stable at ambient temperature, or aseptically processed and packaged.

If a company is subject to the requirements of the Food Traceability Rule, it must establish and maintain a traceability plan containing the following information: a description of the procedures it will use to maintain the records it is required to keep under the Food Traceability Rule, including the format and location of these records; a description of the procedures it will use to identify foods on the FTL that it manufactures, processes, packs, or holds; a description of how it assigned traceability lot codes to foods on the FTL, if applicable; and a statement identifying a point of contact for questions regarding its traceability plan and records.

FDA intends to update the FTL approximately every five years, subject to available resources. First, the agency would update the Risk-Ranking Model for Food Tracing with new data and information.

As part of this process, FDA intends to provide stakeholders with a mechanism to submit relevant data for the agency's consideration. Based on the data and the updated model, FDA could develop a proposed revised FTL.

The agency would then publish a notice in the *Federal Register* stating the proposed changes and the reasons for the changes. The notice would also request information and views on the proposed changes. After considering any information and views submitted on the proposed changes to the FTL, FDA would publish a second notice in the *Federal Register* stating whether it is making any changes to the FTL and the reasons for the decision.

If FDA revises the list, the agency will also publish the revised list on its website. Any deletions from the FTL would become effective immediately. Any additions to the FTL would become effective two years after the date of the *Federal Register* notice announcing the revised list, unless FDA states otherwise in the notice. This period of time would provide entities handling any new additions to the FTL sufficient time to come into compliance.

Companies have to update their traceability plan as needed to ensure that it reflects their current practices and that they meet the requirements of the rule. Companies have to keep their previous traceability plan for two years after they update it.

Companies have to keep required records as original paper or electronic records or true copies (such as photocopies, pictures, scanned copies, or other accurate reproductions of the original records). Electronic records may include valid, working electronic links to the information required to be maintained under the Food Traceability Rule.

The "Small Entity Compliance Guide" is available on FDA's website, at *www.fda.gov*.

For more information, visit www.pineriver.com

Milk Output Up

(Continued from p. 1)

down 1.9 percent from April 2022, due to unchanged milk cow numbers but 40 less pounds of milk per cow.

California's March milk output had been down 2.0 percent from a year earlier.

Wisconsin's April milk production totaled 2.64 billion pounds, up 0.1 percent from April 2022, due to 5,000 fewer milk cows but 10 more pounds of milk per cow. Wisconsin's March milk production had been up 0.4 percent from March 2022.

Idaho's April milk production totaled 1.42 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from April 2022, due to 16,000 more milk cows and five more pounds of milk per cow, according to NASS.

Idaho's March milk production was revised up by 5 million pounds, so output was up 3.4 percent from March 2022, rather than up 3.1 percent, as originally estimated.

April milk production in Texas totaled 1.41 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from April 2022, due to 5,000 more milk cows and 10 more pounds of milk per cow, according to the NASS report.

Texas's March milk output had been up 4.7 percent from a year earlier.

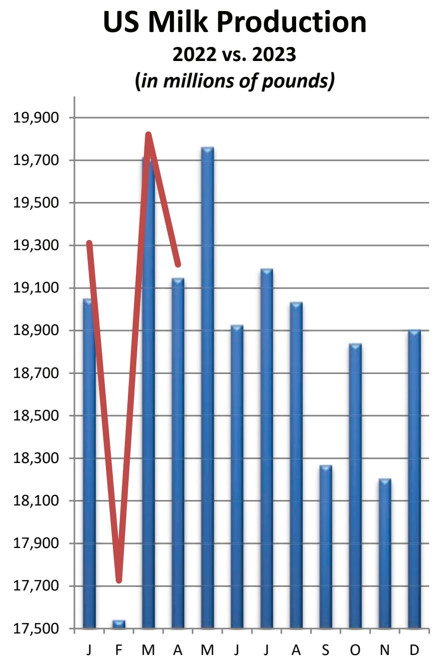
New York's April milk production totaled 1.34 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from April 2022, due to 10,000 more milk cows and 15 more pounds of milk per cow. New York's March milk production was revised up by 7 million pounds, so output was up 2.6 percent from March 2022, rather than up 2.1 percent, as initially estimated.

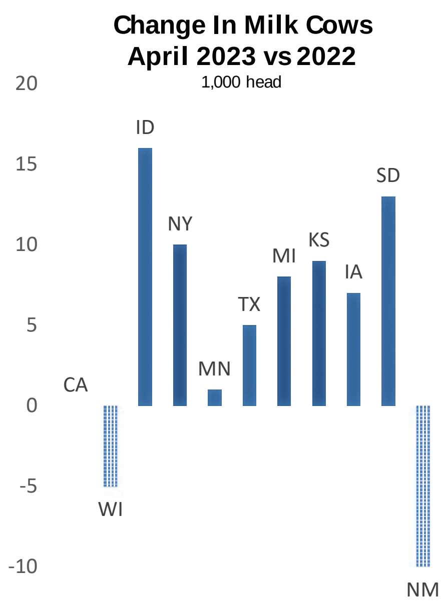
Michigan's April milk production totaled 1.0 billion pounds, up 2.6 percent from April 2022, due to 8,000 more milk cows and 15 more pounds of milk per cow. Michigan's March milk output had been up 2.9 percent from March 2022.

According to the NASS reporter, April milk production in Minnesota totaled 874 million pounds, up 1.5 percent from April 2022, due to 1,000 more milk cows and 25 more pounds of milk per cow.

Minnesota's March milk production was revised down by 3 million pounds, so output was up 0.9 percent from March 2022, rather than up 1.2 percent as initially estimated, according to NASS figures.

Pennsylvania's April milk production totaled 855 million pounds, unchanged from April 2022, due to 1,000 fewer milk cows but five more pounds of milk per cow.





Milk Production by State

STATE	April 2022 millions of lbs	April 2023	% output change	Change Cows
California	3614	3545	-1.9	NC
Wisconsin	2641	2644	0.1	-5000
Idaho	1378	1415	2.7	16000
Texas	1395	1413	1.3	5000
New York	1305	1336	2.4	10000
Michigan	978	1003	2.6	8000
Minnesota	861	874	1.5	1000
Pennsylvania	855	855		-1000
New Mexico	621	602	-3.1	-10000
Washington	526	530	0.8	-2000
Iowa	477	491	2.9	7000
Ohio	462	471	1.9	1000
Colorado	441	443	0.5	NC
Arizona	433	422	-2.5	-4000
Indiana	374	380	1.6	2000
South Dakota	336	362	7.7	13000
Kansas	343	360	5.0	9000
Oregon	226	223	-1.3	-2000
Vermont	215	215		NC
Georgia	176	179	1.7	1000
Utah	183	178	-2.7	-2000
Florida	175	168	-4.0	-6000
Illinois	150	148	-1.3	-1000
Virginia	126	121	-4.0	-3000

The state of Pennsylvania's March milk production had been down 0.2 percent from March 2022.

New Mexico's April milk production totaled 602 million pounds, down 3.1 percent from April 2022, due to 10,000 fewer milk cows but 10 more pounds of milk per cow.

New Mexico's March milk production had been down 4.4 percent from March 2022.

Washington's April milk production totaled 530 million pounds, up 0.8 percent from April 2022, due to 2,000 fewer milk cows but 30 more pounds of milk per cow.

Washington's March milk output was revised down by 1 million pounds, so production was down 1.8 percent from March 2022, rather than down 1.6 percent as originally estimated, according to NASS.

All told for the 24 reporting states in April, compared to April 2022, milk production was higher in 14 states.

Those increases range from 0.1 percent in Wisconsin to 7.7 percent in South Dakota.

Milk production was lower in eight states, with those declines ranging from 1.3 percent in both Illinois and Oregon to 4.0 percent in both Florida and Virginia. Milk production was unchanged in both Vermont and Pennsylvania.

For more information, visit www.pennlandpure.com

US Foods To Acquire Watertown, NY-Based Renzi Foodservice

Rosemont, IL—US Foods Holding Corp. last Friday announced that it has agreed to acquire Renzi Foodservice, a broadline distributor located in Watertown, NY.

The acquisition will enable US Foods to further expand its reach into central upstate New York, where the company doesn't have a distribution center.

Family-owned for two generations, Renzi Foodservice has more than $180 million in annual revenue and serves more than 2,300 independent restaurants, healthcare facilities, schools, government organizations, convenience tores and other customers. Renzi Foodservice will continue to operate in the 110,000-square-foot facility where it conducts business today.

"We are proud to be joining US Foods as our companies have many similarities, most important of which is the passion for bringing value to customers to help them succeed and a commitment to helping associates grow and thrive," said Jude Renzi, CEO of Renzi Foodservice.

"We look forward to US Foods investing in our business and expanding access to new and innovative products and business solutions to help our customers continue to grow their businesses profitably," Renzi continued. "The entire Renzi family thanks all our valued employees and customers who have supported us throughout our 46 years."

"We look forward to welcoming the Renzi team to US Foods as we continue to deliver on our long-range plan and enhance our position with new and existing customers throughout the region," said Dave Flitman, CEO of US Foods. "As one of the most respected family-owned and operated broadline foodservice distributors in northern and central New York, Renzi has built a strong reputation for great customer service and high-quality food from their modern distribution facility in Watertown, New York."

Pending regulatory approval, the acquisition is expected to close in the third quarter of 2023. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

US Foods is one of the leading foodservice distributors in the US, partering with approximately 250,000 restaurants and foodservice operators.

US Foods has 70 broadline locations and more tthan 85 cash and carry stores.

For more information about US Foods, visit *www.usfoods.com*.

MMPA, Canadian Company Partner To Upcycle Milk Permeate Into Ethanol

Novi, MI—Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) and Canadian company Dairy Distillery on Tuesday announced a joint initiative that will transform milk permeate into what they are describing as the world's lowest carbon-intensity ethanol, adding to the biofuel supply for cars and trucks.

Dairy Distillery, based in Almonte, Ontario, has developed technology to transform milk permeate into vodka, named Vodkow. The company also uses Vodkow vodka as the base for all of its cream liquors.

This high-value use of milk permeate caught the attention of MMPA whose Constantine, MI, facility produces 14,000 tons a year that's being used for animal feed. Looking to create more value for its dairy farmer members, MMPA partnered with Dairy Distillery, in a joint venture called Dairy Distillery Alliance, LLC, to build a plant to process its milk permeate into 2.2 million gallons of ethanol.

When blended with transportation fuel, the permeate ethanol will offset 14,500 tons of carbon a year. This offset will reduce the carbon footprint of the milk processed by 5 percent.

"I've been inspired by MMPA dairy farmers and their commitment to sustainability," said Omid McDonald, Dairy Distillery CEO. "Using a milk byproduct to reduce the carbon footprint of dairy is an innovation that will make a significant contribution to MMPA's net zero carbon emissions goal."

"Constructing an ethanol-processing plant at the Constantine facility complements our focus on sustainability and provides a progressive, unique opportunity to utilize new technologies that add value to our current processing operations while further diversifying the markets we currently serve," commented Joe Diglio, MMPA president and CEO. "It's exciting to see innovative solutions such as this facility, which lead to growth and success for our members, employees, stakeholders and our communities."

Ethanol production at the $41 million ethanol plant is planned for early 2025. The project received $2.5 million in funding from the Michigan Strategic Fund, illustrating the state's commitment to the future of clean energy.

The project includes the construction of a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment system that will produce natural gas to power the ethanol plant's distillation system, further lowering the carbon footprint of the milk permeate ethanol.

The output of the wastewater system will be a clean water stream that will eliminate Constantine's dependence on the local utility to treat its process waste.

Last year, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) provided a $100,000 Value-Added Grant to MMPA and Dairy Distillery in this first-of-its-kind venture, noted Tim Boring, MDARD director.

"The department is proud to support business expansion with multi-pronged benefits — creates good-paying local jobs; opens up new markets for Michigan's farmers to continue to thrive; lowers carbon footprints; and reduces the overall waste stream," Boring commented. "I hope this serves as a model for others into the future."

The decision by Dairy Distillery to establish this state-of-the-art facility in Michigan "highlights the strength of our agribusiness ecosystem and further demonstrates Team Michigan's commitment to delivering long-term economic growth for all Michiganders," said Jennifer Nelson, chief operating and customer experience officer at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

"This project is a win for our agriculture industry, our dairy farmers and our entire state," Nelson added.

"This investment by Dairy Distillery will create long-term opportunity in our state's vital food and agriculture industry and builds on our efforts to create good-paying jobs, support sustainability efforts, and invest in every region of our great state," said Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

The village of Constantine anticipates approval of a property tax abatement in support of the project. The MEDC also authorized a State Education Tax abatement to be used in conjunction with the locally approved abatement.

This project builds on Michigan's ongoing support of its agribusiness industry. Last October, Muskegon county was awarded a $60 million Strategic Site Readiness Program performance-based grant for the Southeast Regional Force Main project impacting communities in Ottawa and Muskegon counties.

For more information, visit www.smallbusiness.sealedair.com/

Organic Assistance

(Continued from p. 1)

organic farmers also have seen higher delivery and marketing costs, especially those related to transportation and hauling. As part of the system through which all dairy farmers provide milk and dairy products to consumers, dairies bear the costs of milk hauling and other marketing costs. These marketing costs for organic dairies, however, can be greater than the conventional market.

Also, participants in the organic dairy sector must take additional steps to keep the organic milk separated and its status as organic clearly preserved, USDA continued. In some cases, these requirements necessitate longer and more costly hauling routes, including the costs of finding truck drivers willing to cover longer routes with multiple stops. The recent shortage of truck drivers in general and specifically those with the experience and training to operate tanker trucks exacerbates these challenges further.

Organic dairy operations also tend to be smaller farms than conventional dairy operations, which means they often have less production to spread the various fixed costs over or have higher per unit costs, USDA said. Therefore, they may not benefit from the same economies of scale as conventional dairies. In particular, milk pick-up and hauling costs may be a challenge due to the need to have dedicated organic pick-up routes that need to stop at multiple farms or use smaller tankers.

Through ODMAP, USDA is assisting organic dairy operations by providing payments to assist with their projected marketing costs in 2023. The CCC Charter Act includes authority for CCC to use its general powers and funding to increase the domestic consumption of ag commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic markets or by developing or aiding in the development of new and additional markets, marketing facilities, and uses for such commodities.

USDA is providing this marketing assistance to organic dairy producers to help keep these small organic dairies in operation by aiding in the expansion of the domestic market for organic dairy, which will increase domestic consumption of organic dairy, in order to counteract the currently projected reduction in this market. Without the assistance, it is projected that organic dairies, and particularly small organic dairies, may cease or decrease organic dairy production and reduce the domestic supply and consumption of organic milk.

FSA designed ODMAP to leverage a simplified, streamlined application process to expedite assistance to certified organic dairy operations that produce organic milk from dairy cows, dairy goats, or dairy sheep. ODMAP provides one-time assistance for a cost share of projected marketing costs for eligible organic dairies for 2023, not to exceed 5 million pounds per operation to target smaller organic dairy operations, in order to provide support to aid or expand the market for organic dairy operations during 2023.

All organic dairy operations that apply for ODMAP will be required to provide their USDA certification of organic status, confirming their operation as an organic dairy operation at the time of application.

In order to calculate projected marketing costs for 2023, the process will have operations certify to their organic milk production for the 2022 year, that was marketed directly as organic milk or indirectly through organic products or a projection of pounds of organic milk marketed in 2023 if warranted due to changes in circumstances between 2022 and 2023 supported by documentation.

The ODMAP initial payment will be calculated by using the producer-certified pounds of organic milk projected to be marketed in 2023, multiplied by the $1.10 per hundredweight ODMAP payment rate, multiplied by a factor of 75 percent. The initial payments will be made to eligible applicants on a rolling basis as applications are submitted and approved.

Organic Funding Welcomed

"We are pleased that USDA is moving forward with this much-needed program. The need is real, and the need is now," said Tom Chapman, CEO of the Organic Trade Association.

"Family farmers are the foundation of the organic dairy sector, and we are heartened that USDA has recognized the urgency to get the resources out to those in need," Chapman continued. "We look forward to working in partnership with the USDA to ensure full support for the organic dairy sector.

"With unprecedented organic feed costs and inflationary pressures over the last couple of years, resources like ODMAP are really going to matter as farmers plan for the rest of this year," said Adam Warthesen, co-chair of the OTA's Organic Feedstuffs Relief Task Force, and senior director of government and industry affairs for Organic Valley.

"We welcome the monetary resources allocated to dairy farmers through ODMAP with much anticipation. Input costs have been at an unprecedented high with no foreseeable changes and farmers are struggling to keep up with these high costs at their current pay price for the specialty products they produce," said Lia Sieler, executive director of Western Organic Dairy Producers Alliance.

"Farmers are struggling to continue producing a quality, safe and nutritious product with the current costs of doing business," Sieler continued. "We thank USDA with the help of many members of Congress for stepping in, hearing our voices and working diligently to get money pushed out as quick as possible to help alleviate some of this pain.

"The costs facing organic dairy today are uncommon and putting serious strain on operations. USDA is right to step in and offer support, and this is a good first step," said Britt Lundgren, senior director of sustainability and government affairs at Stonyfield. "The alternative is we lose family farmers. We look forward to working with USDA to cover more of the actual costs organic dairies are facing."

Stonyfield Organic Expanding NH Plant To Meet Growing Demand For Its Yogurt Pouches

Londonderry, NH—Stonyfield Organic on Thursday announced a $7 million expansion of its Londonderry facility to meet growing demand for its yogurt pouches.

The brand is expanding its plant by 17,000 square feet, marking the second-largest expansion in brand history.

Over the last five years, Stonyfield Organic has seen double-digit growth of its pouches due to several factors, including tremendous distribution growth: Stonyfield Organic yogurt pouches are now available in over 75 percent of grocery stores nationwide.

The new expansion will support this increased retail distribution and allow Stonyfield Organic to double its pouch output at the plant and add 46 million pouches annually to the facility. The new expansion will include more pouch production lines.

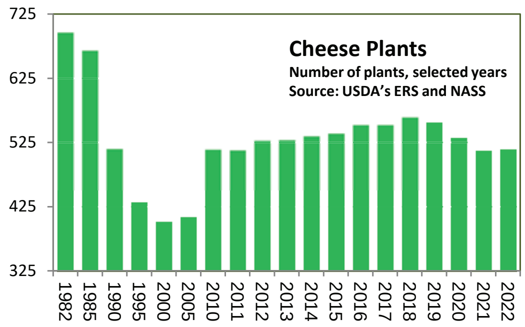
"Stonyfield set the standard for organic yogurt pouches many years ago, and they continue to be our most in-demand product," says Bill Cassidy, Stonyfield Organic's CEO.

The building shell will be complete by the end of June and the new yogurt pouch line will be operational in October.

The new wing of the facility is dedicated to Stonyfield Organic co-founder Samuel Kaymen and was unveiled in a ribbon-cutting ceremony as part of the brand's 40th anniversary celebration, the company announced.

For more information, visit www.loosmachine.com

Dairy Production Extra



Vol. 29, No. 1 • A Special Supplement Tracking Key Statistical Dairy Trends • May 26, 2023

US Cheese Production Topped 14 Billion Pounds In 2022; Output Rose In 8 Of Top 10 States

US cheese production in 2022 totaled a record 14.06 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent, or 301.7 million pounds, from 2021, according to *Dairy Products 2022 Summary,* which was released recently by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

US cheese production has increased every year since 1992. The last time it declined was in 1991, when output of 6.055 billion pounds was down about 4.6 million pounds, or 0.1 percent.

Cheese production has now topped four billion-pound milestones since 2010. It topped 11.0 billion pounds in 2013, surpassed 12 billion pounds in 2016, exceeded 13 billion pounds in 2018, and topped 14 billion pounds in 2022.

To put that in some historical perspective, cheese production first topped 1 billion pounds in 1942, didn't reach 2 billion pounds until 1970, first surpassed 3 billion pounds in 1976 and first exceeded 4 billion pounds in 1981.

Cheese output then exceeded 5 billion pounds for the first time in 1985, 6 billion pounds for the first time in 1990, 7 billion pounds for the first time in 1996, 8 billion pounds for the first time in 2000, 9 billion pounds for the first time in 2005, and 10 billion pounds for the first time in 2009.

There were 515 plants making cheese in the US last year, two more than in 2021, 18 fewer than in 2020, 50 less than in 2018 and 2017, unchanged from 2010, but 113 more than in 2000.

Central Region Boosts Share Of Total Cheese Production

Cheese production in the Central region in 2022 totaled 6.86 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from 2021. The Central region's cheese output has grown by 1 billion pounds since 2017, when it totaled 5.86 billion pounds, and by more than 2 billion pounds since 2011, when it totaled 4.7 billion pounds.

The Central region's share of US cheese production last year was 48.8 percent, up from 48.3 percent in 2021, 46.5 percent in 2020, 45.7 percent in 2019, 44.3 percent in 2010 and 48.4 percent in 2000, but down from 64.9 percent in 1991 (the first year for which regional cheese production statistics are available from NASS).

There were 227 plants producing cheese in the Central region in 2022, seven more than in 2021.

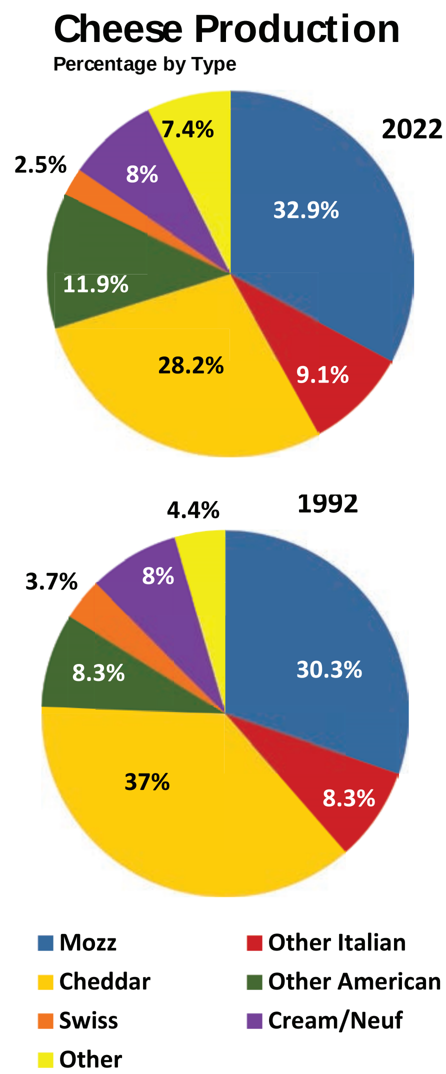
Cheese production in the West region last year totaled 5.56 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from 2021. The West's cheese production has grown by more than 1 billion pounds since 2011, when it totaled 4.53 billion pounds, and by more than 2 billion pounds since 2003, when it totaled 3.4 billion pounds.

There were 90 plants producing cheese in the West region last year, one more than in 2021.

Cheese production in the Atlantic region in 2022 totaled 1.64 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from 2021. The Atlantic region's cheese production has risen by more than 270 million pounds since 2010.

The Atlantic region's share of US cheese production was 11.7 percent in 2022, down from 11.8 percent in 2021, 12.4 percent in 2020, 13.1 percent in 2000 and 15.3 percent in 1991.

There were 198 plants producing cheese in the Atlantic region last year, six fewer than in 2021.



Wisconsin Sets New Record; California Output Increases

Wisconsin's 2022 cheese production totaled a record 3.52 billion pounds, up 0.8 percent, or 27 million pounds, from 2021. Wisconsin's cheese production has now topped 3.0 billion pounds for eight straight years.

Wisconsin's cheese production has risen by just under 1 billion pounds since 2008, when it totaled 2.524 billion pounds.

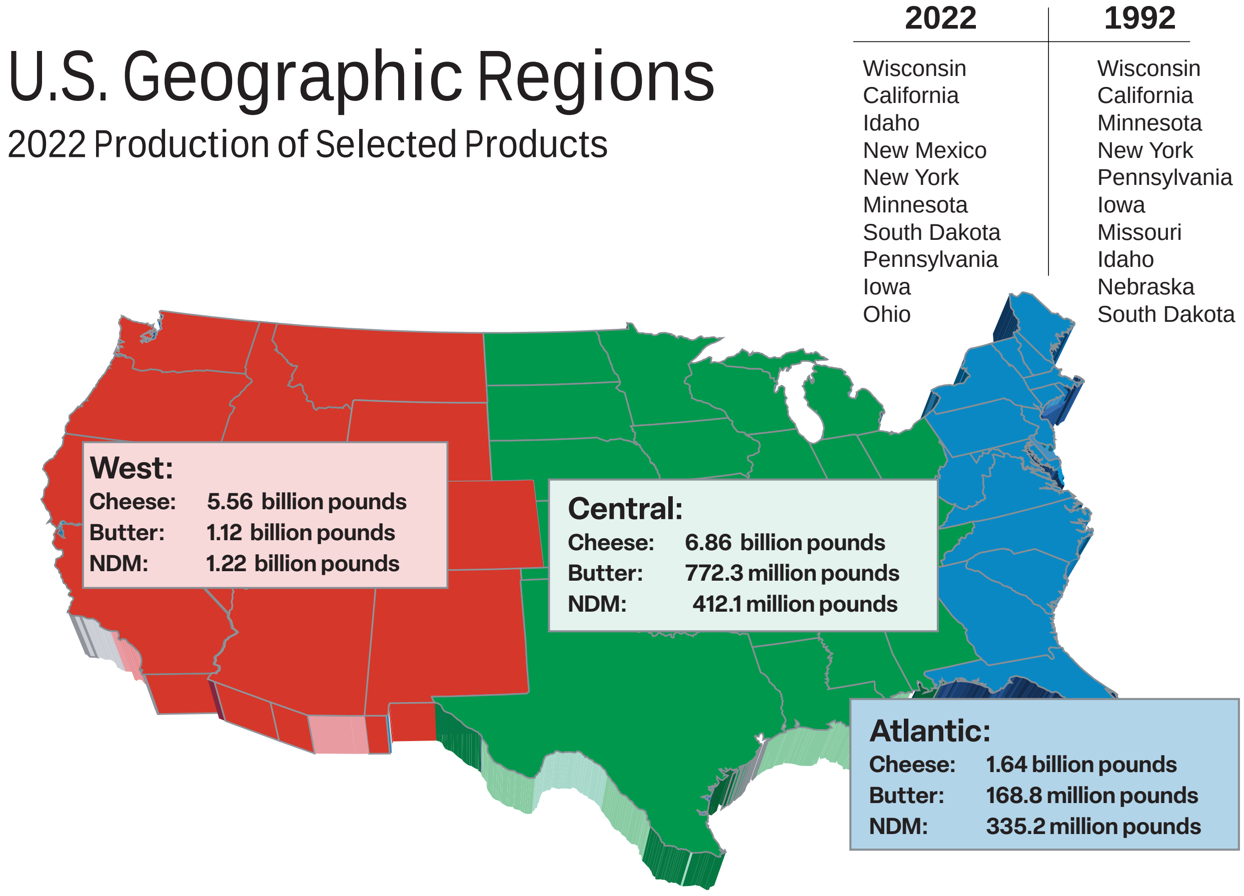
Wisconsin's share of US cheese production last year was 25.0 percent, down from 25.4 percent in 2021 and 25.6 percent in both 2020 and 2019, unchanged from 2000, and down from 26.6 percent in 2000, 31.5 percent in 1990 and 43 percent in 1970.

There were 118 plants producing cheese in Wisconsin in 2022, three more than in 2021, two fewer than in 2020, 10 fewer than in 2010, and seven fewer than in

• See **Cheese Output,** p. 18

Top 10 Cheese States

2022	1992
Wisconsin	Wisconsin
California	California
Idaho	Minnesota
New Mexico	New York
New York	Pennsylvania
Minnesota	Iowa
South Dakota	Missouri
Pennsylvania	Idaho
Iowa	Nebraska
Ohio	South Dakota



American-Type Cheese Output Sets Record; Share Of US Cheese Production Remains Above 40%

US production of American-type cheese in 2022 totaled a record 5.64 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent, or 25.1 million pounds, from 2021's record high.

American-type cheese production (which includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey Jack, washed curd, and stirred curd) has now topped 5.0 billion pounds for six straight years.

Last year, American-type cheese accounted for 40.1 percent of US cheese production, down from 40.8 percent in 2021 and 40.3 percent in 2020, up from 39.8 percent in 2019, but down from 41.1 percent in 2010, 44.1 percent in 2000, 47.8 percent in 1990, 59.6 percent in 1980, and 64.7 percent in 1970.

There were 244 plants producing American-type cheese in the US in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Central, Atlantic Regions Boost Production, Shares

American-type cheese production in the Central region in 2022 totaled a record 3.06 billion pounds, up 2.1 percent from 2021. That's the first time ever that the Central region produced more than 3.0 billion pounds of American-type cheese.

In 2022, the Central region's share of US American-type cheese production was 54.2 percent, up from 53.3 percent in 2021, 50.3 percent in 2020, 49.7 percent in 2019, 46.8 percent in 2010 and 52.1 percent in 2000, but down from 72.4 percent in 1991.

There were 130 plants producing American-type cheese in the Central region last year, eight more than in 2021.

The West region's American-type cheese production in 2022 totaled 2.24 billion pounds, down 1.7 percent from 2021.

The West's share of US American-type cheese output last year was 39.7 percent, down from 40.6 percent in 2021, 43.3 percent in2020, 43.9 percent in 2019, 49.1 percent in 2010 and and 43.3 percent in 2000, but up from 21.9 percent in 1991.

There were 37 plants producing American-type cheese in the West region last year, one more than in 2021.

American-type cheese production in the Atlantic region in 2022 totaled 341.5 million pounds, up 0.5 percent from 2021.

In 2022, the Atlantic region's share of US American-type cheese output was 6.1 percent, unchanged from 2021, down from 6.4 percent in both 2020 and 2019, up from 4.2 percent in 2010 and 4.6 percentin 2000, but down from 6.2 percent in 1991.

There were 77 plants producing American-type cheese in the Atlantic region last year, nine fewer than in 2021.

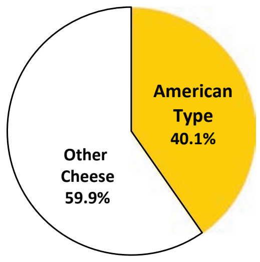
Minnesota, Iowa Boost Production, Shares

Wisconsin's 2022 American-type cheese production totaled 1.06 billion pounds, down 2.7 percent from 2021 but still the sixth consecutive year in which Wisconsin's American-type cheese output topped 1.0 billion pounds.

Wisconsin's record for American-type cheese production remains the same as it has for almost 40 years: 1.16 billion pounds, set in 1983.

American-Type Cheese Production - 2022

Share of Total Cheese Production



State	Output millions	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Wisconsin	1.06.b	-2.7%	18.8%	19.4%
Minnesota	680.4 m	7.4	12.1	11.3
California	553.2	-3.8	9.8	10.2
Iowa	208.0	12.6	3.7	3.3
New York	141.9	0.9	2.5	2.5
Other	3.0 b	0.2	53.1	53.2

Region	Output/Pounds	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Central	3.06 billion	2.1%	54.2%	53.3%
West	2.24 billion	-1.7	39.7	40.6
Atlantic	341.5 million	0.5	6.1	6.1
U.S. Total	**5.64 billion pounds**	**0.4%**	**40.1%**	**40.8%**

In 2022, Wisconsin's share of US American-type cheese output was 18.8 percent, down from 19.4 percent in 2021, 19.9 percent in 2020, 19.8 percent in 2010, 24.9 percent in 2000 and 39.6 percent in 1983.

There were 66 plants producing American-type cheese in Wisconsin last year, five more than in 2021.

Minnesota's 2022 American-type cheese production totaled a record 680.4 million pounds, up 7.4 percent from 2021.

That breaks the state's previous record of 651.6 million pounds, set in 2000.

Minnesota's share of American-type cheese production last year was 12.1 percent, up from 11.3 percent in 2021, 11.7 percent in 2020, and 11.6 percent in 2019, but down from 17.9 percent in 2000, 20.6 percent in 1990 and 19.1 percent in 1980.

There were eight plants producing American-type cheese in Minnesota last year, unchanged from 2021.

American-type cheese production in California last year totaled 553.2 million pounds, down 3.8 percent from 2021.

That's the seventh straight year in which California's American-type cheese output declined after reaching a recent high of 652.8 million pounds in 2015.

The state's output had reached a record high of 854.7 million pounds in 2005.

California's share of US American-type cheese production in 2022 was 9.8 percent, down from 10.2 percent in 2021, 10.9 percent in 2020, 11.4 percent in 2019, 14.2 percent in 2010, 22.4 percent in 2005 and 17.6 percent in 2000, according to the report.

There were 12 plants producing American-type cheese in California last year, one more than in 2021.

Iowa's 2022 American-type cheese production totaled 208.0 million pounds, up 12.6 percent from 2021.

Iowa's share of US American-type cheese output last year was 3.7 percent, up from 3.3 percent in 2021 but down from 4.0 percent in 2020.

There were 14 plants producing American-type cheese in Iowa last year, three more than in 2021.

New York's 2022 American-type cheese production totaled 141.9 million pounds, up 0.9 percent from 2021.

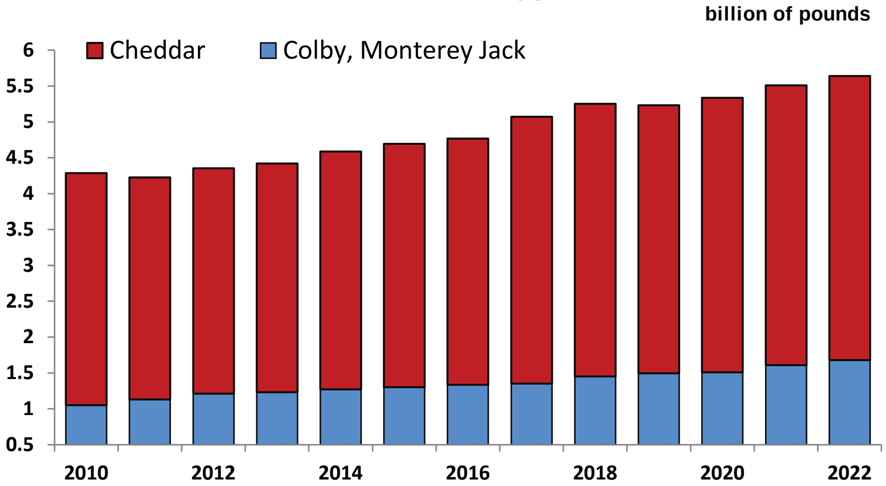
New York's share of American-type cheese output last year was 2.5 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were 21 plants producing American-type cheese in New York last year, two fewer than in 2021.

American-type cheese production in all other states last year totaled 3.0 billion pounds, up 0.2 percent from 2021. All other states' accounted for 53.1 percent of US American-type cheese output in 2022, down from 53.2 percent in 2021.

There were 123 plants producing American-type cheese in all other states in 2022, seven fewer than in 2021.

American-Type Cheese Production:
billion of pounds



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Cheddar Output Fell 0.2% In 2022; First Decline Since 2019

US production of Cheddar cheese in 2022 totaled 3.96 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent, or 6.9 million pounds, from 2021's record output.

That's the first decline in US Cheddar production since 2019, when output of 3.74 billion pounds was down 1.7 percent, or 65 million pounds, from 2018.

Last year, Cheddar cheese accounted for 28.2 percent of total US cheese production, down from 28.9 percent in both 2021 and 2020, 28.4 percent in 2019, 31 percent in 2010, 34.1 percent in 2000, 39.3 percent in 1990, 43.9 percent in 1980, 53.7 percent in 1970 and 71.1 percent in 1950.

Cheddar accounted for 70.3 percent of total American-type cheese production, down from 70.7 percent in 2021, 71.7 percent in 2020, 75.4 percent in 2010, 77.4 percent in 2000, 82.2 percent in 1990 and 73.7 percent in 1980.

There were 234 plants producing Cheddar cheese in the US last year, five more than in 2021.

Central Is Only Region To Boost Cheddar Production

Cheddar production in the Central region last year totaled 2.12 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from 2021.

The Central region's share of United States Cheddar production in 2022 was 53.5 percent, up from 52.6 percent in 2021, 49.1 percent in 2020, 50.2 percent in 2019, 47.3 percent in 2010 and 48.5 percent in 2000, but down from 74.3 percent in 1991.

There were 128 plants producing Cheddar cheese in the Central region last year, eight more than in 2021.

The West region's 2022 Cheddar production totaled 1.53 billion pounds, down 2.4 percent from 2021.

In 2022, the West's share of US Cheddar output was 38.5 percent, down from 39.4 percent in 2021, 42.6 percent in 2020.

The West's share of output was 41.3 percent in 2019, 47.4 percent in 2010 and 43.3 percent in 2000, but up from 19.8 percent in 1991.

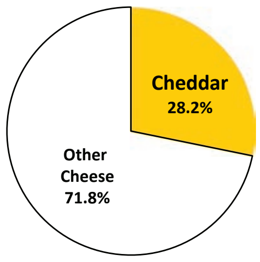
There were 36 plants producing Cheddar cheese in the Western region in 2022, two more than in 2021.

Cheddar production in the Atlantic region last year totaled 317.3 million pounds, down 0.5 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic region's share of US Cheddar cheese output in 2022 was 8.0 percent, unchanged from 2021 but down from 8.3 percent in 2020.

Cheddar Cheese Production

Share of Total Cheese Production



State	Output In lbs	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Wisconsin	710.9 m	-3.8%	17.9%	18.6%
California	275.3	-4.1	6.9	7.2
Vermont	104.9	1.3	2.6	2.6
Other	2.87 billion	1.1%	72.5%	71.6%

Region	Output in lbs.	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Central	2.12 billion	1.5%	53.9%	52.6%
West	1.53 billion	-2.4	38.5	39.4
Atlantic	317.3 million	-0.5	8.0	8.0
U.S. Total	**3.96 billion pounds**	**-0.2%**	**28.2%**	**28.9%**

The Atlantic region's share of Cheddar cheese output was 8.5 percent in 2019, up from 5.3 percent in 2010, down from 8.2 percent in 2000, but up from 5.9 percent in 1991.

There were 70 plants producing Cheddar cheese in the Atlantic region last year, five fewer than in 2021.

Production Falls In WI, CA; Rises In VT, All Other States

Wisconsin's 2022 Cheddar production totaled 710.9 million pounds, down 3.8 percent from 2021 and the second straight decline in the state's Cheddar output.

Wisconsin's Cheddar production remains well below its record high of 951.2 million pounds, set in 1983. The state hasn't produced more than 800 million pounds of Cheddar in a single year since 1988, although production has increased significantly since reaching a recent low of 549.6 million pounds in 2011.

In 2022, Wisconsin's share of US Cheddar production was 17.9 percent, down from 18.6 percent in 2021, 19.4 percent in 2020, 19.1

• See **Cheddar Output,** p. 19

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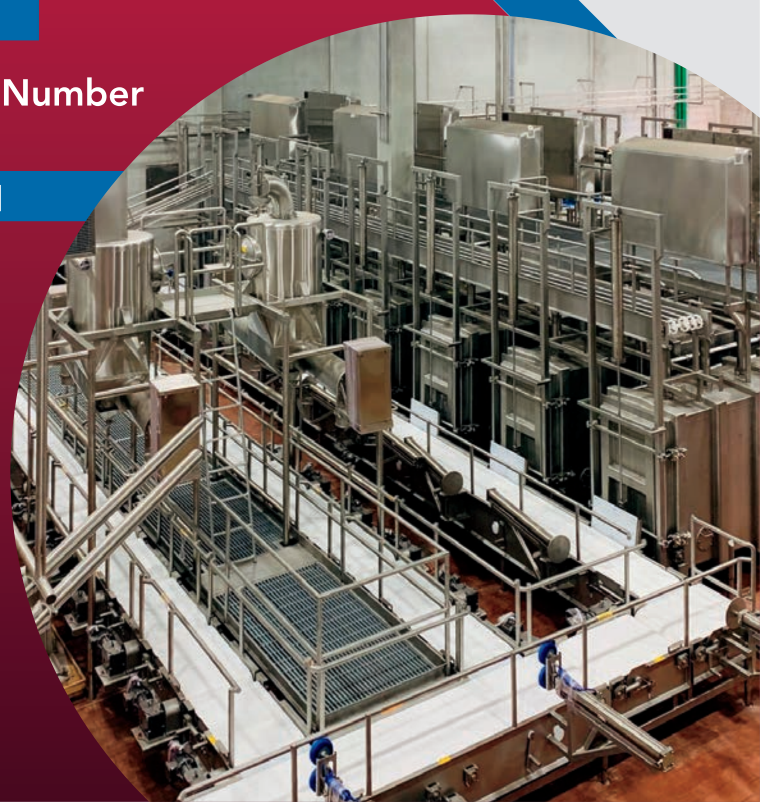

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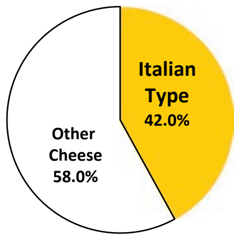
Italian Cheese Output Reaches Record 5.9 Billion Pounds

Italian-Type Cheese Production

Share of Total Cheese Production



State	Output lbs	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Wisconsin	1.68 b	1.6%	28.5%	28.7%
California	1.62 b	1.2%	27.4%	27.7%
New York	347.3 m	0.4	5.9	6.0
Pennsylvania	275.7	0.5	4.7	4.8
Minnesota	127.5	-5.7	2.2	2.3
New Jersey	31.7	5.4	0.5	0.5
Other	1.82 billion	5.5%	30.9%	30.0%

Region	Output	Percent Change	2021 Share	2020 Share
West	2.73 billion	2.5%	46.2	46.1
Central	2.48 billion	2.9	42.0	41.8
Atlantic	699.6 million	-0.1	11.9	12.1
U.S. Total	5.90 billion pounds	2.3%	42.0%	41.9%

US production of Italian-type cheese last year totaled a record 5.9 billion pounds, up 2.3 percent, or 135.2 million pounds, from 2021.

Italian cheese production has grown by more than 1.1 billion pounds since 2013, and has been above 5.0 billion pounds for eight straight years.

Last year, Italian cheese accounted for 42.0 percent of total US cheese production, up from 41.9 percent in 2021; down from 42.4 percent in 2020, 43.2 percent in 2019, and 42.3 percent in 2010, but up from 39.8 percent in 2000, 36.4 percent in 1990, 24.7 percent in 1980, 17.9 percent in 1970 and 5.1 percent in 1950.

There were 193 plants producing Italian cheese in the US last year, 11 fewer than in 2021.

West, Central Regions Boost Output, Production Shares

Italian cheese production in the West region last year totaled 2.73 billion pounds, up 2.5 percent from 2021.

In 2022, the West region's share of US Italian cheese production was 46.2 percent, up from 46.1 percent in 2021, downfrom 46.6 percent in 2020 and 47.6 percent in 2019, but up from 44.9 percent in 2010, 34.6 percent in 2000 and 20.1 percent in 1991.

There were 41 plants producing Italian cheese in the Western region last year, three fewer than in 2021.

The Central region's 2022 Italian cheese production totaled 2.48 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent from 2021.

Last year, the Central region's share of US Italian cheese output was 42.0 percent, up from 41.8 percent in 2021, 41 percent in 2020, 40 percent in 2019, 38.8 percent in 2010 and 33.5 percent in 2000, but down from 55.5 percent in 1991.

There were 85 plants producing Italian cheese in the Central region in 2022. That was one more than in 2021.

Italian cheese production in the Atlantic region in 2022 totaled 699.6 million pounds, down 0.1 percent from 2021.

In 2022, the Atlantic region's share of United State Italian cheese production was 11.9 percent, down from 12.1 percent in 2021, 12.4 percent in 2020, 12.3 percent in 2019, 16.3 percent in 2010, 24.4 percent in 2000 and 24.2 percent in 1991.

There were 67 plants producing Italian cheese in the Atlantic region last year. However that was nine fewer manufacturing plant producing Italian cheese than in 2021.

WI, CA, NY, PA Boost Output; PA Sets New Record

Italian cheese production in Wisconsin last year totaled 1.68 billion pounds up 1.6 percent from 2021.

In 2022, Wisconsin's share of US Italian cheese output was 28.5 percent, down from 28.7 percent in 2021, 29.3 percent in 2020, 30.0 percent in 2019, and 28.7 percent in 2010, up from 27.8 percent in 2000, but down from 32.2 percent in 1990 and 29.4 percent in 1980.

There were 53 plants producing Italian cheese in Wisconsin last year, unchanged from 2021.

California's 2022 Italian cheese production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from the previous year.

California's share of US Italian cheese output last year was 27.4 percent, down from 27.7 percent in 2021, 28.6 percent in 2020.

California's share of Italian cheese production was 29.9 percent in 2019 and 31.1 percent in 2010, but up from 22.1 percent in 2000, 15.7 percent in 1990 and 15.4 percent in 1980.

There were 26 plants producing Italian cheese in California in 2022, two fewer than in the previous year.

New York's Italian cheese production last year totaled 347.3 million pounds, up 0.4 percent from 2021.

In 2022, New York's share of United States Italian cheese production was 5.9 percent, down from 6.0 percent in 2021, 6.3 percent in both 2020 and 2019, 8.3 percent in 2010 and 12.7 percent in 2000.

There were 18 plants producing Italian cheese in New York last year, two fewer than in the previous year.

Italian cheese production in Pennsylvania in 2022 totaled 275.74 million pounds, up 0.5 percent from 2021.

That breaks Pennsylvania's previous Italian cheese production record of 275.73 million pounds, which was set in 2010.

The state of Pennsylvania's share of United States Italian cheese production in 2022 was 4.7 percent, down from 4.8 percent in the previous year.

There were 13 plants producing Italian cheese in Pennsylvania in 2022, one more than in the previous year.

Minnesota's 2022 Italian cheese production totaled 127.5 million pounds, down 5.7 percent from 2021.

Minnesota's share of US output last year was 2.2 percent, down from 2.3 percent in 2021.

There were five manufacturing plants producing Italian cheese in Minnesota last year, unchanged from 2021.

Italian cheese production in New Jersey in 2022 totaled 31.7 million pounds, up 5.4 percent from 2021, according to USDA's NASS information.

And New Jersey's share of United States production in 2022 was 0.5 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were nine plants producing Italian cheese in New Jersey in 2022, one fewer than in the previous year.

Italian cheese production in all other states last year totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 5.5 percent from 2021.

All other states accounted for 30.9 percent of United States Italian cheese production last year, up from 30.0 percent from the previous year of 2021, according to USDA's NASS.

There were 69 manufacturing plants producing Italian cheese in all other states in 2022, seven fewer than in 2021.

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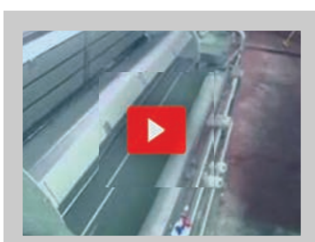

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Mozzarella Production Sets New Record: 4.6 Billion Pounds

US Mozzarella production in 2022 reached a record 4.63 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent, or 130.9 million pounds, from 2021.

Mozzarella production for 2021 was revised up to a record 4.5 billion pounds, which was up 1.2 percent from 2020. Previously, 2021 Mozzarella production was estimated at 4.49 billion pounds, which was up 1.0 percent from 2020 but almost 7 million pounds below 2019's record output.

Mozzarella accounted for 32.9 percent of output, up from 32.7 percent in 2021, down from 33.6 percent in 2020, 34.2 percent in 2019, but up from 31 in 2000.

There were 126 plants producing Mozzarella in the US last year, two fewer than in 2021.

West Continues To Produce Over 50% Of US Mozzarella

Mozzarella production in the West region in 2022 totaled 2.57 billion pounds up 2.4 percent from 2021.

In 2022, the West's share of US Mozzarella output was 55.6 percent, down from 55.9 percent in 2021, 55.8 percent in 2020 and 56.6 percent in 2019, but up from 52.7 percent in 2010, 39.4 percent in 2000 and 22.8 percent in 1991.

There were 31 plants producing Mozzarella in the West region in 2022, two fewer than in 2021.

The Central region's cheese production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 4.9 percent from 2021.

The Central's share of Mozzarella was 34.9 percent, up from 34.2 percent in 2021, 34.3 percent in 2020, 33.2 percent in 2019, but down from 57.2 percent in 1991.

There were 56 plants producing Mozzarella in the Central region last year, one more than in 2021.

Production in the Atlantic totaled 439.6 million pounds, down 1.2 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic region's share of Mozzarella was 9.5 percent, down from 9.9 percent in 2021, 9.8 percent in 2020, 10.1 percent in 2019, 13.8 percent in 2010, 20.8 percent in 2000 and 20.0 percent in 1991.

There were 39 plants producing Mozzarella in the Atlantic region in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Production Increases In CA, WI, PA, NJ, Falls In NY

California's Mozzarella production totaled 1.49 billion pounds, up 0.7 percent from 2021 but still more than 80 million pounds below the state's record Mozzarella output of 1.57 billion pounds, set in 2019.

California's share was 32.1 percent, down from 32.8 percent in 2021, 33.5 in 2020, 34.8 percent in 2019 and 36.1 percent in 2010.

There were 22 plants producing Mozzarella in California last year, one fewer than in 2021.

Production in Wisconsin was 1.06 billion pounds, up 0.8 percent from 2021 but still more than 75 million pounds below the state's record output of 1.14 billion pounds, set in 2018.

Wisconsin's share of Mozzarella was 23.0 percent, down from 23.4 percent in 2021, 24.3 percent in 2020, 24.7 percent in 2019, and 24.8 percent in 2010.

There were 35 plants producing Mozzarella in Wisconsin last year, unchanged from 2021.

Pennsylvania's 2022 Mozzarella production totaled 226.0 million pounds, up 0.6 percent from 2021.

There were six plants producing Mozzarella in 2022, unchanged from the previous year.

New York's Mozzarella production totaled 167.6 million pounds, down 1.8 percent from 2021. New York's share of US Mozzarella output last year was 3.6 percent, down from 3.8 percent in 2021.

There were 15 plants producing Mozzarella in New York last year, one more than in 2021.

Mozzarella production in New Jersey in 2022 totaled 15.8 million pounds, up 4.6 percent from 2021. New Jersey's share of US output was 0.3 percent, unchanged from 2021.

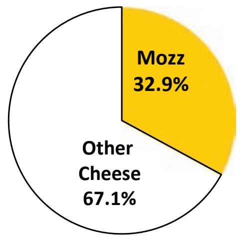
There were seven plants producing Mozzarella cheese in New Jersey in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Mozzarella production in all other states last year totaled 1.67 billion pounds, up 7.3 percent from 2021.

All other states accounted for 36.1 percent of US Mozzarella output in 2022, up from 34.6 percent in 2021.

There were 41 plants producing Mozzarella in all other states last year, one fewer than in 2021.

Share of Total Cheese Production



Mozzarella Cheese Production

State	Output Pounds	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
California	1.49 b	0.7%	32.1%	32.8%
Wisconsin	1.06 b	0.8	23.0	23.4
Pennsylvania	226 m	0.6	4.9	5.0
New York	167.6	-1.8	3.6	3.8
New Jersey	15.8	4.6	0.3	0.3
Other	1.67 b	7.3%	36.1	34.6

Region	Output	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
West	2.57 billion	2.4%	55.6%	55.9%
Central	1.62 billion	4.9%	34.9%	34.2%
Atlantic	439.6 million	-1.2%	9.5%	9.9%
U.S. Total	4.63 billion	2.9%	32.9%	32.7%

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Production Of Cream Cheese, Hispanic Cheese And Swiss Cheese New Set Records In 2022

US production of Cream and Neufchatel cheese in 2022 totaled a record 1.13 billion pounds, up 10.2 percent, or 104.5 million pounds, from 2021's record output.

Last year, Cream and Neufchatel production accounted for 8.0 percent of US cheese output, up from 7.5 percent in 2021.

There were 26 plants producing Cream and Neufchatel in the US in 2022, four fewer than in 2021.

Production of **Hispanic cheese** totaled 386.3 million pounds, up 9.8 percent, or 34.4 million pounds, from 2021. That's the 10th consecutive year in which Hispanic cheese production set a record.

Hispanic cheese accounted for 2.7 percent of total cheese production, up from 2.6 percent in 2021.

There were 62 plants producing Hispanic cheese in the US last year, three fewer than in 2021.

California's 2022 Hispanic cheese production totaled 165.7 million pounds, up 7.7 percent from 2021. California last year accounted for 42.9 percent of US Hispanic cheese production, down from 43.7 percent in 2021.

There were 11 plants producing Hispanic cheese in California in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Wisconsin's Hispanic cheese production totaled 127.6 million pounds, up 14.3 percent from 2021. Its' share of output was 33.0 percent, up from 31.7 percent. There were 22 plants producing Hispanic cheese in Wisconsin last year, one fewer than in 2021.

Hispanic cheese production in all other states in 2022 totaled 93.0 million pounds, up 7.4 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 24.1 percent of US Hispanic cheese output in 2022, down from 24.6 percent in 2021.

There were 29 plants producing Hispanic cheeses in all other states in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Swiss cheese production totaled a record 350.9 million pounds, up 6.3 percent from 2021. That breaks the previous Swiss cheese production record of 338.3 million pounds, which was set in 2019.

In 2022, Swiss cheese accounted for 2.5 percent of cheese production, up from 2.4 percent in 2021. There were 64 plants producing Swiss cheese in the US last year, unchanged from 2021.

Ohio's Swiss cheese production totaled 155.2 million pounds, down 1.6 percent from 2021. In 2022, Ohio accounted for 44.2 percent of US Swiss cheese outupt, down from 47.8 percent in 2021.

There were 12 plants producing Swiss cheese in Ohio last year, unchanged from 2021.

Wisconsin's 2022 Swiss cheese totaled 15.6 million pounds. There were 11 plants producing Swiss cheese in the state last year.

Pennsylvania's 2022 Swiss production totaled 7.6 million pounds, up 4.2 percent from 2021. There were eight plants producing Swiss cheese in Pennsylvania last year, one fewer than in 2021.

Other states made 172.4 million pounds of Swiss cheese.

Product	State	Output	Percent Change over 2021
Swiss	Ohio	155.2 m	-1.6
Swiss	Wisconsin	15.6 m	
Swiss	Pennsylvania	7.6 m	4.2
Hipanic Cheese	California	165.7 m	7.7
Hispanic Cheese	Wisconsin	127.6 m	14.5
Hispanic Cheese	Total US	386.3 m	9.8
Muenster	Wisconsin	67.9 m	-6.1
Muenster	California	61.3 m	13.9
Muenster	Total US	191.6 m	0.1
Cream/Neufchatel	Total US	1.13 billion	10.2
Brick	Total US	1.5 m	-26.9
Feta	Total US	141.3 m	-16.5
Blue/Gorgonzola	Total US	92.0 m	3.7
Gouda	Total US	61.5 m	9.3
Parmesan	Wisconsin	251.9 m	9.0
Parmesan	Total US	494.4 m	1.8
Provolone	Wisconsin	203.4 m	0.9
Provolone	Total US	382.6 m	1.1
Ricotta	Total US	246.4 m	-1.6
Cold Pack/Cheese Foods	Total US	164.3	-2.5

Muenster, Blue, Gouda Output Rises; Brick, Feta Falls

US **Muenster** production last year totaled 191.6 million pounds, up 0.1 percent from 2021 but more than 5.0 million pounds below 2019's record output of 196.9 million pounds.

There were 42 plants producing Muenster, unchanged from 2021.

Wisconsin's Muenster production totaled 67.9 million pounds, down 6.1 percent from 2021. Wisconsin's share of US Muenster output was 35.4 percent, down from 37.8 percent in 2021.

There were 25 plants producing Muenster in Wisconsin last year, two more than in 2021.

California's Muenster production totaled 61.3 million pounds, up 13.9 percent from 2021. Its' share of Muenster was 32.0 percent, up from 28.1 percent in 2021.

There were three plants producing Muenster in California in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Muenster production in all other states last year totaled 62.4 million pounds, down 4.5 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 32.6 percent of US Muenster output in 2022, down from 34.1 percent in 2021.

There were 14 plants producing Muenster in all other states in 2022, two fewer than in 2021.

Brick cheese production totaled 1.5 million pounds, down 26.9 percent from 2021. There were 15 plants producing Brick cheese in the US, one fewer than in 2021.

Production of **Blue and Gorgonzola** cheeses last year totaled 92.0 million pounds, up 3.7 percent from 2021. There were 42 plants producing Blue and Gorgonzola cheeses, two more than in 2021.

Feta production totaled 141.3 million pounds, down 16.5 percent from 2021. There were 41 producers of Feta, four less than in 2021.

Production of **Gouda** cheese last year totaled 61.5 million pounds, up 9.3 percent from 2021.

There were 89 plants producing Gouda, three more than in 2021.

Processed Cheese Output Increases Slightly

In 2022, US production of processed cheeses and combinations totaled 2.8 billion pounds, up 0.02 percent from 2021.

There were 48 plants producing processed cheeses and combinations in the US last year, three more than in 2021.

Processed cheese production in 2022 totaled 2.01 billion pounds, up slightly from 2021. There were 28 plants producing processed cheese, one more than in 2021.

Production of processed cheese foods and spreads totaled 638.1 million pounds in 2022, up 0.6 percent from 2021.

There were 24 plants producing processed cheese foods and spreads, one more than in 2021.

Cold pack cheese and cheese food production last year totaled 164.3 million pounds, down 2.5 percent from 2021.

There were 17 plants producing cold pack cheese and cheese food in the US last year, two more than in 2021.

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Butter Production Falls For 2nd Straight Year; NDM Output Drops

US butter production in 2022 totaled 2.06 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent, or 4.0 million pounds, from 2021.

That marks the second straight year in which butter output declined. Production had reached a record high of 2.15 billion pounds in 2020.

Despite two consecutive declines, butter output had now topped 2.0 billion pounds for three straight years.

There were 93 plants producing butter in the US last year, five fewer than in 2021.

West, Atlantic Regions Boost Butter Production

In 2022, butter production in the West region totaled a record 1.12 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from 2021. That broke the region's previous butter production record of 1.11 billion pounds, set in 2020.

In 2022, the West's share of US butter production was 54.3 percent, up from 52.9 percent in 2021, 51.9 percent in 2020, 51.8 percent in 2019, 53.9 percent in 2010, 42.4 percent in 2000 and 34.6 percent in 1991.

There were 20 plants producing butter in the West region last year, one fewer than in 2021.

The Central region's 2022 butter production totaled 772.3 million pounds, down 3.7 percent from 2021 and the lowest level of butter production in the Central region since 2016, when output totaled 756.2 million pounds.

In 2022, the Central's share of US butter production was 37.5 percent, down from 38.9 percent in 2021, 38.9 percent in 2020, and 38.8 percent in 2019, up from 36.7 percent in 2010 and 34.9 percent in 2000, but down from 52.5 percent in 1991.

There were 34 plants producing butter in the Central region last year, unchanged from 2021.

Butter production in the Atlantic region totaled 168.8 million pounds, up 0.2 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic's share of US butter output last year was 8.2 percent, unchanged from 2021 but down from 9.3 percent in 2020, 9.5 percent in 2019, 9.4 percent in 2010 and 12.8 percent in 1991.

There were 39 plants producing butter in the Atlantic region in 2022, four fewer than in 2021.

California's Butter Output Reaches Record High

California's 2022 butter production totaled a record 686.0 million pounds, up 2.0 percent from 2021 and the third straight year in which California set a new butter production record.

California's share of US butter production in 2022 was 33.3 percent, up from 32.6 percent in 2021, 31.1 percent in 2020, and 29.8 percent in 2019, down from 35.6 percent in 2010, but up from 27.8 percent in 2000 and 16.2 percent in 1980.

There were 11 plants producing butter in California last year, unchanged from 2021.

Pennsylvania's 2022 butter production totaled 89.7 million pounds, up 0.3 percent from 2021. Pennsylvania's share of national output was 4.4 percent, up from 4.3 percent in 2021.

There were five plants producing butter in Pennsylvania in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Production in all other states last year totaled 1.28 billion pounds, down 1.4 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 62.3 percent of butter output, down from 63.1 percent in 2021.

There were 77 plants producing butter in all other states in 2022, four fewer than in 2021.

NDM, SMP Output Falls; MPC, Dry Buttermilk Output Rises

Nonfat dry milk production in 2022 totaled 1.97 billion pounds, down 3.8 percent, or 78.7 million pounds, from 2021.

There were 44 plants producing nonfat dry milk in the US last year, three fewer than in 2021.

Nonfat dry milk production in the West region last year totaled 1.22 billion pounds, down 7.1 percent from 2021. The West accounted for 62.0 percent of US NDM output in 2022, down from 64.2 percent in 2021.

There were 21 plants producing nonfat dry milk in the West region last year, one fewer than in 2021.

The Central region's 2022 nonfat dry milk production totaled 412.1 million pounds, up 3.0 percent from 2021. The Central's share of US NDM output was 20.9 percent, up from 19.6 percent in 2021.

There were 13 plants producing NDM in the Central region in 2022, three fewer than in 2021.

Nonfat dry milk in the Atlantic region totaled 335.3 million pounds, up 0.7 percent from 2021. The Atlantic's share of national production was 17.0 percent, up from 16.3 percent in 2021.

There were 10 plants producing nonfat dry milk in the Atlantic last year, one more than in 2021.

California's NDM output totaled 860.2 million pounds, down 4.0 percent from 2021. California's share of output was 43.7 percent, down from 43.8 percent in 2021.

There were nine plants producing nonfat dry milk in California in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Pennsylvania's NDM production was 174.2 million pounds, up 0.2 percent from 2021. The state's share of national output was 8.9 percent, up from 8.5 in 2021.

There were three plants producing NDM in Pennsylvania last year, unchanged from 2021.

Nonfat dry milk production in Wisconsin last year totaled 18.4 million pounds, down 23.3 percent from 2021. Wisconsin's share of US output was 0.9 percent, down from 1.2 percent in 2021.

There were three plants producing NDM in Wisconsin in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

NDM output in all other states totaled 915.5 million pounds, down 4.0 percent from 2021.

There were 29 plants producing nonfat dry milk in all other states last year, two fewer than in 2021.

Skim milk powder output was 657.9 million pounds, down 5.7 percent from 2021. There were 19 producers, one less than in 2021.

Dry whole milk output totaled 136.9 million pounds, down 7.7 percent from 2021. There were 14 producers, unchanged from 2021.

Milk protein concentrate production totaled a record 221.3 million pounds, up 12.6 percent from 2021. The previous record of 206.3 million pounds was set in 2020.

There were 14 plants producing milk protein concentrate in the US last year, one more than in 2021.

Dry buttermilk production last year totaled 138.2 million pounds, up 5.0 percent from 2021. There were 21 plants producing dry buttermilk in the US in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Total Butter and Nonfat Dry Milk Production

State	Butter Output Pounds	Butter YOY Percent Change	Total Share of US Butter	NDM Output Pounds	NDM YOY Percent Change	Total Share of US NDM
California	686.0 m	2.0%	33.3%	860.2 m	-4.0%	43.7%
Pennsylvania	89.7 m	0.3%	4.4%	174.2 m	0.2%	8.9%
Other	1.28 b	-1.4%	62.3%	933.9 m	-4.3%	47.4%

Region	Butter Output Pounds	Butter YOY Percent Change	Total Share of US Butter	NDM Output Pounds	NDM YOY Percent Change	Total Share of US NDM
West	1.12 b	2.4%	54.3%	1.22 b	-7.1%	62%
Central	772.3 m	-3.7%	37.5%	412.1 m	3.0%	20.9%
Atlantic	168.8 m	0.2%	8.2%	335.2 m	0.7%	17%
US	2.06 billion	-0.2%		1.97 billion	-3.8%	

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Yogurt Production Fell 2.5% In 2022, But Increased In NY, CA

US production of yogurt, plain and flavored, totaled 4.62 billion pounds in 2022, down 2.5 percent, or 120.7 million pounds, from 2021.

That means the record high for yogurt production remains: 4.76 billion pounds, set in 2014. Yogurt output has topped 4.7 billion pounds once since then — in 2021, at 4.74 billion pounds — but it hasn't topped the 2014 record since.

There were 158 plants producing yogurt in the US in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Yogurt production in the Central region last year totaled 1.95 billion pounds, down 2.5 percent from 2021. In 2022, the Central region's share of US yogurt production was 42.2 percent, up from 42.1 percent in 2021.

There were 40 plants producing yogurt in the Central region in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

The Atlantic region's 2022 yogurt production totaled 1.34 billion pounds, down 1.1 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic region's share of US yogurt output last year was 29.0 percent, up from 28.6 percent in 2021.

There were 85 plants producing yogurt in the Atlantic region in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Yogurt production in the West region last year totaled 1.34 billion pounds, down 4.1 percent from 2021. The West's share of US yogurt production was 28.9 percent, down from 29.3 percent in 2021.

There were 33 plants producing yogurt in the West region last year, one more than in 2021.

New York's yogurt production was 793.3 million pounds, up 2.4 percent from 2021. New York's share of US output was 17.2 percent, up from 16.3 percent in 2021.

There were 37 plants producing yogurt in New York last year, unchanged from 2021.

California's 2022 yogurt production totaled 377.8 million pounds, up 0.9 percent from 2021. California's share of US yogurt output was 8.2 percent, up from 7.9 percent in 2021.

There were 15 plants producing yogurt in California in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Yogurt production in all other states totaled 3.45 billion pounds, down 4.0 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 74.7 percent of US yogurt output, down from 75.8 percent in 2021.

There were 106 plants producing yogurt in all other states last year, unchanged from 2021.

Yogurt Production

Selected States	Yogurt Output lbs	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
New York	793.3 m	2.4%	17.2%	16.3%
California	377.8 m	0.9%	8.2%	7.9%
Other States	3.45 billion	-4.0%	74.7%	75.8%
U.S. Total	4.62 billion	-2.5		

Sour Cream Production

Region	Output lbs.	Percent Change	Reporting States	Output lbs	% Change
Central	788.1 m	0.4%	New York	255.3 m	-0.7%
West	418.0 m	0.5%	California	199.3 m	1.4%
Atlantic	289.6 m	-1.2%	PA	2.5 m	6.9%
U.S. Total	1.50 b	0.1%	Other	1.04 b	0.1%

Production Of Regular Ice Cream Rises, Lowfat Falls

US production of regular ice cream in 2022 totaled 919.6 million gallons, up 4.5 percent from 2021. Production of regular, hard ice cream totaled 726.7 million gallons, up 0.9 percent.

There were 386 plants producing regular, hard ice cream last year, four fewer than in 2021.

Lowfat ice cream output totaled 446.3 million gallons, down 6.5 percent from 2021. Production of lowfat, hard ice cream was 218.8 million gallons, down 4.3 percent.

There were 103 plants producing lowfat, hard ice cream in the US in 2022, one more than in 2021.

Nonfat ice cream production in 202 totaled 13.0 million gallons, up 22.4 percent from 2021.

Frozen yogurt production in 2022 totaled 45.6 million gallons, up 12.6 percent from 2021. Sherbet output totaled 29.5 million gallons, down 15.6 percent.

Production of regular ice cream mix last year totaled 477.4 million gallons, up 2.9 percent from 2021. Production of lowfat ice cream mix (including freezer-made milkshake) totaled 237.5 million gallons, down 6.8 percent from 2021.

Sour Cream Output Sets Record; Cottage Cheese Production Rises

US production of sour cream in 2022 totaled a record 1.50 billion pounds, up 0.1 percent, or 2.1 million pounds, from 2021.

That was the ninth straight year in which production set a record.

There were 98 plants producing sour cream, down one from 2021.

Production in the Central region was 788.1 million pounds, up 0.4 percent from 2021. The Central's share of national output was 52.7 percent, up from 52.5 in 2021.

There were 37 producers of sour cream in the region last year, one fewer than in 2021.

The West region's 2022 sour cream production totaled 418.0 million pounds, up 0.5 percent from 2021. The West's share of US production was 27.9 percent, up from 27.8 percent in 2021.

There were 31 plants in the West, one fewer than in 2021.

Output in the Atlantic region was 289.6 million pounds, down 1.2 percent from 2021. The region's share of output was 19.4 percent, down from 19.6 percent in 2021.

There were 30 plants producing sour cream in the Atlantic region in 2022, one more than in 2021.

New York's production was 255.3 million pounds, down 0.7 percent from 2021. Their national output share was 17.1 percent, down from 17.2 percent in 2021.

There were 13 plants producing sour cream in New York in 2022, one more than in 2021.

California's 2022 sour cream production totaled 199.3 million pounds, up 1.4 percent from 2021. California's share of national output was 13.3 percent, up from 13.2 percent in 2021.

There were 16 plants producing sour cream in California in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Pennsylvania's output was 2.5 million pounds, up 6.9 percent. The state's share of output was 0.2 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were six plants producing sour cream in Pennsylvania.

There were 63 plants producing sour cream in all other states last year, two fewer than in 2021.

Creamed cottage cheese production in 2022 totaled 344.3 million pounds, up 1.7 percent from 2021, while lowfat cottage cheese output totaled 294.0 million pounds, down 3.0 percent.

There were 49 plants producing creamed cottage cheese in the US last year, unchanged from 2021, and 43 plants producing lowfat cottage cheese, three fewer than in 2021.

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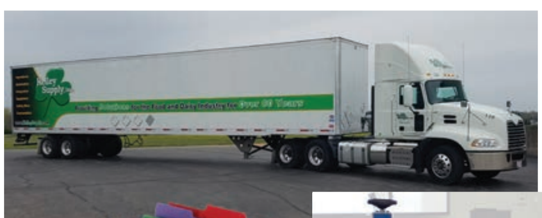

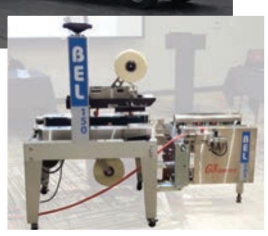
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Dry Whey Production Rose In 2022; Lactose, WPC Output Fell

US production of dry whey, human, in 2022 totaled 885.9 million pounds, up 1.9 percent, or 16.4 million pounds, from 2021.

That's the first increase in dry whey, human, production since 2017.

There were 30 plants producing dry whey, human, in 2022, four more than in 2021.

Production of dry whey, human, in the Central region last year totaled 410.5 million pounds, down 1.4 percent from 2021. The Central region's share of US output was 46.3 percent, down from 47.9 percent in 2021.

There were 14 plants producing dry whey, human, in the Central region in 2022, two more than in 2021.

The Atlantic region's 2022 production of dry whey, human, totaled 251.3 million pounds, down 3.0 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic region's share of United States production was 28.4 percent, down from 29.8 percent in 2021.

There were nine plants producing dry whey, human, in the Atlantic region last year, one more than in 2021.

Production of dry whey, human, in the West region last year totaled 224.1 million pounds, up 15.4 percent from 2021. The region's 2022 share of US output was 25.3 percent, up from 22.3 percent in 2021.

There were seven plants producing dry whey, human, in the West in 2022, one more than in 2021.

Wisconsin's 2022 dry whey, human, production totaled 277.0 million pounds, down 4.4 percent from 2021. Wisconsin's share of US output was 31.3 percent, down from 33.3 percent in 2021.

There were nine plants producing dry whey, human, in Wisconsin last year, one more than in 2021.

New York's production of dry whey, human, in 2022 totaled 133.3 million pounds, down 1.7 percent from 2021. New York's share of US production was 15.0 percent, down from 15.6 percent in 2021.

There were five plants producing dry whey, human, in New York last year, unchanged from 2021.

Production of dry whey, human, in all other states totaled 475.6 million pounds in 2022, up 7.1 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 53.7 percent of US output, up from 51.1 percent in 2021.

There were 16 plants producing dry whey, human, in all other states, three more than in 2021.

Lactose, human and animal, totaled 1.11 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from 2021.

There were 30 plants producing lactose, human and animal, in the US, unchanged from 2021.

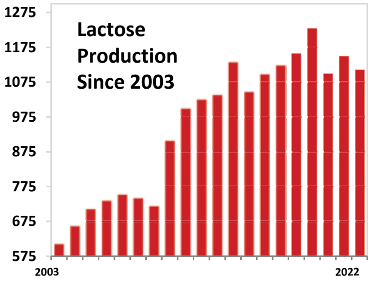
Production of whey protein concentrate, human and animal, last year totaled 451.1 million pounds, down 2.7 percent from 2021. In 2022, production of WPC, human, totaled 439.1 million pounds, down 2.6 percent, while production of WPC, animal, totaled 12.1 million pounds, down 6.2 percent.

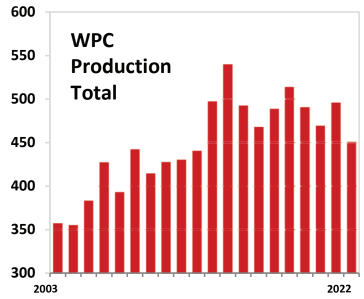
Within the WPC category, production and plant numbers, with comparisons to 2021, were:

WPC 25.0-49.9%: 154.7 million pounds, down 4.7 percent; 18 plants, one more than in 2021

WPC 50.0-89.9%: 296.4 million pounds, down 1.6 percent; 39 plants, unchanged from 2021.

Whey protein isolate production in 2022 totaled 130.6 million pounds, up 0.3 percent from 2021. There were 19 plants producing WPIs in the US in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.





Product	2022 Output lbs	Percent Change
Skim Milk Powder	657.9 M	-5.7%
Milk Protein Concentrate	221.3 M	12.6%
Dry Whole Milk	136.9 M	-7.7%
Dry Buttermilk	138.2 M	5.0%
Dry Whey (Human)	885.9 M	1.9%
Lactose	1.11 B	-0.9%
Whey Protein Concentrate 25 – 49.9%	154.7 M	-4.7%
Whey Protein Concentrate 50 - 89.9%	296.4 M	-1.6%
Whey Protein Isolates	130.6 M	0.3%

Parm, Provolone Output Rose In 2022; Ricotta, Romano Declined

US production of Italian-type cheeses other than Mozzarella in 2022 totaled 1.28 billion pounds, up 0.3 percent, or 4.3 million pounds, from 2021.

In 2022, other Italian cheeses accounted for 9.1 percent of total US cheese production, down from 9.2 percent in 2021.

Output of soft Italian cheeses, including Mozzarella, Ricotta and others, totaled 4.9 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from 2021.

Ricotta production totaled 246.4 million pounds, down 1.6 percent from 2021. There were 52 plants producing Ricotta in the US, two fewer than in 2021.

Production of other soft Italian cheeses was 32.2 million pounds, up 11.6 percent from 2021.

US production of hard Italian cheeses totaled 997.2 million pounds, up 0.5 percent from 2021.

Regional production of hard Italian cheeses last year,with comparisons to 2021, was: Central, 729.7 million pounds, down 0.5 percent; West, 146.3 million pounds, up 4.0 percent; and Atlantic, 121.3 million pounds, up 2.8 percent.

Parmesan production last year totaled a record 494.4 million pounds, up 1.8 percent from 2021. Parmesan output has now increased by more than 200 million pounds since 2011, when it totaled 287.7 million pounds.

There were 44 plants producing Parmesan in the US last year, two fewer than in 2021.

Wisconsin's Parmesan production totaled 251.9 million pounds, up 9.0 percent from 2021. Wisconsin last year accounted for 50.9 percent of US Parm output, up from 47.8 percent in 2021.

Parmesan in all other states was 242.5 million pounds, down 4.7 percent from 2021.

Provolone production totaled 382.6 million pounds, up 1.1 percent from 2021. There were 36 plants producing Provolone in the US in 2022, one more than in 2021.

Wisconsin's 2022 Provolone production totaled 203.4 million pounds, up 0.9 percent from 2021. Provolone output in all other states totaled 179.2 million pounds, up 1.4 percent from 2021.

Romano production was 57.0 million pounds, down 15.8 percent from 2021. There were 25 plants producing Romano in the US last year, two fewer than in 2021.

Wisconsin's 2022 Romano production totaled 31.0 million pounds, down 9.3 percent from 2021. Romano output in all states totaled 26.0 million pounds, down 22.4 percent from 2021.

Production of other hard Italian cheeses last year totaled 63.3 million pounds, up 4.1 percent from 2021.

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Cheese Output

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California's cheese production totaled 2.46 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent, or 22.1 million pounds, from 2021 but down about 82 million pounds from 2018, when the state's cheese output reached a record high of 2.543 billion pounds.

California's share of US cheese production was 17.5 percent last year, down from 17.7 percent in 2021, 18.4 percent in 2020, 19.5 percent n 2018 and 18.1 percent in 2000, but up from 11.6 percent in 1990 and 4.6 percent in 1980.

There were 51 plants producing cheese in California in 2022, two more than in 2021 but five fewer than in 2020, seven fewer than in 2010 and eight fewer than in 2000.

The gap between cheese production in Wisconsin and California was 1.06 billion, up from 1.05 billion pounds in 2021, 955 million pounds in 2020, 820 million pounds in 2019, 880 million pounds in 2018, 634 million pounds in 2015, 419 million pounds in 2010 and 696 million pounds in 2000.

Cheese Output Sets Records In New Mexico, Minnesota

Idaho's 2022 cheese production totaled 989.5 million pounds, down 1.5 percent from 2021. That's the second straight decline in Idaho's cheese output, after it reached a record high of 1.01 billion pounds in 2020. Last year was the first time since 2018 that the state's cheese production fell below 1 billion pounds.

Idaho's share of US cheese production in 2022 was 7.0 percent, down from 7.3 percent in 2021, 7.7 percent in both 2020 and 2019, 8.1 percent in 2010 and 7.1 percent in 2000, but up from 2.7 percent in 1980.

There were again eight plants producing cheese in Idaho last year, unchanged from 2021.

New Mexico's output totaled a record 970.7 million pounds, up 1.3 percent from 2021. That breaks the state's previous cheese production record of 962.4 million pounds, which was set in 2020.

New Mexico's cheese production has now topped 950 million pounds for four straight years.

New Mexico's share was 6.9 percent, down from 7.0 percent in 2021 and 7.3 percent in both 2020 and 2019, unchanged from 2018, but up from 6.1 percent in both 2017 and in 2006.

There were four plants producing cheese in New Mexico in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

New York's production totaled 843.6 million pounds, down 0.3 percent from 2021 and the second straight decline. New York's share of production was 6.0 percent, down from 6.1 percent in 2021, 6.5 percent in 2020, 6.3 percent in 2019 and 8.8 percent in 2000.

There were 62 plants producing cheese in New York last year, unchanged from 2021.

Production in Minnesota last year totaled a record 811.5 million pounds, up 5.1 percent from 2021. That's the first time ever that Minnesota produced more than 800 million pounds of cheese in a year.

Minnesota's share of US cheese production in 2022 was 5.8 percent, up from 5.6 percent in 2021, 2020 and 2019 but down from 8.4 percent in 2000.

There were 12 plants producing cheese in Minnesota in 2022, one more than in 2021.

South Dakota's Output Tops 500 Million Pounds

South Dakota's 2022 cheese production totaled a record 533.2 million pounds, up 2.8 percent from 2021 and the second straight year in which South Dakota's production topped 500 million pounds.

NASS didn't publish a cheese production figure for South Dakota for 2020; the agency won't break out individual states when fewer than three plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed. In 2019, South Dakota's cheese production totaled 347.7 million pounds.

South Dakota's share of US cheese production last year was 3.8 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were eight plants producing cheese in South Dakota in 2022, one more than in 2021.

Pennsylvania's 2022 cheese production totaled a record 450.6 million pounds, up 5.3 percent from 2021. The state's previous cheese production record, 435.8 million pounds, was set in 2020.

Pennsylvania's share of production last year was 3.2 percent, up from 3.1 percent in 2021.

There were 39 plants producing cheese in Pennsylvania in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Iowa's 2022 cheese production totaled a record 390.0 million pounds, up 13.5 percent from 2021. Iowa's previous cheese production record, 355.2 million pounds, was set in 2020.

Iowa's share of US cheese production last year was 2.8 percent, up from 2.5 percent in 2021.

There were 17 plants producing cheese in Iowa in 2022, three more than in 2021.

Cheese production in Ohio last year totaled a record 255.3 million pounds, up 2.4 percent from 2021's record output. Ohio's cheese production has now set new records for three straight years.

Ohio's share of US cheese production in 2022 was 1.8 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were 18 plants producing cheese in Ohio last year, unchanged from 2021.

Vermont's output totaled 147.8 million pounds, up 3.1 percent from 2021. Vermont's share of US output last year was 1.05 percent, up from 1.04 percent in 2021.

There were 32 plants producing cheese in Vermont in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Production in Illinois last year totaled 69.0 million pounds, up 5.8 percent from 2021. Illinois' share of US cheese output in2022 was 0.5 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were 11 plants producing cheese in Illinois last year, one fewer than in 2021.

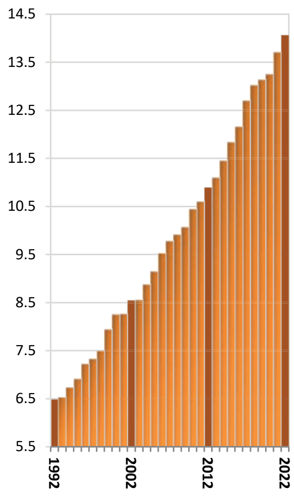
New Jersey's output totaled 61.8 million pounds, up 1.5 percent from 2021. New Jersey's share of US production in 2022 was 0.4 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were 14 plants producing cheese in New Jersey in 2022, one fewer than in 2021.

Finally, cheese production in all other states last year totaled 2.56 billion pounds, up 4.9 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 18.2 percent of US cheese production last year, up from 17.7 percent in 2021.

There were 121 plants producing cheese in all other states in 2022, five fewer than in 2021.

Total Cheese Production
1992 - 2022



State +/- rank change	Output lbs	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Wisconsin	3.52 b	0.8%	25.0%	25.4%
California	2.46 b	0.9	17.5	17.7
Idaho	989.5 m	-1.5	7.0	7.3
New Mexico	970.7	1.3	6.9	7.0
New York	843.6	-0.3	6.0	6.1
Minnesota	811.5	5.1	5.8	5.6
South Dakota	533.2	2.8	3.8	3.8
Pennsylvania	450.6	5.3	3.2	3.1
Iowa	390.0	13.5	2.8	2.5
Ohio	255.3	2.4	1.8	1.8
Vermont	147.8	3.1	1.05	1.04
Illinois	69.0	5.8	0.5	0.5
New Jersey	61.8	1.5	0.4	0.4
Other	2.56 b	4.9	18.2	17.7

Region	Output	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Central	6.9 billion	3.2%	48.8%	48.3%
West	5.6 billion	1.3%	39.5%	39.9%
Atlantic	1.64 billion	1.2%	11.7%	11.8%
U.S. Total	14.06 billion lbs	2.2%		

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Cheddar Output

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percent in 2019, 19.6 percent in 2010, 25.6 percent in 2000, 32.4 percent in 1990 and 48.2 percent in 1970.

There were 66 plants producing Cheddar cheese in the state of Wisconsin last year, five more than in 2021.

California's 2022 Cheddar production totaled 275.3 million pounds, down 4.1 percent from 2021 and the lowest level of Cheddar output in the state since 1995, when it totaled 248.7 million pounds.

California's share of US Cheddar production last year was 6.9 percent, down from 7.2 percent in 2021.

California's share of Cheddar was 7.7 percent in 2020, 8.3 percent in 2019, 10.4 percent in 2010 and 19.9 percent in 2002, when the state's Cheddar output reached a record high of 561.2 million pounds.

There were 11 plants producing Cheddar cheese in California last year. That was one more than in 2021.

Vermont's 2022 Cheddar production totaled 104.9 million pounds, up 1.3 percent from 2021. Vermont's share of US Cheddar output last year was 2.6 percent, unchanged from 2021.

There were 14 plants producing Cheddar cheese in Vermont in 2022. That was two fewer than in 2021.

Cheddar production in all other states in 2022 totaled 2.87 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from 2021. All other states accounted for 72.5 percent of Cheddar cheese production in 2022, up from 71.6 percent in 2021.

There were 143 plants producing Cheddar cheese in all other states in 2022, one more than in 2022.

Another Record For Other American-Type Cheese

Production of other American-type cheese (other than Cheddar) in 2022 totaled a record 1.68 billion pounds, up 2.0 percent, or 32.1 million pounds, from 2021.

In 2022, other American-type cheeses accounted for 11.92 percent of total US cheese production, down from 11.95 percent in 2021 but up from 11.4 percent in 2020, 10.1 percent in 2010 and 10.0 percent in 2000.

There were 131 plants producing other American-type cheeses in the US last year, four fewer than in 2021.

Production of other American-type cheese in the Central region in 2022 totaled 937.2 million pounds, up 3.4 percent from 2021. The Central region's share of US output last year was 55.9 percent, up from 55.1 percent in 2021.

There were 75 plants producing other American-type cheese in the Central region in 2022, two more than in 2021.

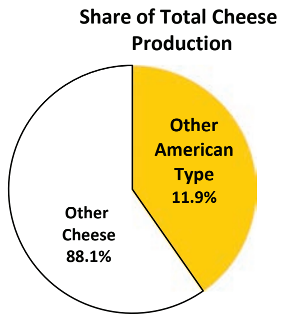
The West region's 2022 production of other American-type cheese totaled 715.1 million pounds, down 0.3 percent from 2021.

The region's share of US output last year was 42.7 percent, down from 43.6 percent in 2021.

There were 21 plants producing other American-type cheeses in the West region last year, two fewer than in 2021.

Production of other American-type cheese in the Atlantic region in 2022 totaled 24.2 million pounds, up 15.6 percent from 2021.

The Atlantic's share of United States output last year was 1.4 percent, up from 1.3 percent in 2021.



Other American-Type Cheese Production

State	Output millions	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Wisconsin	351.6 m	-0.3%	21.0%	21.4%
California	277.9 m	-3.4%	16.6%	17.5%
Other	2.87 billion	1.1%	72.5%	71.6%

Region	Output/Pounds	Percent Change	2022 Share	2021 Share
Central	937.2 million	3.4%	55.9%	55.1%
West	715.1 million	-0.3%	42.7%	43.6%
Atlantic	24.2 million	15.6%	1.4%	1.3%
U.S. Total	**1.68 billion pounds**	**2.0%**	**11.9%**	**11.95%**

There were 35 plants producing other American-type cheeses in the Atlantic region in 2022, four fewer than in 2021.

Wisconsin's 2022 production of other American-type cheese totaled 351.6 million pounds, down 0.3 percent from 2021. Wisconsin's share of US output was 21.0 percent, down from 21.4 percent in 2021.

There were 39 plants producing other American-type cheeses in Wisconsin last year, unchanged from 2021.

California's American-type cheese production last year totaled 277.9 million pounds, down 3.4 percent from 2021. California's share of US production was 16.6 percent, down from 17.5 percent in 2021.

There were nine plants producing other American-type cheeses in California in 2022, unchanged from 2021.

Production of other American-type cheeses in all other states in 2022 totaled 1.05 billion pounds, up 4.3 percent from 2021.

All other states accounted for 62.5 percent of US output of other American-type cheeses last year, up from 61.1 percent in 2021.

There were 83 plants producing other American-type cheeses in all other states in 2022, four fewer than in 2021.

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AMS To Raise Dairy Grading, Other Dairy Fees Starting On Oct. 1, 2023

Washington—USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, in a notice published in *Federal Register,* said the 2023/2024 rates it will charge for voluntary grading, inspection, certification, auditing, and laboratory services for a variety of agricultural commodities, including dairy products.

While cost-saving measures have and will continue to be implemented, AMS said user fee rate increases are necessary to offset rising operational costs. In cases where current rates are sufficient to cover the costs of providing the service, user fee rates remain unchanged.

Rates reflect direct and indirect costs of providing services. Direct costs include the cost of salaries, employee benefits, and, if applicable, travel and some operating costs. For dairy products, the 2023/24 regular, overtime, and holiday rates will be applied starting on Oct. 1, 2023, which is the start of fiscal year 2024.

Fiscal 2024 rates for Grading and Inspection, General Specifications for Approved Plants and Standards for Grades of Dairy Products, with changes from fiscal 2023, if any, are as follows:

Continuous Resident Grading Service: The regular rate is $95.00 per hour, up from $90.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $116.00 per hour, up from $106.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $137.00 per hour, up from $123.00 per hour.

Continuous Resident Grading Service 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.: The regular rate is $105.00 per hour up from $99.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $128.00 per hour, up from $123.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $151.00 per hour, up from $135.00 per hour.

Non-resident and Intermittent Grading Service; State Graders: The regular rate is $120.00 per hour, up from $110.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $155.00 per hour, up from $129.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $190.00 per hour, up from $147.00 per hour.

Non-resident Services 6:00 pm. to 6:00 a.m. (10 percent night differential: The regular rate $132.00 per hour, up from $121.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $171.00 per hour, up from $147.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $190.00 per hour, up from $162.00 per hour.

Export Certificate Services: $104.00 per certificate, up from $95.00 per certificate.

Equipment Review: The regular rate is $135.00 per hour, up from $115.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $192.00 per hour, up from $135.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $249.00 per hour, up from $154.00 per hour.

Equipment Review 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.: The rate is $148.00 per hour, up from $126.00 per hour; the overtime rate is $211.00 per hour, up from $154.00 per hour; and the holiday rate is $249.00 per hour, up from $169.00 per hour.

Audit Services: $135.00 per hour, up from $120.00 per hour.

Special Handling: $52.00 per certificate, up from $47.50 per certificate.

Uncertified Copy of Certificate: $12.00 per copy, up from $8.00.

Derogation Application: $125.00 per application, unchanged.

For more information, contact Melissa Bailey, associate administrator, AMS, at *melissa.bailey@usda.gov*; or (202) 205-9356.

For more information, visit www.awimfg.com

Sugar River Cold Storage Acquires Flying Eagle Express Trucking

Kody Klitzke, (left) president and owner of Sugar River Cold Storage, purchased Fly Eagle Express recently from Nate Trickel (right). Now Sugar River is capable of handling a complete logistical package complete with storage and delivery. Sugar River also announced a proposed 80,000-square-foot expansion of the company's warehouse facility in Monticello.

Monroe, WI—Sugar River Cold Storage recently purchased Flying Eagle Express Ltd, a licensed and DOT-registered trucking company, to better serve existing customers while simultaneously growing the company.

By acquiring the trucking firm, Sugar River added the Flying Eagle's extensive-based lanes with Sugar River Logistic's lanes and now offers 18 refrigerated trucks and 40 trailers.

"We made this expansion to increase our capacity, therefore better serving our clients by keeping their costs down," Kody Klitzke, president of Sugar River Cold Storage, said.

"We are able to serve our clients in a more cost-effective manner from a trucking perspective, as well as maintaining control of the products coming in and out of the warehouse facility," he added.

With the expansion of Flying Eagle, Sugar River is now the largest refrigerated carrier in south-central Wisconsin, Klitzke said.

The warehouse facility, located in Monticello, WI, houses 80,000 square feet of refrigerated, frozen, and ambient storage.

"The addition of the trucks has brought additional demand into the warehouse facility," Klitzke said. "As one part of the business grows, the other simultaneously grows with it."

To handle that growth, Klitzke said, the company will break ground on a proposed 80,000-square-foot expansion and add another 12,800 pallet spots to the existing location in the fall.

With that expansion, Sugar River is set to become the largest warehouse facility in south-central Wisconsin, Klitzke confirmed.

"We've made significant growth measures over the last three years that can be attributed to having good clients," Klitzke said.

Pairing the increased trucking services with the warehousing services has added value to the portfolio of services the company can offer, he said.

"Merging those two together has broadened what we can do for our customers. Increasing our capacity, drives costs down for our clients and that really was and will always be our number one focus," Klitzke noted.

There is no longer the situation where there is a barrier between the carrier and the warehouse, Klitzke said.

"It really created a transparent process for our clients who choose to store with us and for whom we supply trucking services," Klitzke said. "Now there is a streamlined logistical solution. You make one means of communication and we handle it from start to finish."

Currently the company's trucking lanes are within Wisconsin, although Sugar River does have a satellite location in Elgin, IL, to service Chicago-based clients.

However, strategic partnership with other carriers allows the company to transport to other destinations within the US.

"Having strong professional and personal relationships with manufacturers and national carriers gives us a unique advantage over some facilities due to the tight-knit, referral-based nature of the cheese industry," he said.

For more information, visit *www.sugarrivercoldstorage.com*.

NY Dairy Runway Program To Provide Education, Support For Early-Stage Dairy Innovators

Ithaca, NY—Cornell University's Center for Regional Economic Advancement (CREA) and the Northeast Dairy Foods Research Center (NDFRC) have launched the Dairy Runway program, an entrepreneurship curriculum for dairy innovators that focuses on product concept and consumer discovery.

The Cornell-based, virtual course will take program participants through a process to determine if their value-added dairy products are desirable, viable, and feasible.

Supported by a grant from Empire State Development with funding from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Dairy Promotion Order, the Dairy Runway program will provide entrepreneurial coaching and access to New York-based kitchen incubators for participants who complete the virtual course.

Graduates of the Dairy Runway program will develop the skills and training to competitively apply for local and regional funding opportunities, like CREA's Northeastern Dairy Product Innovation Competition.

Up to 12 teams will be selected into each Dairy Runway cohort to participate in a virtual course that combines self-directed online learning activities with Zoom-based class meetings and one-on-one instructor check-ins. Throughout the program, participants will have access to a select group of CREA's Entrepreneurs in Residence to provide support in coursework and product development.

Engaged teams will also be offered fully funded access to Cornell's Prototyping Kitchen or another approved incubation kitchen in New York state, and will receive support from Cornell food science technical experts, in order to bring their innovative ideas to the prototype stage after coursework concludes, according to the program coordinators.

The application period for the Dairy Runway program closes June 22, 2023.

Dairy innovators with a value-added dairy product who are located in the US and committed to using New York-produced dairy ingredients in their product are eligible to apply.

For more information about the Dairy Runway program and to apply, visit: *www.dairyinnovation.org/dairy-runway-program/*.

Deadline For USDA's Organic Market Development Program Extended

Washington—The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has extended the deadline for the Organic Market Developments Grants (OMDC) Request for Applications (RFA) to Aug. 8.

Earlier this month, USDA announced that the OMDG program will fund up to $75 million in competitive grants to support the development and expansion of new and existing organic markets. Processing capacity expansion projects and market development and promotion projects may receive awards between $100,000 and $3,000,000. Simplified equipment-only projects may receive awards between $10,000 and $100,000

The program aims to create new and better markets access for organic products, increase capacity for processing, storage, handling/shipping, and increase the consumption of organic agricultural commodities.

USDA's AMS is soliciting applications from certified organic or transitioning food producers or handlers, non-profit organizations, tribal governments, and state and local government. Through OMDG, AMS is encouraging applications that serve smaller farms and ranches, new and beginning farmers and ranchers, underserved producers, veteran producers, and underserved communities.

USDA is looking for applications that address the following pinpointed organic markets, or other markets with clearly defined needs: organic dairy; organic grains and livestock feed; organic ingredients currently unavailable in commercial form; organic legumes and other rotational crops; and organic fibers.

Eligible applicants are business entities who produce or handle organic foods, non-profit organizations, including trade associations, tribal, state, territory, and local government entities.

Applications must be submitted electronically through *www.grants.gov* by 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 8. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered for funding.

Questions should be directed to *OMDG@usda.gov*.

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27% Class I Use

(Continued from p. 1)

151.6 billion pounds, up 10.8 percent, or 14.8 billion pounds, from 2021. That's the highest volume of milk pooled under federal orders since 2019, when it totaled a record 156.5 billion pounds.

The volume of producer milk pooled under federal orders fell below 138 billion pounds in both 2020 (137.8 billion pounds) and in 2021 (136.8 billion pounds).

The volume of milk used as Class I in 2022 totaled 41.0 billion pounds, down 2.7 percent, or 1.1 billion pounds, from 2021, and the lowest volume of producer milk used as Class I since 2018, when it totaled 40.9 billion pounds.

In 2017, the last full year without the California order, the volume of producer milk used as Class I totaled 40.64 billion pounds.

The percentage of milk used as Class I last year was 27.0 percent, down from 30.8 percent in 2021 and the lowest level ever. The previous low, 28.0 percent, was set in 2019.

The percentage of milk used as Class I hasn't been above 33 percent since 2012, when it was 35.5 percent; hasn't been above 40 percent since 2004, when it was 43.6 percent and hasn't been above 50 percent since 1979, when it was 51.6 percent.

Last year, there were 23,108 dairy producers pooled on the 11 federal orders, which for this report is the simple average number of producers pooled each month during the year. That's down from 23,292 pooled producers in 2021 and 29,468 pooled producers in 2019, the first full year of the California order.

The average daily delivery per dairy producer last year was 17,985 pounds, up 1,911 pounds from 2021. The average daily delivery per producer has risen by more than 10,000 pounds since 2011, when it totaled 7,965 pounds.

Also in 2022, there were 213 pooled handlers for all 11 federal orders, down from 226 pooled handlers in 2021, 228 pooled handlers in 2020 and 230 pooled handlers in 2019.

The number of pooled handlers has declined by more than 100 since 2008, when there were 333 pooled handlers.

The blend (uniform) milk price in all federal orders last year, at 3.5 percent butterfat, was a record $23.68 per hundredweight, up $6.35 from 2021.

The previous record high for the blend price was $23.54 per hundred, set in 2014. Last year was the first time since 2014 that the blend price was above $20.00 per hundred.

Emmentaler In EU

(Continued from p. 1)

(EUIPO), but the examiner rejected the application for registration, the Court of Justice noted. Emmentaler Switzerland therefore lodged an appeal, which was subsequently dismissed by the Second Board of Appeal of EUIPO, on the ground that the mark applied for was descriptive.

By its judgment issued this week, the General Court rejects the action brought by Emmentaler Switzerland against the Board of Appeal's decision. In this case, the court examines whether the Board of Appeal infringed a regulation by finding that the mark applied for is descriptive. It also clarifies the link between that regulation, concerning signs or indications which may constitute EU collective marks, and another part of that regulation, concerning descriptive marks.

First, as regards the descriptive nature of the mark applied for, the General Court considered that, in the light of the evidence taken into account by the Board of Appeal, the relevant German public immediately understands the EMMENTALER sign as designating a type of cheese.

Given that, in order for the registration of a sign to be refused, it is sufficient that the sign have a descriptive character in part of the EU, which may be a single member country, the General Court holds that the Board of Appeal was entitled to conclude that the mark applied for is descriptive, without it being necessary to examine the elements which do not concern the perception of the relevant German public.

Second, as the mark applied for as a collective mark it was noted that the regulation provides that signs or indications which may serve, in trade, to designate the origin of the goods or services in question may constitute EU collective marks. That derogation must be interpreted strictly.

The scope of that derogation cannot cover signs which are regarded as an indication of the kind, quality, quantity, or other characteristic of the goods in question, but signs which will be regarded as an indication of the geographical origin of those goods.

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Fonterra Cuts 2022/23 Forecast Milk Price; Expects Lower Milk Prices In 2023/24 Season

Auckland, New Zealand—Fonterra this week announced an opening 2023/24 season forecast farmgate milk price of $7.25 to $8.75 per kilogram of milk solids, with a midpoint of $8.00 per kilogram of milk solids.

Fonterra also updated its current season forecast farmgate milk price from $8.00 to $8.60 per kilogram of milk solids to $8.10 to $8.30 per kilogram of milk solids and reduced the midpoint from $8.30 per kilogram of milk solids to $8.20 per kilogram of milk solids, noted Miles Hurrell, Fonterra CEO.

Reduced short-term demand, particularly from China, has had an impact on Fonterra's 2022/23 forecast farmgate milk price, Hurrell noted.

"We're well through the season now, with almost all of our milk contracted, giving us more certainty on where we'll end the season. Global Dairy Trade prices have not recovered to the levels required to hold the previous midpoint for this season," he said.

The opening forecast farmgate milk price for next season "reflects an expectation that China's demand for whole milk powder will lift over the medium term," Hurrell continued. Fonterra expects demand to gradually strengthen over the course of fiscal year 2024 as China's economy continues to recover from COVID-19.

"However, the timing and extent of this remains uncertain, with China's in-market whole milk powder stocks estimated to be above normal levels following increased domestic production," Hurrell said. "This is reflected in our wide opening forecast range for the season."

ASB Bank still expects a 2023/24 milk price at or below the bottom of Fonterra's forecasting range. ASB is cautious on the outlook for the Chinese economy, with April data below market expectations.

And ASB thinks Fonterra is right to highlight the healthy whole milk powder supply environment in China; local production continues to boast solid growth at the same moment that domestic consumption is comparatively weak.

Further, with broader global production past its lows and growth slowing among most other major dairy importers, prices aren't likely to get an enormous amount of support outside the Chinese behemoth.

Gillco Ingredients Acquired By Azelis

Antwerp, Belgium—Azelis, a global innovation service provider in the food ingredients and specialty chemicals industries, recently announced that it has signed an agreement to acquire 100 percent of the shares of Gillco Ingredients, a specialty ingredient provider in the US food and nutrition market.

Founded in 1982, Gillco has developed longstanding relationships with global suppliers, a diverse portfolio of specialty ingredients and applications, and expertise across most segments of the food industry, including dairy, culinary, beverage, bakery and nutraceutical markets. The company has 40 employees serving almost 1,000 customers from its headquarters in San Marcos, CA.

All of Gillco's staff are expected to transition to Azelis, including the owner, Bill Gillies, who will remain with the company to ensure a seamless transition.

The transaction is expected to close in 2023's second quarter.

"Gillco looks forward to continuing its legacy of thoughtful growth and collaboration with customers through our team of experienced and dedicated employees, and long-term relationships with our key suppliers and customers," Gillies said. "Becoming part of Azelis, a global market leader, is a new milestone in our company's evolution. We share similar vision and culture, and I am confident that Gillco will continue to thrive as part of the Azelis group."

"Gillco, with its national reach, established market position and long-standing relationships with several blue-chip principals, will give us a significant foothold in the US food market, a strategic priority for Azelis Americas," said Frank Bergonzi, chief executive officer of Azelis Americas.

"In addition, Gillco and Azelis share a commitment to technical expertise, strong digital capabilities, and sustainability," Bergonzi continued. "This combination will provide many operational synergies and a platform for further growth by leveraging Azelis' international infrastructure and global lab network."

"In line with our strategic vision to be the preeminent innovation service provider in all territories where we operate, we are happy to welcome Gillco to the Azelis family," said Dr. Hans Joachim Muller, Azelis chief executive officer. "This acquisition strengthens our lateral value chain for the food and nutrition market, as well as the broader life sciences segment in the US, and allows us to offer a truly compelling proposition to both principals and customers."

United Natural Foods Expands Artisan Cheese Program With Midwest Select

Providence, RI—United Natural Foods, Inc. (UNFI) announced this week the expansion of its American Artisans specialty cheese program to include a new Midwest Select category.

The company's American Artisan Program was launched in 2020 to give customers access to specialty cheeses from the US.

Two years later, UNFI doubled the program with a second warehouse to serve the Pacific Northwest, increasing the number of retailers to over 200.

Customers using the program can order from small-scale producers in Vermont, Missouri, Indiana, and California. These products are flown directly from these farms to the warehouses.

UNFI has partnered with Firefly Farms of Accident, MD, and will continue to add additional producers throughout 2023.

The company is set to launch its new Midwest Select Program for the Central region, highlighting unique cheeses and artisan producers local to the Midwest.

"Our team of certified cheese professionals took their passion for craft on the road across the country to discover some of the best cheeses from small, family-run farms," said UNFI director of cheese and specialty Rebekah Baker.

The company has also expanded its European Artisan Program and French Air Program, which involves flying unique, delicate short shelf-life products from French producers to the US for UNFI customers.

The expansion will include all three programs to now cover three distribution centers and reach six states. Cheese varieties currently available but not limited to include:

Fresh Cheese: Burrata, Ricotta, Fresh Chevre, and Mozzarella

Soft Ripened: Brie, Humboldt Fog, Camembert, and Tricycle

Washed Rind: Taleggio, Dorset, and Epoisses

Uncooked Pressed: Ossau Iraty, Manchego, Cabot Clothbound Cheddar

Cooked Pressed: Parmigiano Reggiano, Comte, Gouda, Gruyere, and Havarti

Blue: Rogue River Blue, Roquefort, Stilton, Gorgonzola, Fourme d'Ambert

A selection of **national brands** through UNFI are: Alouette, Alpine Lace, Belgioioso, Castello, Champignon, Emmi, Long Clawson, Montchevre, President, Rumiano, and Sartori

The selection of **regional brands** includes: Belfiore Cheese, Berkley; Bellwether Farms, Petaluma; Central Coast Creamery, Paso Robles; Chevoo, Elkmont, AL; Di Stefano, Pomona; Cypress Grove, Arcata, CA; Fiscalini Farmstead Cheese, Modesto; Laura Chenel, Sonoma, CA; Marin French Cheese, Petaluma; Rogue Creamery, Central Point, OR; and Sierra Nevada Cheese, CA.

A few of its specialty import brands are: Paysan, Breton, Snowdonia, Guilloteau, Alta Langa and El Tablao.

United Natural Foods is likewise creating in-store marketing tools for retailers involved in the artisan programs. For more information, visit *www.unfifresh.com/tonys/products.*

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IAFP Food Safety Conf. Scheduled For July 16-19 In Toronto, Canada

Toronto, Ontario—The International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) will host its annual global food safety conference here July 16-19, 2023 at the Metro Convention Center.

The conference app will be released in June for attendees to create a personalized schedule. Sunday will be dedicated to IAFP-affiliated committee meetings. The Ivan Parkin Lecture – "Anatomy of a Food Standard" by Sarah Cahill, Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Dairy-related sessions for Monday include Plant Based Alternative Products; Microbial Modeling for Food Safety; Forever Chemicals; Genomics in Food Safety; Food Safety Culture and HACCP; Alternative Protein & Novel Foods – Prioritizing Food Safety in Food Tech 2.0; Data Sharing in the Digital Age; and Improving HACCP Team Proficiency.

Tuesday highlights include Food Safety & Packaging Sustainability; Food Allergens in Foodservice; Data Use in Retail & Foodservice Food Safety Programs; Estimating the Cost of Foodborne Illnesses.

The final day of the conference will include sessions such as Queso Fresco Type Cheeses – Listeriosis Outbreak Prevention Strategies; Ensuring Food Safety within Global Supply Chains; Food Safety for Infant Foods; and Educating the Next Generation of Consumers.

A special dairy technical session led by Terence Lau of Hong Kong Baptist University and Hygiena's Celin To is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon.

Pre-Conference Workshops

A collection of pre-conference workshops have been scheduled July 14-15. They include: Demystifying Dry Cleaning; Developing Environmental Monitoring Programs for Small & Midsize Processors; Next Generation Sequencing; Common-Sense Workshop on Validation & Verification of Diagnostic Test Kits; Introduction to FDA-iRISK; and ICMSF Workshop for Food Safety Authorities & Food Business Operators.

Early registration ends June 19. Cost to attend is $615 for IAFP members and $875 for non-members. After the deadline, cost is $715 and $975, respectively.

There is no virtual attendance option.

To register online, visit *www.foodprotection.org*.

Northwest WI Managers, Fieldmans Summer Outing Is June 29

Chippewa Falls, WI—The Northwest Wisconsin Managers & Fieldmans Association NWFMA) will host its 57th annual summer outing here Thursday, June 29 at the Lake Wissota Golf Club & Events Center.

Festivities include a golf tournament and fishing contest on Lake Wissota. A social hour will start at 4 p.m., followed with a buffet-style dinner.

For the golf outing, flags will be on the course by 10 a.m. Participants need to call Lake Wissota Golf at (888) 382-4780 by June 26 to ensure tee times.

Cost to attend the event is $35 per person, which includes dinner and membership dues. The registration deadline is June 23.

Monetary and prize donations are welcomed. Contact Ethan Granlund at (608) 864-0736 or *granlunde@ampi.com* for sponsorship information.

Registration fees can be sent to: AMPI – Blair Division, c/o Ethan Granlund, P.O. Box 6, Blair, WI, 54616.

PLANNING GUIDE

IDDBA 2023: June 4-6, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA. Check www.iddba.org for details.

•

Summer Fancy Food Show: June 25-27, Javits Center, New York, NY. For information, visit www.specialtyfood.com.

•

ADSA Annual Meeting: June 25-28, Ottawa, Ontario. Registration is online at www.adsa.org.

•

WDPA Dairy Symposium: July 10-11, Landmark Resort, Door County, WI. Visit www.wdpa.net for updates and registration.

•

IFT Expo: July 16-19, McCormick Place, Chicago. Visit www.iftevent.org for future updates.

•

ACS Conference: July 18-21, Des Moines, IA. Updates available at www.cheesesociety.org.

•

IMPA Conference: Aug. 10-11, Sun Valley Resort, Sun Valley, ID. Visit www.impa.us for more information closer to event date.

•

Pack Expo Las Vegas: Sept. 11-13, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. Registration open at www.packexpolasvegas.com.

•

ADPI Dairy Ingredients Seminar: Sept. 25-27, Santa Barbara, CA. Registration now open at www.adpi.org/events.

•

NCCIA Annual Conference: Oct. 10-12, Best Western/Ramkota, Sioux Falls, SD. Visit NCCIA at www.northcentralcheese.org for more information and registration updates.

•

IDF World Dairy Summit: Oct. 16-19, Chicago, IL. Visit www.idfwds2023.com to register online and for more information.

•

Dairy Purchasing & Risk Management Seminar: Nov. 1-2, Convene Willis Tower, Chicago, IL. Registration opens July 15 at www.adpi.org/events.

•

PLMA Trade Show: Nov. 12-14, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Chicago. Registration opens in June at www.plma.org.

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Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Products Contest

Entry information is available for the 2023 Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Products Contest at: https://wistatefair.com/competitions/dairy-products/.

The contest will take place on June 22 at Wisconsin State Fair Park. Class winners — as well as the 2023 Grand Master Cheese Maker — will be announced at the Blue Ribbon Dairy Products Auction on Thursday, August 10.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
June 9
Entry Deadline

June 22
Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Products Contest

August 10
Blue Ribbon Dairy Products Auction

CLASSES: Cheese ■ Butter ■ Yogurt ■ Sour Cream ■ Fluid Milk ■ Custard

New: ■ Shredded cheese ■ Crumbled cheese

For more information about the contest, contact Entry Office at entryoffice@wistatefair.org

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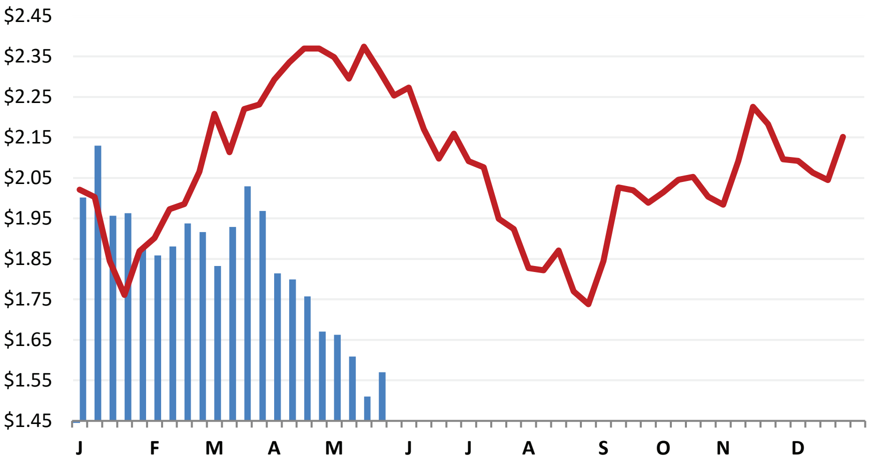
Dairy Product Stocks in Cold Storage

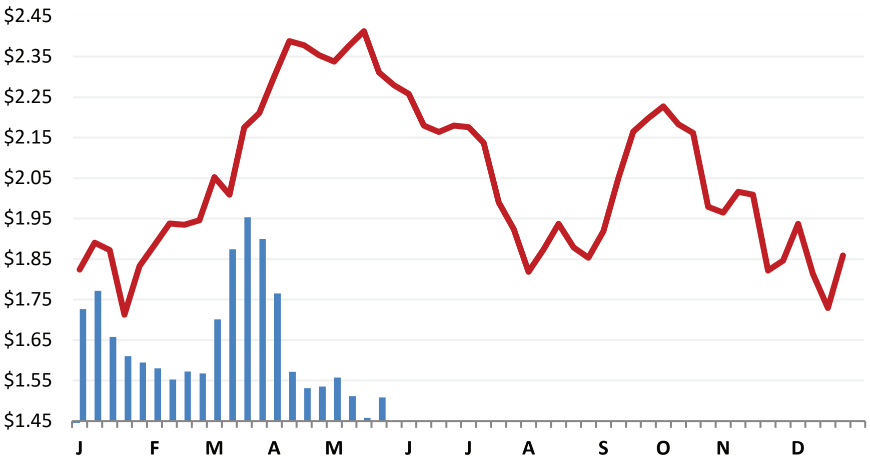
TOTAL STOCKS AS REPORTED BY USDA (in 1000s of pounds unless indicated)

	Stocks in All Warehouses			April 30, 2023 as a % of		Public Warehouse Stocks
	April 30 2022	**Mar 31 2023**	**April 30 2023**	**April 30 2022**	**Mar 31 2023**	**April 30 2023**
Butter	298,334	309,486	327,682	110	106	316,566
Cheese						
American	835,747	826,768	838,241	100	101	
Swiss	23,975	21,605	21,584	90	100	
Other	621,150	612,008	603,671	97	99	
Total	1,480,872	1,460,381	1,463,496	99	100	1,140,931

CME Block Price Tracker – 2022 vs 2023



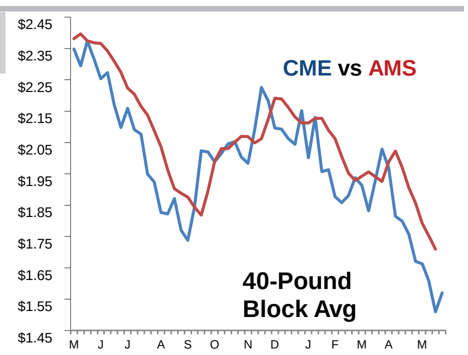
CME Barrel Price Tracker – 2022 vs 2023



DAIRY PRODUCT SALES

May 24, 2023—AMS' National Dairy Products Sales Report. Prices included are provided each week by manufacturers. Prices collected are for the (wholesale) point of sale for natural, unaged Cheddar; boxes of butter meeting USDA standards; Extra Grade edible dry whey; and Extra Grade and USPH Grade A nonfortified NFDM.

•Revised



Week Ending	**May 20**	**May 13**	**May 6**	**April 29**
40-Pound Block Cheddar Cheese Prices and Sales				
Weighted Price		Dollars/Pound		
US	1.7098	1.7523•	1.7912	1.8568
Sales Volume		Pounds		
US	11,692,703	12,177,334	13,672,806	12,392,772
500-Pound Barrel Cheddar Cheese Prices, Sales & Moisture Contest				
Weighted Price		Dollars/Pound		
US	1.6440	1.6676	1.6728	1.7146
Adjusted to 38% Moisture				
US	1.5675	1.5892	1.5975	1.6348
Sales Volume		Pounds		
US	13,895,793	15,349,286	15,089,510	15,098,437
Weighted Moisture Content		Percent		
US	34.97	34.94	35.08	34.97
AA Butter				
Weighted Price		Dollars/Pound		
US	2.4449	2.4653•	2.4205	2.4092
Sales Volume		Pounds		
US	4,063,544	2,554,594•	5,177,290	3,728,355
Extra Grade Dry Whey Prices				
Weighted Price		Dollars/Pound		
US	0.3801	0.3906•	0.4110	0.4262
Sales Volume				
US	7,877,017	8,291,077•	6,836,785	6,726,770
Extra Grade or USPHS Grade A Nonfat Dry Milk				
Average Price		Dollars/Pound		
US	1.1494	1.1489•	1.1548	1.1181•
Sales Volume		Pounds		
US	24,344,181	29,935,017•	319,817	54,023,643•

DAIRY FUTURES PRICES

SETTLING PRICE *Cash Settled

Date	Month	Class III	Class IV	Dry Whey	NDM	Block Cheese	Cheese*	Butter*
5-19	May 23	16.19	18.10	38.000	114.975	1.730	1.6690	243.775
5-22	May 23	16.21	18.10	38.000	115.975	1.730	1.6700	243.775
5-23	May 23	16.21	18.10	38.000	115.000	1.730	1.6710	243.825
5-24	May 23	16.20	18.10	38.000	115.100	1.730	1.6690	243.850
5-25	May 23	16.17	18.10	38.400	115.100	1.730	1.6650	243.925
5-19	June 23	16.06	18.19	34.100	116.000	1.695	1.6780	242.300
5-22	June 23	16.32	18.19	33.375	116.875	1.730	1.7150	242.250
5-23	June 22	16.55	18.19	34.250	116.875	1.738	1.7320	241.825
5-24	June 23	16.37	18.17	34.675	117.000	1.738	1.7100	244.825
5-25	June 23	16.11	18.17	34.750	117.900	1.684	1.6810	240.550
5-19	July 23	16.63	18.17	32.000	116.525	1.795	1.7540	243.775
5-22	July 23	16.76	18.20	31.500	117.800	1.795	1.7740	243.625
5-23	July 23	16.94	18.23	31.500	118.000	1.795	1.7780	243.500
5-24	July 23	16.82	18.25	33.525	118.350	1.795	1.7630	242.200
5-25	July 23	16.64	18.23	33.825	119.100	1.789	1.7440	240.500
5-19	Aug 23	17.56	18.64	32.300	118.900	1.887	1.8520	246.400
5-22	Aug 23	17.73	18.51	31.850	119.950	1.887	1.8650	245.500
5-23	Aug 23	17.72	18.56	31.900	120.400	1.887	1.8510	245.000
5-24	Aug 23	17.63	18.56	33.825	121.000	1.887	1.8460	245.000
5-25	Aug 23	17.48	18.56	33.825	122.200	1.877	1.8320	242.250
5-19	Sept 23	18.30	18.90	33.500	121.500	1.968	1.9180	249.000
5-22	Sept 23	18.54	18.84	33.500	122.250	1.968	1.9450	248.000
5-23	Sept 23	18.53	18.87	34.025	123.250	1.968	1.9300	248.000
5-24	Sept 23	18.48	18.87	35.025	123.950	1.968	1.9230	247.500
5-25	Sept 23	18.44	18.87	35.025	125.250	1.965	1.9250	245.100
5-19	Oct 23	18.80	19.17	35.200	124.000	1.990	1.9640	250.000
5-22	Oct 23	18.81	19.17	35.200	124.850	1.990	1.9650	249.275
5-23	Oct 23	18.96	19.17	36.250	125.000	1.990	1.9710	249.000
5-24	Oct 23	18.96	19.17	37.000	126.900	1.990	1.9760	248.325
5-25	Oct 23	19.00	19.17	36.500	127.350	1.990	1.9650	246.000
5-19	Nov 23	18.87	19.30	35.200	125.725	1.990	1.9700	251.725
5-22	Nov 23	18.88	19.30	36.500	126.700	1.990	1.9700	251.000
5-23	Nov 23	19.06	19.30	36.500	127.500	1.990	1.9720	250.725
5-24	Nov 23	19.05	19.30	36.500	128.200	1.990	1.9740	250.000
5-25	Nov 23	19.00	19.30	37.250	129.000	1.990	1.9730	247.000
5-19	Dec 23	18.50	19.16	37.500	127.250	1.968	1.9350	247.175
5-22	Dec 23	18.57	19.16	37.500	128.250	1.968	1.9410	246.450
5-23	Dec 23	18.64	19.16	37.500	128.975	1.968	1.9390	246.175
5-24	Dec 23	18.70	19.16	37.500	129.500	1.968	1.9410	245.450
5-25	Dec 23	18.76	19.16	37.500	130.000	1.968	1.9400	243.175
5-19	Jan 24	18.10	19.00	41.900	130.250	1.986	1.8850	242.175
5-22	Jan 24	18.11	19.00	41.900	130.000	1.986	1.8870	242.175
5-23	Jan 24	18.15	19.00	41.900	130.000	1.986	1.8950	242.175
5-24	Jan 24	18.20	19.00	41.900	130.025	1.986	1.8990	242.175
5-25	Jan 24	18.25	19.00	41.900	131.725	1.986	1.8980	241.825
5-19	Feb 24	18.01	18.91	40.000	131.000	1.980	1.8780	238.000
5-22	Feb 24	18.01	18.91	40.000	131.000	1.980	1.8780	238.000
5-23	Feb 24	18.05	18.91	40.000	131.000	1.980	1.8920	238.000
5-24	Feb 24	18.05	18.91	40.000	131.500	1.980	1.8920	238.000
5-25	Feb 24	18.12	18.91	40.000	132.000	1.980	1.8920	238.000
5-19	Mar 24	18.03	18.90	40.000	131.050	1.980	1.8750	237.000
5-22	Mar 24	18.03	18.90	40.000	131.050	1.980	1.8770	237.000
5-23	Mar 24	18.03	18.90	40.000	131.050	1.980	1.8920	237.000
5-24	Mar 24	18.03	18.90	40.000	131.600	1.980	1.8980	237.000
5-25	Mar 24	18.10	18.90	40.000	132.500	1.980	1.8990	237.000
May 25		**26,987**	**5,667**	**3,602**	**9,101**	**822**	**25,867**	**10,145**

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DAIRY PRODUCT MARKETS

AS REPORTED BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHOLESALE CHEESE MARKETS

NORTHEAST - MAY 24: Farm level milk output volumes are strong. Some processors are having to turn away spot loads of milk as they are at or approaching capacity. There is scheduled downtime at some processing locations for the upcoming holiday weekend. Cheese inventories are strong, but demand remains mixed. Retail demand is seasonally strong, especially heading into the weekend. Foodservice demand remains moderate, as menu price inflation has dissuaded some consumers. American-type, Italian-type, and Swiss inventories are strong.

Wholesale prices, delivered, dollars per/lb:

Cheddar 40-lb block:	$1.9750 - $2.2625	Process 5-lb sliced:	$1.5600 - $2.0400
Muenster:	$1.9625 - $2.3125	Swiss 10-14 lb cuts:	$3.4550 - $5.7775

MIDWEST AREA - MAY 24: Milk remains available for cheese processors, which is typical ahead of a holiday weekend. That said, for the first time this year, sentiment is changing in regards to milk availability moving into the near-term. More contacts say components have started to seasonally shift lower, and at the same time fewer plants are down due to maintenance/updates. Currently, spot milk prices range from $11 to $4 under Class, compared to week 21 last year when prices were reported from $2.75 under to $.75 over Class III. Cheese makers are generally relaying steady to strong demand tones. Barrel processors say customers are active, while some retail Cheddar and Italian style cheese makers report similar buying interests. Some Italian style cheese makers continue to report ordering lags, but their sales are improving slowly. Nationally, markets remain under some pressure.

Wholesale prices delivered, dollars per/lb:

Blue 5# Loaf :	$2.0175 - $3.2275	Mozzarella 5-6#:	$1.5475 - $2.6350
Brick 5# Loaf:	$1.7475 - $2.3150	Muenster 5#:	$1.7475 - $2.3150
Cheddar 40# Block:	$1.4700 - $2.0125	Process 5# Loaf:	$1.4375 - $1.9050
Monterey Jack 10#:	$1.7225 - $2.0700	Swiss 6-9# Cuts:	$2.9700 - $3.0725

WEST - MAY 24: Although some stakeholders indicate decreased sales activity, retail and foodservice demand for varietal cheeses is holding steady overall. Tight block cheese inventories are reported from a few manufacturers, with production moderately ahead of contracted retail and foodservice commitments. Contracted obligations are anticipated to put heavier draws on block inventories than barrel inventories for the remainder of May. Despite stakeholders reporting some limited inventories, loads are available to accommodate demand. Export demand is indicated as mixed by industry sources. Some contacts relay good demand from purchasers supplying Asia, Mexico, and South America, while others relay overall export demand is lighter. Class III milk volumes are available. Production schedules are busy from cheese manufacturers ahead of the upcoming holiday weekend.

Wholesale prices delivered, dollars per/lb:		Monterey Jack 10#:	$1.8375 - $2.1125
Cheddar 10# Cuts :	$1.8500 - $2.0500	Process 5# Loaf:	$1.5625 - $1.7175
Cheddar 40# Block:	$1.6025 - $2.0925	Swiss 6-9# Cuts:	$2.2625 - $3.6925

EEX Weekly European Cheese Indices (WECI): Price Per/lb (US Converted)

Variety	Date: 5/24	5/17	Variety	Date: 5/24	5/17
Cheddar Curd	$1.91	$1.92	Mild Cheddar	$1.96	$1.96
Young Gouda	$1.63	$1.60	Mozzarella	$1.59	$1.54

FOREIGN -TYPE CHEESE - MAY 24: Demand for foreign type cheese has picked up in recent weeks. Industry contacts suggest demand has increased in both retail and foodservice sectors. Contacts say promotions and lower prices in the grocery store have contributed to the increase in retail orders. Anticipation of the European summer holiday season have contributed to some increase in foodservice orders. Cheese production is active with ample milk supplies, and cheese stocks are generally available. Some sources report cheese inventories for specific varieties may be declining. As milk intakes wane and cheese production slows through the summer months, a few market participants expect supplies for those varieties may become tighter, especially, if demand maintains its current pace.

Selling prices, delivered, dollars per/lb:	Imported	Domestic
Blue:	$2.6400 - 5.2300	$1.8325 - 3.3200
Gorgonzola:	$3.6900 - 5.7400	$2.3400 - 3.0575
Parmesan (Italy):	0	$3.2200 - 4.3100
Romano (Cows Milk):	0	$3.0225 - 51775
Sardo Romano (Argentine):	$2.8500 - 4.7800	0
Reggianito (Argentine):	$3.2900 - 4.7800	0
Jarlsberg (Brand):	$2.9500 - 6.4500	0
Swiss Cuts Switzerland:	0	$3.4900 - 3.8150
Swiss Cuts Finnish:	$2.6700- 2.9300	0

DRY PRODUCTS - MAY 25

LACTOSE CENTRAL/WEST: Industry contacts report contracted volumes are moving satisfactorily, but relay that it's hard to gain much interest from buyers beyond those prior commitments. In efforts to control lactose inventories, manufacturers are working the spot market, trying to find places to go with extra lactose. But often prices need to be in the lower end of the market to entice buyers. Demand is weak. Lactose inventories are heavy and vary among manufacturers.

WPC CENTRAL/WEST: There's not much action for WPC 34% outside of contracts. Manufacturers have been trying to reduce inventories by selling into the spot market, but there's very little interest from buyers. A few contacts report there have been some large volumes of edible WPC 34% moving into feed channels in efforts to reduce stocks. Inventories are heavy aside from some brand preferred varieties.

CASEIN: Casein prices, both rennet and acid, held steady this week after a number of consecutive weeks of bearish slides. That doesn't mean markets are out of that bearish predicament, but trading was notably quieter this week. As Europe's milk production season gathers strength, there is expected to be more rennet casein made available to global competitors.

NDM EAST: Market tones are somewhat steady, but the near-term outlook varies from one contact to the next. Mexican interests at the current price range have been somewhat healthy, according to traders. On the other side of the bull/bear spectrum is the wide availability of condensed skim on hand, which has been an ongoing hurdle for milk/skim handlers for months. High heat nonfat dry milk prices are steady on quiet trading activity. Generally, market tones are uncertain to quiet. Prices were unchanged on moderate trading activity.

NATIONAL - CONVENTIONAL DAIRY PRODUCTS

Total conventional cheese ads increased 12 percent, and total organic cheese ads increased 110 percent. Conventional cheese 6- to 8-ounce slice ads grew 29 percent. Organic 6- to 8-ounce sliced cheese retail ad numbers are up 188 percent.

As a percentage of total ads by commodity, conventional cheese and organic cheese led the way, 32 percent, and 54 percent, respectively. Ice cream in 48- to 64-ounce containers was the most advertised conventional dairy retail item, while 6-8-ounce sliced cheese was the most advertised organic dairy retail item.

Overall, total dairy retail ads increased on the conventional aisle by 21 percent, while organic dairy ad totals increased 92 percent. Greek yogurt 4-to 6-ounce had the highest number of retail ads in the conventional yogurt category.

RETAIL PRICES - CONVENTIONAL DAIRY - MAY 26

Commodity	US	NE	SE	MID	SC	SW	NW
Butter 8 oz	3.24	3.24	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Butter 1#	3.68	3.80	3.47	3.50	4.29	3.65	3.23
Cheese 6-8 oz block	2.24	2.41	1.94	2.41	2.55	2.02	1.49
Cheese 6-8 oz shred	2.40	2.54	2.11	2.50	2.58	2.38	1.92
Cheese 6-8 oz sliced	2.39	2.55	2.41	2.05	2.75	2.50	1.98
Cheese 1# block	3.63	3.49	NA	3.50	NA	4.12	NA
Cheese 1# shred	3.70	NA	NA	3.50	NA	4.12	NA
Cheese 1# sliced	3.99	3.99	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cheese 2# block	7.64	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.64
Cheese 2# shred	6.47	NA	7.99	NA	NA	5.99	6.49
Cottage Cheese 16 oz	2.30	2.68	2.00	2.81	2.20	2.49	NA
Cottage Cheese 24 oz	2.84	NA	2.61	3.08	NA	1.99	3.79
Cream Cheese 8 oz	2.94	3.18	2.89	2.72	2.55	2.88	3.39
Ice Cream 14-16 oz	3.30	3.39	3.17	4.02	2.62	3.28	3.18
Ice Cream 48-64 oz	3.61	3.53	3.38	3.76	4.24	3.46	2.58
Milk ½ gallon	2.08	NA	NA	NA	2.50	NA	1.63
Milk gallon	3.71	3.90	NA	NA	NA	3.44	NA
Flavored Milk ½ gal	1.99	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.99	NA
Flavored Milk gallon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sour Cream 16 oz	2.12	2.19	2.10	2.25	2.16	1.95	2.00
Sour Cream 24 oz	2.56	3.50	2.63	2.59	1.99	2.56	3.20
Yogurt (Greek) 4-6 oz	1.03	1.19	0.93	1.00	1.00	1.11	NA
Yogurt 4-6 oz	0.62	0.73	0.60	0.60	NA	0.49	0.51
Yogurt (Greek) 32 oz	5.98	5.79	6.99	NA	5.99	5.99	NA
Yogurt 32 oz	3.30	3.13	3.84	NA	NA	3.23	3.41

ORGANIC DAIRY - RETAIL OVERVIEW

National Weighted Retail Avg Price:

Cream Cheese 8 oz:	NA	Yogurt 4-6 oz:	$0.89
Butter 8 oz:	$2.90	Yogurt 32 oz:	$4.21
Butter 1 lb:	$8.53	Yogurt Greek 32 oz	$6.64
Cottage Cheese 16 oz:	$4.89	Milk 8 oz	NA
Cheese 6-8 oz sliced:	$3.38	Milk ½ gallon:	$4.18
Cheese 6-8 oz shreds:	$3.25	Milk gallon:	$6.99
Cheese 6-8 oz block:	$4.79	Sour cream 16 oz:	$2.49
Cheese 2 lb block:	NA	Ice Cream 48-64 oz	$8.99

WHOLESALE BUTTER MARKETS - MAY 24

WEST: Cream multiples on the top of the range had downward movement this week. Due to downtime for churn repairs and planned equipment maintenance, a few butter manufacturers report lowering the amount of outside cream being brought in and making more loads available to spot purchasers. Buttermaking is strong overall, despite a few facilities reportedly somewhat limited from personnel shortages. Churns are busy working through available cream volumes before the upcoming holiday weekend. Retail and foodservice demand is strong to steady. Some contacts indicate tightening inventories as contract and spot market sales are pulling steadily on supply. However, loads are available to accommodate current market demand. Export demand is steady.

CENTRAL: Butter plant managers reported widely available cream supplies again this week. They do note, though, that as ice cream producers are expected to push up their production schedules starting next week, cream availability is not expected to remain as wide open as it has been for most of the calendar year for much longer. Some say this is the final churning push ahead of the late summer/fall demand upsurge. Current butter demand notes are not changing much from week to week. Most plant contacts say butter demand is meeting seasonal expectations. Butter market tones are quietly sturdy to range-bound.

NORTHEAST: Cream is readily available in the East. Market contacts have shared that they are operating strong production schedules, however some have indicated that there is scheduled plant downtime for the upcoming holiday weekend. Butter inventories remain strong, with some reports that contacts are still freezing butter in bulk. Retail demand is noted to be strong as seasonal baking interests have been piqued. Additionally, many retail ads are featuring butter. Foodservice demand is moderate, as some consumers have perceived recent menu price increases as a deterrent.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS IN 1,000 POUNDS - INCLUDING GOVERNMENT

DATE	BUTTER	CHEESE
05/22/23	65,018	72,446
05/01/23	61,251	69,879
Change	3,767	2,567
Percent Change	6	4

CME CASH PRICES - MAY 22 - 26, 2023

Visit www.cheesereporter.com for daily prices

	500-LB CHEDDAR	40-LB CHEDDAR	AA BUTTER	GRADE A NFDM	DRY WHEY
MONDAY May 22	$1.5150 (+4½)	$1.6000 (+6½)	$2.4500 (-1)	$1.1600 (+¾)	$0.2550 (-1)
TUESDAY May 23	$1.5150 (NC)	$1.6525 (+5¼)	$2.4375 (-1¼)	$1.1525 (-¾)	$0.2600 (+½)
WEDNESDAY May 24	$1.5150 (NC)	$1.5775 (-7½)	$2.4375 (NC)	$1.1575 (+½)	$0.2775 (+1¾)
THURSDAY May 25	$1.5000 (-1½)	$1.5200 (-5¾)	$2.4175 (-2)	$1.1700 (+1¼)	$0.2750 (-¼)
FRIDAY May 26	$1.4900 (-1)	$1.4775 (-4¼)	$2.4300 (+1¼)	$1.1700 (NC)	$0.2750 (NC)
Week's AVG $ Change	$1.5070 (+0.0490)	$1.5655 (+0.0555)	$2.4345 (-0.0165)	$1.1620 (+0.0020)	$0.2685 (-0.0160)
Last Week's AVG	$1.4580	$1.5100	$2.4510	$1.1600	$0.2845
2022 AVG Same Week	$2.3115	$2.3160	$2.8825	$1.8365	$0.5025

MARKET OPINION - CHEESE REPORTER

Cheese Comment: Two cars of blocks were sold Monday, 1 at $1.5825 and the other at $1.5925; an unfilled bid for 1 car at $1.6000 then set the price. Three cars of blocks were sold Tuesday, the last at $1.6525, which set the price. On Wednesday, 2 cars of blocks were sold, the last at $1.5775, which set the price. Six cars of blocks were sold Thursday, the last at $1.5200, which set the price. Nine cars of blocks were sold Friday, the last at $1.4775, which set the price. The barrel price rose Monday on a sale at $1.5150, fell Thursay on a sale at $1.5000, and declined Friday on a sale at $1.4900 .

Butter Comment: The price declined Monday on an uncovered offer at $2.4500, fell Tuesday on an uncovered offer at $2.4375, declined Thursday on a sale at $2.4175, then increased Friday on a sale at $2.4300.

Nonfat Dry Milk Comment: The price increased Monday on a sale at $1.1600, declined Tuesday on an uncovered offer at $1.1525, rose Wednesday on a sale at $1.1575, and increased Thursday on a sale at $1.1700.

Dry Whey Comment: The price fell Monday on a sale at 25.50 cents, rose Tuesday on an unfilled bid at 26.0 cents, increased Wednesday on a sale at 27.75 cents, then declined Thursday on a sale at 27.50 cents.

WHEY MARKETS - MAY 22 - 26, 2023

RELEASE DATE - MAY 25, 2023

Animal Feed Whey—Central: Milk Replacer:		.2375 (-1¼) – .2800 (-1)
Buttermilk Powder:		
Central & East:	.9800 (NC) – 1.0500 (-3½)	West: .9000 (NC) –1.0500 (+4)
Mostly:	.9100 (-3) – .9900 (NC)	
Casein: Rennet:	4.5000 (NC) – 5.0000 (NC)	Acid: 4.9000 (NC) – 5.1500 (NC)
Dry Whey—Central (Edible):		
Nonhygroscopic:	.2375 (-4¼) – .4050 (NC)	Mostly: .2900 (-3) – .3600 (-2)
Dry Whey—West (Edible):		
Nonhygroscopic:	.2600 (NC) – .4700 (NC)	Mostly: .3300 (-3) – .4000 (NC)
Dry Whey—NE:	.3700 (-1) – .4425 (-1)	
Lactose—Central and West:		
Edible:	.1350 (NC) – .5000 (NC)	Mostly: .1700 (NC) – .3400 (NC)
Nonfat Dry Milk —Central & East:		
Low/Medium Heat:	1.1200 (NC) – 1.1900 (NC)	Mostly: 1.1400 (NC) – 1.1750 (NC)
High Heat:	1.2400 (NC) – 1.3200 (NC)	
Nonfat Dry Milk —Western:		
Low/Med Heat:	1.1200 (+2) – 1.2100 (NC)	Mostly: 1.1400 (NC) – 1.2000 (NC)
High Heat:	1.2500 (-2) – 1.4000 (¼)	
Whey Protein Concentrate—34% Protein:		
Central & West:	.7000 (-10) – 1.3000 (-5)	Mostly: .8500 (-5) –1.2500 (-3)
Whole Milk:	1.9000 (-15) – 2.1000 (-5)	

HISTORICAL MONTHLY AVG BUTTER PRICES

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
'09	1.1096	1.1097	1.1770	1.2050	1.2526	1.2235	1.2349	1.2000	1.2199	1.2830	1.5008	1.3968
'10	1.3950	1.3560	1.4641	1.5460	1.5896	1.6380	1.7787	1.9900	2.2262	2.1895	1.9295	1.6327
'11	2.0345	2.0622	2.0863	1.9970	2.0724	2.1077	2.0443	2.0882	1.8724	1.8295	1.7356	1.6119
'12	1.5077	1.4273	1.4895	1.4136	1.3531	1.4774	1.5831	1.7687	1.8803	1.9086	1.7910	1.4848
'13	1.4933	1.5713	1.6241	1.7197	1.5997	1.5105	1.4751	1.4013	1.5233	1.5267	1.6126	1.5963
'14	1.7756	1.8047	1.9145	1.9357	2.1713	2.2630	2.4624	2.5913	2.9740	2.3184	1.9968	1.7633
'15	1.5714	1.7293	1.7166	1.7937	1.9309	1.9065	1.9056	2.1542	2.6690	2.4757	2.8779	2.3318
'16	2.1214	2.0840	1.9605	2.0563	2.0554	2.2640	2.2731	2.1776	1.9950	1.8239	1.9899	2.1763
'17	2.2393	2.1534	2.1392	2.0992	2.2684	2.5688	2.6195	2.6473	2.4370	2.3293	2.2244	2.2078
'18	2.1587	2.1211	2.2011	2.3145	2.3751	2.3270	2.2361	2.3009	2.2545	2.2600	2.2480	2.2071
'19	2.2481	2.2659	2.2773	2.2635	2.3366	2.3884	2.3897	2.2942	2.1690	2.1071	2.0495	1.9736
'20	1.8813	1.7913	1.7235	1.1999	1.4710	1.8291	1.6925	1.5038	1.5163	1.4550	1.3941	1.4806
'21	1.3496	1.3859	1.7153	1.8267	1.8124	1.7758	1.6912	1.6815	1.7756	1.8002	1.9714	2.1536
'22	2.7203	2.6196	2.7346	2.7169	2.7514	2.9546	2.9506	3.0073	3.1483	3.1792	2.8634	2.6695
23	2.3553	2.4017	2.3692	2.3655								

Bill Providing $4 Million In Financial Aid For MN Dairy Farmers Signed

Finlayson, MN—Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz recently signed into law a bill that provides $4 million for the Dairy Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative (DAIRI) program.

Walz signed the legislation while visiting a farm in Finlayson.

The DAIRI program provides financial assistance to Minnesota dairy cow operations that produced less than 16 million pounds of milk last year and that enrolled in a federal dairy risk protection program. The Minnesota agriculture commissioner must make DAIRI payments based on the amount of milk produced in 2022, up to 5 million pounds per participating farm, at a rate determined by the commissioner within the limits of available funding.

The Minnesota Milk Producers Association celebrated the state legislature's passage of the DAIRI legislation earlier this month. The new program, one of the association's priority issues, builds off the original DAIRI program, passed in 2019, including several refinements to encourage family dairy farms to utilize existing federal risk management programs and stabilize Minnesota's dairy economy for long-term viability.

"Managing risk has become an essential part of dairying in the modern age," said Lucas Sjostrom, executive director of Minnesota Milk. "Minnesota's commitment to encouraging and supporting dairy farms to manage price risk will help future generations continue our farming legacies."

The DAIRI program prompted more Minnesota farms to sign up for risk management, according to Minnesota Milk. Minnesota farms were nearly 15 percent more likely to enroll in DMC program than nationwide enrollment statistics.

"With this investment, Minnesota continues to demonstrate its place as a thriving home for dairy," Sjostrom said.

The bill signed by Walz also includes a total of $2.5 million over two years for grants to help the start-up, modernization, or expansion of milk, meat, poultry, and egg processing facilities.

And it includes $100 million to expand high-speed broadband and help achieve the state's goal of ensuring everyone has access to high-speed broadband across the state.

For more information, visit www.urschel.com