The Market Administrator's

BULLETIN

CALIFORNIA MARKETING AREA

Peter Fredericks, Market Administrator

October 2025 Federal Order No. 51

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October Pool Price Calculation

The October 2025 Statistical Uniform Price (SUP) for the California Marketing Area decreased by $1.77 per hundredweight (cwt) from last month to $15.54 per cwt for milk delivered to plants located in Los Angeles County, California, the pricing point for the California Federal Marketing Order. The SUP is announced at 3.5 percent butterfat, 2.99 percent protein, and 5.69 percent other solids. When reported at the average tests of pooled milk (4.24 percent butterfat, 3.40 percent protein, and 5.76 percent other solids), the October SUP was $18.08 per cwt, $1.69 lower than September. The October Producer Price Differential (PPD) in Los Angeles County was -$1.37 per cwt, $1.09 lower than the month prior.

Product Prices Effect

Most prices in the National Dairy Product Sales Report observed declines in October. The butter price decreased by the largest margin of roughly 30 cents to $1.7344 per pound. The cheese price and the nonfat dry milk price both declined 7 cents to $1.7384 per pound and $1.1601 per pound, respectively. The dry whey price had the only increase of around 1 cent from September to $0.5930 per pound.

Component prices experienced mixed trends in October. The butterfat price decreased by the largest margin of 37 cents to $1.8252 per pound. The nonfat solids price had a slight decline of about 7 cents to $0.9116 per pound. Meanwhile, the protein price increased by 17 cents to $2.8761 per pound. The other solids price increased by roughly 2 cents to $0.3360 per pound.

All Class prices decreased from September to October. The Class I price had the lowest decrease of 66 cents, settling at $20.84 per cwt. The Class II price decreased by $1.37 to $16.02 per cwt. The Class III price declined 68 cents to $16.91 per cwt. Lastly, the Class IV price had the largest decrease of $1.87 to $14.30 per cwt.

Selected Statistics

The butterfat price in October 2025 was the lowest price since March 2021. The protein price was the highest this year. The Class I volume for October was the highest since March 2023.❖

Pool Summary

- A total of 717 producers were pooled with an average daily delivery per producer of 80,464 pounds, a decrease of 0.45 percent from September.
- Pooled milk receipts totaled 1.79 billion pounds, an increase of 3.59 percent on an average daily basis.
- Class I usage (milk for bottling) accounted for 23.6 percent of total pooled milk receipts.
- The average butterfat test of producer receipts was 4.24 percent.
- The average true protein test of producer receipts was 3.40 percent.
- The average other solids test of producer receipts was 5.76 percent.❖

Class Utilization

Pooled Milk	Percent	Pounds
Class I	23.6	421,937,456
Class II	7.8	138,690,590
Class III	2.0	35,960,194
Class IV	66.6	1,191,876,554
Total Pooled Milk		1,788,464,794

Producer Component Prices

	2025	2024
	$/lb	
Protein Price	2.8761	3.3238
Butterfat Price	1.8252	3.0851
Other Solids Price	0.3360	0.3705

Class Price Factors

	2025	2024
	$/cwt	
Class I	20.84	25.27
Class I ESL Adj	0.97	N/A
Class II	16.02	21.01
Class III	16.91	22.85
Class IV	14.30	20.90

Implementation of Fifth Amendement

The fifth amendment of the Final Decision from the National Federal Milk Marketing Order Pricing Formula Hearing will be implemented on December 1, 2025. The first four amendments were implemented in June 2025.

The fifth amendment updates the milk composition factors in the milk pricing formulas. The protein factor will increase from 3.10 to 3.30 percent, the other solids factor will change from 5.9 to 6.0 percent, and the nonfat solids factor will increase from 9.0 to 9.3 percent. The updated factors will be announced in the Advanced Prices on November 19, 2025, and in the Class Prices on December 31, 2025.

Update to the Milk Composition Factors

Components	Before Final Decision	After Final Decision
Protein	3.10%	3.30%
Other Solids	5.90%	6.00%
Nonfat Solids	9.00%	9.30%

To access additional information on the Final Decision amendments please visit https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/moa/dairy/hearings/national-fmmo-pricing-hearing.❖

2026 Reporting and Payment Dates

Federal Order 51 payment and reporting dates for 2026 have been published and can be accessed on the official website at https://www.cafmmo.com/order/reporting-and-payment-dates/.❖

2024 Cheese Production

The United States Department of Agriculture's *Dairy Products Summary Report* summarizes yearly production for manufactured dairy products in the United States. Using this data, the following article examines recent changes and trends in Cheese production across various U.S. regions and selected states. The *Dairy Products Summary Report* can be found at https://share.google/gWki9Rkt7VcTmnrux.

Cheese Production

Table 1 organizes total 2024 cheese production statistics by regional areas and selected states. Total cheese production in 2024 was 14.2 billion pounds, an increase of 0.7 percent from 2023. The Central Region had the highest cheese production with 7 billion pounds an increase of 0.9 percent, while the West Region's cheese production increased by 5.6 billion pounds about 0.6 percent. Cheese production in the Atlantic region was 1.6 billion pounds, a decline of 0.5 percent. The Central region produced 49.3 percent of the nation's cheese, while the West produced 39.3 percent.

Table 1: 2024 Total Cheese Production in Selected Areas

	Thousand Pounds	Percentage		Number
Region/ State	**Cheese Production**	**% of U.S.**	**YOY Production Change**	**Number of Plants**
Central	7,024,812	49.3%	0.9%	230
West	5,604,085	39.3%	0.6%	192
Atlantic	1,620,451	11.4%	-0.5%	87
Total U.S.*	**14,249,348**	**-**	**0.7%**	**509**
Wisconsin	3,585,590	25.2%	1.9%	116
California	2,480,978	17.4%	-0.5%	47
Idaho	1,043,137	7.3%	3.1%	9
All Other States*	7,139,643	50.1%	0.1%	337

Source: USDA Dairy Products 2024 Summary Report, NASS Database
** Includes Alaska and Hawaii*

The top three cheese producing states in 2024 were Wisconsin, California, and Idaho. Wisconsin led the nation in cheese production with 116 cheese plants, producing 3.6 billion pounds which represents 25.2 percent of total U.S. production. California produced 2.5 billion pounds of cheese, representing 17.4 percent of the national total with 47 plants. Idaho's cheese production reached 1 billion pounds with 9 plants, accounting for 7.3 percent of total production. All

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2024 Cheese Production *(continued from page 2)*

other states produced 7.1 billion pounds, representing 50.1 percent of the nation's total production with 337 cheese plants.

Cheese Production by Type

Table 2 details cheese production by type for the Central, West, and Atlantic regions in 2024. Italian style cheese continues to be the most produced cheese in the United States, totaling 6 billion pounds, followed by American style cheeses at 5.6 billion pounds. Mozzarella was the third most produced style in 2024 at 4.8 billion pounds, and Cheddar at 3.8 billion pounds. The Central region produces most of the country's American and Cheddar style cheeses, while the West region produces the majority of Italian and Mozzarella style cheeses.

Table 2 also presents cheese production statistics by cheese type for California, Wisconsin, and other states in 2024. Mozzarella and Italian style cheeses are California's most produced cheese products. California produced the most Mozzarella in the nation, with roughly 1.6 billion pounds in 2024, accounting for 32.6 percent of the nation's total mozzarella production. California trailed slightly behind Wisconsin in Italian style cheeses with nearly 1.7 billion pounds, representing 28.1 percent of the nation's total production.❖

Table 2: 2024 Cheese Production by Type by Region

	Thousands		Thousands		Thousands		Thousands	
Region	**American**	**% of U.S.**	**Cheddar**	**% of U.S.**	**Italian**	**% of U.S.**	**Mozzarella**	**% of U.S.**
Central	3,123,407	56.0%	2,101,976	55.5%	2,472,897	41.0%	1,645,665	34.4%
West	2,178,514	39.1%	1,431,813	37.8%	2,842,933	47.2%	2,698,543	56.4%
Atlantic	274,622	4.9%	251,519	6.6%	709,505	11.8%	444,291	9.3%
Total U.S.*	**5,576,543**	**-**	**3,785,308**	**-**	**6,025,335**	**-**	**4,788,499**	**-**
California	554,829	9.9%	249,681	6.6%	1,690,270	28.1%	1,559,455	32.6%
Wisconsin	1,099,575	19.7%	697,980	18.4%	1,707,371	28.3%	1,099,513	23.0%
All Other States*	3,922,139	70.3%	2,837,647	75.0%	2,627,694	43.6%	2,129,531	44.5%

Source: USDA Dairy Products 2024 Summary Report, NASS Database
** Includes Alaska and Hawaii*

Pool Statistics for All Federal Orders, October 2025

Federal Order		Statistical	Producer Price	Total Producer	Utilization			
Number	Name	Uniform Price*	Differential*	Milk	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV
		$/cwt		million lbs	%			
1	Northeast	18.20	1.29	2,306.4	29.6	28.1	29.7	12.6
5	Appalachian***	21.42	N/A	430.4	76.1	17.4	3.8	2.7
6	Florida***	22.62	N/A	217.2	82.1	16.0	0.8	1.1
7	Southeast***	21.91	N/A	267.7	79.8	15.7	1.1	3.4
30	Upper Midwest	17.05	0.14	1,527.2	11.3	10.3	69.1	9.3
32	Central	17.04	0.13	997.8	37.0	19.4	19.0	24.6
33	Mideast	17.47	0.56	1,885.5	32.1	24.2	33.0	10.7
51	**California**	**15.54**	**-1.37**	**1,788.5**	**23.6**	**7.8**	**2.0**	**66.6**
124	Pacific Northwest	16.16	-0.75	522.4	26.9	7.2	23.1	42.7
126	Southwest	16.89	-0.02	879.1	39.8	16.1	3.5	40.7
131	Arizona***	17.55	N/A	280.8	45.5	24.4	10.4	19.7
All Federal Orders**		17.47	0.15	11,102.9	32.3	18.0	25.1	24.6

*Price at principal location differential in each Order at 3.5 percent butterfat, 2.99 percent protein, and 5.69 percent other solids.
**Weighted averages or total for all Federal Orders.
***These orders are not price on components but on Skim and Butterfat
N/A = Not applicable

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Computation of Producer Price Differential and Statistical Uniform Price*

	Product Pounds	Price per cwt./lb.	Component Value	Total Value
Class I— Skim	411,368,555	$12.83	$52,778,585.61	
Butterfat	10,568,901	2.4161	25,535,521.71	
Less: Location Adjustment to Handlers			(1,173,810.85)	$77,140,296.46
Class II— Butterfat	13,854,929	1.8322	25,385,000.91	
Nonfat Solids	11,943,600	1.1067	13,217,982.12	38,602,983.03
Class III— Butterfat	1,947,792	1.8252	3,555,109.97	
Protein	1,266,467	2.8761	3,642,485.74	
Other Solids	2,037,151	0.3360	684,482.75	7,882,078.46
Class IV— Butterfat	49,537,104	1.8252	90,415,122.21	
Nonfat Solids	109,340,283	0.9116	99,674,601.97	190,089,724.18
Total Classified Value		*Total value of milk in the pool* →		**$313,715,082.13**
Add: Value for 60 (f) through 60(j)				600,820.83
Other Source Receipts	40,519			
Total Pool Value				**$314,315,902.96**
Less: Value of Producer Butterfat	75,908,726	1.8252	(138,548,606.71)	
Value of Producer Protein	60,759,639	2.8761	(174,750,797.73)	
Value of Producer Other Solids	102,950,853	0.3360	(34,591,486.60)	(347,890,891.04)
Total PPD Value Before Adjustments		*Total Class III value of producer components*		**($33,574,988.08)**
Add: Location Adjustment to Producers				9,112,160.60
One-half Unobligated Balance—Producer Settlement Fund				823,664.63
Less: Producer Settlement Fund—Reserve				(863,359.98)
Total Pool Milk & PPD Value	1,788,505,313			**($24,502,522.83)**
Producer Price Differential		**$**	**(1.37)**	
Statistical Uniform Price		**$**	**15.54**	

Value from which PPD per hundredweight is calculated

* Price at 3.5 percent butterfat, 2.99 percent protein, and 5.69 percent other solids.