



Dairy Products

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March 2026 Highlights

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 1.26 billion pounds, 1.2 percent above March 2025 and 8.1 percent above February 2026.

Italian type cheese production totaled 542 million pounds, 2.3 percent above March 2025 and 6.6 percent above February 2026.

American type cheese production totaled 488 million pounds, 2.3 percent below March 2025 but 7.4 percent above February 2026.

Butter production was 232 million pounds, 1.2 percent above March 2025 and 4.1 percent above February 2026.

Dry milk products (comparisons in percentage with March 2025)

Nonfat dry milk, human - 175 million pounds, up 9.9 percent.

Skim milk powder - 37.4 million pounds, up 10.1 percent.

Whey products (comparisons in percentage with March 2025)

Dry whey, total - 78.7 million pounds, up 3.6 percent.

Lactose, human and animal - 92.1 million pounds, down 6.5 percent.

Whey protein concentrate, total - 41.4 million pounds, down 6.1 percent.

Frozen products (comparisons in percentage with March 2025)

Ice cream, regular (hard) - 62.8 million gallons, up 5.1 percent.

Ice cream, lowfat (total) - 36.1 million gallons, up 7.5 percent.

Sherbet (hard) - 1.69 million gallons, up 12.9 percent.

Frozen yogurt (total) - 3.22 million gallons, down 7.5 percent.

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Dairy Products Production by Product – United States: March 2025 and 2026

Product	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Butter	228,844	222,399	231,503	1.2	4.1
Cheese					
American types ¹	499,593	454,687	488,296	-2.3	7.4
Cheddar	348,904	316,595	341,793	-2.0	8.0
Other American types	150,689	138,092	146,503	-2.8	6.1
Blue and Gorgonzola	6,724	5,886	6,851	1.9	16.4
Brick and Muenster	16,910	16,047	16,760	-0.9	4.4
Cream and Neufchatel	90,840	85,304	97,739	7.6	14.6
Feta	13,561	11,205	13,154	-3.0	17.4
Gouda	6,859	7,482	9,873	43.9	32.0
Hispanic	39,378	37,515	41,264	4.8	10.0
Italian types	530,080	508,741	542,347	2.3	6.6
Mozzarella	419,320	395,689	421,587	0.5	6.5
Parmesan	44,633	49,010	53,575	20.0	9.3
Provolone	33,065	30,405	30,800	-6.9	1.3
Ricotta	20,347	20,640	22,111	8.7	7.1
Romano	4,104	4,627	5,282	28.7	14.2
Other Italian types	8,611	8,370	8,992	4.4	7.4
Swiss	26,053	25,511	28,397	9.0	11.3
All other types	13,438	11,743	13,784	2.6	17.4
Total cheese ²	1,243,436	1,164,121	1,258,465	1.2	8.1
Cottage cheese, curd ³	42,620	44,203	50,711	19.0	14.7
Cottage cheese, cream ⁴	39,946	40,273	42,567	6.6	5.7
Cottage cheese, lowfat ⁵	38,099	32,858	40,745	6.9	24.0
Sour cream	120,890	115,469	121,943	0.9	5.6
Yogurt, plain and flavored	460,568	447,753	490,325	6.5	9.5
	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)	(percent)
Frozen products					
Ice cream, regular, hard	59,736	56,813	62,799	5.1	10.5
Ice cream, lowfat, hard	17,573	15,830	17,740	1.0	12.1
Ice cream, lowfat, soft	16,033	13,673	18,400	14.8	34.6
Ice cream, lowfat, total ⁶	33,606	29,503	36,140	7.5	22.5
Ice cream, nonfat, hard	404	497	617	52.7	24.1
Sherbet, hard	1,494	1,639	1,687	12.9	2.9
Frozen yogurt, total	3,486	3,064	3,224	-7.5	5.2
Regular and lowfat, hard	1,487	1,053	1,260	-15.3	19.7
Nonfat, hard	242	212	207	-14.5	-2.4
Other frozen dairy products	872	768	998	14.4	29.9
Water and juice ices	5,291	4,558	5,396	2.0	18.4
Mix for frozen products					
Ice cream, regular, mix	39,399	36,027	40,571	3.0	12.6
Ice cream, lowfat, mix ⁷	20,193	16,519	20,355	0.8	23.2
Ice cream, nonfat, mix	487	653	695	42.7	6.4
Sherbet mix	1,288	1,399	1,260	-2.2	-9.9
Yogurt mix	2,137	1,486	2,023	-5.3	36.1

¹ Includes Cheddar, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey, and Jack.

² Excludes Cottage Cheese.

³ Mostly used for processing into cream or lowfat cottage cheese.

⁴ Fat content 4 percent or more.

⁵ Fat content less than 4 percent.

⁶ Includes freezer-made milkshake.

⁷ Includes milkshake mix.

**Whey and Modified Whey Products Production, Stocks, and Prices – United States:
March 2025 and 2026**

Product	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Condensed whey, solids content ¹					
Sweet-type, human	10,190	10,295	10,734	5.3	4.3
Dry whey products					
Dry whey, human	71,613	66,732	77,727	8.5	16.5
Dry whey, animal	4,341	591	930	-78.6	57.4
Dry whey, total	75,954	67,323	78,657	3.6	16.8
Reduced Lactose and minerals					
Human and animal	3,905	2,978	3,410	-12.7	14.5
Whey protein concentrate					
Human ²	43,286	36,906	39,903	-7.8	8.1
Animal ²	765	1,325	1,482	93.7	11.8
Total ²	44,051	38,231	41,385	-6.1	8.2
25.0-49.9 percent ³	9,849	7,886	8,510	-13.6	7.9
50.0-89.9 percent ³	34,202	30,345	32,875	-3.9	8.3
Whey protein isolates ⁴	18,627	17,563	20,834	11.8	18.6
Lactose, human and animal	98,475	83,823	92,085	-6.5	9.9
Manufacturers' stocks end of month ⁵					
Dry whey products					
Dry whey, human	61,031	59,233	63,348	3.8	6.9
Dry whey, animal	3,209	900	602	-81.2	-33.1
Dry whey, total	64,240	60,133	63,950	-0.5	6.3
Reduced Lactose and minerals					
Human and animal ⁶	6,618	4,869	5,224	-21.1	7.3
Whey protein concentrate					
Human ²	53,690	43,567	43,511	-19.0	-0.1
Animal ²	897	1,651	1,194	33.1	-27.7
Total ²	54,587	45,218	44,705	-18.1	-1.1
25.0-49.9 percent ³	22,639	15,174	15,466	-31.7	1.9
50.0-89.9 percent ³	31,948	30,044	29,239	-8.5	-2.7
Whey protein isolates ⁴	16,804	15,544	16,223	-3.5	4.4
Lactose, human and animal	96,341	97,830	97,998	1.7	0.2
	(cents per pound)	(cents per pound)	(cents per pound)	(cents change)	(cents change)
Manufacturers' selling price ⁷					
Dry whey, animal	34.4	40.8	40.7	6.3	-0.1

¹ Final marketable product only. Does not include quantity used or shipped to another plant for further processing into dry whey or modified whey products. Does not include sweet-type, animal whey.

² Whey protein concentrate, 25.0 to 89.9 percent.

³ Whey protein concentrate, human and animal.

⁴ Whey protein isolate, 90.0 percent or greater.

⁵ Stocks held by manufacturers at all points and in transit.

⁶ Reduced lactose and minerals stocks combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

⁷ Prices for bulk goods, f.o.b. plant. Average monthly prices reported by firms.

**Condensed and Dry Milk Products Production, Stocks, and Shipments – United States:
March 2025 and 2026**

Product	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Production					
Bulk condensed milk					
Skim, unsweetened	114,832	108,145	128,009	11.5	18.4
Dry milk products					
Dry buttermilk, total	14,436	10,776	11,785	-18.4	9.4
Dry skim milk, animal	778	672	734	-5.7	9.2
Dry whole milk	16,303	10,333	10,783	-33.9	4.4
Milk protein concentrate, total ¹	30,635	21,015	23,180	-24.3	10.3
Nonfat dry milk, human	159,469	151,857	175,316	9.9	15.4
Skim milk powder, total ²	33,969	27,656	37,387	10.1	35.2
Manufacturers' stocks end-of-month ³					
Dry milk products					
Dry buttermilk, total	29,884	20,769	22,898	-23.4	10.3
Dry skim milk, animal	4,419	3,490	2,597	-41.2	-25.6
Dry whole milk	23,632	18,668	18,794	-20.5	0.7
Nonfat dry milk, human	262,823	220,425	235,711	-10.3	6.9
Manufacturers' shipments ⁴					
Dry milk products					
Nonfat dry milk, human	139,641	139,358	163,406	17.0	17.3

¹ Dry milk protein concentrate, 40-89.9 percent.

² Includes protein standardized and blends.

³ Stocks held by manufacturers at all points and in transit.

⁴ For dry products, shipments of bulk goods.

Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total cheese ¹						
January	1,220,535	1,275,690	4.5	1,220,535	1,275,690	4.5
February	1,122,356	1,164,121	3.7	2,342,891	2,439,811	4.1
March	1,243,436	1,258,465	1.2	3,586,327	3,698,276	3.1
April	1,245,701			4,832,028		
May	1,257,528			6,089,556		
June	1,218,094			7,307,650		
July	1,237,630			8,545,280		
August	1,228,182			9,773,462		
September	1,224,512			10,997,974		
October	1,272,884			12,270,858		
November	1,241,023			13,511,881		
December	1,288,183			14,800,064		
Total American cheese types ²						
January	480,932	497,132	3.4	480,932	497,132	3.4
February	442,666	454,687	2.7	923,598	951,819	3.1
March	499,593	488,296	-2.3	1,423,191	1,440,115	1.2
April	495,908			1,919,099		
May	512,263			2,431,362		
June	479,371			2,910,733		
July	485,117			3,395,850		
August	481,321			3,877,171		
September	475,989			4,353,160		
October	491,479			4,844,639		
November	483,837			5,328,476		
December	503,875			5,832,351		
Cheddar cheese						
January	329,481	351,866	6.8	329,481	351,866	6.8
February	307,858	316,595	2.8	637,339	668,461	4.9
March	348,904	341,793	-2.0	986,243	1,010,254	2.4
April	341,867			1,328,110		
May	354,737			1,682,847		
June	334,882			2,017,729		
July	334,424			2,352,153		
August	328,904			2,681,057		
September	323,844			3,004,901		
October	325,301			3,330,202		
November	327,912			3,658,114		
December	345,576			4,003,690		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total Italian cheese types						
January	518,772	555,424	7.1	518,772	555,424	7.1
February	480,063	508,741	6.0	998,835	1,064,165	6.5
March	530,080	542,347	2.3	1,528,915	1,606,512	5.1
April	534,049			2,062,964		
May	525,307			2,588,271		
June	523,354			3,111,625		
July	529,258			3,640,883		
August	522,071			4,162,954		
September	521,500			4,684,454		
October	541,492			5,225,946		
November	535,320			5,761,266		
December	567,906			6,329,172		
Mozzarella						
January	413,660	431,117	4.2	413,660	431,117	4.2
February	381,590	395,689	3.7	795,250	826,806	4.0
March	419,320	421,587	0.5	1,214,570	1,248,393	2.8
April	426,021			1,640,591		
May	415,793			2,056,384		
June	415,838			2,472,222		
July	421,034			2,893,256		
August	413,596			3,306,852		
September	406,694			3,713,546		
October	423,465			4,137,011		
November	423,952			4,560,963		
December	445,398			5,006,361		
Other Italian cheese types						
January	7,875	11,523	46.3	7,875	11,523	46.3
February	8,074	8,370	3.7	15,949	19,893	24.7
March	8,611	8,992	4.4	24,560	28,885	17.6
April	8,780			33,340		
May	7,332			40,672		
June	6,560			47,232		
July	8,214			55,446		
August	8,436			63,882		
September	9,658			73,540		
October	9,627			83,167		
November	11,167			94,334		
December	11,140			105,474		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Butter						
January	218,393	240,890	10.3	218,393	240,890	10.3
February	201,773	222,399	10.2	420,166	463,289	10.3
March	228,844	231,503	1.2	649,010	694,792	7.1
April	214,593			863,603		
May	216,713			1,080,316		
June	191,789			1,272,105		
July	179,391			1,451,496		
August	176,312			1,627,808		
September	183,898			1,811,706		
October	188,338			2,000,044		
November	178,831			2,178,875		
December	207,530			2,386,405		
Nonfat dry milk, human						
January	156,933	151,434	-3.5	156,933	151,434	-3.5
February	138,977	151,857	9.3	295,910	303,291	2.5
March	159,469	175,316	9.9	455,379	478,607	5.1
April	162,788			618,167		
May	157,142			775,309		
June	144,374			919,683		
July	130,483			1,050,166		
August	120,693			1,170,859		
September	124,854			1,295,713		
October	123,000			1,418,713		
November	111,131			1,529,844		
December	127,737			1,657,581		
Skim milk powder, total ³						
January	34,512	47,134	36.6	34,512	47,134	36.6
February	30,761	27,656	-10.1	65,273	74,790	14.6
March	33,969	37,387	10.1	99,242	112,177	13.0
April	35,471			134,713		
May	48,716			183,429		
June	53,900			237,329		
July	44,361			281,690		
August	43,276			324,966		
September	46,395			371,361		
October	42,171			413,532		
November	42,888			456,420		
December	47,902			504,322		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Dry whey, total ⁴						
January	74,462	77,623	4.2	74,462	77,623	4.2
February	63,083	67,323	6.7	137,545	144,946	5.4
March	75,954	78,657	3.6	213,499	223,603	4.7
April	71,305			284,804		
May	73,579			358,383		
June	75,423			433,806		
July	68,365			502,171		
August	69,456			571,627		
September	69,106			640,733		
October	66,177			706,910		
November	65,300			772,210		
December	72,675			844,885		
Lactose, human and animal						
January	93,088	95,920	3.0	93,088	95,920	3.0
February	85,201	83,823	-1.6	178,289	179,743	0.8
March	98,475	92,085	-6.5	276,764	271,828	-1.8
April	95,091			371,855		
May	98,977			470,832		
June	97,968			568,800		
July	97,008			665,808		
August	96,192			762,000		
September	94,666			856,666		
October	99,084			955,750		
November	86,788			1,042,538		
December	94,637			1,137,175		
Whey protein concentrate, total						
January	39,594	40,364	1.9	39,594	40,364	1.9
February	37,547	38,231	1.8	77,141	78,595	1.9
March	44,051	41,385	-6.1	121,192	119,980	-1.0
April	43,613			164,805		
May	42,333			207,138		
June	44,541			251,679		
July	42,031			293,710		
August	40,918			334,628		
September	42,959			377,587		
October	39,808			417,395		
November	40,392			457,787		
December	44,005			501,792		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Cottage cheese, cream						
January	40,039	41,380	3.3	40,039	41,380	3.3
February	35,799	40,273	12.5	75,838	81,653	7.7
March	39,946	42,567	6.6	115,784	124,220	7.3
April	37,997			153,781		
May	40,184			193,965		
June	39,160			233,125		
July	40,178			273,303		
August	39,230			312,533		
September	39,398			351,931		
October	42,324			394,255		
November	37,094			431,349		
December	39,459			470,808		
Cottage cheese, lowfat						
January	32,149	36,206	12.6	32,149	36,206	12.6
February	32,233	32,858	1.9	64,382	69,064	7.3
March	38,099	40,745	6.9	102,481	109,809	7.2
April	32,822			135,303		
May	34,057			169,360		
June	34,890			204,250		
July	37,212			241,462		
August	36,814			278,276		
September	38,029			316,305		
October	37,780			354,085		
November	34,452			388,537		
December	33,656			422,193		
Sour cream						
January	133,880	124,984	-6.6	133,880	124,984	-6.6
February	112,203	115,469	2.9	246,083	240,453	-2.3
March	120,890	121,943	0.9	366,973	362,396	-1.2
April	125,216			492,189		
May	129,931			622,120		
June	122,731			744,851		
July	125,140			869,991		
August	121,902			991,893		
September	124,270			1,116,163		
October	136,189			1,252,352		
November	133,059			1,385,411		
December	135,347			1,520,758		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)
Ice cream, regular hard						
January	58,314	57,093	-2.1	58,314	57,093	-2.1
February	55,913	56,813	1.6	114,227	113,906	-0.3
March	59,736	62,799	5.1	173,963	176,705	1.6
April	63,484			237,447		
May	64,672			302,119		
June	65,258			367,377		
July	69,486			436,863		
August	66,439			503,302		
September	59,085			562,387		
October	61,094			623,481		
November	49,570			673,051		
December	49,031			722,082		
Ice cream, lowfat total						
January	28,105	29,446	4.8	28,105	29,446	4.8
February	29,310	29,503	0.7	57,415	58,949	2.7
March	33,606	36,140	7.5	91,021	95,089	4.5
April	38,040			129,061		
May	35,859			164,920		
June	36,392			201,312		
July	37,894			239,206		
August	33,406			272,612		
September	31,162			303,774		
October	30,572			334,346		
November	24,033			358,379		
December	22,500			380,879		
Sherbet, hard						
January	1,541	1,554	0.8	1,541	1,554	0.8
February	1,314	1,639	24.7	2,855	3,193	11.8
March	1,494	1,687	12.9	4,349	4,880	12.2
April	1,655			6,004		
May	1,681			7,685		
June	1,907			9,592		
July	1,742			11,334		
August	1,720			13,054		
September	1,527			14,581		
October	1,811			16,392		
November	1,340			17,732		
December	1,450			19,182		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Dairy Products Production by Product and Month – United States: 2025 and 2026 (continued)

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Product and month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	Change from 2025	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Yogurt, plain and flavored						
January	417,671	439,249	5.2	417,671	439,249	5.2
February	415,082	447,753	7.9	832,753	887,002	6.5
March	460,568	490,325	6.5	1,293,321	1,377,327	6.5
April	451,371			1,744,692		
May	441,473			2,186,165		
June	436,660			2,622,825		
July	449,398			3,072,223		
August	460,868			3,533,091		
September	464,999			3,998,090		
October	452,282			4,450,372		
November	419,578			4,869,950		
December	418,635			5,288,585		
	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)
Frozen yogurt, total						
January	2,526	2,247	-11.0	2,526	2,247	-11.0
February	2,586	3,064	18.5	5,112	5,311	3.9
March	3,486	3,224	-7.5	8,598	8,535	-0.7
April	2,789			11,387		
May	3,083			14,470		
June	3,112			17,582		
July	3,325			20,907		
August	2,824			23,731		
September	2,377			26,108		
October	3,038			29,146		
November	2,597			31,743		
December	2,404			34,147		

¹ Excludes Cottage Cheese.

² Includes Cheddar, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey, and Jack.

³ Includes protein standardized and blends.

⁴ Excludes all modified dry whey products.

**Total Cheese Production Excluding Cottage Cheese – States, United States, and Regions:
March 2025 and 2026**

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	218,729	185,911	185,530	-15.2	-0.2
Idaho	85,065	79,557	86,247	1.4	8.4
Iowa	32,405	31,307	36,175	11.6	15.5
Minnesota	71,982	68,803	75,073	4.3	9.1
New Mexico	76,636	69,936	78,390	2.3	12.1
New York	74,687	72,527	80,607	7.9	11.1
Ohio	20,017	19,785	21,674	8.3	9.5
Pennsylvania	37,730	35,759	38,069	0.9	6.5
Wisconsin	308,158	283,903	311,902	1.2	9.9
Other States ¹	318,027	316,633	344,798	8.4	8.9
United States	1,243,436	1,164,121	1,258,465	1.2	8.1
Atlantic	137,806	131,804	144,265	4.7	9.5
Central	625,934	607,179	666,359	6.5	9.7
West	479,696	425,138	447,841	-6.6	5.3

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

American Cheese Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	50,170	45,654	47,165	-6.0	3.3
Iowa	15,833	14,069	16,868	6.5	19.9
Minnesota	61,455	59,832	64,489	4.9	7.8
New York	18,627	17,822	18,919	1.6	6.2
Wisconsin	92,660	79,216	83,856	-9.5	5.9
Other States ¹	260,848	238,094	256,999	-1.5	7.9
United States	499,593	454,687	488,296	-2.3	7.4
Atlantic	29,684	28,154	30,208	1.8	7.3
Central	282,246	262,630	278,552	-1.3	6.1
West	187,663	163,903	179,536	-4.3	9.5

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Cheddar Cheese Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	27,224	24,255	23,701	-12.9	-2.3
Vermont	9,496	8,876	9,816	3.4	10.6
Wisconsin	62,480	49,008	52,744	-15.6	7.6
Other States ¹	249,704	234,456	255,532	2.3	9.0
United States	348,904	316,595	341,793	-2.0	8.0
Atlantic	27,861	25,354	28,114	0.9	10.9
Central	193,746	182,384	196,841	1.6	7.9
West	127,297	108,857	116,838	-8.2	7.3

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Total Italian Cheese Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	148,522	122,209	119,305	-19.7	-2.4
Minnesota	10,344	8,911	10,492	1.4	17.7
New York	28,898	27,562	30,533	5.7	10.8
Pennsylvania	23,107	22,811	23,995	3.8	5.2
Wisconsin	148,984	147,096	159,612	7.1	8.5
Other States ¹	170,225	180,152	198,410	16.6	10.1
United States	530,080	508,741	542,347	2.3	6.6
Atlantic	60,266	58,055	62,970	4.5	8.5
Central	225,728	237,476	261,175	15.7	10.0
West	244,086	213,210	218,202	-10.6	2.3

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Mozzarella Cheese Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	137,701	110,579	107,569	-21.9	-2.7
New York	14,173	12,470	15,223	7.4	22.1
Pennsylvania	18,524	18,774	19,231	3.8	2.4
Wisconsin	93,309	89,537	97,661	4.7	9.1
Other States ¹	155,613	164,329	181,903	16.9	10.7
United States	419,320	395,689	421,587	0.5	6.5
Atlantic	37,565	35,810	39,397	4.9	10.0
Central	149,361	159,400	177,160	18.6	11.1
West	232,394	200,479	205,030	-11.8	2.3

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Butter Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	66,553	61,102	63,252	-5.0	3.5
Pennsylvania	7,365	5,737	6,849	-7.0	19.4
Other States ¹	154,926	155,560	161,402	4.2	3.8
United States	228,844	222,399	231,503	1.2	4.1
Atlantic	18,281	14,490	16,934	-7.4	16.9
Central	97,084	98,301	97,052	(Z)	-1.3
West	113,479	109,608	117,517	3.6	7.2

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Nonfat Dry Milk (Human) Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	75,067	74,782	81,985	9.2	9.6
Pennsylvania	13,698	10,011	11,758	-14.2	17.5
Other States ¹	70,704	67,064	81,573	15.4	21.6
United States	159,469	151,857	175,316	9.9	15.4
Atlantic	26,408	18,652	21,043	-20.3	12.8
Central	28,047	29,630	32,820	17.0	10.8
West	105,014	103,575	121,453	15.7	17.3

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Dry Whey (Human) Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
New York	10,669	10,816	11,586	8.6	7.1
Wisconsin	25,302	22,900	26,886	6.3	17.4
Other States ¹	35,642	33,016	39,255	10.1	18.9
United States	71,613	66,732	77,727	8.5	16.5
Atlantic	20,196	19,058	21,328	5.6	11.9
Central	38,090	39,467	47,601	25.0	20.6
West	13,327	8,207	8,798	-34.0	7.2

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Ice Cream, Regular (Hard) Production – States, United States, and Regions: March 2025 and 2026

State and region	March 2025	February 2026	March 2026	Change from	
				March 2025	February 2026
	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(1,000 gallons)	(percent)	(percent)
California	6,020	5,827	6,959	15.6	19.4
Connecticut	731	677	761	4.1	12.4
New York	1,851	1,878	1,660	-10.3	-11.6
Ohio	2,156	2,138	2,145	-0.5	0.3
Pennsylvania	2,313	2,440	2,304	-0.4	-5.6
Utah	1,567	1,410	1,596	1.9	13.2
Wisconsin	1,168	804	1,059	-9.3	31.7
Other States ¹	43,930	41,639	46,315	5.4	11.2
United States	59,736	56,813	62,799	5.1	10.5
Atlantic	12,160	11,784	12,256	0.8	4.0
Central	36,804	34,564	38,632	5.0	11.8
West	10,772	10,465	11,911	10.6	13.8

¹ States not shown when fewer than 3 plants reported or individual plant operations could be disclosed.

Dairy Products Regions



West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Central: Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin.

Atlantic: Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia.

Statistical Methodology

Data Collection Period: Dairy products estimates are based upon survey data collected after the close of each month. Production data are provided by the firms producing dairy products.

Sampling frames and sample size: In 2025, there were 1,184 manufacturers that produced one or more dairy products. In states with small numbers of plants, reports are received from all plants each month. In states with large numbers of plants, survey procedures are designed to obtain monthly reports from all large plants and from a sample of small plants. In some states, the State Departments of Agriculture assist in collection of data, which eliminates duplicate reporting and reduces respondent burden.

Modes of data collection: Data are collected by mail, personal and telephone interviews, facsimile, and via electronic mail.

Terms and definitions: Firms complete the questionnaire using standard industry definitions and through the aid of instructions and definitions provided on the questionnaire.

Reliability: Data for the Dairy Products report are collected by a Census of all known manufacturers of dairy products in the United States. Firms producing large quantities of dairy products, along with a sample of smaller firms, are contacted monthly to collect previous month production data. Those small firms not contacted monthly are contacted after the close of the year to obtain previous year production. Production of products at small firms not contacted monthly are estimated during the monthly survey based upon check data, and state and national trends. Small firms are defined as those that do not make up a significant portion of the published total. Plants storing nonfat dry milk and dry whey are required under Federal law as defined in Public Laws 106-532 and 107-171 to complete the Dairy Products report. Plants storing these items are contacted monthly. Additionally, many state governments have mandated that dairy plants in their state complete the Dairy Products report each month. Because the Dairy Products survey is a census, sampling error should not affect the final estimates, however non-sampling errors are possible.

Estimating Procedures: In the Regional Field Office (RFO), data reported by firms are reviewed for reasonableness and consistency by comparing with data reported in prior months and by data reported by other firms in the State. Each RFO summarizes data at the Individual State level. State estimates are submitted to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) along with supporting comments where they are compared with surrounding states, their region, and national trends. During both RFO and ASB review, plants are sometimes contacted again for further verification of numbers reported. After ASB review, RFO data are summarized into a National level summary.

Revision Policy: Monthly estimates are subject to revision the month following the preliminary estimates. Annual estimates are published in late April in the *Dairy Products Yearly Summary* report which includes any revisions made to previous 2 years of estimates. Revisions are generally due to plant data that are received too late to be included in the current report.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

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