

WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

Wisconsin Specialty Cheese Production Up 3 Percent

With 25 percent of the nation's production, Wisconsin maintained its ranking as the nation's top cheese producing state in 2014. At 660 million pounds, specialty cheese accounted for 23 percent of Wisconsin's total cheese production. This was an increase of 19.7 million pounds over 2013.

Of the state's 127 cheese plants, 91 manufactured at least one type of specialty cheese during 2014, two fewer plants than last year. Feta accounted for the largest share of specialty cheese production, with 12 percent of the total. Blue, Havarti, Hispanic types, specialty Mozzarella, Parmesan Wheel, and specialty Provolone remain other popular varieties. Italian Fontina cheese production rose 27 percent over the previous year, while Romano Wheel production was 20 percent higher.

Wisconsin cheese makers are known for offering a wide variety of high quality specialty cheeses. A specialty cheese is a value-added product which commands a premium price. According to the Wisconsin Specialty Cheese Institute, the nature of specialty cheese is derived from one or more unique qualities, such as exotic origin, particular processing or design, limited supply, unusual application or use, and extraordinary packaging or channel of sale. The common denominator is its very high quality.

SPECIALTY CHEESE PRODUCTION Wisconsin, 2013 and 2014

Type	2013	2013	2014	2014	Change from 2013
	No. of producers	Revised Production	No. of producers	Production	
		1,000 lbs.		1,000 lbs.	Percent
Asiago	11	32,159	11	30,921	-4
Cheddar 1/	36	31,813	32	28,829	-9
Colby 1/	12	7,616	14	8,026	+5
Farmers	14	1,709	13	1,470	-14
Feta	9	80,073	9	81,885	+2
Gorgonzola	10	18,722	10	18,547	-1
Gouda	20	10,508	22	11,430	+9
Italian Fontina	11	7,214	10	9,157	+27
Hispanic	16	70,906	13	72,474	+2
Limburger	1	544	1	542	n.c.
Parmesan Wheel	6	53,728	6	56,920	+6
Romano Wheel	7	8,847	6	10,625	+20
All Other 3/	60	316,373	61	329,061	+4
Total 4/	93	640,212	91	659,887	+3

1/ Includes only specialty types of this variety. 2/ Combined to avoid disclosure of individual plant data. Includes: American Grana, Auribella, Bel Pease, Blue, Brie, Butterkase, Camembert, Edam, Fior di Latte, Fontiagio, Fontinella, Gruyere, Havarti, other specialty Italian, Italic, Juustoleipa, Kefalograviera Sagana, Kasser, Kreme Kaese, Les Freres, Mascarpone, Middle Eastern cheeses, specialty Monterey Jack, Morning Sun, specialty Mozzarella, other specialty Parmesan, Pepato, Peperon, specialty Provolone, Raclette, other specialty Romano, Semi-soft, Swedish style Fontina, specialty Swiss, Tvarog Polish, and Yogurt cheese 3/ Total cheese plants producing one or more specialty cheeses.

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Inside This Issue:

- Specialty Cheese
- Monthly Dairy Products
- Prices Received
- Milk Prices
- Dairy Products Annual Summary
- Milk PDI

This Farm Reporter contains the results from the following surveys. Thanks for your help!

Prices Received Report
Monthly Dairy Products
Annual Dairy Products

Dairy Products, Production by Selected States and U. S.

Item and area	March 2014	February 2015	March 2015	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
CHEESE				
American	382,105	351,116	388,440	+1.7
Cheddar				
California	33,861	29,932	29,789	-12.0
Idaho	39,657	33,651	39,725	+0.2
Minnesota	41,097	41,240	44,897	+9.2
Wisconsin	47,286	47,297	51,800	+9.5
United States	278,529	256,285	279,834	+0.5
Blue & Gorgonzola	8,024	7,613	7,988	-0.4
Brick & Muenster	13,757	12,887	14,927	+8.5
Cream & Neufchatel	66,734	53,465	63,906	-4.2
Feta	9,201	8,355	9,587	+4.2
Gouda	4,118	6,269	6,508	+58.0
Hispanic	22,637	19,104	22,399	-1.1
Mozzarella				
California	119,862	111,731	122,372	+2.1
Wisconsin	84,397	77,808	86,900	+3.0
United States	335,189	310,077	336,608	+0.4
Parmesan	25,563	27,647	31,031	+21.4
Provolone	33,214	28,179	31,606	-4.8
Ricotta	21,697	17,620	22,271	+2.6
Romano	3,785	4,562	3,827	+1.1
Other Italian types	6,731	6,255	7,324	+8.8
Total Italian				
California	131,616	122,061	134,229	+2.0
Wisconsin	125,996	114,958	128,011	+1.6
United States	426,179	394,340	432,667	+1.5
Swiss	25,699	23,535	26,619	+3.6
All other cheese	11,772	10,659	14,181	+20.5
Total cheese				
California	208,965	189,923	211,605	+1.3
Idaho	80,646	66,899	82,206	+1.9
New Mexico	67,859	60,426	65,938	-2.8
New York	66,891	59,324	68,006	+1.7
Wisconsin	249,576	226,343	255,871	+2.5
United States	970,226	887,343	987,222	+1.8

Prices Received by Farmers

The March 2015 average price received by farmers for corn in Wisconsin was \$3.72 per bushel. This was down \$0.05 from the February price and \$0.75 less than March 2014.

The March soybean price, at \$9.72 per bushel, was down \$0.28 from February and down \$3.68 from the previous March.

The March oat price was \$3.29 per bushel, down \$0.29 from the February price and \$1.32 below March 2014.

All hay prices in Wisconsin averaged \$116.00 per ton in March, down \$1.00 from February, and \$59.00 less than March 2014. The alfalfa hay price averaged \$125.00 per ton in March, unchanged from February but down \$65.00 from the previous March. The other hay price averaged \$88.00, unchanged from February but a decrease of \$40.00 from last year.

Prices Received by Farmers

<u>WISCONSIN</u>		March 2014	February 2015	March 2015
Dollars				
Corn	bu	4.47	3.77	3.72
Hay, all baled	ton	175.00	117.00	116.00
Alfalfa	ton	190.00	125.00	125.00
Other	ton	128.00	88.00	88.00
Oats	bu	4.61	3.58	3.29
Potatoes, all ¹	cwt	10.60	10.70	10.80
Fresh ²	cwt	11.00	10.50	9.90
Processing	cwt	9.60	9.45	8.90
Soybeans	bu	13.40	10.00	9.72
Milk, all	cwt	25.70	17.70	17.60
Milk, cows ³	head	1,900.00	(NA)	2,080.00
<u>UNITED STATES</u>		March 2014	February 2015	March 2015
Dollars				
Corn	bu	4.52	3.79	3.81
Hay, all baled	ton	170.00	155.00	160.00
Alfalfa	ton	193.00	172.00	172.00
Other	ton	142.00	127.00	136.00
Oats	bu	4.13	3.08	2.91
Potatoes, all ¹	cwt	9.47	8.91	9.21
Fresh ²	cwt	10.25	8.92	8.72
Processing	cwt	8.58	8.47	8.59
Soybeans	bu	13.70	9.92	9.84
Milk, all	cwt	25.10	16.80	16.60
Milk, cows ³	head	1,810.00	(NA)	1,970.00
Calves	cwt	216.00	277.00	290.00
Cattle, all beef	cwt	148.00	159.00	160.00
Cows ³	cwt	102.00	110.00	114.00
Steers & Heifers	cwt	150.00	161.00	162.00
Hogs, all	cwt	81.90	50.40	50.30
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	82.00	50.80	50.70
Sows	cwt	79.30	39.70	38.20
Eggs (market)	doz	1.05	1.12	1.41

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available. 1/ Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed, and livestock feed. 2/ Fresh market prices only. Includes table stock prices. 3/ Prices are for April 1, 2014, and April 1, 2015. Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. 4/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

March Milk Prices

Wisconsin farmers received an average price of \$17.60 per hundredweight (cwt.) for their milk in March 2015. This was down 10 cents per cwt. from February and is the sixth consecutive monthly milk price decline since last September when the price was \$26.60 per cwt.

The U.S. milk price for March was \$16.60 per cwt, \$1.00 lower than Wisconsin's price and 20 cents lower than the February U.S. price. Twenty of the 23 major milk producing states had a decline in price from February to March, while 2 states, Idaho and Iowa were unchanged. California was the only state to increase its price, rising 20 cents to \$14.92 per cwt. Despite the increase, California still has the lowest price of the 23 major states.

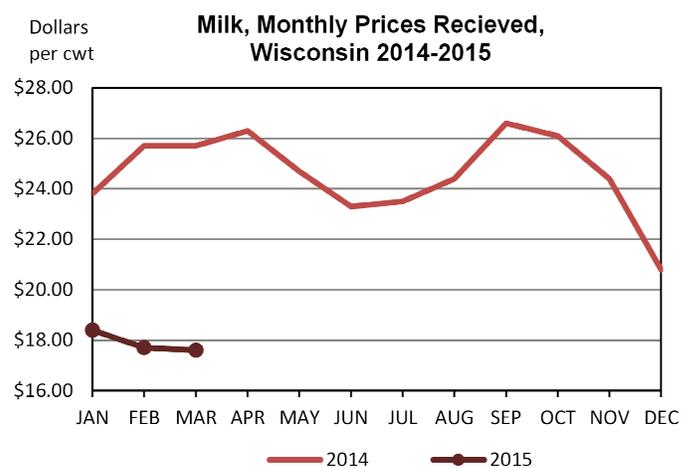
The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) 40-pound block cheese price closed at \$1.6100 per pound on April 30, while barrels were \$1.6175 per pound. The CME butter price was \$1.8500 per pound.

For the week ending April 25, 2015, the Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$1.5925 per pound, and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.6575 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$1.7577 per pound.

Milk Prices¹

Selected states	March 2014		February 2015		March 2015	
	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
Milk for all uses						
CA	23.62	3.70	14.72	3.76	14.92	3.70
ID	24.30	3.78	16.40	3.82	16.40	3.81
MI	25.20	3.78	16.60	3.81	16.20	3.78
MN	26.10	3.93	17.70	3.94	17.10	3.89
NM	23.50	3.55	16.00	3.67	15.70	3.62
NY	26.50	3.85	17.90	3.91	17.60	3.87
PA	26.30	3.81	18.30	3.83	17.70	3.80
TX	26.10	3.86	17.60	3.94	17.20	3.93
WI	25.70	3.81	17.70	3.84	17.60	3.81
US	25.10	3.77	16.80	3.82	16.60	3.78

1/ Before deduction for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.



Cheese Production: Wisconsin, 2010-2014

Year	Total cheese 1/	Total American 2/	Hispanic	Muenster	Italian	Mozzarella	Swiss
1,000 pounds							
2010	2,616,042	848,546	58,918	45,253	1,265,375	861,845	(D)
2011	2,635,048	783,292	59,117	50,108	1,360,250	909,961	(D)
2012	2,789,965	830,139	65,580	52,956	1,403,409	951,652	(D)
2013	2,855,881	837,517	70,906	52,982	1,422,393	961,016	33,695
2014	2,910,299	848,876	72,474	57,250	1,457,064	987,252	22,741

1/ Includes cream cheese and other miscellaneous types of cheese. Does not include cottage cheese. 2/ Includes Cheddar, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey, and Jack. (D) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

American Cheese Production, By Style: Wisconsin, 2014

Style	Production	Percent of total
1,000 lbs.		
American Cheddar		
40-lb block	208,153	24.5
640-lb block	256,264	30.2
Other types 1/	103,067	12.1
Colby	80,490	9.5
Monterey Jack	200,902	23.7
Total American types	848,876	100.0

1/ Includes barrels.

Italian Cheese Production, By Style: Wisconsin, 2014

Style	Production	Percent of total
1,000 lbs.		
Hard		
Asiago	30,921	2.1
Parmesan	122,594	8.4
Provolone	192,445	13.2
Romano	27,081	1.9
Soft		
Mozzarella	987,252	67.8
All other	96,771	6.6
All Italian	1,457,064	100.0

Processed Cheese And Cheese Foods: Wisconsin, 2010-2014

Year	Processed cheese	Processed cheese foods & spreads	Cold pack cheese and cheese food
1,000 pounds			
2010	575,539	311,298	(D)
2011	616,076	305,065	39,085
2012	614,214	298,241	35,666
2013	622,401	295,658	34,443
2014	644,814	311,307	36,224

(D) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Whey Products: Wisconsin, 2010-2014

Year	Dry whey		Total lactose	Whey protein concentrate human food
	Human food	Animal		
1,000 pounds solids				
2010	295,955	(D)	171,684	75,435
2011	294,202	4,421	188,181	83,003
2012	289,694	3,968	189,523	80,139
2013	302,843	3,539	219,496	102,199
2014	280,339	3,211	237,419	113,196

(D) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Total Cheese, Excluding Cottage Cheese: Wisconsin, 2014

Ranges of Annual Production	State Plants	Production
	No.	1,000 lbs.
Less than 1 million lbs.	32	6,931
1 to 4.99 million lbs.	20	56,262
5 to 9.99 million lbs.	20	115,154
10 to 24.99 million lbs.	18	263,188
25 million lbs. and over	37	2,468,764
Total	127	2,910,299

Italian Cheese: Wisconsin, 2014

Ranges of Annual Production 1/	State Plants	Production
	No.	1,000 lbs.
Less than 1 million lbs.	18	3,009
1 to 19.99 million lbs.	15	115,295
20 million lbs. and over	23	1,338,760
Total	56	1,457,064

1/ Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Italian production.

Cheddar Cheese: Wisconsin, 2014

Ranges of Annual Production 1/	State Plants	Production
	No.	1,000 lbs.
Less than 1 million lbs.	35	7,402
1 to 9.99 million lbs.	12	41,560
10 million lbs. and over	13	518,522
Total	60	567,484

1/ Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Cheddar production.

Mozzarella Cheese: Wisconsin, 2014

Ranges of Annual Production 1/	State Plants	Production
	No.	1,000 lbs.
Less than 1 million lbs.	12	2,240
1 to 19.99 million lbs.	9	91,853
20 million lbs. and over	16	893,159
Total	37	987,252

1/ Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Mozzarella production.

Marketings, Income, and Value of Milk Production: Wisconsin, 2010-2014

Year	Combined marketings of milk and cream				Used for milk, cream, and butter by producers		Gross producer income 1/	Value of milk produced 2/ 3/
	Milk Utilized	Average returns		Cash receipts from marketings	Milk Utilized	Value		
		Per cwt. milk	Per lb. milkfat					
	Million lbs.	Dollars		1,000 dollars	Million lbs.		1,000 dollars	
2010	25,759	16.10	4.41	4,147,199	20	3,220	4,150,419	4,191,635
2011	25,779	20.30	5.46	5,233,137	20	4,060	5,237,197	5,289,774
2012	26,956	19.40	5.19	5,229,464	18	3,492	5,232,956	5,281,456
2013	27,298	20.30	5.36	5,541,494	19	3,857	5,545,351	5,597,116
2014	27,531	24.50	6.48	6,745,095	16	3,920	6,749,015	6,809,775

1/Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption. 2/Includes value of milk fed to calves. 3/Value at average returns per 100 pounds of milk in combined marketings of milk and cream.



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