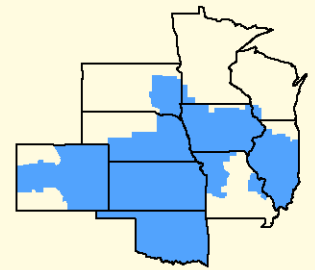


APRIL 2025

Marketing Service

Bulletin

Facilitating the efficient marketing of milk and dairy products.



CENTRAL MARKETING AREA



Where's The Milk ???

Milk production in the United States was just under 226 billion pounds in 2024, decreasing by 0.2% compared with 2023.

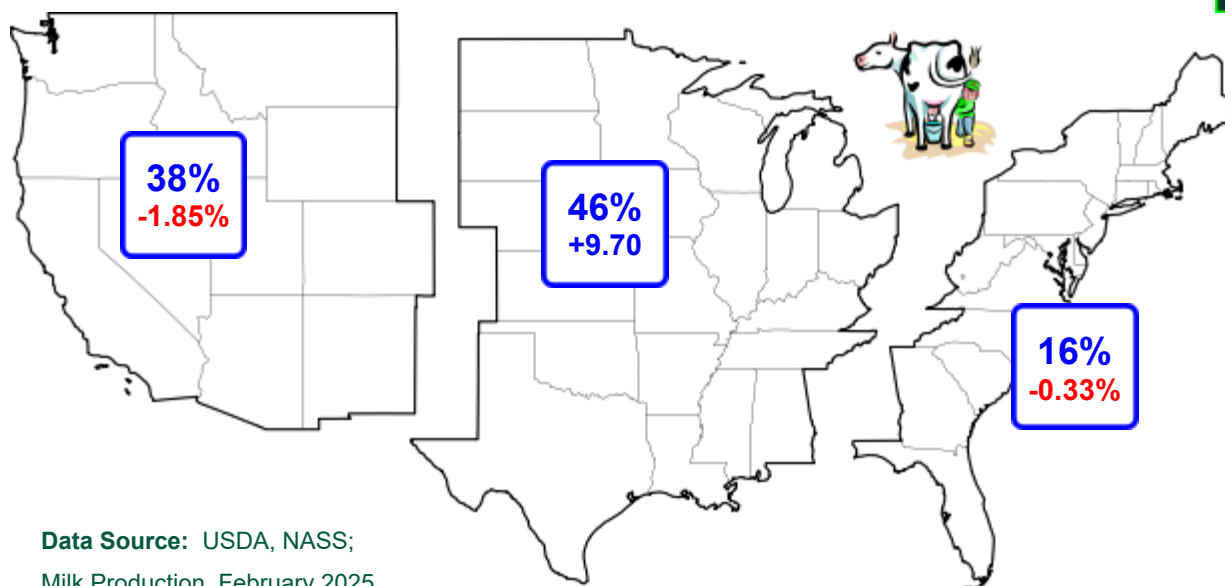
Milk production has stagnated over the last five years with marginal changes in annual production after going through a long period of growth. This bulletin addresses the question, "Where's The Milk ?", by examining milk production and dairy product manufacturing on a regional basis. The map graphics and data tables contained in this bulletin depict production of milk, cheese, butter, yogurt, ice cream, dry whey, cottage cheese, and nonfat dry milk for the Atlantic, Central, and West Regions, as specified by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The top number shown in each region represents the region's proportion of total 2024 production for the specified product, while the bottom number represents the percentage change in production comparing 2024 with 2019.



Comparing 2024 with 2019, the **Central Region increased** milk production by 9.70%, while the **Atlantic and West Regions decreased** by 0.33% and 1.85% respectively. The **Central Region** accounted for 45.83% of total U.S. Production, **up** 2.63 percentage points compared with 2019 (43.20%). The **West Region** accounted for 37.73% of U.S. Milk production in 2024, which is **down** 2.02 percentage points compared with the proportion in 2019 (39.75%). The **Atlantic Region** accounted for the smallest proportion of the 2024 total at 16.43%, and this proportion is **down** 0.62 percentage points compared with 2019 (17.05%). Milk production data for 2019 through 2024 are detailed on the last page of this bulletin.

U.S. milk production in 2024 increased by 7.4 billion pounds compared with 2019. The additional milk required to meet increased cheese production during the same period was approximately 11.1 billion pounds.

Regional Milk Production as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Milk Production with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019



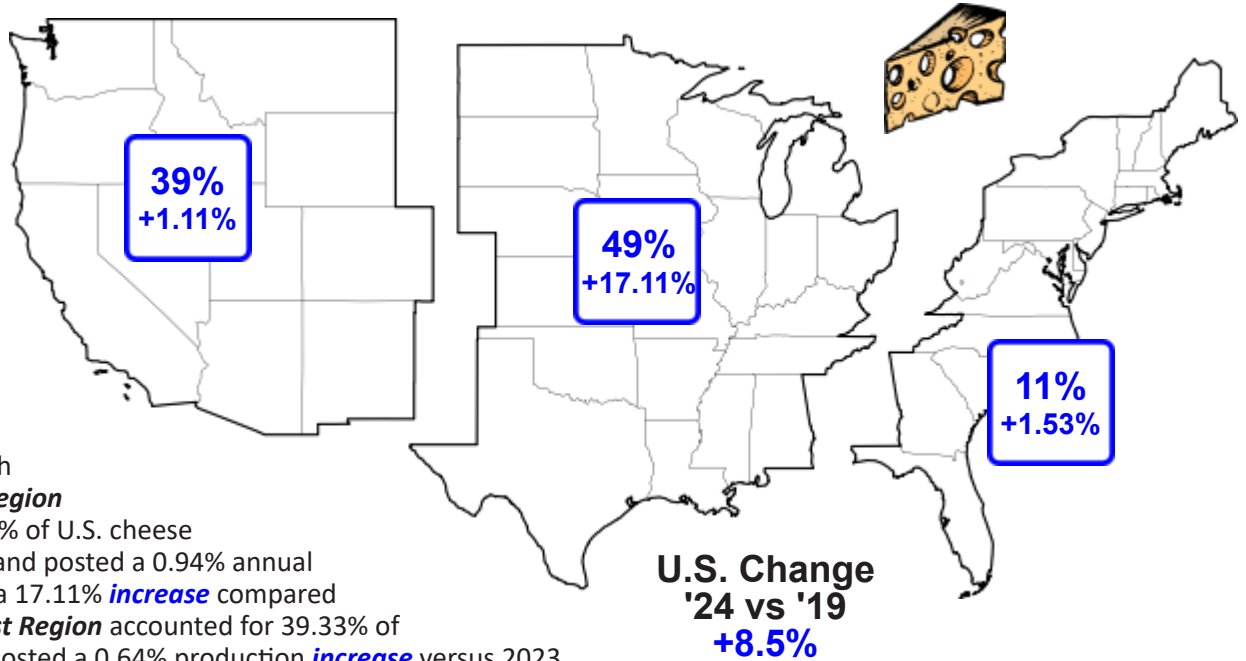
U.S. Change '24 vs '19 +3.4%

Data Source: USDA, NASS; Milk Production, February 2025.

Regional Cheese Production as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Cheese Production with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. cheese production totaled 14.249 billion pounds during 2024. The 2024 total is an **increase** of 0.66% compared with 2023, and it is 8.46% **greater than** the amount produced in 2019.

As depicted by the map on this page, all three regions recorded **increases** comparing 2024 with 2019. The **Central Region** accounted for 49.30% of U.S. cheese production in 2024 and posted a 0.94% annual **increase** as well as a 17.11% **increase** compared with 2019. The **West Region** accounted for 39.33% of the 2024 total and posted a 0.64% production **increase** versus 2023, with a 1.11% **increase** compared with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for 11.37% of the 2024 U.S. total, and this region's cheese production **decreased** by 0.46% versus the previous year while **increasing** 1.53% comparing 2024 with 2019.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

The Central Region has accounted for the largest proportion of cheese production each year since 2019, and its share has been increasing every year as well. The West Region accounts for the second largest proportion, and its share increased in 2019, but has declined every year since then. The Atlantic Region's share increased in 2020, but has decreased in every year since then.

Total U.S. Cheese Production By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	1,595,969	5,998,535	5,542,782	13,137,286
2020	1,635,423	6,160,722	5,443,495	13,239,640
2021	1,616,347	6,611,126	5,479,093	13,706,566
2022	1,642,025	6,859,160	5,561,590	14,062,775
2023	1,627,967	6,959,128	5,568,482	14,155,577
2024	1,620,451	7,024,812	5,604,085	14,249,348

As a Percent of Total Production

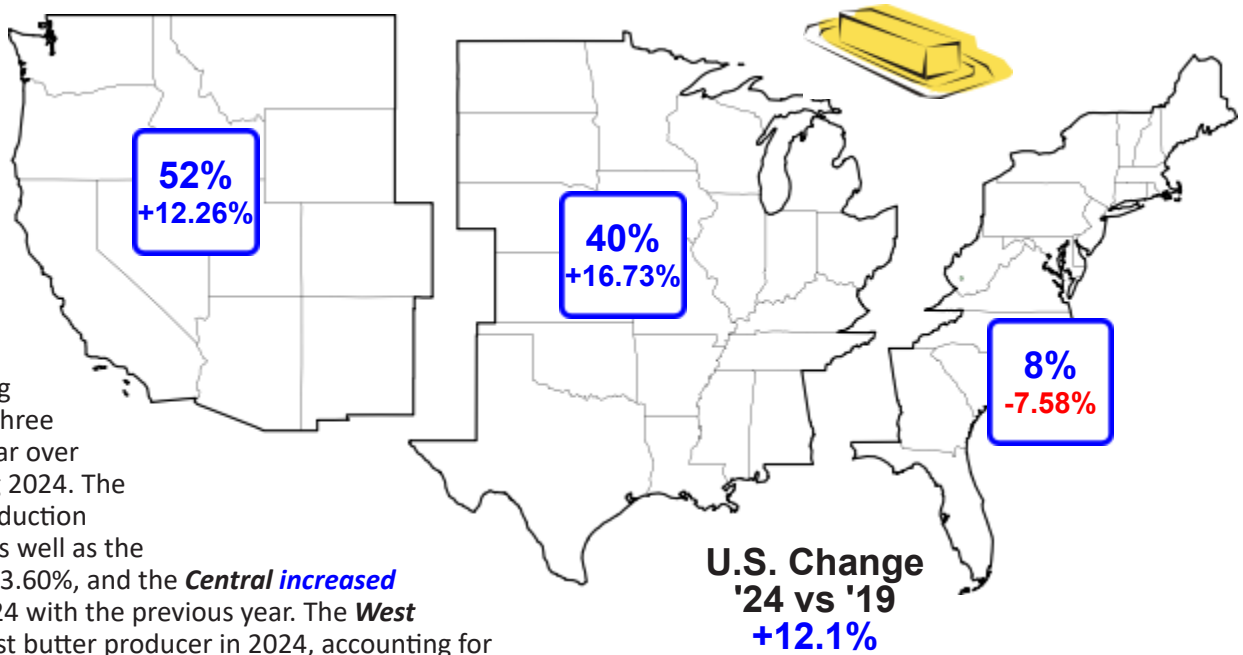
	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	12.15	45.66	42.19
2020	12.35	46.53	41.12
2021	11.79	48.23	39.98
2022	11.68	48.77	39.55
2023	11.50	49.16	39.34
2024	11.37	49.30	39.33



Regional Butter Production as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Butter Production with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. butter production **increased** 12.11%, comparing 2024 with 2019. Butter production totaled 2.235 billion pounds during 2024 **up** 5.88% from 2023.

As depicted by the accompanying map, two of the three Regions posted **increases** in butter production comparing 2024 with 2019. All three regions registered year over year **increases** during 2024. The **Atlantic Region's** production **increased** by 2.42% as well as the **West's increasing** by 3.60%, and the **Central increased** 9.69% comparing 2024 with the previous year. The **West Region** was the largest butter producer in 2024, accounting for 51.83% of the U.S. total, followed by the **Central Region** with 40.35%. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for just 7.82% of the U.S. total in 2024, and its share has been below 10% during each of the last five years.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

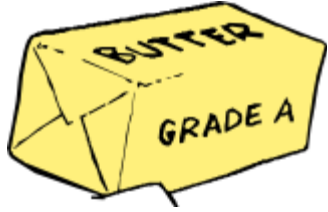
Total U.S. Butter Production By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	189,180	772,745	1,032,183	1,994,108
2020	198,973	833,806	1,113,123	2,145,902
2021	168,480	802,339	1,100,897	2,071,716
2022	168,751	772,340	1,117,646	2,058,737
2023	170,715	822,298	1,118,494	2,111,507
2024	174,845	901,999	1,158,748	2,235,592

The Central Region's share stayed relatively consistent in four of the last five years but has peaked in 2024. The West's share peaked over the past five years to 54.29% in 2022 but has declined in the last two years. The Atlantic Region accounted for just 7.82% of total production during 2024 an decrease of 0.26 percentage points over last year and it's lowest level in the last five years.

As a Percent of Total Production

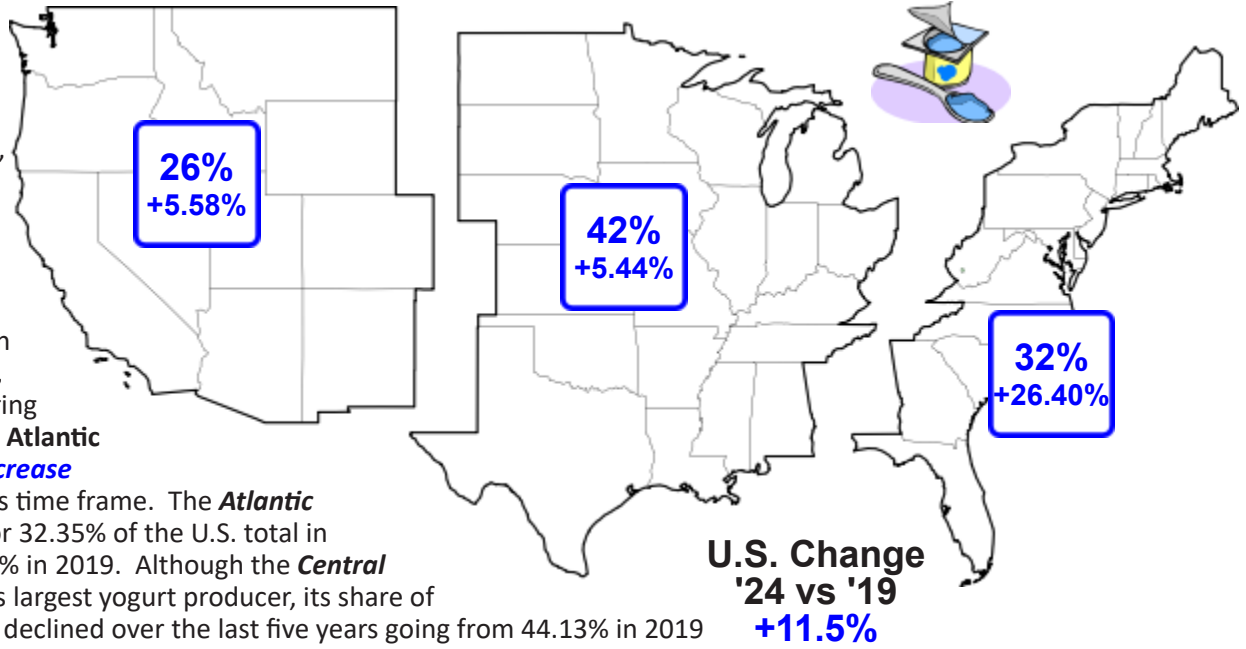
	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	9.49	38.75	51.76
2020	9.27	38.86	51.87
2021	8.13	38.73	53.14
2022	8.20	37.52	54.29
2023	8.08	38.94	52.97
2024	7.82	40.35	51.83



Regional Yogurt Production as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Yogurt Production with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. yogurt production **increased** by 11.46% comparing 2024 with 2019. Annual yogurt production during 2024 totaled 4.879 billion pounds, an **increase** of 6.29% compared with 2023.

The **West and Central Regions** **increased** production by 5.58% and 5.44%, respectively, comparing 2024 with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** posted an **increase** of 26.40% during this time frame. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for 32.35% of the U.S. total in 2024, **up** from 28.52% in 2019. Although the **Central Region** is the nations largest yogurt producer, its share of total production has declined over the last five years going from 44.13% in 2019 to 41.75% in 2024. The **West Region** accounted for 25.91% of total U.S. yogurt production in 2024, **down** from 27.35% in 2019. This region's share of total yogurt production was **up** 0.44 percentage points from the proportion recorded the previous year.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

Total U.S. Yogurt Production By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	1,248,663	1,931,791	1,197,349	4,377,803
2020	1,287,343	1,990,110	1,232,407	4,509,860
2021	1,355,355	1,998,119	1,389,753	4,743,227
2022	1,339,503	1,948,945	1,335,112	4,623,560
2023	1,433,203	1,987,963	1,169,365	4,590,531
2024	1,578,320	2,036,906	1,264,166	4,879,392

As a Percent of Total Production

	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	28.52	44.13	27.35
2020	28.55	44.12	27.33
2021	28.57	42.13	29.30
2022	28.97	42.15	28.88
2023	31.22	43.31	25.47
2024	32.35	41.75	25.91

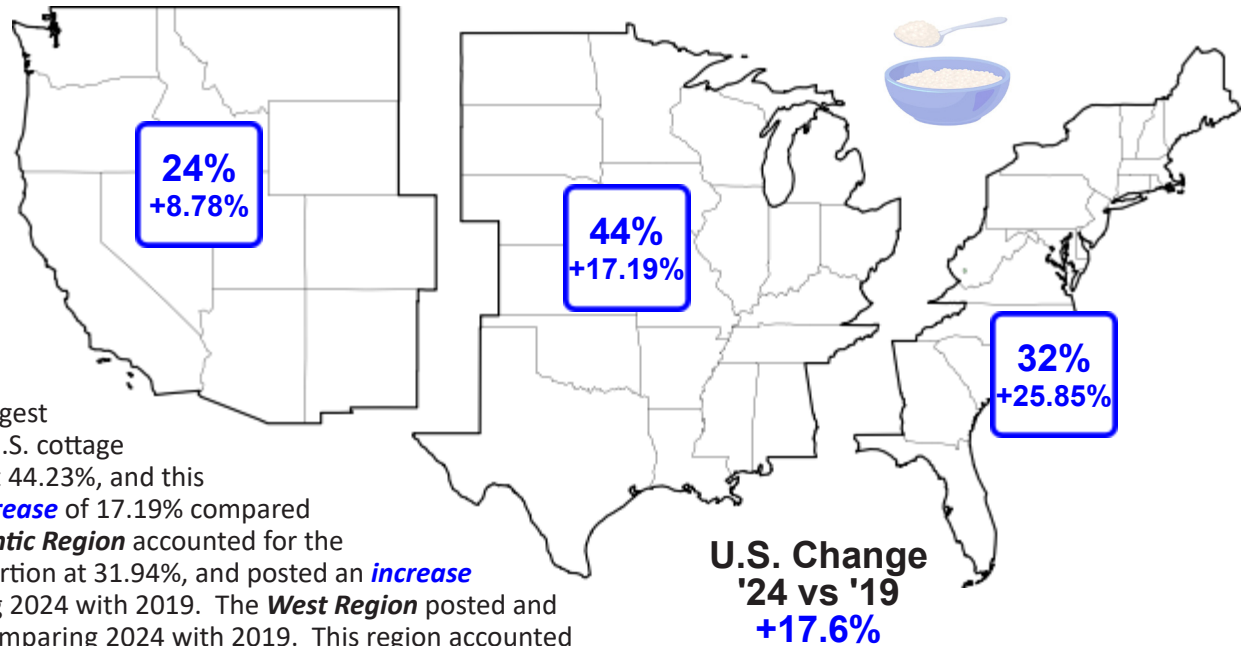
The Atlantic Region's share of U.S. yogurt production has steadily increased year over year with the largest increase being in 2023. The West Region's share jumped slightly in 2021, but has since continued to decline. The Central Region's proportion stayed below the 44% it reached in 2019. Yearly yogurt production increased by 6.29% in 2024, and it was 11.46% more than the amount produced in 2019.



Regional Cottage Cheese Production* as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Cottage Cheese Production* with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. cottage cheese production* **increased** by 17.61% comparing 2024's total with the 685.5 million pounds produced in 2019. Cottage Cheese production totaled 806.2 million pounds during 2024, **up** 13.04% from 2023.

The **Central Region** accounted for the largest proportion of 2024 U.S. cottage cheese production at 44.23%, and this region posted an **increase** of 17.19% compared with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for the second largest proportion at 31.94%, and posted an **increase** of 25.85% comparing 2024 with 2019. The **West Region** posted and **increase** of 8.78% comparing 2024 with 2019. This region accounted for 23.82% of 2024 U.S. cottage cheese production, the smallest proportion among the three regions.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

Total U.S. Cottage Cheese Production* By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	204,644	304,299	176,575	685,518
2020	211,290	297,699	162,456	671,445
2021	198,979	277,438	165,365	641,782
2022	204,648	274,345	159,333	638,326
2023	236,884	307,612	168,758	713,254
2024	257,550	356,616	192,080	806,246

As a Percent of Total Production

	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	29.85	44.39	25.76
2020	31.47	44.34	24.19
2021	31.00	43.23	25.77
2022	32.06	42.98	24.96
2023	33.21	43.13	23.66
2024	31.94	44.23	23.82

U.S. cottage cheese production was trending down from 2019 to 2022 and has seen a large increase in production over the last two years. All regions saw year over year increases in production in 2024. The West Region increased 13.82% during 2024, while the Central Region rose 13.04% and the Atlantic Region rose 8.72%. Total U.S. cottage cheese production was up 13.04% from the previous year.

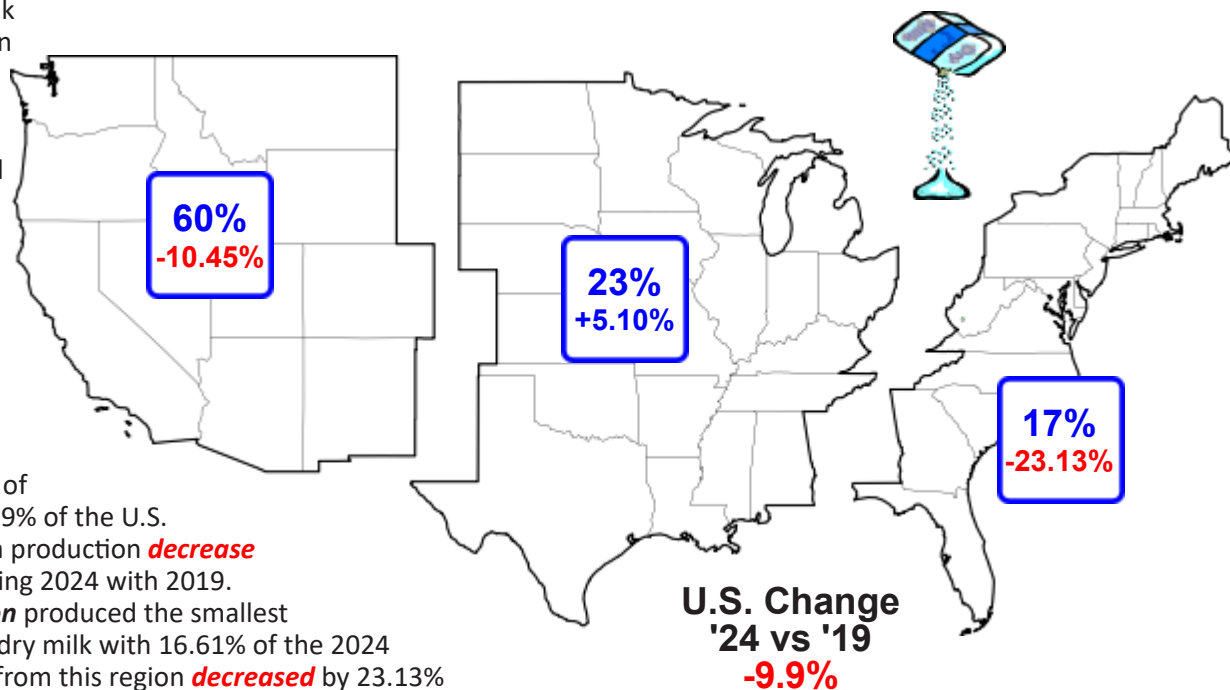


*Lowfat and Creamed Cottage Cheese Combined

Regional NFDM Production as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. NFDM Production with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. nonfat dry milk (NFDM) production **decreased** by 9.86%, comparing 2024 with 2019. Production totaled 1.669 billion pounds in 2024, which was a **decrease** of 10.69% compared with 2023.

The **West Region** accounted for the largest proportion of production at 60.39% of the U.S. total, and posted a production **decrease** of 10.45% comparing 2024 with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** produced the smallest amount of nonfat dry milk with 16.61% of the 2024 total. Production from this region **decreased** by 23.13% compared with 2019 and was **down** 12.40% from 2023. The **Central Region** accounted for 23.00% of the U.S. total in 2024, with production **increasing** by 5.10% compared with 2019, but **down** 3.04% versus the 2023 total.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

The West has accounted for the largest proportion of total U.S. nonfat dry milk production for many years, although its share declined in four of the last five years. The West Region's share decreased to 60.39% in 2024 which was a 1.18 percentage point drop from last year. The Atlantic Region's share of nonfat dry milk decreased by 0.64 percentage points compared to 2023, while the Central's has increased by 1.82 percentage points.

Total U.S. Nonfat Dry Milk Production By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	360,658	365,089	1,125,363	1,851,110
2020	348,157	439,820	1,163,912	1,951,889
2021	332,860	400,244	1,290,923	2,024,027
2022	335,225	412,114	1,221,025	1,968,364
2023	322,313	395,744	1,150,388	1,868,395
2024	277,225	383,715	1,007,715	1,668,655

As a Percent of Total Production

	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	19.48	19.72	60.80
2020	17.84	22.53	59.63
2021	16.45	19.77	63.78
2022	17.03	20.94	62.03
2023	17.25	21.18	61.57
2024	16.61	23.00	60.39

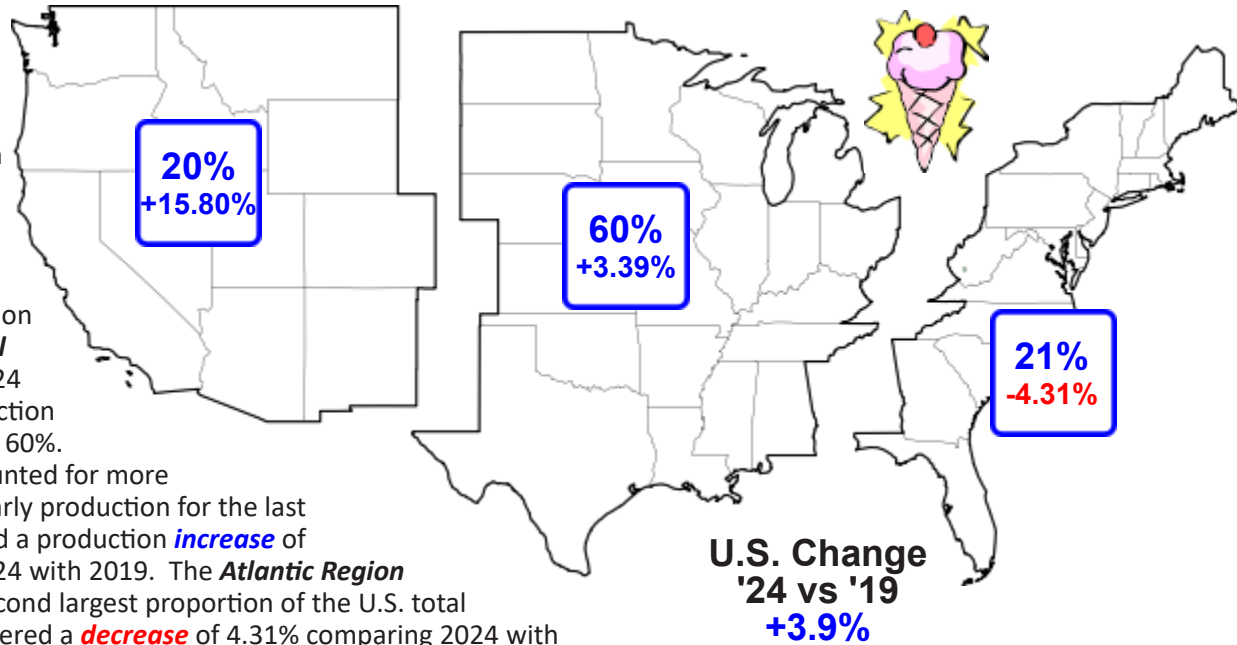


Regional Ice Cream Production* as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Ice Cream Production* with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. ice cream production* **increased** by 3.85%

comparing 2024's total with the 709.4 million gallons produced in 2019. Ice cream production totaled 736.7 million gallons during 2024, **up** 4.02% from the previous year. As depicted by the map on this page, the **Central Region's** share of 2024 U.S. ice cream production was slightly less than 60%.

This region has accounted for more than 50% of total yearly production for the last five years, and posted a production **increase** of 3.39% comparing 2024 with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for the second largest proportion of the U.S. total at 20.71%, and registered a **decrease** of 4.31% comparing 2024 with 2019. The **West Region's** production **increased** 15.80% between 2019 and 2024. This region accounted for the smallest production share with 19.63% of the 2024 U.S. total.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

Total U.S. Ice Cream Production* By Region (thousand gallons)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	159,399	425,087	124,908	709,394
2020	171,509	459,807	135,585	766,901
2021	167,131	428,879	126,778	722,788
2022	167,643	430,810	128,237	726,690
2023	152,358	424,204	131,633	708,195
2024	152,536	439,503	144,641	736,680

As a Percent of Total Production

	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	22.47	59.92	17.61
2020	22.36	59.96	17.68
2021	23.12	59.34	17.54
2022	23.07	59.28	17.65
2023	21.51	59.90	18.59
2024	20.71	59.66	19.63

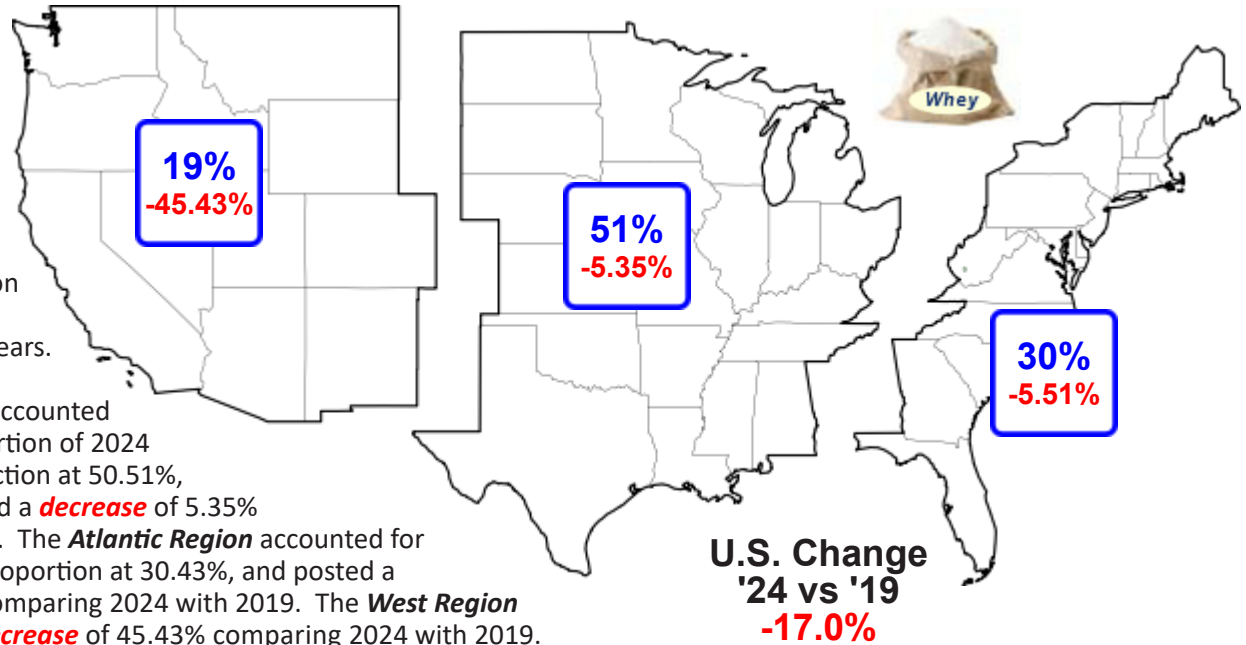


U.S. regular (hard) ice cream production increased by 4.02% in 2024, after decreasing in the previous year. The Central Region's share of the 2024 total was 59.66%, and this region has accounted for more than 50% of total U.S. ice cream production the last five years. The Atlantic Region's share had a slight increase in 2021 but has decreased every year since then. The West Region's production has been less than 20% of the U.S. total the last five years.

Regional Dry Whey Production* as a Percentage of 2024 Total U.S. Dry Whey Production* with Percentage Change in Production: 2024 vs 2019

U.S. dry whey production* **decreased** by 17.01% comparing 2024's total with the 961.8 million pounds produced in 2019. Dry Whey production totaled 798.2 million pounds during 2024, **down** 9.82% from 2023. Production has decreased every year in the last five years.

The **Central Region** accounted for the largest proportion of 2024 U.S. dry whey production at 50.51%, but this region posted a **decrease** of 5.35% compared with 2019. The **Atlantic Region** accounted for the second largest proportion at 30.43%, and posted a **decrease** of 5.51% comparing 2024 with 2019. The **West Region** posted the largest **decrease** of 45.43% comparing 2024 with 2019. This region accounted for 19.06% of 2024 U.S. dry whey production, the smallest proportion among the three regions.



Data Source: USDA, NASS; Dairy Products 2024 Summary, Apr 2025.

Total U.S. Dry Whey Production* By Region (thousand lbs.)

	Atlantic	Central	West	Total
2019	257,040	425,930	278,822	961,792
2020	265,409	432,675	242,158	940,242
2021	279,129	438,099	194,274	911,502
2022	251,325	410,487	224,117	885,929
2023	250,199	437,236	197,655	885,090
2024	242,871	403,150	152,164	798,185

As a Percent of Total Production

	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	26.73	44.28	28.99
2020	28.23	46.02	25.75
2021	30.62	48.06	21.32
2022	28.37	46.33	25.30
2023	28.27	49.40	22.33
2024	30.43	50.51	19.06



*Dry Whey (Human) Production.

U.S. dry whey (human) production has steadily decreased every year since 2019. All regions saw year over year decreases in production in 2024. The West Region decreased 23.02% during 2024, while the Central Region fell 7.80% and the Atlantic Region fell 2.93%. Comparing 2024 with 2019, total U.S. dry whey production was down 17.01%.

Federal Order News

The American Relief Act of 2025, signed into law on December 20, 2024, extended the authorization of the Dairy Forward Pricing Program contained in the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill), through September 30, 2025. Handlers may now enter new forward price contracts with producers or cooperative associations of producers through September 30, 2025, for milk marketed on or after April 24, 2025. Contracts may extend through September 30, 2028. All other provisions of the Dairy Forward Price Program remain the same.

The final rule extending the program has been posted on the Federal Register website for public display at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/04/23/2025-06939/reauthorization-of-dairy-forward-pricing-program>

Please keep in mind:

- All new contracts must be signed by both parties prior to the effective month. The signed contract and disclosure statement must be received by the Market Administrator prior to the 15th of the applicable month. For example, to contract for May 2025 milk, the forward contract and disclosure statement must be signed prior to May 1, 2025, and received by the Market Administrator by May 15, 2025.
- The disclosure statement must be signed on the same date as the contract.
- Producer milk that has been forward contracted under the terms of the program is not subject to minimum payment to a producer or cooperative association under a Federal Order.
- For contracts signed between September 30, 2024, and April 23, 2025, if the Market Administrator has already received a copy of the contract and disclosure statement or receives them by May 15, 2025, and the contract includes May milk deliveries, the contract applies only to milk marketed on or after April 24, 2025. This holds true even if contract deliveries began in a prior month. However, contracts cannot be included in the program if the disclosure statement has a date other than the date on which the contract was signed. In this case, if a handler and producer would like to have a valid contract applicable under the program, another contract must be negotiated.
- For contracts signed between September 30, 2024, and April 23, 2025, there will be no allowance for payments less than the Federal order minimum for milk marketed between October 1, 2024 and April 23, 2025.
- Forward Contracts established under this program may not extend past September 30, 2028.

Forward contracts established prior to October 1, 2024, are not impacted. Please call (913) 495-9300, or e-mail market.administrator@fmmacentral.com with any questions.



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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FEDERAL MILK MARKET ADMINISTRATOR
P.O. BOX 14650
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FIRST CLASS

Website: www.fmmacentral.com
E-mail: market.administrator@fmmacentral.com
Phone: 913-495-9300

	Statistical Uniform Price		Producer Price Differential		Class I Utilization	
	Mar '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Feb '25
Northeast	20.56	21.64	1.94	1.46	27.37	28.65
Appalachian	22.60	23.55	-----	-----	66.42	72.89
Florida	24.66	25.42	-----	-----	77.36	80.91
Southeast	23.18	23.90	-----	-----	68.73	69.65
Upper Midwest	18.82	20.31	0.20	0.13	5.81	6.97
Central	19.07	20.34	0.45	0.16	24.57	28.77
Mideast	19.72	20.82	1.10	0.64	33.13	33.35
California	19.08	20.54	0.46	0.36	12.76	15.02
Pacific Northwest	18.96	20.32	0.34	0.14	16.88	18.84
Southwest	19.82	21.36	1.20	0.92	22.44	26.85
Arizona	19.96	21.42	-----	-----	24.95	28.42

**Total U.S. Milk Production
By Region**

	Million Lbs.				% of Total		
	Atlantic	Central	West	Total	Atlantic	Central	West
2019	37,237	94,361	86,838	218,436	17.05	43.20	39.75
2020	37,458	97,131	88,676	223,309	16.77	43.50	39.71
2021	37,266	100,195	88,797	226,258	16.47	44.28	39.25
2022	37,074	101,433	87,950	226,462	16.37	44.79	38.84
2023	37,310	102,490	86,505	226,311	16.49	45.29	38.22
2024	37,113	103,517	85,230	225,868	16.43	45.83	37.73

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