

## Cheese Highlights

Agricultural Marketing Service Dairy Market News

Report 19

May 10, 2024

MMN Slug ID 1059 / Slug Name: MD\_DA851

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Cheese makers relay steady to stronger production schedules throughout the U.S. Monday's Dairy Products report revealed total U.S. cheese production in March 2024 was 1.23 billion pounds, 7.6 percent above February 2024 and 0.1 percent above March 2023. In the Northeast, contacts share milk production remains strong and cheese plant managers report seasonally steady production schedules. Some contacts have shared they are not seeing as sharp of an increase in demand as current CME pricing could imply. In the Central region, contacts share demand has been stronger from both local and Eastern customers. Contacts indicate spot milk availability is beginning to tighten, as prices were reported at \$1.50-under Class III to \$0.50 over. Cheese inventories are noted to be comfortable at the moment, but cheesemakers are being cautious so as to not oversell inventory. In the West, cheese manufacturers are anticipating tightening milk volumes, but production schedules are robust for the time being. Cheese stocks are available to accommodate both contractual obligations and spot interests.

Information for the period May 6 - 10, 2024, issued weekly

Secondary Sourced Information:

CME: Barrels closed at \$1.9125 and 40# blocks at \$1.9800. The weekly average for barrels is \$1.8975 (+0.0490) and blocks \$1.9180 (+0.1495).

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