



# Mailbox Milk Price Report

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Dairy Program

Market Information Branch

MMPR-1218

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## December 2018 Highlights

In December 2018, mailbox milk prices for selected reporting areas in Federal milk orders averaged \$15.95 per cwt, down \$0.53 from the revised November 2018 average, but up \$0.61 from the December 2017 average. The component tests of producer milk in December 2018 were: butterfat, 4.03%; protein, 3.25%; and other solids, 5.75%.

## Mailbox Milk Prices, December 2018

| Reporting Area <sup>1</sup>           | Mailbox Milk Price <sup>2</sup>    |          |          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
|                                       | Dec 2017                           | Nov 2018 | Dec 2018 |
|                                       | <i>(dollars per hundredweight)</i> |          |          |
| New England States <sup>3</sup>       | 18.25                              | 18.12    | 17.89    |
| New York                              | 16.99                              | 16.95    | 16.53    |
| Eastern Pennsylvania <sup>4</sup>     | 16.83                              | 16.78    | 16.46    |
| Appalachian States <sup>5</sup>       | 17.90                              | 17.59    | 16.82    |
| Southeast States <sup>6</sup>         | 17.82                              | 17.52    | 16.68    |
| Southern Missouri <sup>7</sup>        | 18.50                              | 17.97    | 16.83    |
| Florida                               | 19.27                              | 18.87    | 17.90    |
| Western Pennsylvania <sup>8</sup>     | 17.25                              | 16.92    | 16.57    |
| Ohio                                  | 17.26                              | 16.80    | 16.34    |
| Indiana                               | 16.30                              | 16.75    | 16.15    |
| Michigan                              | 15.22                              | 15.30    | 14.80    |
| Wisconsin                             | 17.67                              | 16.78    | 16.07    |
| Minnesota                             | 17.14                              | 16.65    | 16.16    |
| Iowa                                  | 17.46                              | 16.68    | 16.24    |
| Illinois                              | 17.80                              | 17.41    | 16.65    |
| Corn Belt States <sup>9</sup>         | 16.24                              | 15.44    | 14.69    |
| Western Texas <sup>10</sup>           | 16.78                              | 16.00    | 15.19    |
| New Mexico                            | 15.27                              | 14.34    | 13.69    |
| Northwest States <sup>11</sup>        | 17.22                              | 17.05    | 16.69    |
| California <sup>12</sup>              | 17.02                              | *16.14   | *15.76   |
| All Federal Order Areas <sup>13</sup> | 17.02                              | *16.48   | *15.95   |

See footnotes on Page 3.

**Mailbox Milk Prices for Selected Reporting Areas  
in Federal Milk Orders, by Month, Jan – Jun 2018**

| Reporting Area <sup>1</sup>           | Jan                                | Feb          | Mar          | Apr          | May          | Jun          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                       | <i>(dollars per hundredweight)</i> |              |              |              |              |              |
| New England States <sup>3</sup>       | 16.96                              | 15.90        | 16.08        | 16.55        | 16.86        | 17.15        |
| New York                              | 15.85                              | 14.77        | 14.94        | 15.30        | 15.69        | 16.01        |
| Eastern Pennsylvania <sup>4</sup>     | 15.70                              | 14.59        | 14.73        | 15.43        | 15.37        | 15.70        |
| Appalachian States <sup>5</sup>       | 16.99                              | 15.38        | 15.02        | 15.61        | 15.97        | 16.37        |
| Southeast States <sup>6</sup>         | 16.80                              | 15.05        | 14.68        | 15.39        | 15.79        | 16.29        |
| Southern Missouri <sup>7</sup>        | 16.99                              | 15.23        | 14.73        | 15.18        | 15.24        | 15.86        |
| Florida                               | 18.25                              | 16.90        | 16.46        | 16.90        | 17.40        | 17.97        |
| Western Pennsylvania <sup>8</sup>     | *15.95                             | 15.08        | 14.96        | 15.32        | 15.61        | 15.87        |
| Ohio                                  | 15.96                              | 14.84        | 14.96        | 15.47        | 15.41        | 15.44        |
| Indiana                               | 15.25                              | 13.99        | 14.12        | 14.76        | 14.77        | 14.90        |
| Michigan                              | 14.13                              | 13.10        | 13.32        | 13.79        | 14.06        | 14.07        |
| Wisconsin                             | 16.20                              | 15.39        | 15.96        | 16.25        | 16.52        | 16.25        |
| Minnesota                             | 16.04                              | 15.56        | 15.90        | 16.19        | 16.58        | 15.94        |
| Iowa                                  | 16.24                              | 15.49        | 15.90        | 16.24        | 16.58        | 16.01        |
| Illinois                              | 16.51                              | 15.37        | 15.63        | 16.07        | 16.31        | 15.79        |
| Corn Belt States <sup>9</sup>         | 15.41                              | 14.10        | 14.31        | 14.55        | 14.66        | 14.66        |
| Western Texas <sup>10</sup>           | 15.99                              | 14.56        | 14.78        | 15.03        | 15.46        | 15.47        |
| New Mexico                            | 14.54                              | 12.95        | 13.21        | 13.33        | 13.84        | 14.01        |
| Northwest States <sup>11</sup>        | 15.88                              | 15.13        | 15.51        | 15.80        | 16.24        | 16.40        |
| California <sup>12</sup>              | <i>14.67</i>                       | <i>14.31</i> | <i>14.68</i> | <i>14.80</i> | <i>15.29</i> | <i>15.17</i> |
| All Federal Order Areas <sup>13</sup> | <i>*15.86</i>                      | <i>14.81</i> | <i>15.04</i> | <i>15.41</i> | <i>15.70</i> | <i>15.73</i> |

See footnotes on Page 3.

## Mailbox Milk Prices for Selected Reporting Areas in Federal Milk Orders, by Month, Jul – Dec 2018

| Reporting Area <sup>1</sup>           | Jul                                | Aug   | Sep   | Oct    | Nov    | Dec    | Avg <sup>14</sup> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
|                                       | <i>(dollars per hundredweight)</i> |       |       |        |        |        |                   |
| New England States <sup>3</sup>       | 16.27                              | 16.46 | 17.20 | 18.35  | 18.12  | 17.89  | 16.97             |
| New York                              | 15.24                              | 15.45 | 16.12 | 17.21  | 16.95  | 16.53  | 15.84             |
| Eastern Pennsylvania <sup>4</sup>     | 14.98                              | 15.15 | 15.77 | 16.82  | 16.78  | 16.46  | 15.59             |
| Appalachian States <sup>5</sup>       | 16.28                              | 15.82 | 16.24 | 17.71  | 17.59  | 16.82  | 16.28             |
| Southeast States <sup>6</sup>         | 17.27                              | 16.01 | 16.43 | 17.16  | 17.52  | 16.68  | 16.18             |
| Southern Missouri <sup>7</sup>        | 16.98                              | 16.25 | 16.82 | 17.11  | 17.97  | 16.83  | 16.14             |
| Florida                               | 18.07                              | 17.72 | 18.16 | 19.03  | 18.87  | 17.90  | 17.74             |
| Western Pennsylvania <sup>8</sup>     | 15.04                              | 15.48 | 16.00 | 16.91  | 16.92  | 16.57  | *15.78            |
| Ohio                                  | 14.76                              | 15.14 | 15.66 | 16.83  | 16.80  | 16.34  | 15.64             |
| Indiana                               | 14.46                              | 14.85 | 15.66 | 16.71  | 16.75  | 16.15  | 15.16             |
| Michigan                              | 13.43                              | 13.83 | 14.61 | 15.66  | 15.30  | 14.80  | 14.17             |
| Wisconsin                             | 15.10                              | 16.09 | 17.20 | *17.56 | 16.78  | 16.07  | 16.27             |
| Minnesota                             | 15.08                              | 16.23 | 17.32 | *17.45 | 16.65  | 16.16  | 16.21             |
| Iowa                                  | 14.99                              | 16.11 | 17.05 | *17.70 | 16.68  | 16.24  | 16.26             |
| Illinois                              | 15.38                              | 16.00 | 17.01 | *17.79 | 17.41  | 16.65  | 16.28             |
| Corn Belt States <sup>9</sup>         | 13.85                              | 14.35 | 15.27 | 16.17  | 15.44  | 14.69  | 14.79             |
| Western Texas <sup>10</sup>           | 14.55                              | 14.98 | 15.84 | 16.67  | 16.00  | 15.19  | 15.38             |
| New Mexico                            | 13.15                              | 13.44 | 14.16 | 14.79  | 14.34  | 13.69  | 13.78             |
| Northwest States <sup>11</sup>        | 15.55                              | 15.88 | 16.98 | 17.53  | 17.05  | 16.69  | 16.24             |
| California <sup>12</sup>              | 14.66                              | 15.28 | 15.90 | 16.37  | *16.14 | *15.76 | *15.94            |
| All Federal Order Areas <sup>13</sup> | 14.95                              | 15.43 | 16.25 | *17.03 | *16.48 | *15.95 | *15.73            |

**Footnotes:**

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Areas for which prices are reported for at least 75% of the milk marketed under Federal milk orders. <sup>2</sup> Net pay prices received by dairy farmers for milk. Prices reflect all payments received for milk sold and all costs associated with marketing the milk. Prices are weighted averages of the prices reported for all orders receiving milk from the reporting area and are reported at the average butterfat tests. Prices include, for the most part, the assessment under the Cooperatives Working Together (CWT) program. <sup>3</sup> Includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. <sup>4</sup> Includes all counties to the east of those listed in <sup>8</sup>. <sup>5</sup> Includes Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. <sup>6</sup> Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. <sup>7</sup> Includes the counties Vernon, Cedar, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Texas, Dent, Crawford, Washington, St. Francois, and Perry, and all those to the south of these. <sup>8</sup> Includes the counties of Warren, Elk, Clearfield, Indiana, Westmoreland, and Fayette, and all those counties to the west of these. <sup>9</sup> Includes Kansas, Nebraska, and the Missouri counties to the north of those listed in <sup>7</sup>. <sup>10</sup> Includes all counties to the west of Fanin, Hunt, Van Zandt, Henderson, Houston, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, and Shelby. <sup>11</sup> Includes Oregon and Washington. <sup>12</sup> The California Federal Milk Marketing Order became effective on November 1, 2018. Prior to November 2018, the CA mailbox price was calculated by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. <sup>13</sup> Weighted average of prices for all reporting areas (excluding California for November and December 2018).

## **Methodology: Mailbox Milk Price Report**

**Definitions:** The Mailbox Price is defined as the net price received by producers for milk, including all payments received for milk sold, and deducting costs associated with marketing the milk.

**Data:** Included in all payments for milk sold are: over-order premiums; quality, component, breed, and volume premiums; payouts from state-run over-order pricing pools; payments from super pool organizations or marketing agencies in common; payouts from programs offering seasonal production bonuses; and, monthly distributions of cooperative earnings. Annual distributions of cooperative profits/earnings or equity repayments are not included.

Included in costs associated with marketing milk are: hauling charges; cooperative dues, assessments, equity deductions/capital retains, and re-blends; the Federal milk order deduction for marketing services; Federally-mandated assessments such as the National Promotion Program and budget deficit reduction; and advertising/promotion assessments above the national program level. Other deductions, such as loan, insurance or feed mill assignments are not included.

For all markets, the mailbox price is reported at the handlers' average butterfat test (i.e., no adjustment to 3.5 percent).

**Reliability:** The AMS audit staff periodically perform on-site audits on each reporting agency's payroll records to ensure accurate reporting of mailbox price information. For enforcement purposes, the information used in this report is subject to audit for up to three years after the month reported.

**Report Aggregation:** The Market Administrators collect the information and calculate prices relative to their reporting areas, then submit to MIB. MIB then combines the data and publishes a weighted average.

Prior to November 2018, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) calculated the California mailbox price using Market Administrator methodology and submitted monthly to MIB to include in the Mailbox publication. The California Federal Milk Marketing Order became effective November 1, 2018.

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## Information Contacts

Listed below are the specialists in the Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Program, Market Information Branch to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [dpp@ams.usda.gov](mailto:dpp@ams.usda.gov).

Lorie Warren Cashman  
Chief, Market Information  
(202) 720-4405

### Dairy Products Mandatory Reporting Program

Patsy Emmons  
Dairy Products Marketing Specialist, Coordinator  
(202) 720-6491

Jessica Newsome  
Dairy Products Marketing Specialist  
(202) 260-9091

Kerry Siekmann  
Dairy Products Marketing Specialist  
(952) 277-2363

### Federal Milk Order Information Program

Kerry Siekmann  
Dairy Products Marketing Specialist, Coordinator  
(952) 277-2363

Randal Stoker  
Dairy Products Marketing Specialist  
(202) 690-1932

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