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Cheese - Northeastern U.S.

Report 34 - Released on August 23, 2023

As schools reopen in the Northeast, contacts share that bottling orders have increased. Class I orders have drawn upon milk volumes going into processing plants. Some cheese plant managers have also relayed that persistent labor issues have affected how much milk they are taking in and therefore the amount of cheese they are able to manufacture. Despite labor obstacles, cheese inventories are said to be steady. Contacts say that cheddar continues to be in higher demand than other American-type cheeses, and that demand for mozzarella from food service customers is strong. Last week's National Retail Report lists that shredded cheese in 6-8-ounce packages was the most advertised conventional cheese item this week, with a weighted average advertised price of \$2.45, down 5 cents from last week. Market prices for cheese blocks on industry cash exchanges closed at \$2.0175 last Wednesday but fell to \$1.9475 as of report publishing time. In the Northeast, wholesale prices for cheddar and muenster are up \$0.0450 and process cheese prices are up \$0.0075. Grade A Swiss prices are unchanged.

WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES: DELIVERED

DOLLARS PER POUND(MIXED LOTS (1000-5000 POUNDS))

Cheddar 40 pound Block	2.4800-2.7675
Muenster	2.4675-2.8175
Process American 5 pound Sliced	1.9150-2.3950
Swiss 10-14 pound Cuts	3.2650-5.5875

Information for the period August 21 - 25, 2023, issued weekly

Secondary Sourced Information:

This week, a cooperative export assistance program accepted requests for export assistance on contracts to sell 1.3 million (573 metric tons) of American-type cheese and 187,000 pounds (85 metric tons) of cream cheese. So far this year, the program has assisted member cooperatives who have contracts to sell 32.4 million pounds of American-type cheeses and 6.1 million pounds of cream cheese in export markets.

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