



## Oceania Dairy Market Overview

Agricultural Marketing Service  
Dairy Market News

Report 51

December 19, 2024

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### Australia

According to Dairy Australia, October 2024 milk production, 917.7 million liters, was up 1.3 percent from October 2023. October 2024 milk production was up from the prior year in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. Meanwhile, milk production was down in Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Milk production from the start of the season in July 2024 through October 2024, 2,991.1 million liters, increased 1.7 percent compared to the same time frame a year earlier.

According to Dairy Australia, August 2024 milk sales, 204.0 million liters, were down 0.5 percent from August 2023. The volume of milk sold was up in August 2024 from a year prior in Tasmania, while sales volumes decreased in every other state. Milk sales from the start of the season in July 2024 through August 2024, 410.7 million liters, were up 0.1 percent compared to the same time period a year earlier.

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia showing milk export volumes from July 2024 - October 2024 were 55,245 MT, down 18.6 percent from the same time period a year earlier.

The November 2024 Production Inputs Monitor from Dairy Australia was recently released. The report stated rainfall in Western Australia and parts of New South Wales was above average, but rainfall was average to below average in the rest of the dairying regions. Temperatures in November were above average across the country. Prices for fodder were decreasing in November but remain elevated compared to last year. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology predicts above average temperatures as summer approaches and unusually warm nights, which increases the likelihood of heatwaves. In January rainfall is expected to return to average.

Dairy Australia recently released the Situation and Outlook report for December 2024. The report stated milk production for the 2024/2025 season has started strong, compared to last season, but is expected to decline slightly from 8.3 billion liters last season. Export opportunities have increased in Australia this season, as prices for dairy products have increased in other countries. Retail demand for cheese, dairy spreads, and yogurt are up from last season but demand for milk is steady.

### New Zealand

Recently released data from New Zealand for October showed the number of dairy cows sent to slaughter during the month increased by 8.2 percent from October 2023. Over the 12-months ending in October, cow slaughter numbers were down 3.8 percent compared to the previous 12-months.

The DairyNZ annual Dairy Statistics report was recently released showing data for New Zealand in the 2023/2024 season. During the season, 20.5 billion liters of milk was processed and the amount of milksolids for the season processed was 1.88 billion kilograms, up 0.5 percent from the prior season. Cow numbers reached 4.7 million last season, up from the prior season, and weather conditions were favorable, contributing to increased milk production in the country. Average milk pay prices increased by 14 cents last season, to \$8.90/kgMS.

A dairy processor in New Zealand recently announced an increase to the forecast milk price for the current season. The processor stated the forecast milk price is up 50 cents to \$10.00/kgMS, due to increasing prices for global commodities.

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ROMAN CARAMAN, 608-422-8593  
Email: roman.caraman@usda.gov

Additional Dairy Market News Information:

Dairy Market News (DMN) by Phone: (608)422-8587  
DMN Website: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/dairy>  
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Email: roman.caraman@usda.gov

Additional Dairy Market News Information:

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DMN Website: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/dairy>  
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