

U.S. Exports

Light cheese, whey volumes pull U.S. exports lower

U.S. exports of cheese and whey products were at or near multi-year lows in August, pulling overall volumes down for the fourth straight month. Suppliers shipped 139,281 tons of milk powders, cheese, butterfat, whey and lactose in August, down 13 percent from a year ago, and down 6 percent from July. Total overseas sales were valued at \$390 million, down 33 percent from last year, and down 6 percent from July. Export value was the lowest since February 2011 (on a daily-average basis).

Cheese exports fell for the fifth straight month, dropping to 22,658 tons. This figure is down 28 percent from last year, and marks the lowest total in 31 months. Sales to every major customer were below a year ago, with a notable decline (-59 percent) in exports to Japan. Year-to-date exports to Japan are down 39 percent from last year.

With very weak global whey markets, U.S. whey exports continued trending lower as well. Total whey export volume was just 32,843 tons, down 18 percent from last August and the second-lowest figure in the last five years (daily-average basis).

Dry whey exports were off 22 percent, whey protein concentrate (WPC) exports were down 16 percent and whey protein isolate (WPI) exports were down 11 percent from year-ago levels. Overall whey sales to China were down 39 percent from last year, with dry whey exports of just 2,087 tons, the lowest since May 2008. Meanwhile, shipments of WPI to China slowed to just 277 tons/month in the June-August period, after averaging 2,211 tons per month in the first five months of the year.

Exports of nonfat dry milk/skim milk powder (NDM/SMP) held up better in August. Suppliers moved 42,880 tons, slightly more than July, but still down 6 percent from a year ago. Sales to Mexico (+12 percent) and Southeast Asia (+8 percent) were above year-ago levels, but volumes to China and Middle East/North Africa were lower.

Among other products, exports of butterfat (-35 percent year-over-year) and whole milk powder (-20 percent) continue to lag. Fluid milk sales in August were up 8 percent from last year, led by record sales to Taiwan.

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	LATEST MONTH		AUGUST (VOLUME, MT)		% CHG
	2013	2014	2015		
NDM/SMP	50,675	45,306	42,880		-5
WMP	5,880	3,598	2,894		-20
Cheese	28,177	31,331	22,658		-28
Butterfat	8,708	3,549	2,298		-35
Total Whey	45,897	40,202	32,843		-18
-Dry whey	21,755	17,667	13,862		-22
-WPC	22,066	19,873	16,614		-16
-WPI	2,076	2,662	2,366		-11
Lactose	30,643	28,343	28,728		+1
MPC	5,272	2,414	2,466		+2
Food preps (blends)	5,494	4,747	4,513		-5
Aggregate volume*	180,746	159,491	139,281		-13
Fluid milk (000 liters)	6,190	7,453	8,084		+8
Total Value (millions) *	\$ 613.4	\$ 585.8	\$ 390.5		-33

	YEAR-TO-DATE		JANUARY-AUGUST (VOLUME, MT)		% CHG
	2013	2014	2015		
NDM/SMP	368,171	397,971	373,641		-6
WMP	23,667	39,642	26,069		-34
Cheese	204,054	262,390	223,219		-15
Butterfat	49,618	60,011	16,996		-72
Total Whey	337,010	339,330	306,892		-10
-Dry whey	158,617	160,737	131,128		-18
-WPC	164,689	161,473	148,878		-8
-WPI	13,705	17,119	26,886		+57
Lactose	242,905	226,179	239,628		+6
MPC	28,460	37,701	21,175		-44
Food preps (blends)	56,543	43,899	41,422		-6
Aggregate volume*	1,310,428	1,407,122	1,249,043		-11
Fluid milk (000 liters)	51,852	60,722	60,751		+0
Total Value (millions) *	\$ 4,336.7	\$ 5,125.5	\$ 3,673.3		-28

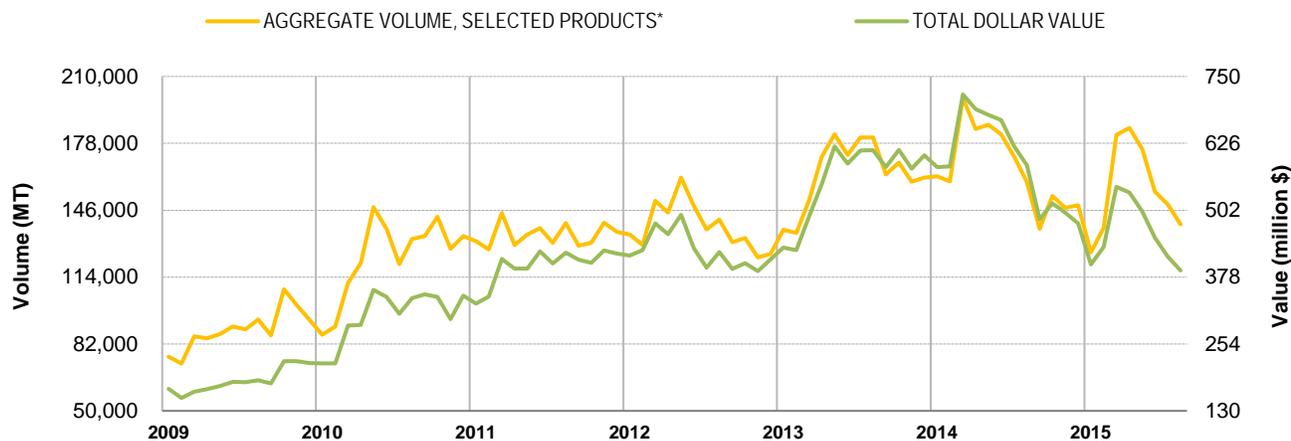
* Aggregate volume includes the products listed above, except fluid milk. Total value includes other products in addition to the ones listed here.

Source: USDA, USDEC.

U.S. Exports

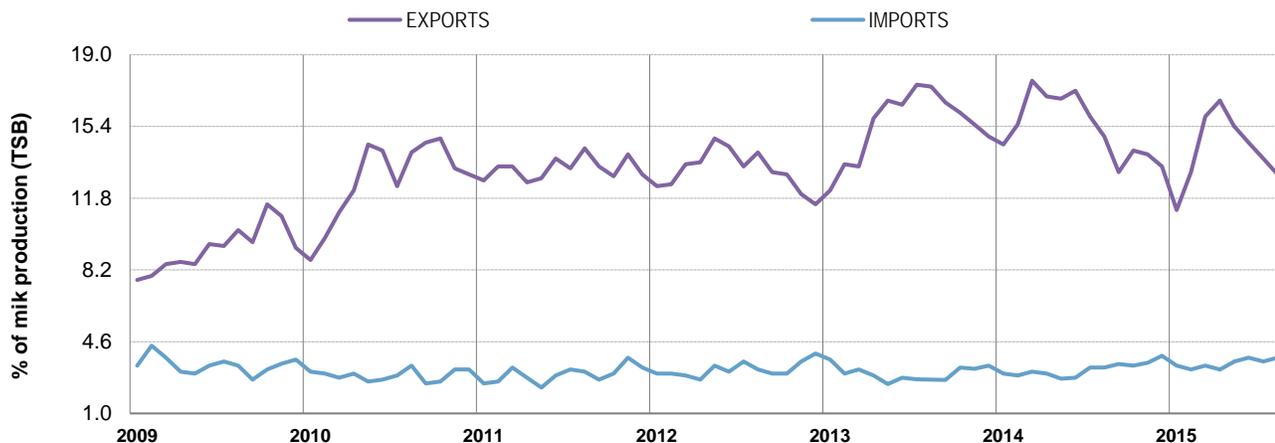
U.S. EXPORTS

VOLUME AND VALUE



* Volume includes SMP, WMP, food preps, MPC, whey, cheese, butterfat, lactose

U.S. EXPORTS AND IMPORTS AS A PERCENT OF MILK PRODUCTION



U.S. DAIRY EXPORTS, TOP 10 MARKETS

(million \$)	Jan-Aug 15	vs. yr ago
Mexico	\$ 847.2	-26%
Southeast Asia	643.3	-35%
Canada	367.0	-8%
China	325.1	-37%
So. Korea	235.8	-18%
Middle East/North Africa	202.5	-64%
Japan	194.8	-33%
South America	178.3	-3%
Oceania	154.8	-28%
Caribbean	141.7	-3%

U.S. EXPORTS AS % OF PRODUCTION

	August	yr ago	Jan-Aug 15	yr ago
NDM/SMP	58%	59%	52%	55%
Total cheese	5.1%	7.3%	6.4%	7.7%
Butterfat	3.9%	6.0%	3.0%	10.5%
Dry sweet whey	36%	55%	45%	61%
Lactose	71%	68%	74%	65%
Total milk solids	NA	14.9%	NA	16.2%

ACCESS U.S. EXPORT DATA ONLINE

Visit usdec.org/research-and-data/market-data/us-export-data

Source: USDA, USDEC, National Milk Producers Federation.

U.S. Exports: Monthly Volume

U.S. NDM/SMP EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. CHEESE EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. BUTTERFAT EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. TOTAL WHEY EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. DRY WHEY EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. WPC EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. WPI EXPORTS (MT)



U.S. LACTOSE EXPORTS (MT)



Source: USDA, USDEC.