



United States
Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Dairy Program

CALIFORNIA MARKETING AREA FEDERAL MILK ORDER NO. 51

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ESTIMATED Federal Order Minimum Value for Selected California HTST Products/Containers

Value reflects Federal order minimum cost of raw skim and butterfat in milk products at the base zone of the order (Los Angeles County, \$2.80) and effect of Processor Assessment (See Note 1) and certain other assumptions. Not included in these costs are the expenses of standardization, pasteurization, processing, packaging, labor, delivery, etc.

Type of Milk		Container Size Price					
		Gallon	Half Gallon	Quart	Pint	1/3 Quart	Half Pints
Whole 3.50%	December 2025	\$1.8265	\$0.9133	\$0.4566	\$0.2283	\$0.1522	\$0.1142
	January 2026	\$1.6662	\$0.8331	\$0.4166	\$0.2083	\$0.1389	\$0.1041
	February 2026	\$1.5237	\$0.7619	\$0.3809	\$0.1905	\$0.1270	\$0.0952
	March 2026	\$1.5906	\$0.7953	\$0.3977	\$0.1988	\$0.1326	\$0.0994
Reduced Fat 2.00%	December 2025	\$1.6980	\$0.8490	\$0.4245	\$0.2123	\$0.1415	\$0.1061
	January 2026	\$1.5476	\$0.7738	\$0.3869	\$0.1935	\$0.1290	\$0.0967
	February 2026	\$1.4246	\$0.7123	\$0.3562	\$0.1781	\$0.1187	\$0.0890
	March 2026	\$1.4697	\$0.7349	\$0.3674	\$0.1837	\$0.1225	\$0.0919
Lowfat 1.00%	December 2025	\$1.6401	\$0.8201	\$0.4100	\$0.2050	\$0.1367	\$0.1025
	January 2026	\$1.4960	\$0.7480	\$0.3740	\$0.1870	\$0.1247	\$0.0935
	February 2026	\$1.3873	\$0.6937	\$0.3468	\$0.1734	\$0.1156	\$0.0867
	March 2026	\$1.4218	\$0.7109	\$0.3555	\$0.1777	\$0.1185	\$0.0889
Nonfat 0.10%	December 2025	\$1.3719	\$0.6860	\$0.3430	\$0.1715	\$0.1143	\$0.0857
	January 2026	\$1.2356	\$0.6178	\$0.3089	\$0.1545	\$0.1030	\$0.0772
	February 2026	\$1.1326	\$0.5663	\$0.2832	\$0.1416	\$0.0944	\$0.0708
	March 2026	\$1.1279	\$0.5640	\$0.2820	\$0.1410	\$0.0940	\$0.0705

Type of Milk		Container Size Price Changes from the Previous Months					
Whole	January 2026	(\$0.1603)	(\$0.0802)	(\$0.0400)	(\$0.0201)	(\$0.0133)	(\$0.0101)
	February 2026	(\$0.1425)	(\$0.0712)	(\$0.0357)	(\$0.0178)	(\$0.0119)	(\$0.0089)
	March 2026	\$0.0669	\$0.0334	\$0.0168	\$0.0084	\$0.0056	\$0.0042
Reduced Fat	January 2026	(\$0.1504)	(\$0.0752)	(\$0.0376)	(\$0.0188)	(\$0.0125)	(\$0.0094)
	February 2026	(\$0.1230)	(\$0.0615)	(\$0.0307)	(\$0.0154)	(\$0.0103)	(\$0.0077)
	March 2026	\$0.0451	\$0.0226	\$0.0112	\$0.0056	\$0.0038	\$0.0029
Lowfat	January 2026	(\$0.1441)	(\$0.0721)	(\$0.0360)	(\$0.0180)	(\$0.0120)	(\$0.0090)
	February 2026	(\$0.1087)	(\$0.0543)	(\$0.0272)	(\$0.0136)	(\$0.0091)	(\$0.0068)
	March 2026	\$0.0345	\$0.0172	\$0.0087	\$0.0043	\$0.0029	\$0.0022
Nonfat	January 2026	(\$0.1363)	(\$0.0682)	(\$0.0341)	(\$0.0171)	(\$0.0113)	(\$0.0085)
	February 2026	(\$0.1030)	(\$0.0515)	(\$0.0257)	(\$0.0129)	(\$0.0086)	(\$0.0064)
	March 2026	(\$0.0047)	(\$0.0023)	(\$0.0012)	(\$0.0006)	(\$0.0004)	(\$0.0003)

<u>Class I Prices</u>	<u>Skim</u>	<u>Butterfat</u>	<u>Adv Class IV Prices</u>	<u>Skim</u>
December 2025	\$15.74	\$1.7214		\$8.49
January 2026	\$14.17	\$1.6221		\$8.43
February 2026	\$12.99	\$1.4746		\$8.72
March 2026	\$12.91	\$1.7187		\$9.91

Conversion Factors for Pricing Units

<u>Whole 3.5%/8.7% Gal.</u>	<u>Reduced 2%/10% Gal.</u>	<u>Lowfat 1%/11% Gal.</u>	<u>Nonfat 0.10%/9% Gal.</u>
8.61	8.66	8.70	8.63

Estimation Assumptions: Incoming milk tests 3.80% butterfat (BF) and 9.00% milk solids not fat (MSNF). Fortification is accomplished with condensed milk testing 33.5% MSNF. White milk products are fortified to California State Standards (BF/MSNF): Whole Milk 3.5%/8.7%; Reduced fat 2%/10%; Lowfat 1%/11%; Nonfat (skim) 0.10%/9%. In lieu of the final Class IV skim price which is not available before the 24th of the month, the advanced Class IV skim price is used. Pounds per gallon factors are based on the formula: $(100/(100+(BF\% \times 0.04811)-(MSNF\% \times 0.38556))) \times 8.3341$.

Note 1: All prices include the \$0.20 per cwt. Processor Assessment (Fluid Milk Promotion Order, 7 CFR, 1160.101 et seq.). These prices do not include any other assessments or costs associated with bottling milk.

Note 2: Prices were determined by a set of calculations which can be found on the FO 51 website (Sample Fortification Calculation).



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ESTIMATED Federal Order Minimum Value for Selected California Extended Shelf Life Products/Containers #

Value reflects Federal order minimum cost of raw skim and butterfat in milk products at the base zone of the order (Los Angeles County, \$2.80) and effect of Processor Assessment (See Note 1) and certain other assumptions. Not included in these costs are the expenses of standardization, pasteurization, processing, packaging, labor, delivery, etc. Starting with June 2025, the prices below are *estimated* minimum values for Extended shelf life products and containers in California to reflect the ESL adjustment.

<u>Type of Milk</u>		<u>Container Size Price</u>					
		<u>Gallon</u>	<u>Half Gallon</u>	<u>Quart</u>	<u>Pint</u>	<u>1/3 Quart</u>	<u>Half Pints</u>
Whole 3.50%	December 2025	\$1.5729	\$0.7865	\$0.3932	\$0.1966	\$0.1311	\$0.0983
	January 2026	\$1.5364	\$0.7682	\$0.3841	\$0.1921	\$0.1280	\$0.0960
	February 2026	\$1.5169	\$0.7585	\$0.3792	\$0.1896	\$0.1264	\$0.0948
	March 2026	\$1.6219	\$0.8110	\$0.4055	\$0.2028	\$0.1352	\$0.1014
Reduced Fat 2.00%	December 2025	\$1.3705	\$0.6852	\$0.3426	\$0.1713	\$0.1142	\$0.0857
	January 2026	\$1.3466	\$0.6733	\$0.3366	\$0.1683	\$0.1122	\$0.0842
	February 2026	\$1.3465	\$0.6732	\$0.3366	\$0.1683	\$0.1122	\$0.0842
	March 2026	\$1.4207	\$0.7103	\$0.3552	\$0.1776	\$0.1184	\$0.0888
Lowfat 1.00%	December 2025	\$1.2330	\$0.6165	\$0.3083	\$0.1541	\$0.1028	\$0.0771
	January 2026	\$1.2176	\$0.6088	\$0.3044	\$0.1522	\$0.1015	\$0.0761
	February 2026	\$1.2305	\$0.6153	\$0.3076	\$0.1538	\$0.1025	\$0.0769
	March 2026	\$1.2840	\$0.6420	\$0.3210	\$0.1605	\$0.1070	\$0.0803
Nonfat 0.10%	December 2025	\$1.1106	\$0.5553	\$0.2777	\$0.1388	\$0.0926	\$0.0694
	January 2026	\$1.1029	\$0.5514	\$0.2757	\$0.1379	\$0.0919	\$0.0689
	February 2026	\$1.1275	\$0.5637	\$0.2819	\$0.1409	\$0.0940	\$0.0705
	March 2026	\$1.1623	\$0.5812	\$0.2906	\$0.1453	\$0.0969	\$0.0726
<u>Type of Milk</u>		<u>Container Size Price Changes from the Previous Months</u>					
Whole	January 2026	(\$0.0365)	(\$0.0183)	(\$0.0091)	(\$0.0046)	(\$0.0031)	(\$0.0023)
	February 2026	(\$0.0195)	(\$0.0097)	(\$0.0049)	(\$0.0024)	(\$0.0016)	(\$0.0012)
	March 2026	\$0.1050	\$0.0525	\$0.0263	\$0.0131	\$0.0088	\$0.0066
Reduced Fat	January 2026	(\$0.0239)	(\$0.0119)	(\$0.0060)	(\$0.0030)	(\$0.0020)	(\$0.0015)
	February 2026	(\$0.0001)	(\$0.0001)	\$0.0000	(\$0.0000)	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
	March 2026	\$0.0742	\$0.0371	\$0.0186	\$0.0093	\$0.0062	\$0.0046
Lowfat	January 2026	(\$0.0154)	(\$0.0077)	(\$0.0039)	(\$0.0019)	(\$0.0013)	(\$0.0010)
	February 2026	\$0.0129	\$0.0065	\$0.0032	\$0.0016	\$0.0010	\$0.0008
	March 2026	\$0.0535	\$0.0267	\$0.0134	\$0.0067	\$0.0045	\$0.0034
Nonfat	January 2026	(\$0.0078)	(\$0.0039)	(\$0.0020)	(\$0.0010)	(\$0.0007)	(\$0.0005)
	February 2026	\$0.0246	\$0.0123	\$0.0062	\$0.0031	\$0.0021	\$0.0016
	March 2026	\$0.0349	\$0.0175	\$0.0087	\$0.0044	\$0.0029	\$0.0021
<u>Class I Prices</u>		<u>Skim</u>	<u>Butterfat</u>	<u>Adv Class IV Prices</u>		<u>Skim</u>	
December 2025		\$15.74	\$1.7214			\$8.49	
January 2026		\$14.17	\$1.6221			\$8.43	
February 2026		\$12.99	\$1.4746			\$8.72	
March 2026		\$12.91	\$1.7187			\$9.91	

Note 1: All prices include the \$0.20 per cwt. Processor Assessment (Fluid Milk Promotion Order, 7 CFR, 1160.101 *et seq.*). These prices do not include any other assessments or costs associated with bottling milk.

Note 2: Following the 2025 Final Decision to amend the Federal Orders, June 2025 is the starting month to include an Extended Shelf Life Adjustor (ESL) in the Class I prices.