

DSR Market Insights



CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Beef (Commodity)	Increasing	Available - Mixed	Harvest reduction imposed by the nation's packers will continue. Packers believe ongoing short supply and product shortage will translated into higher selling prices and improved margins. Improved beef demand is just ahead with warmer weather, the spring grilling season, Cinco De Mayo, and Memorial weekend all coming up fast. Higher prices on seasonal beef items are ahead.
Butter	Increasing	Available - Steady	Retail demand is strong-to-steady across the country. However, demand to secure loads for upcoming spring holidays vary. For the West, contacts note earlier spring holidays are encouraging more consistent Q1 activity. For the Central, contacts note customer interest has been slower to pick up ahead of the spring holiday season. Some stakeholders say food service is weakening in the West region. Some distributors indicate buying interest is stronger from Canadian purchasers. Cream remains readily available for most of the nation. Butter makers are running strong to steady production schedules. However, tight unsalted spot load availability through Q2 is noted by some manufacturers. East Region Butter plant managers relay robust butter production schedules, with some sharing they continue to churn seven days a week. They are focusing on building bulk inventory for demand later in the year. Retail demand is steady to stronger. Foodservice demand is unchanged. Cream remains readily available in the East. Milk production is increasing week over week, and components have remained strong. Cream multiples are unchanged from last week. Spot cream demand is unchanged from recent weeks. Central Region Butter production is somewhat steady with previous weeks, but churning has slid lower as more plant managers report increasing micro-fixing bulk volumes. Up to now, demand has been in line with seasonal norms. That said, contacts say customer interest for 80 percent inventories has been slower to pick up ahead of the spring holiday season. This has created some concerns for industry participants







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Cheese	Decreasing	Available - Steady	Farm level milk production continues to grow in the East region. Contacts share Class III spot milk demand is growing as spring holidays inch closer. Contacts share cheese inventories are ample. Barrel demand has dropped, and the block/barrel inversion on industry cash exchanges resolved as a result. Retail demand is steady to stronger. Demand for cheese in the Central region is growing. Contacts suggest increased demand is due to both bearish cheese prices as well as seasonal holiday demand. Milk availability is growing, and cheese production schedules are steady. Cheese inventories are noted to be generally available. Retail demand in the west is noted to be weaker to trending flat. Class III milk is readily available for cheesemakers in the region. Processors are running steady production schedules, and inventories are noted to be ample. East Region Milk production continues to increase in the East. Contacts share Class III milk demand is increasing as spring holidays approach. Cheese plant managers continue to remark that cheese production schedules are steady. Barrel demand has dropped, and the block/barrel inversion on industry cash exchanges has resolved as of report publishing time. Contacts share cheese inventories remain strong while demand is unchanged. Retail demand is noted to be steady to stronger, and contacts expect spring holiday demand to further increase in the near term. Foodservice demand is steady to lighter.
Fluid Dairy	Class I - Decreasing Class II - Steady	Class I Available - Steady Class II Short - Strong	March cost increases are in place on both Milk (Class I) and on Cultured/Creams (Class II).
Oils/Shortening	Increasing	Available - Mixed	Oilseed products have traded higher on the stock market in recent days due to seasonal trends and international factors. This has caused prices on most commodity oils to show nominal increases this past week. As prices were originally lower than expected, these price levels are more sustainable and are likely to prevail in the coming days. Palm oil prices have increased as well in recent days which will impact margarine pricing in the coming weeks. Premium shortening and blended oils will likely maintain similar pricing levels as we move into April. There is ample supply of all products at this time based on weak demand earlier this year, thus no product shortages should be expected.





CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Pork (Commodity)	Mixed	Available - Strong	Prices for butts and spare ribs should soften through the first week of April, while backrib prices are on the gentle rise for through June.
Pork (Value-Added)	Increasing	Available – Steady	With MLB Baseball starting, the 8000 average franks per game will drive demand for pork trim upward, and higher prices for sausage, franks, pizza toppings will follow.
Poultry (Chicken)	Increasing	Short – Steady	Overall markets are experiencing inflation for all cuts. Wings are experiencing strong inflation as we head into March Madness/Final Four for college basketball.
Poultry (Turkey)	Steady	Short – Strong	Current frozen turkey pricing has strengthened but is still well below the five-year average. Poultry placements have been reported as being down sharply for December, so the expectation is that availability in the first half of 2024 may be reduced over the previous year, which may in turn signal to price increases later in the year.
Produce	Lower - Strawberries Steady - Apples, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Carrots, Lemons, Russet Potatoes, Oranges Higher - Avocados, Iceberg, Romaine, Onions, Grapes, Tomatoes, Oranges, Fresh Cut Lettuces	Improving/Steady - Strawberries, Carrots Good/Steady - Apples, Broccoli, Russet Potatoes Short/Strong - Bell Peppers, Iceberg, Romaine, Tomatoes, Avocados, Lemons, Oranges, Grapes, Onions	Apples, Lighter supply of Golds & Pinks. Slim supply of Galas remain. Avocados, MX market higher. Short ripening times. Good quality. Bell Peppers, FL spring crop moderate volume. Quality good. Broccoli, good steady supplies. Yuma, AZ has fair quality. Carrot, supply improving. GA harvesting. Good quality. Iceberg, demand far exceeds supplies. Quality fair, light weight. Romaine, supply low due to cold/rain. Rib blister & peel. Light weight. Fresh Cut Lettuces costs have jumped and are moving higher. Products will have shorter life due to weaker ingredients. Grapes, import volume spotty. Good quality. Tomatoes, low supplies over next few weeks. Good quality Strawberries, warm weather resulted in overabundance. Good quality. Oranges, CA 88/113/138s scarce, likely through April. Good quality. Lemons, CA/AZ size running large. 200/235s scarce. Quality is fair. Onions, ID/OR storage winding down. New crop TX starts late March. Russet Potatoes, abundant supplies, high quality and low cost.
Bulk Sugar	Steady	Mixed - Steady	Demand for sugar typically starts increasing in the spring. This will put more pressure on producers to maintain supply. Product is available from most facilities to cover such demand. Price levels will likely stay at similar levels in the coming weeks.





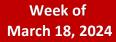


CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Shell Eggs	Increasing	Available - Steady	Shell egg demand is about unchanged from the last cycle but remains average in the near-term as the Easter demand season gets underway. Negotiated prices on the loose egg market are higher on light to moderate offerings and mixed supplies. Interest is mostly moderate and trading is moderate to instances active. Wholesale breaking stock prices are higher on mostly light demand. Offerings are light and supplies are light to moderate. Schedules remain full to reduced and with moderate trading. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates increased activity as the Easter marketing period arrives. The average retail ad price declines on the increased ad activity. Source: USDA AMS as of March 20
Conford	Shrimp	Shrimp	Shrime has continued to remain standy and at the 52 week low
Seafood	Steady	Available - Steady	Shrimp has continued to remain steady and at the 52-week low.
Wheat (Flour Based Products)	Steady	Available/Weak	Pricing on flour has some slight increases in some markets based on signs of increased spring demand. Most pricing levels will remain steady as we move through the end of April. Products are available on most products at most mills without issues. The overall outlook indicates that there will be steady supply and relatively steady pricing in the coming days.

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Beef (Commodity)	Increasing	Available - Mixed	Harvest reduction imposed by the nation's packers haven't delivered desired pricing or margin increases. At least, not enough. Packer will doubling down by cutting harvest further and deeper. Expect product shortage ahead. Packers are betting shortages will inspire a willingness to pay higher prices as a result packers tactical actions.
Butter	Increasing	Available - Steady	Retail demand is generally steady across the country. Food service demand varies. It is noted as quiet in the East and strong to steady in the West. Some stakeholders note orders for spring holiday demands are starting. Cream continues to be readily available throughout the nation. Butter makers are running strong production schedules. Butter manufacturers are busy building stock for later quarter demands and planned summer downtime. Some manufacturers say unsalted butter and bulk butter loads are tight for spot buyers. <u>East Region</u> Cream remains readily available in the East. Butter plant managers continue to relay robust churning schedules. Some contacts share they are churning seven days a week in order to build bulk inventory and freeze it for later in the year. Butter markets continue to see some bullish movement. Contacts share retail demand is seasonally steady. Foodservice demand is noted to be quiet. <u>Central Region</u> Butter makers had expectations in late January that cream would be full through the second month of the year. Their expectations have materialized as leap day nears. Some butter plant runners said they have booked cream for the upcoming month at similar multiples. That said, cream handlers say demand is slowly starting to tick higher for milkfat and not specifically from just butter makers. There are expectations that churning activity, which has been very busy this year, will take a step back in coming weeks. Butter demand is holding somewhat steady at a seasonally light pace. Bulk butter is available, but customers/end users renorted increasing nrice noints. Butter market





CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Cheese	Steady	Available - Steady	Farm level milk production is trending slightly higher in the Northeast. Cheese plant contacts share steady barrel production schedules despite quiet demand. Inventories remain comfortable. Contacts in the Central region report quiet spot milk offers, but they expect spot availability to increase in the near term as Class I demand wanes due to school breaks and seasonal milk production increases. Cheese demand remains lackluster, but some barrel makers share strong year over year demand. In the West, contacts share steady to stronger production schedules. Class III spot loads of milk are tight in some parts of the region. Several manufacturers note spot cheese availability is tight through the remainder of Q1. <u>East Region</u> Milk production is trending slightly higher in the East. Cheese plant managers relay steady production schedules. Contacts share that block demand remains mellow. Inventories remain comfortable, namely of American-type cheeses. CME Group cheese barrel prices have moved higher. Forty-pound block prices, too, have increased. A block/barrel inversion is still in place, which contacts attribute to strong barrel demand. Retail demand is seasonally steady, though contacts anticipate growing demand as spring holidays approach. Foodservice demand is steady to lighter. <u>Central Region</u> Some cheesemakers say they are using internally sourced milk supplies, but they say handlers' offers have been mum. Some fluid milk contacts do expect near-term spot offer growth in availability as Class I demand slows and milk production seasonally increases. Cheese
Fluid Dairy	Class I - Decreasing Class II - Steady	Class I Available - Steady Class II Short - Strong	March cost increases are in place on both Milk (Class I) and on Cultured/Creams (Class II).
Oils/Shortening	Steady	Available -Steady	Pricing on commodity clear fry and other commodity oils have not shown much of a change in recent weeks. Though prices on soy and canola oils have increased slightly in the stock markets in recent days this has had little impact on the sell price of a JIB of oil at this point. Demand has been relatively soft so far this year and product supply is ample. Thus prices will likely remain at similar levels in the coming days. Premium shortening and Blended products will likely follow the same trend. Palm markets have increased slightly in recent days. Palm is the primary ingredient in margarine. Thus margarine prices may show slight increases in the coming days in some markets. Any changes will be minimal and supply is readily available to cover foodservice needs.







CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Pork (Commodity)	Mixed	Available - Steady	Butt prices are forecasted to gradually increase between now and end of March. While Spareribs are on a slight decline until mid- March, which then it is forecasted to increase until Memorial Day. Loins are expected to continue its decline for another few weeks or at least till first week of April then bottoming out.
Pork (Value-Added)	Steady	Available – Steady	The belly value is relatively flat with a slight increases, now through Mid- March so expect bacon prices to increase accordingly.
Poultry (Chicken)	Increasing	Short – Steady	Overall markets are experiencing inflation for all cuts. Wings are experiencing strong inflation as we head into March Madness/Final Four for college basketball.
Poultry (Turkey)	Steady	Short – Strong	Current frozen turkey pricing has strengthened but is still well below the five-year average. Poultry placements have been reported as being down sharply for December, so the expectation is that availability in the first half of 2024 may be reduced over the previous year, which may in
Produce	Lower - Grapes, Strawberries Steady - Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Carrots, Lemons, Russet Potatoes, Tomatoes, Oranges Higher - Apples, Iceberg, Romaine, Onions, Oranges, Fresh Cut Lettuces	Improving/Steady - Strawberries, Carrots Good/Steady - Apples, Avocados, Lemons, Broccoli, Russet Potatoes Short/Strong - Bell Peppers, Iceberg, Romaine, Tomatoes, Oranges, Grapes, Onions	Apples, cheaper lots finished Lighter supply of Galas, Golds & Pinks. Avocados, MX market steady. Short ripening times. Good quality. Bell Peppers, FL spring crop moderate volume. Quality good. Broccoli, good steady supplies. Yuma, AZ has fair quality. Carrot, supply improving. GA harvesting. Good quality. Iceberg, supplies low due to cold/rain/hail. Quality fair, lite weight. Romaine, supply low due to cold/rain. Rib blister & peel. Lite weight. Fresh Cut Lettuces costs have jumped and are moving higher. Products will have shorter life due to weaker ingredients. Grapes, import volume increasing Good quality. Tomatoes, steady but low supplies. Good quality Strawberries, warm weather resulted in overabundance. Good quality. Oranges, CA 88/113/138s scarce, likely through April. Good quality. Lemons, CA/AZ size running large. 200/235s scarce. Quality is fair. Onions, ID/OR storage winding down. New crop TX starts late March. Russet Potatoes, abundant supplies, high quality and low cost.





CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Bulk Sugar	Steady	Mixed - Steady	Supply of sugar is available nationally. We do expect some spotty shortages out of Louisiana due to plant production issues and limited fall harvest. There is product available from other mills to cover any shortfalls. Pricing is expected to remain near current levels as we move through March.
Shell Eggs	Steady	Available - Steady	Demand for shell eggs remains weak despite increased retail promotions over the past week as ad price levels failed to incentivize interest. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs have steadied on light to moderate demand and moderate supplies and offerings. Trading is moderate. Prices on the loose egg market are higher on light to moderate offerings and mostly moderate supplies. Interest is light to moderate and trading is moderate. Wholesale breaking stock prices are firm on mostly light demand. Offerings are light and supplies are mostly moderate. Schedules remain full to reduced and with moderate trading. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates very limited activity this week with no average ad price yet determined. Source: USDA AMS as of March 6
Seafood	Shrimp Steady	Shrimp Available - Steady	Shrimp has continued to remain steady and at the 52-week low.
Wheat (Flour Based Products)	Decreasing	Available/Weak	Prices have shown some declines in most markets due to soft demand. Flour demand typically starts increasing in the spring, but that has not occurred thus far this year. Product is readily available from most suppliers without issue at this time. We do expect pricing on bulk flour and related products to remain at similar levels in the near term.

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Available - Mixed	No changes to report in the Beef markets. Packers continue to manipulate harvest levels, disrupt the markets to improve packer margins. No improvement in consumer demand is expected until mid- April.
Available - Steady	Retail and jood service demands are seasonally steady to stronger. Cream for butter makers is plentiful throughout most of the country. Slower ice cream production, in some parts of the country, remains a factor in abundant cream availability for butter makers. Manufacturers are running busy at-or-near capacity production schedules. Unsalted butter loads for spot buyers are somewhat tight. Some contacts say overall butter supplies are tighter compared to the last couple years. East Region Cream availability remains strong in the East. Butter plant managers share they are operating churns at full capacity. Contacts continue to share that they are freezing butter to micro-fix later in the year. Retail demand is seasonally flat. Contacts share foodservice demand is steady. Central Region Butter contacts say this week is similar in most every facet as previous weeks. They say cream is still abundant. A number of contacts suggested early in the month that cream availability expectations would be soundly accessible throughout the month. Those expectations have come to fruition. Slower ice cream production remains a factor in available cream loads for butter makers. Butter demand is seasonally standard both on the food service and retail sides of the coin. Plant managers say active churning rates are prioritizing later-year demand needs. Market tones are firm. West Region Plenty of cream is available to utilize throughout most of the West. Butter makers are drawing on cream volumes to run husy at-
	Available - Mixed







CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Cheese	Steady	Available - Steady	Eastern cheese plant managers share seasonally steady production schedules. Retail demand is noted to be seasonally strong. Foodservice demand is steady to lighter. Inventories are comfortable. Buying interest for cheese remains quiet in the Central region. Some contacts share orders outside of contracts have been sparse in recent weeks. Cheddar inventories have been growing slowly. Barrel producers say their orders are steady to stronger. Spot barrel loads are selling above market prices. Western contacts share Class III spot milk load availability varies from area to area. Cheese production schedules are noted to be steady. Contacts relay steady demand from international buyers. Spot cheese inventories are said to be tight. East Region Farm level milk production has flattened in the East region. Cheese plant managers relay seasonally steady production schedules. Some contacts note some plants are still running below capacity due to staffing shortages. Closing prices for cheese on industry cash exchanges still show a block/barrel inversion is in place. Foodservice demand is steady to lighter. Retail demand is seasonally strong. Central Region Cheese buying interests remain quiet according to most cheese plant contacts in the region. Cheddar and some Italian style cheesemakers say orders, particularly those outside of contracts, have been limited in recent weeks. Some Midwestern processors say Eastern region based pizza cheese customers have cut down buying. Barrel producers say orders are steady, if not strong. They say cheese loads are
	Class I - Decreasing	Class I Available - Steady	aoina at above-market pricina, and if one customer backs away, another March cost increases are in place on both Milk (Class I) and on
Fluid Dairy	Class II - Steady	Class II Short - Strong	Cultured/Creams (Class II).
Oils/Shortening	Steady	Available -Steady	Commodity frying oil pricing remains similar to that of the past couple of weeks. Though the market has continued to decline over several months, weekly changes have been slight. We do not expect to see any major changes in commodity frying oil prices or any changes in Premium Shortening and oil pricing in the coming days. Pricing on margarine will likely remain similar to what we have seen through February as world supply of Palm has been relatively steady lately.
Pork (Commodity)	Mixed	Available - Steady	Butt prices are forecasted to gradually increase between now and end of March. While Spareribs are on a slight decline until mid- March, which then it is forecasted to increase until Memorial Day. Loins are expected to continue its decline for another few weeks or at least till first week of April then bottoming out.







CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Pork (Value-Added)	Steady	Available – Steady	The belly value is relatively flat with a slight increases, now through Mid- March so expect bacon prices to increase accordingly.
Poultry (Chicken)	Increasing	Short – Steady	Overall markets are experiencing inflation for all cuts. Wings are experiencing strong inflation as we head into March Madness/Final Four for college basketball.
Poultry (Turkey)	Steady	Short – Strong	Current frozen turkey pricing has strengthened but is still well below the five-year average. Poultry placements have been reported as being down sharply for December, so the expectation is that availability in the first half of 2024 may be reduced over the previous year, which may in
Produce	Lower - Carrots, Strawberries Steady - Apples, Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Lemons, Grapes, Russet Potatoes, Oranges Higher - Iceberg, Romaine, Onions, Tomatoes, Oranges, Fresh Cut Lettuces	Improving/Steady - Strawberries, Carrots Good/Strong - Apples, Avocados, Lemons, Broccoli, Russet Potatoes Short/Strong - Bell Peppers, Iceberg, Romaine, Tomatoes, Oranges, Grapes, Onions	Apples, good supply overall. Lighter supply of Galas, Golds & Pinks. Avocados, MX market steady. Short ripening times. Good quality. Bell Peppers, supplies very short, due to weather. Quality good. Broccoli, good supplies. Yuma, AZ has fair quality. Carrot, supply improving. GA harvesting. Good quality. Iceberg, supplies low due to cold/rain/hail. Quality fair, light weight. Romaine, supply down, cost up. Rib blister & peel. Quality good. Fresh Cut Lettuces costs have jumped and are moving higher. Products will have shorter life due to weaker ingredients. Grapes, imports light volume. Good quality. Tomatoes, headed higher as FL production is low. Good quality Strawberries, warm weather has increased production. Good quality. Oranges, CA 88/113/138s scarce, likely through April. Good quality. Lemons, CA/AZ size running large. 200/235s scarce. Quality is fair. Onions, ID/OR storage supplies winding down early. Excellent quality. Russet Potatoes, abundant supplies, high quality and low cost.
Bulk Sugar	Steady	Mixed - Steady	Supply of sugar is available nationally. We do expect some spotty shortages out of Louisiana due to plant production issues and limited fall harvest. There is product available from other mills to cover any shortfalls. Pricing is expected to remain near current levels as we move through March.







CATEGORY	NEAR-TERM MARKET PRICING TREND	SUPPLY vs. DEMAND	DSR MARKET INSIGHTS COMMENTARY
Shell Eggs	Decreasing	Available - Steady	Demand for shell eggs continues to decline from its January highs and has now slipped below average. Wholesale prices for cartoned eggs are lower, increasing offerings and moderate supplies. Interest is light to moderate with slow to moderate trading. Prices on the loose egg market are lower with moderate offerings and mostly moderate supplies. Interest is light to moderate with moderate trading. Wholesale breaking stock prices are steady to weak with moderate offerings and mostly moderate supplies. Schedules are full to reduced and with slow to moderate trading. The preliminary survey of retail outlets indicates robust activity with about no change in the average ad price. Source: USDA AMS as of February 28
Seafood	Shrimp	Shrimp	Shrimp has continued to remain steady and at the 52-week low.
Sealoou	Steady	g Available - Steady Shrimp Available - Steady	Simmp has continued to remain steady and at the 52-week low.
Wheat (Flour Based Products)	Steady	Mixed – Steady	Bulk Flour and commodity Flour Based products continue of offer similar pricing to the levels that we have seen in recent weeks. This pricing is much lower than what we experienced last year and we do expect to see this favorable pricing to continue in the coming days. Product is available with solid supply expected to cover Foodservice needs through spring.

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