# OUTLOOK FOR THE U.S. DAIRY SECTOR IN 2023

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### **2022 Milk Production Higher...**

- Producers responded to favorable returns earlier in 2022
  - Improved milk-feed ratios in late 2021 and first-half 2022
  - Cow inventories began increasing in first-quarter 2022
- Production in 2022: 226.5 billion pounds
  - Slow increase in cows through third-quarter
  - Early-year forage-related issues reduced milk per cow with slow recovery as the year progressed



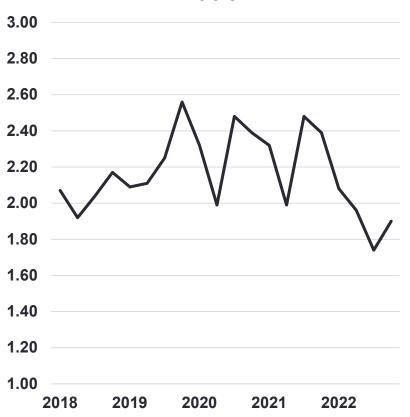
#### ...But There have Been Challenges

- Producer's milk-feed margins have weakened since early-2022
  - Milk prices high
  - Feed prices higher
  - Cow slaughter higher
  - Producers holding fewer heifers for addition to the herd



## Milk Feed Ratio Reflect Relatively High Feed Prices

## Quarterly Milk-Feed Price Ratio



## Lower Feed Prices Expected in 2023/24

#### 2022/23

• (	Corn:	\$6.70/bu
• 5	Soybean meal:	\$450/ton
• /	Alfalfa hay (2022)	\$255/ton

#### **2023/24**

•	Corn:	\$5.60/bu
•	Sovbean meal:	\$410/tor

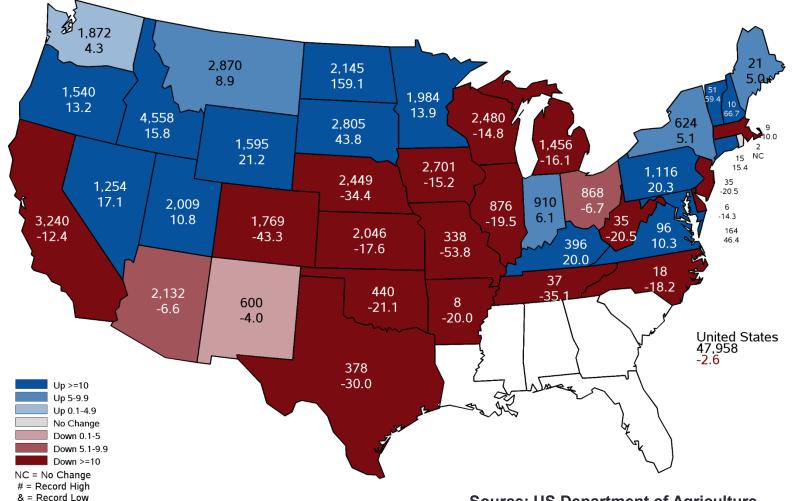
#### **Forage Supplies Tight**

- Drought in parts of the country
- 2022 Alfalfa production 2.6 lower than 2021
- Dec 1 all hay stocks 9 percent lower



#### 2022 Alfalfa Production

#### **Thousand Tons and Percent Change From 2021**



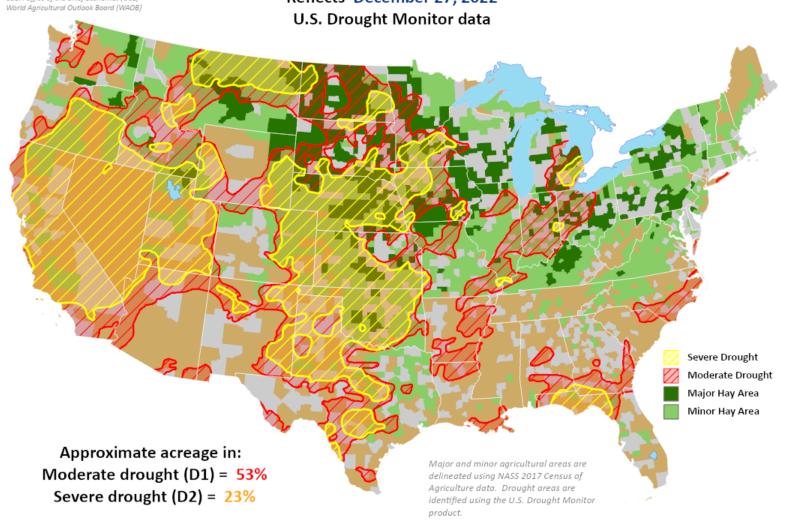


#### **Dryland Hay Supplies Subject to Weather**

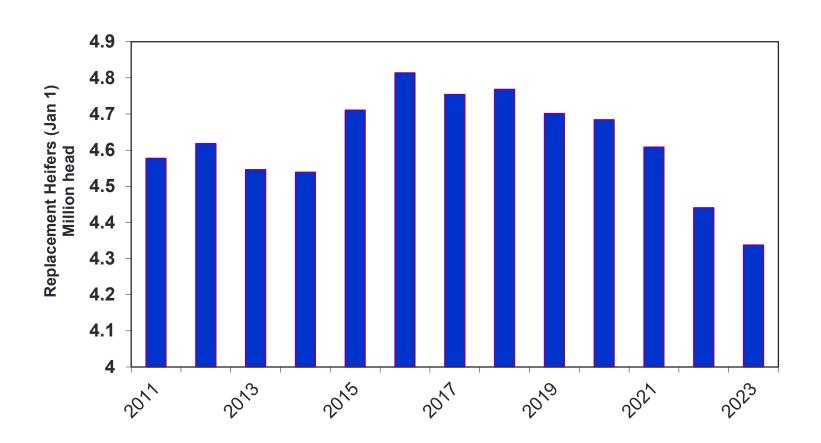


#### Dryland Alfalfa Areas in Drought



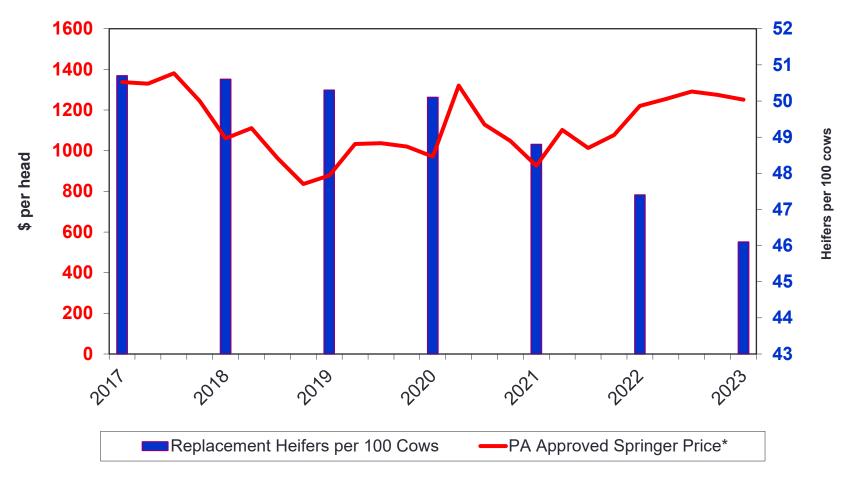


### **Fewer Heifers Retained**





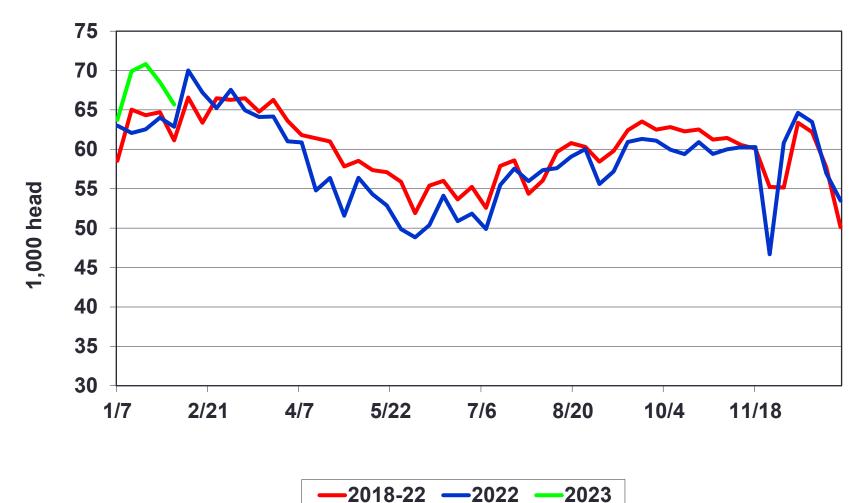
### Replacement Heifer Prices Remain High





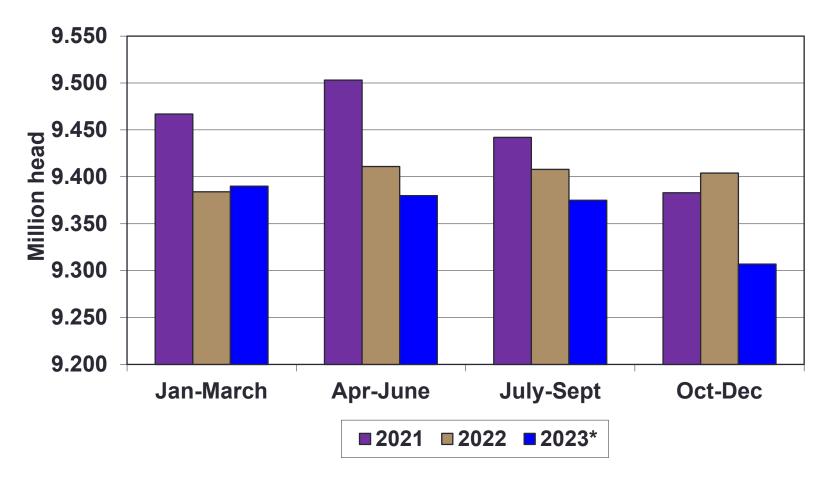
\*2023: Jan-Feb

#### **Dairy Cow Slaughter Above Last Year Levels**





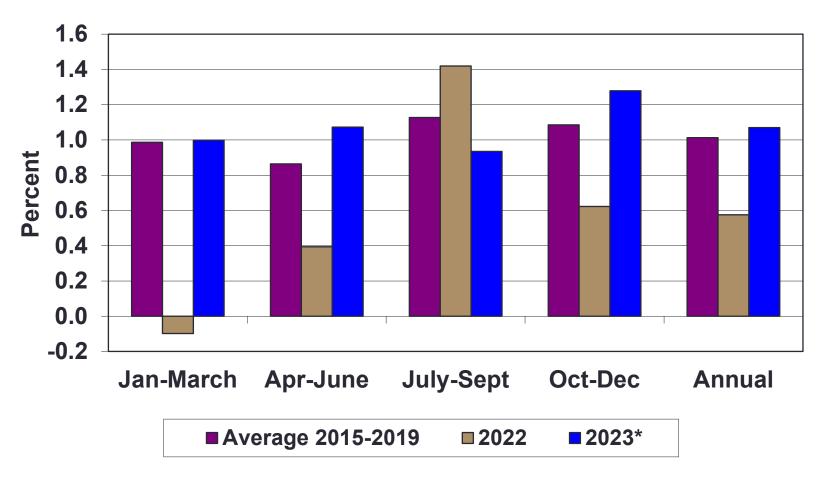
### **Quarterly Average U.S. Cow Herd**





### Milk per Cow Growth

#### **Adjusted for Leap Year**



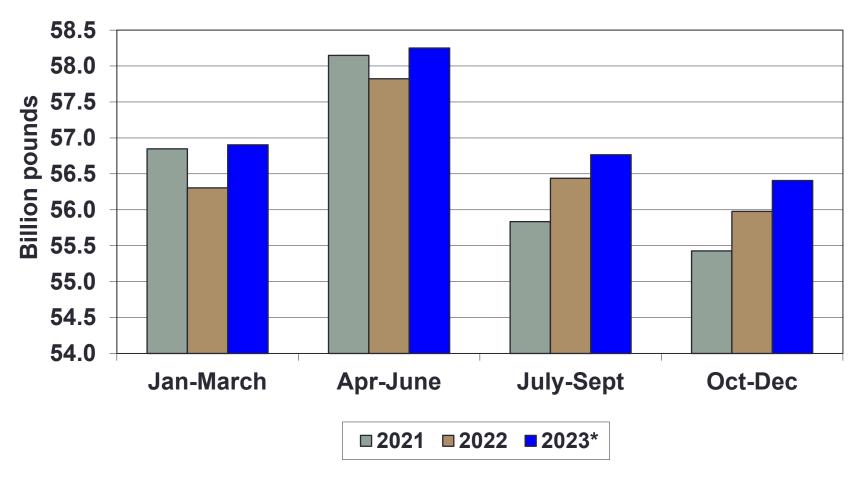


#### ...But There have Been Challenges

- Producer's milk-feed margins have weakened since early-2022
  - Milk prices high
  - Feed prices higher
  - Cow slaughter higher
  - Producers holding fewer heifers for addition to the herd
- Production in 2023: 228.3 billion pounds
  - Smaller dairy herd
  - Slightly more rapid growth in milk per cow



### **Quarterly U.S. Milk Production**



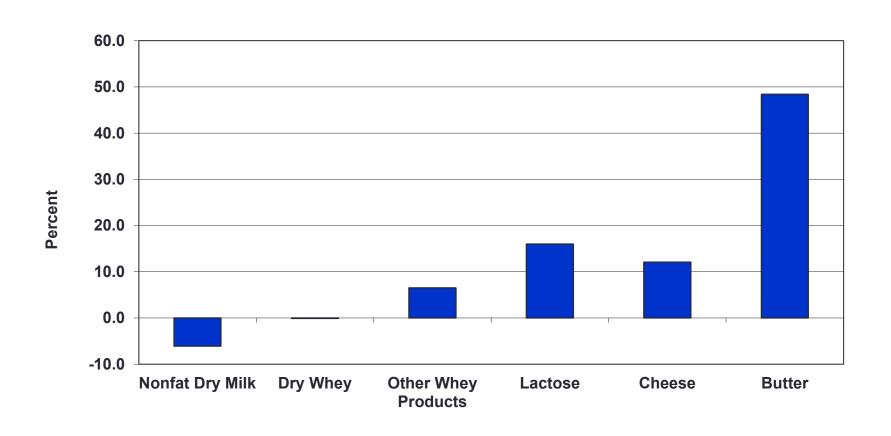


### **Export Performance Varied During 2022**

- Total Dairy Exports Were Record High on a Fat and Skims-solids Bases
- Nonfat Dry/Skim Milk and Dry Whey Exports Dropped
  - Weaker demand in several Asian markets
  - Stronger competition
  - Decline in dry whey more than offset by higher exports of other whey products
- Cheese and Butter Exports Stronger
  - Earlier year price competitiveness
  - Price advantage eroded later in the year

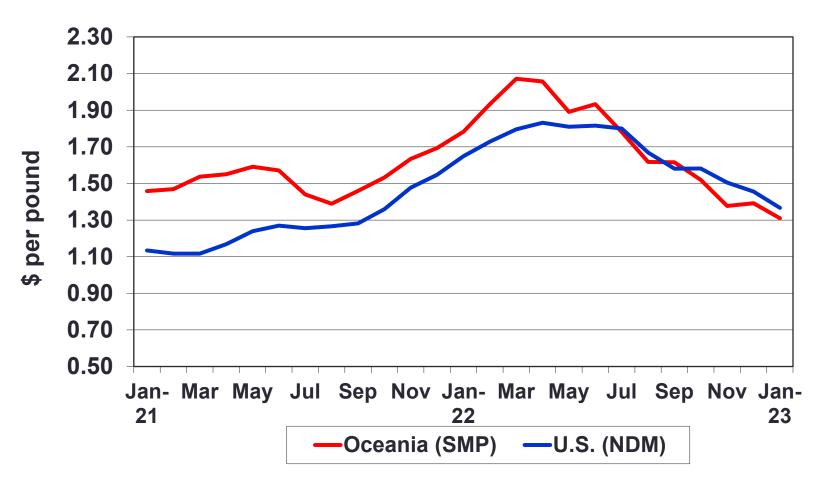


## Annual Changes in 2022 Major Product Exports



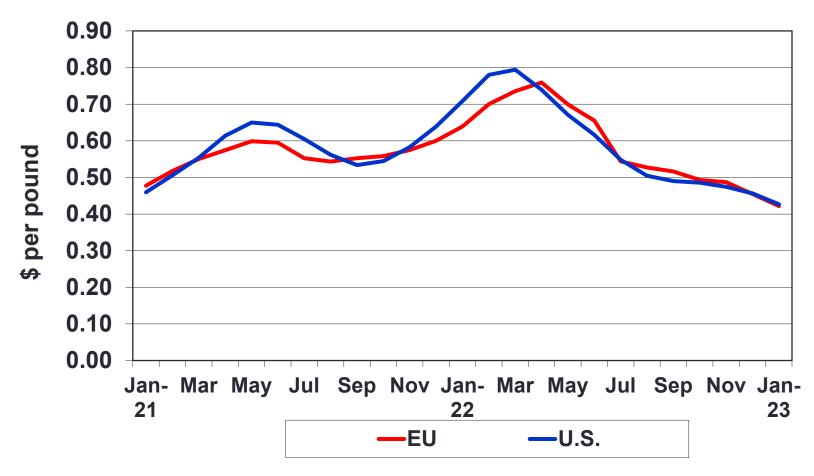


### Nonfat/Skim Milk Powder Prices Monthly Average



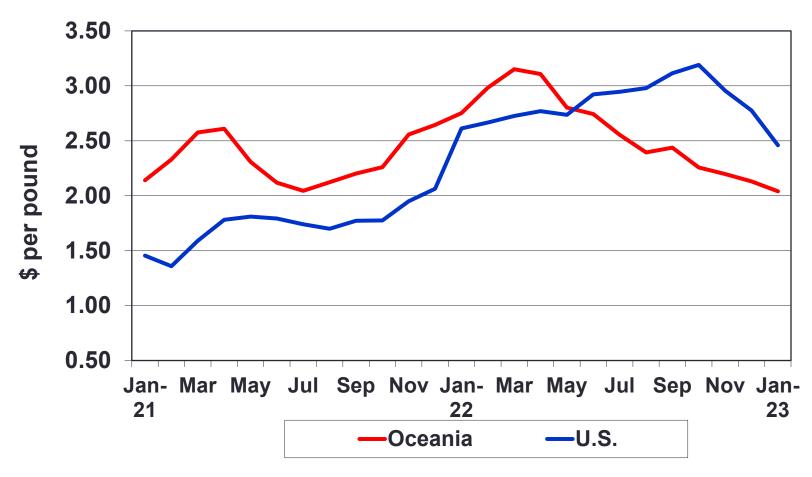


## **Dried Whey Prices Monthly Average**



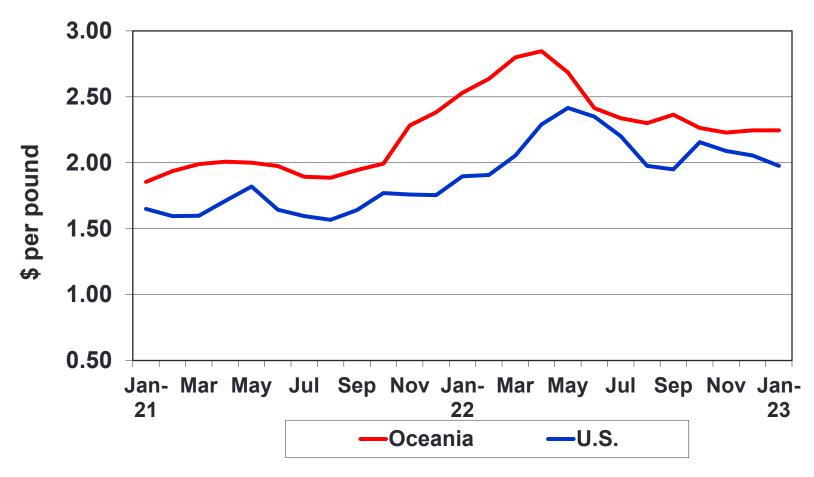


## **Butter Prices Monthly Average**





## **Cheddar Cheese Prices Monthly Average**





#### **Exports Weaker in 2023**

- Exports are expected to decline in 2023
  - Relatively weak global economy
  - Increased price competition
  - However, less competitor production in some products
  - Weaker dollar may help competitiveness

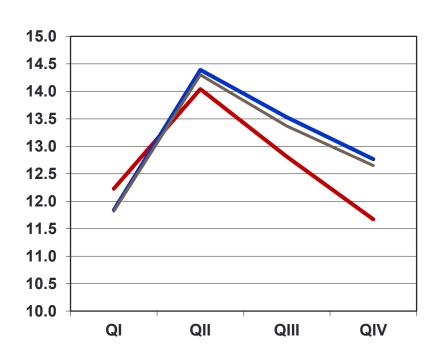


## **Lower Exports in 2023**





#### **Skim Solids Basis**



**-**2021 **--**2022 **--**2023\*



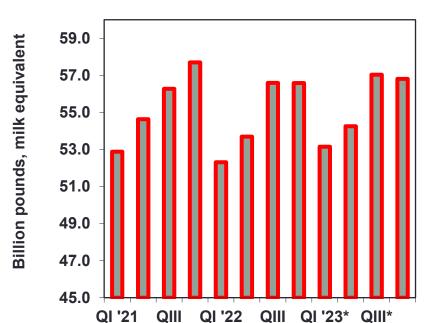
#### Slow Growth in 2023 Domestic Use

- Domestic use is expected to average higher than 2022 during the year
  - Economic weakness may be a drag on demand
  - Lower product prices may help support increased use.

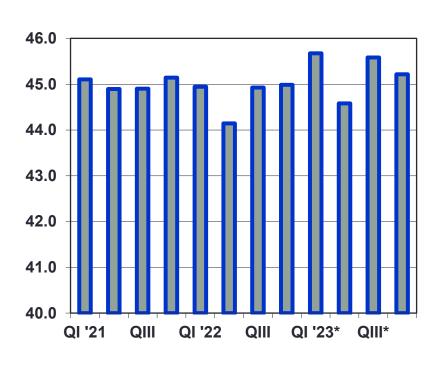


#### **Slow Growth in Domestic Use**





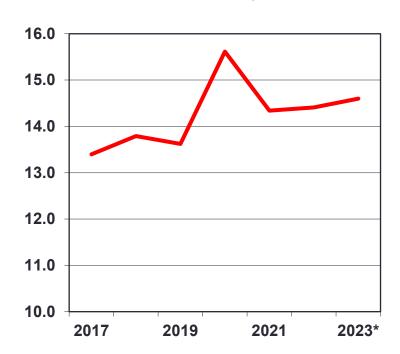
#### **Skim Solids Basis**



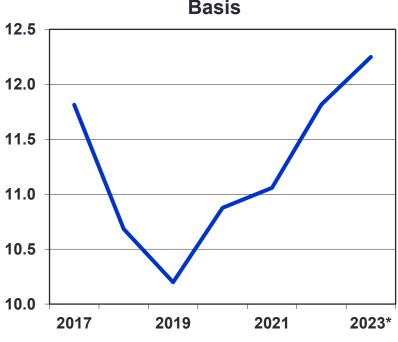


## ...But Higher Stocks Will Overhang the Market

**Year End Stocks, Fat Basis** 



### Year End Stocks, Skim Solids Basis





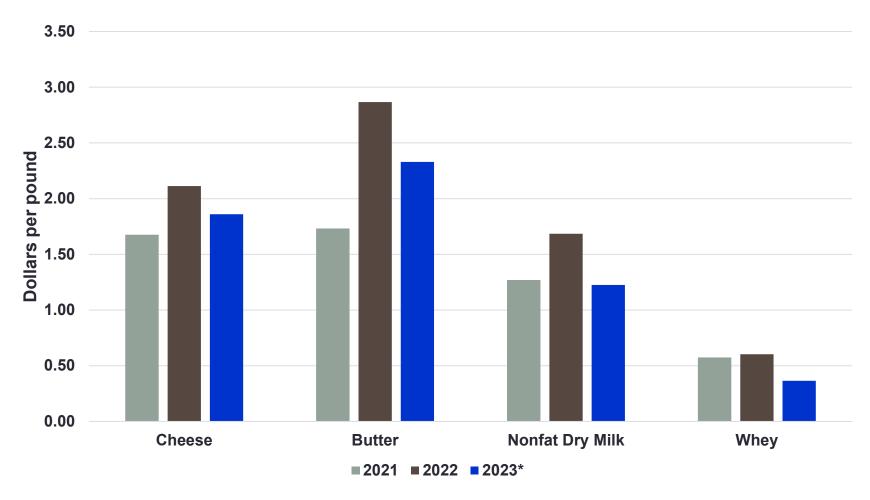
Billion pounds, milk equivalent

## Lower 2023 Dairy Prices Are Expected With Larger Supplies vs Slowly Improving Use

- Class III price to average \$17.90 per cwt
  - Cheese price weaker: \$1.860 per pound
  - Whey price weaker: \$0.365 per pound
- Class IV price to average \$18.25 per cwt
  - Butter price lower: \$2.330 per pound
  - Nonfat dry milk price lower: \$1.225 per pound
- All milk price to average \$20.70 per cwt

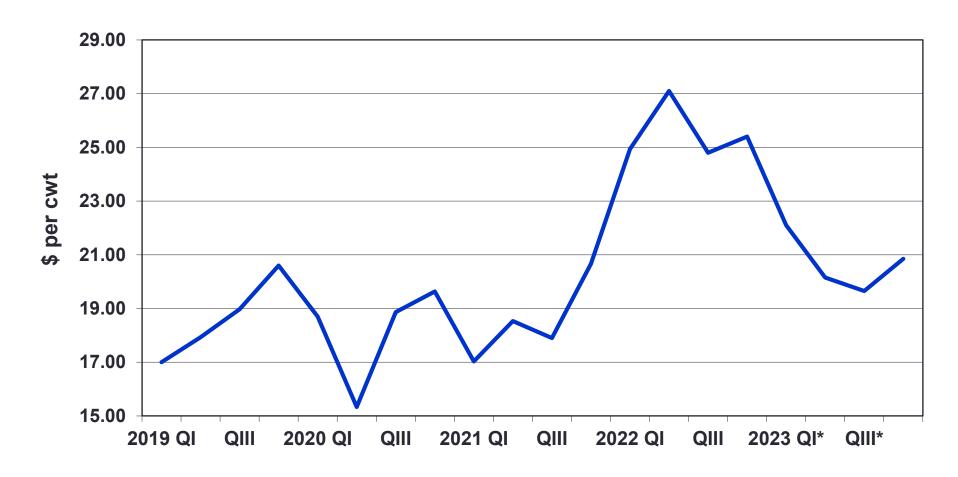


#### **Lower Product Prices in 2023**





## **Quarterly Average All Milk Prices**





## Additional Information on the Outlook for 2023 is Available on the Following Websites:

- World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates
  - http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/index.htm
- Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Situation and Outlook
  - https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/g445cd121?loc ale=en
- Dairy: World Markets and Trade
  - http://www.fas.usda.gov/data/dairy-world-markets-andtrade

