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# **Report Highlights:**

Mexico's dairy sector is projected to grow modestly in 2025, supported by better feed and water access, herd expansion, and ongoing efficiency gains. Production is expected to rise despite 2023–2024 drought impacts and New World Screwworm infestations in southern Mexico. Imports of fluid milk and butter will likely decline from 2024 peaks, while cheese imports hold steady. Milk powder imports are set to increase as processors favor lower-cost raw inputs, creating opportunities for U.S. exporters. Dairy consumption remains driven by population growth, rising incomes, and strong demand from processors and the foodservice industry.

## **Executive Summary**

**Fluid Milk.** Production is forecast to increase one percent in 2025 to 13.9 million metric tons (MMT). This growth is expected to be supported by improved access to feed and water, an expanded dairy herd, and improved milk yields. Consumption is forecast to increase by one percent to 13.9 MMT. The growth is expected to be primarily fueled by population growth and expanding demand from dairy processors. Milk imports are forecast to decrease 21 percent to 30,000 metric tons (MT). Increased domestic production of fluid milk and a less favorable exchange rate are expected to drive down milk imports from the record levels reached in 2024.

**Cheese.** Production is forecast to increase two percent in 2025 to 485,000 MT. An increased supply of milk is expected to support cheese production growth. Cheese consumption is forecast to increase two percent to 675,000 MT driven by population growth and higher wages. Cheese imports are forecast to remain flat at 200,000 MT. Enhanced domestic production capacity is expected to constrain import growth. Cheese exports are forecast to remain flat at 10,000 MT due to increased global competition and unchanged access to new markets.

**Butter.** Production is forecast to increase one percent in 2025 to 253,000 MT. Anticipated demand from the Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional (HRI) sector and the food processing industries are expected to drive the increase. Consumption is forecast to remain flat at 281,000 MT and imports are expected to decrease by six percent to 29,000 MT. A decline in private consumption is expected to stabilize demand for butter following a year of significant growth.

**Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP).** Production is forecast to increase two percent in 2025 to 50,000 MT. Substantial private investments is expected to drive growth in Mexico's SMP production. Consumption is forecast to increase 11 percent to 279,000 MT driven by the processing sector and demand for reconstituted milk for a government-supported social program. SMP imports are forecast to increase 13 percent to 230,000 MT. The weaker peso is expected to make raw materials like SMP more cost-effective than finished dairy products such as cheese, cream, and drinkables, prompting importers to shift their focus toward SMP.

Whole Milk Powder (WMP). Production is forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 125,000 MT based on limited investment in drying plants. Consumption is forecast to increase one percent to 127,000 MT, with Mexico's growing population and increased dairy processors expected to support modest growth. Imports are forecast to remain flat at 7,000 MT due to the versatility of SMP and other dairy ingredients preferred by dairy processors.

## Fluid Milk

Table 1. Milk-Production, Supply, and Distribution

Dairy, Milk, Fluid	202	3	202	4	2025		
Market Year Begins	Jan 20	Jan 2023 Jan 2024 J		Jan 2	025		
Mexico	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	
Cows In Milk (1000 HEAD)	6,700	6,700	6,750	6,750	6,800	6,800	
Cow's Milk Production (1000 MT)	13,333	13,333	13,500	13,555	13,650	13,690	
Other Milk Production (1000 MT)	170	170	172	169	172	170	
Total Production (1000 MT)	13,503	13,503	13,672	13,724	13,822	13,860	
Other Imports (1000 MT)	18	18	30	38	25	30	
Total Imports (1000 MT)	18	18	30	38	25	30	
Total Supply (1000 MT)	13,521	13,521	13,702	13,762	13,847	13,890	
Other Exports (1000 MT)	12	12	12	12	12	10	
Total Exports (1000 MT)	12	12	12	12	12	10	
Fluid Use Dom. Consum. (1000 MT)	4,210	4,210	4,260	4,260	4,300	4,300	
Factory Use Consum. (1000 MT)	9,299	9,299	9,430	9,490	9,535	9,580	
Feed Use Dom. Consum. (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	C	
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	13,509	13,509	13,690	13,750	13,835	13,880	
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	13,521	13,521	13,702	13,762	13,847	13,890	
(1000 HEAD), (1000 MT)					l		

OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query

Not official USDA data.

#### **Production**

### 2025

Milk production is forecast to increase one percent in 2025 to 13.9 MMT. This growth is anticipated to be supported by improved access to feed, forage, and water resources following the lingering effects of the 2023 and 2024 droughts, which impacted dairy herd productivity.

Competitive feed prices and improved availability of grain, silage, and meal by-products likely supported higher milk production in 2024 and are expected to continue doing so in 2025. According to the National Organization of Feed Producers and Animal Nutrition (CONAFAB), dairy cattle feed production grew by two percent in 2024. Feed costs and availability—particularly for corn and soymeal—remained favorable for most of the year, with only a modest increase in the final quarter, staying well below the highs of the two years prior.

**Table 2. Dairy Cattle Feed Production (2020-2024) Million Metric Tons (MMT)** 

Year	MMT	Annual Increase (percentage)
2024	6.45	1.9
2023	6.33	2.1
2022	6.20	2.0
2021	6.07	2.4
2020	5.93	2.8

Source: National Organization of Feed Producers and Animal Nutrition (CONAFAB)

#### 2024

Milk production is estimated to increase two percent in 2024 to 13.7 MMT, driven by relatively low input costs such as feed, electricity, supplements, and medicines. The increase is also supported by Mexican Association of Milk Producers (AMLAC) data which estimates a two percent increase in milk production for 2024 and anticipates continued growth into 2025. Private investments in modern agricultural technologies, including automated milking systems, improved production efficiency and reduced operating costs. By 2024, Mexico's economy posted eight consecutive quarters of growth, which strengthened consumer purchasing power and increased dairy consumption.

Producers expanded herds in response to rising demand, adding 50,000 head in 2024 to reach a total of 6.75 million. However, prolonged drought in early 2024 slowed production growth, falling short of the projected three percent increase. A one percent gain in yield per cow modestly improved overall production efficiency.

In 2024 and through March 2025, Jalisco, Durango, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, and Veracruz remained Mexico's top milk-producing states. Higher milk productivity per cow indicated that advancements in herd genetics likely contributed to overall gains. The integration of small-scale producers into larger operations and broader industry modernization efforts, including genetic improvements, also supported increased efficiency.

1000 liters State 2,845 Jalisco 1,571 Coahuila Durango 1,548 1,278 Chihuahua Chihuahua Guanajuato 929 821 Veracruz Coahuila Puebla 472 Chiapas 472 Aguascalientes 447 Durango 429 Ouerétaro zeracruz Aguascalientes Jalisc Puebla Guanajuato Oueretaró Chiapas

Figure 1. Mexico's Top 10 Milk Producing States (2024)

Source: Agricultural and Fisheries Information Service (SIAP)

Milk production in Mexico was affected by droughts and freezes that reduced forage availability for dairy cattle, especially in regions like Chihuahua, where farms have limited access to water, silage, and feed storage. As a result, some cattle were unable to reach their full production potential, and some farmers delayed breeding, prolonging intervals between lactation cycles while waiting for improved conditions.

In 2024, domestic dairy producers protested low milk prices, delayed payments, and alleged financial irregularities by Liconsa, S.A. de C.V., the state-owned enterprise responsible for purchasing, processing, and distributing fortified milk at subsidized prices to low-income populations. Dairy industry contacts reported that government programs aimed at improving farm technology, productivity, and animal health declined in recent years, with no indication of their return in the near term. Producers noted that prevailing milk prices often failed to cover production costs, which reduced output or forced some producers to exit the sector. As a result, several small-scale dairy farms joined larger companies or cooperatives to maintain operations.

# **Pasture and Weather Conditions**

The first quarter of 2025 brought snowfall to the highlands of the northern states, and the snowmelt improved soil moisture and supported pasture growth. Colder temperatures early in the year raised cattle energy requirements to maintain body temperature, which increased feeding demand. However, production remained stable as most dairy stables had secured adequate feed supplies for the year.

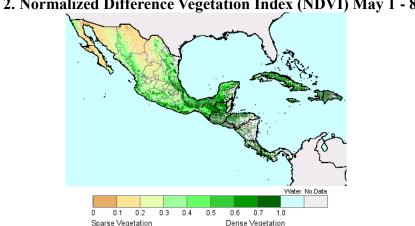


Figure 2. Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) May 1 - 8, 2025

Source: USDA FAS International Production Assessment Division (IPAD)

The surge in rainfall beginning in June 2024 significantly boosted milk production, which peaked in June, July, and August.

Figure 3. Mexico's Drought Monitor – Comparison April 30, 2025, vs. April 30, 2024

Monitor de Sequía de México
al 30 de abril de 2025

Monitor de Sequía de México
al 30 de abril de 2024



Source: Comisión Nacional del Agua (CONAGUA) and Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (SMN)

The increased precipitation helped offset the effects of earlier drought conditions by improving hay and pasture availability, supporting an estimated two percent growth in milk production.

# **Economic Considerations for Dairy Products**

## Population Growth Expected to Create Higher Milk and Dairy Consumption

Ongoing population growth is expected to raise milk and dairy product consumption in Mexico. The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) projected a 0.7 percent population growth rate for 2024. Although the growth rate has slowed over the past two decades, the population continued to rise—from approximately 126 million in 2020 to an estimated 129 million in 2024, with projections reaching 133 million in 2025. This demographic expansion supports stronger demand for milk and dairy products.

# Moderate Economic Growth Expected in 2025

Mexico's economy is projected to grow by approximately 0.6 percent in 2025, according to forecasts from S&P Global, the World Bank, and Citi Group. Public safety concerns and high crime rates in certain regions remain barriers to stronger economic performance.

The Bank of Mexico (BANXICO) estimated 2025 inflation at 3.72 percent, slightly above the three percent target set by the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP) in its Federal Expenditure Program. As of April 2025, inflation stood at 3.93 percent, a 0.33 percentage point increase from the previous month. Remittances remain a key income source for many households in Mexico. In February 2025, the Bank of Mexico reported a 0.8 percent year-on-year decline in remittance inflows.

Direct cash transfer programs targeting groups such as single mothers, students, and seniors continue to support household incomes and consumption. However, the federal government significantly reduced funding for major social programs in early 2025. SHCP reported that 184.42 billion pesos (USD 9.23 billion) were allocated during the first two months of the year—a real annual decrease of 60.5 percent and the lowest level of social spending since 2021. This sharp reduction reflects a shift in fiscal priorities and may impact low-income households that rely on government assistance.

**Table 3. Social Programs Comparison** 

Period 2007-2012		2013-2018	2019-2024	
Amount in pesos	67,859 million	211,866 million	1,440,109 million	
Amount in dollars	3,393 million	10,593 million	72,005 million	

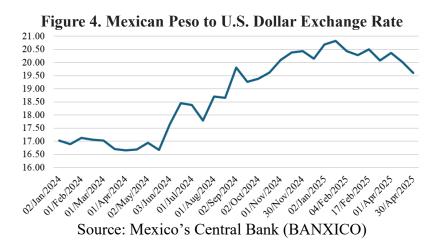
Source: Post estimate using www.gob.mx data (Exchange rate of 20.00 pesos: USD 1.00)

# High Demand for Dairy from Tourism and HRI Sectors

In 2024, Mexico's restaurant industry grew by 4.5 percent, reaching nearly 490,000 food establishments nationwide. Additionally, the World Tourism Organization projected continued growth in international arrivals, building on the 32 million international tourists welcomed in 2023. Increased HRI spending and tourism drove higher demand for dairy products.

# Impact of Peso Depreciation on Dairy Export Competitiveness and Import Dynamics

Market analysts forecast continued depreciation of the Mexican peso against the U.S. dollar through 2025. Starting in May 2024, the Mexican peso entered a phase of gradual depreciation, a trend that has continued into 2025. The exchange rate is expected to enhance the price competitiveness of Mexican dairy exports, while simultaneously reducing the incentive for dairy imports. However, Mexico's ongoing reliance on external sources to meet domestic dairy demand suggests that substantial import volumes will remain necessary.



# **Animal Health Developments Monitored in Dairy Production**

New World Screwworm (NWS) (Cochliomyia hominivorax)

As of May 2025, Mexico reported multiple cases of New World Screwworm (NWS) infestations in cattle, primarily in the southern states bordering Central America. While confirmed in cattle, official data on NWS in dairy herds remain limited, and Mexico's National Service of Agrifood Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA) stated that NWS has not impacted dairy production to date. However, most cattle in southern Mexico are dual-purpose, which raises the risk of NWS affecting milk production in the region.

On May 11, 2025, the United States suspended live cattle imports through southern U.S. border ports due to the continued northward spread of the NWS in Mexico, with confirmed detections as far north as Oaxaca and Veracruz. The measure is intended to reduce the risk of NWS entering the U.S. via livestock commerce, while both countries maintain joint efforts on surveillance, treatment, and eradication—including sterile fly releases and field monitoring. This decision follows earlier temporary closures from November 2024 to February 2025. As Mexican live cattle exports to the U.S. are primarily beef cattle, the impact on the dairy sector is expected to be minimal.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A HPAI H5N1

As of May 12, 2025, there have been no reported cases of avian influenza in dairy cattle within Mexico.

### Brucellosis

Through the National Campaign Against Animal Brucellosis, SENASICA reports that brucellosis remains prevalent in approximately 97 percent of Mexico, with only three percent of regions classified as disease-free.

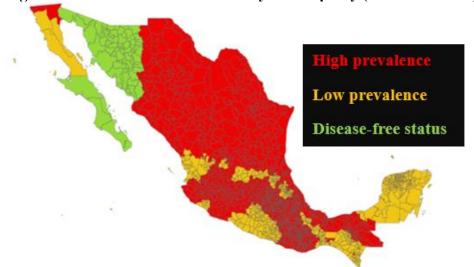


Figure 5. Mexico Brucellosis Status by Municipality (December 2024)

Source: National Service of Agrifood Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA)

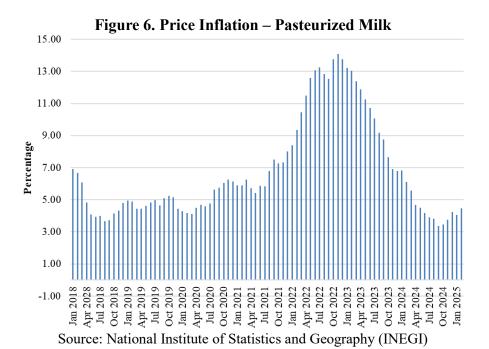
### Consumption

### 2025

Consumption is forecast to increase by one percent in 2025 to 13.9 MMT, driven by population growth and rising demand from dairy processors. Urban households are anticipated to further reduce fluid milk intake, while rural consumption is projected to increase. Shifting urban consumer preferences and increased availability of plant-based beverages made with soy, almond, and oat is expected to influence milk consumption. However, milk consumption is expected to remain strong in rural areas and among low-income families who benefit from social assistance programs such as Liconsa.

Mexican consumers increasingly seek premium, organic, and fortified dairy products. In response, the dairy sector adjusted its strategies to meet growing demand from key consumer groups, including families with young children seeking fortified milk and yogurts with added nutrients; consumers focused on wellness trends driving demand for organic, reduced-fat, or high-protein products; and higher-income households purchasing more premium artisanal cheeses and specialty items. These evolving preferences continue to reshape Mexico's dairy market and drive product diversification.

While milk price inflation in Mexico is rising, it is currently lower compared to the last five years, supporting increased consumption.



2024

Consumption is estimated to increase two percent in 2024 to 13.8 MMT, driven primarily by industrial consumption for processing into products such as cheese and yogurt, which remains the dominant factor in overall milk consumption in Mexico. Growth was also supported by strong, sustained demand for fluid milk in rural areas, despite slower consumption in urban households.

The growth in consumption in 2024 was also influenced by enhanced social support initiatives through Liconsa which collected 618 million liters of fluid milk, a seven percent increase compared to 2023, to distribute to vulnerable populations. Despite a decline in urban household consumption, rural areas saw higher demand, highlighting the role of social programs in promoting milk consumption and supporting public health objectives nationwide.

## **Trade**

Retailers in Mexico's northern border states import ready-to-drink pasteurized and ultra-high temperature (UHT) fluid milk from the United States. This cross-border trade offers greater logistical

efficiency and lower distribution costs compared to transporting milk from central Mexican states such as Jalisco. The United States remains the dominant supplier for Mexico's milk imports.

## **Imports**

#### 2025

Imports are forecast to decrease 21 percent in 2025 to 30,000 MT. Increased domestic fluid milk production and a weaker peso have raised the cost of imported dairy products, leading consumers and businesses to favor local alternatives. This shift contributes to an overall decline in imports from record levels reached in 2024.

Mexico's dairy sector continues to rely on imports to meet demand for premium and specialty milk-based beverages not widely produced domestically. These include fortified milks, smoothies, and dairy-based beverages which are lactose-free, low calorie, or enhanced with lactoferrin or colostrum.

### 2024

Imports are estimated to increase 111 percent in 2024 to 38,000 MT. Early speculation that drought would limit domestic milk supply, combined with a favorable exchange rate, drove record fluid milk imports in 2024. Elevated demand for dairy products further supported the increase, as processors sought additional supply to meet rising production needs.

## **Exports**

### 2025

Exports are forecast to decrease 17 percent in 2025 to 10,000 MT. Mexico's fluid milk exports are mainly destined to the United States. The local demand from the processing industry and social programs is expected to result in more milk sold on the domestic market.

As Mexico's dairy industry continues to modernize and improve its efficiency, it is likely that fluid milk exports will gradually grow in the next five years, but this will be tempered by the challenges of maintaining price competitiveness and meeting international quality standards.

### 2024

Exports are estimated to remain stable in 2024 at 12,000 MT. The demand was driven by the United States. Despite a strong peso in the first half of 2024 disincentivizing exports, Mexico's fluid milk exports to neighboring countries, particularly the United States and Central American countries, remained stable. Mexican dairy producers benefited from the competitive pricing of domestic milk and the country's proximity to key export markets.

#### Stocks

Milk and dairy product stocks in Mexico are considered operating inventories to meet short-term demand. There are no government-held stocks.

### Cheese

Table 4. Cheese - Production, Supply, and Distribution

Dairy, Cheese	202	23	202	24	202	25		
Market Year Begins	Jan 2	023	Jan 2	024	Jan 2025			
Mexico	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post		
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Production (1000 MT)	465	465	474	474	480	485		
Other Imports (1000 MT)	181	181	200	200	195	200		
Total Imports (1000 MT)	181	181	200	200	195	200		
Total Supply (1000 MT)	646	646	674	674	675	685		
Other Exports (1000 MT)	12	12	10	10	10	10		
Total Exports (1000 MT)	12	12	10	10	10	10		
Human Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	634	634	664	664	665	675		
Other Use, Losses (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	634	634	664	664	665	675		
Total Use (1000 MT)	646	646	674	674	675	685		
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	646	646	674	674	675	685		
(1000 MT)								
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Not official USDA data.

### **Production**

### 2025

Cheese production is forecast to increase two percent in 2025 to 485,000 MT driven by rising domestic demand for a broader range of cheese varieties. Increased production capacity and strong milk availability further reinforce the forecast.

Industry sources report that industrial cheese varieties, especially mozzarella and cheddar, will drive higher output due to their cost-effectiveness and versatility in large-scale food preparation. Growth in Mexico's HRI sector, particularly in high-tourism areas such as Cancún, Mexico City, and Guadalajara, continues to boost demand. As fast-casual dining expands and global cuisines shape local menus, foodservice operators increasingly rely on industrial cheeses for products like pizza, burgers, and pasta.

Despite a contraction in processing activity reported by INEGI for March 2025 and forecasts of slower economic growth for the remainder of the year, cheese production in Mexico is still projected to rise. The dairy sector faces a more cautious consumer environment which may temper demand growth. However, strong industrial demand and expanded processing capacity are expected to support production gains in 2025.

## 2024

Cheese production is estimated to have increased two percent in 2024 to 474,000 MT. Mexico's economy posted eight consecutive quarters of growth through early 2024. Economic stability and a stronger peso in the first half of the year boosted consumer purchasing power and lowered input costs, creating favorable conditions for higher cheese production and consumption. Rising demand from the HRI sector and the popularity of comfort foods such as pizza supported this upward trend.

In response to growing industrial cheese demand, producers modernized operations to meet foodservice requirements for consistent supply, quality, and extended shelf life—key for maintaining product uniformity in high-volume outlets.

Despite challenges, cheese production in Mexico continued to grow in 2024. Volatile milk prices pressured processors and impacted pricing for both consumers and the food service sector. Producers also faced the challenge of managing costs while meeting rising demand for higher-quality, artisanal cheeses. However, strong growth in tourism and an expanding middle class sustained demand across both industrial applications and restaurant establishments, supporting continued expansion in cheese output.

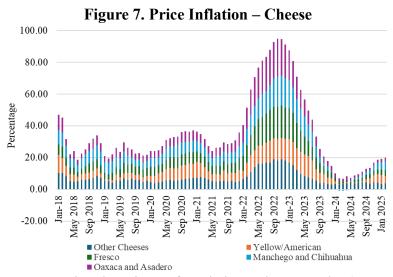
# Consumption

### 2025

Cheese consumption is forecast to increase two percent in 2025 to 675,000 MT driven by population growth, higher minimum wages, and expanding demand across both household and foodservice sectors. The expansion of household and restaurant consumption is expected to support overall growth in the cheese market. As consumer preferences evolve, producers are projected to diversify cheese offerings to meet rising demand for both domestic and imported varieties.

Demand from the HRI sector is expected to rise as chefs incorporate more mozzarella, cheddar, and parmesan into dishes reflecting global cuisine trends. Growth in the middle class and the popularity of fast-casual dining, particularly in tourist-heavy regions, are forecast to reinforce this shift. Higher disposable incomes are expected to encourage urban consumers to purchase more premium and specialty cheeses. As a result, more households are likely to experiment with new cheese types, further supporting consumption growth in 2025.

Despite increased incomes, rising inflation continues to hinder consumption growth, particularly in lower-income households.



Source: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

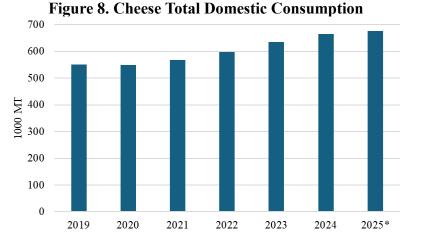
While overall consumption continues to rise due to the growing middle class and increased demand in the HRI sector, inflation remains a limiting factor, especially for those who have less flexibility in their budgets for discretionary spending, including on dairy products like cheese.

#### 2024

Cheese consumption in Mexico is estimated to have increased five percent in 2024 to 664,000 MT, driven by higher demand for comfort foods such as pizza, lasagna, nachos with cheese, tacos, and enchiladas. The growth was fueled by greater product diversification and the increasing use of cheese in both traditional and international dishes.

Despite growth, inflation and exchange rate fluctuations slightly affected cheese prices, particularly for imports. However, higher disposable incomes, especially in urban areas, boosted household demand as consumers sought a wider variety of cheeses. Supermarkets and specialty stores expanded their offerings, providing more domestic artisanal cheeses and imported products.

Mexico remained one of the largest cheese producers in Latin America, supplying a wide variety of cheeses to meet both traditional and modern consumer preferences.



Source: USDA FAS Production, Supply, and Distribution. Note: \*Forecast

Traditional cheeses like queso fresco, queso Oaxaca, and queso cotija continued to dominate the domestic market. At the same time, producers expanded industrial cheese production to meet rising demand for processed cheeses used in comfort foods such as pizza and burgers.

### Trade

### **Imports**

#### 2025

Cheese imports are forecast to remain stable in 2025 at 200,000 MT, after a record year of imports. Expanded local production capacity is anticipated to satisfy incremental demand, reducing Mexico's reliance on foreign suppliers. The depreciation of the peso is expected to incentivize a shift in import focus, as higher costs for foreign cheeses make domestically produced cheese more competitive.

Despite stable import levels, U.S. cheeses are expected to continue to play a critical role in the Mexican market. The United States remains Mexico's top supplier due to geographic proximity, competitive pricing, and an established trade agreement that ensures favorable market access. In 2025, mozzarella, cheddar, and cream cheese from the United States are expected to remain the leading imported varieties, primarily serving Mexico's expanding HRI sector.

U.S. cheeses offer high quality, consistency, and versatility, which makes them attractive for large-scale foodservice operations that require dependable supply chains and uniform product specifications. Additionally, rising consumer exposure to global cuisines—especially in urban areas—will continue to drive demand for premium and specialty cheeses. As a result, U.S. cheese products are expected to gain greater visibility in retail outlets such as supermarkets and specialty stores that cater to middle- and upper-income consumers seeking diverse flavor profiles and international offerings.

#### 2024

Cheese imports are estimated to have increased by ten percent in 2024 to 200,000 MT driven by favorable exchange rates in early 2024 and strong consumer demand. Growth in the food service sector, including delivery services, and expanded international cuisine offerings—particularly in urban areas and tourist destinations—further supported import demand.

Peso depreciation and inflation in the second half of 2024 raised import costs and reduced purchasing power. However, strong demand for quality and variety sustained cheese imports. Businesses and consumers accepted higher prices to maintain access to preferred products. Importers and distributors expanded the availability of U.S. cheeses and value-added products to align with shifting market preferences.

# **Exports**

#### 2025

Cheese exports are forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 10,000 MT. Rising demand from Mexico's HRI sectors is expected to direct more product to meet internal needs. Increased global competition has introduced uncertainty, which is likely to deter aggressive export strategies. Required adherence to international quality standards and unchanged access to new markets will also limit expansion, keeping export levels steady in 2025.

#### 2024

Cheese exports are estimated to have decreased 17 percent in 2024 to 10,000 MT due to a strong peso in the first half of the year which reduced price competitiveness and impacted export volumes. The United States remained the primary market for Mexican cheese exports, particularly for products like queso fresco, Oaxaca, and queso cotija, while Central American and Caribbean countries continued to serve as destinations for industrialized cheese products.

#### Stocks

Milk and dairy product stocks in Mexico are considered operating inventories to meet short-term demand. There are no government-held stocks.

Butter

Table 5. Butter - Production, Supply, and Distribution

Dairy, Butter	202	23	200	24	202	5	
Market Year Begins	Jan 2	023	Jan 2	2024	Jan 2025		
Mexico	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Production (1000 MT)	245	245	250	250	255	253	
Other Imports (1000 MT)	18	18	35	31	25	29	
Total Imports (1000 MT)	18	18	35	31	25	29	
Total Supply (1000 MT)	263	260	285	281	280	282	
Other Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	2	1	0	1	
Total Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	2	1	0	1	
<b>Domestic Consumption</b> (1000 MT)	263	263	283	280	280	281	
Total Use (1000 MT)	263	263	285	281	280	282	
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	263	263	285	281	280	282	
(1000 MT)							

OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query

Not official USDA data.

#### **Production**

#### 2025

Butter production is forecast to increase one percent in 2025 to 253,000 MT. Anticipated demand from the HRI sector (like bakeries, hotels, and restaurants) and food processing industries and increased consumer preferences for dairy over vegetable-based fats is expected to drive growth in butter production.

According to sources, from 2018 to 2024, butter production grew at an average annual rate of 3.1 percent, reflecting a shift in consumer preferences toward higher-fat dairy products. This growth contrasts with the slower pace of growth in other dairy products like fluid milk and yogurt, highlighting the growing demand for high-fat dairy derivatives. Challenges such as price volatility of milk and cream, inflation, and exchange rate fluctuations are expected to hold down significant growth in Mexico's butter industry in 2025.

#### 2024

Butter production is estimated to have increased two percent in 2024 to 250,000 MT. Strategic private sector investments in processing capacity, initiated in 2020; stable raw material pricing; and an adequate milk supply supported butter production growth. Increased domestic milk production and higher import volumes led producers to hold surplus milk. To mitigate potential losses, many agricultural producers partnered with dairy processing facilities to convert milk into butter.

# Consumption

#### 2025

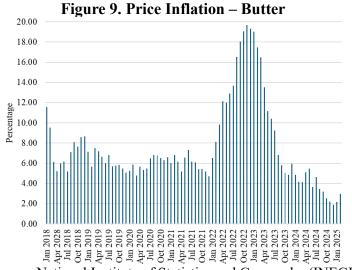
Butter consumption is forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 281,000 MT, following a record year. The recent decline in private consumption reported by INEGI is expected to stabilize demand for butter following a

year of significant growth. As a discretionary food item, butter is expected to remain vulnerable to reduced household spending, particularly among lower-income consumers. However, government cash transfer programs are expected to partially mitigate this impact by providing additional financial resources to households.

#### 2024

Butter consumption is estimated to have increased six percent in 2024 to 280,000 MT driven by strong demand from the HRI sector, food processors, and bakeries. Food processors and bakeries accounted for approximately 80 percent of total butter use, highlighting its essential role in industrial applications, while households consumed the remaining 20 percent. Moderate food price inflation in 2024, compared to 2023, supported higher butter use among medium-income households.

Population growth and an expanding middle class with growing demand for high-quality proteins and fats supported robust domestic butter consumption. Increased interest in home cooking and baking sparked by social media and culinary media also contributed to stronger household demand. This internal demand encouraged private investment and strengthened local production capacity. According to sources, the average Mexican household spent USD 14.45 per month on milk and dairy products, highlighting dairy's importance in household diets.



Source: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

#### **Trade**

#### **Imports**

# 2025

Butter imports are forecast to decrease six percent in 2025 to 29,000 MT. Fluctuating international dairy prices, particularly for products from New Zealand and the United States, and a weakened peso are expected to raise butter import costs in 2025. Mexican processors are projected to shift from importing finished butter to sourcing raw materials like butterfat and milk protein solids for domestic processing, responding to cost pressures and supply dynamics.

Despite growth in domestic butter production, output is forecast to remain below national demand. Imports will continue to bridge the gap, especially for high-quality and specialty varieties used in processed foods and premium markets. Mexico is expected to remain a net butter importer, with the United States maintaining its position as the leading supplier. Much of the imported butter will be processed and re-exported in value-added products such as chocolate-based goods.

### 2024

Butter imports are estimated to have increased 72 percent in 2024 to 31,000 MT. Although butter imports are estimated to increase, industry sources clarify that this significant increase does not reflect genuine import growth. Instead, the Mexican National Customs Agency (ANAM) began assigning a greater number of butter products under Harmonized System Code (HS Code) 04059001 starting in 2024, which accounts for the reported rise.

Higher industrial demand, particularly from bakeries, hotels, and restaurants, drove butter import growth in 2024. Industrial users remained the primary drivers of imports as foodservice and bakery industries expanded. A strong peso relative to the U.S. dollar in early 2024 helped stabilize import costs, supporting sustained shipments from the United States and reinforcing its position as Mexico's leading butter supplier.

## **Exports**

#### 2025

Butter exports are forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 1,000 MT. Mexico's limited butter exports stem from a sector dominated by small producers focused on domestic demand, lacking the scale, efficiency, and strategic priority for global competition. Imported butter is often processed into food products such as chocolate and baked goods and then exported. The United States is the primary destination for these butter-based exports, particularly from the chocolate and bakery industries.

#### 2024

Butter exports are estimated to have increased 100 percent in 2024 to 1,000 MT. Mexico's butter exports are limited. Production primarily serves the domestic market, which has a strong demand for dairy products, particularly for traditional cooking and baking.

Mexico's butter export potential remains limited due to production capacity constraints, driven by gaps in scale, cost efficiency, and technology compared to major exporters, as well as the challenges of complying with complex domestic and international health and safety regulations.

#### **Stocks**

Milk and dairy product stocks in Mexico are considered operating inventories to meet short-term demand. There are no government-held stocks.

# **Skim Milk Powder (SMP)**

Table 6. Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry -Production, Supply, and Distribution

Dairy, Milk, Nonfat Dry	202	23	202	24	202	25		
Market Year Begins	Jan 2	2023	Jan 2	024	Jan 2025			
Mexico	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post		
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Production (1000 MT)	48	48	49	49	50	50		
Other Imports (1000 MT)	338	338	290	204	300	230		
Total Imports (1000 MT)	338	338	290	204	300	230		
Total Supply (1000 MT)	386	386	339	253	350	280		
Other Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Total Exports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Human Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	386	386	339	252	350	279		
Other Use, Losses (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	386	386	339	252	350	279		
Total Use (1000 MT)	386	386	339	253	350	280		
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	386	386	339	253	350	280		
(1000 MT)								
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCES	SED AT: PSD O	nline Advanced (	<u>Query</u>					

Not official USDA data.

### **Production**

### 2025

SMP production is forecast to increase two percent in 2025 to 50,000 MT. Private investment and strategic efforts to expand production capacity are expected to drive growth in Mexico's SMP production through 2025. Industry sources report that three major dairy companies plan to invest in production and distribution technologies to strengthen SMP output.

Despite this projected growth, persistent challenges such as economic volatility, public insecurity, and labor shortages are expected to limit productivity gains.

#### 2024

SMP production is estimated to have increased two percent in 2024 to 49,000 MT. Investments in processing infrastructure, strategic milk supply agreements, and improved logistics reduced post-harvest losses and increased the volume of raw milk processed into powder, driving growth in milk powder production.

In 2024, three major food companies invested in Mexico's dairy sector by expanding drying capacity, upgrading equipment, and modernizing facilities to sustain production and support innovation. Excess fluid milk in the market was redirected to both new and existing drying plants, contributing to higher domestic milk powder output.

# Consumption

### 2025

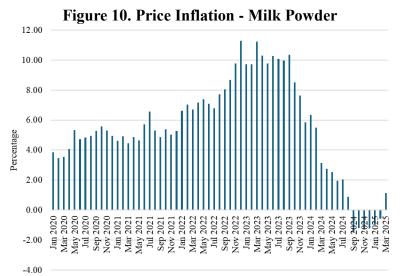
SMP consumption is forecast to increase 11 percent in 2025 to 279,000 MT driven by strong demand across both the private sector and government-supported social programs. Additionally, a relatively weaker peso compared to the U.S. dollar is expected to influence consumption, as importing SMP is more cost-effective than bringing in finished dairy products. As a result, processors are likely to return to importing SMP for domestic processing to reduce costs. Mexican dairy processors use SMP to strengthen cheese production, boost protein levels in a variety of dairy products, and reconstitute it into fluid milk.

#### 2024

SMP consumption is estimated to have decreased 35 percent in 2024 to 252,000 MT. A favorable exchange rate through 2023 and early 2024 incentivized imports of final products such as cheese, dairy beverages, and cream, rather than raw materials for processing, which reduced demand for SMP.

SMP use remained vital for Mexico's social nutrition initiatives like Liconsa, especially those targeting vulnerable populations. Additionally, the baby formula sector relied heavily on SMP, demanding product from both the domestic market and imports.

Milk powder price inflation eased throughout 2024 and continued to decline from September 2024 into early 2025, with rates lower than those observed during the same period a year earlier.



Source: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

#### **Trade**

### **Imports**

#### 2025

SMP imports are forecast to increase 13 percent in 2025 to 230,000 MT. A weaker peso is expected to shift import demand toward raw materials rather than finished dairy products such as cheese, dairy

beverages, and cream, driving an increase in SMP imports. Demand from social programs will likely support additional SMP use, particularly for reconstituted milk used in nutrition assistance. Demand from the functional food and beverage sector is also forecast to grow, as SMP remains essential for producing dairy drinks and sports supplements and sustain higher imports.

In the first three months of 2025, SMP imports are up four percent compared to the same period last year. In 2024, SMP imports from the United States exceeded one billion USD, accounting for over 40 percent of all U.S. dairy exports to Mexico valued at 2.5 billion USD. Duty-free access to milk powder under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is expected to continue to support strong trade flows.

#### 2024

SMP imports are estimated to have decreased 40 percent in 2024 to 204,000 MT. The exchange rate in 2023 and the first half of 2024 prompted processors to import finished products, such as cheese, rather than processing SMP for milk. This shift in strategy contributed to a decreased utilization of SMP. The decrease in Mexico's SMP imports in 2024 was also the result of increased domestic milk production, limited processing infrastructure, changing consumer preferences, policy interventions, and global market influences. Additionally, the Presidential Anti-Inflation decree (see policy section) valid through December 31, 2025, which permits duty-free imports of SMP and WMP, has had a limited impact on trade.

# **Exports**

# 2025

SMP exports are forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 1,000 MT. Limited domestic production capacity, strong domestic demand, and elevated freight costs are expected to constrain Mexico's SMP export potential in 2025. Mexico is expected to produce only about ten percent of the SMP it consumes, with most of this volume absorbed by national social programs, leaving minimal surplus for export.

High transportation costs, particularly to smaller regional markets, will continue to undermine Mexico's competitiveness compared to major exporters like the United States and the European Union (EU). As a result, Mexico is forecast to remain a marginal SMP exporter, engaging primarily in niche regional opportunities when pricing and logistics align.

#### 2024

SMP exports are estimated to have increased 100 percent in 2024 to 1,000 MT. Driven by favorable price opportunities, Mexico exported SMP primarily to Latin American countries such as Cuba, Guatemala, and Venezuela, which operate comparable social programs and require SMP to meet domestic needs. However, limited milk drying infrastructure constrained Mexico's ability to convert increased raw milk production into SMP, restricting export capacity.

#### **Stocks**

Milk and dairy product stocks in Mexico are considered operating inventories to meet short-term demand. There are no government-held stocks.

## Whole Milk Powder (WMP)

Table 7. Dairy, Milk, Whole Dry - Production, Supply, and Distribution

Dairy, Dry Whole Milk Powder	202	23	202	24	2025			
Market Year Begins	Jan 2	Jan 2023		024	Jan 2025			
Mexico	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post		
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	C		
Production (1000 MT)	125	125	125	125	125	125		
Other Imports (1000 MT)	4	4	6	7	3	7		
Total Imports (1000 MT)	4	4	6	7	3	7		
Total Supply (1000 MT)	129	129	131	132	128	132		
Other Exports (1000 MT)	2	2	4	6	2	5		
Total Exports (1000 MT)	2	2	4	6	2	5		
Human Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	127	127	127	126	126	127		
Other Use, Losses (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	C		
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	127	127	127	126	126	127		
Total Use (1000 MT)	129	129	131	132	128	132		
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	C		
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	129	129	131	132	128	132		
(1000 MT)	(1000 MT)							

OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query

Not official USDA data.

### **Production**

### 2025

WMP production is forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 125,000 MT. High energy costs, limited infrastructure, and uncertain returns are expected to constrain investment in Mexico's WMP production through 2025. Industry contacts reported that spray drying remains highly energy-intensive, and sustained energy price increases have elevated operating costs in recent years. Most existing drying plants are outdated or cannot accommodate large-scale milk volumes. Where infrastructure exists, it is often regionally concentrated, leaving major producing states like Jalisco and Veracruz without nearby access. This results in elevated transportation costs and logistical inefficiencies.

Processors, particularly small and mid-sized firms operating on tight margins, face high entry barriers. Larger companies remain hesitant to commit to long-term investments without consistent production volumes or stable export prospects. As a result, the expansion of drying infrastructure is expected to remain limited.

As part of a milk self-sufficiency strategy, the Government of Mexico announced the reopening of a government-owned drying facility in Michoacán. The plant is scheduled to resume operations by October 2025 following an investment of 350 million pesos (17.5 million USD). According to Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), this expansion of national drying capacity will enhance Liconsa's ability to supply milk to low-income populations. Liconsa currently serves an estimated six million beneficiaries and aims to reach seven million by the end of 2025.

### 2024

WMP production is estimated to have remained flat in 2024 at 125,000 MT. Limited government incentives for value-added processing are expected to constrain Mexico's milk powder production growth. The absence of targeted support—such as affordable credit, tax incentives, or marketing assistance—discouraged producers from expanding operations beyond fluid milk.

# Consumption

### 2025

WMP consumption is forecast to increase one percent in 2025 to 127,000 MT. Mexico's expanding population and increased demand from cheese, yogurt, and butter processors are projected to sustain whole milk powder consumption in 2025, with modest growth. Government-led nutrition programs, including school feeding initiatives and subsidized milk distribution through Liconsa, are expected to maintain stable demand for powdered milk blends.

In Mexico, food processors are expected to continue using WMP as a functional ingredient to enhance the texture, flavor, and color of baked goods, cookies, and chocolate products. Processors are also expected to reconstitute WMP into liquid milk, yogurt, and dairy drinks, particularly during periods of fresh milk scarcity or seasonal shortfalls. According to industry contacts, some manufacturers will use WMP in frozen dairy products, especially where cream costs are high, or local milk quality varies.

In urban markets, WMP is forecast to face continued competition from UHT and pasteurized milk, which consumers view as more convenient. These products are preferred by the dairy processing sector, limiting WMP's growth potential in more developed areas. WMP demand will remain concentrated in low-income and remote regions where access to fresh milk is limited by high costs or logistical barriers. In these areas, WMP will continue to serve as a shelf-stable, nutritionally dense alternative, supporting food security and dietary quality among underserved populations.

Mexico's WMP consumption is forecast to remain modest relative to SMP, reflecting distinct market preferences and functional applications across the dairy and food processing sectors.

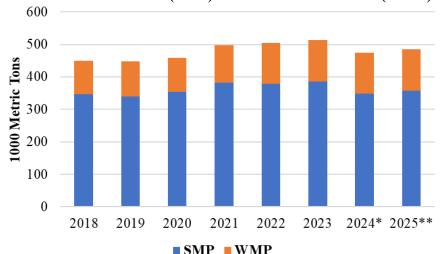


Figure 11. Mexico Skim Milk Powder (SMP) vs. Whole Milk Powder (WMP) Consumption

Source: USDA FAS Production, Supply, and Distribution. Note: \*Estimate \*\*Forecast.

Processors prefer SMP for its versatility and lower fat content, allowing them to control fat levels and add other milk fats separately depending on the product. While WMP serves a particular or niche role in Mexico's dairy consumption landscape, SMP is the dominant milk powder due to its industrial applications and strong import supply chains.

#### 2024

WMP consumption is estimated to have decreased one percent in 2024 to 126,000 MT. In the first half of 2024, industrial consumption of WMP decreased as processors shifted to importing final products due to a stronger peso. Lower WMP consumption was also due to limited domestic production and higher import prices compared to SMP. WMP consumption was more prevalent in low-income and remote communities, where it provided an affordable, shelf-stable alternative to fresh milk.

Significant growth in WMP consumption would require strategic interventions to increase its prevalence in consumers' diets and in everyday dairy products. Although WMP does not dominate the Mexican dairy sector, it plays a key role in sectors where affordability, stability, and fat content are essential, including the bakery, confectionery, and dairy beverage industries.

#### Trade

#### **Imports**

#### 2025

WMP imports are forecast to remain flat in 2025 at 7,000 MT, as dairy processors continue to favor the versatility of SMP and other dairy ingredients over WMP. The price difference between SMP and WMP is also expected to limit Mexico's imports of WMP.

#### 2024

WMP imports are estimated to have increased 75 percent in 2024 to 7,000 MT. Robust domestic demand and limited production capacity drove the surge in WMP imports. Imports were significantly higher in 2024 compared to 2023 due to stagnant local production, which remained flat due to infrastructure limitations. Mexico's lack of investment in new drying facilities left existing ones insufficient to meet growing demand, resulting in increased reliance on imports.

Several factors contributed to the growing demand for WMP in 2024, including population growth and increased consumption in the HRI sector, which relies on shelf-stable dairy ingredients like WMP for cost-efficiency, consistency, and long shelf life.

A favorable exchange rate also made WMP more competitive against SMP, boosting imports. In certain applications such as baking, confectionery, and reconstituted milk, WMP became more attractive when the cost narrowed, offering higher fat content that adds richness and energy to products like yogurt, baked goods, confectioneries, and chocolates.

# **Exports**

### 2025

WMP exports are forecast to decrease 17 percent in 2025 to 5,000 MT. Without major capital investments in production infrastructure from the public and private sector, and amid strong internal demand, Mexico's capacity to export WMP are expected to weaken through 2025. Elevated domestic prices for energy, fuel, and labor continue to pressure dairy production margins in Mexico including WMP.

### 2024

WMP exports are estimated to have increased 200 percent in 2024 to 6,000 MT. Favorable international pricing in the first half of the year incentivized purchases from neighboring Latin American countries, such as Guatemala, Belize, and Cuba, driving a spike in WMP exports.

Although the percentage increase was significant, export volumes remained low. Mexico's milk processing capacity has not kept pace with growing domestic demand, and without substantial investments in modern, high-volume milk drying infrastructure, the country's ability to produce surplus WMP for export remains limited.

#### **Stocks**

Milk and dairy product stocks in Mexico are considered operating inventories to meet short-term demand. There are no government-held stocks.

# **Additional Dairy Products**

# Whey

Mexico's whey imports are estimated to have decreased by 12 percent in 2024 to 46,120 metric tons. The country remains a net importer of whey, primarily from the United States, allocating its limited domestic production primarily to the food industry and other applications such as animal feed, fertilizer, soil conditioner, yeast, and enzyme production. As a result of higher prices for whey protein products, including dry whey and whey protein concentrates, during the latter half of 2023 and into 2024, imports were less economically viable for Mexican importers, leading them to reduce purchase volumes.

Recognizing whey's nutritional value and potential applications, Mexico's dairy industry aims to diminish reliance on whey imports by strengthening domestic processing capabilities and promote the use of locally sourced whey through training and marketing. Ongoing efforts focus on processing and incorporating whey into local food products, such as infant formulas and functional foods.

### **Trade**

## **Imports**

**Table 8. Mexico Whey Imports Metric Tons** 

		Calendar Year							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024			
World Total	71,408	44,334	53,414	49,835	52,420	46,120			
United States	67,775	42,007	49,490	49,835	52,374	46,120			

Source: Trade Data Monitor

## **Exports**

Mexico is not a significant whey exporter.

#### Ice Cream

Mexico's ice cream and related product imports are estimated to have increased by six percent in 2024 to 27,532 metric tons. Conversely, exports are estimated to have declined significantly by 62 percent in 2024 to 1,391 MT. This marks a continuation of the downward trend observed in 2023, when exports decreased by 42 percent compared to 2022. The growth of the convenience sector, including supermarkets, has made ice cream more accessible to consumers, supporting market expansion, whose demand is complemented by imports.

Mexico's ice cream market expanded by an estimated three percent in 2024, driven by rising demand for premium and artisanal products that reflect local tastes. Consumers increasingly seek unique flavors, organic ingredients, and locally sourced options. Seasonal and limited-edition varieties boost consumption, while growing interest in low-fat, low-sugar, and lactose-free options pushes manufacturers to diversify and innovate product lines. Additionally, according to sources, increasing

consumer awareness regarding sustainability is prompting ice cream brands to adopt environmentally friendly packaging.

However, despite this upward trend, several challenges could temper growth in early 2025 such as inflation, rising input costs, and limited cold chain infrastructure and distribution efficiency, particularly in rural areas. Additionally, the market faced intensified competition from alternative products such as yogurt-based snacks and barista-style iced coffees which appeal to convenience-seeking consumers.

### Trade

# **Imports**

**Table 9. Mexico's Ice Cream Imports Metric Tons** 

		Calendar Year						
	2019	2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024						
World Total	26,242	24,704	24,605	23,566	26,030	27,532		
United States	24,942	23,200	22,737	23,552	25,634	25,713		

Source: Trade Data Monitor, Note: 2024\* = Jan-Jul

# **Exports**

**Table 10. Mexico's Ice Cream Exports Metric Tons** 

		Calendar Year						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
World Total	330	523	1,976	6,235	3,662	1,391		
United States	111	177	1,279	6,235	3,662	1,391		

Source: Trade Data Monitor

## **Infant Formulas**

Mexico's infant formula imports are estimated to have declined by 46 percent in 2024, to 4,356 metric tons. Mexico's growing infant formula production and specialization has reduced the need for imported finished formulas. Production depends on dairy ingredients like skim milk powder, whey protein concentrate, and lactose. Although infant formula is made with dairy, it is classified as a pharmaceutical in Mexico. Over the past two years, changes to tariff codes and food safety regulations have caused delays at ports and increased compliance costs. These disruptions also affected imports of raw ingredients used for formula production or other food industry applications.

Infant formula exports have likely declined by 97 percent in 2024, falling to 15,999 MT. A strong Mexican peso in the first half of the year reduced export competitiveness, contributing to the decline in infant formula exports. Mexico faces competition from major global suppliers like Argentina, the EU, New Zealand, and the United States. Sources also note that changes in product classification under different HS codes—based on dairy content and processing—further complicated export tracking.

Strict import regulations in target markets remain a major barrier, as exporters must meet local requirements for labeling, nutrition, and ingredients. Additionally, complex approval processes and regulatory hurdles for new product launches continue to limit Mexico's ability to expand in international markets.

The large retail store segment holds the biggest share of Mexico's infant formula market due to its wide reach and broad product selection. Consumers prefer these stores for their convenience, as they offer a variety of nutritional products in one place. To meet growing demand, Mexican manufacturers continue to introduce new formulas and distribute them through supermarkets.

#### **Trade**

# **Imports**

**Table 11. Mexico's Infant Formula Imports Metric Tons** 

		Calendar Year						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
World Total	10,786	8,615	8,582	8,631	8,032	4,356		
United States	2,451	284	271	6,886	6,011	43		

Source: Trade Data Monitor

# **Exports**

Table 12. Mexico's Infant Formula Exports Metric Tons

		Calendar Year					
	2019	2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 202					
World Total	124,980	97,649	75,342	92,351	471,890	15,999	
United States	11,346	16,551	13,113	13,682	3,933	779	

Source: Trade Data Monitor

# **Policy**

# Mexico Declares Ineffective Measures Concerning Genetically Engineered (GE) Corn

On February 5, the GOM <u>published</u> a decree to declare ineffective measures concerning genetically engineered (GE) corn that the <u>United States successfully challenged in the USMCA dispute</u>. The decree declared ineffective article seven of the <u>2023 Corn Decree</u> which instructed agencies and entities of the Federal Public Administration to carry out actions to gradually substitute of genetically modified corn for animal feed. Animal feed and livestock sector contacts report that they remain vigilant for any future non-science-based measures by the GOM that would impact market access to corn and other feed ingredients. In 2024, the United States exported USD 5.6 billion of corn to Mexico, the largest export market for U.S. corn.

#### **Extension of Presidential Anti-Inflation Decree**

On December 31, 2024 the GOM <u>published an extension</u> to the presidential anti-inflation decree for select agricultural products to combat inflation and the impacts of drought on food prices (see <u>GAIN MX2025-0011</u>). The decree will continue to give non-free trade agreement partners the duty-free access the U.S. enjoys under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. The benefits apply to companies who are part of the 'Register of Importers of Products of the Basic Basket.' In article one, the decree updates Harmonized System Codes included on <u>the January 6, 2023 version</u> of the anti-inflation decree. The extension is valid through December 31, 2025, but companies registered under the program may use the benefits of the decree until March 31, 2026.

# **For More Information**

Visit www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Report Number	Title	Dated
MX2024-0051	Dairy and Products Annual	10/22/2024
MX2024-0026	Dairy and Products Semi-annual	05/20/2024
MX2023-0054	Dairy and Products Annual	10/24/2023
MX2023-0025	Dairy and Products Semi-annual	05/19/2023
MX2022-0056	Dairy and Products Annual	10/24/2022

# **Attachments:**

No Attachments