

GAO

Fact Sheet for the Chairman,
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
and Forestry, U.S. Senate

August 1991

FEDERAL DAIRY PROGRAMS

Information on Farm and Retail Milk Prices



144699



**Resources, Community, and
Economic Development Division**

B-244349

August 28, 1991

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In your January 3, 1991, letter, you expressed concern that milk prices at the farm level have dropped since August 1990 while retail dairy prices have not reflected these lower costs. Following your request and subsequent discussions with your office, we agreed to provide information on how retail and farm-level prices have changed since 1984 for milk, cheese, and processed dairy products nationwide, and for milk in 29 selected U.S. cities. As agreed, we concentrated especially on changes since August 1990. While decreases did occur in farm-level and retail milk prices, it should be recognized that a given percentage decrease in farm-level milk prices would not necessarily result in the same percentage decrease in retail dairy prices. In fact, various researchers have estimated that a 10-percent change in farm-level milk prices, if fully passed through to the consumer, would result in about a 4-percent change in retail dairy prices if other factors remained unchanged.

In summary, we found the following:

- Milk prices at the farm level declined steadily nationwide from August 1990 through April 1991. However, national retail prices for milk, cheese, and processed dairy products actually increased from August through October 1990 before slightly decreasing through May 1991. Specifically, during this 10-month period, the national index for milk prices at the farm level declined by about 21.5 percent, whereas the national retail price indexes for the three dairy products decreased slightly—milk by 4.6 percent, cheese by 0.7 percent, and processed dairy products by 0.2 percent. As a result, the spread (difference) between farm and retail prices during this 10-month period increased. Specific cost data are not available in sufficient detail at the various marketing levels—processor, wholesale, and retail—to determine what caused the large difference between the farm milk and retail dairy prices. In May 1991 farm milk prices began to rise slightly, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Economic Research Service (ERS) expects seasonal price increases for farm milk through the end of 1991.

- In the 29 cities, announced dairy cooperative milk prices (farm-level) decreased an average of 19.5 percent and retail milk prices decreased an average of 8.2 percent for this 10-month period. Retail milk prices and the cooperative-to-retail price spreads varied considerably among the 29 cities. For example, in August 1990 the retail prices ranged from a high of \$3.14 for a gallon of milk in Houston, Texas, to a low of \$2.06 in Louisville, Kentucky. The cooperative-to-retail spreads in August ranged from a high of \$1.64 for Houston to a low of \$0.68 for Louisville.
- Retail prices for dairy products increased nationwide by about 1 to 2 percent annually for most of the 1980s. Compared with other food products, dairy retail prices were relatively stable and increased by a smaller percentage than retail prices of most other foods during this period. In 1990 retail prices increased for all foods except poultry, whose price decreased by about 1 percent.

This fact sheet is divided into four sections. Section 1 contains background information on the federal milk marketing order system, the demand for dairy products, and the effect of changes in farm milk prices on retail dairy prices. Section 2 contains information on changes in selected dairy product prices at the farm, processor, and retail levels as reported by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) since December 1984. Section 3 contains information on prices announced by dairy cooperatives and retail prices for milk sold in 29 cities since January 1985. Section 4 contains information on changes in retail prices and farm-to-retail price spreads for dairy and eight other food products from 1980 to 1990.

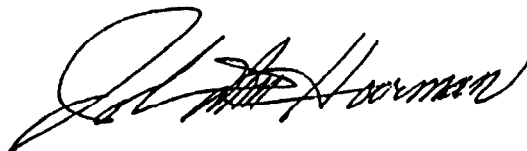
We obtained the information for this fact sheet from BLS and USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and ERS. At BLS, we gathered national Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index data. At AMS, we gathered dairy cooperative price and retail price data for whole milk for 29 cities. We selected these 29 cities because they were the only cities for which AMS had monthly data on milk prices for both retail and farm levels. We did not independently verify these data. We also reviewed reports prepared by ERS and others on the prices of dairy and other food products.

We conducted our work between January and June 1991 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Because this fact sheet contains only factual information, we did not obtain official agency comments. However, we discussed the information in this fact

sheet with AMS and ERS officials and have incorporated their comments where appropriate.

We are sending copies of this fact sheet to the Secretary of Agriculture and other interested parties. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 275-5138. Major contributors to this fact sheet are listed in appendix I.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Harman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

John W. Harman
Director, Food and
Agriculture Issues

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Abbreviations

AMS	Agricultural Marketing Service
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics
ERS	Economic Research Service
GAO	General Accounting Office
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture

Background

This section provides background information on the federal milk marketing order system, the demand for dairy products, and the effect of changes in farm milk prices on retail dairy prices.

Federal milk marketing orders regulate handlers¹ who sell milk or milk products within an order region. The orders require the handlers to pay minimum prices for the Grade A milk they purchase from dairy producers, depending on how the milk is used. Grade A milk accounts for about 90 percent of all milk marketed in the United States, and federal milk marketing orders regulate 80 percent of that amount. Thus, about 70 percent of all milk is regulated under the federal order system. Although marketing orders indirectly influence the price consumers pay for milk, the orders do not regulate the wholesale or retail price of milk. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers the federal milk marketing order system.

Most federal milk marketing orders establish three use classifications. Class I includes products for fluid consumption such as whole milk, skim milk, and lowfat milk. Class II includes cream, yogurt, cottage cheese, and ice cream. Class III includes butter, cheese, and nonfat dry milk.

The demand for dairy products is sensitive to a number of factors, including changes in consumer prices, consumer income, and the prices of substitutes. For example, a USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) estimate suggests that a 10-percent decrease in dairy retail prices will result in a 3-percent increase in per capita consumption of total dairy products.

Retail prices of dairy products are determined by several variables, including the farm price of milk; the costs of handling, processing, and marketing; and wholesalers' and retailers' profits. It should be recognized that a given percentage decrease in farm-level milk prices would not necessarily result in the same percentage decrease in retail dairy prices. In fact, various researchers have estimated that a 10-percent change in farm-level milk prices, if fully passed through to the consumer, would result in about a 4-percent change in retail dairy prices if other factors remained unchanged.

¹Handlers are firms that purchase milk from dairy farmers or cooperatives for processing into dairy products or for distribution to others.

Section 1
Background

Some previous research suggests that retail price changes may lag behind farm milk price changes by about 2 months. Nonetheless, we present data on the spread between farm price changes and retail price changes with no lags. We found no appreciable differences in the timing or size of these spreads when the data were adjusted for such lags.

Changes in Prices for Selected Dairy Products, December 1984 Through May 1991

This section discusses changes in Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indexed prices for milk, processed dairy products, and cheese at the farm, dairy processor, and retail levels. The first part of the section covers the recent period the requester was primarily interested in—from August 1990 through May 1991—while the second part covers a longer period to show trends from December 1984 through May 1991.

Changes in Dairy Prices, August 1990 Through May 1991

National average farm milk prices declined steadily from August 1990 through April 1991. However, national retail prices for the three dairy products (milk, cheese, and processed dairy products) we looked at actually increased from August through October 1990 before decreasing slightly through May 1991. Specifically, during this 10-month period, the farm milk price index declined by about 21.5 percent for milk used for fluid use and about 21.7 for milk used for manufacturing purposes. The retail price indexes for the three dairy products decreased slightly—milk by 4.6 percent, cheese by 0.7 percent, and processed dairy products by 0.2 percent. In May 1991 farm milk prices began to rise slightly and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Economic Research Service (ERS) expects seasonal price increases for farm milk through the end of 1991.

Table 2.1 presents BLS data on price indexes of selected dairy products from August 1990 through May 1991.

Table 2.1: Price Indexes of Selected Dairy Products, August 1990 Through May 1991

Month and year	Farm level milk		Processor level		Retail level		
	Fluid use	Manufacturing	Fluid milk	Cheese	Whole milk	Processed products	Cheese
Aug. 1990	106.1	103.9	123.0	120.0	127.1	128.4	133.1
Sept.	105.6	99.9	123.8	113.7	127.5	128.5	133.5
Oct.	97.1	86.1	124.2	113.9	129.1	129.0	133.8
Nov.	93.6	81.7	122.9	107.7	128.9	128.7	133.7
Dec.	86.7	81.6	119.0	106.1	126.0	128.4	132.7
Jan. 1991	85.4	80.3	118.0	105.9	123.2	127.7	131.7
Feb.	84.9	80.1	116.2	105.3	122.1	128.6	133.1
Mar.	84.5	79.6	115.7	105.7	122.1	128.3	132.4
Apr.	82.7	79.2	117.2	104.8	121.5	128.0	132.1
May	83.3	81.4	116.9	105.4	121.3	128.1	132.2

Source: BLS Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index data.

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Changes in Prices for Selected Dairy
Products, December 1984 Through May 1991

Changes in Dairy
Prices, December 1984
Through May 1991

The spread between the farm milk price and the retail prices for milk, processed dairy products, and cheese during late 1990 and early 1991 was the largest during the period reviewed—from December 1984 through May 1991.

Table 2.2 presents BLS data on price indexes of selected dairy products quarterly from December 1984 through March 1991, and data for May 1991.

Table 2.2: Price Indexes of Selected Dairy Products, December 1984 Through May 1991

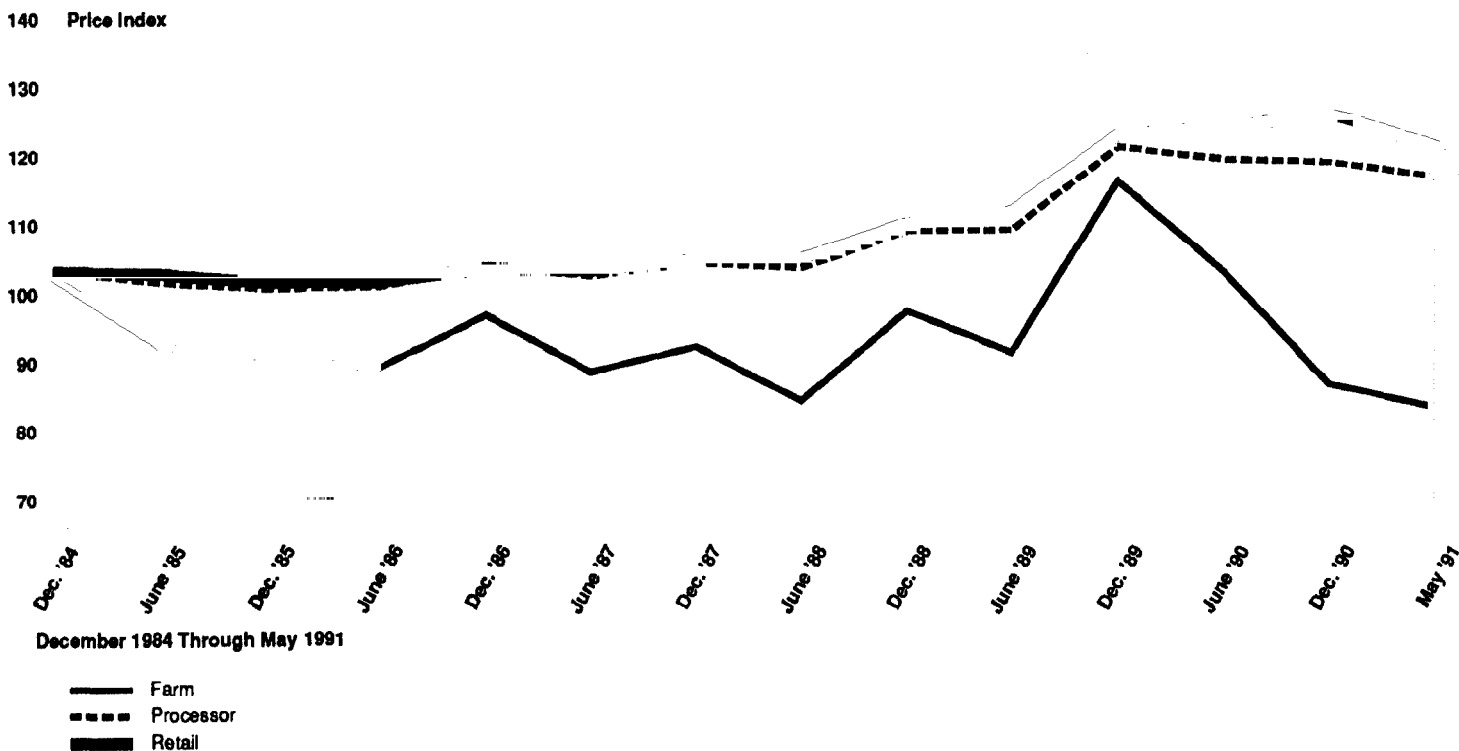
Month and year	Farm level milk		Processor level		Retail level		
	Fluid use	Manufacturing	Fluid milk	Cheese	Whole milk	Processed products	Cheese
Dec. 1984	102.2	100.3	103.2	102.2	103.0	103.9	102.8
Mar. 1985	98.7	97.8	102.5	100.6	103.0	104.1	103.1
June	92.1	91.1	101.4	97.6	102.6	104.0	102.7
Sept.	90.9	89.6	100.6	95.7	102.0	104.8	103.8
Dec.	90.5	89.7	100.4	95.8	101.4	104.5	103.1
Mar. 1986	89.1	88.3	100.2	96.3	101.1	104.6	103.1
June	88.8	87.6	100.7	96.4	101.4	104.7	103.1
Sept.	92.1	89.6	101.5	97.3	101.3	105.9	103.7
Dec.	96.6	94.1	103.5	98.6	103.4	106.9	104.5
Mar. 1987	92.8	90.2	104.4	96.4	103.0	107.7	105.6
June	88.4	87.9	102.4	96.2	103.1	107.8	105.7
Sept.	93.2	91.0	103.3	97.5	104.4	108.6	106.1
Dec.	92.1	89.2	104.2	95.4	104.8	108.8	107.0
Mar. 1988	87.3	84.2	103.8	94.2	104.9	109.5	107.6
June	84.2	82.6	103.5	94.2	104.9	109.7	107.6
Sept.	91.3	91.8	105.4	100.9	106.3	111.6	110.0
Dec.	97.3	96.9	108.9	104.1	110.1	113.3	112.6
Mar. 1989	92.2	87.6	110.8	99.7	113.1	115.2	114.5
June	91.3	90.4	109.1	103.1	111.8	115.3	114.4
Sept.	103.3	103.7	111.8	114.6	114.2	118.2	119.1
Dec.	116.2	117.8	121.2	121.0	123.0	123.7	126.9
Mar. 1990	101.5	96.0	124.6	109.5	127.5	126.7	130.3
June	103.0	105.3	119.4	116.4	124.1	126.2	130.0
Sept.	105.6	99.9	123.8	113.7	127.5	128.5	133.5
Dec.	86.7	81.6	119.0	106.1	126.0	128.4	132.7
Mar. 1991	84.5	79.6	115.7	105.7	122.1	128.3	132.4
May	83.3	81.4	116.9	105.4	121.3	128.1	132.2

Source: BLS Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index data.

Changes in BLS-Indexed Prices for Milk

The spread between the farm milk price and both the processor and retail prices for milk during late 1990 and early 1991 was the largest during the period reviewed. Also, although the spread between the processor and retail prices was relatively stable through the end of 1989, it began to widen in 1990 and early 1991. Figure 2.1 shows how BLS-indexed prices for milk at the farm, dairy processor, and retail levels changed from December 1984 through May 1991.

Figure 2.1: Trends in the Milk Price Index, December 1984 Through May 1991



Source: GAO illustration based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

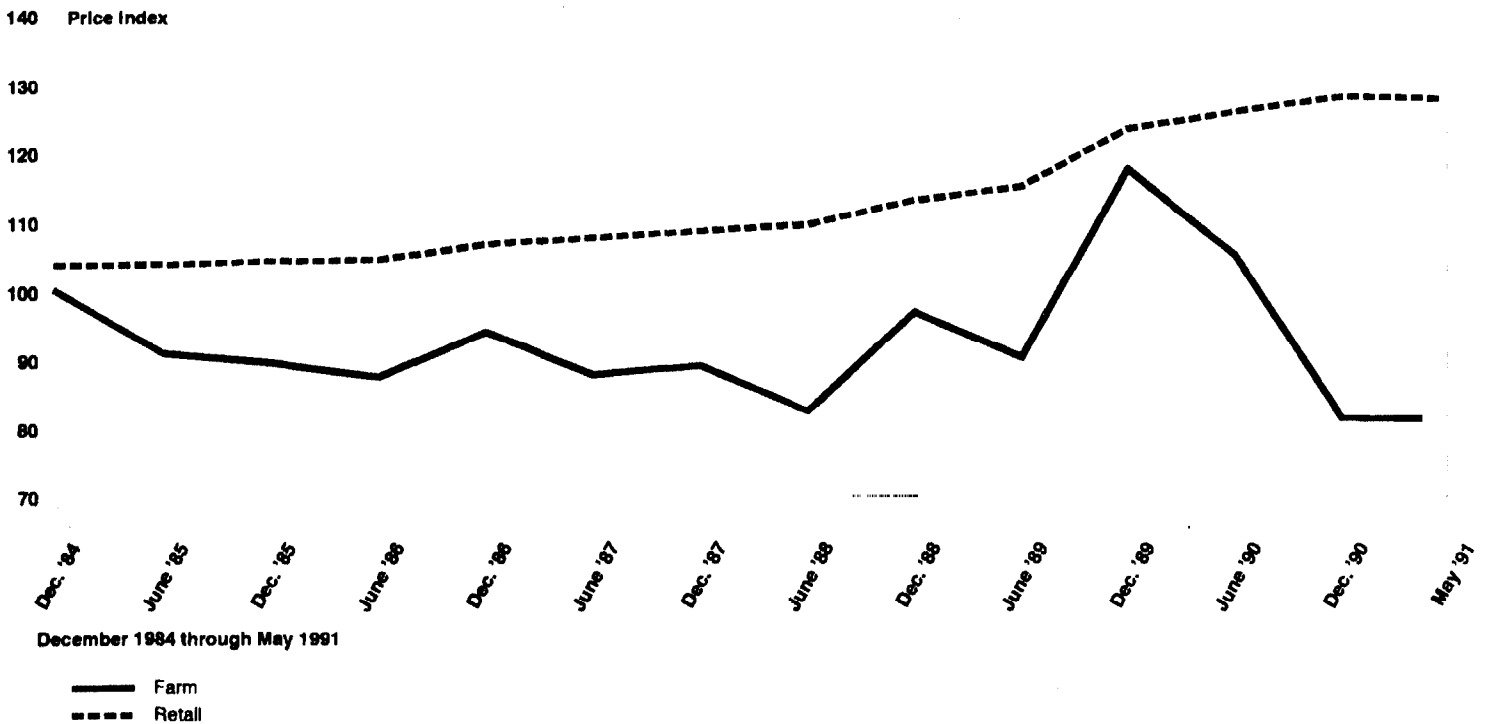
Changes in BLS-Indexed Prices for Processed Dairy Products

The spread between the farm milk price and retail prices for processed dairy products during late 1990 and early 1991 was also the largest during the period reviewed. Retail prices for processed dairy products have risen steadily since December 1984, without any significant or long-term declines. Figure 2.2 shows how BLS-indexed prices for

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 Changes in Prices for Selected Dairy
 Products, December 1984 Through May 1991

processed dairy products at the farm and retail levels changed from December 1984 through May 1991.

Figure 2.2: Trends in the Processed Dairy Products Price Index, December 1984 Through May 1991.



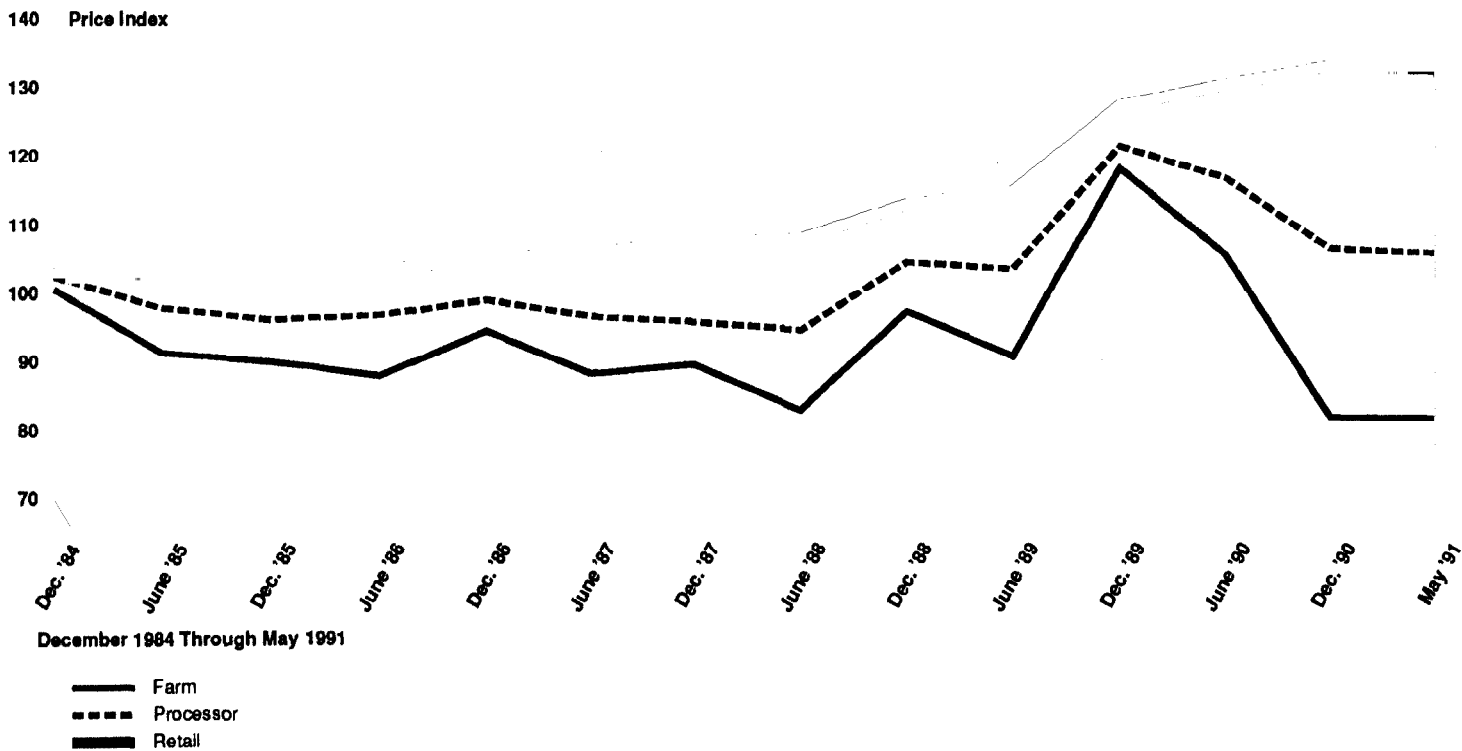
Source: GAO illustration based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Changes in BLS-Indexed
 Prices for Cheese

Similarly, the spread between the farm milk price and both the processor and retail prices for cheese during late 1990 and early 1991 was the largest during the period reviewed. Also, the spread between the processor and retail prices for cheese was largest at the end of 1990 and early 1991. Figure 2.3 shows how BLS-indexed prices for cheese at the farm, dairy processor, and retail levels changed from December 1984 through May 1991.

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 Products, December 1984 Through May 1991

Figure 2.3: Trends in the Cheese Price Index, December 1984 Through May 1991



Source: GAO illustration based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January 1985 Through May 1991

This section discusses our analysis of data from the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) on (1) prices announced by dairy cooperatives to the handlers who buy milk from them and (2) retail prices for milk sold in 29 U.S. cities from January 1985 through May 1991. We selected these 29 cities because they were the only cities for which AMS had monthly data on milk prices for both retail and farm levels.

The announced cooperative price is the Class I milk price announced by the major cooperative in each of the city markets. The announced cooperative price does not apply to all Class I sales in these city markets and is not necessarily the price actually received for all of the milk sold by the major cooperative. Also, these prices have not been verified as actually having been paid by handlers.

The retail price data were collected by federal milk order market administrators who surveyed the largest and second largest food retailing chains and the largest dairy/convenience store in 29 selected U.S. cities. The surveys were conducted during the first 10 days of each month and the same stores were surveyed each month. The price represents the most common brand of whole milk sold in each store.

Changes in Milk Prices, August 1990 Through May 1991

Our analysis of retail and announced cooperative prices for whole milk in 29 cities from August 1990 through May 1991 showed the following:

- Announced cooperative prices decreased an average of 16.4 percent by December and 19.5 percent by May 1991. The August-to-May changes ranged from a 14-percent decrease for Miami to a 23-percent decrease for Minneapolis.
- Retail prices decreased an average of 3.4 percent by December and 8.2 percent by May 1991. The August-to-May changes ranged from a 2-percent increase for Detroit to a 22-percent decrease for St. Louis.
- Retail prices for a gallon of milk varied considerably. For example, in August 1990 they ranged from a high of \$3.14 per gallon in Houston to a low of \$2.06 in Louisville.
- The spreads between the announced cooperative price and retail price for a gallon of milk also varied considerably. For example, in August 1990 the spreads ranged from a high of \$1.64 for Houston to a low of \$0.68 for Louisville.

Table 3.1 shows changes in retail and announced cooperative prices for a gallon of whole milk from August 1990 through May 1991. The December 1990 prices were the latest prices available at the time the

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991

requester asked us to review dairy prices, and the May 1991 prices were the most current available.

Table 3.1: Changes in Retail and Announced Cooperative Prices for a Gallon of Whole Milk, August 1990 Through May 1991

City	1990					1991					Aug. to Dec. change		Aug. to May change	
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Amount	%	Amount	%
Atlanta														
Retail	\$2.22	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.22	\$2.15	\$0.10	5%	\$-0.07	-3%
Cooperative	1.52	1.53	1.51	1.46	1.29	1.27	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.21	-0.23	-15	-0.31	-20
Baltimore														
Retail	2.48	2.50	2.56	2.52	2.44	2.43	2.44	2.40	2.40	2.44	-0.04	-2	-0.04	-2
Cooperative	1.51	1.53	1.50	1.45	1.27	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26	-0.24	-16	-0.25	-17
Boston														
Retail	2.47	2.45	2.51	2.51	2.37	2.39	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.36	-0.10	-4	-0.11	-4
Cooperative	1.55	1.56	1.53	1.48	1.31	1.27	1.25	1.24	1.23	1.22	-0.24	-15	-0.33	-21
Carbondale														
Retail	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.28	2.28	2.24	2.21	2.17	2.18	-0.03	-1	-0.13	-6
Cooperative	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.45	1.23	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.18	-0.23	-16	-0.28	-19
Chicago														
Retail	2.60	2.63	2.63	2.53	2.51	2.49	2.49	2.54	2.43	2.47	-0.09	-3	-0.13	-5
Cooperative	1.51	1.52	1.50	1.44	1.26	1.24	1.22	1.22	1.21	1.21	-0.25	-17	-0.30	-20
Cincinnati														
Retail	2.29	2.32	2.32	2.29	2.22	2.12	2.12	2.09	1.99	1.99	-0.07	-3	-0.30	-13
Cooperative	1.44	1.46	1.43	1.38	1.22	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.13	1.13	-0.22	-15	-0.31	-22
Cleveland														
Retail	2.44	2.48	2.49	2.46	2.39	2.39	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	-0.05	-2	-0.08	-3
Cooperative	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.13	1.13	-0.22	-15	-0.29	-20
Dallas														
Retail	2.86	2.91	2.79	2.79	2.79	2.42	2.22	2.32	2.46	2.46	-0.07	-2	-0.40	-14
Cooperative	1.45	1.47	1.44	1.39	1.21	1.20	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18	-0.24	-17	-0.27	-19
Denver														
Retail	2.65	2.67	2.66	2.65	2.65	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	0	0	-0.13	-5
Cooperative	1.46	1.48	1.45	1.40	1.22	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.19	1.18	-0.24	-16	-0.28	-19
Detroit														
Retail	2.23	2.45	2.42	2.42	2.39	2.31	2.27	2.13	2.27	2.27	0.16	7	0.04	2
Cooperative	1.38	1.39	1.37	1.32	1.22	1.17	1.15	1.15	1.12	1.12	-0.16	-12	-0.26	-19
Hartford														
Retail	2.50	2.51	2.54	2.53	2.42	2.42	2.41	2.39	2.38	2.38	-0.08	-3	-0.12	-5
Cooperative	1.54	1.55	1.52	1.47	1.30	1.26	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.22	-0.24	-16	-0.32	-21

(continued)

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991**

City	1990					1991					Aug. to Dec. change		Aug. to May change	
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Amount	%	Amount	%
Houston														
Retail	\$3.14	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$2.93	\$2.93	\$2.81	\$2.81	\$2.81	\$2.66	\$2.59	-\$0.21	-7%	-\$0.55	-18%
Cooperative	1.50	1.51	1.48	1.44	1.26	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22	-0.24	-16	-0.28	-19
Indianapolis														
Retail	2.67	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.24	2.24	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.17	-0.43	-16	-0.50	-19
Cooperative	1.41	1.44	1.41	1.36	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.15	1.15	-0.22	-16	-0.26	-18
Kansas City														
Retail	2.50	2.54	2.59	2.53	2.44	2.31	2.30	2.22	2.22	2.22	-0.06	-2	-0.28	-11
Cooperative	1.43	1.43	1.40	1.34	1.15	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	-0.28	-20	-0.31	-22
Louisville														
Retail	2.06	2.06	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	1.95	1.95	-0.02	-1	-0.11	-5
Cooperative	1.38	1.39	1.36	1.31	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.17	1.15	1.12	-0.24	-17	-0.26	-19
Miami														
Retail	2.95	2.97	2.98	2.97	2.97	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	0.02	1	-0.10	-3
Cooperative	1.66	1.66	1.63	1.59	1.45	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	-0.21	-13	-0.23	-14
Milwaukee														
Retail	2.61	2.61	2.61	2.47	2.29	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	-0.32	-12	-0.25	-10
Cooperative	1.48	1.49	1.47	1.41	1.23	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18	-0.25	-17	-0.30	-20
Minneapolis														
Retail	2.62	2.62	2.61	2.58	2.45	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	-0.17	-6	-0.22	-8
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.31	1.24	1.05	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	-0.28	-21	-0.31	-23
Nashville														
Retail	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.04	2.04	-0.10	-5	-0.08	-4
Cooperative	1.41	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.17	1.17	1.16	1.18	1.17	1.16	-0.24	-17	-0.25	-18
New Orleans														
Retail	2.48	2.46	2.46	2.43	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.32	2.28	-0.12	-5	-0.20	-8
Cooperative	1.52	1.53	1.53	1.44	1.26	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.22	-0.26	-17	-0.30	-20
Oklahoma City														
Retail	2.72	2.72	2.66	2.74	2.67	2.60	2.57	2.55	2.51	2.37	-0.05	-2	-0.35	-13
Cooperative	1.41	1.42	1.40	1.35	1.17	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13	-0.24	-17	-0.28	-20
Omaha														
Retail	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.49	2.34	2.26	2.26	2.22	2.22	2.22	-0.20	-8	-0.32	-13
Cooperative	1.41	1.41	1.39	1.33	1.14	1.11	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	-0.27	-19	-0.31	-22
Philadelphia														
Retail	2.40	2.41	2.41	2.40	2.41	2.29	2.19	2.15	2.14	2.12	0.01	0	-0.28	-12
Cooperative	1.51	1.52	1.49	1.45	1.27	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26	-0.24	-16	-0.25	-17

(continued)

Section 3
Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991

City	1990					1991					Aug. to Dec. change		Aug. to May change	
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Amount	%	Amount	%
Phoenix														
Retail	\$2.30	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.28	\$2.31	\$0.01	0%	\$0.01	0%
Cooperative	1.36	1.37	1.34	1.29	1.12	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.08	-0.24	-18	-0.28	-21
Pittsburgh														
Retail	2.44	2.46	2.42	2.34	2.20	2.18	2.17	2.16	2.16	2.16	-0.24	-10	-0.28	-11
Cooperative	1.43	1.44	1.41	1.36	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.17	1.17	-0.22	-15	-0.26	-18
St. Louis														
Retail	3.04	3.04	3.04	2.64	2.40	2.40	2.36	2.33	2.36	2.36	-0.64	-21	-0.68	-22
Cooperative	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.45	1.23	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.18	-0.23	-16	-0.28	-19
Salt Lake City														
Retail	2.39	2.40	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.05	1.99	1.99	1.98	1.95	-0.01	0	-0.44	-18
Cooperative	1.32	1.33	1.30	1.25	1.08	1.06	1.05	1.05	1.04	1.04	-0.24	-18	-0.28	-21
Seattle														
Retail	2.62	2.65	2.67	2.67	2.72	2.75	2.75	2.64	2.62	2.61	0.10	4	0.01	0
Cooperative	1.34	1.36	1.33	1.28	1.10	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.06	-0.24	-18	-0.28	-21
Washington, DC														
Retail	2.49	2.53	2.52	2.49	2.44	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34	-0.05	-2	-0.15	-6
Cooperative	1.51	1.53	1.50	1.45	1.27	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26	-0.24	-16	-0.25	-17

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Spread Between Retail and Announced Cooperative Prices

According to our analysis of retail prices for a gallon of whole milk compared with prices announced by cooperatives to milk handlers in 29 U.S. cities since 1985, 17 of the 21 cities for which data were available for each year had larger spreads between the two prices in 1990 than in any of the previous 5 years.¹ Thus, most dairy cooperatives supplying milk to these 17 city markets received a smaller share of the retail price in 1990 than in any of the 5 previous years. In 1990 the average price spreads ranged from a high of \$1.50 per gallon of milk in Houston to a low of \$0.76 per gallon in Nashville.

Of these 17 cities, 14 cities had even larger spreads for the first 5 months of 1991 and 2 cities had the same spreads. In 1991 the average price spreads ranged from a high of \$1.60 per gallon of milk in Seattle to a low of \$0.86 per gallon in both Nashville and Louisville.

¹Data for eight cities were not available for each of the 5 years.

Section 3
Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991

Table 3.2 shows the average annual spread between retail prices and prices announced by cooperative to handlers for a gallon of whole milk for 29 U.S. cities from 1985 through May 1991.

Table 3.2: Spread Between Retail and Announced Cooperative Prices for a Gallon of Whole Milk for 29 Cities, January 1985 Through May 1991

City	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Atlanta	\$1.20	\$1.23	\$1.13	\$0.90	\$0.70	\$0.79	\$1.01
Baltimore	0.70	0.73	0.70	0.75	0.86	1.02	1.15
Boston	0.59	0.66	0.66	0.73	0.79	0.97	1.14
Carbondale	0.67	0.80	0.62	0.73	0.80	0.78	1.02
Chicago	^a	0.80	0.94	1.09	1.16	1.08	1.26
Cincinnati	0.47	0.45	0.53	0.55	0.56	0.83	0.90
Cleveland	0.70	0.71	0.73	0.75	0.84	1.04	1.21
Dallas	1.33	1.35	1.42	0.87	1.02	1.35	1.19
Denver	1.09	0.99	^a	0.75	0.85	1.16	1.33
Detroit	0.59	0.62	0.70	0.70	0.73	0.97	1.11
Hartford	0.71	0.73	0.71	0.69	0.78	0.99	1.16
Houston	0.76	1.04	1.21	1.26	1.04	1.50	1.50
Indianapolis	^a	0.80	0.82	0.84	0.90	1.07	1.02
Kansas City	0.80	0.81	0.82	0.91	0.95	1.12	1.14
Louisville	0.59	0.57	0.55	0.62	0.54	0.82	0.86
Miami	0.92	0.98	0.87	1.02	1.12	1.29	1.42
Milwaukee	^a	0.75	0.79	0.90	0.95	1.08	1.17
Minneapolis	0.84	0.88	0.97	1.00	1.08	1.27	1.38
Nashville	0.77	0.80	0.77	0.73	0.89	0.76	0.86
New Orleans	0.70	0.70	0.67	0.65	0.77	1.01	1.10
Oklahoma City	1.14	1.09	1.07	1.10	1.07	1.30	1.37
Omaha	^a	^a	^a	0.83	0.95	1.11	1.13
Philadelphia	0.66	0.70	0.68	0.68	0.73	0.89	0.91
Phoenix	0.69	^a	0.64	0.70	0.87	0.96	1.22
Pittsburgh	0.67	0.70	0.71	0.74	0.87	0.99	0.99
St. Louis	0.96	1.07	1.06	1.19	1.35	1.48	1.16
Salt Lake City	0.67	^a	^a	0.85	0.93	1.12	0.94
Seattle	1.03	1.07	1.06	1.11	1.11	1.31	1.60
Washington, DC	0.62	0.64	0.62	^a	0.90	1.02	1.07

^aFull-year data not available.
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991**

Table 3.4: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1985

City	1985											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54
Cooperative	1.42	1.42	1.39	1.39	1.36	1.34	1.36	1.31	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27
Difference	1.12	1.12	1.15	1.15	1.18	1.20	1.18	1.23	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27
Baltimore												
Retail	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96
Cooperative	1.35	1.33	1.32	1.30	1.28	1.25	1.24	1.21	1.21	1.20	1.21	1.22
Difference	0.61	0.63	0.64	0.66	0.68	0.71	0.72	0.75	0.75	0.76	0.75	0.74
Boston												
Retail	1.83	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.88	1.89	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
Cooperative	1.37	1.36	1.34	1.33	1.31	1.28	1.26	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.24
Difference	0.46	0.49	0.51	0.51	0.57	0.61	0.64	0.66	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.66
Carbondale												
Retail	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94	2.02
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.29	1.27	1.24	1.23	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.20
Difference	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.61	0.63	0.66	0.67	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.82
Chicago												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.32	1.29	1.27	1.26	1.23	1.21	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cincinnati												
Retail	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.69	1.69	1.76	1.78	1.69	1.69	1.69	1.71	1.59
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.26	1.26	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Difference	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.43	0.43	0.55	0.57	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.53	0.41
Cleveland												
Retail	1.99	1.98	1.97	1.96	1.94	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.27	1.27	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19
Difference	0.68	0.67	0.66	0.69	0.67	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74
Dallas												
Retail	2.56	2.70	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56
Cooperative	1.35	1.33	1.32	1.29	1.26	1.23	1.21	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.19
Difference	1.21	1.37	1.24	1.27	1.30	1.33	1.35	1.37	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.37
Denver												
Retail	2.46	2.46	2.44	2.44	2.41	2.46	2.46	2.35	2.35	2.31	2.35	2.35
Cooperative	1.36	1.36	1.35	1.34	1.33	1.31	1.30	1.29	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28
Difference	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.10	1.08	1.15	1.16	1.06	1.07	1.03	1.07	1.07

(continued)

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
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Table 3.3: Percentage Changes in the Spread Between Retail and Announced Cooperative Prices for a Gallon of Whole Milk for 29 Cities, January 1986 Through May 1991

City	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Atlanta	2%	-8%	-20%	-23%	14%	28%
Baltimore	4	-4	8	14	19	14
Boston	11	1	10	9	23	17
Carbondale	20	-23	18	9	-2	30
Chicago	a	17	17	6	-7	17
Cincinnati	-5	19	3	1	49	9
Cleveland	1	2	2	13	24	16
Dallas	1	6	-39	17	32	-12
Denver	-9	a	a	13	37	14
Detroit	5	14	0	4	32	14
Hartford	3	-2	-3	13	27	17
Houston	37	16	4	-17	44	0
Indianapolis	a	2	2	7	19	-4
Kansas City	1	2	11	4	18	1
Louisville	-3	-4	13	-13	53	5
Miami	6	-11	17	10	15	10
Milwaukee	a	5	14	5	14	8
Minneapolis	6	10	3	7	18	9
Nashville	4	-3	-6	23	-15	14
New Orleans	0	-3	-3	17	31	10
Oklahoma City	-5	-2	3	-2	21	6
Omaha	a	a	a	14	17	2
Philadelphia	6	-2	0	7	23	2
Phoenix	a	a	9	24	11	26
Pittsburgh	5	1	4	17	14	0
St. Louis	12	-1	12	14	10	-22
Salt Lake City	a	a	a	10	21	-16
Seattle	4	0	4	1	18	22
Washington, DC	3	-4	a	a	13	5

^aFull-year data not available.
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Data on Milk Prices in 29 Cities

Tables 3.4 through 3.10 present data for January 1985 through May 1991 on the retail and announced cooperative prices for a gallon of whole milk for each of the 29 cities reviewed.

Percentage Changes in Spread Between Retail and Announced Cooperative Prices

Similarly, our analysis of the percentage changes from the previous year in the spread between the retail and announced cooperative prices shows that 16 of the 21 cities for which data were available for each year had a larger percentage increase in 1990 than in any of the previous 4 years.² In 1990 the percentage changes ranged from an increase of 53 percent in Louisville to a decrease of 15 percent in Nashville. Two of the 16 cities had a larger percentage increase in the first 5 months of 1991 than they did in 1990.

Table 3.3 shows the percentage changes from the previous year in the difference between the retail and announced cooperative prices for the 29 cities from January 1986 through May 1991.

²Data for eight cities were not available for each of the 4 years.

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City	1985											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Detroit												
Retail	\$1.86	\$1.92	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.72	\$1.79	\$1.66
Cooperative	1.25	1.23	1.22	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.19	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.18
Difference	0.61	0.69	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.60	0.61	0.62	0.55	0.62	0.48
Hartford												
Retail	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.02	2.03	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96
Cooperative	1.36	1.35	1.34	1.32	1.30	1.27	1.26	1.23	1.22	1.22	1.23	1.23
Difference	0.64	0.65	0.66	0.68	0.72	0.76	0.70	0.73	0.74	0.74	0.73	0.73
Houston												
Retail	2.39	2.36	2.12	1.98	1.98	1.95	1.98	1.95	1.97	1.97	1.96	1.96
Cooperative	1.38	1.36	1.35	1.32	1.30	1.27	1.26	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.24
Difference	1.01	1.00	0.77	0.66	0.68	0.68	0.72	0.71	0.74	0.74	0.73	0.72
Indianapolis												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.26	1.26	1.20	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Kansas City												
Retail	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.05	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02
Cooperative	1.32	1.31	1.30	1.28	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Difference	0.74	0.75	0.76	0.78	0.81	0.83	0.85	0.85	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82
Louisville												
Retail	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79
Cooperative	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.29	1.27	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Difference	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.60	0.62	0.65	0.55	0.57	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61
Miami												
Retail	2.46	2.46	2.46	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.43	2.26	2.26	2.26
Cooperative	1.54	1.54	1.52	1.52	1.51	1.47	1.50	1.50	1.41	1.41	1.41	1.41
Difference	0.92	0.92	0.94	0.91	0.92	0.96	0.93	0.93	1.02	0.85	0.85	0.85
Milwaukee												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.31	1.28	1.26	1.25	1.22	1.20	1.19	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Minneapolis												
Retail	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.97	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.97	1.97
Cooperative	1.23	1.21	1.20	1.18	1.16	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11
Difference	0.77	0.79	0.80	0.82	0.84	0.88	0.86	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.86
Nashville												
Retail	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.08	2.08	2.02	2.02	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.93
Cooperative	1.35	1.34	1.32	1.30	1.28	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.20	1.20	1.21	1.21
Difference	0.74	0.75	0.77	0.78	0.80	0.77	0.79	0.77	0.78	0.78	0.77	0.72

(continued)

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
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City	1985											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
New Orleans												
Retail	\$2.05	\$2.05	\$2.05	\$2.05	\$2.05	\$2.05	\$1.98	\$2.00	\$1.99	\$1.99	\$1.99	\$1.99
Cooperative	1.42	1.42	1.39	1.34	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27
Difference	0.63	0.63	0.66	0.71	0.72	0.74	0.67	0.69	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.48	2.48	2.48	2.41	2.41	2.37	2.37	2.37	2.37	2.37	2.32	2.39
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.31	1.29	1.27	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22
Difference	1.15	1.15	1.17	1.12	1.14	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.10	1.17
Omaha												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.30	1.29	1.28	1.26	1.24	1.20	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Philadelphia												
Retail	1.92	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92
Cooperative	1.35	1.33	1.32	1.30	1.28	1.25	1.24	1.22	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.22
Difference	0.57	0.60	0.61	0.63	0.65	0.67	0.68	0.70	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.70
Phoenix												
Retail	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
Cooperative	1.31	1.29	1.28	1.27	1.24	1.22	1.20	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.18
Difference	0.61	0.63	0.64	0.65	0.68	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.72
Pittsburgh												
Retail	2.00	1.99	1.96	1.94	1.92	1.88	1.85	1.87	1.89	1.88	1.90	1.90
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.27	1.27	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19
Difference	0.69	0.68	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.66	0.63	0.65	0.70	0.69	0.71	0.71
St. Louis												
Retail	2.17	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.29	1.26	1.23	1.22	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.20
Difference	0.84	0.88	0.88	0.92	0.95	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.01
Salt Lake City												
Retail	1.89	1.89	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.91	1.91	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82
Cooperative	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.24	1.22	1.18	1.17	1.15	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.15
Difference	0.60	0.60	0.63	0.68	0.70	0.73	0.74	0.67	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.67
Seattle												
Retail	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
Cooperative	1.28	1.26	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.18	1.17	1.15	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.15
Difference	0.95	0.97	0.98	1.00	1.02	1.05	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.06

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**Section 3
Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
Retail Prices for Milk in 29 Cities, January
1985 Through May 1991**

City	1985											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Washington, DC												
Retail	\$1.86	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$1.88
Cooperative	1.35	1.34	1.33	1.31	1.29	1.26	1.25	1.22	1.21	1.21	1.22	1.22
Difference	0.51	0.55	0.56	0.58	0.60	0.63	0.64	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.66

*Data not available.
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3.5: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1986

City	1986											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.37	1.37	1.37
Difference	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.17	1.17	1.17
Baltimore												
Retail	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.26	1.28	1.29
Difference	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.76	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.70	0.68	0.67
Boston												
Retail	1.90	1.91	1.91	1.91	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.25	1.24	1.24	1.25	1.25	1.28	1.31	1.33
Difference	0.66	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.59
Carbondale												
Retail	1.95	1.95	1.98	1.98	2.05	2.05	2.14	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.06	2.08
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.28	1.28	1.28
Difference	0.74	0.74	0.77	0.77	0.81	0.81	0.90	0.84	0.84	0.80	0.78	0.80
Chicago												
Retail	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	2.04	2.04	2.08
Cooperative	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.23	1.27	1.27
Difference	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.81	0.77	0.81
Cincinnati												
Retail	1.68	1.68	1.69	1.69	1.69	1.62	1.66	1.62	1.56	1.59	1.66	1.66
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.33
Difference	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.44	0.48	0.43	0.37	0.37	0.44	0.33
Cleveland												
Retail	1.93	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.89	1.90	1.90	1.93	1.93	1.95
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.24
Difference	0.74	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.70	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71

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City	1986											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Dallas												
Retail	\$2.72	\$2.72	\$2.42	\$2.47	\$2.47	\$2.47	\$2.51	\$2.51	\$2.58	\$2.76	\$2.73	\$2.74
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18	1.26	1.25	1.25	1.26	1.26	1.29	1.31	1.32
Difference	1.53	1.53	1.24	1.29	1.21	1.22	1.26	1.25	1.32	1.47	1.42	1.42
Denver												
Retail	2.36	2.36	2.35	2.35	2.33	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
Cooperative	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.29	1.29
Difference	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.08	1.06	0.95	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.92	0.92
Detroit												
Retail	1.79	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.79	1.86	1.86	1.82	1.79	1.78	1.88	1.78
Cooperative	1.18	1.17	1.15	1.15	1.17	1.15	1.15	1.17	1.17	1.19	1.21	1.22
Difference	0.61	0.55	0.57	0.57	0.62	0.71	0.71	0.65	0.62	0.59	0.67	0.56
Hartford												
Retail	1.96	1.99	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	2.01	1.96	1.97	1.97	1.98	2.00
Cooperative	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.22	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.24	1.24	1.28	1.31	1.32
Difference	0.73	0.76	0.75	0.76	0.74	0.75	0.78	0.72	0.73	0.69	0.67	0.68
Houston												
Retail	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.16	2.39	2.36	2.39	2.39	2.46	2.46	2.66
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.31	1.34	1.36	1.37
Difference	0.95	0.95	0.96	0.97	0.86	1.09	1.06	1.09	1.08	1.12	1.10	1.29
Indianapolis												
Retail	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.20	1.24	1.24
Difference	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.88	0.86	0.82	0.82
Kansas City												
Retail	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	1.99	1.99	1.99	2.00	2.00
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.17	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.25	1.25
Difference	0.83	0.83	0.84	0.85	0.84	0.84	0.83	0.80	0.79	0.77	0.75	0.75
Louisville												
Retail	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.26	1.26	1.26
Difference	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.53	0.53	0.53
Miami												
Retail	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.44	2.44	2.44	2.44	2.44	2.46	2.46	2.46
Cooperative	1.41	1.41	1.41	1.41	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.50	1.50	1.50
Difference	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.96	0.96	0.96
Milwaukee												
Retail	1.82	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.94	1.94	1.99	1.99	1.99
Cooperative	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.19	1.23	1.23
Difference	0.69	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.76	0.76	0.74	0.79	0.79	0.80	0.76	0.76

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City	1986											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Minneapolis												
Retail	\$1.97	\$1.97	\$1.97	\$1.97	\$1.96	\$1.96	\$1.97	\$1.98	\$1.98	\$2.03	\$2.03	\$2.05
Cooperative	1.10	1.10	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.10	1.10	1.12	1.13	1.16	1.16
Difference	0.87	0.87	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.88	0.86	0.90	0.87	0.89
Nashville												
Retail	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.12	2.12	2.12
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.27	1.28	1.28
Difference	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.76	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.85	0.84	0.84
New Orleans												
Retail	1.99	1.99	1.96	1.99	2.02	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.04
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.38	1.38	1.38
Difference	0.72	0.72	0.69	0.72	0.69	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.66	0.66	0.66
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.27	2.39	2.39	2.38	2.38	2.34	2.42	2.39	2.43
Cooperative	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.28	1.32	1.32	1.32
Difference	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.05	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.06	1.10	1.07	1.11
Omaha												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.16	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.21	1.23	1.23
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Philadelphia												
Retail	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.93	1.93	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.92
Cooperative	1.22	1.22	1.21	1.20	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.23	1.25	1.27	1.28
Difference	0.70	0.70	0.71	0.72	0.71	0.71	0.72	0.72	0.71	0.69	0.67	0.64
Phoenix												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.17	1.19	1.21	1.22
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Pittsburgh												
Retail	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.88	1.90	1.90	1.88	1.88	1.90	1.92	1.96	1.96
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.25
Difference	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.69	0.71	0.71	0.69	0.69	0.71	0.70	0.74	0.71
St. Louis												
Retail	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.33	2.38	2.38
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.28	1.28	1.28
Difference	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.04	1.04	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.05	1.10	1.10
Salt Lake City												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Cooperative	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.15	1.17	1.18	1.20
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a

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City	1986											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Seattle												
Retail	\$2.22	\$2.22	\$2.22	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.23	\$2.24	\$2.16
Cooperative	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.14	1.16	1.18	1.19
Difference	1.07	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.06	0.97
Washington, DC												
Retail	1.88	1.88	1.86	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.90	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.83	1.86
Cooperative	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.21	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.26	1.28	1.29
Difference	0.66	0.66	0.64	0.67	0.65	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.65	0.62	0.55	0.57

*Data not available.
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3.6: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1987

City	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.54
Cooperative	1.37	1.37	1.35	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36
Difference	1.07	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18
Baltimore												
Retail	1.96	1.99	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.98	2.00
Cooperative	1.31	1.30	1.29	1.25	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.29	1.30	1.30	1.30
Difference	0.65	0.69	0.67	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.67	0.66	0.68	0.70
Boston												
Retail	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.91	1.91	1.91	1.97	2.00	2.02	2.02
Cooperative	1.33	1.32	1.31	1.27	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.33
Difference	0.62	0.63	0.64	0.68	0.70	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.64	0.67	0.69	0.69
Carbondale												
Retail	2.08	1.95	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.82	1.86	1.86	1.92	1.89	1.88	1.91
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27
Difference	0.78	0.65	0.56	0.58	0.59	0.55	0.59	0.59	0.65	0.62	0.61	0.64
Chicago												
Retail	2.08	2.08	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.28	2.28	2.28
Cooperative	1.29	1.30	1.27	1.24	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.22	1.24	1.27	1.27	1.27
Difference	0.79	0.78	0.91	0.94	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.96	0.94	1.01	1.01	1.01
Cincinnati												
Retail	1.72	1.76	1.76	1.79	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.79	1.76	1.76	1.82
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24
Difference	0.45	0.49	0.49	0.59	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.55	0.52	0.52	0.58

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City	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Cleveland												
Retail	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$1.95	\$2.00	\$1.95	\$1.95
Cooperative	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24
Difference	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.71	0.76	0.71	0.71
Dallas												
Retail	2.64	2.78	2.81	2.81	2.72	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69
Cooperative	1.34	1.34	1.32	1.31	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.27	1.27	1.30	1.29
Difference	1.30	1.44	1.49	1.50	1.46	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.42	1.42	1.39	1.40
Denver												
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	1.98	2.02	2.02
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.29	1.27	1.29	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	0.72	0.76	0.76
Detroit												
Retail	1.92	1.94	1.91	1.91	1.81	1.91	1.91	1.91	1.88	1.91	1.86	1.86
Cooperative	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.18	1.18	1.19	1.19
Difference	0.68	0.71	0.69	0.73	0.64	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.70	0.73	0.67	0.67
Hartford												
Retail	1.99	1.99	1.99	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.99	1.99	2.04	2.01	2.01	2.00
Cooperative	1.33	1.31	1.30	1.26	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.25	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32
Difference	0.66	0.68	0.69	0.74	0.76	0.76	0.75	0.74	0.72	0.69	0.69	0.68
Houston												
Retail	2.61	2.64	2.54	2.64	2.51	2.61	2.51	2.49	2.42	2.56	2.46	2.56
Cooperative	1.39	1.38	1.37	1.36	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.35	1.34
Difference	1.22	1.26	1.17	1.28	1.20	1.30	1.20	1.18	1.10	1.24	1.11	1.22
Indianapolis												
Retail	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	1.99
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.25	1.23	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.21
Difference	0.79	0.79	0.81	0.83	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.83	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.78
Kansas City												
Retail	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06
Cooperative	1.25	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.20	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.23
Difference	0.78	0.78	0.80	0.82	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.86	0.84	0.83	0.83	0.83
Louisville												
Retail	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79
Cooperative	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.23	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.23	1.26	1.26	1.26
Difference	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.56	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.56	0.53	0.53	0.53
Miami												
Retail	2.42	2.42	2.22	2.22	2.36	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38
Cooperative	1.50	1.50	1.49	1.47	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Difference	0.92	0.92	0.73	0.75	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88

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City	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Milwaukee												
Retail	\$2.01	\$2.02	\$2.02	\$1.99	\$1.96	\$1.99	\$1.96	\$1.96	\$1.98	\$2.04	\$2.04	\$2.04
Cooperative	1.25	1.26	1.23	1.20	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.18	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.23
Difference	0.76	0.76	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.82	0.79	0.78	0.78	0.81	0.81	0.81
Minneapolis												
Retail	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.10	2.11	2.11	2.11
Cooperative	1.16	1.16	1.14	1.11	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.14	1.14	1.13
Difference	0.93	0.93	0.95	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.97	0.99	0.97	0.97	0.98
Nashville												
Retail	2.12	2.07	2.07	2.08	2.08	2.05	2.05	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	1.92
Cooperative	1.31	1.31	1.30	1.26	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.26	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.29
Difference	0.81	0.76	0.77	0.82	0.85	0.82	0.82	0.76	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.63
New Orleans												
Retail	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.09	2.09	2.10	2.10
Cooperative	1.38	1.38	1.36	1.35	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.36	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.39
Difference	0.63	0.63	0.65	0.66	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.65	0.70	0.70	0.71	0.71
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.45	2.42	2.42	2.44	2.29	2.44	2.38	2.34	2.32	2.32	2.36	2.32
Cooperative	1.34	1.35	1.34	1.32	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.31	1.29	1.30	1.29
Difference	1.11	1.07	1.08	1.12	1.00	1.15	1.09	1.05	1.01	1.03	1.06	1.03
Omaha												
Retail	a	a	a	a	1.92	1.96	1.89	1.94	1.94	1.97	1.97	1.94
Cooperative	1.23	1.23	1.22	1.19	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.19	1.21	1.22	1.22	1.21
Difference	a	a	a	a	0.76	0.80	0.73	0.75	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.73
Philadelphia												
Retail	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.93	1.95	1.99	1.99	1.99
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.28	1.25	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.23	1.28	1.30	1.30	1.30
Difference	0.63	0.63	0.65	0.68	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.70	0.67	0.69	0.69	0.69
Phoenix												
Retail	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.84	1.84	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.83	1.83
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.19	1.17	1.16	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.19
Difference	0.61	0.61	0.62	0.65	0.67	0.66	0.66	0.65	0.64	0.63	0.63	0.64
Pittsburgh												
Retail	2.00	2.00	1.98	1.92	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.92	1.92	1.94	1.94
Cooperative	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24
Difference	0.74	0.74	0.72	0.72	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.68	0.68	0.70	0.70
St. Louis												
Retail	2.32	2.40	2.40	2.36	2.33	2.33	2.33	2.32	2.22	2.37	2.32	2.32
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27
Difference	1.02	1.10	1.10	1.08	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.05	0.95	1.10	1.05	1.05

(continued)

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
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1985 Through May 1991**

City	1987												
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Salt Lake City													
Retail	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	\$1.93	\$1.91	\$1.91	\$1.91
Cooperative	1.24	1.22	1.22	1.15	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.16	
Difference	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	0.79	0.76	0.74	0.75
Seattle													
Retail	2.23	2.23	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.20	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.23	2.23	
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.19	1.15	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.17	1.16	
Difference	1.02	1.02	1.03	1.07	1.09	1.07	1.09	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.07	
Washington, DC													
Retail	1.86	1.82	1.82	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.92	1.92	2.01	2.00	
Cooperative	1.31	1.30	1.29	1.25	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.29	1.30	1.30	1.30	
Difference	0.55	0.52	0.53	0.61	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.62	0.71	0.70	

^aData not available.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3.7: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1988

City	1988											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.44	\$2.39	\$2.26	\$2.24	\$2.21	\$2.26	\$2.18	\$2.29	\$2.06	\$2.16	\$2.09	\$2.09
Cooperative	1.36	1.36	1.35	1.30	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.36	1.36
Difference	1.08	1.03	0.91	0.94	0.95	1.00	0.92	0.98	0.75	0.85	0.73	0.73
Baltimore												
Retail	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.03	2.06	2.12	2.12
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.29	1.25	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.24	1.28	1.32	1.36	1.39
Difference	0.70	0.70	0.71	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.80	0.79	0.75	0.74	0.76	0.73
Boston												
Retail	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.03	2.03	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.09
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.30	1.26	1.25	1.24	1.24	1.26	1.32	1.36	1.41	1.44
Difference	0.69	0.69	0.72	0.76	0.77	0.78	0.79	0.77	0.74	0.70	0.65	0.65
Carbondale												
Retail	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.96	1.99	1.99	2.01	2.01	2.08
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.23	1.20	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.22	1.22	1.26	1.27	1.29
Difference	0.65	0.65	0.69	0.72	0.72	0.74	0.78	0.77	0.77	0.75	0.74	0.79
Chicago												
Retail	2.27	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.34	2.40	2.42	2.32
Cooperative	1.26	1.23	1.21	1.18	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.19	1.19	1.24	1.27	1.31
Difference	1.01	1.05	1.07	1.10	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.09	1.15	1.16	1.15	1.01

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City	1988											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Cincinnati												
Retail	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.76	\$1.76	\$1.76	\$1.76	\$1.79	\$1.82	\$1.82	\$1.82	\$1.82	\$1.82
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.24	1.25	1.30	1.33	1.33
Difference	0.55	0.55	0.52	0.56	0.58	0.58	0.61	0.58	0.57	0.52	0.49	0.49
Cleveland												
Retail	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.94	1.94	1.96	1.99	2.02	2.00	2.03
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.20	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.22	1.22	1.29	1.29	1.29
Difference	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.76	0.79	0.77	0.77	0.74	0.77	0.73	0.71	0.74
Dallas												
Retail	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.19	2.08	2.11	2.11
Cooperative	1.29	1.28	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.21	1.26	1.30	1.34
Difference	0.83	0.84	0.86	0.90	0.91	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.98	0.82	0.81	0.77
Denver												
Retail	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.05	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.03	2.06	2.11
Cooperative	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.24	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.28	1.32	1.36	1.40
Difference	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.78	0.79	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.74	0.71	0.70	0.71
Detroit												
Retail	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.91	1.99
Cooperative	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.14	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.16	1.17	1.21	1.25	1.25
Difference	0.63	0.65	0.65	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.74	0.76	0.75	0.71	0.66	0.74
Hartford												
Retail	2.00	1.97	1.97	1.97	1.97	1.97	1.97	1.97	2.02	2.03	2.03	2.09
Cooperative	1.32	1.32	1.30	1.25	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.26	1.31	1.35	1.40	1.43
Difference	0.68	0.65	0.67	0.72	0.73	0.74	0.74	0.71	0.71	0.68	0.63	0.66
Houston												
Retail	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.46	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.56	2.46	2.49	2.72
Cooperative	1.33	1.32	1.30	1.27	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.26	1.31	1.35	1.38
Difference	1.23	1.24	1.26	1.19	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.30	1.15	1.14	1.34
Indianapolis												
Retail	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.89	2.09	2.06	2.12	2.09	2.09
Cooperative	1.21	1.20	1.19	1.15	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.17	1.18	1.25	1.25	1.25
Difference	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.84	0.87	0.87	0.77	0.92	0.88	0.87	0.84	0.84
Kansas City												
Retail	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.02	2.06	2.06	2.08	2.21	2.21
Cooperative	1.21	1.19	1.17	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.15	1.15	1.18	1.24	1.27
Difference	0.85	0.87	0.89	0.92	0.93	0.93	0.89	0.91	0.91	0.90	0.97	0.94
Louisville												
Retail	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.94	1.94	1.94
Cooperative	1.26	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.16	1.21	1.21	1.27	1.27
Difference	0.53	0.55	0.55	0.56	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.63	0.58	0.73	0.67	0.67

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City	1988											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Miami												
Retail	\$2.38	\$2.38	\$2.48	\$2.48	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.44	\$2.46	\$2.54	\$2.54	\$2.59	\$2.59
Cooperative	1.50	1.49	1.47	1.44	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.50	1.50
Difference	0.88	0.89	1.01	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.01	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09
Milwaukee												
Retail	2.06	2.06	2.09	2.02	2.02	2.09	2.02	2.09	2.04	2.10	2.13	2.21
Cooperative	1.22	1.19	1.17	1.14	1.12	1.12	1.11	1.15	1.15	1.20	1.23	1.27
Difference	0.84	0.87	0.92	0.88	0.90	0.97	0.91	0.94	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.94
Minneapolis												
Retail	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.07	2.06	2.06	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.07	2.14	2.17
Cooperative	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.05	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.05	1.05	1.08	1.15	1.17
Difference	0.97	0.99	1.01	1.02	1.03	1.03	1.01	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	1.00
Nashville												
Retail	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.96	1.96	2.05	2.12	2.12
Cooperative	1.29	1.27	1.26	1.26	1.14	1.13	1.14	1.19	1.17	1.24	1.28	1.31
Difference	0.63	0.65	0.66	0.60	0.72	0.73	0.72	0.77	0.79	0.81	0.84	0.81
New Orleans												
Retail	1.95	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	2.04	2.04	2.07	2.07
Cooperative	1.39	1.37	1.36	1.32	1.30	1.29	1.29	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.40	1.41
Difference	0.56	0.61	0.62	0.66	0.68	0.69	0.69	0.64	0.70	0.70	0.67	0.66
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.32	2.38	2.38	2.33	2.37	2.38	2.38	2.28	2.35
Cooperative	1.28	1.28	1.26	1.22	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.20	1.25	1.27	1.30
Difference	1.00	1.00	1.02	1.10	1.18	1.20	1.15	1.19	1.18	1.13	1.01	1.05
Omaha												
Retail	1.97	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.96	1.99	2.03	2.06	2.10
Cooperative	1.19	1.17	1.16	1.13	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.13	1.13	1.16	1.22	1.25
Difference	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.83	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.86	0.87	0.84	0.85
Philadelphia												
Retail	1.99	1.99	1.92	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.92	1.91	1.95	2.00	2.00	2.05
Cooperative	1.30	1.29	1.28	1.25	1.23	1.22	1.22	1.24	1.27	1.31	1.35	1.39
Difference	0.69	0.70	0.64	0.68	0.70	0.71	0.70	0.67	0.68	0.69	0.65	0.66
Phoenix												
Retail	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.83	1.88	1.90	1.94
Cooperative	1.19	1.17	1.15	1.13	1.11	1.10	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.16	1.20	1.24
Difference	0.64	0.66	0.68	0.70	0.72	0.73	0.72	0.72	0.71	0.72	0.70	0.70
Pittsburgh												
Retail	1.96	1.92	1.96	1.94	1.92	1.90	1.86	1.88	1.99	2.03	2.09	2.15
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.20	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.22	1.22	1.29	1.29	1.29
Difference	0.72	0.68	0.72	0.74	0.75	0.73	0.69	0.66	0.77	0.74	0.80	0.86

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City	1988											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
St. Louis												
Retail	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.36	\$2.42	\$2.42	\$2.42	\$2.42	\$2.44	\$2.47	\$2.54	\$2.58
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.23	1.20	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.22	1.22	1.26	1.27	1.29
Difference	1.05	1.05	1.09	1.16	1.22	1.24	1.24	1.20	1.22	1.21	1.27	1.29
Salt Lake City												
Retail	1.91	1.91	1.91	1.91	1.94	1.94	1.94	2.00	2.00	2.01	2.06	2.08
Cooperative	1.16	1.14	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.09	1.13	1.17	1.21
Difference	0.75	0.77	0.79	0.81	0.86	0.87	0.87	0.93	0.91	0.88	0.89	0.87
Seattle												
Retail	2.23	2.23	2.23	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.24	2.26	2.26
Cooperative	1.16	1.14	1.12	1.10	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.09	1.13	1.17	1.21
Difference	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.12	1.11	1.09	1.05
Washington, DC												
Retail	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98	2.01	2.08	^a	^a
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.29	1.25	1.24	1.23	1.23	1.24	1.28	1.32	1.36	1.39
Difference	0.71	0.71	0.72	0.76	0.74	0.75	0.75	0.74	0.73	0.76	^a	^a

^aData not available.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3.8: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1989

City	1989											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.09	\$2.02	\$2.02	\$2.12	\$1.99	\$1.99	\$2.02	\$2.04	\$2.11	\$2.14	\$2.22	\$2.26
Cooperative	1.36	1.41	1.41	1.36	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.36	1.34	1.42	1.48	1.55
Difference	0.73	0.61	0.61	0.76	0.66	0.66	0.69	0.68	0.77	0.72	0.74	0.71
Baltimore												
Retail	2.20	2.21	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.24	2.28	2.33	2.49
Cooperative	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.34	1.32	1.33	1.33	1.35	1.38	1.44	1.50	1.56
Difference	0.78	0.78	0.82	0.88	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.86	0.84	0.83	0.93
Boston												
Retail	2.09	2.10	2.16	2.19	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.22	2.24	2.28	2.45	2.52
Cooperative	1.47	1.47	1.44	1.40	1.36	1.37	1.37	1.39	1.42	1.47	1.58	1.64
Difference	0.62	0.63	0.72	0.79	0.85	0.84	0.84	0.83	0.82	0.81	0.87	0.88
Carbondale												
Retail	2.03	2.10	2.06	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.11	2.02	2.18	2.24	2.34
Cooperative	1.33	1.34	1.32	1.28	1.24	1.24	1.26	1.27	1.31	1.39	1.41	1.51
Difference	0.70	0.76	0.74	0.82	0.86	0.86	0.84	0.84	0.71	0.79	0.83	0.83

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City	1989											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Chicago												
Retail	\$2.46	\$2.48	\$2.49	\$2.42	\$2.42	\$2.45	\$2.49	\$2.49	\$2.49	\$2.62	\$2.62	\$2.69
Cooperative	1.33	1.36	1.34	1.28	1.26	1.26	1.28	1.31	1.34	1.44	1.45	1.54
Difference	1.13	1.12	1.15	1.14	1.16	1.19	1.21	1.18	1.15	1.18	1.17	1.15
Cincinnati												
Retail	1.79	1.79	1.82	1.86	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.92	1.92	1.96	1.99
Cooperative	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.29	1.34	1.42	1.49
Difference	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.58	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.63	0.58	0.54	0.50
Cleveland												
Retail	2.04	2.05	2.06	2.08	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.14	2.23	2.30	2.33	2.37
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.27	1.33	1.41	1.47
Difference	0.71	0.72	0.73	0.82	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.88	0.96	0.97	0.92	0.90
Dallas												
Retail	2.15	2.25	2.32	2.29	2.19	2.29	2.35	2.42	2.45	2.42	2.59	2.65
Cooperative	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.28	1.26	1.27	1.26	1.29	1.32	1.38	1.44	1.51
Difference	0.79	0.89	0.98	1.01	0.93	1.02	1.09	1.13	1.13	1.04	1.15	1.14
Denver												
Retail	2.16	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.25	2.29	2.38	2.48
Cooperative	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.36	1.36	1.45	1.52
Difference	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.93	0.93	0.96
Detroit												
Retail	1.92	1.99	1.99	2.06	1.89	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.99	2.01	2.03	2.22
Cooperative	1.27	1.28	1.26	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.21	1.24	1.29	1.34	1.42
Difference	0.65	0.71	0.73	0.86	0.71	0.74	0.74	0.71	0.75	0.72	0.69	0.80
Hartford												
Retail	2.13	2.15	2.15	2.19	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.21	2.22	2.24	2.38	2.42
Cooperative	1.46	1.47	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.36	1.37	1.38	1.41	1.47	1.57	1.63
Difference	0.67	0.68	0.72	0.79	0.85	0.84	0.83	0.83	0.81	0.77	0.81	0.79
Houston												
Retail	2.79	2.54	2.79	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.32	2.32	2.28	2.41	2.64
Cooperative	1.41	1.41	1.39	1.33	1.30	1.31	1.31	1.34	1.37	1.42	1.49	1.55
Difference	1.38	1.13	1.40	0.93	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.98	0.95	0.86	0.92	1.09
Indianapolis												
Retail	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.09	2.09	2.19	2.26	2.36	2.22
Cooperative	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.22	1.20	1.20	1.22	1.22	1.26	1.33	1.38	1.46
Difference	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.94	0.96	0.96	0.87	0.87	0.93	0.93	0.98	0.76
Kansas City												
Retail	2.21	2.17	2.23	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.18	2.21	2.24	2.39	2.51
Cooperative	1.30	1.30	1.28	1.20	1.18	1.18	1.20	1.24	1.29	1.37	1.42	1.51
Difference	0.91	0.87	0.95	0.97	0.99	0.99	0.97	0.94	0.92	0.87	0.97	1.00

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
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City	1989											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Louisville												
Retail	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.94	\$1.94	\$1.94
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.33	1.39	1.45
Difference	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.61	0.55	0.49
Miami												
Retail	2.60	2.60	2.68	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.62	2.68	2.68	2.78	2.84
Cooperative	1.53	1.53	1.51	1.47	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.53	1.53	1.59	1.65	1.70
Difference	1.07	1.07	1.17	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.09	1.15	1.09	1.13	1.14
Milwaukee												
Retail	2.22	2.24	2.24	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.21	2.22	2.23	2.33	2.33	2.53
Cooperative	1.28	1.32	1.30	1.23	1.22	1.22	1.23	1.27	1.30	1.40	1.42	1.51
Difference	0.94	0.92	0.94	0.95	0.96	0.96	0.98	0.95	0.93	0.93	0.91	1.02
Minneapolis												
Retail	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.17	2.16	2.16	2.17	2.23	2.28	2.40	2.48	2.56
Cooperative	1.20	1.19	1.17	1.11	1.08	1.08	1.11	1.14	1.20	1.29	1.33	1.42
Difference	1.01	1.02	1.04	1.06	1.08	1.08	1.06	1.09	1.08	1.11	1.15	1.14
Nashville												
Retail	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.22	2.26	2.26	2.29	2.29
Cooperative	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.23	1.22	1.20	1.21	1.21	1.28	1.32	1.37	1.44
Difference	0.79	0.81	0.81	0.89	0.90	0.92	0.91	1.01	0.98	0.94	0.92	0.85
New Orleans												
Retail	2.07	2.07	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.06	2.43	2.43	2.43
Cooperative	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.37	1.45	1.49	1.55
Difference	0.63	0.63	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.69	0.98	0.94	0.88
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.35	2.35	2.35	2.35	2.20	2.27	2.31	2.32	2.32	2.46	2.58	2.65
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.31	1.25	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.25	1.29	1.34	1.40	1.46
Difference	1.02	1.02	1.04	1.10	0.98	1.04	1.08	1.07	1.03	1.12	1.18	1.19
Omaha												
Retail	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.22	2.28	2.36	2.39	2.54
Cooperative	1.28	1.28	1.26	1.19	1.16	1.16	1.18	1.22	1.28	1.35	1.41	1.50
Difference	0.85	0.85	0.87	0.93	0.96	0.96	0.94	1.00	1.00	1.01	0.98	1.04
Philadelphia												
Retail	2.14	2.10	2.11	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.12	2.12	2.13	2.23
Cooperative	1.42	1.42	1.39	1.33	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.34	1.38	1.43	1.49	1.56
Difference	0.72	0.68	0.72	0.77	0.79	0.78	0.78	0.76	0.74	0.69	0.64	0.67
Phoenix												
Retail	2.06	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.11	2.14	2.12	2.16
Cooperative	1.27	1.27	1.24	1.18	1.16	1.17	1.17	1.19	1.23	1.28	1.34	1.41
Difference	0.79	0.84	0.87	0.93	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.92	0.88	0.86	0.78	0.75

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City	1989											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Pittsburgh												
Retail	\$2.17	\$2.19	\$2.15	\$2.07	\$2.10	\$2.12	\$2.12	\$2.14	\$2.18	\$2.26	\$2.34	\$2.34
Cooperative	1.33	1.33	1.33	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.27	1.33	1.41	1.47
Difference	0.84	0.86	0.82	0.81	0.84	0.86	0.86	0.88	0.91	0.93	0.93	0.87
St. Louis												
Retail	2.58	2.62	2.62	2.62	2.56	2.58	2.59	2.62	2.71	2.81	2.83	2.96
Cooperative	1.33	1.34	1.32	1.28	1.24	1.24	1.26	1.27	1.31	1.39	1.41	1.51
Difference	1.25	1.28	1.30	1.34	1.32	1.34	1.33	1.35	1.40	1.42	1.42	1.45
Salt Lake City												
Retail	2.08	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.13	2.17	2.30	2.44
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.20	1.20	1.13	1.13	1.15	1.19	1.24	1.30	1.37
Difference	0.84	0.86	0.87	0.90	0.90	0.97	0.97	0.95	0.94	0.93	1.00	1.07
Seattle												
Retail	2.28	2.33	2.33	2.33	2.33	2.31	2.29	2.29	2.32	2.32	2.37	2.46
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.21	1.16	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.16	1.20	1.25	1.32	1.38
Difference	1.04	1.09	1.12	1.17	1.20	1.17	1.14	1.13	1.12	1.07	1.05	1.08
Washington, DC												
Retail	2.26	2.26	2.29	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.24	2.29	2.28	2.33	2.40	2.50
Cooperative	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.34	1.32	1.33	1.33	1.35	1.38	1.44	1.50	1.56
Difference	0.84	0.83	0.89	0.92	0.94	0.93	0.91	0.94	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.94

^aData not available.
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 3.9: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, 1990

City	1990											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Atlanta												
Retail	\$2.22	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.26	\$2.19	\$2.22	\$2.22	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.32	\$2.32
Cooperative	1.62	1.63	1.55	1.40	1.38	1.42	1.46	1.52	1.53	1.51	1.46	1.29
Difference	0.60	0.66	0.74	0.89	0.88	0.77	0.76	0.70	0.79	0.81	0.86	1.03
Baltimore												
Retail	2.49	2.59	2.57	2.52	2.46	2.44	2.47	2.48	2.50	2.56	2.52	2.44
Cooperative	1.64	1.66	1.57	1.42	1.41	1.43	1.47	1.51	1.53	1.50	1.45	1.27
Difference	0.85	0.93	1.00	1.10	1.05	1.01	1.00	0.97	0.97	1.06	1.07	1.17
Boston												
Retail	2.57	2.62	2.58	2.48	2.44	2.44	2.44	2.47	2.45	2.51	2.51	2.37
Cooperative	1.67	1.69	1.60	1.46	1.44	1.47	1.50	1.55	1.56	1.53	1.48	1.31
Difference	0.90	0.93	0.98	1.02	1.00	0.97	0.94	0.92	0.89	0.98	1.03	1.06

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City	1990											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Carbondale												
Retail	\$2.19	\$2.14	\$2.02	\$2.14	\$2.14	\$2.14	\$2.26	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.28
Cooperative	1.56	1.57	1.50	1.38	1.35	1.37	1.39	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.45	1.23
Difference	0.63	0.57	0.52	0.76	0.79	0.77	0.87	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.86	1.05
Chicago												
Retail	2.59	2.62	2.57	2.49	2.46	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.63	2.63	2.53	2.51
Cooperative	1.65	1.65	1.56	1.40	1.40	1.42	1.46	1.51	1.52	1.50	1.44	1.26
Difference	0.94	0.97	1.01	1.09	1.06	1.08	1.09	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.09	1.25
Cincinnati												
Retail	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.29	2.32	2.32	2.29	2.22
Cooperative	1.56	1.56	1.52	1.37	1.37	1.37	1.40	1.44	1.46	1.43	1.38	1.22
Difference	0.66	0.66	0.70	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.82	0.85	0.86	0.89	0.91	1.00
Cleveland												
Retail	2.46	2.46	2.44	2.46	2.40	2.41	2.39	2.44	2.48	2.49	2.46	2.39
Cooperative	1.54	1.56	1.48	1.32	1.30	1.34	1.38	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.20
Difference	0.92	0.90	0.96	1.14	1.10	1.07	1.01	1.02	1.05	1.09	1.11	1.19
Dallas												
Retail	2.65	2.76	2.76	2.76	2.82	2.62	2.86	2.86	2.91	2.79	2.79	2.79
Cooperative	1.58	1.60	1.51	1.36	1.35	1.37	1.41	1.45	1.47	1.44	1.39	1.21
Difference	1.07	1.16	1.25	1.40	1.47	1.25	1.45	1.41	1.44	1.35	1.40	1.58
Denver												
Retail	2.59	2.61	2.59	2.51	2.51	2.51	2.57	2.65	2.67	2.66	2.65	2.65
Cooperative	1.59	1.59	1.52	1.37	1.36	1.38	1.42	1.46	1.48	1.45	1.40	1.22
Difference	1.00	1.02	1.07	1.14	1.15	1.13	1.15	1.19	1.19	1.21	1.25	1.43
Detroit												
Retail	2.28	2.35	2.28	2.35	2.35	2.09	2.39	2.23	2.45	2.42	2.42	2.39
Cooperative	1.49	1.49	1.44	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.33	1.38	1.39	1.37	1.32	1.22
Difference	0.79	0.86	0.84	1.02	1.04	0.78	1.06	0.85	1.06	1.05	1.10	1.17
Hartford												
Retail	2.50	2.55	2.56	2.51	2.49	2.48	2.49	2.50	2.51	2.54	2.53	2.42
Cooperative	1.66	1.68	1.60	1.45	1.43	1.46	1.50	1.54	1.55	1.52	1.47	1.30
Difference	0.84	0.87	0.96	1.06	1.06	1.02	0.99	0.96	0.96	1.02	1.06	1.12
Houston												
Retail	2.84	3.01	3.02	2.99	2.92	2.96	3.02	3.14	3.00	3.00	2.93	2.93
Cooperative	1.62	1.65	1.56	1.41	1.39	1.42	1.46	1.50	1.51	1.48	1.44	1.26
Difference	1.22	1.36	1.46	1.58	1.53	1.54	1.56	1.64	1.49	1.52	1.49	1.67
Indianapolis												
Retail	2.54	2.52	2.54	2.39	2.39	2.39	2.45	2.67	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.24
Cooperative	1.55	1.55	1.51	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.36	1.41	1.44	1.41	1.36	1.19
Difference	0.99	0.97	1.03	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.09	1.26	1.05	1.08	1.13	1.05

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1985 Through May 1991**

City	1990											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Kansas City												
Retail	\$2.54	\$2.56	\$2.53	\$2.46	\$2.41	\$2.41	\$2.46	\$2.50	\$2.54	\$2.59	\$2.53	\$2.44
Cooperative	1.55	1.55	1.45	1.29	1.28	1.29	1.35	1.43	1.43	1.40	1.34	1.15
Difference	0.99	1.01	1.08	1.17	1.13	1.12	1.11	1.07	1.11	1.19	1.19	1.29
Louisville												
Retail	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.06	2.06	2.04	2.04	2.04
Cooperative	1.53	1.55	1.46	1.30	1.29	1.31	1.34	1.38	1.39	1.36	1.31	1.14
Difference	0.79	0.77	0.86	0.96	0.97	0.95	0.92	0.68	0.67	0.68	0.73	0.90
Miami												
Retail	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.95	2.97	2.98	2.97	2.97
Cooperative	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.58	1.54	1.57	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.63	1.59	1.45
Difference	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.28	1.32	1.29	1.20	1.29	1.31	1.35	1.38	1.52
Milwaukee												
Retail	2.70	2.75	2.52	2.46	2.43	2.47	2.51	2.61	2.61	2.61	2.47	2.29
Cooperative	1.61	1.61	1.54	1.38	1.38	1.39	1.43	1.48	1.49	1.47	1.41	1.23
Difference	1.09	1.14	0.98	1.08	1.05	1.08	1.08	1.13	1.12	1.14	1.06	1.06
Minneapolis												
Retail	2.62	2.66	2.60	2.47	2.42	2.44	2.52	2.62	2.62	2.61	2.58	2.45
Cooperative	1.45	1.45	1.35	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.26	1.33	1.33	1.31	1.24	1.05
Difference	1.17	1.21	1.25	1.27	1.23	1.24	1.26	1.29	1.29	1.30	1.34	1.40
Nashville												
Retail	2.22	2.22	2.29	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.02
Cooperative	1.50	1.55	1.47	1.32	1.31	1.33	1.37	1.41	1.43	1.40	1.35	1.17
Difference	0.72	0.67	0.82	0.80	0.81	0.79	0.75	0.71	0.69	0.72	0.77	0.85
New Orleans												
Retail	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.54	2.55	2.52	2.51	2.48	2.46	2.46	2.43	2.36
Cooperative	1.62	1.64	1.56	1.41	1.39	1.42	1.46	1.52	1.53	1.53	1.44	1.26
Difference	0.90	0.88	0.96	1.13	1.16	1.10	1.05	0.96	0.93	0.93	0.99	1.10
Oklahoma City												
Retail	2.72	2.75	2.76	2.71	2.59	2.51	2.65	2.72	2.72	2.66	2.74	2.67
Cooperative	1.53	1.56	1.47	1.32	1.31	1.33	1.37	1.41	1.42	1.40	1.35	1.17
Difference	1.19	1.19	1.29	1.39	1.28	1.18	1.28	1.31	1.30	1.26	1.39	1.50
Omaha												
Retail	2.54	2.54	2.52	2.46	2.34	2.36	2.42	2.54	2.54	2.54	2.49	2.34
Cooperative	1.54	1.54	1.43	1.28	1.26	1.28	1.33	1.41	1.41	1.39	1.33	1.14
Difference	1.00	1.00	1.09	1.18	1.08	1.08	1.09	1.13	1.13	1.15	1.16	1.20
Philadelphia												
Retail	2.26	2.32	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.36	2.36	2.40	2.41	2.41	2.40	2.41
Cooperative	1.63	1.65	1.56	1.42	1.40	1.43	1.47	1.51	1.52	1.49	1.45	1.27
Difference	0.63	0.67	0.84	0.98	1.00	0.93	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.92	0.95	1.14

(continued)

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Prices Announced by Dairy Cooperatives and
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1985 Through May 1991**

City	1990											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Phoenix												
Retail	\$2.36	\$2.36	\$2.39	\$2.26	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$2.30	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.31
Cooperative	1.48	1.50	1.42	1.27	1.25	1.28	1.32	1.36	1.37	1.34	1.29	1.12
Difference	0.88	0.86	0.97	0.99	0.96	0.93	0.89	0.94	0.94	0.97	1.02	1.19
Pittsburgh												
Retail	2.52	2.54	2.44	2.24	2.30	2.32	2.38	2.44	2.46	2.42	2.34	2.20
Cooperative	1.54	1.56	1.48	1.32	1.30	1.34	1.38	1.43	1.44	1.41	1.36	1.21
Difference	0.98	0.98	0.96	0.92	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.01	1.02	1.01	0.98	0.99
St. Louis												
Retail	3.00	3.06	3.01	3.01	2.92	2.89	2.90	3.04	3.04	3.04	2.64	2.40
Cooperative	1.56	1.57	1.50	1.38	1.35	1.37	1.39	1.46	1.46	1.46	1.45	1.23
Difference	1.44	1.49	1.51	1.63	1.57	1.52	1.51	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.19	1.17
Salt Lake City												
Retail	2.49	2.48	2.54	2.42	2.40	2.40	2.34	2.39	2.40	2.38	2.38	2.38
Cooperative	1.44	1.46	1.37	1.23	1.21	1.24	1.28	1.32	1.33	1.30	1.25	1.08
Difference	1.05	1.02	1.17	1.19	1.19	1.16	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.08	1.13	1.30
Seattle												
Retail	2.56	2.66	2.62	2.59	2.56	2.57	2.62	2.62	2.65	2.67	2.67	2.72
Cooperative	1.46	1.48	1.39	1.25	1.23	1.26	1.30	1.34	1.36	1.33	1.28	1.10
Difference	1.10	1.18	1.23	1.34	1.33	1.31	1.32	1.28	1.29	1.34	1.39	1.62
Washington, DC												
Retail	2.62	2.65	2.58	2.49	2.45	2.40	2.44	2.49	2.53	2.52	2.49	2.44
Cooperative	1.64	1.66	1.57	1.42	1.41	1.43	1.47	1.51	1.53	1.50	1.45	1.27
Difference	0.98	0.99	1.01	1.07	1.04	0.97	0.97	0.98	1.00	1.02	1.04	1.17

^aData not available.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

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Table 3.10: Comparison of Retail Milk Price and Announced Cooperative Class I Price Per Gallon, January Through May 1991

City	1991				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
Atlanta					
Retail	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$2.22	\$2.15
Cooperative	1.27	1.26	1.22	1.21	1.21
Difference	1.02	1.03	1.07	1.01	0.94
Baltimore					
Retail	2.43	2.44	2.40	2.40	2.44
Cooperative	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26
Difference	1.15	1.17	1.13	1.14	1.18
Boston					
Retail	2.39	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.36
Cooperative	1.27	1.25	1.24	1.23	1.22
Difference	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.14
Carbondale					
Retail	2.28	2.24	2.21	2.17	2.18
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.18
Difference	1.07	1.03	1.00	0.99	1.00
Chicago					
Retail	2.49	2.49	2.54	2.43	2.47
Cooperative	1.24	1.22	1.22	1.21	1.21
Difference	1.25	1.27	1.32	1.22	1.26
Cincinnati					
Retail	2.12	2.12	2.09	1.99	1.99
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.13	1.13
Difference	0.93	0.93	0.91	0.86	0.86
Cleveland					
Retail	2.39	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36
Cooperative	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.13	1.13
Difference	1.21	1.18	1.18	1.23	1.23
Dallas					
Retail	2.42	2.22	2.32	2.46	2.46
Cooperative	1.20	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18
Difference	1.22	1.03	1.13	1.28	1.28
Denver					
Retail	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52
Cooperative	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.19	1.18
Difference	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.33	1.34

(continued)

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City	1991				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
Detroit					
Retail	\$2.31	\$2.27	\$2.13	\$2.27	\$2.27
Cooperative	1.17	1.15	1.15	1.12	1.12
Difference	1.14	1.12	0.98	1.15	1.15
Hartford					
Retail	2.42	2.41	2.39	2.38	2.38
Cooperative	1.26	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.22
Difference	1.16	1.17	1.16	1.16	1.16
Houston					
Retail	2.81	2.81	2.81	2.66	2.59
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22
Difference	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.43	1.37
Indianapolis					
Retail	2.24	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.17
Cooperative	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.15	1.15
Difference	1.07	1.00	1.00	1.02	1.02
Kansas City					
Retail	2.31	2.30	2.22	2.22	2.22
Cooperative	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12
Difference	1.19	1.18	1.10	1.10	1.10
Louisville					
Retail	2.04	2.04	2.04	1.95	1.95
Cooperative	1.13	1.13	1.17	1.15	1.12
Difference	0.91	0.91	0.87	0.80	0.83
Miami					
Retail	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85
Cooperative	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43
Difference	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42
Milwaukee					
Retail	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36	2.36
Cooperative	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.18
Difference	1.15	1.17	1.17	1.18	1.18
Minneapolis					
Retail	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Cooperative	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02
Difference	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38
Nashville					
Retail	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.04	2.04
Cooperative	1.17	1.16	1.18	1.17	1.16
Difference	0.85	0.86	0.84	0.87	0.88

(continued)

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City	1991				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
New Orleans					
Retail	\$2.36	\$2.36	\$2.36	\$2.32	\$2.28
Cooperative	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.22
Difference	1.12	1.12	1.13	1.10	1.06
Oklahoma City					
Retail	2.60	2.57	2.55	2.51	2.37
Cooperative	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.14	1.13
Difference	1.45	1.42	1.40	1.37	1.24
Omaha					
Retail	2.26	2.26	2.22	2.22	2.22
Cooperative	1.11	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Difference	1.15	1.16	1.12	1.12	1.12
Philadelphia					
Retail	2.29	2.19	2.15	2.14	2.12
Cooperative	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26
Difference	1.01	0.92	0.88	0.88	0.86
Phoenix					
Retail	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.28	2.31
Cooperative	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.08
Difference	1.21	1.22	1.22	1.20	1.23
Pittsburgh					
Retail	2.18	2.17	2.16	2.16	2.16
Cooperative	1.19	1.19	1.18	1.17	1.17
Difference	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.99
St. Louis					
Retail	2.40	2.36	2.33	2.36	2.36
Cooperative	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.18	1.18
Difference	1.19	1.15	1.12	1.18	1.18
Salt Lake City					
Retail	2.05	1.99	1.99	1.98	1.95
Cooperative	1.06	1.05	1.05	1.04	1.04
Difference	0.99	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.91
Seattle					
Retail	2.75	2.75	2.64	2.62	2.61
Cooperative	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.06
Difference	1.67	1.67	1.56	1.55	1.55
Washington, DC					
Retail	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34
Cooperative	1.28	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26
Difference	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.08	1.08

^aData not available.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service.

Changes in Retail Prices and Farm-to-Retail Price Spreads for Dairy and Eight Other Food Products, 1980 Through 1990

This section discusses changes in retail prices and farm-to-retail price spreads (difference between farm and retail prices) for dairy and eight other food products from 1980 through 1990.

Changes in Retail Prices

Retail prices for dairy products increased about 1 to 2 percent annually for most of the 1980s. Compared with other food products, dairy retail prices were relatively stable and increased by a smaller percentage than retail prices of most other foods during this time period. However, retail dairy prices increased by 6.6 percent in 1989 and 9.4 percent in 1990. In 1990 retail prices increased for all foods except poultry, whose price decreased by about 1 percent.

Table 4.1 shows the percentage changes from the previous year in retail prices for dairy and eight other food products for 1980 through 1990.

Table 4.1: Percentage Changes in Retail Prices for Various Food Groups, 1980 Through 1990

Food group	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Dairy	10%	7%	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	3%	2%	7%	9%
Meat	3	3	5	-2	1	-1	3	8	2	4	9
Poultry	6	4	-2	1	10	-1	8	-1	7	10	-1
Eggs	-1	8	-3	5	11	-17	7	-5	2	26	5
Fats and oils	6	11	-3	1	10	2	-3	2	5	7	4
Fresh fruit	5	5	14	-6	14	10	2	13	7	7	13
Fresh vegetables	8	19	0	4	10	-4	4	13	6	11	6
Processed fruits and vegetables	8	11	5	1	6	3	-2	4	8	6	6
Bakery and cereal	12	10	5	3	4	4	3	4	6	8	6

Source: Economic Research Service.

Changes in Farm-to-Retail Price Spreads

According to an ERS report, the farm-to-retail spread for all of the foods included in USDA's market basket of foods increased about 7.5 percent in 1990. The farm-to-retail price spread is the difference between the retail price and the payment farmers receive for their raw commodities. The price spread is the charge for processing, wholesaling, and retailing foods.

The report cited higher prices of most inputs (i.e., energy, labor, and packaging) as one factor responsible for higher farm-to-retail price spreads in 1990. Prices of inputs used in processing, wholesaling, and retailing foods increased by an average of about 3.3 percent in 1990, as

Section 4
Changes in Retail Prices and Farm-to-Retail
Price Spreads for Dairy and Eight Other Food
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measured by an ERS food marketing cost index. An 8.4-percent rise in the energy component and a 3.6-percent rise in the labor component contributed most to the increase. Prices of packaging materials increased by less than 1 percent. Short-term interest rates declined about 9 percent, moderating the rise in the overall index.

For dairy products, ERS reported that the farm-to-retail price spread increased 14 percent in 1990, the largest increase among the food groups in USDA's market basket. The price spread for dairy products grew more in 1990 than at any time since 1980. The annual change in the price spread for dairy products averaged 5.6 percent from 1980 to 1990. ERS stated that the unusually large increase in the spread for dairy products in 1990 probably reflects the instability of markets created by record-high farm milk prices early in the year, low stocks of cheese, and strong demand that resulted in a nearly 3-percent increase in commercial use of all dairy products.

Table 4.2 shows the percentage changes from the previous year in the farm-to-retail price spreads for dairy and eight other food products for 1980 through 1990.

Table 4.2: Percentage Changes in the Farm-To-Retail Price Spreads for Various Food Groups, 1980 Through 1990

Food group	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Dairy	10%	8%	4%	3%	3%	7%	3%	4%	6%	5%	14%
Meat	6	7	3	4	-2	7	3	7	6	4	8
Poultry	7	10	0	-3	3	6	6	19	-1	14	7
Eggs	5	1	8	-2	13	-7	6	11	5	11	11
Fats and oils	16	13	4	-4	2	11	6	2	-3	12	2
Fresh fruit	9	6	9	3	3	18	5	14	9	11	11
Fresh vegetables	11	11	4	4	10	1	7	9	10	9	8
Processed fruits and vegetables	7	13	9	3	3	1	2	2	4	9	5
Bakery and cereal	11	11	8	2	5	6	5	4	4	9	7

Source: Economic Research Service.

Major Contributors to This Fact Sheet

Resources,
Community, and
Economic
Development Division,
Washington, D.C.

Luther L. Atkins, Assistant Director
Richard B. Shargots, Evaluator-In-Charge
Mary C. Kenney, Agricultural Economist
Sara B. Vermillion, Staff Evaluator

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