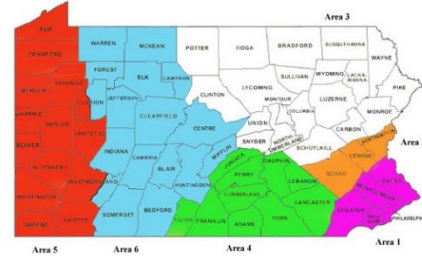


PA Milk Marketing Board
Carol A. Hardbarger

Pennsylvania's Six Milk Marketing Areas

Did you know that Pennsylvania is divided into six Milk Marketing Areas? At one time, there were 15! The Milk Marketing Areas were established to ensure that local processing, transportation, and other costs could be figured into the minimum prices established by the Board. This is why milk will be priced differently in various areas of the state, although the prices will be close and usually within a few cents.



Once a year, PMMB holds a Cost Procurement Hearing for each of the Areas. Milk dealers selling regulated products within each area attend the hearing to present their costs of production and transportation for the previous year; most often the dealers will be represented by their state Association and an attorney. Their calculations are submitted prior to the hearing to Board staff who review the information and help ensure all figures and calculations are correct. Representatives of the dealers as well as the Board staff will testify at the hearing and the Board may ask questions for clarification of any of the costs or other items presented.

Usually the Board staff and the dealers' accountants work with a cross-section or representative sample of all dealers who sell to any area. This saves time, but it also yields a cost recovery that fairly represents all dealers. The end result of each of the hearings is the minimum wholesale price for milk in each of the areas.

The regulated products for which minimum prices are calculated are fluid white milk at all fat levels, flavored milk at all fat levels, buttermilk, egg nog, and various cream products such as mixed milk, light cream, medium cream, heavy cream, and sour cream.

For a detailed map of the six PA Milk Marketing Areas, see <https://www.mmb.pa.gov/Pricing%20Information/Map%20of%20Pennsylvania%20Milk%20Marketing%20Areas/Pages/default.aspx>.

PMMB and staff are always available to answer your questions. Please contact me at 717-210-8244 or by email at chardbarger@pa.gov.