A Snapshot of the PA Dairy Industry

PA ranks 8th in total milk production in the US and 6th in total dairy cows.

PA ranks 5th in total population with 13 million.

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PA is a leader in the production of butter, hard and soft ice cream, and Swiss cheese.

Meet Your Pennsylvania Dairy Farm Families:

99 percent of dairy farms are family owned

Vast majority are multi-generational businesses

Average age of owner is 54

Average herd size is 91 cows

Primary Operations:

31 percent freestall operations

5 percent bedded pack/group housing

64 percent tie stall operations

Greatest Challenges:

Milk Price Volatility

Access to Land Availability

Access to Milk Markets

More than 20 percent of Pennsylvania dairy farms use rotational grazing for their herds.

Data gathered from 2017 and 2022 surveys of 1,400+ dairy farm families conducted by the Center for Dairy Excellence.