

# UNDERSTANDING NEGATIVE PRODUCER PRICE DIFFERENTIALS

MARIN  
BOZIC

*EDGE & MN MILK*

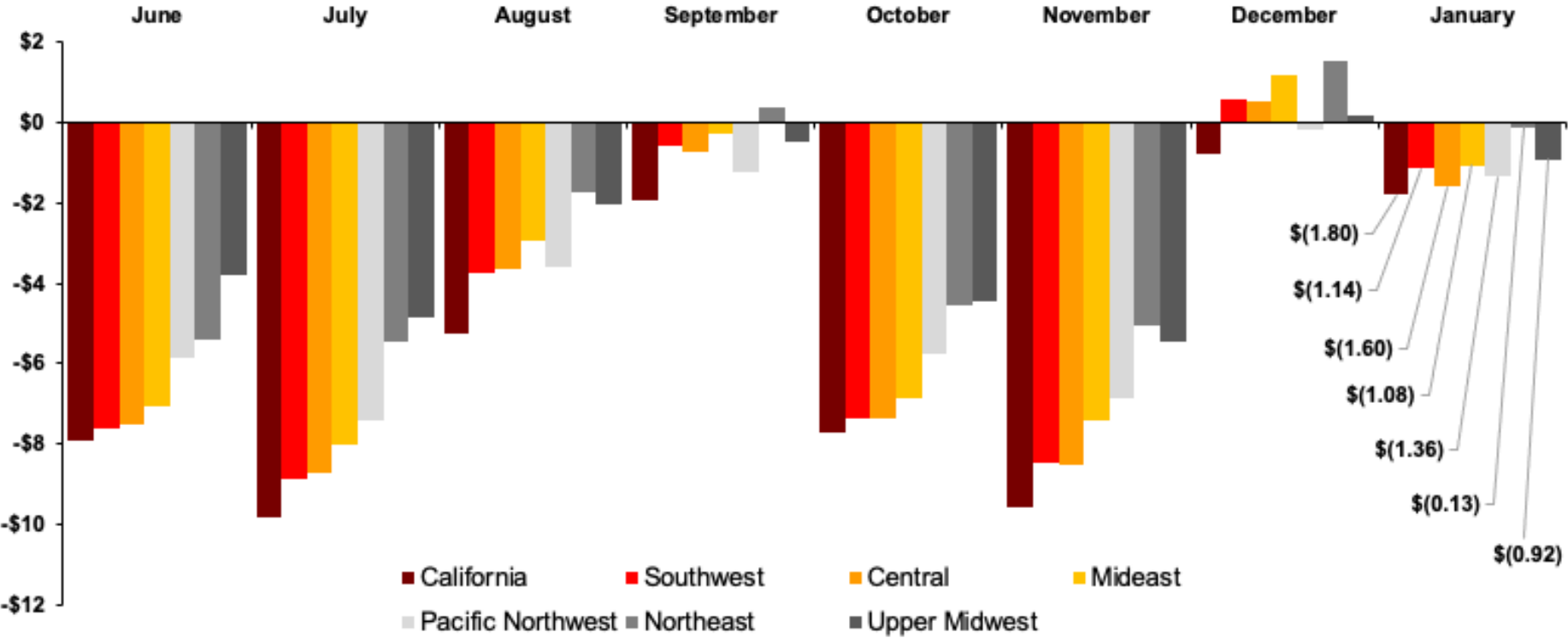
*Apr 13, 2021*



# Dairy Policy Issues

## PRODUCER PRICE DIFFERENTIALS

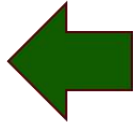
MILK CHECK DEDUCTIONS, DOLLARS PER HUNDREDWEIGHT



Source: USDA AMS

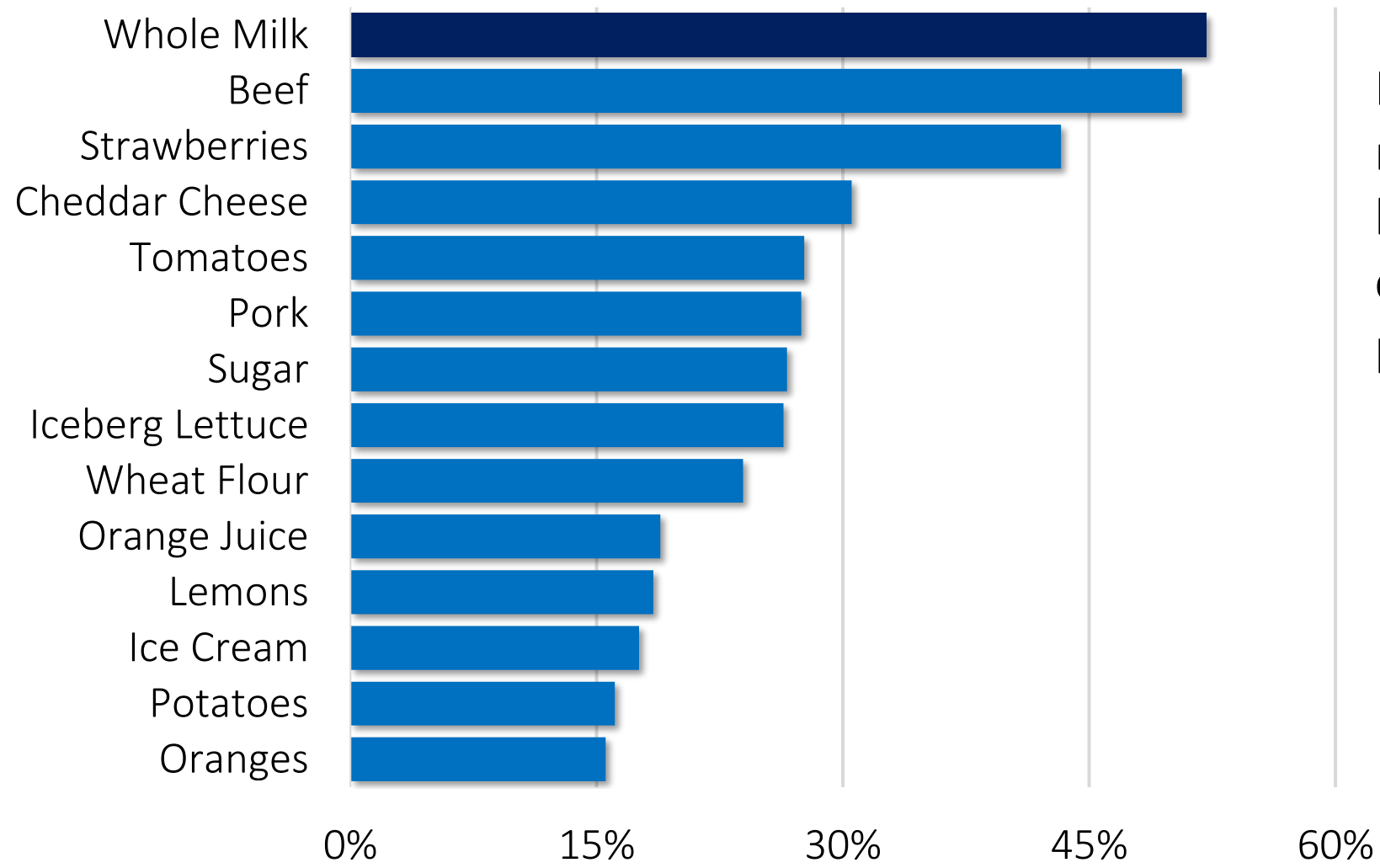
# Revenue Pooling as a Noble Concept

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Central principle of the FMMOs is that producers would get paid on market-wide average value of dairy products made from milk of all the producers in some geography.

# Producer's Share of Retail Price



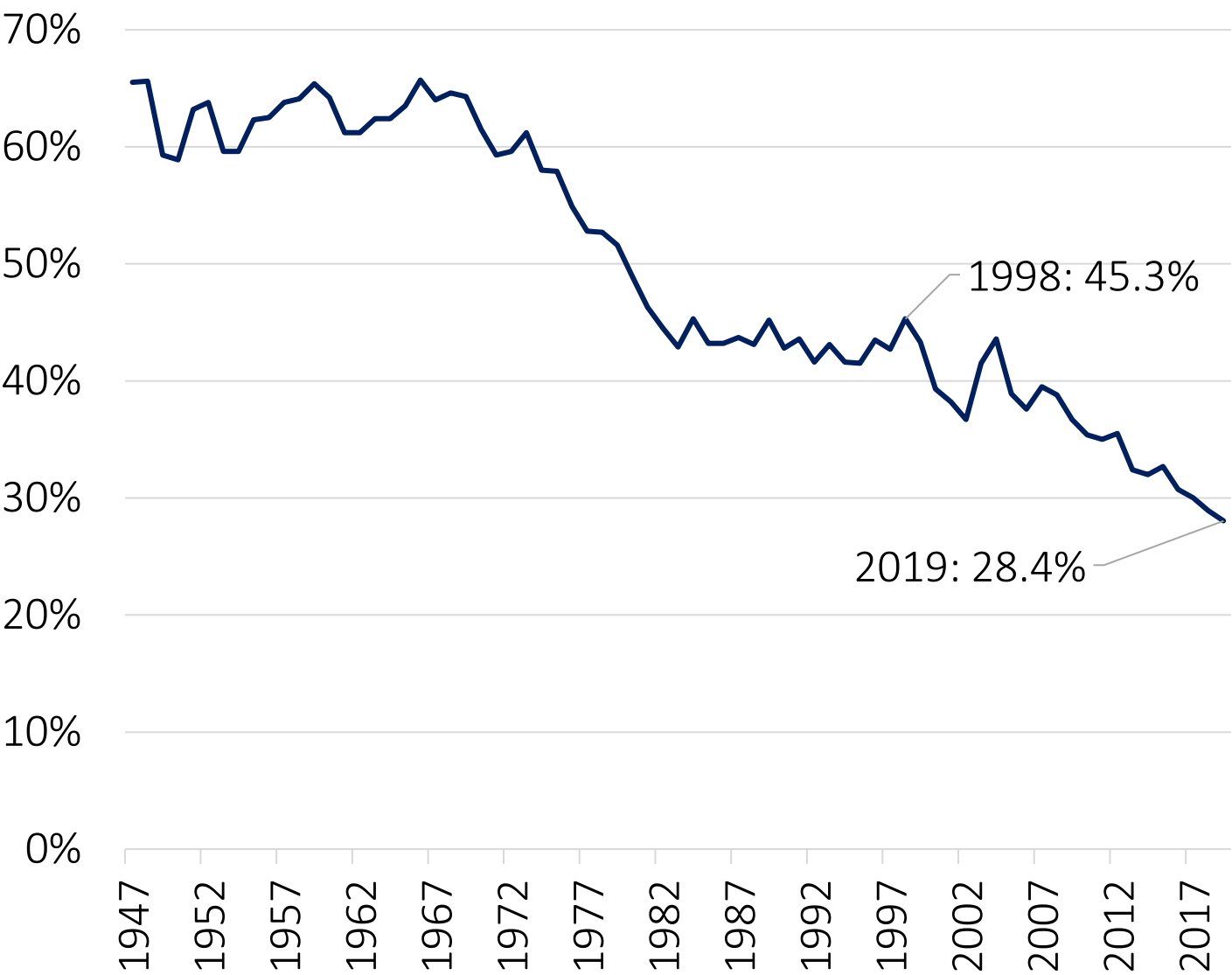
FMMOs protect against market power abuses of large milk buyers with considerable negotiating power.

# What is driving PPDs?

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- 1) Long-term trends in utilization rates
- 2) Rising protein tests
- 3) Spreads between Class III and Class IV milk prices
- 4) Advanced pricing for fluid milk products
- 5) Class I mover formula reform introduced in the 2018 Farm Bill
- 6) Depooling

# FMMO Class I Utilization Rate Over Decades



When the last major FMMO reform was designed, in late 1990s, over 45% of pooled milk was used in Class I.

Today, less than 30% is Class I.

It's not enough.

# Baseline PPDs

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- Utilization rates by class are equal to those predicted for 2010 by trend models described in Bozic and Wolf (2021). These predicted utilization rates do not allow for depooling and reflect the 'typical' utilization of milk a decade ago.
- Component tests are as observed in 2010. By setting component tests at levels typical a decade ago we facilitate the analysis of consequences of rising component tests.
- Announced dairy product and milk component prices are held constant at the average levels observed over January 2010 through December 2019.
- Advanced prices are set equal to the announced prices.
- Base Class I skim prices are calculated using the "higher-of" pricing method.



# Federal Milk Marketing Orders – Long Term Trends

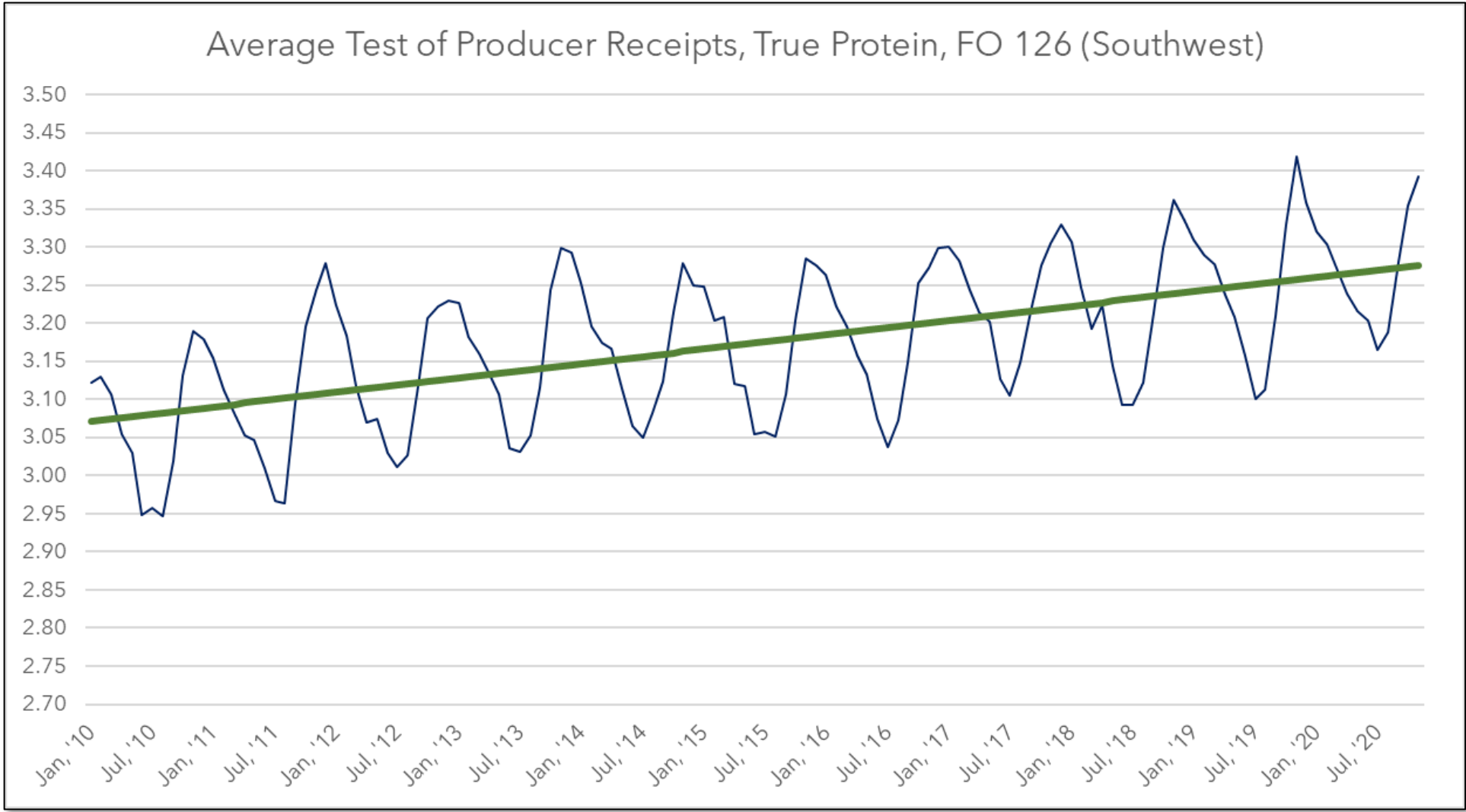
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## Step 1 - Utilization Rates

	Jan 2010 Predicted	Jan 2021 Predicted	Change	% Change
FO #1 – Northeast	1.88	1.41	-0.47	-25%
FO #30 – Upper Midwest	0.35	0.23	-0.12	-34%
FO #32 – Central	0.71	0.45	-0.26	-37%
FO #33 – Mideast	0.92	0.67	-0.25	-27%
FO #124 – Pacific Northwest	0.58	0.30	-0.28	-48%
FO #126 – Southwest	1.74	1.34	-0.40	-23%



# Rising Protein Tests



# Rising Protein Tests

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## Average Milk Component Tests

Federal Milk Marketing Order	2008-2009			2020		
	Butterfat	Protein	Other Solids	Butterfat	Protein	Other Solids
FO #1 – Northeast	3.72	3.06	5.70	3.92	3.11	5.77
FO #30 – Upper Midwest	3.71	3.04	5.72	3.96	3.14	5.77
FO #32 – Central	3.63	3.07	5.73	3.92	3.20	5.79
FO #33 – Mideast	3.70	3.06	5.70	3.88	3.16	5.78
FO #124 – Pacific Northwest	3.69	3.10	5.70	4.07	3.25	5.77
FO #126 – Southwest	3.61	3.06	5.74	4.07	3.28	5.78

# How Rising Protein Tests Affect PPDs – Fluid Milk Sales

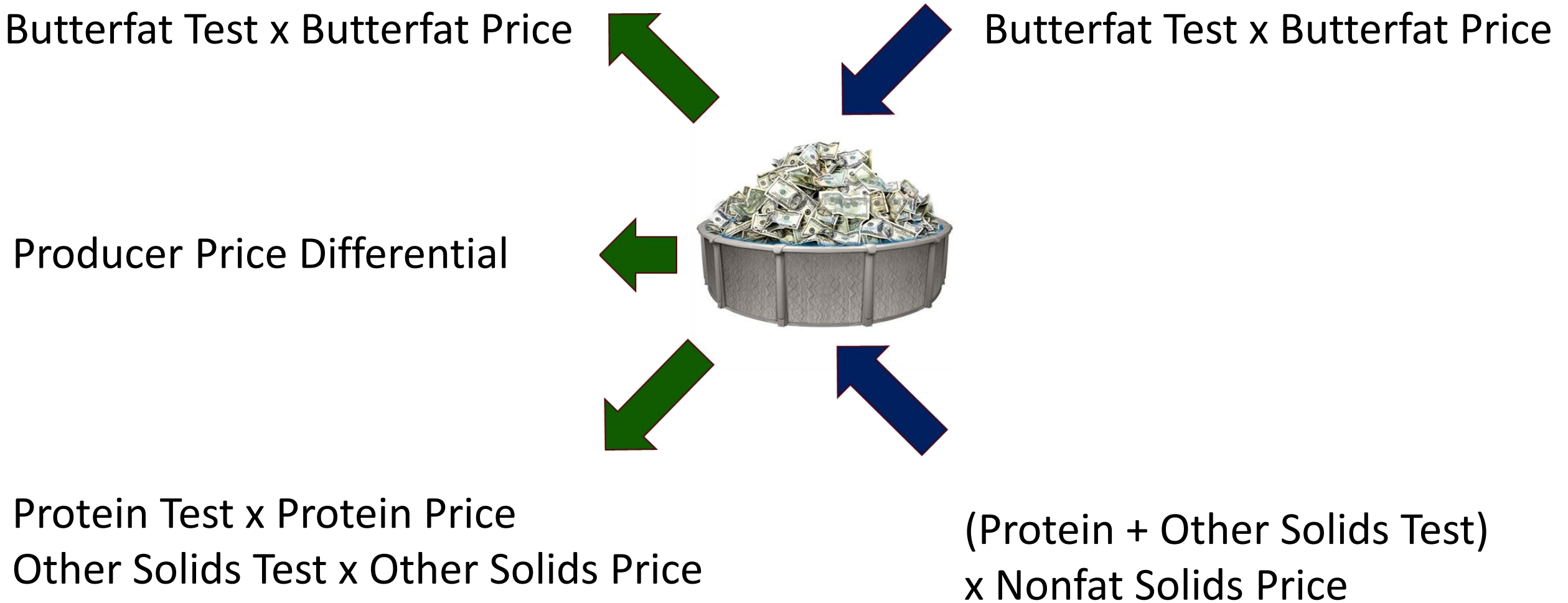
## COMPUTATION OF PRODUCER PRICE DIFFERENTIAL FOR MARCH 2021

	Utilization Percentage	Product Pounds	Component Pounds	Rate	Value
<b>Class I</b> Differential Value					\$ 3,790,086.54
Product	22.7%	219,159,910			
Skim Milk			215,200,445	\$10.6200	22,854,287.27
Butterfat			3,959,465	1.4135	5,596,703.77
<b>Class II</b> Product	22.1%	213,389,547			
Nonfat Solids			18,956,000	1.0400	19,714,240.00
Butterfat			11,242,939	1.7246	19,389,572.62
<b>Class III</b> Product	36.9%	355,467,968			
Protein			11,283,798	2.6954	30,414,349.11
Other Solids			20,717,460	0.3652	7,566,016.41
Butterfat			12,761,728	1.7176	21,919,544.00
<b>Class IV</b> Product	18.3%	176,490,188			
Nonfat Solids			15,443,122	0.9396	14,510,357.45
Butterfat			11,224,904	1.7176	19,279,895.10
SCC Adjustment (Class II, III, and IV)					1,107,526.22
<b>Total Producer Milk</b>		964,507,613			\$ 166,142,578.49
Add: Overage					27,682.81
Inventory Reclassified					123,210.36
Other Source Milk \$.60(h)					16,333.91
Other Source Milk \$.60(i)					0.00
Subtract: Transportation Credit					18,914.54
Assembly Credit					174,101.60
Credit for Reconstituted FMP					0.00
Producer Milk Protein					82,665,586.49
Producer Milk Other Solids					20,401,449.18
Producer Milk Butterfat					67,311,088.27
Producer Milk SCC Adjustment					1,419,408.61
<b>Total Milk and Value</b>		964,507,613			\$ (5,680,743.12)

Class I handlers pay to the pool based on skim milk which uses standardized protein tests (3.1 per hundredweight of skim milk, or 2.9915 per hundredweight of standard milk). As protein tests rise, Class I handlers draw more from the pool for component value of milk, without paying more to the pool, thus reducing funds available for PPD.

# Why Higher Protein Tests Reduce PPDs: Class IV Pool Accounting

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# How Rising Protein Tests Affect PPDs – Paying for Protein

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Under federal orders, protein is paid for based on the value in cheese, but only a fraction of protein is used in cheese. Protein is also used in nonfat dry milk powder, in yogurts and fluid milk. When there is a positive spread between market value of skim solids in cheese (Class III) vs. nonfat dry milk powder (Class IV), then under current FMMO rules, producers are paid for components beyond the pool average value they create in the market, and the deficit is manifested as a lower PPD.

# Impact of Rising Protein Tests on PPDs

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<b>Federal Milk Marketing Order</b>	<b>Jan 2021 Predicted Util Rates</b>	<b>Jan 2021 Predicted Comp Tests</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
FO #1 – Northeast	1.41	1.26	-0.15	-11%
FO #30 – Upper Midwest	0.23	0.18	-0.05	-22%
FO #32 – Central	0.45	0.24	-0.21	-47%
FO #33 – Mideast	0.67	0.49	-0.18	-27%
FO #124 – Pacific Northwest	0.30	0.07	-0.23	-77%
FO #126 – Southwest	1.34	0.99	-0.35	-26%

# CLASS III MILK PRICE

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Class III Price (\$/cwt)} = & \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Butterfat Price (\$/lb)} \\ \text{Protein Price (\$/cwt)} \\ \text{Other Solids Price (\$/lb)} \end{array} \right. \times \begin{array}{l} 3.5 \\ 2.9915 \\ 5.6935 \end{array} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(lb butterfat/} \\ \text{cwt milk)} \\ \text{(lb protein/} \\ \text{cwt milk)} \\ \text{(lb other solids/} \\ \text{cwt milk)} \end{array} \right] + \end{aligned}$$



# CLASS IV MILK PRICE

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$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Class IV} \\ \text{Price (\$/cwt)} \end{array} = \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Butterfat} \\ \text{Price} \\ (\$/\text{lb}) \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{3.5} \\ (\text{lb butterfat}/ \\ \text{cwt milk}) \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Nonfat} \\ \text{Solids Price} \\ (\$/\text{cwt}) \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{8.685} \\ (\text{lb nonfat solids}/ \\ \text{cwt milk}) \end{array} \right]$$

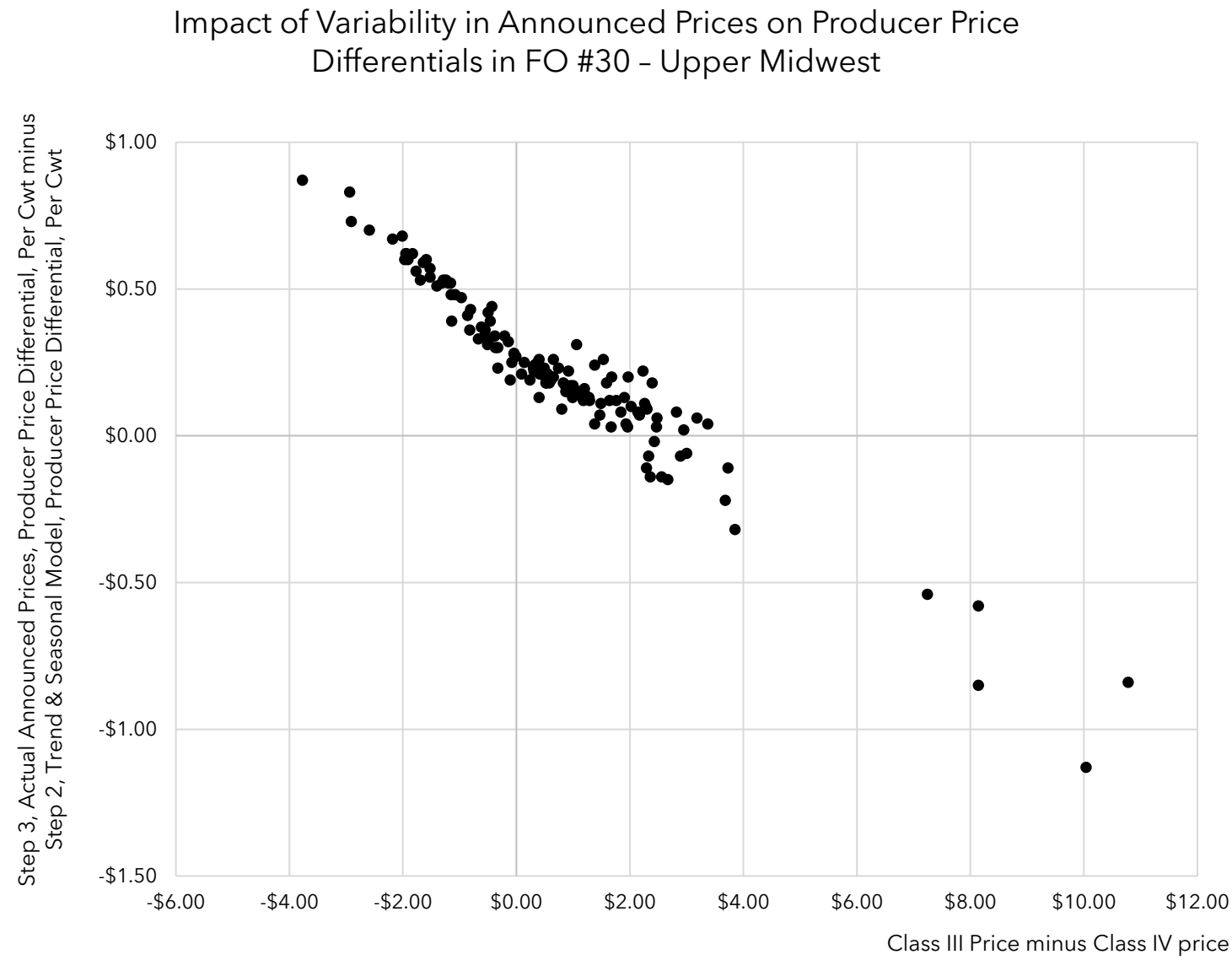
# How Class III – IV Spread Affects PPDs – Paying for Protein

## COMPUTATION OF PRODUCER PRICE DIFFERENTIAL FOR MARCH 2021

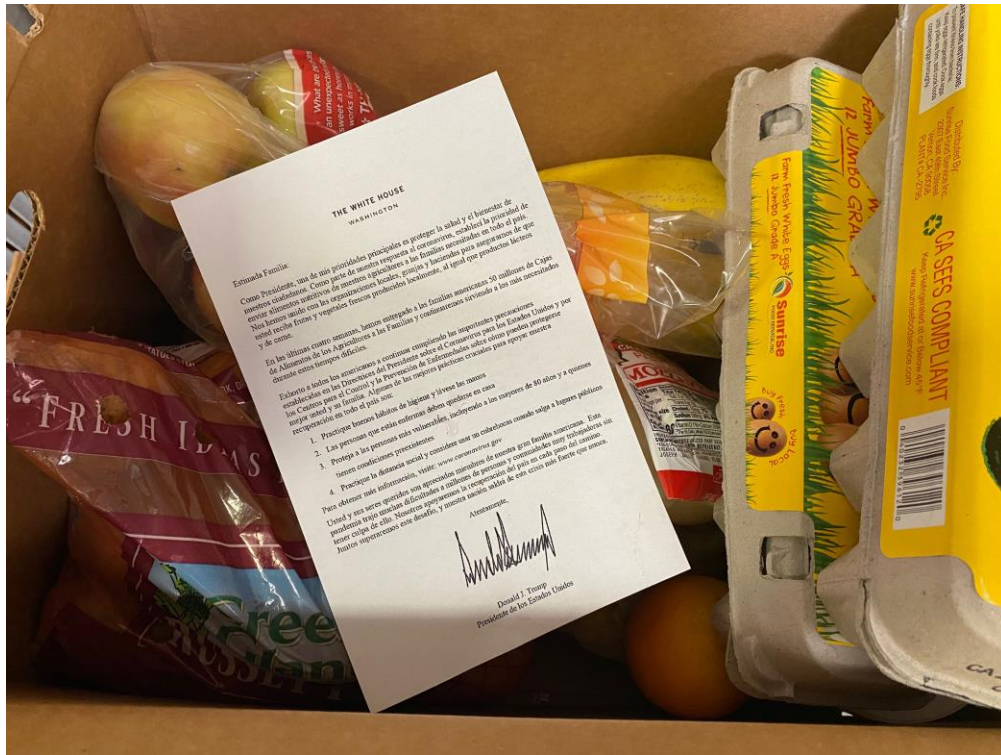
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The spread between Class III and Class IV prices averaged \$0.39/cwt over 2010-2019 period. In March 2021, Class III price was \$16.15 and Class IV price was \$14.18. The spread of \$1.97/cwt is larger than historical average, which reduces the predicted PPD. PPD will be more reduced in orders with higher Class II and Class IV utilization rates.

# How Class III – IV Spread Affects PPDs – Paying for Protein



# FARMERS TO FAMILIES FOOD BOX PROGRAM



AGRICULTURE · Published August 25

## Ivanka Trump announces \$1B more for 'Farmers to Families Food Box' program

The program has helped bring more than 70 million boxes of food from small U.S. farms to families in need since May



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## Announcement of Advanced Prices and Pricing Factors

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Dairy Program

Market Information Branch

ADV - 0321

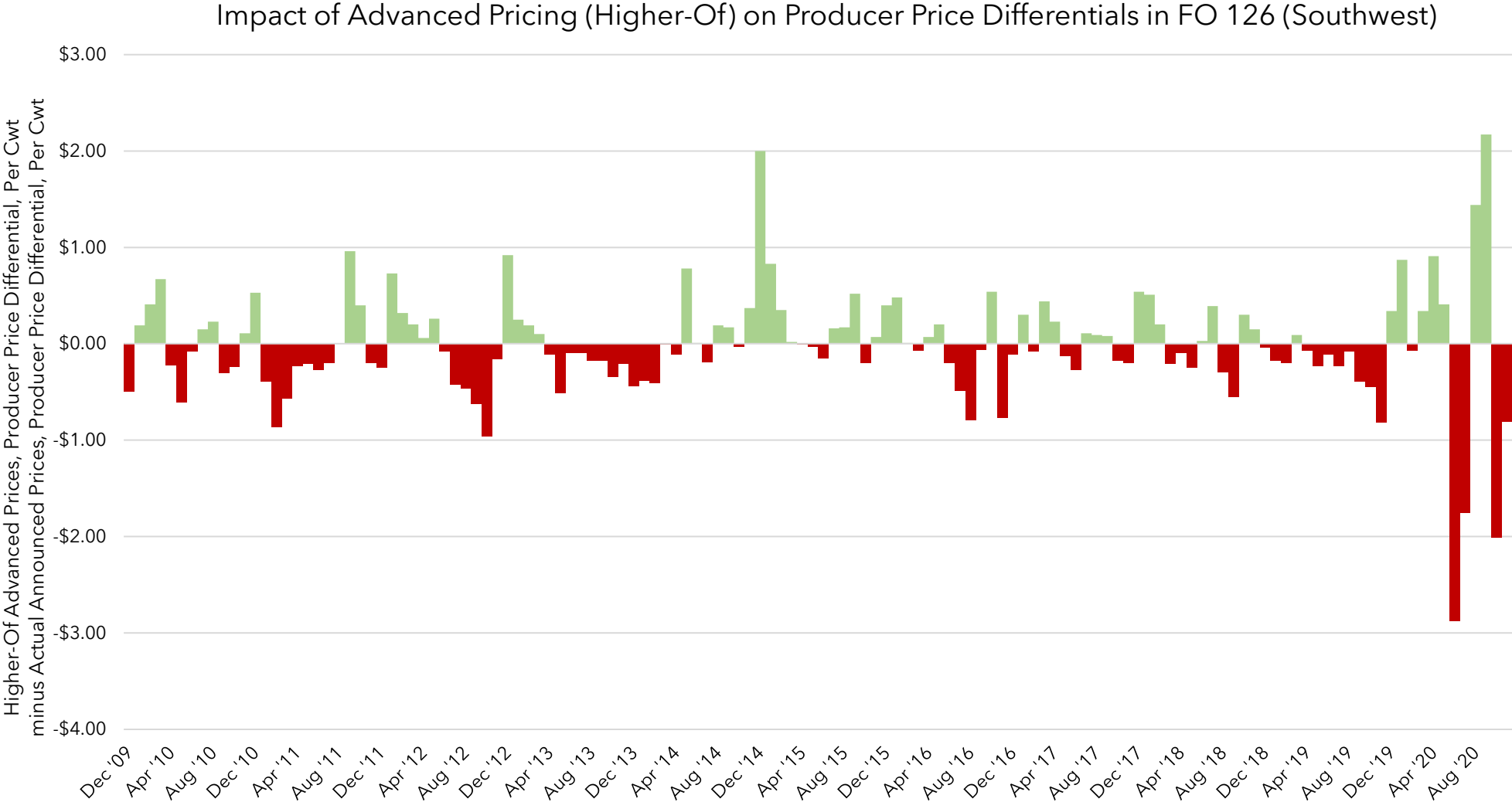
February 18, 2021

### March 2021 Highlights

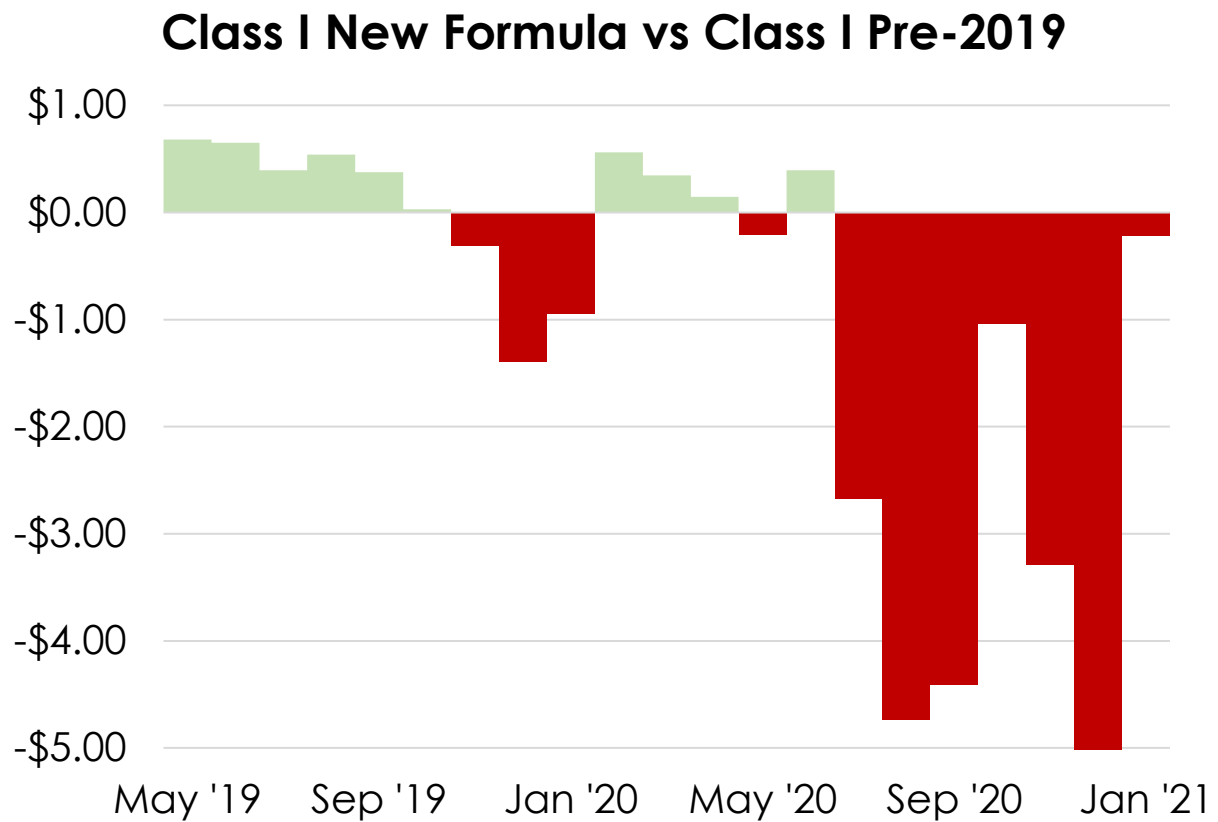
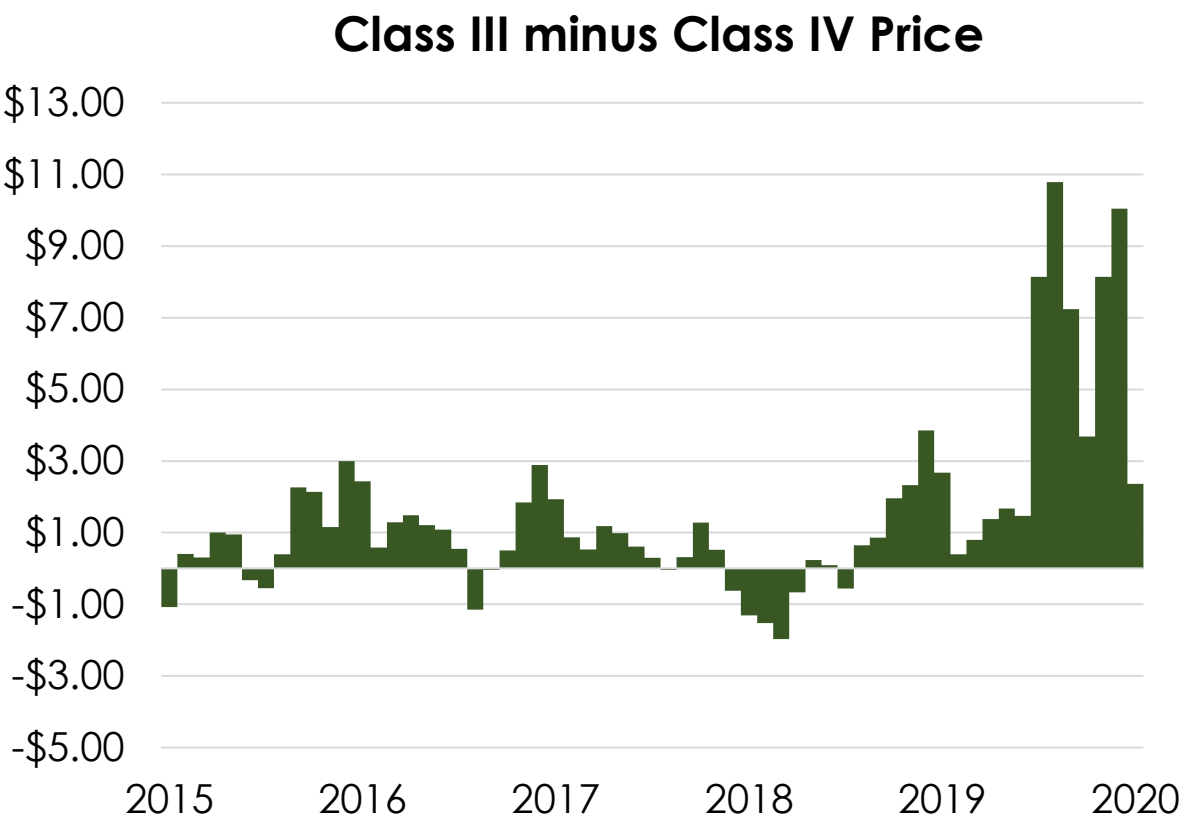
**Base Class I Price** was \$15.20 per hundredweight for the month of March 2021. The price per hundredweight decreased \$0.34 from the previous month.

**Base Skim Milk Price** <sup>1</sup> for Class I was \$10.62 per hundredweight for the month of March 2021. The price per hundredweight increased \$0.25 from the previous month.

# Impact of Advanced Pricing



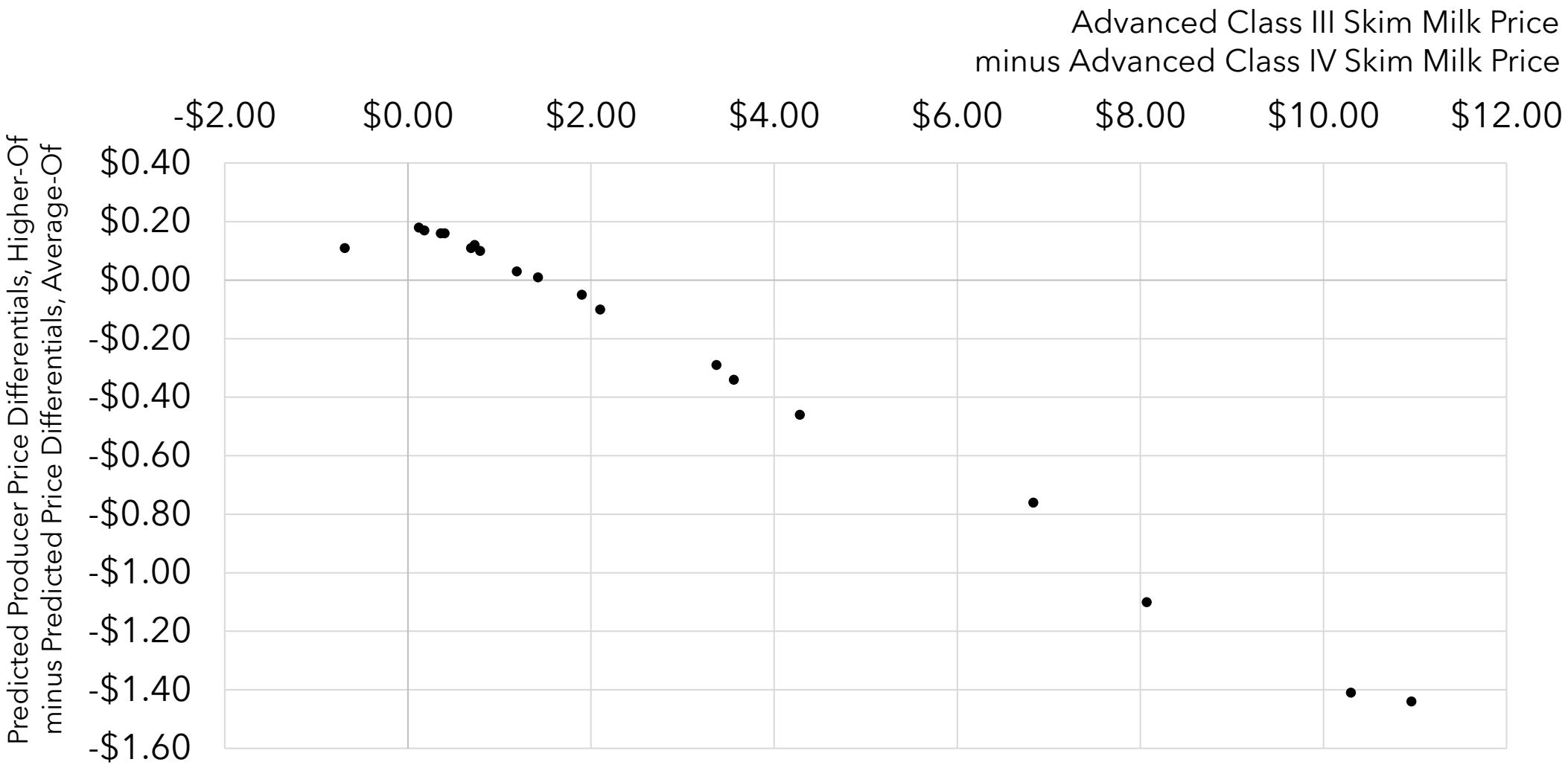
# CLASS I PRICE PERFORMANCE





# CLASS I PRICE PERFORMANCE

Impact of Class I Pricing Policy Reform on Producer Price Differentials in FO 32 (Central)



# How FMMOs were intended to work

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**Class I**  
**Must**  
**Participate**



**Class II**  
**Can**  
**Participate**



**Class III**  
**Can**  
**Participate**



**Class IV**  
**Can**  
**Participate**

# How FMMOs were intended to work

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**Class II**  
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**Class III**  
**Can**  
**Participate**



**Class IV**  
**Can**  
**Participate**

# Why FMMOs no longer equalize milk prices among producers

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**Class I**  
**Must**  
**Participate**



**Class II**  
**Can**  
**Participate**

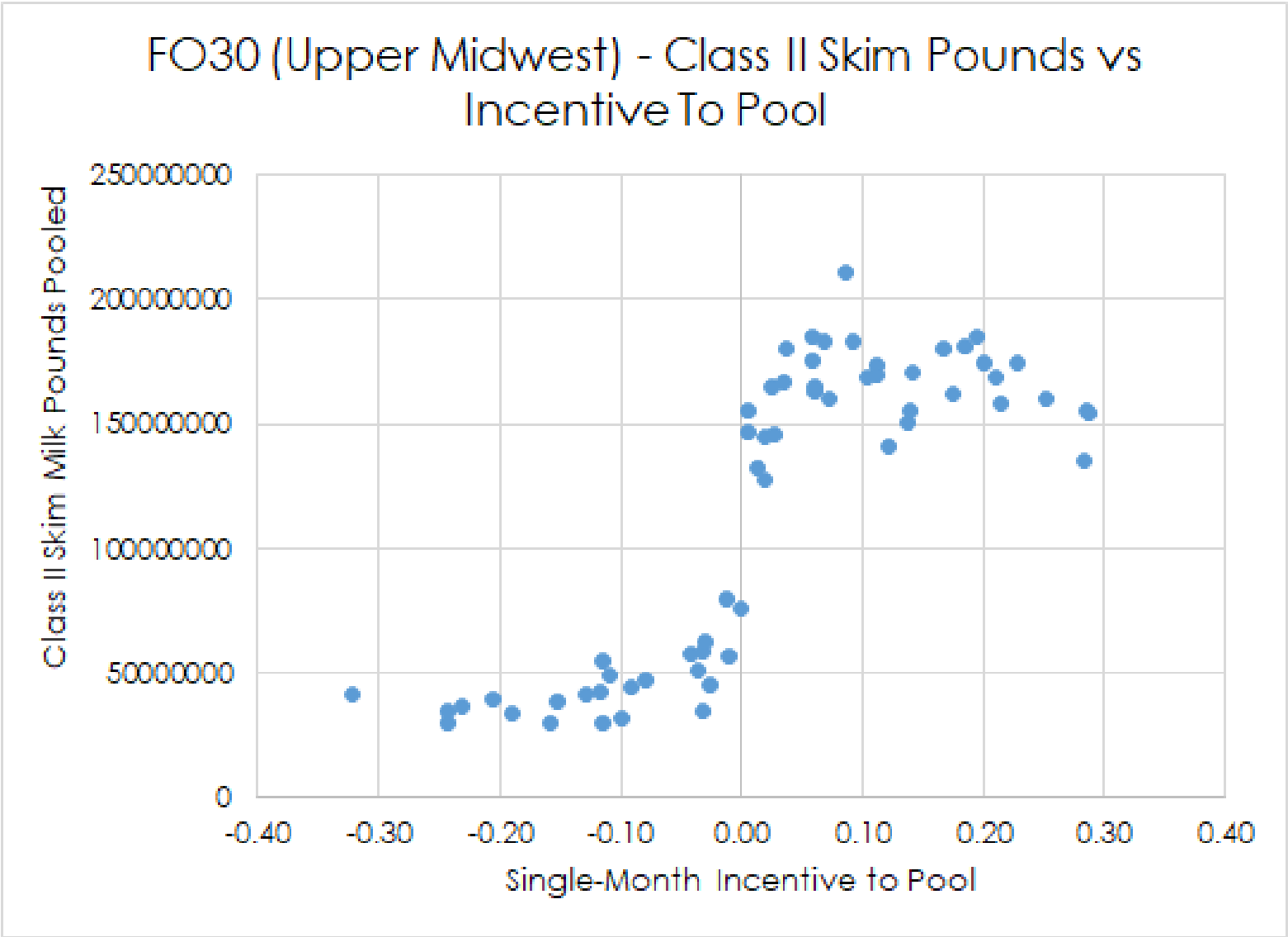


**Class III**  
**Can**  
**Participate**



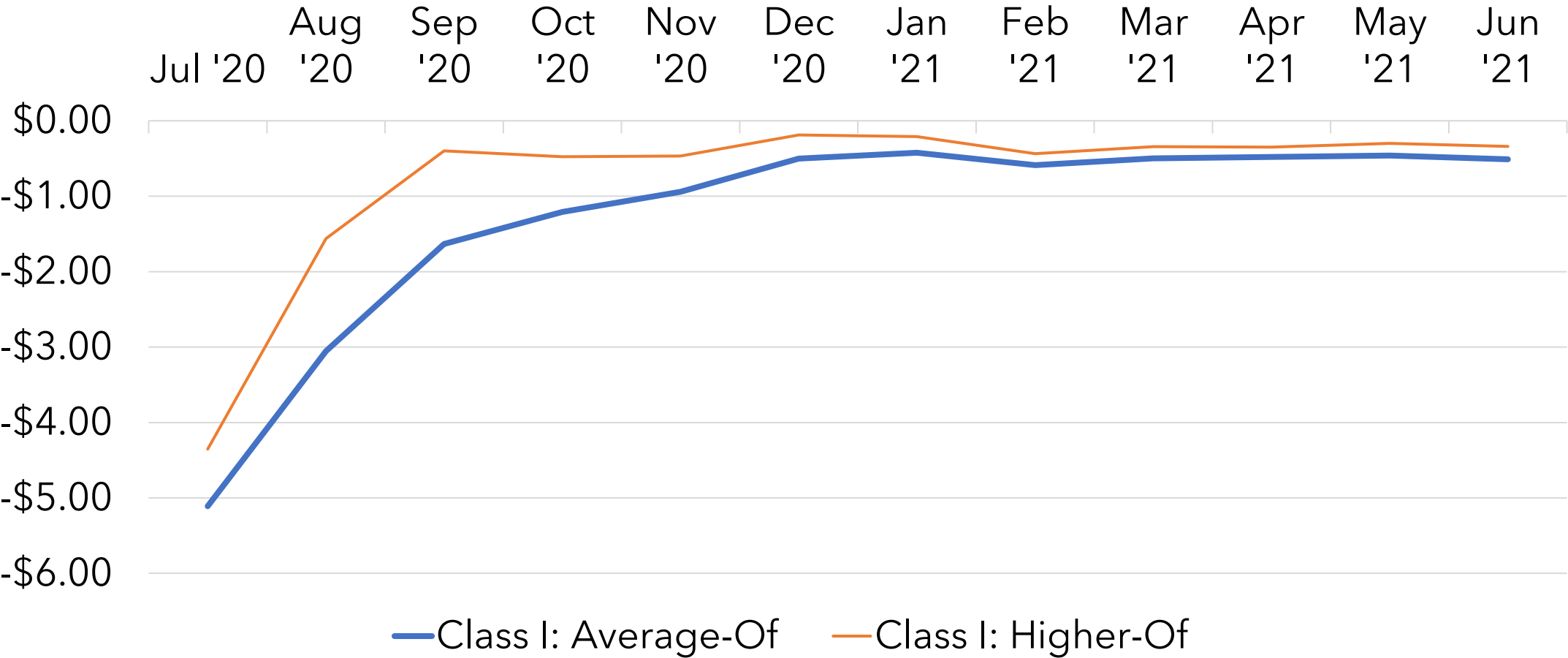
**Class IV**  
**Can**  
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# Manufacturers Only Pool When It Benefits Them



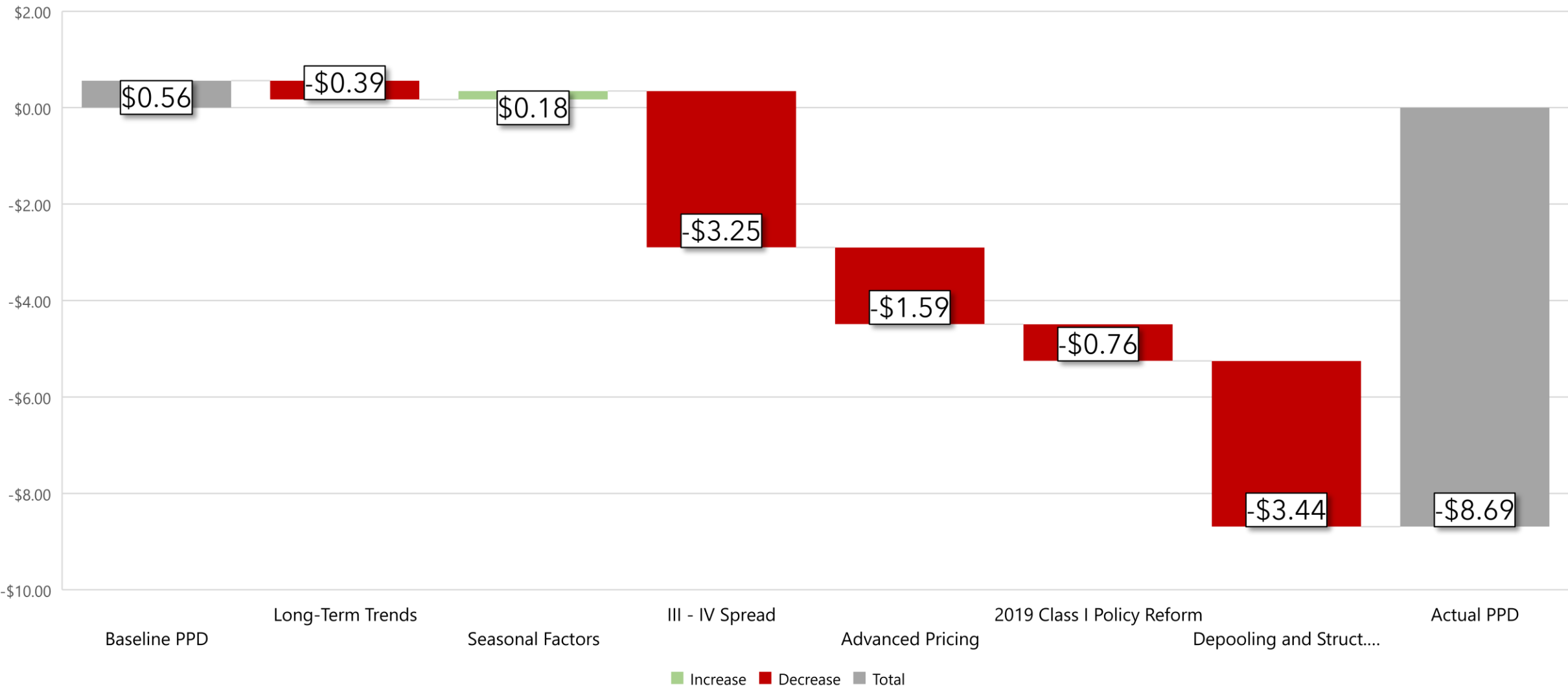
# Dairy Policy Issues

Central FMMO - Forecasted PPD as of July 6, 2020  
under assumption of no depooling



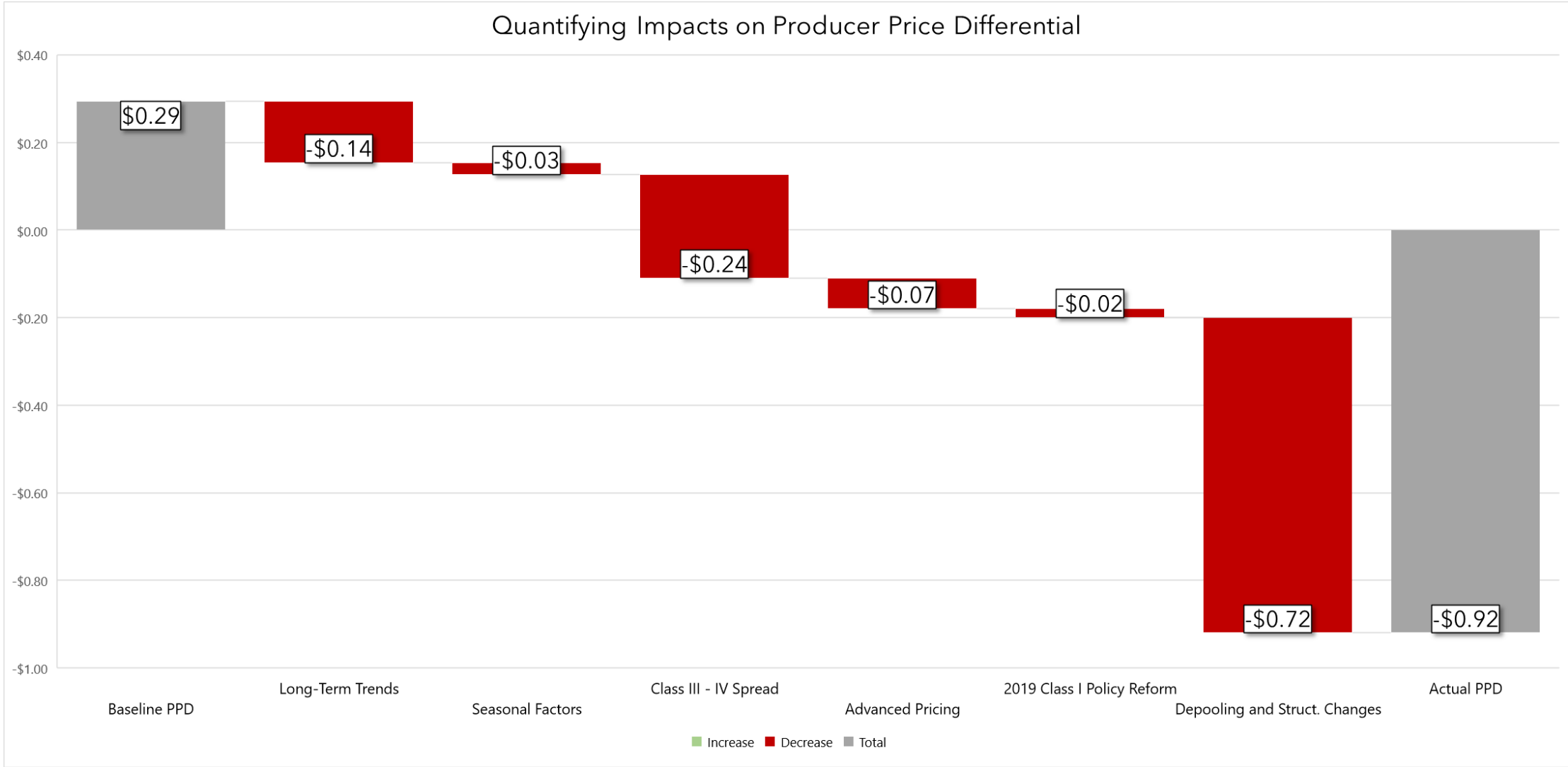
# PPD Decomposition – FO Central July 2020

Quantifying Impacts on Producer Price Differential - Central FMMO, July 2020





# FMMO Upper Midwest – January 2021



# Relative Impacts

Quantifying Impacts on Producer Price Differential in FO 32 (Central)

