

American cheese mountain

The US has amassed its biggest 'cheese mountain' for at least 100 years, reports The Washington Post. US dairy producers now have around a 630,000 tonne surplus of cheese – which, if squashed together, would occupy roughly the same amount of space as Washington's Capitol building. US producers have for years



been overproducing milk and turning it into cheese because it lasts longer without spoiling.

Surpluses tend to peak in the summer months, because demand for dairy products falls in the warm weather and because cows tend to produce more milk in spring. But the main reason for the size of the cheese mountain is that Americans are simply losing their once legendary appetite for milk: they drink around half as much as they did in the 1970s.

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