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South African Milk Processors' Organisation

Milk South Africa
Melk Suid-Afrika

THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS UP TO JUNE 2026

Synopsis

- ***The mass of imports in 2025, was 9.2 percent lower than in 2024. The decrease from 2024 to 2025, was due to the decrease in imports of four of the six categories of dairy products.***
- ***The estimated mass of imports in 2026, is 56.8 percent higher than in 2025. The increase from 2025 to 2026, is due to the increase in imports of five of the six categories of dairy products.***
- ***The average f.o.b. import prices in 2026 (January to June), of four of the six different categories of dairy products, are lower than in 2025.***
- ***The mass of exports in 2025, was 29.1 percent higher than in 2024 and 23.3 percent higher than in 2023. The increase was due to the increase in exports of all six categories of dairy products.***
- ***The estimated mass of exports in 2026, is 1.9 percent higher than in 2025 and 31.6 percent higher than in 2024. The increase is due to the increase in exports of three of the six categories of dairy products.***
- ***The average prices in 2026 (January to June) of exports of four of the six categories of dairy products, are lower than in 2025.***
- ***The estimated mass of imports and exports in 2026, shows that South Africa is in 2026, a net importer of concentrated milk (04.02), whey (04.04) and butter (04.05), and a net exporter of milk and cream (04.01), buttermilk and yoghurt (04.03) as well as cheese (04.06).***
- ***The estimated mass of sales of three of the six categories of dairy products to the other members of the Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, eSwatini, Namibia and Lesotho) in 2026, is higher than the estimated mass of South African exports of the dairy products in the same period.***
- ***The exposure in 2025, to foreign competition (that is imports plus exports) was the second lowest in the 14 years from 2012 to 2025. The estimated exposure in 2026, is the fifth highest in the 15 years from 2012 to 2026.***
- ***Graphs reflecting the mass of imports and exports per month of each of the six categories of dairy products, are shown in Annexure B.***

Note:

- ***The estimated mass of total imports in 2026, is calculated on the assumption that the level of imports in the first six months of 2026, will be maintained during the rest of 2026.***
- ***Estimates regarding future import quantities, based on historic import figures, should be viewed with caution as the patterns of imports (distribution per month of total imports during a year) in different years differ meaningful.***

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The imports and exports of dairy products up to JUNE 2026

This report was compiled by the Office of SAMPRO and forms part of the Industry Information Project of SAMPRO. The purpose of the project is to make market signals available to members and other interested parties, which is a pre-requisite for effective competition, as envisaged by the Competition Act.

All reports compiled by the Office of SAMPRO and all activities of the Industry Information Project of SAMPRO, are designed and implemented in accordance with the Competition Act and independently from a commercial interest of any and all the members of SAMPRO.

INTRODUCTION

1. The import and export figures of dairy products in 2026 (January to June), were recently released by SARS.

2. In this document, a brief analysis of imports and exports is provided per tariff heading.

3. The patterns of imports and exports within each year (the distribution per month of the total imports and exports of the year) are indicated in Annexure B.

IMPORTS

4. The indices of the mass of imports in the years 2020 to 2026, are indicated in Table 1. The mass of imports is indicated in Annexure A.

Table 1: Indices of the mass of imports per tariff heading (2002=100)

Heading	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 Est
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	**2 693.5**	**10 985.8**	**1 900.9**	**2 761.3**	**157.7**	**84.7**	**65.2**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	**179.3**	**176.0**	**145.1**	**171.4**	**110.5**	**116.5**	**212.9**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	**459.1**	**381.2**	**384.0**	**458.1**	**538.0**	**578.6**	**659.5**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	**216.2**	**215.7**	**233.2**	**146.6**	**139.1**	**110.5**	**130.9**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	**485.8**	**298.7**	**243.5**	**103.2**	**83.6**	**23.7**	**289.3**
04.06	Cheese and curd	**220.1**	**271.3**	**241.5**	**213.6**	**141.8**	**114.7**	**135.1**
TOTAL		**246.1**	**307.2**	**215.0**	**196.9**	**137.7**	**125.0**	**196.1**

5. Table 1, indicates that:

- The mass of imports in 2024, was 30.0 percent lower than in 2023. The decrease from 2023 to 2024, was due to the decrease in imports of five of the six categories of dairy products;

- The mass of imports in 2025, was 9.2 percent lower than in 2024. The decrease from 2024 to 2025, was due to the decrease in imports of four of the six categories of dairy products; and

- The estimated mass of imports in 2026, is 56.8 percent higher than in 2025. The increase from 2025 to 2026, is due to the increase in imports of five of the six categories of dairy products.

6. In Table 2, the mass of imports in January to June 2026, is compared with the mass of imports in January to June 2025.

Table 2: Imports from January to June 2026 and January to June 2025

Heading	Description	A 2026 Kg	B 2025 Kg	A as % of B
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	68 034	82 571	82.4
04.02	Milk, concentrated	11 731 131	4 828 130	243.0
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yogurt	2 908 338	2 237 240	130.0
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	5 176 398	3 676 366	140.8
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	2 139 806	180 750	1 183.8
04.06	Cheese and curd	2 109 230	1 720 373	122.6
Total		**24 132 937**	**12 725 431**	**189.6**

7. The mass of imports in January to June 2026, is **89.6 percent higher** than in January to June 2025. This is due to the ***increase in the mass of imports of five of the six*** categories of dairy products.

8. Table 3, indicates the indices of the average free on board (f.o.b.) import prices in the years 2020 to 2026.

Table 3: Indices of the average f.o.b. import prices per tariff heading (2002=100)

Heading	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (Jan – Jun)
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	82.1	71.9	109.7	117.0	383.6	420.0	**465.8**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	353.9	357.4	484.1	470.5	423.0	470.6	**420.6**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	279.8	278.5	419.3	312.8	304.0	329.4	**263.4**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	509.3	430.5	463.9	563.5	441.8	500.0	**528.1**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	532.7	515.5	670.6	859.0	886.5	1 273.7	**651.9**
04.06	Cheese and curd	264.2	233.8	295.9	370.6	431.0	487.9	**421.4**

9. Table 3, indicates that:

- The average import prices in 2024, of three of the six categories of dairy products, were higher than in 2023;
- The average import prices in 2025, of all six categories of dairy products, were higher than in 2024; and
- The average import prices in 2026 (January to June), of ***four of the six categories*** of dairy products, are ***lower*** than in 2025.

10. Table 4, indicates the average f.o.b. prices of imported dairy products in the years 2020 to 2026 (January to June).

Table 4: Average f.o.b. import prices per tariff heading

Heading	Description	2020 R/kg	2021 R/kg	2022 R/kg	2023 R/kg	2024 R/kg	2025 R/kg	2026 R/kg (Jan-Jun)
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	10.32	9.04	13.78	14.71	48.22	52.80	**58.55**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	46.22	46.68	63.22	61.45	55.25	61.46	**54.93**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	40.32	40.13	60.42	45.07	43.81	47.47	**37.95**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	39.68	33.53	36.14	43.90	34.42	38.95	**41.14**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	69.25	67.01	87.18	111.67	115.25	165.58	**84.74**
04.06	Cheese and curd	79.19	70.06	88.67	111.07	129.17	146.24	**126.29**

11. The average import prices of two of the six different categories of dairy products increased from 2025 to 2026 (January to June) as follows:

- 04.01 10.9 percent;
- 04.04 5.6 percent; and

12. The average import prices in 2026 (January to June) of four of the six different categories of dairy products are lower than in 2025:

- 04.02 10.6 percent;
- 04.03 20.0 percent;
- 04.05 48.8 percent and
- 04.06 13.6 percent.

EXPORTS

13. The indices of the mass of exports in the years 2020 to 2026, are indicated in Table 5. The mass of exports is indicated in Annexure A.

Table 5: Indices of the mass of exports per tariff heading (2002=100)

Heading	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 EST
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	**166.3**	**188.0**	**168.3**	**180.0**	**157.5**	**167.7**	**225.6**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	**55.7**	**53.6**	**74.2**	**77.2**	**83.6**	**134.6**	**106.1**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	**1 036.3**	**1 064.6**	**1 079.8**	**1 203.2**	**1 002.8**	**1 093.9**	**1 289.1**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	**329.3**	**465.2**	**467.8**	**438.7**	**424.5**	**604.3**	**607.0**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	**87.1**	**85.1**	**80.3**	**68.7**	**91.4**	**170.2**	**102.4**
04.06	Cheese and curd	**105.9**	**127.9**	**138.7**	**167.3**	**191.6**	**285.4**	**220.5**
TOTAL		**136.0**	**148.5**	**151.3**	**163.3**	**156.0**	**201.4**	**205.2**

14. Table 5, indicates that:

- The mass of exports in 2024, was 4.5 percent lower than in 2023 and 3.1 percent higher than in 2022. The decrease was due to the decrease in exports of three of the six categories of dairy products;

- The mass of exports in 2025, was 29.1 percent higher than in 2024 and 23.3 percent higher than in 2023. The increase in the mass of exports in 2025, was due to the increase in exports of all six categories of dairy products; and

- The estimated mass of exports in 2026, is 1.9 percent higher than in 2025 and 31.6 percent higher than in 2024. The increase in the mass of exports in 2026, is due to the increase in exports of three of the six categories of dairy products.

15. In Table 6, the mass of exports in January to June 2026, is compared with the mass of imports in January to June 2025.

Table 6: Exports from January to June 2026 and January to June 2025

Heading	Description	A 2026 Kg	B 2025 Kg	A as % van B
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	14 441 604	10 439 844	138.3
04.02	Milk, concentrated	7 451 022	7 777 736	95.8
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	6 250 930	4 884 397	128.0
04.04	Whey, whey powder. etc	1 252 526	984 421	127.2
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	781 551	1 057 912	73.9
04.06	Cheese and curd	5 047 644	5 706 656	88.5
Total		**35 225 279**	**30 850 965**	**114.2**

16. Table 6, indicates that the mass of exports of three of the six categories of dairy products in January to June 2026, is higher than in January to June 2025.

17. Table 7, indicates the indices of the average f.o.b. prices in the years 2020 to 2026 (January to June), of the exports of the six categories of dairy products.

Table 7: Indices of average f.o.b. export prices per tariff heading (2000 =100)

Heading	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (Jan-Jun)
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	293.3	315.1	371.5	443.9	441.7	434.6	**399.8**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	279.2	294.5	377.5	409.7	396.3	402.7	**398.7**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	169.9	203.1	188.7	219.8	245.1	248.9	**260.0**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	246.2	274.1	491.6	449.4	306.1	305.1	**292.5**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	484.3	454.5	524.5	639.5	638.4	703.2	**722.5**
04.06	Cheese and curd	243.4	262.3	296.0	325.0	327.7	333.6	**326.2**

18. Table 7, indicates that:

- The average prices in 2024 of exports of four of the six categories of dairy products, were lower than in 2023;
- The average prices in 2025 of exports of two of the six categories of dairy products, were lower than in 2024; and
- The average prices in 2026 (January to June) of exports of four of the six categories of dairy products, are lower than in 2025.

19. The average f.o.b. export prices in the years 2020 to 2026 (January to June), are indicated in Table 8.

Table 8: Average f.o.b. export prices per tariff heading

Heading	Description	2020 R/kg	2021 R/kg	2022 R/kg	2023 R/kg	2024 R/kg	2025 R/kg	2026 R/kg (Jan-Jun)
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	12.23	13.14	15.49	18.51	18.42	18.12	**16.67**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	46.98	49.56	63.53	68.95	66.69	67.78	**67.10**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	20.28	24.25	22.54	26.25	29.27	29.72	**31.05**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	19.50	21.71	38.93	35.59	24.25	24.16	**23.17**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	73.57	69.04	79.68	97.15	96.97	106.82	**109.75**
04.06	Cheese and curd	58.17	62.68	70.75	77.68	78.31	79.73	**77.95**

20. The average export prices in 2026 (January to June) of two of the six different categories of dairy products are higher than in 2025:

- 04.03 4.5 percent;
- 04.05 2.7 percent; and

21. The average import prices in 2026 (January to June) of four of the six different categories of dairy products are lower than in 2025:

- 04.01 8.0 percent;
- 04.02 1.0 percent;
- 04.04 4.1 percent; and
- 04.06 2.2 percent.

RATIO BETWEEN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

22. The estimated mass of imports as a percentage of the mass of exports of dairy products by South Africa, is a highly aggregated indication of the industry's international competitiveness. The ratios between the mass of imports and exports of the six categories of dairy products from 2020 to 2026, are indicated in Table 9.

Table 9: Mass of imports as a percentage of the mass of exports

Heading	Description	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 EST
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	26.4	95.2	18.4	25.0	1.6	0.8	**0.5**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	252.8	257.6	153.4	174.1	103.7	67.9	**157.4**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	40.3	32.6	32.3	34.6	48.8	48.1	**46.5**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	1 257.6	888.3	954.9	640.0	627.6	350.4	**413.3**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	540.6	340.4	293.9	145.6	88.7	13.5	**273.8**
04.06	Cheese and curd	141.7	144.6	118.7	87.0	50.5	27.4	**41.8**
TOTAL		**129.7**	**148.3**	**101.9**	**86.4**	**63.3**	**44.5**	**68.5**

23. As indicated in Table 9:

- The ratio between the imports and exports in 2025, in respect of all six categories of dairy products, was lower than in 2024; and

- The ratio between the estimated imports and estimated exports in 2026, in respect of one of the six categories of dairy products, is lower than in 2025;

- In 2025, the mass of exports of five categories of dairy products was higher than the mass of imports; and

- The estimated mass of export in 2026, of three of the categories of dairy products, is higher than the mass of imports.

EXPOSURE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DAIRY INDUSTRY TO FOREIGN COMPETITION

24. The sum of the mass of the imports and exports of dairy products by South Africa, is a highly aggregated indication of the exposure of the South African dairy industry to foreign competition, and this is indicated in Table 10.

Table 10: Mass of imports and exports (2002=100)

YEAR	IMPORTS		EXPORTS		IMPORTS PLUS EXPORTS	
	TON	INDEX	TON	INDEX	TON	INDEX
2002	24 617.40	100.0	34 328.20	100.0	58 945.60	100.0
2003	24 459.76	99.4	22 905.20	66.7	47 364.00	80.4
2004	18 289.50	74.3	23 508.10	68.5	41 797.60	70.9
2005	30 771.40	125.0	17 216.00	50.2	47 987.40	81.4
2006	30 878.60	125.4	26 543.30	77.3	57 421.90	97.4
2007	44 313.00	180.0	18 516.50	53.9	62 829.50	106.6
2008	34 009.40	138.2	42 781.00	124.6	76 790.40	130.3
2009	32 373.40	131.5	41 770.70	121.7	74 144.10	125.8
2010	35 061.20	142.4	33 950.60	98.9	69 011.80	117.1
2011	37 714.40	153.2	41 817.10	121.8	79 531.50	134.9
2012	59 102.53	240.1	52 500.96	152.9	111 603.49	189.3
2013	35 673.76	144.9	70 481.90	205.3	106 155.66	180.1
2014	40 199.03	163.3	71 098.95	207.1	111 297.99	188.8
2015	69 353.98	281.7	61 296.87	178.6	130 650.85	221.6
2016	58 000.35	235.6	50 247.54	146.4	108 247.89	183.6
2017	83 504.44	339.2	48 626.69	141.7	132 131.14	224.2
2018	68 652.58	278.9	45 257.50	131.8	113 910.08	193.2
2019	75 596.08	307.1	45 051.75	131.2	120 647.83	204.7
2020	60 579.33	246.1	46 695.39	136.0	107 274.72	182.0
2021	75 618.94	307.2	50 990.95	148.5	126 609.89	214.8
2022	52 917.65	215.0	51 944.67	151.4	104 862.32	177.9
2023	48 468.87	196.9	56 074.63	163.3	104 543.50	177.4
2024	33 909.33	137.7	53 547.92	156.0	87 457.25	148.4
2025	30 783.87	125.0	69 135.19	201.4	99 919.06	169.5
2026 Est	**48 265.87**	**196.1**	**70 450.56**	**205.2**	**118 716.43**	**201.4**

25. From Table 10, it is clear that the exposure to foreign competition of the South African dairy industry:

- The exposure in 2024, was the lowest in the 13 years from 2012 to 2024;
- The exposure in 2025, was the second lowest in the 14 years from 2012 to 2025; and
- The estimated exposure in 2026, is the fifth highest in the 15 years from 2012 to 2026.

26. In Table 11, the mass of total sales of the different dairy products to the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) member states, namely Botswana, eSwatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BeLN countries) in 2026 (January to June), is compared to the mass of the exports in 2026 (January to June) by South Africa to other countries. Sales by South Africa to the other members of SACU, are not classified by SARS as exports.

Table 11: Mass of sales to the BeLN countries compared to exports outside of SACU in January to June 2026

Heading	Description	(A) Sales To BeLN	(B) Exports to Countries Outside SACU	(A+B)=(C) Sales to BeLN plus exports outside SACU	A as % of C
		Kilogram			%
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	**46 077 830**	**12 569 768**	**58 647 598**	**78.6**
04.02	Milk, concentrated	**2 678 817**	**7 744 218**	**10 423 035**	**25.7**
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yogurt	**9 541 859**	**5 675 030**	**15 216 889**	**62.7**
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	**893 952**	**1 029 072**	**1 923 024**	**46.5**
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	**759 026**	**752 021**	**1 511 047**	**50.2**
04.06	Cheese and curd	**3 059 252**	**4 649 115**	**7 708 368**	**39.7**
Total		**63 010 736**	**32 419 223**	**95 429 960**	**66.0**

27. Table 11, indicates that the mass of three of six products total sales of dairy products by South Africa to the BeLN countries in 2026 (January to June), exceeds the mass of exports. (Exports are sales to destinations outside SACU).

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4 September 2026

Table 1: Imports and Exports by heading in kg

Heading	Description	Imports 2002 Kg	Exports 2002 Kg	Imports 2003 Kg	Exports 2003 Kg	Imports 2004 Kg	Exports 2004 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	208 613	12 801 289	684 821	9 640 776	1 526 416	9 190 414
04.02	Milk, concentrated	11 018 625	14 039 210	6 703 019	7 452 953	3 067 368	5 972 199
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	882 034	969 846	1 077 191	2 161 584	850 505	2 076 324
04.04	Whey, whey powder etc	7 906 468	412 723	6 271 924	268 045	6 777 606	2 628 212
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	1 479 363	1 526 319	4 629 804	996 146	1 800 706	788 997
04.06	Cheese and curd	3 122 250	4 578 773	5 092 997	2 385 733	4 266 915	2 851 990
	Total	24 617 353	34 328 160	24 459 756	22 905 237	18 289 516	23 508 136

Heading	Description	Imports 2005 Kg	Exports 2005 Kg	Imports 2006 Kg	Exports 2006 Kg	Imports 2007 Kg	Exports 2007 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	2 105 485	8 666 131	4 943 877	12 559 045	13 858 507	7 277 746
04.02	Milk, concentrated	12 337 153	3 517 660	9 032 137	4 366 952	14 386 700	4 235 315
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	1 689 886	2 969 313	1 561 696	4 980 518	1 611 115	3 904 306
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	8 091 601	137 326	7 514 344	2 339 330	5 711 984	1 239 684
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	2 722 816	846 786	3 141 909	770 915	3 331 164	880 002
04.06	Cheese and curd	3 824 459	1 078 744	4 684 645	1 526 513	5 413 513	979 477
	Total	30 771 400	17 215 960	30 878 608	26 543 273	44 312 983	18 516 530

Heading	Description	Imports 2008 Kg	Exports 2008 Kg	Imports 2009 Kg	Exports 2009 Kg	Imports 2010 Kg	Exports 2010 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	12 799 205	19 293 810	10 902 048	21 292 977	11 118 947	17 451 437
04.02	Milk, concentrated	5 852 035	11 446 267	5 385 534	7 864 904	6 771 519	4 612 872
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	669 432	5 743 800	1 380 614	5 709 480	1 378 705	4 527 147
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	7 539 920	3 298 052	6 259 760	3 852 586	7 267 982	3 805 172
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	2 812 100	1 564 877	3 200 689	1 309 556	2 192 835	1 470 776
04.06	Cheese and curd	4 336 703	1 434 165	5 244 744	1 741 226	6 331 199	2 083 150
	Total	34 009 395	42 780 971	32 373 389	41 770 729	35 061 187	33 950 554

Heading	Description	Imports 2011 Kg	Exports 2011 Kg	Imports 2012 Kg	Exports 2012 Kg	Imports 2013 Kg	Exports 2013 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	8 324 364	20 801 621	15 240 656	28 077 665	4 267 449	29 074 468
04.02	Milk, concentrated	7 895 127	7 244 566	13 257 357	6 653 309	7 115 030	15 316 274
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	2 131 189	9 215 883	2 146 004	12 913 857	1 590 917	19 517 880
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	9 445 819	1 255 978	9 266 509	1 384 114	11 165 088	2 466 431
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	3 153 315	992 242	6 107 761	1 033 349	3 132 054	1 174 557
04.06	Cheese and curd	6 764 628	2 306 790	13 084 240	2 438 666	8 403 219	2 932 285
	Total	37 714 442	41 817 080	59 102 527	52 500 960	35 673 757	70 481 895

Heading	Description	Imports 2014 Kg	Exports 2014 Kg	Imports 2015 Kg	Exports 2015 Kg	Imports 2016 Kg	Exports 2016 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	6 992 447	32 751 503	26 863 360	29 051 149	19 219 616	22 804 187
04.02	Milk, concentrated	9 836 418	8 383 267	12 574 543	6 361 606	10 502 625	5 350 645
04.03	Buttermilk, yoghurt, etc	2 086 328	22 774 653	2 653 250	16 098 030	2 540 075	12 903 458
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	9 480 080	1 868 337	9 365 343	4 232 308	7 095 931	3 816 533
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	2 071 983	1 860 197	5 131 861	1 491 368	5 356 852	1 350 229
04.06	Cheese and curd	9 731 777	3 460 994	12 765 628	4 062 404	13 285 247	4 022 491
	Total	40 199 034	71 098 952	69 353 984	61 296 865	58 000 347	50 247 544

Heading	Description	Imports 2017 Kg	Exports 2017 Kg	Imports 2018 Kg	Exports 2018 Kg	Imports 2019 Kg	Exports 2019 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	39 175 443	18 044 769	17 642 842	17 009 995	18 417 754	20 412 096
04.02	Milk, concentrated	15 842 375	10 822 898	14 889 772	9 336 954	17 929 714	7 868 718
04.03	Buttermilk, yoghurt, etc	3 141 948	11 053 751	3 561 120	12 785 725	3 477 423	10 970 946
04.04	Whey, whey powder, etc	7 673 604	3 977 971	12 048 155	691 890	21 755 229	745 578
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	5 343 309	1 087 716	9 064 150	1 232 997	4 302 967	1 210 490
04.06	Cheese and curd	12 327 764	3 639 588	11 446 544	4 199 938	9 712 995	3 843 918
	Total	83 504 443	48 626 693	68 652 583	45 257 499	75 596 081	45 051 747

Code	Description	Import 2020 Kg	Export 2020 Kg	Import 2021 Kg	Export 2021 Kg	Import 2022 Kg	Export 2022 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	5 618 926	21 290 150	22 917 767	24 062 085	3 965 421	21 544 230
04.02	Milk, concentrated	19 758 063	7 815 738	19 393 125	7 528 119	15 987 579	10 422 221
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	4 049 836	10 050 795	3 362 363	10 325 074	3 387 403	10 472 455
04.04	Whey, whey powder etc	17 093 913	1 359 203	17 055 546	1 920 121	18 435 754	1 930 683
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	7 187 133	1 329 523	4 419 336	1 298 177	3 601 856	1 225 720
04.06	Cheese and curd	6 871 457	4 849 976	8 470 800	5 857 371	7 539 641	6 349 359
	Total	60 579 329	46 695 385	75 618 936	50 990 949	52 917 654	51 944 668

		2023		2024		2025	
Code	Description	Import 2023 Kg	Export 2023 Kg	Import 2024 Kg	Export 2024 Kg	Import 2025 Kg	Export 2025 Kg
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	5 760 336	23 039 401	329 033	20 165 840	176 703	21 470 876
04.02	Milk, concentrated	18 881 495	10 843 850	12 174 221	11 736 477	12 834 809	18 896 191
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	4 041 027	11 669 321	4 745 113	9 725 651	5 103 564	10 609 467
04.04	Whey, whey powder etc	11 589 242	1 810 720	10 994 926	1 752 036	8 738 352	2 493 935
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	1 527 046	1 049 129	1 237 188	1 395 406	350 127	2 597 570
04.06	Cheese and curd	6 669 729	7 662 210	4 428 851	8 772 508	3 580 315	13 067 147
	Total	48 468 874	56 074 632	33 909 333	53 547 918	30 783 870	69 135 185

2026 Est

Code	Description	Import 2026 Kg	Export 2026 Kg				
04.01	Milk and cream, unsweetened	68 034	14 441 604				
04.02	Milk, concentrated	11 731 131	7 451 022				
04.03	Buttermilk powder, yoghurt	2 908 338	6 250 930				
04.04	Whey, whey powder etc	5 176 398	1 252 526				
04.05	Butter, butter spreads and butter oil	2 139 806	781 551				
04.06	Cheese and curd	2 109 230	5 047 644				
	Total	24 132 937	35 225 279				

MASS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS PER MONTH OF SELECTED DAIRY PRODUCTS BY SOUTH AFRICA[1)]

Graph 1

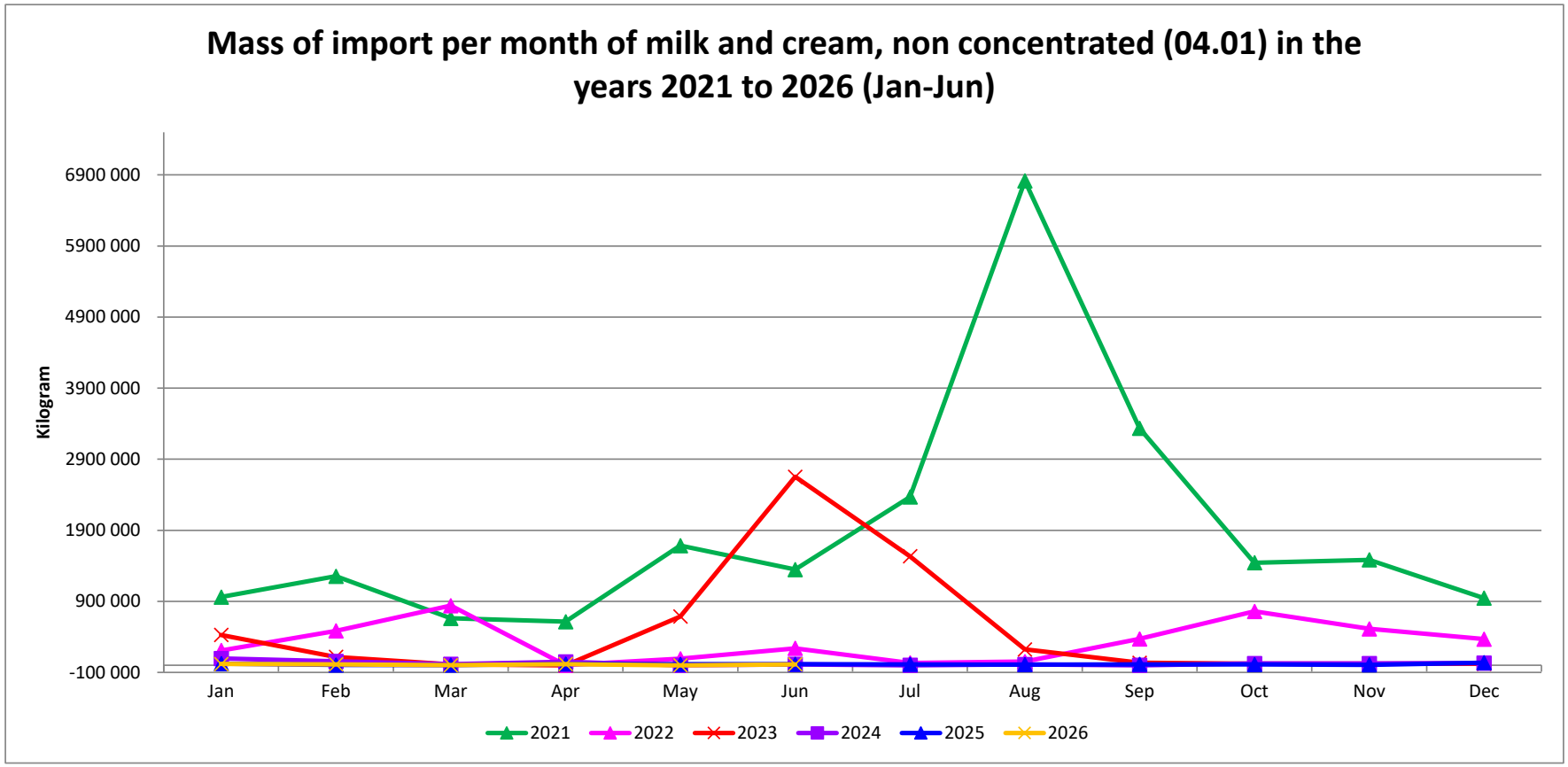

Table 1

Highest and lowest imports per month of milk and cream, non-concentrated (04.01) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	August	April
2022	March	April
2023	June	April
2024	January	September
2025	December	March
2026 (Jan-Jun)	January	May

1) Graphs prepared by the Office of SAMPRO based on information obtained from SARS.

Graph 2

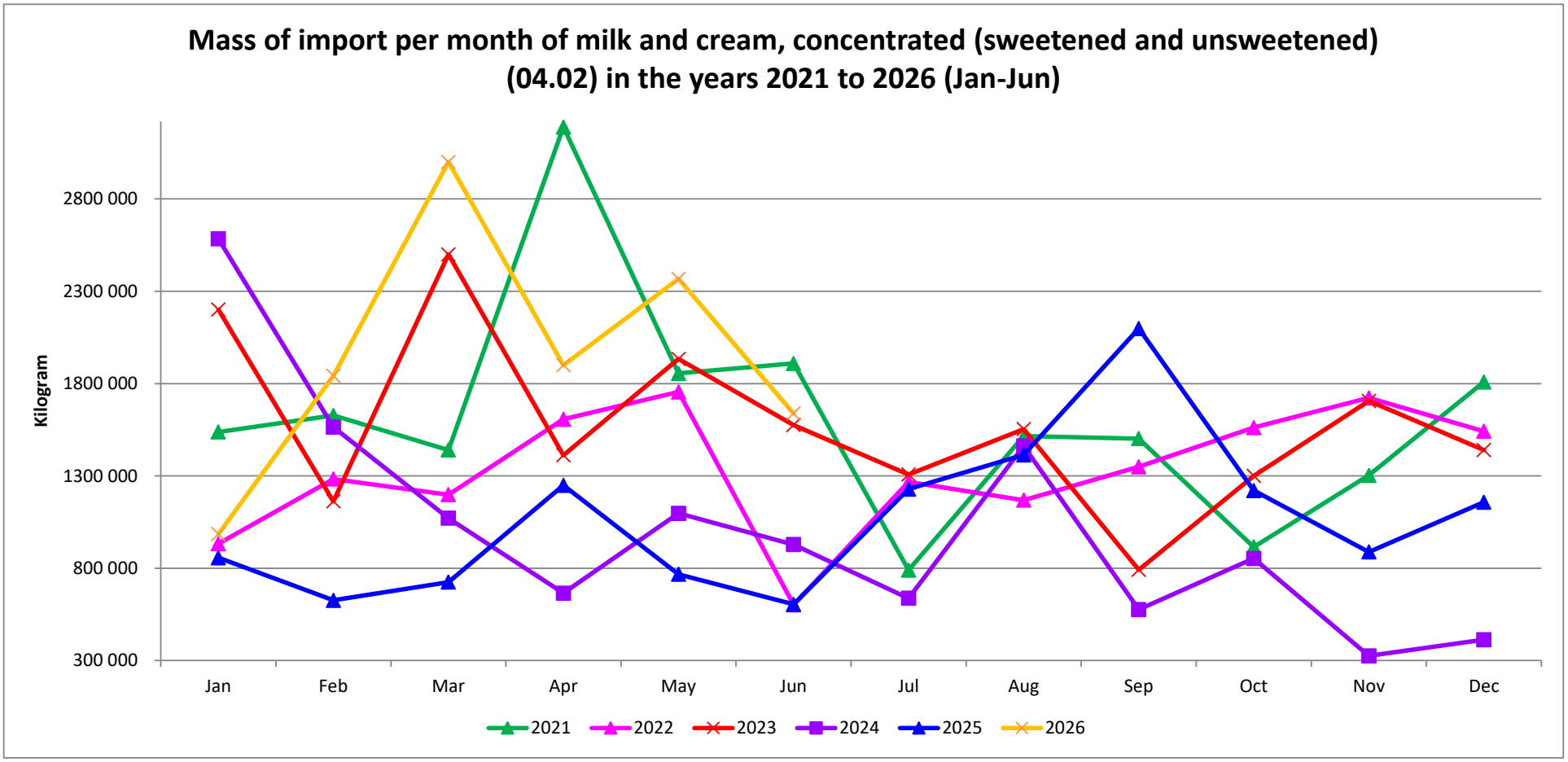

Table 2

Highest and lowest imports per month of milk and cream, concentrated (sweetened and unsweetened) (04.02) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	April	July
2022	May	June
2023	March	September
2024	January	November
2025	September	June
2026 (Jan-Jun)	March	January

Graph 3

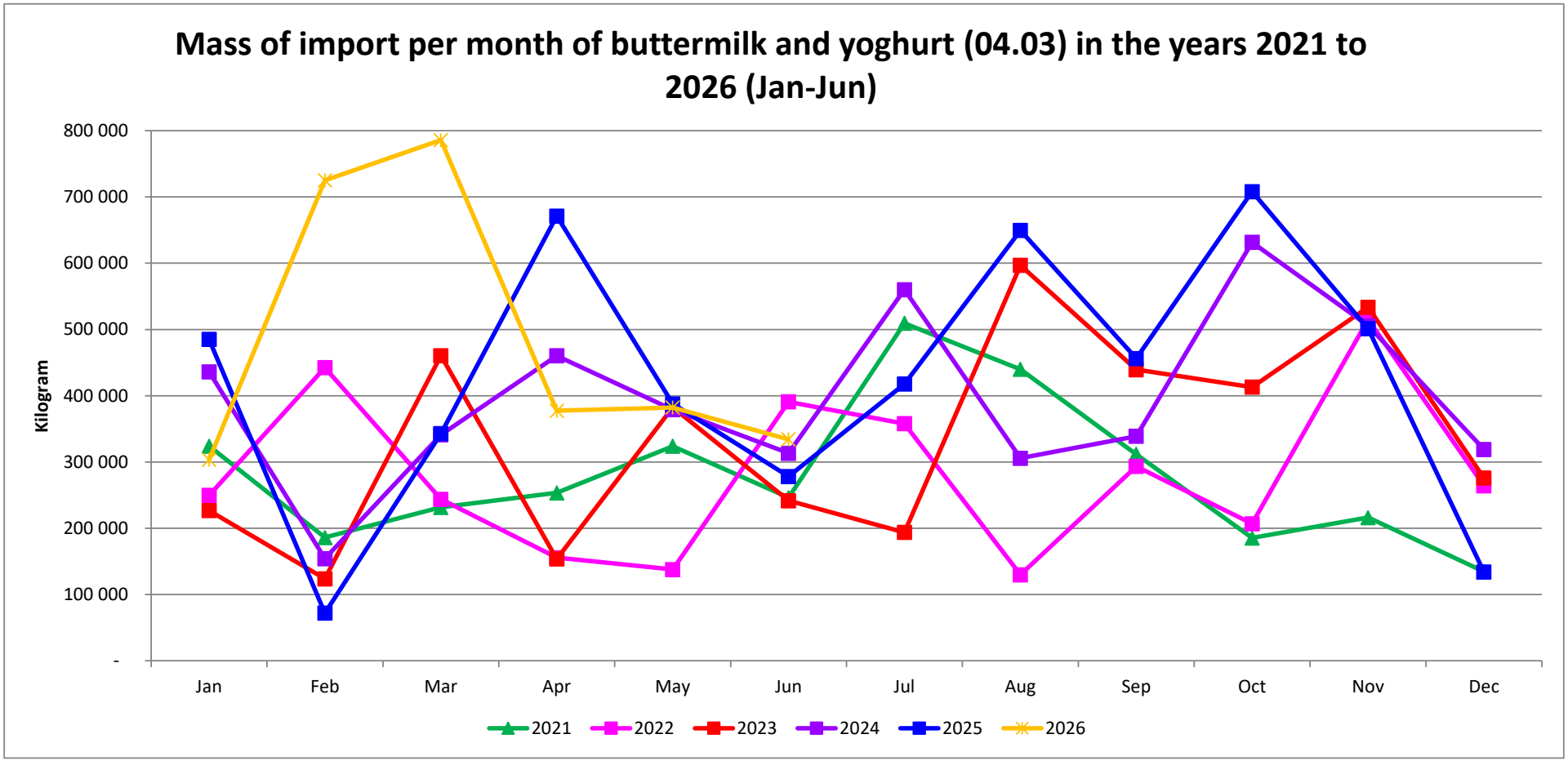

Table 3

Highest and lowest imports per month of buttermilk and yogurt (04.03) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	July	December
2022	November	August
2023	August	February
2024	October	February
2025	October	February
2026 (Jan-Jun)	March	January

Graph 4

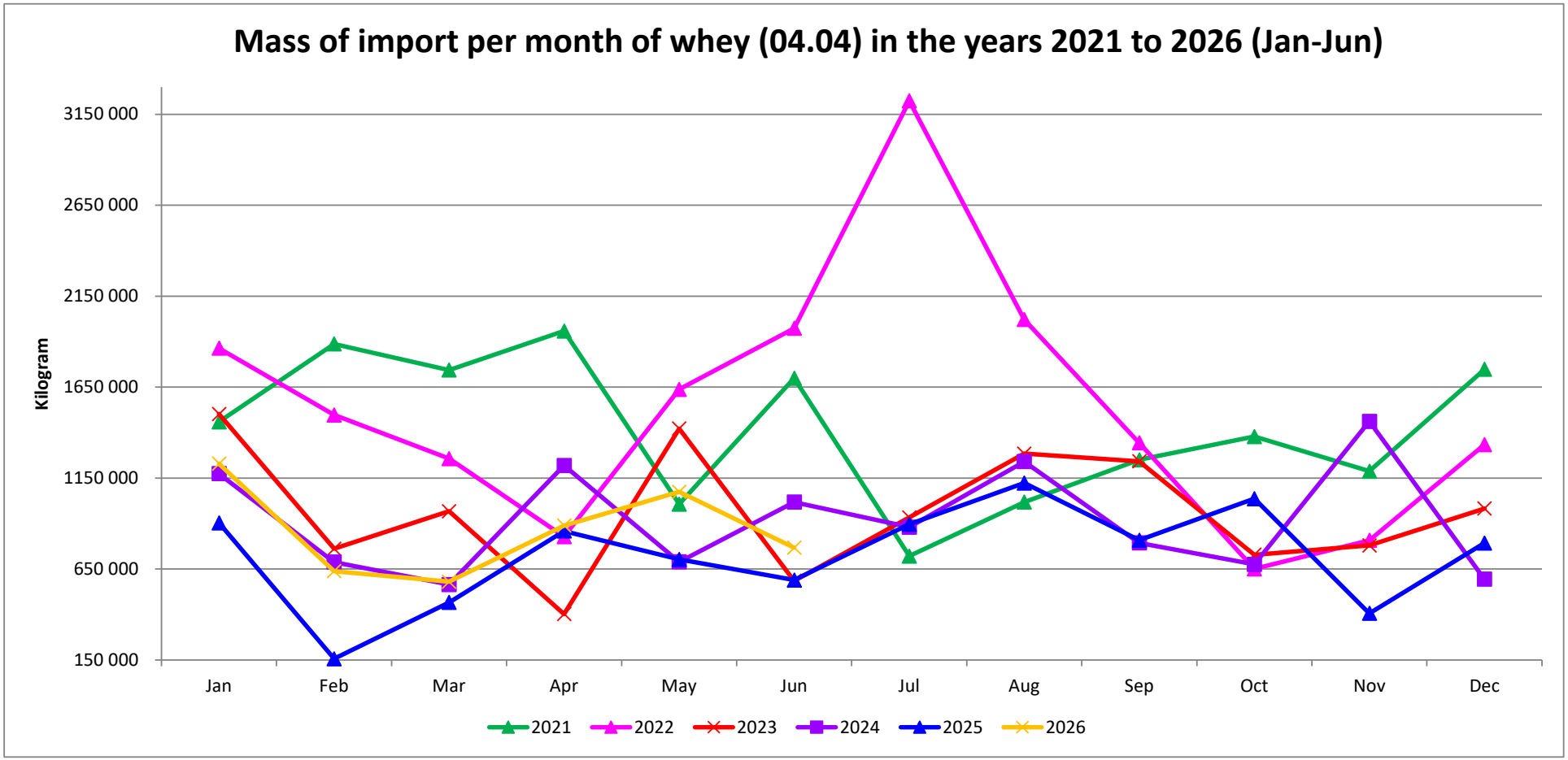

Table 4

Highest and lowest imports per month of whey (04.04) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	April	July
2022	July	October
2023	January	April
2024	November	March
2025	August	February
2026 (Jan-Jun)	January	March

Graph 5

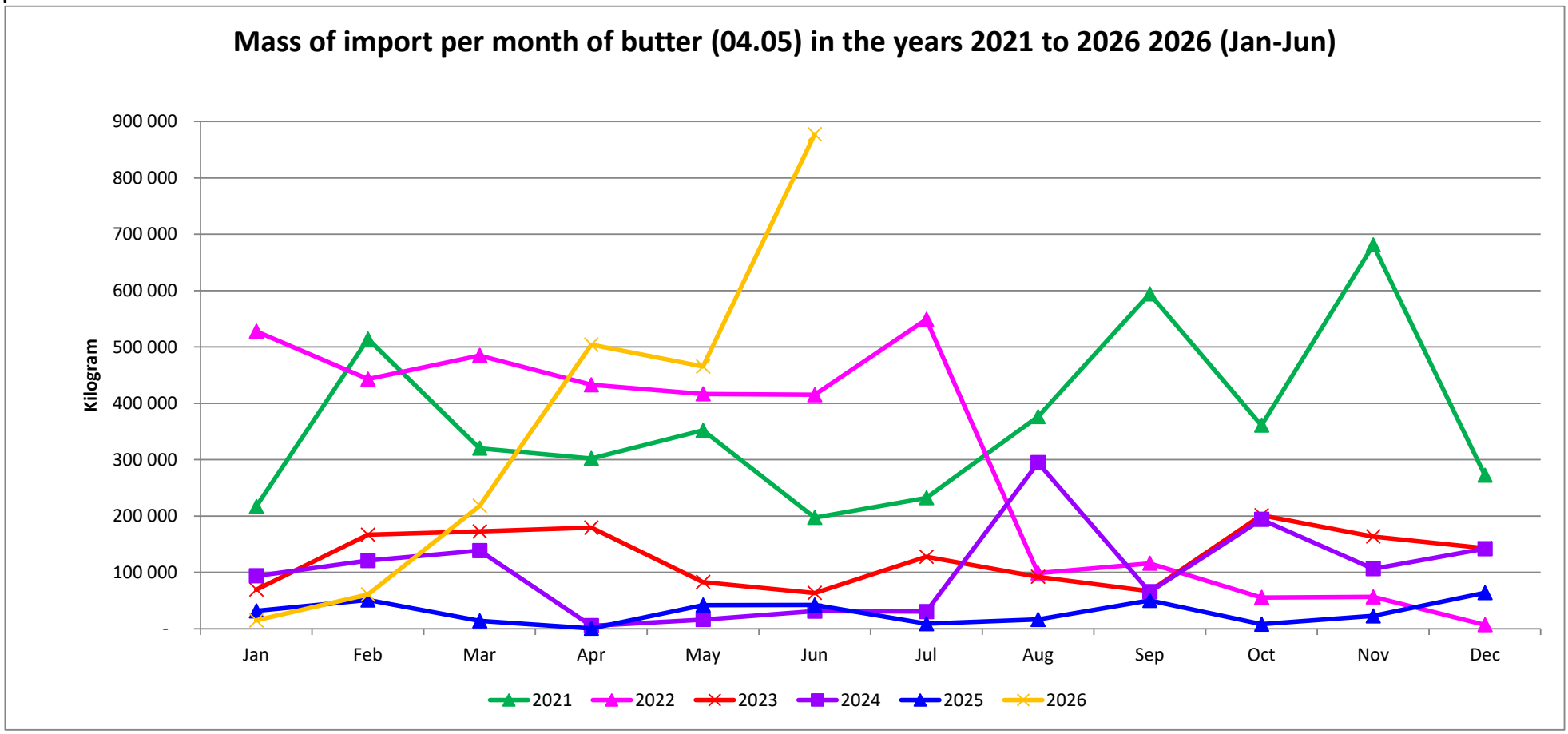

Table 5

Highest and lowest imports per month of butter (04.05) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	November	June
2022	July	December
2023	October	June
2024	August	April
2025	December	April
2026 (Jan-Jun)	June	January

Graph 6

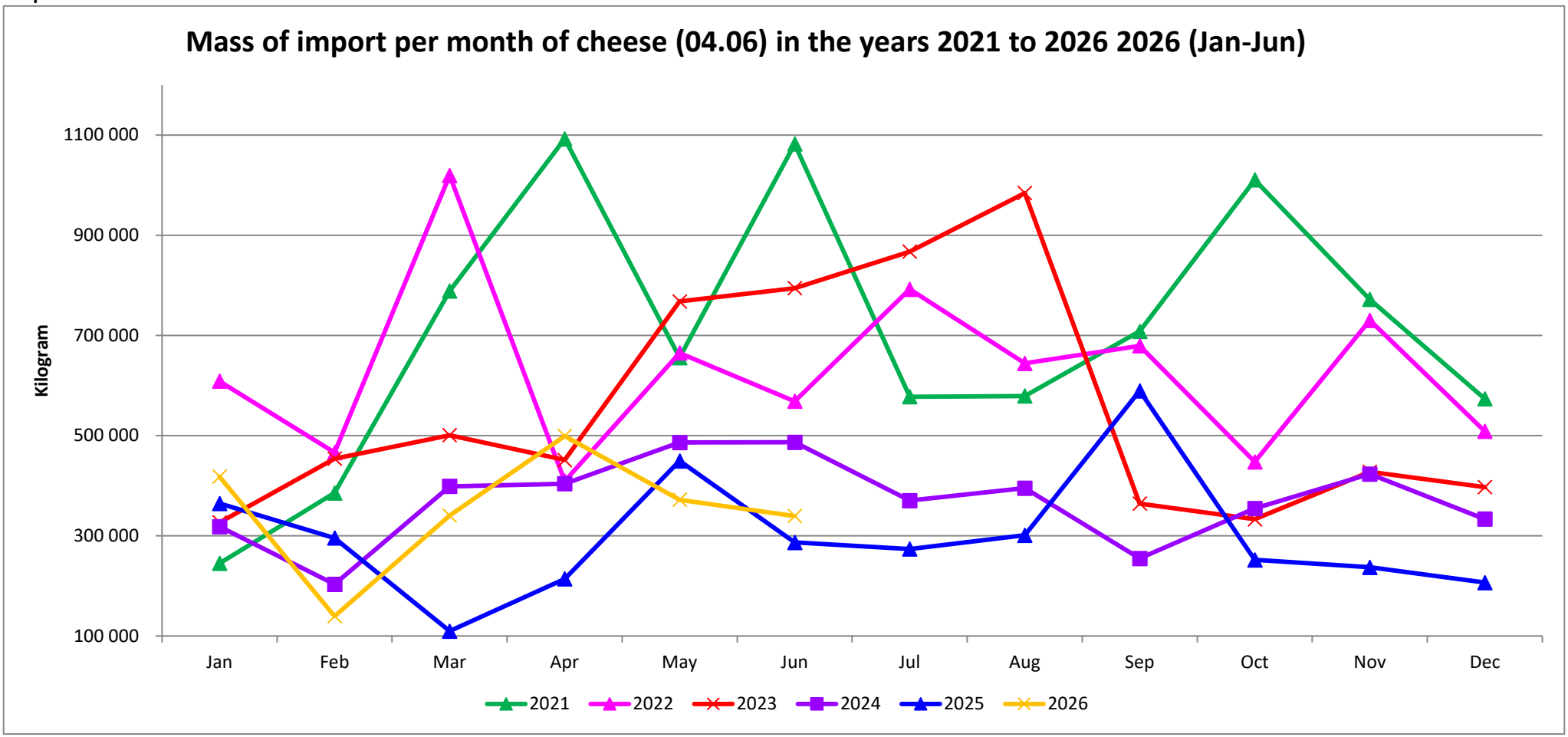

Table 6

Highest and lowest imports per month of cheese (04.06) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	April	January
2022	March	April
2023	August	January
2024	June	February
2025	September	March
2026 (Jan-Jun)	April	February

Graph 7

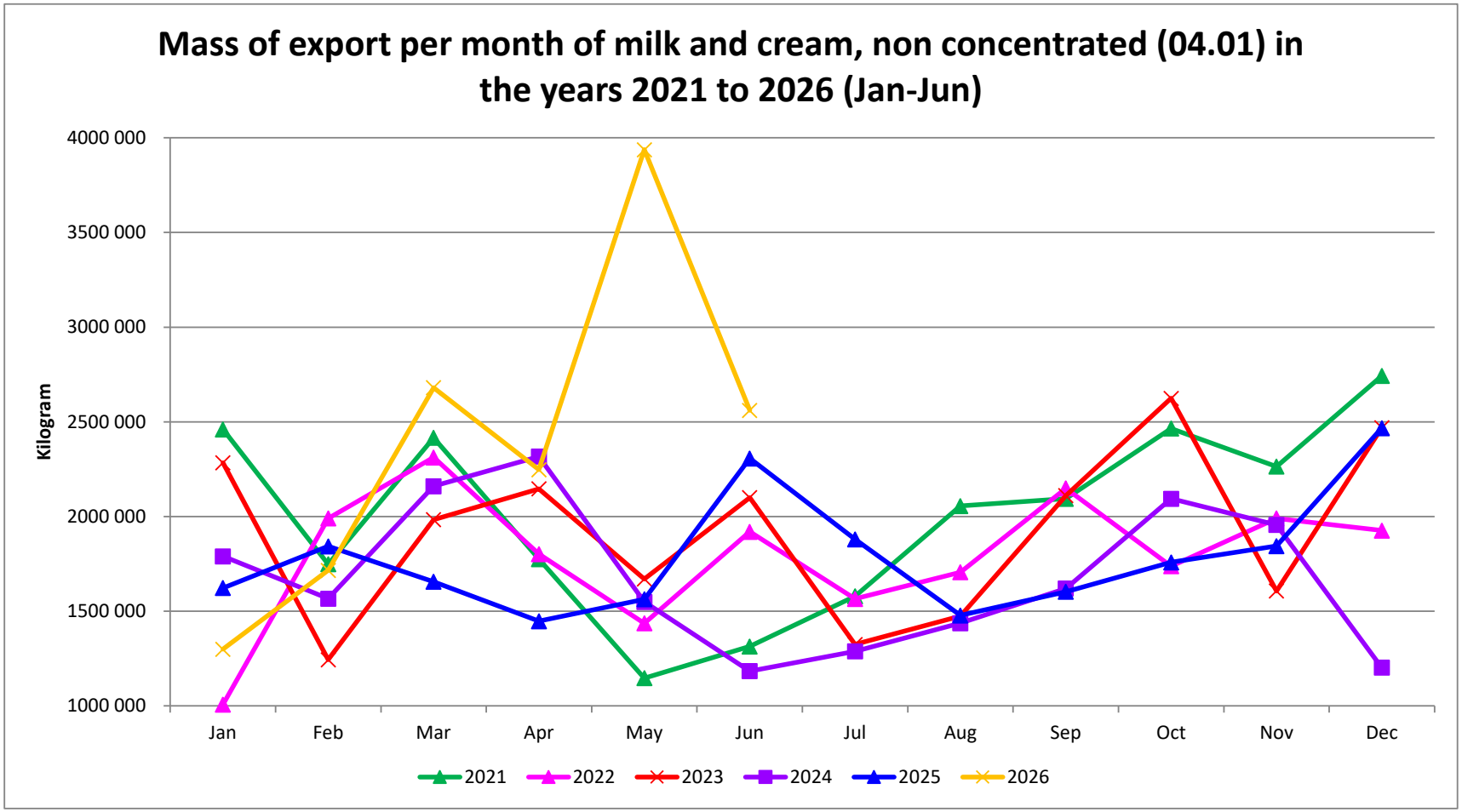

Table 7

Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of milk and cream, non-concentrated (04.01) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	December	May
2022	March	January
2023	October	February
2024	April	June
2025	December	August
2026 (Jan-Jun)	May	January

Graph 8

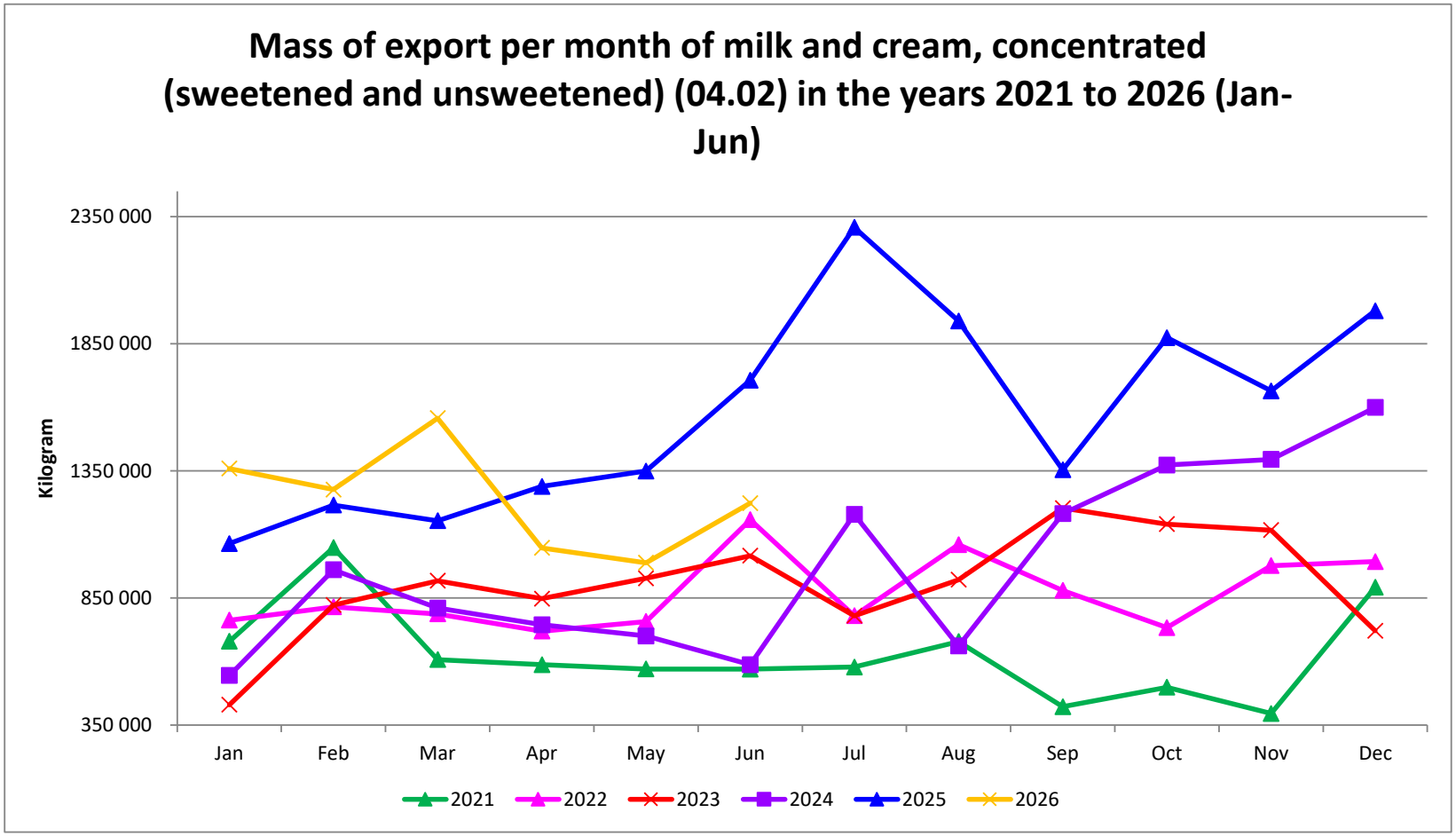

Table 8

Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of milk and cream, concentrated (sweetened and unsweetened) (04.02) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	February	November
2022	June	April
2023	September	January
2024	December	January
2025	July	January
2026 (Jan-Jun)	March	May

Graph 9

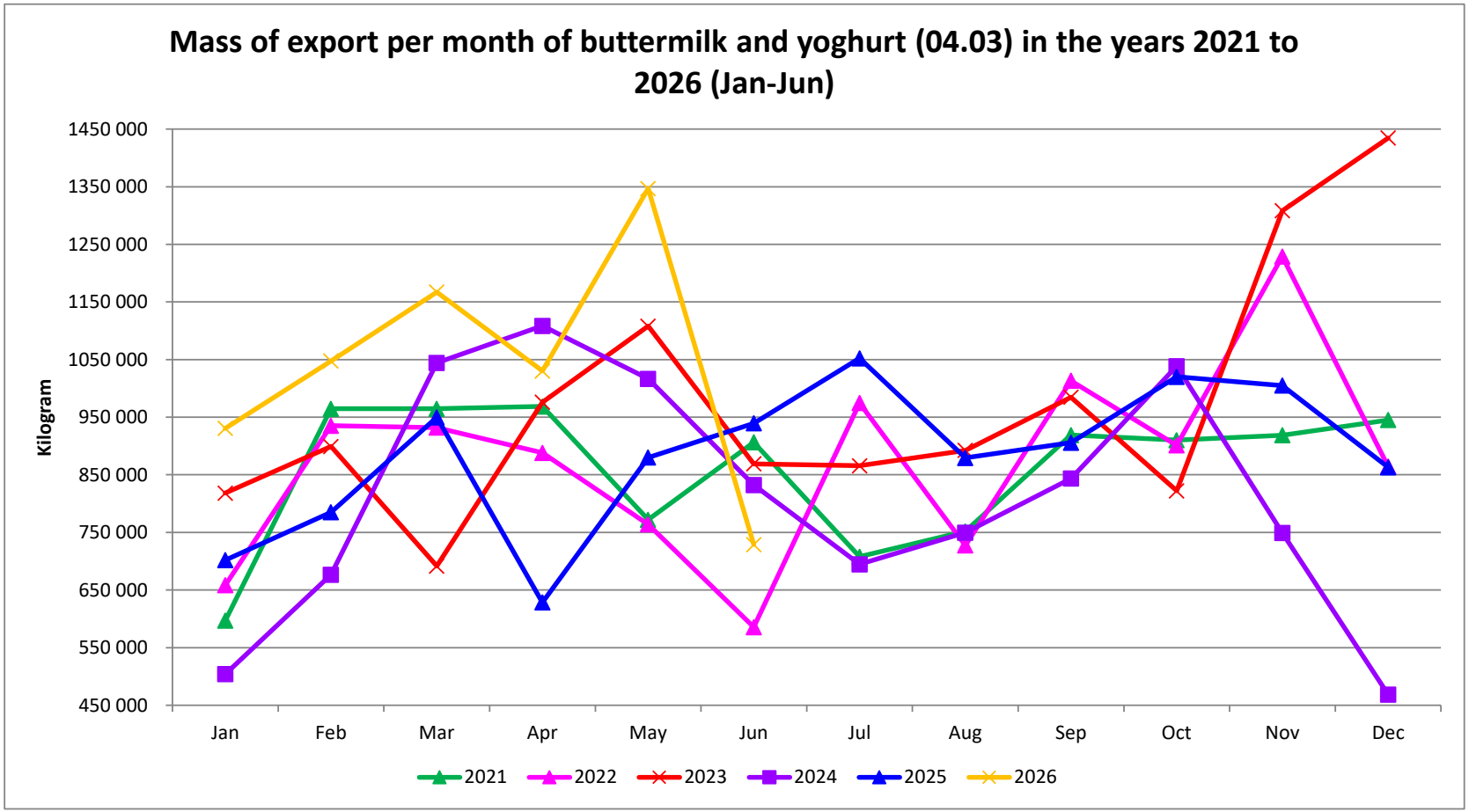

Table 9
Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of buttermilk (04.03) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	April	January
2022	November	June
2023	December	March
2024	April	December
2025	July	April
2026 (Jan-Jun)	May	June

Graph 10

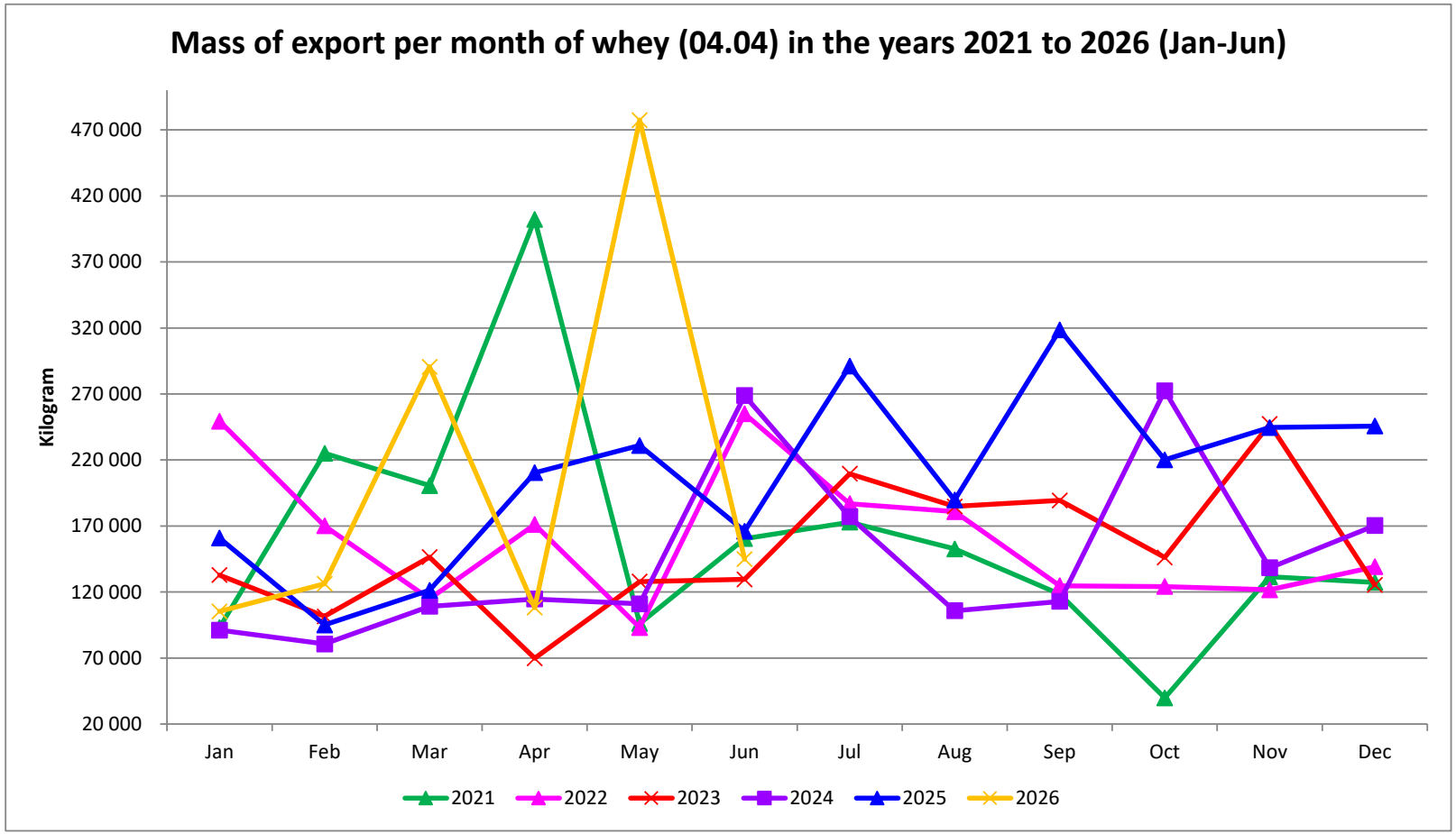

Table 10

Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of whey (04.04) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	November	February
2022	May	April
2023	September	January
2024	October	June
2025	September	February
2026 (Jan-Jun)	May	January

Graph 11

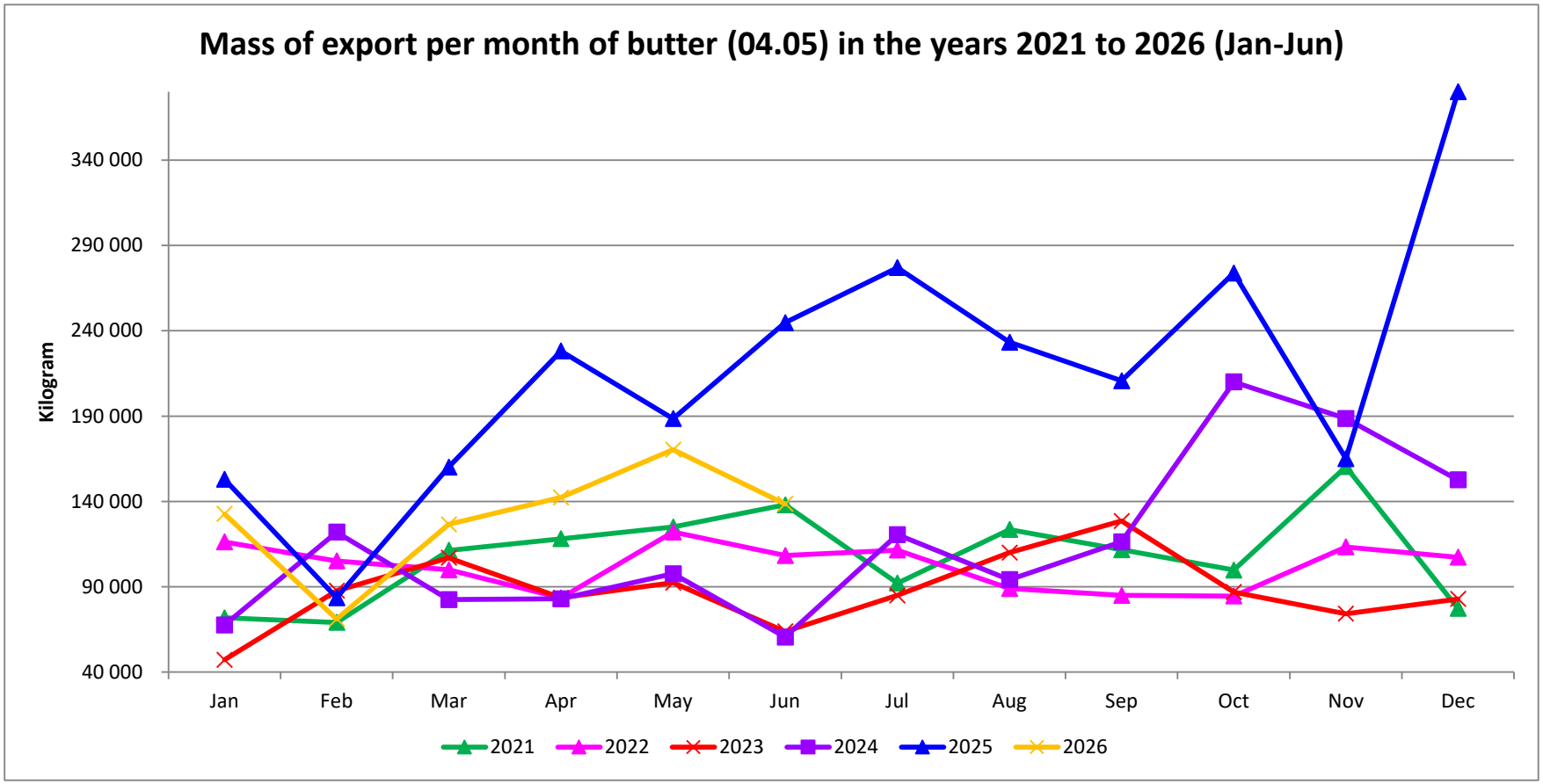

Table 11
Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of butter (04.05) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	November	February
2022	May	April
2023	September	January
2024	October	June
2025	December	February
2026 (Jan-Jun)	May	February

Graph 12

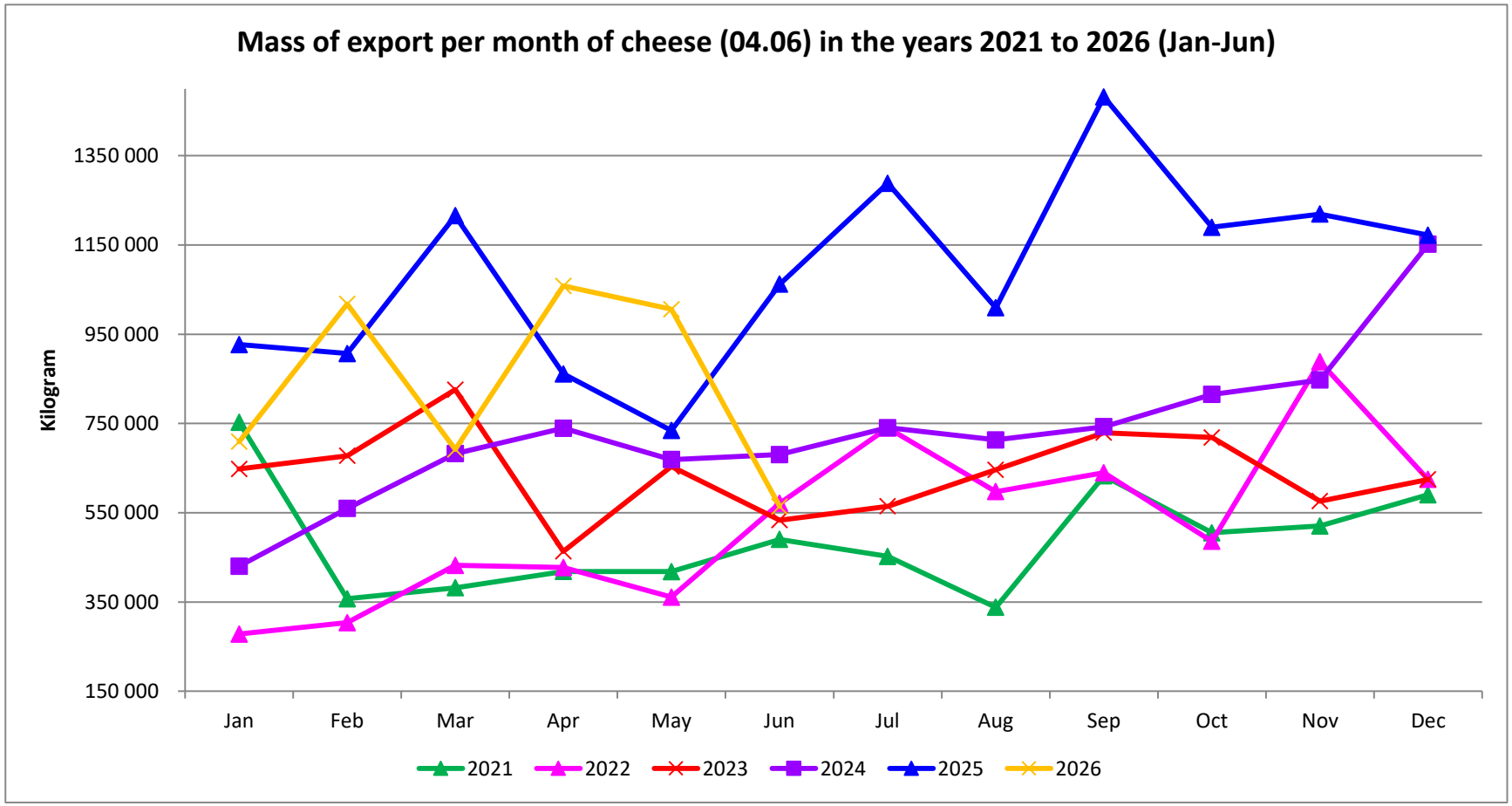

Table 12

Highest and lowest exports per month in terms of mass of cheese (04.06) in the years 2021 to June 2026

	Highest	Lowest
2021	January	August
2022	November	January
2023	March	April
2024	December	January
2025	September	May
2026 (Jan-Jun)	April	June