

MILK PRODUCTION

January 13, 1958

PERIODICAL
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Milk production on farms totaled 9,384 million pounds in December 1957 and exceeded the record high of the previous December by nearly 2 percent and the 1946-55 average for the month by 14 percent. Production increased 7 percent from November to December compared with a seasonal gain of 6 percent last year and the average increase of 4 percent. The total quantity produced in December was sufficient to provide 1.75 pounds of milk daily to each person in the country. This was slightly less than for December 1956, but 2 percent more than average for the month.

The sum of the 12 monthly milk production estimates in 1957 was 127.0 billion pounds, or 1 percent more than the previous record high of 125.7 billion pounds in 1956. This annual total production is tentative pending a more detailed analysis of numbers of milk cows and production per cow by States. These results will be published February 17, 1958.

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Table 1.-Monthly milk production on farms, United States, 1946-55 average, 1956 and 1957

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average 1946-55	1956	1957	1957/1956	Average 1946-55	1956	1957
	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan.	8,446	9,603	9,697	101	1.79	1.86	1.84
Feb.	8,284	9,657	9,464	1/98	1.93	1.99	1.99
Mar.	9,799	10,888	10,961	101	2.07	2.10	2.08
Apr.	10,530	11,325	11,428	101	2.30	2.25	2.24
May.....	12,368	12,840	13,122	102	2.62	2.47	2.48
June.....	12,242	12,490	12,633	101	2.67	2.48	2.47
July.....	11,428	11,526	11,692	101	2.41	2.21	2.21
Aug.	10,453	10,659	10,794	101	2.20	2.04	2.03
Sept. ...	9,158	9,512	9,611	101	1.99	1.88	1.86
Oct.	8,658	9,276	9,412	101	1.82	1.77	1.76
Nov.	7,879	8,695	8,783	101	1.70	1.71	1.70
Dec.	8,223	9,227	9,384	102	1.72	1.76	1.75
Year...	117,468	125,698	126,981	101	2.10	2.04	2.03

1/ Influenced by extra day in February 1956.

Table 2.-Monthly milk production on farms, selected States,
December 1957, with comparisons 1/

[In millions of pounds]

State	Dec. av. 1946-55	Dec. 1956	Nov. 1957	Dec. 1957	State	Dec. av. 1946-55	Dec. 1956	Nov. 1957	Dec. 1957
N.Y.	636	721	697	760	Ga.	87	101	95	97
N.J.	90	90	89	93	Ky.	146	171	182	168
Pa.	426	489	488	527	Tenn. ...	151	169	173	169
Ohio.....	375	433	431	438	Ala.	92	93	80	80
Ind.	255	265	262	266	Miss. ...	94	112	106	108
Ill.	369	396	362	385	Ark.	84	89	85	88
Mich.	383	408	386	408	Okla. ...	126	123	113	116
Wis.	1,053	1,280	1,156	1,334	Tex.	236	245	232	236
Minn.	635	767	605	778	Mont. ...	36	35	35	34
Iowa.....	420	478	425	454	Idaho....	91	107	104	109
Mo.	259	268	263	271	Wyo.	17	16	15	16
N. Dak. ..	101	105	97	106	Colo. ...	68	69	68	71
S. Dak. ..	85	92	88	96	Utah. ...	51	55	54	57
Nebr.	118	165	144	160	Wash. ...	121	132	133	133
Kans.	181	180	163	175	Oreg. ...	78	75	76	73
Va.	137	155	166	161	Calif. ..	468	557	598	608
W. Va. ...	56	58	60	60	Other				
N.C.	119	137	140	143	States..	506	539	566	558
S.C.	43	52	46	48	U.S.	8,223	9,227	8,783	9,384

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

Table 3.-Dairy product-feed price ratios, by regions,
December 15, 1957, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed 1/				Butterfat-feed 2/			
	Dec. 15, av. 1936-55	Dec. 15, 1956	Nov. 15, 1957	Dec. 15, 1957	Dec. 15, av. 1936-55	Dec. 15, 1956	Nov. 15, 1957	Dec. 15, 1957
N. Atl. ..	1.37	1.46	1.60	1.53	-	-	-	-
E.N.C. ...	1.38	1.45	1.54	1.50	23.7	20.2	20.8	20.9
W.N.C. ...	1.56	1.47	1.70	1.67	27.5	24.7	27.3	27.6
S. Atl. ...	1.58	1.66	1.70	1.67	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. .	1.58	1.68	1.73	1.71	19.0	16.0	16.8	16.6
West.	1.41	1.46	1.55	1.58	21.3	18.7	19.7	19.9
U.S. ...	1.41	1.49	1.59	1.56	24.8	22.4	24.6	24.7

1/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of whole milk sold by farmers to plants and dealers.

2/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound of butterfat in cream sold by farmers.

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Milk per cow continues at record high

On January 1, 1958, milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds averaged 19.06 pounds. This was 5 percent above the previous high of January 1, 1957, and more than a fourth above the 10-year average for the date. Output per cow on January 1 in crop reporters' herds was at a record high in all regions of the country, as increases from a year earlier ranged from 9 percent in the North Atlantic States to 1 percent in the West. In other regions, production per milk cow was up 6 percent from the same date the previous year in the West North Central, 5 percent in the East North Central, and about 2 percent in the South Atlantic and South Central. For the entire country, milk production per cow increased more than 6 percent from December 1 to January 1. This compared with a seasonal gain of nearly 5 percent indicated the previous year and the usual December 1 to January 1 increase of 3 percent. Rate per cow increased more rapidly than usual from December 1 in all regions except the South Atlantic. Seasonal gains were considerably greater than average in the West North Central and South Central regions.

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Table 4.-Milk produced per milk cow and percent of milk cows milked in herds kept by reporters 1/

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow 2/			Percent of milk cows milked		
	January 1, av. 1947-56	January 1, 1957	January 1, 1958	January 1, av. 1947-56	January 1, 1957	January 1, 1958
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent
Me.	15.3	19.5	20.5	77.1	79.6	78.8
N. H.	17.7	19.9	23.4	79.5	80.1	82.9
Vt.	16.4	18.9	21.8	75.2	76.7	79.4
Mass.	18.2	22.1	23.0	78.9	81.6	80.2
Conn.	18.8	23.1	23.7	77.7	79.6	79.9
N. Y.	19.7	21.2	23.2	73.6	75.9	77.2
N. J.	21.2	23.2	24.5	77.6	78.1	79.8
Pa.	18.5	20.6	22.6	74.8	76.2	78.3
N. Atl.	18.96	20.94	22.86	75.1	76.8	78.4
Ohio.....	16.9	20.3	21.5	73.0	75.5	77.6
Ind.	15.1	18.1	19.6	69.6	71.4	74.8
Ill.	16.5	20.6	20.5	67.1	72.5	72.5
Mich.	19.0	22.3	23.4	76.6	80.1	81.1
Wis.	17.7	21.5	22.7	70.9	75.1	76.7
E. N. Cent.	17.34	21.25	22.24	71.3	75.2	76.8
Minn.	18.8	22.4	22.8	67.5	72.6	73.6
Iowa.....	16.2	20.6	19.9	65.4	72.2	69.1
Mo.	10.8	12.8	14.1	60.4	62.5	59.9
N. Dak.	12.8	14.5	15.9	54.1	54.4	56.1
S. Dak.	11.7	13.5	14.8	54.3	56.4	60.9
Nebr.	14.6	17.3	17.9	62.5	67.1	67.0
Kans.	14.7	18.3	19.3	63.9	69.4	71.2
W. N. Cent.	15.03	18.04	19.10	62.6	66.7	67.6
Md.	16.5	20.4	20.0	73.1	76.9	76.0
Va.	14.1	18.1	18.2	67.9	74.4	72.6
W. Va.	10.9	12.5	12.7	67.7	67.5	69.2
N. C.	12.7	16.9	17.4	70.0	75.9	77.7
S. C.	11.1	15.0	12.7	67.3	71.9	66.4
Ga.	9.2	12.1	11.8	56.9	61.7	62.1
S. Atl.	12.64	16.07	16.47	66.9	71.0	74.1
Ky.	10.6	13.7	13.4	61.0	63.9	63.0
Tenn.	9.8	12.1	12.6	63.5	65.2	67.5
Ala.	8.6	9.4	8.5	56.2	55.9	53.4
Miss.	7.1	9.1	7.7	54.8	58.1	57.4
Ark.	7.5	9.3	10.5	49.9	55.1	57.4
La.	6.7	7.8	8.0	42.3	54.9	58.6
Okla.	10.3	13.1	12.9	55.2	61.7	60.7
Tex.	8.3	10.2	9.5	51.1	51.9	48.5
S. Cent.	9.13	11.62	11.80	56.2	60.0	60.5
Mont.	13.6	15.3	15.1	60.8	60.3	59.1
Idaho.....	17.6	20.1	19.9	72.8	72.5	75.7
Wyo.	15.8	17.8	19.0	65.3	66.1	70.0
Colo.	15.5	17.6	18.5	65.5	70.7	69.0
Utah.....	19.2	21.1	22.1	75.3	78.4	75.3
Wash.	18.1	22.0	21.4	75.5	79.1	80.7
Oreg.	14.4	15.7	16.6	68.6	71.5	73.2
Calif.	19.3	23.3	24.3	76.2	78.3	80.4
West.	17.22	20.94	21.16	71.9	76.1	77.7
U. S.	15.00	18.21	19.06	66.5	70.4	71.7

1/ Figures for New England States and New Jersey represent combined crop and special dairy reporters; others represent crop reporters only. Regional averages include less important dairy States not shown separately.

2/ Averages represent daily milk production divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry).

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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Proportion of cows milked well above average

Crop reporters milked 71.7 percent of the milk cows in their herds on January 1. This compared with 70.4 percent reported for the same date last year and the January 1, 1947-56 average of 66.5 percent. The proportion of milk cows milked was above that reported a month earlier and on January 1, 1957 in all regions. The percentage milked on January 1 was also well above average for the date in all sections of the country.

In the 35 States with monthly estimates of milk production available, December output equaled or exceeded the record high for the month in 10 States. Milk production was below the December average in 6 States. Wisconsin was the leading milk producing State with 1,334 million pounds, followed by Minnesota with 778 million; New York, 760 million; California, 608 million; and Pennsylvania, 527 million pounds.