

# MILK PRODUCTION

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Production of milk in the United States, at its usual seasonal low point, totaled 8,826 million pounds in November. While output was 1 percent below a year earlier, it was 9 percent above the 1948-57 average for November. Temperatures were unseasonably low during November over the central part of the country, but normal or above in other sections. Grain and concentrate feeding continued at record or near record high levels in all regions of the country. In the first 11 months of 1959, U. S. milk production totaled 114.9 billion pounds, almost a billion pounds below the January-November 1958 output. November 1959 production was at the rate of 1.65 pounds per person per day -- below both November a year ago and the 10-year average for the month.

Among the 36 States making monthly milk production estimates, production set a record high for November in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia, Idaho, Utah, and California. However, November output was the lowest of record for the month in Alabama and Montana. Wisconsin produced a total of 1,167 million pounds in November, followed in order by New York with 706 million; Minnesota, 648 million; and California, 630 million. These 4 States accounted for over a third of the country's milk output in November.

Milk production per cow on December 1 in crop reporters' herds averaged 19.41 pounds, exceeding last year's previous record high for the date by less than 1 percent. Seasonally, output per cow increased 1 percent over November 1.

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Table 1.-Monthly milk production on farms, United States, 1948-57 average, 1958 and 1959

Month	Monthly total				Daily average per capita		
	Average 1948-57	1958	1959	$\frac{1959}{1958}$	Average 1948-57	1958	1959
	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Mil. pounds	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan. ....	8,717	9,781	9,754	100	1.78	1.83	1.79
Feb. ....	8,562	9,356	9,344	100	1.92	1.93	1.90
Mar. ....	10,034	10,734	10,667	99	2.05	2.00	1.95
Apr. ....	10,685	11,177	11,171	100	2.26	2.15	2.11
May.....	12,435	12,712	12,595	99	2.54	2.36	2.30
June.....	12,224	12,332	12,152	99	2.58	2.36	2.29
July.....	11,365	11,450	11,224	98	2.32	2.12	2.04
Aug. ....	10,451	10,487	10,335	99	2.12	1.94	1.88
Sept. ....	9,225	9,492	9,413	99	1.94	1.81	1.76
Oct. ....	8,824	9,455	9,453	100	1.78	1.74	1.71
Nov. ....	8,118	8,889	8,826	99	1.70	1.69	1.65
Dec. ....	8,518	9,371			1.72	1.72	
Year...	119,158	125,236			2.06	1.97	

Table 2.-Monthly milk production on farms, selected States, November 1959 <sup>1/</sup>  
 [In millions of pounds]

State	Nov. av. 1948-57	Nov. 1958	Oct. 1959	Nov. 1959	State	Nov. av. 1948-57	Nov. 1958	Oct. 1959	Nov. 1959
N. Y. ....	642	700	769	706	Ga. ....	89	94	100	98
N. J. ....	87	86	93	89	Ky. ....	165	178	216	179
Pa. ....	429	484	530	502	Tenn. ....	162	167	193	164
Ohio.....	392	417	453	407	Ala. ....	91	81	87	80
Ind. ....	258	262	281	261	Miss. ....	99	99	110	100
Ill. ....	355	358	370	341	Ark. ....	87	81	84	80
Mich. ....	378	426	448	421	Okla. ....	121	110	127	117
Wis. ....	1,000	1,277	1,221	1,167	Tex. ....	234	237	230	225
Minn. ....	536	660	566	648	Mont. ....	36	34	36	33
Iowa.....	402	399	419	382	Idaho.....	93	110	125	114
Mo. ....	267	257	296	248	Wyo. ....	15	15	16	14
N. Dak. ..	95	99	114	99	Colo. ....	64	65	66	66
S. Dak. ..	82	96	100	98	Utah.....	49	57	63	58
Nebr. ....	140	136	143	134	Wash. ....	124	141	151	141
Kans. ....	172	156	155	156	Oreg. ....	80	75	86	77
Md. ....	107	116	134	117	Calif. ...	496	582	648	630
Va. ....	149	157	185	165	Other.....				
W. Va. ...	60	60	67	63	States..	395	438	582	468
N. C. ....	124	133	142	135	U. S. ....	8,118	8,889	9,453	8,826
S. C. ....	43	46	47	43					

<sup>1/</sup> Monthly data for other States not yet available.

Table 3.-Dairy product-feed price ratios, by regions, November 15, 1959

Region	Milk-feed <sup>1/</sup>				Butterfat-feed <sup>2/</sup>			
	Nov. 15, av. 1948-57	Nov. 15, 1958	Oct. 15, 1959	Nov. 15, 1959	Nov. 15, av. 1948-57	Nov. 15, 1958	Oct. 15, 1959	Nov. 15, 1959
N. Atl. ..	1.47	1.58	1.60	1.61	-	-	-	-
E.N.C. ...	1.43	1.47	1.52	1.52	21.4	20.7	21.1	21.1
W.N.C. ...	1.52	1.68	1.68	1.70	25.4	28.5	28.4	28.9
S. Atl. ...	1.63	1.70	1.74	1.73	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. .	1.66	1.73	1.75	1.77	16.6	17.1	17.5	17.5
West. ....	1.40	1.52	1.46	1.49	19.0	19.6	19.1	19.0
U. S. ...	1.48	1.57	1.59	1.60	22.5	25.2	25.8	26.0

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

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

Table 4.-Value per 100 pounds of concentrate rations fed to milk cows, by regions, November 15, 1959

[In dollars]

Region	Nov. 15, av. 1948-57	Nov. 15, 1958	Sept. 15, 1959	Oct. 15, 1959	Nov. 15, 1959
N. Atl. ....	3.72	3.46	3.47	3.45	3.48
E. N. C. ....	2.90	2.60	2.67	2.59	2.61
W. N. C. ....	2.62	2.12	2.28	2.18	2.18
S. Atl. ....	3.65	3.39	3.37	3.25	3.30
S. Cent. ....	3.34	2.93	3.05	2.87	2.91
West. ....	3.42	3.04	3.21	3.14	3.18
U. S.					
Milk-selling areas.	3.21	2.86	2.93	2.85	2.87
Cream-selling areas	2.80	2.33	2.43	2.33	2.34
Combined milk and cream areas.....	3.14	2.80	2.89	2.80	2.82

Table 5.-Milk produced per milk cow, percent of milk cows milked, and "grain" fed per milk cow in herds kept by reporters 1/

State and division	Milk produced per milk cow 2/			Percent of milk cows milked			"Grain" fed per milk cow 3/		
	Dec. 1, av. 1948-57	Dec. 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1959	Dec. 1, av. 1948-57	Dec. 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1959	Dec. 1, av. 1948-57	Dec. 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1959
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Me. ....	16.4	20.3	20.4	79.6	80.1	79.5	6.5	7.3	7.4
N. H. ....	18.1	23.3	21.5	79.3	82.2	80.4	5.8	7.5	7.0
Vt. ....	17.0	19.9	21.5	76.4	77.4	79.7	6.0	6.7	7.0
Mass. ....	19.4	22.1	22.3	79.9	78.7	80.3	6.4	7.0	7.8
Conn. ....	19.7	24.0	25.5	78.5	81.2	81.9	6.7	8.1	8.2
N. Y. ....	19.8	22.8	23.3	75.0	76.9	76.7	7.0	7.8	8.0
N. J. ....	21.2	22.8	24.2	77.7	77.4	78.3	7.9	8.2	8.8
Pa. ....	19.0	21.5	22.4	76.1	77.1	77.7	7.6	8.2	8.5
N. Atl. ....	19.32	21.93	22.62	76.4	77.6	77.9	7.0	7.8	8.0
Ohio.....	18.1	23.3	22.6	74.2	78.4	77.3	6.7	8.5	8.2
Ind. ....	16.4	19.8	20.2	70.8	74.8	75.3	6.4	7.5	7.3
Ill. ....	16.8	20.5	20.7	67.7	72.4	72.9	6.6	7.2	7.2
Mich. ....	19.6	25.0	24.9	78.0	80.8	80.6	6.8	8.2	8.0
Wis. ....	17.4	23.3	21.9	71.7	76.8	74.6	6.0	7.4	7.5
E. N. Cent. .	17.78	22.96	22.30	72.2	76.8	76.0	6.4	7.7	7.6
Minn. ....	17.4	21.9	22.0	66.1	70.5	71.2	5.8	7.3	7.2
Iowa.....	16.3	19.0	18.8	66.1	67.0	68.5	6.5	7.3	7.8
Mo. ....	12.1	15.2	14.8	63.9	68.3	67.4	5.3	6.3	7.2
N. Dak. ....	12.5	16.4	17.1	54.8	60.4	58.9	4.7	6.3	6.4
S. Dak. ....	11.9	15.6	16.2	56.3	61.5	63.3	3.9	5.0	4.6
Nebr. ....	14.9	17.6	18.2	63.1	63.7	65.8	5.0	5.7	5.9
Kans. ....	15.4	18.6	18.4	64.4	68.1	68.0	5.7	7.0	7.7
W. N. Cent. .	14.94	18.56	18.56	63.1	67.0	67.0	5.6	6.7	7.0
Md. ....	18.1	19.6	19.0	74.6	74.0	74.1	7.6	7.7	8.1
Va. ....	15.2	18.4	19.9	70.8	71.8	76.2	5.6	6.7	7.5
W. Va. ....	11.9	14.3	15.7	70.6	72.5	73.1	4.0	4.1	5.5
N. C. ....	14.0	17.8	17.2	71.4	75.8	75.6	5.6	7.0	6.6
S. C. ....	11.7	13.4	12.0	67.1	69.1	63.6	4.6	5.7	7.7
Ga. ....	9.9	11.9	14.1	58.8	60.8	64.0	4.7	5.7	6.3
S. Atl. ....	13.72	17.34	17.93	69.0	74.1	73.9	5.2	6.2	6.7
Ky. ....	11.8	14.6	14.4	65.0	65.9	67.3	5.4	6.0	6.5
Tenn. ....	10.6	13.7	13.1	66.0	69.7	66.6	5.0	5.8	6.2
Ala. ....	8.6	8.6	8.4	55.9	50.7	47.7	5.0	5.2	5.5
Miss. ....	7.4	7.7	7.6	56.0	54.0	55.0	3.9	4.5	4.7
Ark. ....	8.3	12.2	11.4	53.4	61.2	61.7	4.0	6.0	5.7
La. ....	7.0	7.9	8.1	44.7	52.2	59.9	3.9	4.7	4.7
Okla. ....	11.1	13.3	14.4	56.6	62.1	63.8	4.7	6.8	6.8
Tex. ....	8.9	11.1	10.8	52.2	51.6	52.2	5.0	6.2	6.9
S. Cent. ....	9.85	12.46	12.46	58.4	61.3	62.5	4.7	5.7	6.0
Mont. ....	14.5	15.7	16.0	64.2	65.5	61.3	4.0	5.4	4.7
Idaho.....	18.5	20.5	21.7	74.6	76.5	77.0	4.2	4.3	5.0
Wyo. ....	16.1	20.1	18.6	65.9	72.9	66.9	3.6	4.8	3.7
Colo. ....	16.6	19.0	20.5	69.1	73.0	74.9	5.3	6.6	6.6
Utah.....	19.5	23.3	22.3	75.9	79.2	78.6	4.8	5.3	6.0
Wash. ....	18.5	22.5	22.8	77.2	80.1	80.2	5.7	6.6	5.6
Oreg. ....	15.4	17.4	17.4	73.6	78.4	77.6	4.9	5.3	5.2
Calif. ....	20.2	23.5	26.0	77.4	79.4	80.6	5.0	7.2	7.5
West. ....	18.02	21.61	23.13	74.0	77.7	77.8	5.0	6.4	6.4
U. S. ....	15.47	19.27	19.41	67.9	71.8	71.8	5.73	6.86	7.04

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).

3/ Includes grain, millfeeds, and other concentrates.

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Production per cow on December 1 exceeded a year ago by 3 percent in the North and South Atlantic States, and 7 percent in the Western States. Output equaled the December 1, 1958 levels in the West North Central and South Central States, but was down 3 percent in the East North Central States. Production per cow was above average for the date in all regions with increases ranging from 17 to 31 percent.

Crop reporters were milking 71.8 percent of the cows in their herds, equaling December 1 a year ago. However, for the Nation as a whole, the percent milked was almost 6 percent above average, with all regions showing increases of 2 to 7 percent.

#### Grain feeding continues heavy

Crop reporters indicated that milk cows in their herds were fed an average of 7.04 pounds of grain and concentrates per cow on December 1. This continued the practice of feeding concentrates in increasing quantities, as the current rate for the entire country was 3 percent higher than the previous record for the date set last year. Although the feeding rate increased about one-fourth from October 1, it showed less than the usual seasonal gain from October 1 to December 1.

Feeding of grain and concentrates was at record levels for December 1 in all regions except the East North Central, where the rate nevertheless was near the record high for the date set last year. The North Atlantic led all regions by feeding 8.0 pounds of grain per milk cow on December 1, followed by the East North Central with 7.6 pounds; West North Central, 7.0 pounds; South Atlantic, 6.7 pounds; West, 6.4 pounds; and the South Central, 6.0 pounds. Compared with December 1 last year, feeding rates showed larger gains in the West North Central and Southern regions than in other sections of the country. Seasonally, feeding was stepped up less than usual from October 1 to December 1 in all regions. Nearly 85 percent of the farmers reported feeding some grain and concentrates to their milk cows on December 1. This was about the same proportion as in the past two years, but below average for the date.

#### Price relationships favorable

At mid-November, the value of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows averaged \$2.82 per hundredweight. This was an increase of 2 cents from a year earlier, but otherwise one of the lowest values for the date since 1945. The dairy product-feed price relationship on November 15 was relatively favorable. The milk-feed price ratio at mid-November was 8 percent above the 1948-57 average and was exceeded only by that of November 15, 1957. The milkfat-feed price ratio was 16 percent above average and the highest for November 15 since 1946.