

MILK PRODUCTION

January 11, 1966

Milk production in the United States during December is estimated at 9,592 million pounds, 4 percent less than in December 1964 when output was a record high for the month. The North Central States accounted for most of the decrease from December 1964. Production this December was the smallest for the month since 1960. Average daily milk production advanced about 2 percent from November to December, compared with a seasonal increase of 3 percent a year earlier. Per capita milk production amounted to 1.58 pounds daily, 5 percent below December a year ago.

For the year 1965, preliminary estimates of monthly milk production totaled 125,463 million pounds, about 1 percent less than the record-high annual output of 1964. Production was below a year earlier for all months except January, March, April and July. Beginning in August, the decreases were progressively larger.

The preliminary estimates of monthly milk production are subject to an annual review in late January. Estimates of the number of milk cows, milk output per cow and total milk production for each month in 1965 will be published by States in the February 11 issue of this report.

Table 1.-Milk per cow and milk production by months, United States, 1965 with comparisons

Month	Milk per cow			Milk production			
	Average 1959-63	1964	1965	Average 1959-63	1964	1965	Change from 1964
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
January.....	569	625	652	9,937	10,148	10,342	+1.9
February.....	543	613	618	9,474	9,937	9,796	-1.4
March.....	622	686	706	10,832	11,099	11,155	+0.5
April.....	641	705	724	11,125	11,383	11,416	+0.3
May.....	710	767	781	12,314	12,356	12,300	-0.5
June.....	685	735	756	11,857	11,820	11,773	-0.4
July.....	629	678	701	10,869	10,874	10,888	+0.1
August.....	586	639	655	10,107	10,235	10,151	-0.8
September.....	552	603	610	9,490	9,636	9,443	-2.0
October.....	555	608	613	9,536	9,700	9,473	-2.3
November.....	532	591	593	9,121	9,419	9,134	-3.0
December.....	564	628	625	9,651	9,991	9,592	-4.0
Annual.....	7,192	7,880	8,037	124,313	126,598	125,463	-0.9

Table 2.-Monthly milk per cow and milk production,
December 1965, with comparisons

State	Monthly milk per cow ^{1/}			Milk production			
	Dec. av. 1959-63 ^{2/}	Dec. 1964	Dec. 1965	Dec. av. 1959-63 ^{2/}	Dec. 1964	Dec. 1965	Change from 1964
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	725	730	-	61	60	- 2
New Hampshire.....	-	685	715	-	30	30	0
Vermont.....	-	680	685	-	162	157	- 3
Massachusetts.....	-	825	845	-	67	66	- 1
Rhode Island.....	-	800	810	-	8.5	8.1	- 5
Connecticut.....	-	820	835	-	60	60	0
New York.....	676	757	750	837	905	868	- 4
New Jersey.....	761	800	820	95	88	86	- 2
Pennsylvania.....	618	675	710	536	547	555	+ 1
Ohio.....	649	723	750	426	423	416	- 2
Indiana.....	576	655	660	239	250	236	- 6
Illinois.....	591	685	675	318	318	296	- 7
Michigan.....	670	745	740	426	460	445	- 3
Wisconsin.....	661	710	670	1,412	1,502	1,400	- 7
Minnesota.....	671	740	675	852	936	834	- 11
Iowa.....	534	635	580	442	492	428	- 13
Missouri.....	375	395	405	239	222	213	- 4
North Dakota.....	446	460	440	119	110	98	- 11
South Dakota.....	422	470	485	102	110	107	- 3
Nebraska.....	470	515	490	144	141	127	- 10
Kansas.....	482	535	525	154	150	139	- 7
Delaware.....	-	620	625	-	13.6	13.8	+ 1
Maryland.....	562	600	620	121	122	124	+ 2
Virginia.....	465	505	525	151	144	144	0
West Virginia.....	374	420	430	45	45	43	- 4
North Carolina.....	493	540	560	129	128	128	0
South Carolina.....	431	470	510	45	43	44	+ 2
Georgia.....	388	425	475	80	75	78	+ 4
Florida.....	618	640	665	115	114	120	+ 5
Kentucky.....	354	405	430	174	180	189	+ 5
Tennessee.....	311	325	355	150	148	155	+ 5
Alabama.....	316	365	385	73	73	75	+ 3
Mississippi.....	273	315	345	92	87	90	+ 3
Arkansas.....	311	340	365	64	58	59	+ 2
Louisiana.....	-	405	440	-	84	88	+ 5
Oklahoma.....	469	520	545	110	101	102	+ 1
Texas.....	433	510	556	236	242	250	+ 3
Montana.....	438	430	435	33	29	28	- 3
Idaho.....	621	630	625	123	116	109	- 6
Wyoming.....	478	510	490	13.7	13.3	12.5	- 6
Colorado.....	578	630	650	68	69	67	- 3
New Mexico.....	-	600	625	-	24	25	+ 4
Arizona.....	-	850	870	-	45	45	0
Utah.....	649	690	690	61	59	59	0
Nevada.....	629	745	800	9.4	10.8	10.6	- 2
Washington.....	668	720	725	153	158	152	- 4
Oregon.....	462	480	505	71	65	64	- 2
California.....	799	872	860	649	688	673	- 2
Alaska.....	-	775	710	-	1.86	1.49	- 20
Hawaii.....	-	820	835	-	11.6	13.3	+ 15
United States.....	564	628	625	9,651	9,991	9,592	- 4.0

^{1/} Monthly rate based on all milk cows on farms (in milk or dry).

^{2/} Five-year averages not available for States where not shown.

December milk per cow slightly below a year earlier

Milk flow per cow during December continued the lower output which began in late summer. Output, at 625 pounds per cow, compared with 628 pounds in December 1964 and 564 pounds, the December 1959-63 average. Although output per cow was at a record December level in 37 States, many important-producing States were below a year earlier. On an average daily basis, December production per cow was 20.2 pounds, compared with 19.8 pounds in November and 18.2 pounds, the average for December.

Arizona, with 870 pounds, led all States in December production per cow. California followed with 860 pounds; Massachusetts, 845 pounds; both Connecticut and Hawaii, 835 pounds; and in New Jersey, 820 pounds.

Milk-feed price ratio 3 percent above December a year ago

The December milk-feed price ratio at 1.53 was 3 percent above a year earlier and 1 percent more than the 1959-63 average for the month. Higher milk prices with slightly lower ration values resulted in the more favorable December ratio. In cream-selling areas, the milkfat-feed price ratio was 24.3, compared with 23.5 a year earlier and 25.2, the December 1959-63 average.

Table 3.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, December 1965, with comparisons

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	Dec. av. 1959-63	Dec. 1964	Nov. 1965	Dec. 1965	Dec. av. 1959-63	Dec. 1964	Nov. 1965	Dec. 1965
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl.	5.08	4.99	5.28	5.12	3.56	3.60	3.54	3.58
E. N. Cent. ..	3.98	4.05	4.21	4.22	2.71	2.79	2.72	2.77
W. N. Cent. ...	3.62	3.64	3.83	3.81	2.32	2.48	2.45	2.50
S. Atl.	5.67	5.73	5.78	5.77	3.31	3.38	3.32	3.36
S. Cent.	5.13	5.22	5.22	5.28	3.06	3.07	3.08	3.10
West.	4.63	4.66	4.65	4.77	3.17	3.13	3.16	3.18
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.46	4.46	4.62	4.60	2.96	3.02	2.97	3.01
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.44	2.54	2.52	2.57
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.92	3.00	2.95	3.00

Table 4.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, December 1965, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	Dec. av. 1959-63	Dec. 1964	Nov. 1965	Dec. 1965	Dec. av. 1959-63	Dec. 1964	Nov. 1965	Dec. 1965
N. Atl.	1.42	1.39	1.49	1.43	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.47	1.45	1.55	1.52	21.0	20.2	21.4	21.1
W. N. Cent. ...	1.56	1.47	1.56	1.52	27.2	24.5	25.7	25.4
S. Atl.	1.71	1.70	1.74	1.72	-	-	-	-
S. Cent.	1.68	1.70	1.69	1.70	17.2	17.4	17.1	17.0
West.	1.46	1.49	1.47	1.50	18.9	18.7	18.7	18.8
U. S.	1.51	1.48	1.56	1.53	25.2	23.5	24.6	24.3

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

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

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