

# MILK PRODUCTION

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February milk production in the United States is estimated at 9,254 million pounds, down 6 percent from February a year ago and the smallest output for the month since 1959. Production per day increased 4 percent from January to February, slightly smaller than the gain a year earlier. February milk production provided 1.69 pounds per person daily, 7 percent less than in February 1965.

Sharp declines in milk production from a year earlier continued in the West North Central States, where February output was down 10 percent or more in each State except in Missouri. Production was down 4 percent or more in each East North Central State. There were gains over February last year in only 9 States.

Table 1.-Milk per cow and milk production by months, United States, 1966, with comparisons

Month	Milk per cow			Milk production			
	Average 1960-64	1965	1966	Average 1960-64	1965	1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
January.....	587	658	658	10,028	10,419	9,865	-5.3
February.....	565	622	620	9,634	9,820	9,254	-5.8
March.....	642	709		10,932	11,155		
April.....	659	722		11,197	11,305		
May.....	728	782		12,347	12,206		
June.....	701	756		11,872	11,742		
July.....	644	702		10,888	10,856		
August.....	602	653		10,158	10,046		
September....	567	615		9,555	9,404		
October.....	573	621		9,634	9,446		
November.....	551	602		9,252	9,106		
December.....	584	635		9,788	9,556		
Annual.....	7,407	8,080		125,285	125,061		

State	Monthly milk per cow <sup>1/</sup>			Milk production			
	Feb. av. 1960-64 <sup>2/</sup>	Feb. 1965	Feb. 1966	Feb. av. 1960-64 <sup>2/</sup>	Feb. 1965	Feb. 1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	680	705	-	56	55	- 2
New Hampshire.....	-	695	720	-	31	30	- 3
Vermont.....	-	635	660	-	151	147	- 3
Massachusetts.....	-	780	805	-	63	61	- 3
Rhode Island.....	-	755	780	-	8.0	7.6	- 5
Connecticut.....	-	765	785	-	56	56	0
New York.....	665	739	739	822	879	844	- 4
New Jersey.....	739	780	810	92	86	83	- 3
Pennsylvania.....	610	670	695	528	537	532	- 1
Ohio.....	620	680	695	405	394	378	- 4
Indiana.....	591	625	640	244	234	221	- 6
Illinois.....	608	690	710	325	317	301	- 5
Michigan.....	648	695	690	412	428	399	- 7
Wisconsin.....	685	750	720	1,461	1,580	1,451	- 8
Minnesota.....	755	800	735	959	1,006	867	-14
Iowa.....	567	640	590	468	486	402	-17
Missouri.....	406	410	420	257	228	219	- 4
North Dakota.....	523	530	525	138	126	110	-13
South Dakota.....	473	525	510	114	122	108	-11
Nebraska.....	470	483	460	143	135	118	-13
Kansas.....	456	515	515	144	143	129	-10
Delaware.....	-	600	600	-	13.2	13.2	0
Maryland.....	556	605	620	119	124	125	+ 1
Virginia.....	428	470	475	137	133	130	- 2
West Virginia.....	364	400	400	44	42	39	- 7
North Carolina.....	447	480	495	117	113	113	0
South Carolina.....	395	440	460	41	39	39	0
Georgia.....	373	415	450	76	73	73	0
Florida.....	587	620	645	109	110	115	+ 5
Kentucky.....	332	380	405	162	167	168	+ 1
Tennessee.....	283	305	320	137	138	138	0
Alabama.....	287	325	340	66	64	63	- 2
Mississippi.....	250	290	315	83	79	81	+ 3
Arkansas.....	285	325	345	58	54	53	- 2
Louisiana.....	-	365	395	-	76	78	+ 3
Oklahoma.....	458	535	565	107	103	103	0
Texas.....	424	498	517	230	234	228	- 3
Montana.....	423	445	435	31	29	27	- 7
Idaho.....	609	610	615	119	110	106	- 4
Wyoming.....	458	476	475	13.1	12.3	11.9	- 3
Colorado.....	571	610	590	67	65	61	- 6
New Mexico.....	-	550	575	-	22	23	+ 5
Arizona.....	-	810	810	-	41	41	0
Utah.....	631	640	650	58	54	54	0
Nevada.....	593	685	730	8.9	9.9	10.0	+ 1
Washington.....	628	640	670	144	138	144	+ 4
Oregon.....	452	475	500	69	62	62	0
California.....	761	806	800	616	636	622	- 2
Alaska.....	654	700	735	1.70	1.61	1.54	- 4
Hawaii.....	730	775	795	10.3	11.3	12.7	+12
United States.....	565	622	620	9,634	9,820	9,254	- 5.8

<sup>1/</sup> Monthly rate based on all milk cows on farms (in milk or dry).<sup>2/</sup> Five-year averages not available for States where not shown.

February output per cow drops below year ago

Milk output averaged 620 pounds per cow in February, 2 pounds below a year earlier. The daily average of 22.1 pounds per cow rose 4 percent from January, about the same increase as in 1965. Production per cow dropped sharply below a year earlier in several important States -- 8 percent in both Minnesota and Iowa, and 4 percent in Wisconsin. New Jersey and Arizona tied for first place in February output per cow with 810 pounds, followed by Massachusetts, California, Hawaii, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Milk-feed price ratio up 4 percent

The milk-feed price ratio for February at 1.47 was up 4 percent from a year earlier and was 3 percent above the February 1960-64 average. The more favorable ratio compared with a year earlier resulted from a 5-percent increase in the wholesale milk price and only a 1-percent gain in the value of concentrate ration. The ratio was down 1 percent from January compared with the average decline of 3 percent. In cream-selling areas, the February milkfat-feed price ratio was 23.8, up 5 percent from a year earlier but 3 percent below average.

Table 3.-Average milk price received by farmers and value of concentrate ration fed to milk cows, by regions, February 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	Feb. av. 1960-64	Feb. 1965	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1966	Feb. av. 1960-64	Feb. 1965	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1966
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl. ....	4.80	4.75	5.05	4.96	3.59	3.58	3.58	3.58
E. N. Cent. ..	3.83	3.86	4.17	4.18	2.74	2.81	2.84	2.89
W. N. Cent. ..	3.47	3.51	3.76	3.75	2.36	2.52	2.50	2.50
S. Atl. ....	5.65	5.68	5.81	5.80	3.32	3.38	3.38	3.42
S. Cent. ....	5.00	5.00	5.29	5.22	3.10	3.12	3.12	3.17
West. ....	4.52	4.54	4.68	4.61	3.17	3.17	3.18	3.21
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.27	4.29	4.54	4.50	2.98	3.03	3.04	3.07
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.47	2.59	2.58	2.58
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.95	3.01	3.03	3.05

Table 4.-Milk-feed and milkfat-feed price ratios, by regions, February 1966, with comparisons

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	Feb. av. 1960-64	Feb. 1965	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1966	Feb. av. 1960-64	Feb. 1965	Jan. 1966	Feb. 1966
N. Atl. ....	1.33	1.33	1.41	1.39	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.40	1.37	1.47	1.45	20.7	19.8	20.6	20.3
W. N. Cent. ..	1.47	1.39	1.50	1.50	26.3	23.7	25.1	25.0
S. Atl. ....	1.70	1.68	1.72	1.70	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. ....	1.61	1.60	1.70	1.65	16.9	16.5	17.0	16.7
West. ....	1.43	1.43	1.47	1.44	18.7	18.2	18.9	18.5
U. S. ....	1.43	1.42	1.49	1.47	24.6	22.7	23.9	23.8

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.