

# MILK PRODUCTION

January 11, 1967

Production of milk in the United States during December is estimated at 9,552 million pounds. This is about the same as December 1965 and is the third successive month in which production has been close to year earlier levels. A number of States in the West North Central and Western Regions reported increases from a year earlier. Production in most States in the North Atlantic and East North Central Regions were lower. Mixed changes were shown in other regions. Average daily production increased about 1 percent from November to December. Milk production per capita during December was 1.56 pounds compared with 1.58 pounds in December 1965.

Preliminary estimates of monthly milk production for the year 1966 totaled 121,461 million pounds. This is 3 percent less than the 1965 total and the 1960-64 average. Compared with 1965, production was lower for all months of the year except November. The larger decreases occurred in the earlier months of the year.

Monthly estimates for 1966 are preliminary and will be reviewed in late January. Revised estimates of the number of milk cows, production per cow and total production by months for 1965 and 1966 will be published by States in the February 13 issue of this report.

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	716	10,932	11,155	10,645	-4.6
April .....	659	722	735	11,197	11,305	10,874	-3.8
May .....	728	782	794	12,347	12,206	11,707	-4.1
June .....	701	756	780	11,872	11,742	11,397	-2.9
July .....	644	702	722	10,888	10,856	10,506	-3.2
August .....	602	653	676	10,158	10,046	9,799	-2.5
September .....	567	615	646	9,555	9,404	9,328	-0.8
October .....	573	621	655	9,634	9,446	9,426	-0.2
November .....	551	602	636	9,252	9,106	9,108	0
December .....	584	635	668	9,788	9,556	9,552	0
Annual .....	7,407	8,080	8,310	125,285	125,061	121,461	-2.9

Table 2.-Monthly milk per cow and milk production,  
December 1966, with comparisons

State	Monthly milk per cow 1/			Milk production			
	Dec. av. 2/ 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Dec. 1966	Dec. av. 2/ 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Dec. 1966	Change from 1965
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Maine.....	-	735	735	-	58	55	-5
New Hampshire.....	-	730	735	-	30	29	-3
Vermont.....	-	690	715	-	156	151	-3
Massachusetts.....	-	845	875	-	65	63	-3
Rhode Island.....	-	820	835	-	8.2	7.7	-6
Connecticut.....	-	850	860	-	60	59	-2
New York.....	704	761	780	865	875	852	-3
New Jersey.....	778	840	855	94	87	81	-7
Pennsylvania.....	638	720	745	544	554	550	-1
Ohio.....	675	750	740	428	412	391	-5
Indiana.....	601	680	700	242	238	227	-5
Illinois.....	618	685	705	318	295	276	-6
Michigan.....	700	760	760	441	445	414	-7
Wisconsin.....	682	700	750	1,452	1,421	1,489	+5
Minnesota.....	687	680	735	873	809	823	+2
Iowa.....	559	585	650	452	407	414	+2
Missouri.....	378	400	460	233	211	219	+4
North Dakota.....	453	445	510	117	95	98	+3
South Dakota.....	434	485	520	103	104	107	+3
Nebraska.....	486	505	530	144	131	130	-1
Kansas.....	496	535	595	152	136	138	+1
Delaware.....	-	625	640	-	13.8	12.8	-7
Maryland.....	578	635	650	122	128	127	-1
Virginia.....	477	520	540	149	143	144	+1
West Virginia.....	383	440	455	44	43	41	-5
North Carolina.....	511	550	590	130	126	132	+5
South Carolina.....	449	515	525	45	44	42	-5
Georgia.....	399	475	520	78	78	80	+3
Florida.....	634	685	695	116	123	126	+2
Kentucky.....	370	430	450	177	181	178	-2
Tennessee.....	316	355	380	151	154	158	+3
Alabama.....	328	385	400	72	72	72	0
Mississippi.....	287	345	375	91	90	88	-2
Arkansas.....	317	355	390	62	56	55	-2
Louisiana.....	-	450	475	-	89	91	+2
Oklahoma.....	489	560	600	108	103	105	+2
Texas.....	459	556	570	239	247	239	-3
Montana.....	444	435	450	32	27	27	0
Idaho.....	628	625	690	121	109	112	+3
Wyoming.....	488	490	475	13.5	12.2	11.6	-5
Colorado.....	591	635	650	67	66	66	0
New Mexico.....	-	610	610	-	24	24	0
Arizona.....	-	870	875	-	44	46	+5
Utah.....	660	700	750	60	58	58	0
Nevada.....	655	790	790	9.7	10.7	10.5	-2
Washington.....	688	725	770	156	157	159	+1
Oregon.....	470	500	535	69	64	65	+2
California.....	821	877	905	659	681	695	+2
Alaska.....	702	710	795	1.84	1.49	1.51	+1
Hawaii.....	805	845	810	11.5	13.5	11.9	-12
United States.....	584	635	668	9,788	9,556	9,552	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.

Milk Output per Cow up 5 Percent from last year

December milk output per cow at 668 pounds was 5 percent more than the monthly rate of 635 pounds a year earlier and compares with the 1960-64 average of 584 pounds. The daily average production for December at 21.5 pounds compares with 21.2 pounds for November and 20.5 pounds for December 1965. Output per cow was at a record high level for December in all States except Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Wyoming, and Hawaii.

Milk output per cow continued well above the depressed level a year earlier in the West North Central States. However, December output was below a year earlier in Ohio and equalled the previous year's rate in Michigan, while rates in other East North Central States continued above 1965. California with 905 pounds continues to lead in production per cow, followed by Arizona and Massachusetts each with 875 pounds.

Milk-feed price ratio up 7 percent from year earlier

The December milk-feed price ratio at 1.63 was 7 percent above the 1.53 a year earlier and 9 percent above the 1960-64 average. Seasonally the December ratio was down 2 percent compared with the usual decline of 3 percent. Most of the year-to-year gain resulted from a 15 percent increase in wholesale milk prices while feed values were up 8 percent. For cream selling areas the milkfat-feed price ratio for December at 24.1 compares with 24.3 a year earlier and the 5-year average of 24.7.

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

Region	Milk price per 100 pounds				Ration value per 100 pounds			
	Dec. av. 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1966	Dec. av. 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1966
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
N. Atl. ....	5.00	5.13	5.88	5.71	3.58	3.58	3.83	3.88
E. N. Cent. ..	4.00	4.21	5.11	5.04	2.73	2.82	2.98	3.04
W. N. Cent. ..	3.63	3.81	4.60	4.52	2.37	2.50	2.70	2.74
S. Atl. ....	5.67	5.80	6.44	6.46	3.32	3.36	3.64	3.67
S. Cent. ....	5.13	5.30	6.06	6.08	3.08	3.10	3.32	3.34
West. ....	4.63	4.77	5.19	5.26	3.16	3.18	3.31	3.30
U. S.								
Milk areas....	4.44	4.62	5.39	5.33	2.98	3.02	3.23	3.27
Cream areas...	-	-	-	-	2.48	2.57	2.77	2.81
Milk and cream areas.....	-	-	-	-	2.95	3.01	3.22	3.26

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

Region	Milk-feed ratio 1/				Milkfat-feed ratio 2/			
	Dec. av. 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1966	Dec. av. 1960-64	Dec. 1965	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1966
N. Atl. ....	1.40	1.43	1.54	1.47	-	-	-	-
E. N. Cent. ..	1.46	1.49	1.71	1.66	20.8	20.8	22.1	21.2
W. N. Cent. ..	1.53	1.52	1.70	1.65	26.3	25.4	26.0	25.1
S. Atl. ....	1.71	1.73	1.77	1.76	-	-	-	-
S. Cent. ....	1.67	1.71	1.83	1.82	17.2	18.1	16.7	16.6
West. ....	1.46	1.50	1.57	1.59	18.8	18.9	19.9	19.9
U. S. ....	1.49	1.53	1.67	1.63	24.7	24.3	24.9	24.1

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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