

milk production



December 1972

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DECEMBER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY

U. S. milk production during December is estimated at 9,406 million pounds, 0.2 percent less than a year ago. Daily average production was up 1 percent from November, compared with a 2-percent increase between the corresponding months a year earlier. December output provided 1.45 pounds of milk per person daily for all uses, below the 1.46 pounds in December 1971 but slightly more than the 1.43 pounds for November 1972.

Preliminary estimates of milk production for 1972 totaled 120,401 million pounds, 1.5 percent more than the 1971 total of 118,640 million. Production was above a year earlier in all months of 1972 except December, with the largest increase occurring in February as the extra day added 3.6 percent to the monthly total. Revised estimates of the number of milk cows, production per cow, and total milk production for 1970, 1971, and 1972 by States will be published in the release on February 12, 1973.

OUTPUT PER COW UP 1 PERCENT; MILK COWS DOWN 1 PERCENT

Milk output per cow averaged 776 pounds during December, up 1 percent from a year earlier. Daily average production per cow was 25.0 pounds, 1 percent more than both December 1971 and November 1972.

Production per cow was at a record high in 19 of the 33 States with monthly estimates. Top output nationally was California at 1,005 pounds per cow, followed by: Washington, 970 pounds; Utah, 920 pounds; and Indiana, 870 pounds.

Milk cows on farms during December totaled 12,127,000, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

MILK-FEED PRICE RATIO DOWN 12 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

The December milk-feed price ratio, at 1.63, was 12 percent less than a year ago. The average milk price was up 40 cents per cwt. from last year while ration value was up 70 cents. The ratio decreased 9 percent from November compared with a 2-percent seasonal decline between these same months last year. On a regional basis, the December ratio was highest in the South Atlantic and lowest in the North Atlantic.

GRAIN AND CONCENTRATE FEEDING ABOVE LAST YEAR

Grain and concentrates fed to milk cows on January 1 averaged 13.5 pounds per cow, compared with 12.2 pounds a year ago. Feeding rates were above last year in 43 States. On January 1 this year, 42 States were feeding 11 or more pounds of grain and concentrates, compared with 32 States feeding at that rate a year ago.

Milk cows and milk production by months, United States

Month	Milk cows on farms 1/			Milk per cow 2/			Milk production 2/			Change from 1971
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	
	Thousands			Pounds			Million pounds			Percent
January	12,563	12,410	12,276	750	771	785	9,421	9,570	9,635	+0.7
February	12,550	12,399	12,270	707	726	762	8,876	9,006	9,346	3/+3.8
March	12,533	12,389	12,254	807	825	852	10,115	10,223	10,440	+2.1
April	12,517	12,374	12,246	824	844	870	10,314	10,440	10,655	+2.1
May	12,496	12,360	12,236	886	905	924	11,071	11,189	11,307	+1.1
June	12,479	12,350	12,219	859	877	902	10,723	10,836	11,021	+1.7
July	12,470	12,341	12,202	819	836	861	10,210	10,316	10,503	+1.8
August	12,458	12,334	12,184	783	803	826	9,758	9,903	10,065	+1.6
September	12,442	12,320	12,167	740	760	780	9,202	9,365	9,494	+1.4
October	12,438	12,306	12,155	747	765	784	9,291	9,419	9,525	+1.1
November	12,432	12,291	12,142	711	728	742	8,840	8,950	9,004	+0.6
December	12,421	12,282	12,127	751	767	776	9,328	9,423	9,406	-0.2
Annual	12,483	12,347	12,207	9,385	9,609	9,863	117,149	118,640	120,401	+1.5

- 1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
- 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.
- 3/ The extra day in February added 3.6 percent to monthly output.

Milk-feed price ratios, milk prices, and ration values, by region and United States, December 1972 with comparisons 1/

Region	Milk-feed price ratio 2/			All milk price per cwt.			Ration value 3/		
	Dec. 1971	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1972	Dec. 1971 4/	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1972	Dec. 1971	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1972
	Pounds			Dollars					
N. Atl.	1.70	1.66	1.52	6.68	7.29	7.25	3.93	4.38	4.77
E. N. Cent.	1.88	1.82	1.61	5.88	6.28	6.31	3.13	3.45	3.93
W. N. Cent.	1.96	1.95	1.72	5.42	5.79	5.82	2.77	2.97	3.39
S. Atl.	1.95	1.98	1.79	7.24	7.52	7.55	3.71	3.80	4.21
S. Cent.	1.93	1.90	1.69	6.76	7.07	7.06	3.50	3.73	4.17
West	1.77	1.63	1.57	6.03	6.11	6.25	3.40	3.75	3.98
U. S.	1.85	1.80	1.63	6.17	6.55	6.57	3.34	3.63	4.04

- 1/ Data for current month are preliminary.
- 2/ Pounds of concentrate ration equal in value to 1 pound wholesale milk.
- 3/ Value per 100 pounds of concentrate ration fed to milk cows.
- 4/ Revised.

DECEMBER 1972 MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION

	MILK COWS ON FARMS 1/			MILK PER COW 2/			MILK PRODUCTION 2/			1972 AS PCT OF 1971
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	
	THOUSANDS			POUNDS			MILLION POUNDS			PERCENT
N. ENG 3/	440	438	435	800	826	795	352	362	346	96
N Y	1001	975	960	825	845	805	826	824	773	94
PA	706	696	690	810	825	785	572	574	542	94
OHIO	449	444	439	790	815	790	355	362	347	96
IND	234	237	233	805	850	870	188	201	203	101
ILL	293	286	280	740	735	775	217	210	217	103
MICH	463	473	458	815	835	855	377	395	392	99
WISC	1846	1865	1884	780	785	800	1440	1464	1507	103
MINN	982	971	960	795	785	790	781	762	758	99
IOWA	486	466	452	745	765	760	362	356	344	97
MO	351	338	333	600	680	690	211	230	230	100
N DAK	137	132	128	545	540	540	75	71	69	97
S DAK	178	174	169	650	630	670	116	110	113	103
NEBR	187	185	184	660	660	660	123	122	121	99
KANS	197	192	184	740	745	740	146	143	136	95
MD	168	164	164	795	820	800	134	134	131	98
VA	220	217	207	620	620	670	136	135	139	103
N C	185	182	178	680	705	740	126	128	132	103
GA	147	146	145	710	720	740	104	105	107	102
FLA	192	195	200	765	795	800	147	155	160	103
KY	341	335	329	515	535	550	176	179	181	101
TENN	302	284	261	530	570	650	160	162	170	105
ALA	134	134	132	515	520	550	69	70	73	104
MISS	192	182	168	425	430	450	82	78	76	97
ARK	97	96	96	525	530	525	51	51	50	98
LA	169	167	165	605	600	605	102	100	100	100
OKLA	146	144	141	685	695	710	100	100	100	100
TEXAS	355	355	355	740	760	730	263	270	259	96
IDAHO	159	151	154	745	835	845	118	126	130	103
COLU	101	101	101	720	745	740	73	75	75	100
UTAH	81	81	75	840	830	920	68	67	69	103
WASH	192	192	188	885	910	970	170	175	182	104
OREG	107	103	97	660	720	765	71	74	74	100
CALIF	806	816	827	940	955	1005	758	779	831	107
OTHER 11 4/ STATES	377	365	355	740	751	758	279	274	269	98
U.S.	12421	12282	12127	751	767	776	9328	9423	9406	100

1/ INCLUDES DRY COWS. EXCLUDES HEIFERS NOT YET FRESH.

2/ EXCLUDES MILK SUCKED BY CALVES.

3/ MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, VERMONT, MASSACHUSETTS, RHODE ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT.

4/ STATE ESTIMATES NOT AVAILABLE.

December milk cows and October-December milk production

State	December milk cows on farms 1/			October-December milk production 2/			
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972	Change from 1971
	Thousands			Million pounds			Percent
Maine	66	66	65	147	152	152	100
New Hampshire	36	36	36	86	88	84	95
Vermont	205	205	204	472	491	467	95
Massachusetts	63	62	62	158	161	153	95
Rhode Island	7.1	6.8	6.8	17.3	16.5	16.5	100
Connecticut	63	62	61	162	162	154	95
New York	1,001	975	960	2,420	2,429	2,289	94
New Jersey	68	64	60	170	160	150	94
Pennsylvania	706	696	690	1,701	1,721	1,621	94
Ohio	449	444	439	1,060	1,086	1,064	98
Indiana	234	237	233	563	602	605	100
Illinois	293	286	280	657	633	652	103
Michigan	463	473	458	1,125	1,187	1,196	101
Wisconsin	1,846	1,865	1,884	4,162	4,249	4,396	103
Minnesota	982	971	960	2,089	2,039	2,066	101
Iowa	486	466	452	1,044	1,025	1,006	98
Missouri	351	338	333	662	699	705	101
North Dakota	137	132	128	211	198	187	94
South Dakota	178	174	169	333	323	332	103
Nebraska	187	185	184	369	366	366	100
Kansas	197	192	184	437	414	405	98
Delaware	14	14	14	34.4	33.5	33.2	99
Maryland	168	164	164	392	392	389	99
Virginia	220	217	207	424	420	431	103
West Virginia	57	52	49	93	88	82	93
North Carolina	185	182	178	376	384	397	103
South Carolina	65	65	65	128	126	129	102
Georgia	147	146	145	300	302	307	102
Florida	192	195	200	419	446	465	104
Kentucky	341	335	329	561	567	573	101
Tennessee	302	284	261	494	502	530	106
Alabama	134	134	132	204	205	220	107
Mississippi	192	182	168	247	238	231	97
Arkansas	97	96	96	162	162	159	98
Louisiana	169	167	165	281	282	288	102
Oklahoma	146	144	141	298	300	294	98
Texas	355	355	355	767	796	779	98
Montana	40	39	36	77	78	77	99
Idaho	159	151	154	350	371	388	105
Wyoming	17.1	17.0	16.3	34	34	33.4	98
Colorado	101	101	101	217	222	224	101
New Mexico	35	33	33	74	76	78	103
Arizona	52	53	53	148	157	157	100
Utah	81	81	75	203	201	209	104
Nevada	14.0	13.8	13.8	34.4	32.8	33.1	101
Washington	192	192	188	514	533	547	103
Oregon	107	103	97	222	232	226	97
California	806	816	827	2,324	2,374	2,551	107
Alaska	1.7	1.7	1.7	4.04	3.75	4.14	110
Hawaii	13.1	13.0	12.9	34	32.8	33.7	103
United States	12,421	12,282	12,127	27,459	27,792	27,935	101

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Grain and other concentrates fed daily per milk cow in herds kept by
reporters, January 1, by States

State	1972 1/	1973	State	1972 1/	1973
Pounds			Pounds		
Maine	12.4	12.5	West Virginia	9.1	10.6
New Hampshire	11.7	12.5	North Carolina	11.3	15.5
Vermont	11.1	12.5	South Carolina	13.4	15.2
Massachusetts	14.2	15.0	Georgia	14.3	16.0
Rhode Island	13.2	14.0	Florida	14.0	14.0
Connecticut	13.2	15.0			
New York	12.0	12.6	Kentucky	9.9	11.6
New Jersey	12.8	13.4	Tennessee	10.2	11.4
Pennsylvania	13.9	13.9	Alabama	11.0	16.0
			Mississippi	9.0	13.0
Ohio	13.8	14.8	Arkansas	8.0	10.4
Indiana	12.2	11.2	Louisiana	13.5	14.1
Illinois	12.8	13.0	Oklahoma	14.5	15.0
Michigan	12.0	13.5	Texas	13.4	16.0
Wisconsin	11.6	13.1			
			Montana	9.8	10.1
Minnesota	13.5	14.2	Idaho	8.6	9.5
Iowa	12.7	13.5	Wyoming	9.1	10.0
Missouri	10.6	13.0	Colorado	12.7	16.4
North Dakota	10.9	11.1	New Mexico	14.2	13.5
South Dakota	10.8	11.2	Arizona	12.3	15.4
Nebraska	9.7	13.0	Utah	10.0	12.7
Kansas	13.4	15.4	Nevada	10.2	10.0
			Washington	12.0	12.6
Delaware	14.0	14.5	Oregon	10.4	11.5
Maryland	13.8	14.2	California	14.2	15.0
Virginia	8.7	11.0	United States	12.2	13.5

1/ Based on December 1, 1971 and February 1, 1972 survey data.





