

milk production



February 1974

Release:
March 11, 1974
3:00 P. M. ET

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 3 PERCENT

U. S. Milk Production in February is estimated at 8,711 million pounds, 3 percent less than a year ago. This marked the seventeenth consecutive month Milk Production declined from the corresponding month a year earlier. Production during the first 2 months of 1974 was 3.0 percent less than during the corresponding period last year. February output provided 1.47 pounds of milk per person daily for all uses compared with 1.53 a year ago and 1.42 pounds in January 1974.

PRODUCTION PER COW PULLS EVEN, MILK COWS DOWN 3 PERCENT

After being below year earlier levels for eight successive months, February's production per cow of 776 pounds was the same as a year earlier. The February rate was 6 percent below January 1974 output of 824 pounds per cow.

Milk cows on farms during February totaled 11,227,000 head, down 3 percent from the same month last year.

MILK FEED PRICE RATIO DOWN 5 PERCENT

The February milk feed price ratio, at 1.46, was down 5 percent from a year ago. No regions were above last year and only in the North Atlantic and South Central Regions did the ratio show some improvement from the previous month. Nationally, the value of grain and concentrates fed milk cows increased 44 percent from February 1973, while the price of milk increased 36 percent.

Milk cows and milk production by months, United States

Month	Milk cows on farms 1/			Milk per cow 2/			Milk production 2/			:Change from 1973
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	
	Thousands			Pounds			Million pounds			Percent
January	11,773	11,599	11,259	826	826	824	9,720	9,581	9,278	-3.2
February 3/	11,760	11,561	11,227	799	776	776	9,391	8,969	8,711	-2.9
Jan.-Feb.Total:							19,111	18,550	17,989	-3.0
March	11,747	11,525		890	886		10,452	10,213		
April	11,739	11,479		900	899		10,566	10,321		
May	11,721	11,446		961	961		11,268	10,998		
June	11,703	11,412		935	926		10,946	10,570		
July	11,685	11,375		894	883		10,442	10,042		
August	11,672	11,347		855	834		9,978	9,466		
September	11,659	11,317		809	785		9,431	8,888		
October	11,650	11,301		810	791		9,437	8,939		
November	11,639	11,295		766	762		8,911	8,609		
December	11,624	11,287		805	800		9,362	9,024		
Annual	11,698	11,419		10,250	10,125		119,904	115,620		

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.
3/ The extra day in February 1972 added 36 percent to monthly output.

Milk-feed price ratios, milk prices, and ration values, by region and United States, February 1974 with comparisons 1/

Region	Milk-feed price ratio 2/			All milk price per cwt.:			Ration value 3/		
	February 1973	January 1974	February 1974	February 1973	January 1974	February 1974	February 1973	January 1974	February 1974
	Pounds			Dollars					
N. Atl.	1.44	1.42	1.44	7.15	9.17	9.25	4.97	6.45	6.43
N. Cent.	1.59	1.54	1.49	6.06	8.62	8.69	3.82	5.59	5.82
S. Atl.	1.68	1.55	1.54	7.80	10.06	10.15	4.65	6.47	6.58
S. Cent.	1.58	1.54	1.55	7.24	9.60	9.73	4.58	6.24	6.27
West	1.48	1.32	1.30	6.29	8.30	8.22	4.26	6.30	6.34
U. S.	1.54	1.48	1.46	6.56	8.89	8.95	4.25	6.00	6.12

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

FEBRUARY 1974 MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION

STATE	MILK COWS ON FARMS 1/			MILK PER COW 2/			MILK PRODUCTION 2/			
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974	1974 AS PCT OF 1973
	THOUSANDS			POUNDS			MILLION POUNDS		PERCENT	
ALABAMA	119	114	109	570	610	585	68	70	64	91
ARKANSAS	96	95	94	570	505	540	55	48	51	106
CALIFORNIA	768	788	803	1005	965	960	772	760	771	101
COLORADO	78	74	75	875	870	820	68	64	62	97
FLORIDA	197	201	209	785	750	750	155	151	157	104
GEORGIA	146	141	130	685	675	685	100	95	89	94
IDAHO	151	160	150	780	735	800	118	118	120	102
ILLINOIS	286	279	268	790	775	760	226	216	204	94
INDIANA	237	231	221	820	815	800	194	188	177	94
IOWA	462	436	385	765	760	750	353	331	289	87
KANSAS	171	158	148	735	740	725	126	117	107	91
KENTUCKY	326	320	299	550	535	525	179	171	157	92
LOUISIANA	156	152	137	590	585	580	92	89	79	89
MARYLAND	149	145	134	860	820	815	128	119	109	92
MICHIGAN	431	422	418	900	845	830	388	357	347	97
MINNESOTA	936	923	896	905	880	910	847	812	815	100
MISSISSIPPI	159	145	132	465	485	515	74	70	68	97
MISSOURI	325	319	315	645	650	660	210	207	208	100
NEBRASKA	169	168	160	690	685	700	117	115	112	97
NEW YORK	924	910	899	900	845	825	832	769	742	96
N. CAROLINA	165	159	153	725	730	760	120	116	116	100
N. DAKOTA	130	128	127	590	600	615	77	77	78	101
OHIO	438	430	410	820	775	755	359	333	310	93
OKLAHOMA	138	133	126	705	665	690	97	88	87	99
OREGON	94	94	91	765	750	775	72	71	71	100
PENNSYLVANIA	688	674	673	830	760	740	571	512	498	97
S. DAKOTA	177	170	166	685	690	710	121	117	118	101
TENNESSEE	262	242	220	570	570	600	149	138	132	96
TEXAS	357	359	349	735	710	700	262	255	244	96
UTAH	79	74	74	820	860	860	65	64	64	100
VERMONT	195	193	189	795	760	735	155	147	139	95
VIRGINIA	181	171	159	725	760	765	131	130	122	94
WASHINGTON	183	184	185	950	940	940	174	173	174	101
WISCONSIN	1832	1823	1795	810	795	780	1484	1449	1400	97
OTHER 16 3/ STATES	555	546	528	814	791	815	452	432	430	100
UNITED STATES	11760	11561	11227	799	776	776	9391	8969	8711	97

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

2/ EXCLUDES MILK SUCKED BY CALVES.

3/ INCLUDES STATES FOR WHICH INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY ESTIMATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE
