

Milk Production



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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July Milk Production Down 3 Percent

Milk production in the 22 major States during July totaled 11.1 billion pounds, 3 percent below production in these same States in July 1995. June revised production, at 11.1 billion pounds was 3 percent less than June 1995. On a daily basis, milk production has been below 1995 levels every month this year. In July, five States are down more than 10 percent from 1995.

Production per cow in the 22 major States averaged 1,390 pounds for July, 24 pounds below July 1995. This is the third month in a row that the rate has decreased when compared to a year ago.

The number of cows on farms in the 22 major States was 7.98 million head, 86,000 head less than July 1995 and 8,000 head less than June 1996. This is the eleventh consecutive month of decline.

During the April-June period, the 22 major States produced 34.3 billion pounds of milk, 86.2 percent of the U.S. production. If the remaining 28 States not surveyed monthly followed the same pattern as the 22 States, the U.S. production would be 12.9 billion pounds for July 1996.

Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1995-96

Quarter	Milk Cows 1/		Milk per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1996 as % of 1995
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
	---- 1,000 ----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
Jan-Mar	9,470	9,402	4,112	4,160	38,941	39,111	100
Apr-Jun	9,477	9,379	4,276	4,238	40,520	39,751	98
Jul-Sep	9,465		4,049		38,325		
Oct-Dec	9,432		4,014		37,857		
Annual	9,461		16,451		155,644		

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 22 Selected States, 1995-96

Month	Milk Cows 1/		Milk per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1996 as % of 1995
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
	---- 1,000 ----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
Jan	8,046	8,026	1,404	1,406	11,296	11,285	100
Feb	8,050	8,010	1,295	1,338	10,423	10,719	103
Mar	8,061	7,998	1,453	1,459	11,709	11,671	100
Apr	8,058	7,988	1,427	1,434	11,501	11,451	100
May	8,056	7,987	1,484	1,470	11,959	11,740	98
Jun	8,066	7,984	1,421	1,387	11,465	11,075	97
Jul	8,062	7,976	1,414	1,390	11,397	11,083	97
Aug	8,062		1,375		11,086		
Sep	8,061		1,331		10,729		
Oct	8,050		1,364		10,978		
Nov	8,043		1,320		10,616		
Dec	8,034		1,380		11,088		
Annual	8,054		16,668		134,247		

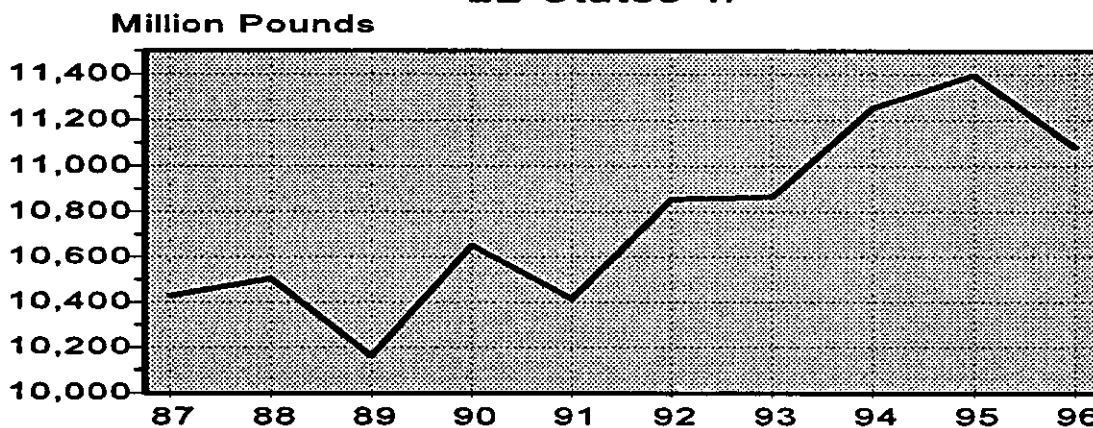
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 1995-96

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1996 as % of 1995
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
	---- 1,000 ----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,254	1,262	1,740	1,725	2,182	2,177	100
FL	162	156	1,135	1,180	184	184	100
ID	234	255	1,590	1,630	372	416	112
IL	162	159	1,330	1,320	215	210	98
IN	144	140	1,300	1,270	187	178	95
IA	251	250	1,365	1,290	343	323	94
KY	163	151	1,035	965	169	146	86
MD	92	86	1,150	1,255	106	108	102
MI	326	327	1,475	1,410	481	461	96
MN	600	600	1,325	1,325	795	795	100
MO	189	177	1,130	990	214	175	82
NM	198	196	1,585	1,640	314	321	102
NY	700	703	1,415	1,370	991	963	97
NC	86	82	1,325	1,245	114	102	89
OH	289	285	1,340	1,295	387	369	95
PA	640	643	1,375	1,375	880	884	100
TN	124	114	1,110	1,070	138	122	88
TX	402	399	1,190	1,140	478	455	95
VT	158	157	1,360	1,350	215	212	99
VA	129	126	1,210	1,065	156	134	86
WA	269	263	1,725	1,730	464	455	98
WI	1,490	1,445	1,350	1,310	2,012	1,893	94
22 State:							
Total	8,062	7,976	1,414	1,390	11,397	11,083	97

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

July Milk Production, 1987-1996
 22 States 1/



1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

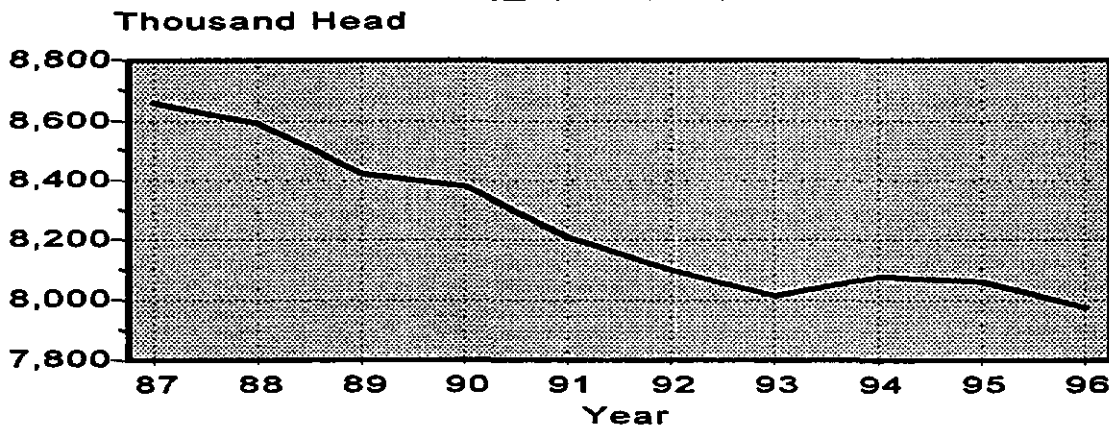
Milk Cows and Production: By State, June 1995-96 1/

State	Milk Cows 2/		Milk per Cow 3/		Milk Production 3/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1996 as % of 1995
	----- 1,000 -----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,254	1,262	1,695	1,690	2,126	2,133	100
FL	162	156	1,220	1,235	198	193	97
ID	232	253	1,530	1,570	355	397	112
IL	163	160	1,340	1,330	218	213	98
IN	144	140	1,290	1,300	186	182	98
IA	251	249	1,365	1,285	343	320	93
KY	163	153	1,060	940	173	144	83
MD	93	87	1,195	1,220	111	106	95
MI	326	326	1,465	1,405	478	458	96
MN	600	600	1,370	1,335	822	801	97
MO	191	180	1,200	1,040	229	187	82
NM	196	194	1,585	1,630	311	316	102
NY	702	704	1,430	1,380	1,004	972	97
NC	86	83	1,365	1,260	117	105	90
OH	289	285	1,370	1,300	396	371	94
PA	639	643	1,400	1,360	895	874	98
TN	127	114	1,150	1,070	146	122	84
TX	402	400	1,255	1,230	505	492	97
VT	157	157	1,375	1,350	216	212	98
VA	129	126	1,240	1,095	160	138	86
WA	268	262	1,695	1,705	454	447	98
WI	1,492	1,450	1,355	1,305	2,022	1,892	94
22 State:							
Total	8,066	7,984	1,421	1,387	11,465	11,075	97

1/ 1996 revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

July Milk Cows, 1987-1996

22 States 1/



1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

Reliability Statement

Survey Procedures: Primary data used to determine these estimates were obtained from a sample of producers. Individual States maintain a list of all known milk producers and information on the size of their herd. States use all known sources of producers to ensure that their lists are as complete as possible. Generally, all large producers and a sample of small producers are included in the survey. Questionnaires are mailed to producers near the end of the month to obtain data for the first day of the month. Additional reports are obtained by telephone, as needed, to supplement the mail response.

Estimation Procedures: State offices prepare these estimates using survey indications, historic trends, and any available administrative data. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Milk production, rate per cow, and number of cows are subject to revision the following month for monthly States or the following quarter for the quarterly States. Normally, Federal Market Order sales are the main basis for revisions. However, data for all orders are not available in time for this revision. Estimates are again subject to revisions in February each year based on additional administrative data. In the event that additional changes are necessary, a third revision is possible in February the following year. Estimates are again reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture, conducted by the Department of Commerce, are available. No revisions are made after that date.

Reliability: Since all operations with dairy animals are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the table below. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for milk cow inventory estimates over the past 10 quarters is 1.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final April-June estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 9.38 million head by more than 1.2 percent, or about 113,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.1 percent, or about 197,000 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

Reliability of April-June Milk Estimates 1/

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level	Difference Between First and Final Estimates 1/			Number of Quarters		
			Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Final	First Below Final	
Milk Production	0.6	1.1	438	191	32	426	8	2
All Milk Cows	1.2	2.1	197	100	12	188	10	0

1/ Based on records for the past 10 April-June quarters.

The next "Milk Production" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on September 13, 1996.

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