

Milk Production



USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released September 13, 1996, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Milk Production" call Kevin Hintzman at (202) 720-4448, office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET. For assistance with general agricultural statistics, information about NASS, its products or services, contact the NASS Information Hotline at 1-800-727-9540 or E-mail: NASS@NASS.USDA.GOV. The "Milk Production" U.S. Summary is available on AutoFax, (202) 720-2000, report 5200. See back page.

August Milk Production Down 1 Percent

Milk production in the 22 major States during August totaled 10.9 billion pounds, 1 percent below production in these same States in August 1995. July revised production, at 11.1 billion pounds was 2 percent less than July 1995. On a daily basis, 1996 milk production has been below 1995 levels every month this year.

Production per cow in the 22 major States averaged 1,371 pounds for August, 4 pounds below August 1995. This is the fourth month in a row that the rate has been below a year ago.

The number of cows on farms in the 22 major States was 7.97 million head, 94,000 head less than August 1995 and 9,000 head less than July 1996. This is the twelfth 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 12.7 billion pounds for August 1996.

Note:

NASS is planning to change the States that are included in the monthly milk production estimating program starting January 1997. The last major change was in 1986. We plan to drop Maryland, North Carolina, and Tennessee while adding Arizona. Please see table on page 5 for production rankings.

Historic monthly estimates have been created for Arizona back to 1994. Therefore, data users will have a comparable data set for 1994, 1995, and 1996 for the 20 State monthly total. The 20 States in the monthly estimating program account for 85 percent of the U.S. milk production.

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

Quarter	Milk Cows 1/		Milk per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1996 as % of 1995
	----	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/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1996 as % of 1995
	----	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	7,977	1,414	1,397	11,397	11,142	98
Aug	8,062	7,968	1,375	1,371	11,086	10,926	99
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, August 1995-96

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1996 as % of 1995
	---- 1,000 ----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,255	1,263	1,715	1,695	2,152	2,141	99
FL	162	156	1,070	1,100	173	172	99
ID	237	259	1,580	1,630	374	422	113
IL	162	158	1,270	1,300	206	205	100
IN	143	140	1,260	1,260	180	176	98
IA	250	250	1,350	1,275	338	319	94
KY	161	151	995	985	160	149	93
MD	92	86	1,120	1,255	103	108	105
MI	326	327	1,425	1,405	465	459	99
MN	600	600	1,270	1,280	762	768	101
MO	187	175	1,105	1,085	207	190	92
NM	198	196	1,545	1,565	306	307	100
NY	700	703	1,395	1,370	977	963	99
NC	86	81	1,245	1,245	107	101	94
OH	289	285	1,275	1,240	368	353	96
PA	643	641	1,345	1,360	865	872	101
TN	124	112	1,050	1,060	130	119	92
TX	402	397	1,115	1,065	448	423	94
VT	158	158	1,355	1,340	214	212	99
VA	129	126	1,195	1,150	154	145	94
WA	270	264	1,715	1,730	463	457	99
WI	1,488	1,440	1,300	1,295	1,934	1,865	96
22 State:							
Total	8,062	7,968	1,375	1,371	11,086	10,926	99

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

August Milk Production, 1987-1996

22 States 1/



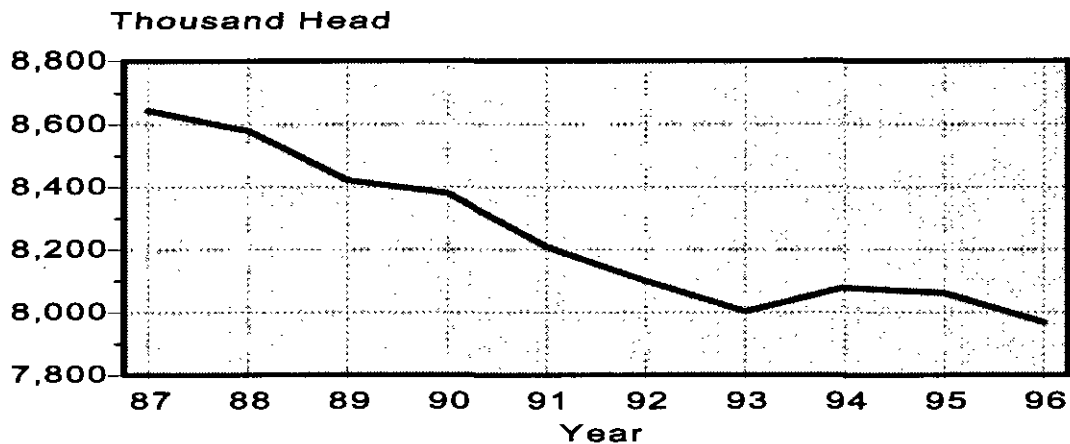
1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

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

State	Milk Cows 2/		Milk per Cow 3/		Milk Production 3/		1996 as % of 1995
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
	---- 1,000 ----		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,254	1,262	1,740	1,730	2,182	2,183	100
FL	162	156	1,135	1,145	184	179	97
ID	234	257	1,590	1,640	372	421	113
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	1,090	214	193	90
NM	198	196	1,585	1,605	314	315	100
NY	700	703	1,415	1,390	991	977	99
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	113	1,110	1,060	138	120	87
TX	402	399	1,190	1,140	478	455	95
VT	158	157	1,360	1,340	215	210	98
VA	129	126	1,210	1,125	156	142	91
WA	269	263	1,725	1,735	464	456	98
WI	1,490	1,445	1,350	1,325	2,012	1,915	95
22 State:							
Total	8,062	7,977	1,414	1,397	11,397	11,142	98

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

August Milk Cows, 1987-1996
 22 States 1/



1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

1995 Milk Production Rankings

Rank	State	Milk Production: 1995	% of U.S. Production	Accumulated % of Production	Current Monthly States	Proposed Monthly States
		Million Pounds	-- Percent --			
1	CA	25,327	16.3	16.3	x	x
2	WI	22,942	14.7	31.0	x	x
3	NY	11,643	7.5	38.5	x	x
4	PA	10,600	6.8	45.3	x	x
5	MN	9,442	6.1	51.4	x	x
6	TX	6,113	3.9	55.3	x	x
7	MI	5,565	3.6	58.9	x	x
8	WA	5,302	3.4	62.3	x	x
9	OH	4,600	3.0	65.2	x	x
10	ID	4,210	2.7	67.9	x	x
11	IA	4,038	2.6	70.5	x	x
12	NM	3,623	2.3	72.9	x	x
13	MO	2,690	1.7	74.6	x	x
14	IL	2,545	1.6	76.2	x	x
15	VT	2,538	1.6	77.9	x	x
16	FL	2,381	1.5	79.4	x	x
17	AZ	2,230	1.4	80.8		x
18	IN	2,214	1.4	82.2	x	x
19	KY	2,020	1.3	83.5	x	x
20	VA	1,950	1.3	84.8	x	x
21	TN	1,745	1.1	85.9	x	
22	OR	1,677	1.1	87.0		
23	SD	1,591	1.0	88.0		
24	GA	1,555	1.0	89.0		
25	CO	1,551	1.0	90.0		
26	UT	1,473	0.9	91.0		
27	NC	1,417	0.9	91.9	x	
28	MD	1,342	0.9	92.7	x	
29	OK	1,303	0.8	93.6		
30	KS	1,180	0.8	94.3		
31	NE	1,095	0.7	95.0		
32	LA	905	0.6	95.6		
33	ND	838	0.5	96.1		
34	AR	732	0.5	96.6		
35	MS	710	0.5	97.1		
36	ME	641	0.4	97.5		
37	CT	526	0.3	97.8		
38	AL	482	0.3	98.1		
39	MA	448	0.3	98.4		
40	NV	425	0.3	98.7		
41	SC	391	0.3	98.9		
42	NH	326	0.2	99.2		
43	NJ	320	0.2	99.4		
44	MT	315	0.2	99.6		
45	WV	266	0.2	99.7		
46	DE	146	0.1	99.8		
47	HI	142	0.1	99.9		
48	WY	84.6	0.1	100.0		
49	RI	32.5	0.0	100.0		
50	AK	11.9	0.0	100.0		
Total	US	155,644				

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
	- Percent -		----- Mil Lbs. -----			- Number -	
			----- 1,000 Head -----				
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 P.M. ET on October 15, 1996.

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