

# Milk Production



USDA  
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## October Milk Production Down 1 Percent

**Milk production** in the 22 major States during October totaled 10.9 billion pounds, 1 percent below production in these same States in October 1995. September revised production, at 10.6 billion pounds was 1 percent less than September 1995. On a daily basis, total milk production has been below 1995 levels all year.

**Production per cow** in the 22 major States averaged 1,373 pounds for October, 9 pounds above October 1995.

**The number of cows** on farms in the 22 major States was 7.95 million head, 98,000 head less than October 1995 and 5,000 head less than September 1996. This is the fifteenth consecutive month of decline.

**During the July-September period**, the 22 major States produced 32.8 billion pounds of milk, 86.7 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 12.6 billion pounds for October 1996.

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### 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. On page 5 is a table showing Arizona monthly data, starting in 1994.

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 new 20 State monthly total. The 20 States in the monthly estimating program account for 85 percent of the U.S. milk production.

### Value of Grain Correction

The value of grain fed to cows on October 1, 1996, averaged \$9.51 per hundredweight, versus the \$9.53 that was published in the October release. Corrections are on page 6.

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	9,375	4,276	4,236	40,520	39,706	98
Jul-Sep	9,465	9,343	4,049	4,043	38,325	37,778	99
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	7,977	1,414	1,397	11,397	11,142	98
Aug	8,062	7,969	1,375	1,377	11,086	10,970	99
Sep	8,061	7,957	1,331	1,337	10,729	10,640	99
Oct	8,050	7,952	1,364	1,373	10,978	10,915	99
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.

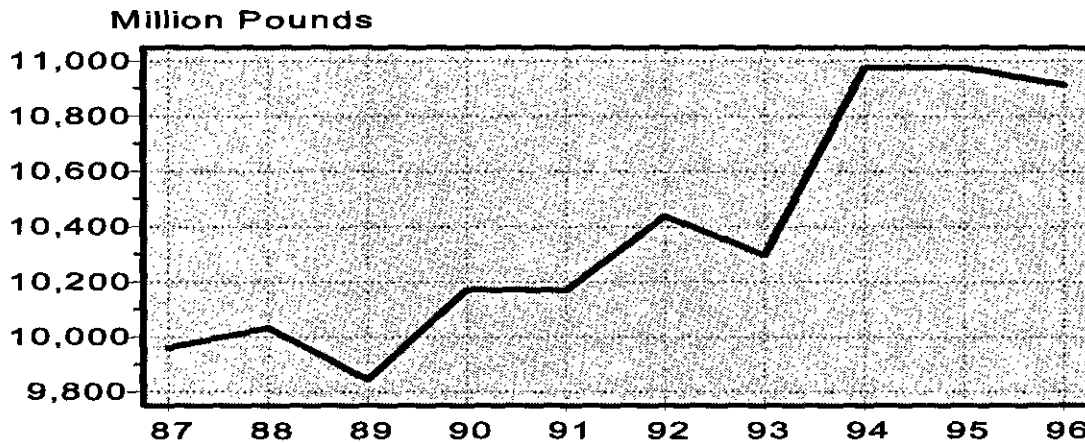
Milk Cows and Production: By State, October 1995-96

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	1,257	1,265	1,690	1,725	2,124	2,182	103
FL	157	156	1,050	1,160	165	181	110
ID	240	264	1,530	1,560	367	412	112
IL	162	157	1,250	1,310	203	206	101
IN	143	140	1,280	1,280	183	179	98
IA	250	250	1,330	1,280	333	320	96
KY	161	151	1,000	980	161	148	92
MD	91	85	1,185	1,250	108	106	98
MI	326	326	1,400	1,405	456	458	100
MN	600	595	1,260	1,260	756	750	99
MO	187	177	1,105	1,150	207	204	99
NM	196	195	1,510	1,555	296	303	102
NY	702	702	1,365	1,330	958	934	97
NC	86	79	1,280	1,320	110	104	95
OH	287	285	1,300	1,260	373	359	96
PA	647	645	1,375	1,345	890	868	98
TN	123	109	1,120	1,110	138	121	88
TX	401	395	1,200	1,170	481	462	96
VT	158	155	1,340	1,350	212	209	99
VA	128	126	1,240	1,190	159	150	94
WA	266	265	1,645	1,670	438	443	101
WI	1,482	1,430	1,255	1,270	1,860	1,816	98
22 State:							
Total	8,050	7,952	1,364	1,373	10,978	10,915	99

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

October Milk Production, 1987-1996  
22 States 1/



1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

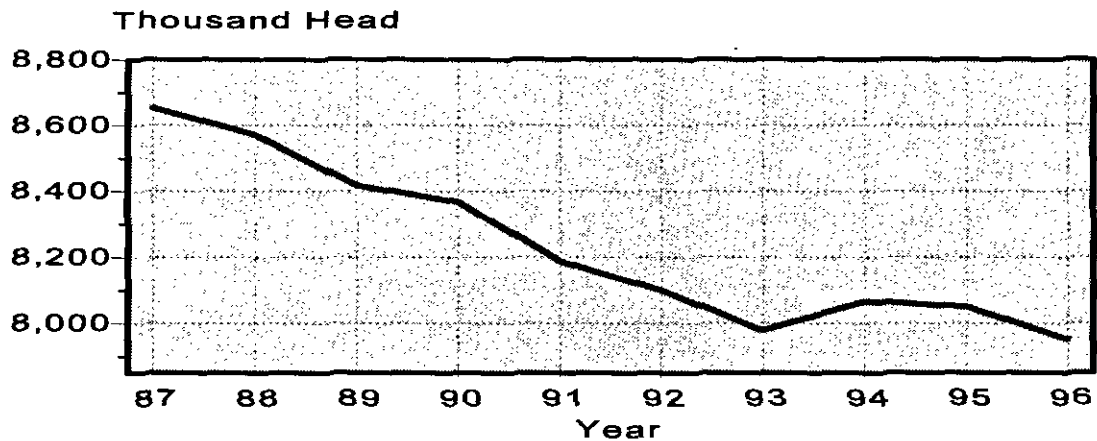
Milk Cows and Production: By State, September 1995-96 1/

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	1,256	1,264	1,645	1,685	2,066	2,130	103
FL	162	155	995	1,070	161	166	103
ID	238	262	1,500	1,550	357	406	114
IL	162	158	1,260	1,290	204	204	100
IN	143	140	1,250	1,250	179	175	98
IA	250	250	1,310	1,250	328	313	95
KY	161	151	980	955	158	144	91
MD	92	85	1,110	1,190	102	101	99
MI	326	326	1,375	1,365	448	445	99
MN	600	600	1,220	1,220	732	732	100
MO	187	175	1,090	1,055	204	185	91
NM	197	195	1,470	1,505	290	293	101
NY	702	703	1,350	1,310	948	921	97
NC	86	79	1,220	1,240	105	98	93
OH	288	285	1,260	1,230	363	351	97
PA	646	642	1,330	1,305	859	838	98
TN	124	111	1,070	1,090	133	121	91
TX	401	395	1,095	1,090	439	431	98
VT	158	155	1,315	1,325	208	205	99
VA	129	126	1,200	1,135	155	143	92
WA	268	265	1,620	1,650	434	437	101
WI	1,485	1,435	1,250	1,255	1,856	1,801	97
22 State:							
Total	8,061	7,957	1,331	1,337	10,729	10,640	99

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

October Milk Cows, 1987-1996

22 States 1/



1/ Includes New Mexico beginning in 1994.

Arizona Monthly Milk Production Estimates, 1994-96

Year/Month	Milk Cows	Milk per Cow	Milk Production
	(000)	Pounds	Million Pounds
1994			
Jan	107	1,710	183
Feb	111	1,570	174
Mar	116	1,725	200
Apr	119	1,630	194
May	121	1,635	198
Jun	121	1,465	177
Jul	123	1,335	164
Aug	118	1,295	153
Sep	114	1,360	155
Oct	114	1,525	174
Nov	114	1,535	175
Dec	115	1,625	187
Annual	116	18,397	2,134
1995			
Jan	116	1,655	192
Feb	113	1,635	185
Mar	111	1,920	213
Apr	114	1,790	204
May	115	1,780	205
Jun	117	1,605	188
Jul	117	1,485	174
Aug	115	1,365	157
Sep	111	1,415	157
Oct	111	1,615	179
Nov	112	1,600	179
Dec	116	1,700	197
Annual	114	19,561	2,230
1996			
Jan	118	1,755	207
Feb	118	1,730	204
Mar	118	1,930	228
Apr	118	1,875	221
May	119	1,850	220
Jun	121	1,630	197
Jul	122	1,400	171
Aug	120	1,415	170
Sep	116	1,500	174

Grain and Other Concentrates: Quantity Fed Daily and Value  
By State and United States, October 1, 1995-96

State	: Grain and Other Concentrates : Value per 100 Pounds of Concentrate		: Fed Daily per Milk Cow : Ration Fed to Milk Cows	
	: 1995	: 1996	: 1995	: 1996
	: Pounds		: Dollars	
AL	18.6	16.7	8.40	10.50
AK	19.5	19.5	13.80	14.50
AZ	21.6	21.0	7.80	8.70
AR	17.5	17.7	8.20	9.95*
CA	20.5	20.0	8.00	9.00
CO	22.5	20.5	7.20	9.50
CT	17.0	17.5	9.10	11.55
DE	16.3	13.2	8.80	9.70
FL	24.0	25.0	7.80	8.40
GA	22.9	22.0	7.90	9.90
ID	21.0	21.5	7.30	8.30
IL	17.1	16.1	7.90	9.15
IN	17.0	16.6	7.60	10.35
IA	16.4	17.2	6.50	9.90
KS	19.0	18.0	7.50	9.25*
KY	16.4	16.1	8.65	10.50
LA	19.0	18.5	8.35	10.30*
ME	17.0	15.5	8.90	11.60
MD	14.4	13.0	8.35	10.20
MA	15.5	16.0	8.95	11.65
MI	18.5	18.5	7.30	8.75
MN	17.3	15.7	7.80	9.00
MS	17.4	17.6	8.20	9.80
MO	18.5	17.0	8.00	10.00
MT	16.2	16.5	7.25	8.40
NE	16.5	16.2	7.30	8.30
NV	21.0	21.0	8.20	10.50
NH	16.0	17.0	8.80	11.20
NJ	14.9	14.5	8.60	12.45*
NM	26.0	26.0	6.60	7.80
NY	15.3	14.8	9.00	11.70
NC	17.5	17.7	8.95	10.90
ND	16.5	15.0	6.30	7.10
OH	16.3	17.5	8.10	10.10
OK	18.0	18.8	8.40	9.50*
OR	20.0	18.6	9.30	10.50
PA	16.0	16.2	9.80	11.00
RI	16.0	15.0	9.05	11.00
SC	20.0	22.0	8.00	9.65
SD	17.0	16.5	6.75	8.20
TN	16.0	17.0	9.00	11.10
TX	22.2	20.1	7.90	9.40
UT	16.9	16.4	7.70	9.20
VT	16.0	15.0	8.90	11.40
VA	16.0	14.5	8.90	10.10
WA	20.0	20.0	8.20	9.65
WV	14.0	14.0	9.05	10.70*
WI	17.1	16.0	7.20	8.70
WY	13.0	13.4	6.50	7.80
US	18.4	18.0	7.97	9.51*

\* Correction

## 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 1.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final July-September estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 9.35 million head by more than 1.3 percent, or about 121,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.4 percent, or about 224,000 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

