

Milk Production



USDA
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August Milk Production Up 4.4 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during August totaled 11.3 billion pounds, up 4.4 percent from production in these same States in August 1996. July revised production, at 11.4 billion pounds was up 4.6 percent from July 1996.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,454 pounds for August, 72 pounds above August 1996.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 58,000 head less than August 1996 and 3,000 head less than July 1997.

Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1996-97

Quarter	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan-Mar	9,397	9,267	4,156	4,200	39,053	38,922	-.3
Apr-Jun	9,369	9,253	4,231	4,391	39,638	40,630	2.5
Jul-Sep	9,338		4,035		37,674		
Oct-Dec	9,300		4,083		37,966		
Annual	9,351		16,505		154,331		

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 20 Selected States, 1996-97

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	7,846	7,757	1,415	1,439	11,103	11,163	.5
Feb	7,828	7,743	1,348	1,331	10,549	10,309	-2.3
Mar	7,822	7,736	1,469	1,501	11,487	11,611	1.1
Apr	7,818	7,731	1,441	1,481	11,265	11,452	1.7
May	7,816	7,733	1,479	1,532	11,560	11,847	2.5
Jun	7,818	7,738	1,398	1,475	10,926	11,410	4.4
Jul	7,815	7,747	1,400	1,477	10,944	11,443	4.6
Aug	7,802	7,744	1,382	1,454	10,786	11,260	4.4
Sep	7,795		1,342		10,459		
Oct	7,788		1,391		10,831		
Nov	7,775		1,350		10,499		
Dec	7,765		1,418		11,013		
Annual	7,807		16,833		131,422		

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Production: United States, 1996-97

Month	By Month			Cumulative		
	1996	1997	Change From 1996	1996	1997	Change From 1996
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	13,085	13,133	.4	13,085	13,133	.4
Feb	12,431	12,129	-2.4	25,516	25,262	-1.0
Mar	13,537	13,660	.9	39,053	38,922	-.3
Apr	13,230	13,409	1.4	52,283	52,331	.1
May	13,576	13,871	2.2	65,859	66,202	.5
Jun	12,832	13,350	4.0	78,691	79,552	1.1
Jul	12,809	13,393	4.6	91,500	92,945	1.6
Aug	12,624	13,179	4.4	104,124	106,124	1.9
Sep	12,241			116,365		
Oct	12,714			129,079		
Nov	12,324			141,403		
Dec	12,928			154,331		

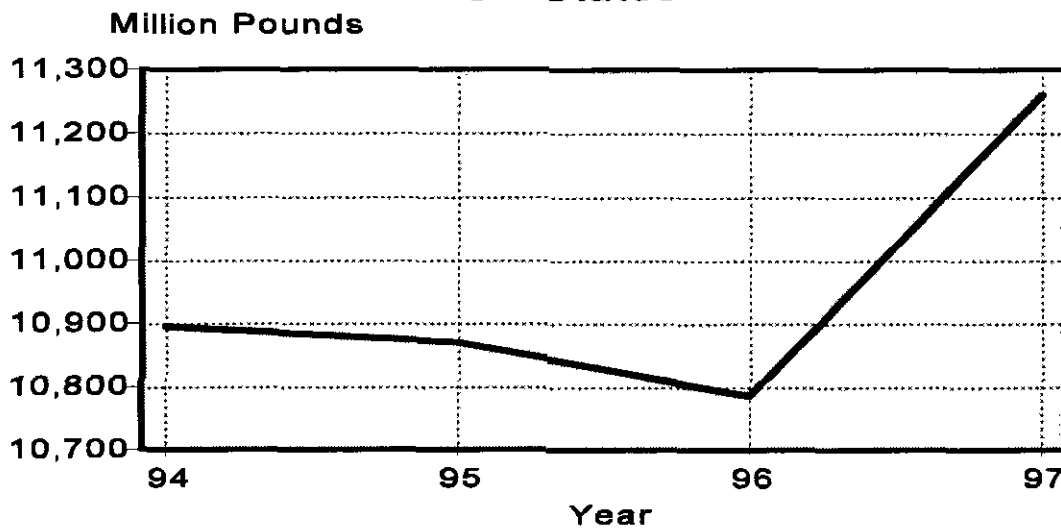
Milk Cows and Production: By State, August 1996-97

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	122	126	1,440	1,484	176	187	6.3
CA	1,265	1,302	1,685	1,825	2,132	2,376	11.4
FL	156	161	1,070	1,085	167	175	4.8
ID	260	274	1,640	1,670	426	458	7.5
IL	153	146	1,230	1,320	188	193	2.7
IN	140	140	1,260	1,300	176	182	3.4
IA	250	245	1,275	1,380	319	338	6.0
KY	151	146	975	1,025	147	150	2.0
MI	320	308	1,405	1,500	450	462	2.7
MN	600	585	1,275	1,310	765	766	.1
MO	175	173	1,090	1,095	191	189	-1.0
NM	196	201	1,585	1,680	311	338	8.7
NY	703	698	1,360	1,400	956	977	2.2
OH	285	280	1,230	1,310	351	367	4.6
PA	641	639	1,360	1,395	872	891	2.2
TX	397	388	1,135	1,080	451	419	-7.1
VT	157	157	1,375	1,410	216	221	2.3
VA	126	121	1,160	1,264	146	153	4.8
WA	264	264	1,735	1,760	458	465	1.5
WI	1,441	1,390	1,310	1,405	1,888	1,953	3.4
20-State Total	7,802	7,744	1,382	1,454	10,786	11,260	4.4

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**August Milk Production, 1994-1997
20 States**



Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 1996-97 ¹

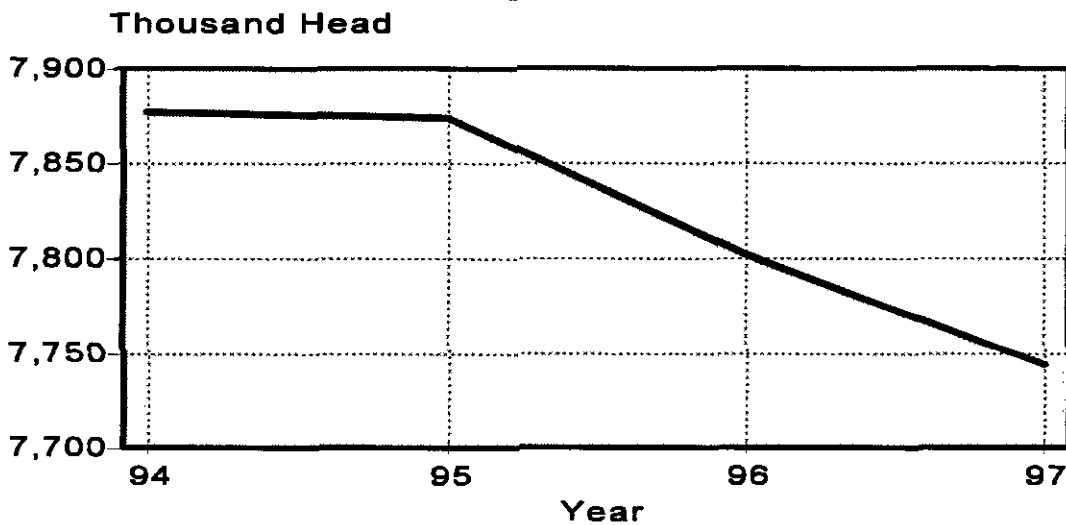
State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	122	129	1,445	1,635	176	211	19.9
CA	1,264	1,296	1,725	1,850	2,180	2,398	10.0
FL	156	161	1,145	1,170	179	188	5.0
ID	258	272	1,650	1,710	426	465	9.2
IL	154	147	1,240	1,320	191	194	1.6
IN	140	140	1,270	1,325	178	186	4.5
IA	250	246	1,290	1,390	323	342	5.9
KY	151	146	955	1,015	144	148	2.8
MI	323	310	1,405	1,500	454	465	2.4
MN	600	585	1,315	1,360	789	796	.9
MO	177	173	1,085	1,110	192	192	.0
NM	196	201	1,605	1,700	315	342	8.6
NY	703	698	1,385	1,430	974	998	2.5
OH	285	281	1,245	1,310	355	368	3.7
PA	643	639	1,375	1,410	884	901	1.9
TX	399	388	1,140	1,130	455	438	-3.7
VT	157	157	1,400	1,425	220	224	1.8
VA	126	121	1,125	1,230	142	149	4.9
WI	263	265	1,735	1,765	456	468	2.6
WI	1,448	1,392	1,320	1,415	1,911	1,970	3.1
20 State Total	7,815	7,747	1,400	1,477	10,944	11,443	4.6

¹ 1997 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**August Milk Cows, 1994-1997
20 States**



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 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 on the next page. 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 1.1 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 9.25 million head by more than 1.1 percent, or about 102,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.1 percent, or about 194,000 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	
		Percent	Estimate	Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Final	First Below Final
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
	.5	1.0	406	172	22	426	8	2
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
	1.1	2.1	194	95	8	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, 1997.

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*USDA to Hold Data Users Meeting
Holiday Inn Mart Plaza
Chicago, Illinois
October 20, 1997*

The National Agricultural Statistics Service will be organizing an open forum for Data Users. The purpose will be to provide updates on pending changes in the USDA statistical and information programs including the status of the 1997 Census of Agriculture, and to seek comments and input from data users. Other agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

For registration details, see the NASS home page <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or contact Fred Vogel (NASS) (202) 720-3896 or fvogel@nass.usda.gov