

Milk Production



USDA
Washington, D.C.

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September Milk Production Up 2.9 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during September totaled 10.8 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent from production in these same States in September 1996. August revised production, at 11.2 billion pounds was up 4.1 percent from August 1996.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,390 pounds for September, 48 pounds above September 1996.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 54,000 head less than September 1996 and 3,000 head less than August 1997.

July-September Up 3.5 Percent

The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 39.0 billion pounds, 3.5 percent above the July-September period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the July-September quarter was 9.25 million head, 91,000 head less than the same period last year.

Grain and Other Concentrates Fed

Grain and other concentrates fed to milk cows on October 1, 1997 averaged 18.7 pounds, up 0.7 pounds from October 1, 1996, but down 0.3 pounds from July 1, 1997.

Value of Grain Other Concentrates

The value of grain and other concentrates fed to milk cows on October 1, 1997 averaged \$8.51 per hundredweight, \$1.02 less than October 1, 1996.

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	9,254	4,231	4,393	39,638	40,648	2.5
Jul-Sep	9,338	9,247	4,035	4,216	37,674	38,989	3.5
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	1,450	10,786	11,227	4.1
Sep	7,795	7,741	1,342	1,390	10,459	10,758	2.9
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	13,411	1.4	52,283	52,333	.1
May	13,576	13,874	2.2	65,859	66,207	.5
Jun	12,832	13,363	4.1	78,691	79,570	1.1
Jul	12,809	13,346	4.2	91,500	92,916	1.5
Aug	12,624	13,095	3.7	104,124	106,011	1.8
Sep	12,241	12,548	2.5	116,365	118,559	1.9
Oct	12,714			129,079		
Nov	12,324			141,403		
Dec	12,928			154,331		

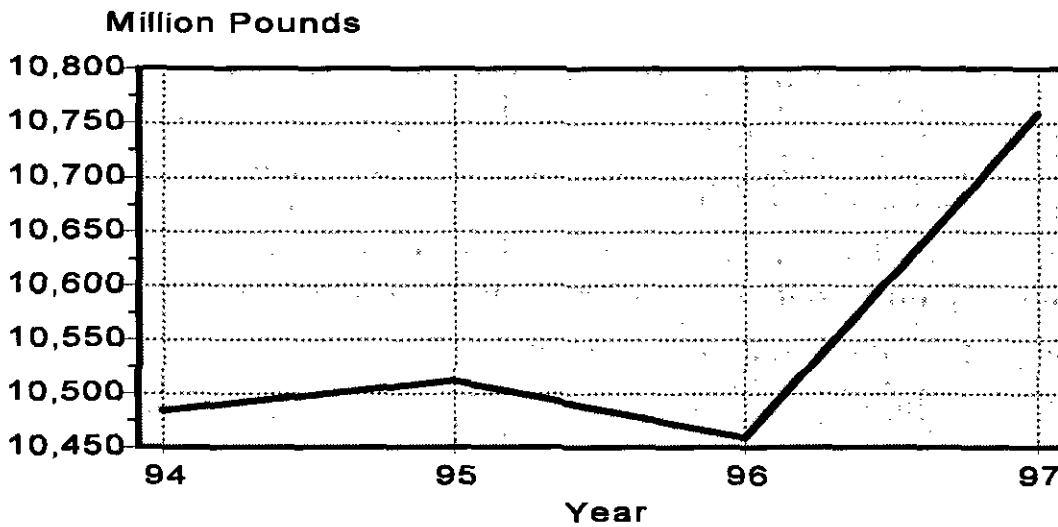
Milk Cows and Production: By State, September 1996-97

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	1,475	1,429	180	180	.0
CA	1,267	1,308	1,685	1,720	2,135	2,250	5.4
FL	155	160	1,045	1,040	162	166	2.5
ID	263	280	1,550	1,600	408	448	9.8
IL	153	146	1,220	1,270	187	185	-1.1
IN	140	140	1,250	1,275	175	179	2.3
IA	250	245	1,250	1,345	313	330	5.4
KY	151	144	965	1,015	146	146	.0
MI	317	304	1,365	1,430	433	435	.5
MN	600	580	1,220	1,235	732	716	-2.2
MO	175	172	1,050	1,035	184	178	-3.3
NM	195	205	1,505	1,580	293	324	10.6
NY	703	697	1,300	1,330	914	927	1.4
OH	285	278	1,190	1,260	339	350	3.2
PA	642	639	1,305	1,350	838	863	3.0
TX	395	388	1,090	1,050	431	407	-5.6
VT	156	156	1,325	1,375	207	215	3.9
VA	126	120	1,140	1,240	144	149	3.5
WA	265	263	1,650	1,700	437	447	2.3
WI	1,435	1,390	1,255	1,340	1,801	1,863	3.4
20-State Total	7,795	7,741	1,342	1,390	10,459	10,758	2.9

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

September Milk Production, 1994-1997
20 States



Milk Cows and Production: By State, August 1996-97¹

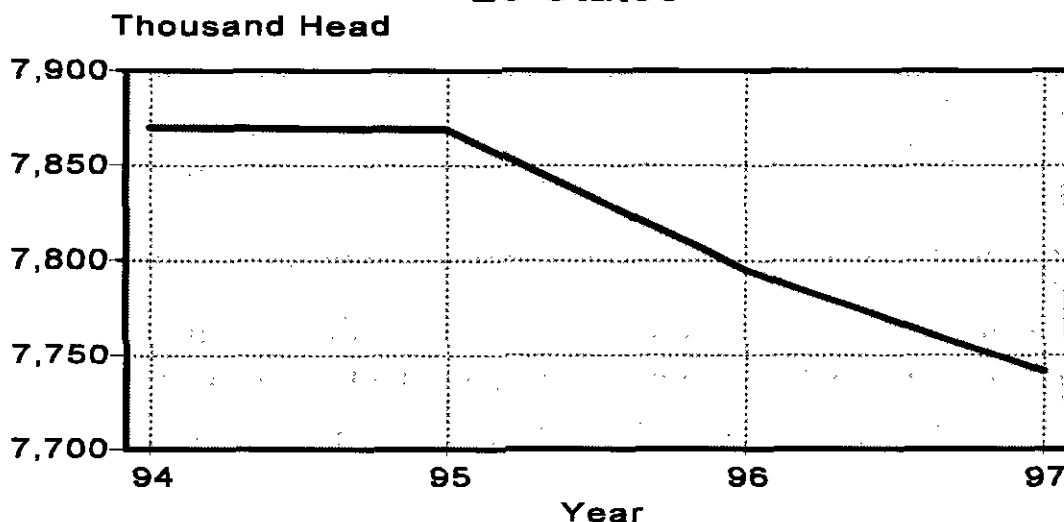
State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	122	126	1,440	1,484	176	187	6.3
CA	1,265	1,302	1,685	1,820	2,132	2,370	11.2
FL	156	160	1,070	1,045	167	167	.0
ID	260	277	1,640	1,680	426	465	9.2
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	145	975	1,020	147	148	.7
MI	320	308	1,405	1,500	450	462	2.7
MN	600	585	1,275	1,300	765	761	-.5
MO	175	172	1,090	1,075	191	185	-3.1
NM	196	203	1,585	1,650	311	335	7.7
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	1,425	216	224	3.7
VA	126	121	1,160	1,250	146	151	3.4
WA	264	262	1,735	1,725	458	452	-1.3
WI	1,441	1,390	1,310	1,405	1,888	1,953	3.4
20-State Total	7,802	7,744	1,382	1,450	10,786	11,227	4.1

¹ 1997 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

September Milk Cows, 1994-1997
20 States



**Milk Cows and Production: By State and United States,
Revised April-June, 1996-97**

State	Apr-Jun Milk Cows ¹		Apr-Jun Milk Production ²		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	32	31	115	110	-4.3
AK	.8	.8	3.33	3.52	5.7
AZ	119	128	658	720	9.4
AR	58	56	174	174	.0
CA	1,262	1,285	6,544	7,104	8.6
CO	84	85	413	433	4.8
CT	30	30	128	129	.8
DE	9.5	10.9	36.3	42.7	17.6
FL	157	162	631	675	7.0
GA	96	97	382	393	2.9
HI	9.3	9.1	34.6	33.2	-4.0
ID	252	267	1,172	1,304	11.3
IL	155	148	602	595	-1.2
IN	140	140	552	562	1.8
IA	249	247	971	1,019	4.9
KS	83	82	300	340	13.3
KY	155	145	480	487	1.5
LA	78	78	222	216	-2.7
ME	40	40	166	170	2.4
MD	86	86	336	342	1.8
MA	27	26	111	110	-.9
MI	322	308	1,383	1,390	.5
MN	597	587	2,434	2,417	-.7
MS	52	47	176	176	.0
MO	182	173	648	653	.8
MT	20	19	77	78	1.3
NE	69	70	260	273	5.0
NV	25	26	119	117	-1.7
NH	20	19	85	84	-1.2
NJ	22	21	77	76	-1.3
NM	194	200	975	1,030	5.6
NY	702	698	2,988	2,994	.2
NC	81	76	333	316	-5.1
ND	63	57	214	188	-12.1
OH	285	282	1,123	1,138	1.3
OK	98	97	330	330	.0
OR	93	92	416	415	-.2
PA	643	639	2,736	2,767	1.1
RI	2	2	8	8.4	5.0
SC	26	26	96	106	10.4
SD	112	106	377	357	-5.3
TN	116	113	415	423	1.9
TX	400	389	1,640	1,545	-5.8
UT	92	93	397	407	2.5
VT	156	156	666	667	.2
VA	126	122	453	475	4.9
WA	262	265	1,342	1,378	2.7
WV	20	18	64	67	4.7
WI	1,460	1,393	5,753	5,789	.6
WY	6	6.1	21.3	21.4	.5
US ³	9,369	9,254	39,638	40,648	2.5

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Milk cows will not add due to rounding.

**Milk Cows and Production: By State and United States,
Preliminary July-September, 1996-97**

State	Jul-Sep Milk Cows ¹		Jul-Sep Milk Production ²		Change From 1996
	1996	1997	1996	1997	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	31	30	89	93	4.5
AK	.8	.9	3.55	3.96	11.5
AZ	122	127	532	578	8.6
AR	56	55	162	160	-1.2
CA	1,265	1,302	6,447	7,018	8.9
CO	83	85	411	423	2.9
CT	29	30	118	125	5.9
DE	9.5	11.2	32.2	43.7	35.7
FL	156	160	508	521	2.6
GA	97	96	322	326	1.2
HI	9.2	8.9	31.9	30.7	-3.8
ID	260	276	1,260	1,378	9.4
IL	153	146	566	572	1.1
IN	140	140	529	547	3.4
IA	250	245	955	1,010	5.8
KS	80	81	280	315	12.5
KY	151	145	437	442	1.1
LA	78	76	178	175	-1.7
ME	40	40	163	170	4.3
MD	85	86	322	335	4.0
MA	27	26	108	105	-2.8
MI	320	307	1,337	1,362	1.9
MN	600	583	2,286	2,273	-.6
MS	50	47	142	140	-1.4
MO	176	172	567	555	-2.1
MT	20	19	78	76	-2.6
NE	69	70	258	275	6.6
NV	25	26	121	117	-3.3
NH	19	19	78	81	3.8
NJ	22	21	71	70	-1.4
NM	196	203	919	1,001	8.9
NY	703	698	2,844	2,902	2.0
NC	80	75	298	295	-1.0
ND	62	53	198	172	-13.1
OH	285	280	1,045	1,085	3.8
OK	96	96	300	310	3.3
OR	93	92	410	418	2.0
PA	642	639	2,594	2,655	2.4
RI	1.9	2	7.4	7.6	2.7
SC	26	26	83	85	2.4
SD	112	104	370	350	-5.4
TN	115	112	368	375	1.9
TX	397	388	1,337	1,264	-5.5
UT	92	91	401	398	-.7
VT	157	157	643	663	3.1
VA	126	121	432	449	3.9
WA	264	263	1,351	1,367	1.2
WV	20	18	60	66	10.0
WI	1,441	1,391	5,600	5,786	3.3
WY	6	6	21	20.4	-2.9
US ³	9,338	9,247	37,674	38,989	3.5

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Milk cows will not add due to rounding.

**Grain and Other Concentrates: Quantity Fed Daily and Value
by State and United States, October 1, 1996-97**

State	Grain and Other Concentrates Fed Daily Per Milk Cow		Value Per 100 Pounds of Concentrate Ration Fed to Milk Cows	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
AL	16.7	18.3	10.50	9.20
AK	19.5	19.5	14.50	14.80
AZ	21.0	26.0	8.70	7.50
AR	17.7	17.6	10.10	8.80
CA	20.0	20.5	9.00	8.10
CO	20.5	21.0	9.50	7.30
CT	17.5	17.0	11.55	10.50
DE	13.2	15.5	9.70	9.80
FL	25.0	31.0	8.40	7.10
GA	22.0	23.0	9.90	8.60
ID	21.5	22.0	8.30	7.20
IL	16.1	16.4	9.15	8.40
IN	16.6	16.2	10.35	8.80
IA	17.2	15.9	9.90	8.45
KS	18.0	19.0	10.80	8.60
KY	16.1	16.8	10.50	9.15
LA	18.5	17.9	10.70	9.50
ME	15.5	16.5	11.60	10.75
MD	13.0	16.5	10.20	10.80
MA	16.0	15.5	11.65	10.55
MI	18.5	19.0	8.75	8.60
MN	15.7	18.0	9.00	8.10
MS	17.6	17.6	9.80	9.30
MO	17.0	17.0	10.00	8.50
MT	16.5	16.0	8.40	7.70
NE	16.2	16.9	8.30	6.90
NV	21.0	23.0	10.50	8.50
NH	17.0	16.5	11.20	10.75
NJ	14.5	14.5	12.60	11.20
NM	26.0	26.2	7.80	7.25
NY	14.8	14.2	11.70	10.70
NC	17.7	17.9	10.90	9.90
ND	15.0	15.2	7.10	6.60
OH	17.5	17.1	10.10	9.50
OK	18.8	20.7	10.00	8.40
OR	18.6	19.0	10.50	9.90
PA	16.2	16.4	11.00	10.85
RI	15.0	16.0	11.00	10.50
SC	22.0	22.0	9.65	8.80
SD	16.5	15.8	8.20	7.10
TN	17.0	16.5	11.10	9.90
TX	20.1	21.2	9.40	8.20
UT	16.4	17.7	9.20	8.00
VT	15.0	16.0	11.40	10.35
VA	14.5	16.2	10.10	9.40
WA	20.0	20.0	9.65	8.70
WV	14.0	15.0	10.80	10.75
WI	16.0	15.9	8.70	7.30
WY	13.4	13.0	7.80	6.70
US	18.0	18.7	9.53	8.51

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 1.3 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 9.25 million head by more than 1.3 percent, or about 120,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.3 percent, or about 213,000 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

Reliability of July-September 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>
	.7	1.4	546	255	139	456	10	0
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>
	1.3	2.3	213	109	7	179	10	0

¹ Based on records for the past 10 July-September quarters.

The next "Milk Production" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on November 14, 1997.

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