

Milk Production



USDA
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April Milk Production Up 3.4 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during April totaled 12.0 billion pounds, up 3.4 percent from production in these same States in April 1998. March revised production, at 12.2 billion pounds was up 4.6 percent from March 1998.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,553 pounds for April, 52 pounds above April 1998.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.71 million head, 1,000 head less than April 1998, but 4,000 head more than March 1999.

Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1998-99 ¹

Quarter	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	Change From 1998
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan-Mar	9,176	9,136	4,268	4,436	39,164	40,526	3.5
Apr-Jun	9,171		4,451		40,821		
Jul-Sep	9,149		4,210		38,519		
Oct-Dec	9,137		4,261		38,937		
Annual	9,158		17,192		157,441		

¹ May not add due to rounding.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 20 Selected States, 1998-99

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	Change From 1998
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	7,728	7,704	1,466	1,521	11,327	11,720	3.5
Feb	7,716	7,702	1,347	1,403	10,394	10,809	4.0
Mar	7,709	7,708	1,515	1,584	11,678	12,212	4.6
Apr	7,713	7,712	1,501	1,553	11,579	11,977	3.4
May	7,719		1,556		12,011		
Jun	7,718		1,477		11,396		
Jul	7,709		1,468		11,314		
Aug	7,708		1,443		11,124		
Sep	7,701		1,386		10,672		
Oct	7,695		1,446		11,125		
Nov	7,697		1,407		10,829		
Dec	7,708		1,489		11,481		
Annual	7,710		17,501		134,930		

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Production: United States, 1998-99

Month	By Month			Cumulative		
	1998	1999	Change From 1998	1998	1999	Change From 1998
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	13,282	13,671	2.9	13,282	13,671	2.9
Feb	12,188	12,609	3.5	25,470	26,280	3.2
Mar	13,694	14,246	4.0	39,164	40,526	3.5
Apr	13,510	13,974	3.4	52,674	54,500	3.5
May	14,015			66,689		
Jun	13,296			79,985		
Jul	13,162			93,147		
Aug	12,942			106,089		
Sep	12,415			118,504		
Oct	12,956			131,460		
Nov	12,611			144,071		
Dec	13,370			157,441		

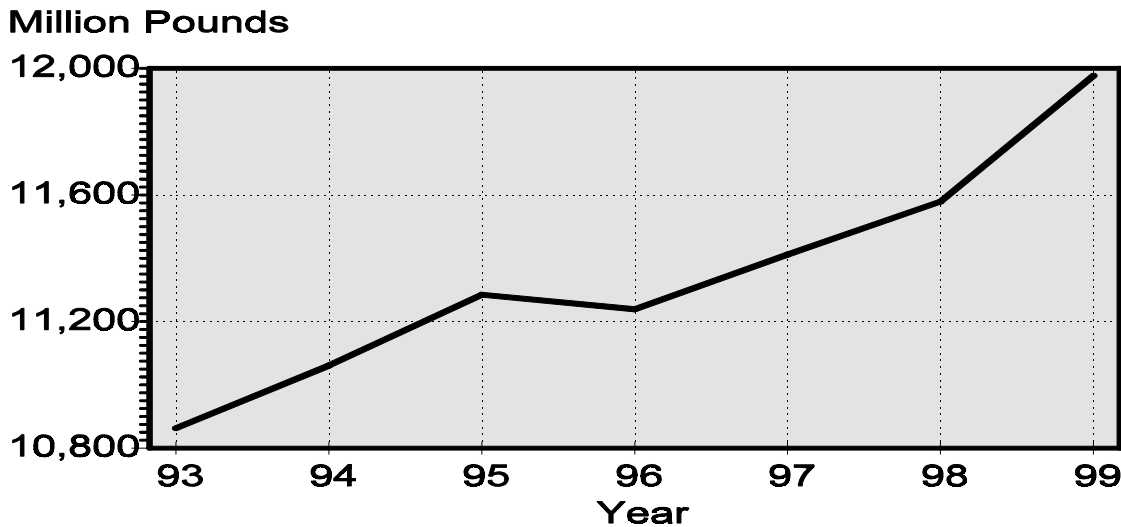
Milk Cows and Production: By State, April 1998-99

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	130	132	1,885	2,070	245	273	11.4
CA	1,410	1,456	1,640	1,770	2,312	2,577	11.5
FL	162	160	1,375	1,480	223	237	6.3
ID	288	310	1,620	1,630	467	505	8.1
IL	129	124	1,490	1,430	192	177	-7.8
IN	136	136	1,410	1,340	192	182	-5.2
IA	223	215	1,465	1,500	327	323	-1.2
KY	141	134	1,135	1,090	160	146	-8.8
MI	298	294	1,495	1,540	446	453	1.6
MN	555	545	1,435	1,495	796	815	2.4
MO	173	161	1,305	1,305	226	210	-7.1
NM	216	231	1,720	1,740	372	402	8.1
NY	700	700	1,420	1,450	994	1,015	2.1
OH	265	260	1,470	1,420	390	369	-5.4
PA	624	615	1,530	1,545	955	950	-0.5
TX	359	342	1,490	1,545	535	528	-1.3
VT	162	162	1,405	1,445	228	234	2.6
VA	125	122	1,320	1,305	165	159	-3.6
WA	249	248	1,790	1,865	446	463	3.8
WI	1,368	1,365	1,395	1,435	1,908	1,959	2.7
20-State Total	7,713	7,712	1,501	1,553	11,579	11,977	3.4

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

April Milk Production, 1993-1999 20 States



Milk Cows and Production: By State, March 1998-99 ¹

State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	130	132	1,885	2,135	245	282	15.1
CA	1,408	1,452	1,665	1,795	2,344	2,606	11.2
FL	162	159	1,415	1,520	229	242	5.7
ID	283	307	1,660	1,650	470	507	7.9
IL	129	125	1,510	1,480	195	185	-5.1
IN	134	136	1,430	1,330	192	181	-5.7
IA	224	215	1,472	1,540	330	331	0.3
KY	141	134	1,105	1,090	156	146	-6.4
MI	297	295	1,530	1,575	454	465	2.4
MN	555	545	1,465	1,555	813	847	4.2
MO	174	162	1,240	1,320	216	214	-0.9
NM	216	231	1,705	1,770	368	409	11.1
NY	697	700	1,440	1,490	1,004	1,043	3.9
OH	265	260	1,460	1,460	387	380	-1.8
PA	624	614	1,535	1,565	958	961	0.3
TX	362	342	1,475	1,625	534	556	4.1
VT	161	162	1,430	1,465	230	237	3.0
VA	125	122	1,345	1,335	168	163	-3.0
WA	249	249	1,805	1,885	449	469	4.5
WI	1,373	1,366	1,410	1,455	1,936	1,988	2.7
20-State Total	7,709	7,708	1,515	1,584	11,678	12,212	4.6

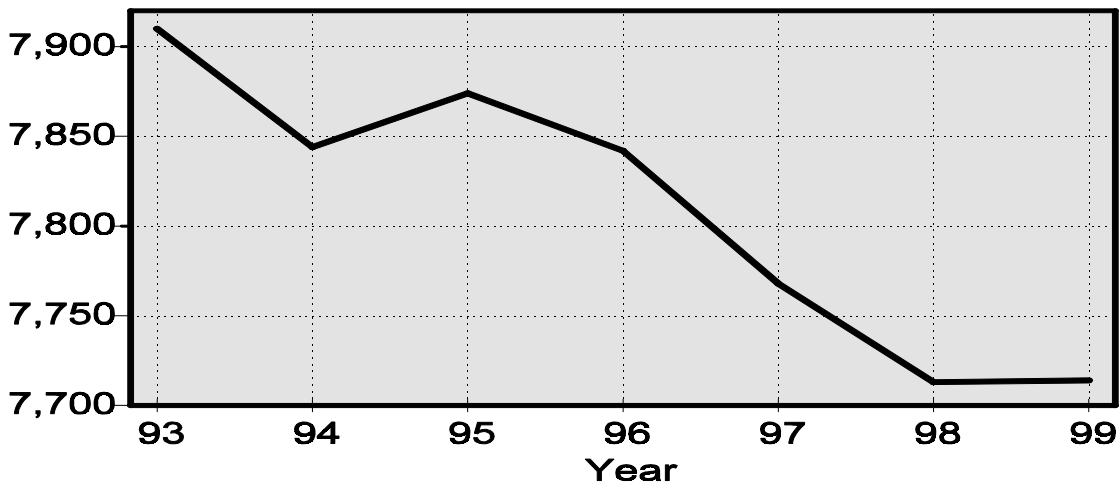
¹ 1999 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

April Milk Cows, 1993-1999 20 States

Thousand Head



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 January-March estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 9.14 million head by more than 1.1 percent, or about 100,000 head. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.0 percent, or about 183,000 head (the 90 percent confidence level).

Reliability of January-March Milk Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Quarters	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
				<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i> 0.5	<i>Percent</i> 0.9	<i>Million Pounds</i> 365	<i>Million Pounds</i> 170	<i>Million Pounds</i> 47	<i>Million Pounds</i> 315	<i>Number</i> 8	<i>Number</i> 2
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i> 1.1	<i>Percent</i> 2.0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 183	<i>1,000 Head</i> 89	<i>1,000 Head</i> 2	<i>1,000 Head</i> 187	<i>Number</i> 8	<i>Number</i> 2

¹ Based on records for the past 10 January-March quarters.

The next "Milk Production" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on June 15, 1999.

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