



# Milk Production

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## **August Milk Production Up 3.6 Percent**

**Milk production** in the 20 major States during August totaled 11.5 billion pounds, up 3.6 percent from production in these same States in August 1998. July revised production, at 11.6 billion pounds was up 2.4 percent from July 1998.

**Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,488 pounds for August, 45 pounds above August 1998.

**The number of cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 33,000 head more than August 1998 and 3,000 head more than July 1999.

**Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1998-99 <sup>1</sup>**

Quarter	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		
	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	4,437	39,164	40,540	3.5
Apr-Jun	9,171	9,151	4,451	4,586	40,821	41,963	2.8
Jul-Sep	9,149		4,210		38,519		
Oct-Dec	9,137		4,261		38,937		
Annual	9,158		17,192		157,441		

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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

Month	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		
	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	7,714	1,501	1,554	11,579	11,989	3.5
May	7,719	7,725	1,556	1,609	12,011	12,430	3.5
Jun	7,718	7,730	1,477	1,515	11,396	11,714	2.8
Jul	7,709	7,738	1,468	1,497	11,314	11,587	2.4
Aug	7,708	7,741	1,443	1,488	11,124	11,522	3.6
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		

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

<sup>2</sup> 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	13,676	3.0	13,282	13,676	3.0
Feb	12,188	12,613	3.5	25,470	26,289	3.2
Mar	13,694	14,251	4.1	39,164	40,540	3.5
Apr	13,510	13,920	3.0	52,674	54,460	3.4
May	14,015	14,431	3.0	66,689	68,891	3.3
Jun	13,296	13,612	2.4	79,985	82,503	3.1
Jul	13,162	13,480	2.4	93,147	95,983	3.0
Aug	12,942	13,404	3.6	106,089	109,387	3.1
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, August 1998-99**

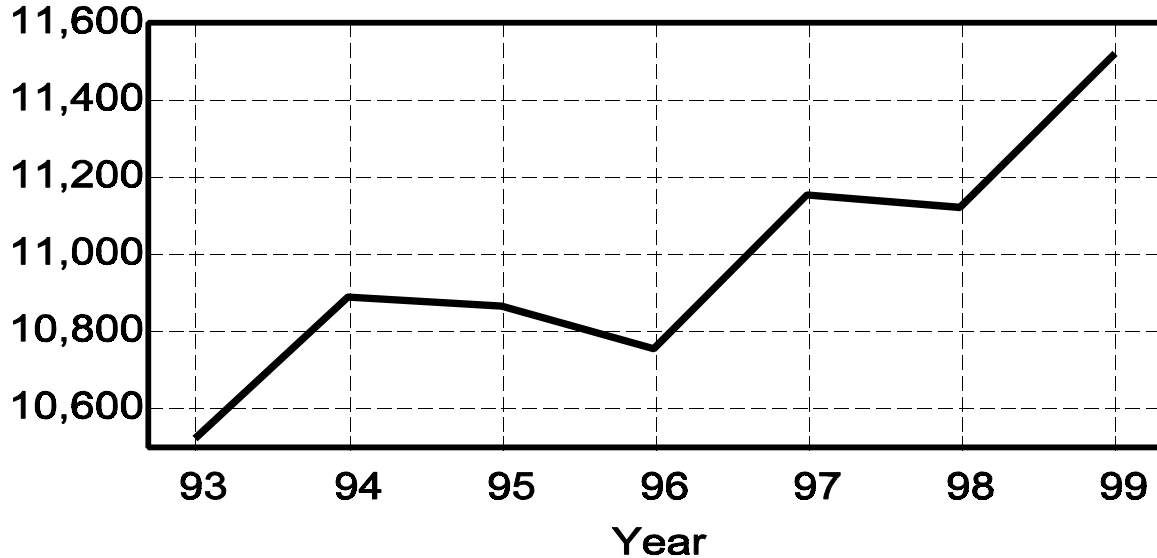
State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	132	135	1,410	1,580	186	213	14.5
CA	1,426	1,472	1,590	1,765	2,267	2,598	14.6
FL	159	158	1,040	1,100	165	174	5.5
ID	296	324	1,720	1,780	509	577	13.4
IL	127	122	1,320	1,280	168	156	-7.1
IN	135	136	1,320	1,330	178	181	1.7
IA	222	215	1,403	1,400	311	301	-3.2
KY	140	132	985	975	138	129	-6.5
MI	304	292	1,535	1,540	467	450	-3.6
MN	550	545	1,360	1,375	748	749	0.1
MO	169	160	1,055	1,040	178	166	-6.7
NM	218	235	1,710	1,635	373	384	2.9
NY	701	702	1,420	1,460	995	1,025	3.0
OH	263	259	1,350	1,430	355	370	4.2
PA	623	615	1,435	1,455	894	895	0.1
TX	347	346	1,195	1,095	415	379	-8.7
VT	160	161	1,420	1,440	227	232	2.2
VA	123	118	1,210	1,210	149	143	-4.0
WA	247	248	1,840	1,910	454	474	4.4
WI	1,366	1,366	1,425	1,410	1,947	1,926	-1.1
20-State Total	7,708	7,741	1,443	1,488	11,124	11,522	3.6

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

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## August Milk Production, 1993-1999 20 States

Million Pounds



**Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 1998-99 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		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	132	135	1,530	1,620	202	219	8.4
CA	1,421	1,468	1,625	1,710	2,309	2,510	8.7
FL	159	159	1,140	1,180	181	188	3.9
ID	294	321	1,700	1,760	500	565	13.0
IL	127	122	1,320	1,310	168	160	-4.8
IN	136	136	1,350	1,360	184	185	0.5
IA	222	215	1,425	1,430	316	307	-2.8
KY	141	132	980	985	138	130	-5.8
MI	305	292	1,540	1,540	470	450	-4.3
MN	550	545	1,400	1,420	770	774	0.5
MO	170	159	1,105	1,055	188	168	-10.6
NM	217	235	1,730	1,690	375	397	5.9
NY	700	702	1,450	1,470	1,015	1,032	1.7
OH	264	260	1,350	1,440	356	374	5.1
PA	623	614	1,460	1,470	910	903	-0.8
TX	350	346	1,215	1,225	425	424	-0.2
VT	161	161	1,430	1,450	230	233	1.3
VA	124	119	1,185	1,195	147	142	-3.4
WA	247	249	1,845	1,940	456	483	5.9
WI	1,366	1,368	1,445	1,420	1,974	1,943	-1.6
20-State Total	7,709	7,738	1,468	1,497	11,314	11,587	2.4

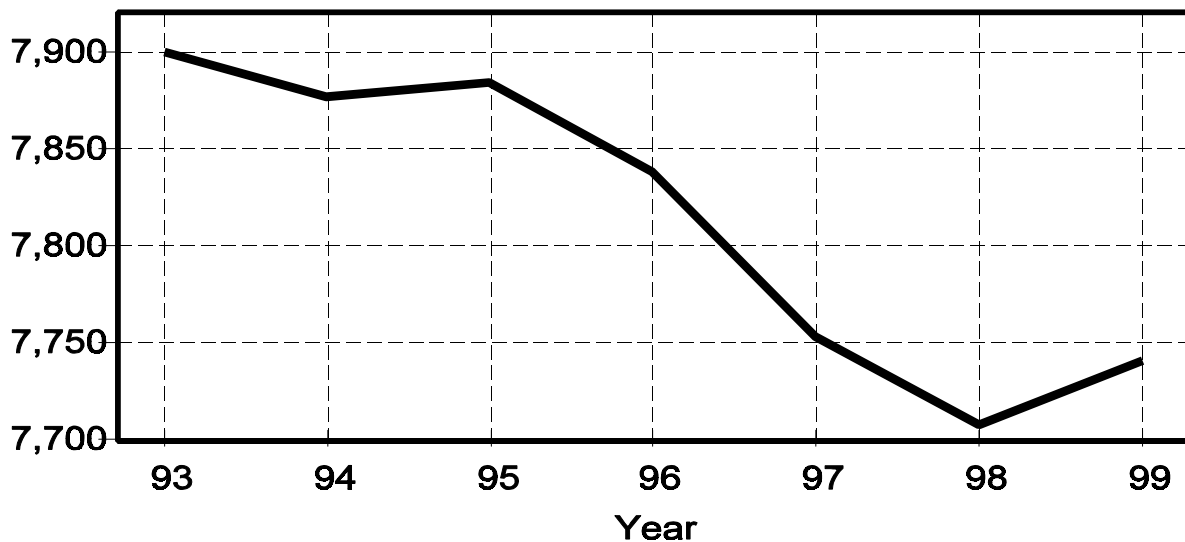
<sup>1</sup> 1999 revised.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## August 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 April-June estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 9.15 million head by more than 1.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.1 percent.

**Reliability of April-June Milk Estimates <sup>1</sup>**

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>	<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>
	0.6	1.0	420	179	3	426	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>
	1.1	2.1	192	92	11	188	8	2

<sup>1</sup> 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 14, 1999.

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USDA to Hold Public Forum

October 18, 1999

Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

Chicago, Illinois

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, 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 at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or contact Fred Vogel (NASS) at (202) 720-3896 or at [hq\\_ed\\_od@nass.usda.gov](mailto:hq_ed_od@nass.usda.gov)