



Milk Production

Released October 14, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Milk Production" call Steve Anderson at 202-690-3236, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

September Milk Production Up 5.3 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during September totaled 11.2 billion pounds, up 5.3 percent from production in these same States in September 1998. August revised production, at 11.5 billion pounds, was up 3.7 percent from August 1998.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,449 pounds for September, 63 pounds above September 1998.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 52,000 head more than September 1998, and 8,000 head more than August 1999.

July-September Milk Production Up 3.3 Percent

The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 39.8 billion pounds, 3.3 percent above the July-September period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the July-September quarter was 9.17 million head, 17,000 head more than the same period last year.

-Special Note-

NASS PROGRAM CHANGES: *The National Agricultural Statistics Service has completed a preliminary review of its statistical program to make sure it best meets the needs of data users in the future. These changes are documented at the following web site:*

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/events/events.htm>

This site can be reached through the NASS home page by clicking on "Coming Events and News" under AGENCY INFORMATION. The proposed program changes are the first subject.

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	4,437	39,164	40,540	3.5
Apr-Jun	9,171	9,151	4,451	4,587	40,821	41,980	2.8
Jul-Sep	9,149	9,166	4,210	4,342	38,519	39,800	3.3
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	7,714	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	7,745	1,443	1,489	11,124	11,536	3.7
Sep	7,701	7,753	1,386	1,449	10,672	11,235	5.3
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	13,676	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	13,926	3.1	52,674	54,466	3.4
May	14,015	14,437	3.0	66,689	68,903	3.3
Jun	13,296	13,617	2.4	79,985	82,520	3.2
Jul	13,162	13,450	2.2	93,147	95,970	3.0
Aug	12,942	13,374	3.3	106,089	109,344	3.1
Sep	12,415	12,976	4.5	118,504	122,320	3.2
Oct	12,956			131,460		
Nov	12,611			144,071		
Dec	13,370			157,441		

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

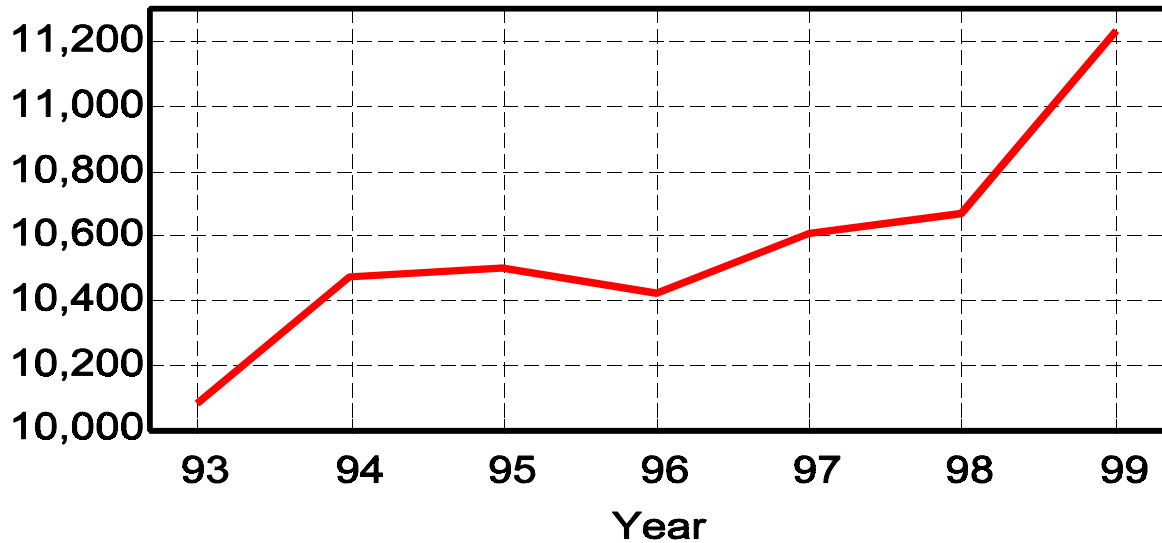
State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	132	135	1,440	1,550	190	209	10.0
CA	1,429	1,476	1,530	1,725	2,186	2,546	16.5
FL	158	157	990	1,075	156	169	8.3
ID	296	324	1,630	1,700	482	551	14.3
IL	127	121	1,280	1,300	163	157	-3.7
IN	136	135	1,260	1,275	171	172	0.6
IA	222	215	1,350	1,395	300	300	
KY	134	132	955	960	128	127	-0.8
MI	301	294	1,460	1,510	439	444	1.1
MN	550	550	1,305	1,335	718	734	2.2
MO	168	163	1,060	1,080	178	176	-1.1
NM	219	235	1,625	1,600	356	376	5.6
NY	702	702	1,350	1,380	948	969	2.2
OH	263	259	1,310	1,380	345	357	3.5
PA	623	616	1,380	1,415	860	872	1.4
TX	344	346	1,145	1,125	394	389	-1.3
VT	161	161	1,365	1,380	220	222	0.9
VA	123	121	1,155	1,250	142	151	6.3
WA	247	247	1,775	1,860	438	459	4.8
WI	1,366	1,364	1,360	1,360	1,858	1,855	-0.2
20-State Total	7,701	7,753	1,386	1,449	10,672	11,235	5.3

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

September Milk Production, 1993-1999 20 States

Million Pounds



Milk Cows and Production: By State, August 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	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	323	1,720	1,770	509	572	12.4
IL	127	121	1,320	1,280	168	155	-7.7
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	990	138	131	-5.1
MI	304	292	1,535	1,540	467	450	-3.6
MN	550	550	1,360	1,385	748	762	1.9
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	1,450	995	1,018	2.3
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	1,450	227	233	2.6
VA	123	120	1,210	1,290	149	155	4.0
WA	247	247	1,840	1,915	454	473	4.2
WI	1,366	1,366	1,425	1,410	1,947	1,926	-1.1
20-State Total	7,708	7,745	1,443	1,489	11,124	11,536	3.7

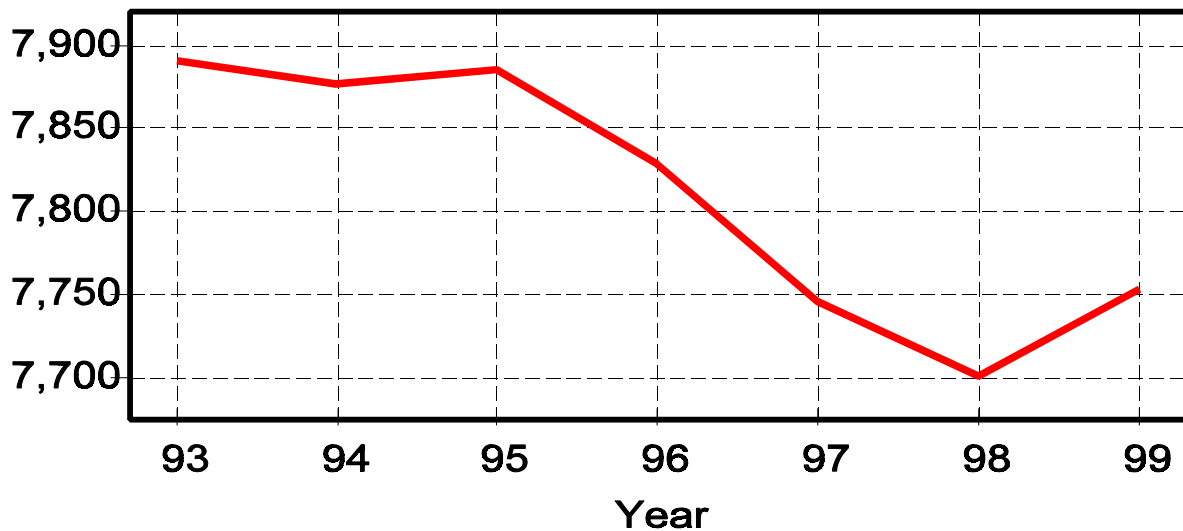
¹ 1999 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

September Milk Cows, 1993-1999 20 States

Thousand Head



**Milk Cows and Production: By State and United States,
Revised April-June, 1998-99**

State	Apr-Jun Milk Cows ¹		Apr-Jun Milk Production ²		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	28	27	104	98	-5.8
AK	0.9	1.0	3.67	3.57	-2.7
AZ	130	133	731	794	8.6
AR	49	45	167	152	-9.0
CA	1,414	1,460	7,061	7,737	9.6
CO	83	81	432	410	-5.1
CT	30	29	136	136	
DE	11.0	11.0	44.4	43.6	-1.8
FL	161	160	629	659	4.8
GA	95	90	381	392	2.9
HI	8.8	8.6	35.7	32.5	-9.0
ID	291	314	1,445	1,582	9.5
IL	128	123	559	533	-4.7
IN	137	136	571	561	-1.8
IA	223	215	984	970	-1.4
KS	81	86	345	360	4.3
KY	141	133	458	431	-5.9
LA	63	61	203	189	-6.9
ME	41	42	173	180	4.0
MD	86	86	348	337	-3.2
MA	26	25	112	109	-2.7
MI	300	293	1,371	1,367	-0.3
MN	555	545	2,414	2,464	2.1
MS	42	39	157	150	-4.5
MO	172	161	641	595	-7.2
MT	18	18	74	77	4.1
NE	69	73	263	304	15.6
NV	25	25	120	128	6.7
NH	20	19	87	83	-4.6
NJ	19	18	75	72	-4.0
NM	217	232	1,143	1,218	6.6
NY	701	701	3,040	3,121	2.7
NC	76	73	325	311	-4.3
ND	52	49	181	181	
OH	265	260	1,159	1,136	-2.0
OK	92	92	316	317	0.3
OR	89	88	404	421	4.2
PA	623	615	2,815	2,855	1.4
RI	2.1	2.0	8.6	8.2	-4.7
SC	25	24	100	98	-2.0
SD	102	102	362	380	5.0
TN	106	98	399	373	-6.5
TX	356	344	1,528	1,511	-1.1
UT	90	92	388	412	6.2
VT	162	162	698	714	2.3
VA	125	122	477	475	-0.4
WA	248	247	1,366	1,405	2.9
WV	18	18	70	69	-1.4
WI	1,368	1,366	5,896	6,005	1.8
WY	6.1	5.9	20.7	20.1	-2.9
US ³	9,171	9,151	40,821	41,980	2.8

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ May not add due to rounding.

**Milk Cows and Production: By State and United States,
Preliminary July-September, 1998-99**

State	Jul-Sep Milk Cows ¹		Jul-Sep Milk Production ²		Change From 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	27	27	81	80	-1.2
AK	0.9	1.0	3.63	3.48	-4.1
AZ	132	135	578	641	10.9
AR	48	44	154	126	-18.2
CA	1,425	1,472	6,762	7,654	13.2
CO	83	81	429	407	-5.1
CT	30	28	128	124	-3.1
DE	11.0	11.0	37.4	44.0	17.6
FL	159	158	502	531	5.8
GA	93	88	310	308	-0.6
HI	8.8	8.6	32.3	31.4	-2.8
ID	295	323	1,491	1,688	13.2
IL	127	121	499	472	-5.4
IN	136	136	533	538	0.9
IA	222	215	927	908	-2.0
KS	82	86	305	325	6.6
KY	138	132	404	388	-4.0
LA	63	61	156	151	-3.2
ME	42	41	176	172	-2.3
MD	86	86	324	341	5.2
MA	26	24	111	104	-6.3
MI	303	293	1,376	1,344	-2.3
MN	550	548	2,236	2,270	1.5
MS	41	38	121	119	-1.7
MO	169	161	544	510	-6.3
MT	18	18	72	76	5.6
NE	69	74	262	302	15.3
NV	25	25	118	128	8.5
NH	21	19	85	79	-7.1
NJ	19	18	72	69	-4.2
NM	218	235	1,104	1,157	4.8
NY	701	702	2,958	3,019	2.1
NC	74	73	291	289	-0.7
ND	50	48	174	172	-1.1
OH	263	259	1,056	1,101	4.3
OK	92	92	294	294	
OR	89	89	401	413	3.0
PA	623	615	2,664	2,670	0.2
RI	2.1	2.0	8.3	7.6	-8.4
SC	24	23	81	79	-2.5
SD	102	102	366	375	2.5
TN	103	94	344	315	-8.4
TX	347	346	1,234	1,192	-3.4
UT	90	94	383	419	9.4
VT	161	161	677	688	1.6
VA	123	120	438	448	2.3
WA	247	248	1,348	1,415	5.0
WV	18	18	69	68	-1.4
WI	1,366	1,366	5,779	5,724	-1.0
WY	6.0	6.0	20.4	21.0	2.9
US ³	9,149	9,166	38,519	39,800	3.3

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ May not add due to rounding.

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 1.2 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 9.17 million head by more than 1.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.2 percent.

Reliability of July-September 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>	<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>
	0.8	1.5	597	287	181	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>
	1.2	2.2	202	101	11	179	9	1

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 15, 1999.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports by Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

There are two options for subscribing via e-mail. All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. 1) Starting with the NASS Home Page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>, click on **Publications**, then click on the **Subscribe by E-mail** button which takes you to the page describing e-mail delivery of reports. Finally, click on **Go to the Subscription Page** and follow the instructions. 2) If you do NOT have Internet access, send an e-mail message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu. In the body of the message type the word: **list**.

AUTOFAX ACCESS

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts. Document 0411 is a list of available reports.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-834-0125 FAX: 703-834-0110
(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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