



# Milk Production

---

Released November 15, 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.

## October Milk Production Up 4.3 Percent

**Milk production** in the 20 major States during October totaled 11.6 billion pounds, up 4.3 percent from production in these same States in October 1998. September revised production, at 11.2 billion pounds was up 4.9 percent from September 1998. The September revision represented a decrease of 0.3 percent or 37 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,496 pounds for October, 50 pounds above October 1998.

**The number of cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 57,000 head more than October 1998 but 1,000 head less than September 1999. October is the first month that the dairy cow herd has not expanded from the previous month in the 20 major States since February of this year. The total increase from February to September was 51,000 head of cows.

**Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1998-1999 <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	4,587	40,821	41,980	2.8
Jul-Sep	9,149	9,165	4,210	4,339	38,519	39,763	3.2
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, 1998-1999**

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	7,745	1,443	1,489	11,124	11,536	3.7
Sep	7,701	7,753	1,386	1,444	10,672	11,198	4.9
Oct	7,695	7,752	1,446	1,496	11,125	11,598	4.3
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, 1998-1999**

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	12,939	4.2	118,504	122,283	3.2
Oct	12,956	13,506	4.2	131,460	135,789	3.3
Nov	12,611			144,071		
Dec	13,370			157,441		

**Milk Cows and Production: By State, October 1998-1999**

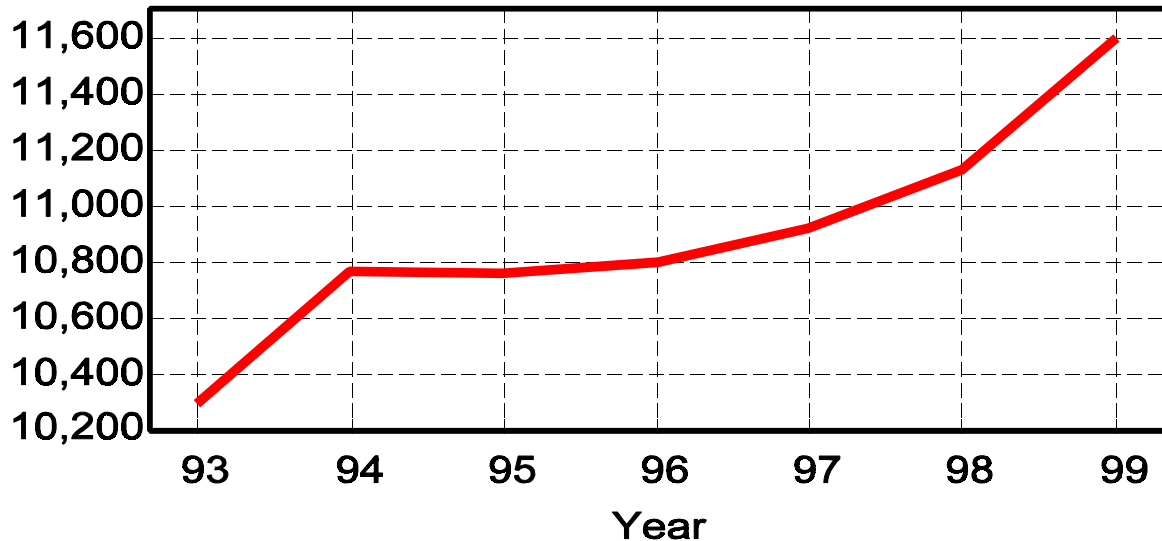
State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	Change From 1998
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	132	135	1,650	1,725	218	233	6.9
CA	1,432	1,480	1,650	1,760	2,363	2,605	10.2
FL	158	157	1,030	1,085	163	170	4.3
ID	298	327	1,660	1,740	495	569	14.9
IL	126	121	1,340	1,340	169	162	-4.1
IN	137	135	1,300	1,325	178	179	0.6
IA	221	215	1,420	1,455	314	313	-0.3
KY	137	131	970	1,000	133	131	-1.5
MI	300	295	1,505	1,540	452	454	0.4
MN	545	545	1,375	1,395	749	760	1.5
MO	167	161	1,125	1,150	188	185	-1.6
NM	219	235	1,680	1,685	368	396	7.6
NY	702	702	1,380	1,420	969	997	2.9
OH	262	259	1,350	1,410	354	365	3.1
PA	621	617	1,415	1,450	879	895	1.8
TX	342	346	1,260	1,255	431	434	0.7
VT	160	160	1,380	1,395	221	223	0.9
VA	123	121	1,205	1,315	148	159	7.4
WA	247	246	1,815	1,890	448	465	3.8
WI	1,366	1,364	1,380	1,395	1,885	1,903	1.0
20-State Total	7,695	7,752	1,446	1,496	11,125	11,598	4.3

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

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

## October Milk Production, 1993-1999 20 States

Million Pounds



**Milk Cows and Production: By State, September 1998-1999 <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	1,440	1,550	190	209	10.0
CA	1,429	1,476	1,530	1,705	2,186	2,517	15.1
FL	158	157	990	1,015	156	159	1.9
ID	296	325	1,630	1,700	482	553	14.7
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	162	1,060	1,080	178	175	-1.7
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	1,265	142	153	7.7
WA	247	247	1,775	1,855	438	458	4.6
WI	1,366	1,364	1,360	1,360	1,858	1,855	-0.2
20-State Total	7,701	7,753	1,386	1,444	10,672	11,198	4.9

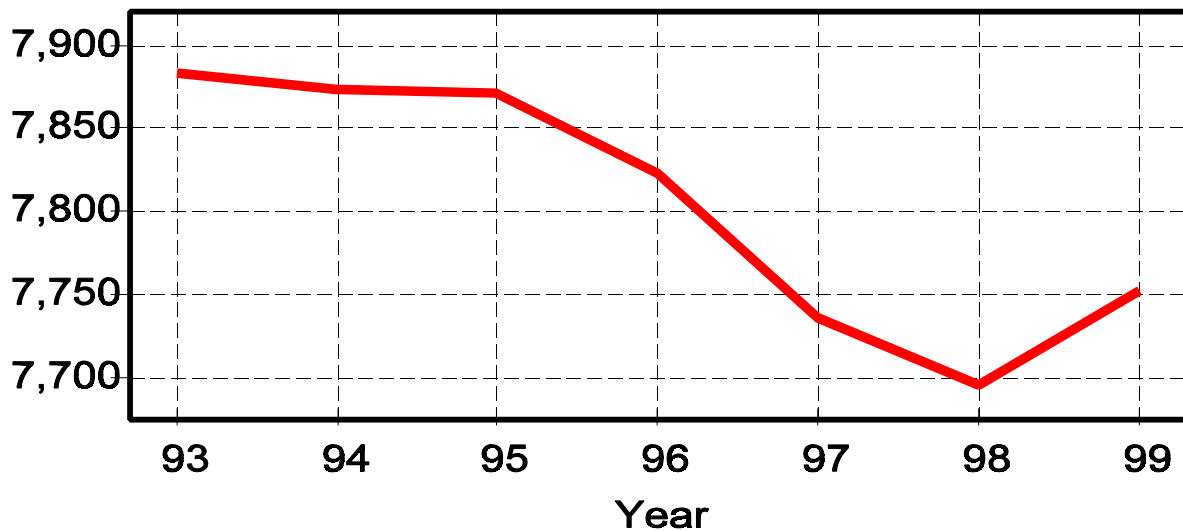
<sup>1</sup> 1999 revised.

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

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

## October 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 1.2 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 <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>
	0.8	1.5	596	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

<sup>1</sup> Based on records for the past 10 July-September quarters.

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

The next "Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses" report will be released in January 2002.

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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).