

Released August 16, 2000, 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.

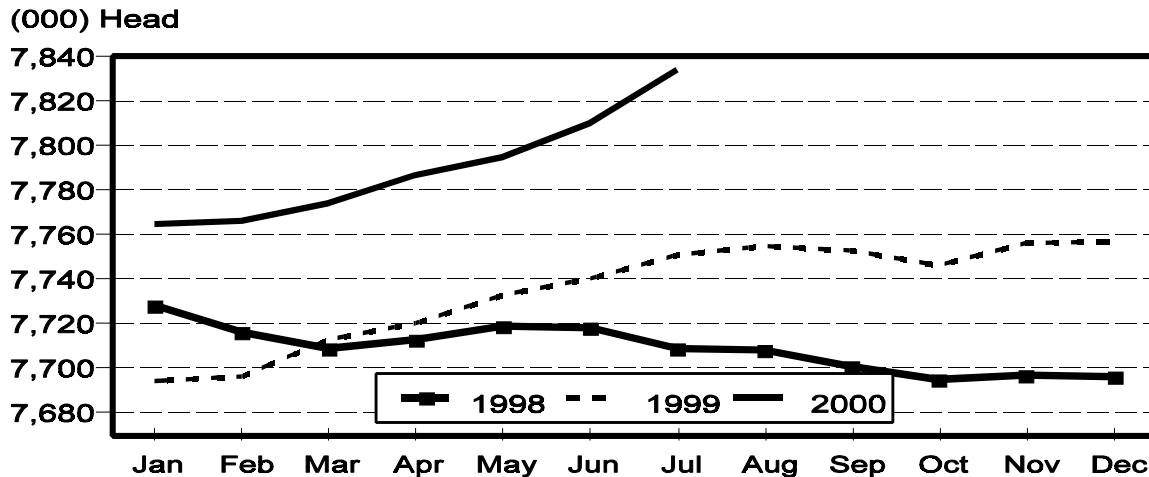
July Milk Production Up 5.0 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 5.0 percent from production in these same States in July 1999. This increase is magnified by unusually hot temperatures during July 1999 which lowered milk production per cow. June revised production, at 12.1 billion pounds was up 2.9 percent from June 1999. The June revision represented an increase of 0.1 percent or 13 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,557 pounds for July, 59 pounds above July 1999.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.83 million head, 83,000 head more than July 1999 and 24,000 head more than June 2000.

Monthly Milk Cows 20 States



Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 1999-2000¹

Quarter	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	Change From 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>
Jan-Mar	9,128	9,187	4,437	4,636	40,505	42,593	5.2
Apr-Jun	9,155	9,215	4,591	4,683	42,029	43,150	2.7
Jul-Sep	9,171		4,337		39,771		
Oct-Dec	9,170		4,406		40,406		
Annual	9,156		17,771		162,711		

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, 1999-2000

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	Change From 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>
Jan	7,694	7,765	1,518	1,578	11,679	12,256	4.9
Feb	7,696	7,766	1,404	1,505	10,804	11,691	8.2
Mar	7,713	7,774	1,585	1,631	12,228	12,679	3.7
Apr	7,720	7,787	1,554	1,592	11,998	12,399	3.3
May	7,733	7,795	1,610	1,635	12,447	12,743	2.4
Jun	7,740	7,810	1,516	1,547	11,737	12,083	2.9
Jul	7,751	7,834	1,498	1,557	11,610	12,195	5.0
Aug	7,755		1,487		11,534		
Sep	7,753		1,445		11,200		
Oct	7,746		1,491		11,549		
Nov	7,756		1,459		11,315		
Dec	7,757		1,538		11,928		
Annual	7,735		18,103		140,029		

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production: By Month, United States, 1999-2000

Month	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	Change From 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>
Jan	9,121	9,183	1,494	1,552	13,628	14,252	4.6
Feb	9,123	9,185	1,382	1,480	12,607	13,596	7.8
Mar	9,141	9,194	1,561	1,604	14,270	14,745	3.3
Apr	9,143	9,202	1,524	1,562	13,938	14,373	3.1
May	9,157	9,213	1,579	1,603	14,458	14,771	2.2
Jun	9,166	9,229	1,487	1,518	13,633	14,006	2.7
Jul	9,167	9,257	1,467	1,522	13,444	14,089	4.8
Aug	9,174		1,456		13,357		
Sep	9,171		1,414		12,970		
Oct	9,162		1,464		13,412		
Nov	9,174		1,432		13,140		
Dec	9,175		1,510		13,854		
Annual	9,156		17,771		162,711		

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

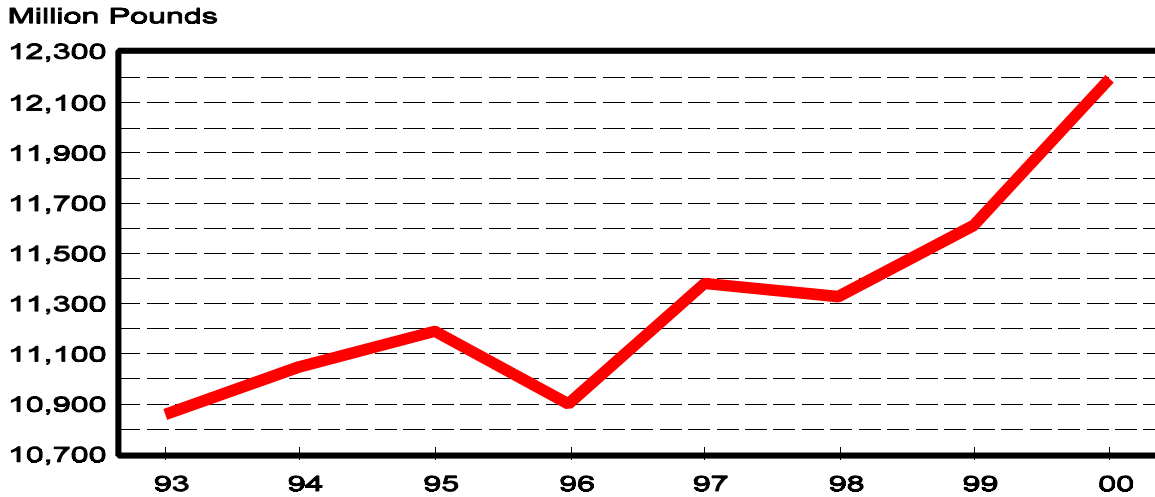
Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 1999-2000

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	Change From 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	135	140	1,620	1,735	219	243	11.0
CA	1,467	1,527	1,715	1,825	2,516	2,787	10.8
FL	159	157	1,190	1,245	189	195	3.2
ID	322	358	1,770	1,830	570	655	14.9
IL	122	120	1,310	1,430	160	172	7.5
IN	136	151	1,325	1,450	180	219	21.7
IA	216	215	1,430	1,540	309	331	7.1
KY	132	133	985	1,000	130	133	2.3
MI	307	298	1,555	1,630	477	486	1.9
MN	545	535	1,420	1,455	774	778	0.5
MO	157	154	1,020	1,210	160	186	16.3
NM	235	252	1,690	1,730	397	436	9.8
NY	702	690	1,460	1,460	1,025	1,007	-1.8
OH	260	263	1,460	1,475	380	388	2.1
PA	614	619	1,470	1,500	903	929	2.9
TX	346	348	1,225	1,225	424	426	0.5
VT	159	160	1,440	1,465	229	234	2.2
VA	120	120	1,185	1,265	142	152	7.0
WA	249	247	1,940	1,965	483	485	0.4
WI	1,368	1,347	1,420	1,450	1,943	1,953	0.5
20-State Total	7,751	7,834	1,498	1,557	11,610	12,195	5.0

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**July Milk Production, 1993-2000
20 States**



Milk Cows and Production: By State, June 1999-2000 ¹

State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	Change From 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	134	138	1,830	1,890	245	261	6.5
CA	1,464	1,521	1,710	1,755	2,503	2,669	6.6
FL	159	158	1,290	1,330	205	210	2.4
ID	317	351	1,690	1,760	536	618	15.3
IL	122	120	1,420	1,440	173	173	
IN	136	148	1,340	1,420	182	210	15.4
IA	217	215	1,460	1,530	317	329	3.8
KY	133	132	1,000	1,010	133	133	
MI	303	295	1,530	1,580	464	466	0.4
MN	545	535	1,475	1,495	804	800	-0.5
MO	159	155	1,140	1,200	181	186	2.8
NM	234	249	1,710	1,790	400	446	11.5
NY	702	690	1,460	1,460	1,025	1,007	-1.8
OH	260	262	1,450	1,470	377	385	2.1
PA	614	617	1,495	1,495	918	922	0.4
TX	346	350	1,330	1,340	460	469	2.0
VT	159	160	1,445	1,470	230	235	2.2
VA	121	120	1,240	1,265	150	152	1.3
WA	247	247	1,880	1,910	464	472	1.7
WI	1,368	1,347	1,440	1,440	1,970	1,940	-1.5
20-State Total	7,740	7,810	1,516	1,547	11,737	12,083	2.9

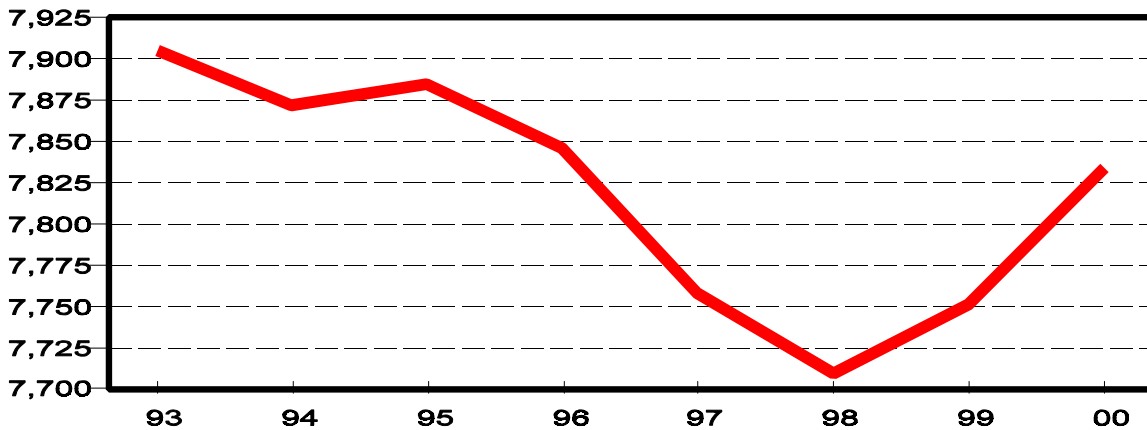
¹ 2000 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**July Milk Cows, 1993-2000
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 April-June 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 9.22 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 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
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i> 0.4 <i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i> 0.8 <i>Percent</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i> 345 <i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i> 142 <i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i> 3 <i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i> 264 <i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i> 10 <i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i> 0 <i>Number</i>
All Milk Cows	1.1	2.1	194	86	4	188	7	3

¹ Based on records for the past 10 April-June quarters.

The next "Milk Production" report will be released at 3 p.m. on September 15, 2000.

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USDA to Hold Public Forum
October 16, 2000

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 various statistical and information programs, and to seek comments and input from data users. The other USDA agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board. The Foreign Trade Division from the Census Bureau and The National Weather Service will also be included in the meeting.

For registration details, see the NASS home page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or contact Karlyn McCutcheon (NASS) at (202) 690-8141 or at hq_dapp@nass.usda.gov