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Milk Production

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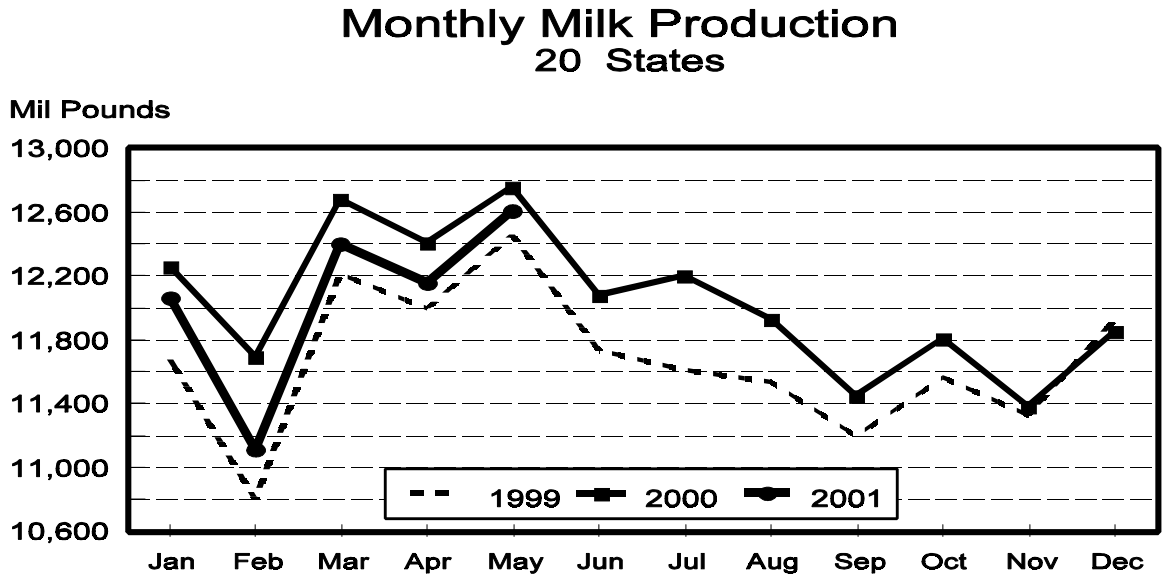
May Milk Production Down 1.1 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during May totaled 12.6 billion pounds, down 1.1 percent from May 2000. April revised production, at 12.2 billion pounds, was down 2.0 percent from April 2000. The April revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 14 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,629 pounds for May, 7 pounds below May 2000.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 55,000 head less than May 2000, but unchanged from April 2001.



Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 2000-2001 [1]

Quarter	Milk Cows [2]		Milk Per Cow [3]		Milk Production [3]		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	Change From 2000
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
Jan-Mar	9,188	9,154	4,640	4,514	42,630	41,324	-3.1
Apr-Jun	9,213		4,688		43,189		
Jul-Sep	9,229		4,460		41,161		
Oct-Dec	9,211		4,416		40,678		
Annual	9,210		18,204		167,658		

[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, 2000-2001

Month	Milk Cows [1]		Milk Per Cow [2]		Milk Production [2]		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	Change From 2000
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
Jan	7,764	7,783	1,579	1,550	12,259	12,062	-1.6
Feb	7,766	7,767	1,506	1,431	11,694	11,112	-5.0
Mar	7,776	7,756	1,632	1,599	12,687	12,401	-2.3
Apr	7,789	7,744	1,593	1,570	12,411	12,158	-2.0
May	7,799	7,744	1,636	1,629	12,758	12,614	-1.1
Jun	7,808		1,547		12,082		
Jul	7,821		1,561		12,205		
Aug	7,820		1,525		11,928		
Sep	7,820		1,464		11,451		
Oct	7,817		1,511		11,813		
Nov	7,805		1,459		11,385		
Dec	7,803		1,519		11,855		
Annual	7,799		18,532		144,528		

[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production: By Month, United States, 2000-2001 [1]

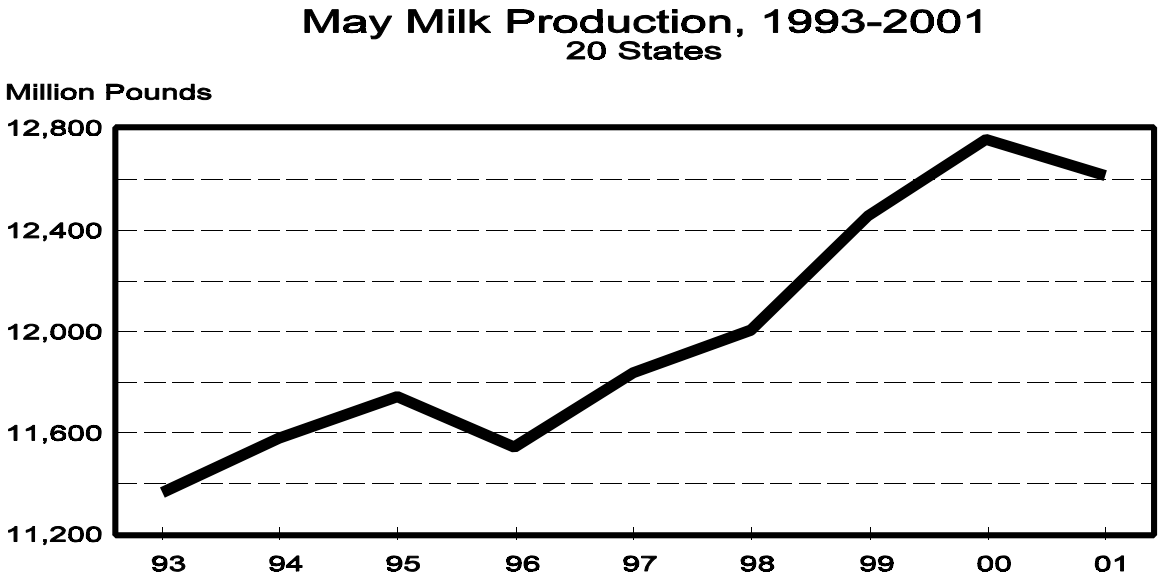
Month	Milk Cows [2]		Milk Per Cow [3]		Milk Production [3]		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	Change From 2000
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
Jan	9,183	9,171	1,553	1,528	14,263	14,011	-1.8
Feb	9,183	9,153	1,482	1,410	13,606	12,907	-5.1
Mar	9,197	9,141	1,605	1,576	14,761	14,406	-2.4
Apr	9,202	9,127	1,564	1,544	14,390	14,096	-2.0
May	9,214	9,127	1,605	1,602	14,791	14,625	-1.1
Jun	9,224		1,519		14,008		
Jul	9,229		1,530		14,117		
Aug	9,228		1,495		13,798		
Sep	9,229		1,435		13,246		
Oct	9,222		1,486		13,708		
Nov	9,208		1,435		13,212		
Dec	9,204		1,495		13,758		
Annual	9,210		18,204		167,658		

[1] 2001 revised.
[2] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[3] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, May 2000-2001

State	Milk Cows [1]		Milk Per Cow [2]		Milk Production [2]		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	Change From 2000
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
AZ	138	140	2,095	1,850	289	259	-10.4
CA	1,513	1,580	1,850	1,830	2,799	2,891	3.3
FL	158	154	1,460	1,480	231	228	-1.3
ID	344	360	1,800	1,820	619	655	5.8
IL	120	116	1,550	1,610	186	187	0.5
IN	144	153	1,400	1,550	202	237	17.3
IA	215	211	1,610	1,610	346	340	-1.7
KY	133	128	1,120	1,150	149	147	-1.3
MI	301	304	1,640	1,675	494	509	3.0
MN	540	515	1,555	1,530	840	788	-6.2
MO	156	148	1,320	1,255	206	186	-9.7
NM	246	261	1,910	1,870	470	488	3.8
NY	690	673	1,530	1,530	1,056	1,030	-2.5
OH	262	261	1,510	1,520	396	397	0.3
PA	615	599	1,615	1,600	993	958	-3.5
TX	350	335	1,540	1,420	539	476	-11.7
VT	160	152	1,530	1,520	245	231	-5.7
VA	120	118	1,400	1,400	168	165	-1.8
WA	247	246	1,980	1,955	489	481	-1.6
WI	1,347	1,290	1,515	1,520	2,041	1,961	-3.9
20-State Total	7,799	7,744	1,636	1,629	12,758	12,614	-1.1

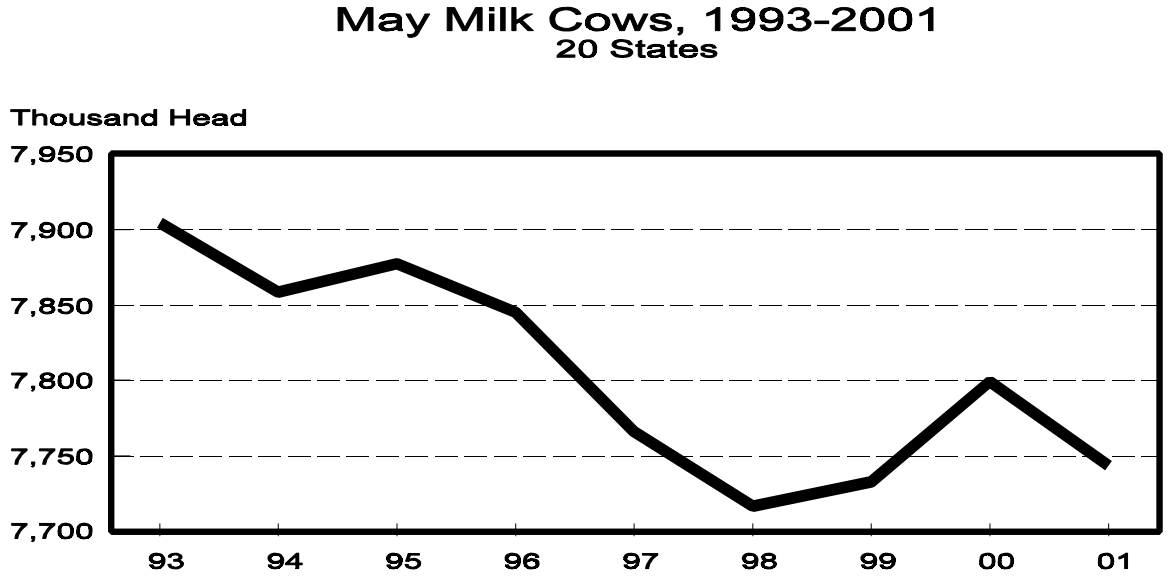
[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.



Milk Cows and Production: By State, April 2000-2001 [1]

State	Milk Cows [2]		Milk per Cow [3]		Milk Production [3]		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	Change From 2000
	1,000 Head	*1,000 Head*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Percent*
AZ	138	140	2,080	1,855	287	260	-9.4
CA	1,506	1,574	1,815	1,770	2,733	2,786	1.9
FL	158	154	1,470	1,460	232	225	-3.0
ID	339	360	1,710	1,740	580	626	7.9
IL	120	117	1,520	1,555	182	182	
IN	145	152	1,370	1,450	199	220	10.6
IA	215	212	1,560	1,545	335	328	-2.1
KY	133	128	1,165	1,180	155	151	-2.6
MI	299	303	1,610	1,595	481	483	0.4
MN	540	515	1,530	1,510	826	778	-5.8
MO	157	148	1,330	1,265	209	187	-10.5
NM	241	261	1,835	1,760	442	459	3.8
NY	695	670	1,460	1,440	1,015	965	-4.9
OH	262	261	1,430	1,440	375	376	0.3
PA	615	599	1,590	1,540	978	922	-5.7
TX	350	339	1,550	1,405	543	476	-12.3
VT	160	152	1,475	1,460	236	222	-5.9
VA	120	118	1,410	1,380	169	163	-3.6
WA	247	246	1,935	1,860	478	458	-4.2
WI	1,349	1,295	1,450	1,460	1,956	1,891	-3.3
20-State Total	7,789	7,744	1,593	1,570	12,411	12,158	-2.0

[1] 2001 revised.
[2] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[3] Excludes milk sucked by calves.



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 January-March quarters is 1.0 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 9.15 million head by more than 1.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.8 percent.

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
	Percent	*Percent*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Million Pounds*	*Number*	*Number*
Milk Production	0.5	0.9	372	154	18	321	7	3
	Percent	*Percent*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*1,000 Head*	*Number*	*Number*
All Milk Cows	1.0	1.8	165	70	2	187	7	3

[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 July 17, 2001.

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