

Milk Production

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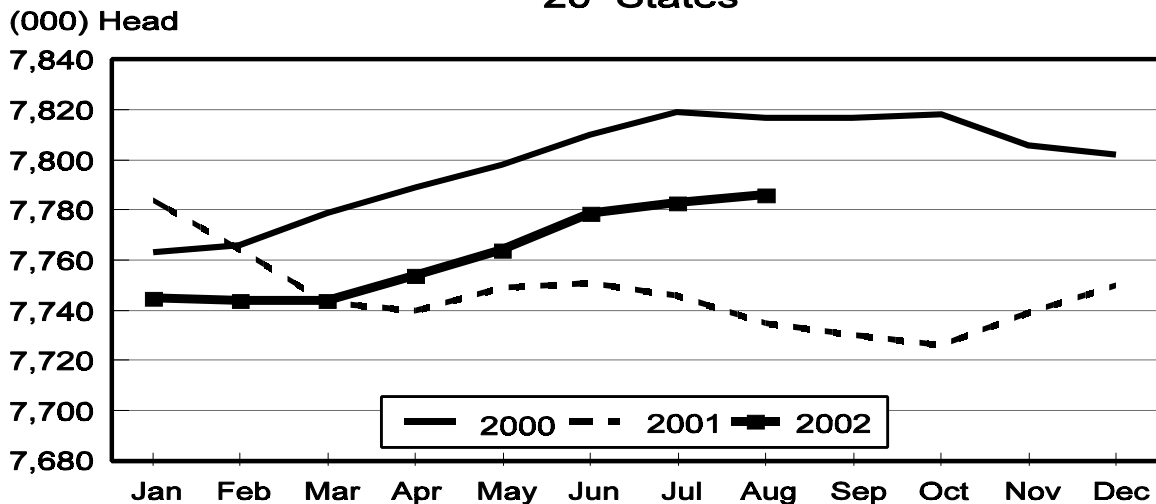
August Milk Production Up 3.8 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during August totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 3.8 percent from August 2001. July revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 2.3 percent from July 2001. The July revision represented an increase 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,568 pounds for August, 48 pounds above August 2001.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.79 million head, 51,000 head more than August 2001, and 3,000 head more than July 2002.

Monthly Milk Cows 20 States



Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 2001-2002 ¹

Quarter	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change From 2001
	<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	9,143	9,109	4,514	4,639	41,267	42,256	2.4
Apr-Jun	9,114	9,147	4,683	4,808	42,681	43,977	3.0
Jul-Sep	9,098		4,459		40,570		
Oct-Dec	9,105		4,483		40,818		
Annual	9,115		18,139		165,336		

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, 2001-2002 ¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change From 2001
	<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	7,784	7,745	1,549	1,585	12,059	12,272	1.8
Feb	7,764	7,744	1,431	1,468	11,108	11,365	2.3
Mar	7,743	7,744	1,599	1,649	12,384	12,771	3.1
Apr	7,740	7,754	1,571	1,619	12,156	12,555	3.3
May	7,749	7,764	1,632	1,677	12,647	13,021	3.0
Jun	7,751	7,779	1,555	1,583	12,052	12,315	2.2
Jul	7,746	7,783	1,552	1,581	12,025	12,306	2.3
Aug	7,735	7,786	1,520	1,568	11,754	12,205	3.8
Sep	7,730		1,472		11,376		
Oct	7,726		1,522		11,756		
Nov	7,739		1,485		11,492		
Dec	7,750		1,549		12,008		
Annual	7,746		18,438		142,817		

¹ 2002 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production: By Month, United States, 2001-2002 ¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change From 2001
	<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	9,169	9,110	1,527	1,564	13,998	14,245	1.8
Feb	9,143	9,109	1,410	1,448	12,894	13,190	2.3
Mar	9,117	9,109	1,577	1,627	14,375	14,821	3.1
Apr	9,110	9,129	1,545	1,596	14,078	14,573	3.5
May	9,116	9,145	1,607	1,653	14,646	15,114	3.2
Jun	9,117	9,166	1,531	1,559	13,957	14,290	2.4
Jul	9,109	9,172	1,523	1,551	13,877	14,224	2.5
Aug	9,096	9,176	1,491	1,537	13,564	14,107	4.0
Sep	9,088		1,445		13,129		
Oct	9,086		1,498		13,611		
Nov	9,106		1,461		13,305		
Dec	9,122		1,524		13,902		
Annual	9,115		18,139		165,336		

¹ 2002 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

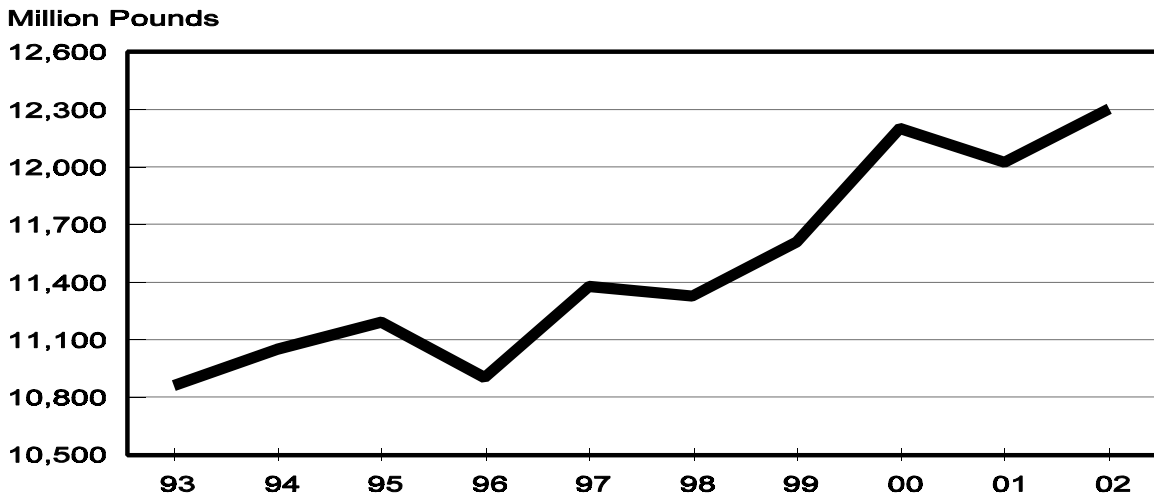
Milk Cows and Production: By State, August 2001-2002

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change From 2001
	<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	140	150	1,520	1,775	213	266	24.9
CA	1,598	1,652	1,765	1,815	2,820	2,998	6.3
FL	153	149	1,115	1,145	171	171	
ID	370	392	1,840	1,820	681	713	4.7
IL	115	115	1,370	1,395	158	160	1.3
IN	154	150	1,345	1,410	207	212	2.4
IA	207	210	1,475	1,480	305	311	2.0
KY	128	122	1,000	1,025	128	125	-2.3
MI	303	301	1,615	1,680	489	506	3.5
MN	505	485	1,385	1,410	699	684	-2.1
MO	144	136	975	1,090	140	148	5.7
NM	268	305	1,770	1,765	474	538	13.5
NY	673	677	1,480	1,520	996	1,029	3.3
OH	258	264	1,380	1,390	356	367	3.1
PA	598	585	1,480	1,515	885	886	0.1
TX	322	308	1,140	1,290	367	397	8.2
VT	152	154	1,460	1,450	222	223	0.5
VA	118	120	1,260	1,275	149	153	2.7
WA	247	248	1,945	1,965	480	487	1.5
WI	1,282	1,263	1,415	1,450	1,814	1,831	0.9
20-State Total	7,735	7,786	1,520	1,568	11,754	12,205	3.8

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**August Milk Production, 1993-2002
20 States**



Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 2001-2002 ¹

State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change From 2001
	<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	140	148	1,740	1,845	244	273	11.9
CA	1,592	1,647	1,770	1,810	2,818	2,981	5.8
FL	153	149	1,235	1,250	189	186	-1.6
ID	370	392	1,840	1,810	681	710	4.3
IL	115	115	1,405	1,420	162	163	0.6
IN	154	151	1,395	1,435	215	217	0.9
IA	209	210	1,475	1,495	308	314	1.9
KY	129	123	1,045	1,035	135	127	-5.9
MI	303	301	1,645	1,665	498	501	0.6
MN	510	485	1,415	1,405	722	681	-5.7
MO	146	137	1,055	1,120	154	153	-0.6
NM	265	303	1,790	1,810	474	548	15.6
NY	673	679	1,520	1,550	1,023	1,052	2.8
OH	258	264	1,420	1,430	366	378	3.3
PA	600	584	1,510	1,525	906	891	-1.7
TX	324	308	1,205	1,350	390	416	6.7
VT	152	154	1,505	1,480	229	228	-0.4
VA	118	120	1,300	1,275	153	153	
WA	247	248	1,960	1,965	484	487	0.6
WI	1,288	1,265	1,455	1,460	1,874	1,847	-1.4
20-State Total	7,746	7,783	1,552	1,581	12,025	12,306	2.3

¹ 2002 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**August Milk Cows, 1993-2002
20 States**



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 0.9 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 0.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.6 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
				<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i> 0.4	<i>Percent</i> 0.7	<i>Million Pounds</i> 308	<i>Million Pounds</i> 116	<i>Million Pounds</i> 3	<i>Million Pounds</i> 264	<i>Number</i> 8	<i>Number</i> 2
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i> 0.9	<i>Percent</i> 1.6	<i>1,000 Head</i> 146	<i>1,000 Head</i> 56	<i>1,000 Head</i> 1	<i>1,000 Head</i> 159	<i>Number</i> 7	<i>Number</i> 3

¹ 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 17, 2002.

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**USDA Data Users' Forum
October 21, 2002
Holiday Inn Mart Plaza
Chicago, Illinois**

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold a public forum for open exchange between Federal agricultural statistics agencies and data users on October 21, 2002. Agency representatives will provide updates on pending changes in the various statistical and information programs and will seek comments from data users. The USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board, as well as the U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division, will also participate in the forum.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Forum, see the NASS homepage at www.usda.gov/nass/ or contact Karlyn McCutcheon of NASS at (202) 690-8141 or at karlyn_mccutcheon@nass.usda.gov.

This Data Users' Forum precedes an Industry Outlook Meeting that will be held at the same location on October 22, 2002. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss the outlook situation. For more information about the outlook meeting and to register for it, contact Terry Francl of the American Farm Bureau Federation at (847) 685-8769 or at terry@fb.org.