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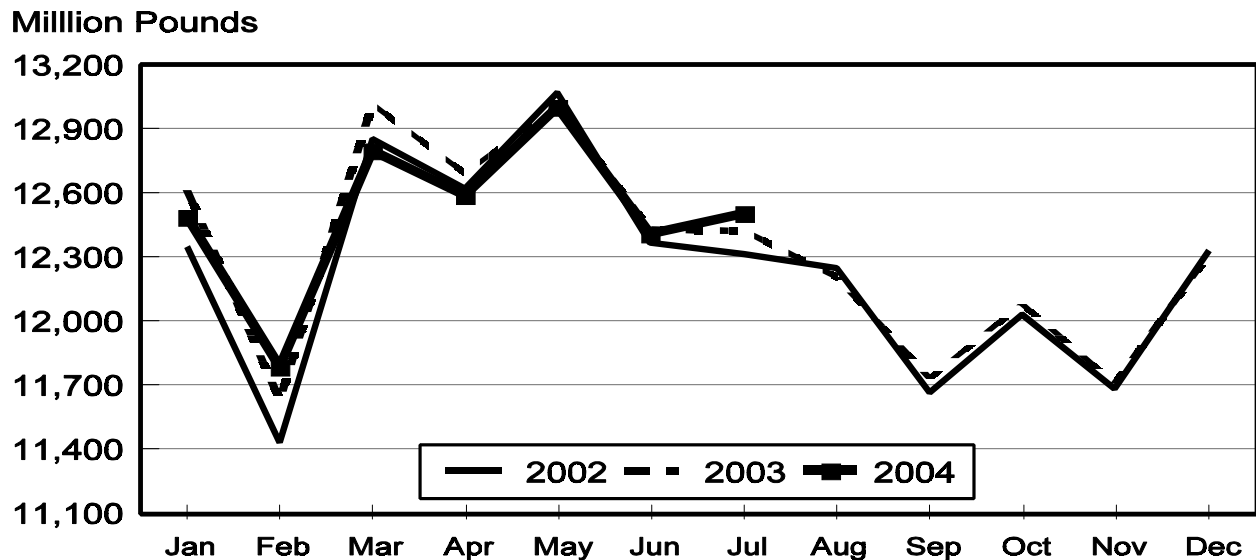
July Milk Production Up 0.7 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 12.5 billion pounds, up 0.7 percent from July 2003. June revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was down 0.1 percent from June 2003. The June revision represented an increase of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,613 pounds for July, 16 pounds above July 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 27,000 head less than July 2003, but 11,000 head more than June 2004.

Monthly Milk Production 20 States



Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 2003-2004¹

Quarter	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<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	9,144	8,990	4,710	4,750	43,069	42,701	-0.9
Apr-Jun	9,109	8,997	4,827	4,858	43,965	43,703	-0.6
Jul-Sep	9,073		4,601		41,746		
Oct-Dec	9,011		4,609		41,532		
Annual	9,084		18,749		170,312		

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, 2003-2004¹

	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<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	7,810	7,716	1,615	1,619	12,616	12,491	-1.0
Feb	7,811	7,716	1,489	1,528	11,628	11,787	1.4
Mar	7,810	7,717	1,666	1,658	13,014	12,798	-1.7
Apr	7,800	7,721	1,627	1,630	12,693	12,588	-0.8
May	7,787	7,722	1,671	1,684	13,013	13,007	
Jun	7,785	7,742	1,596	1,603	12,428	12,410	-0.1
Jul	7,780	7,753	1,597	1,613	12,421	12,505	0.7
Aug	7,771		1,571		12,207		
Sep	7,764		1,511		11,731		
Oct	7,743		1,561		12,083		
Nov	7,721		1,517		11,709		
Dec	7,713		1,596		12,313		
Annual	7,775		19,017		147,856		

¹ 2004 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, 2003- 2004¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<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	9,147	8,994	1,594	1,600	14,584	14,387	-1.4
Feb	9,145	8,989	1,470	1,510	13,441	13,575	1.0
Mar	9,141	8,987	1,646	1,640	15,044	14,739	-2.0
Apr	9,125	8,991	1,604	1,610	14,634	14,476	-1.1
May	9,104	8,989	1,648	1,664	15,003	14,957	-0.3
Jun	9,097	9,012	1,575	1,583	14,328	14,270	-0.4
Jul	9,087	9,027	1,570	1,587	14,263	14,323	0.4
Aug	9,072		1,545		14,015		
Sep	9,061		1,486		13,468		
Oct	9,034		1,538		13,898		
Nov	9,005		1,496		13,470		
Dec	8,994		1,575		14,164		
Annual	9,084		18,749		170,312		

¹ 2004 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, July 2003-2004

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<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	155	158	1,750	1,820	271	288	6.3
CA	1,690	1,728	1,755	1,780	2,966	3,076	3.7
FL	141	139	1,215	1,340	171	186	8.8
ID	408	422	1,880	1,840	767	776	1.2
IL	110	107	1,490	1,520	164	163	-0.6
IN	148	150	1,625	1,640	241	246	2.1
IA	201	192	1,580	1,570	318	301	-5.3
KY	115	111	1,005	1,055	116	117	0.9
MI	304	301	1,830	1,785	556	537	-3.4
MN	475	465	1,455	1,470	691	684	-1.0
MO	129	122	1,150	1,240	148	151	2.0
NM	316	330	1,795	1,770	567	584	3.0
NY	673	656	1,515	1,495	1,020	981	-3.8
OH	260	266	1,450	1,460	377	388	2.9
PA	574	559	1,500	1,510	861	844	-2.0
TX	320	320	1,395	1,540	446	493	10.5
VT	148	145	1,505	1,525	223	221	-0.9
VA	114	102	1,210	1,340	138	137	-0.7
WA	244	240	1,965	1,940	479	466	-2.7
WI	1,255	1,240	1,515	1,505	1,901	1,866	-1.8
20-State Total	7,780	7,753	1,597	1,613	12,421	12,505	0.7

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**July Milk Production, 1995-2004
20 States**

Million Pounds



Milk Cows and Production: By State, June 2003-2004 ¹

State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<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	155	155	1,900	1,950	295	302	2.4
CA	1,684	1,724	1,765	1,755	2,972	3,026	1.8
FL	142	139	1,290	1,395	183	194	6.0
ID	407	422	1,840	1,800	749	760	1.5
IL	110	108	1,525	1,540	168	166	-1.2
IN	148	149	1,610	1,610	238	240	0.8
IA	202	193	1,575	1,550	318	299	-6.0
KY	118	112	1,015	1,055	120	118	-1.7
MI	302	301	1,750	1,740	529	524	-0.9
MN	475	460	1,465	1,480	696	681	-2.2
MO	130	124	1,220	1,250	159	155	-2.5
NM	315	328	1,795	1,790	565	587	3.9
NY	675	656	1,500	1,490	1,013	977	-3.6
OH	261	265	1,450	1,450	378	384	1.6
PA	578	557	1,480	1,495	855	833	-2.6
TX	320	320	1,470	1,570	470	502	6.8
VT	148	144	1,500	1,510	222	217	-2.3
VA	115	102	1,235	1,345	142	137	-3.5
WA	244	240	1,910	1,900	466	456	-2.1
WI	1,256	1,243	1,505	1,490	1,890	1,852	-2.0
20-State Total	7,785	7,742	1,596	1,603	12,428	12,410	-0.1

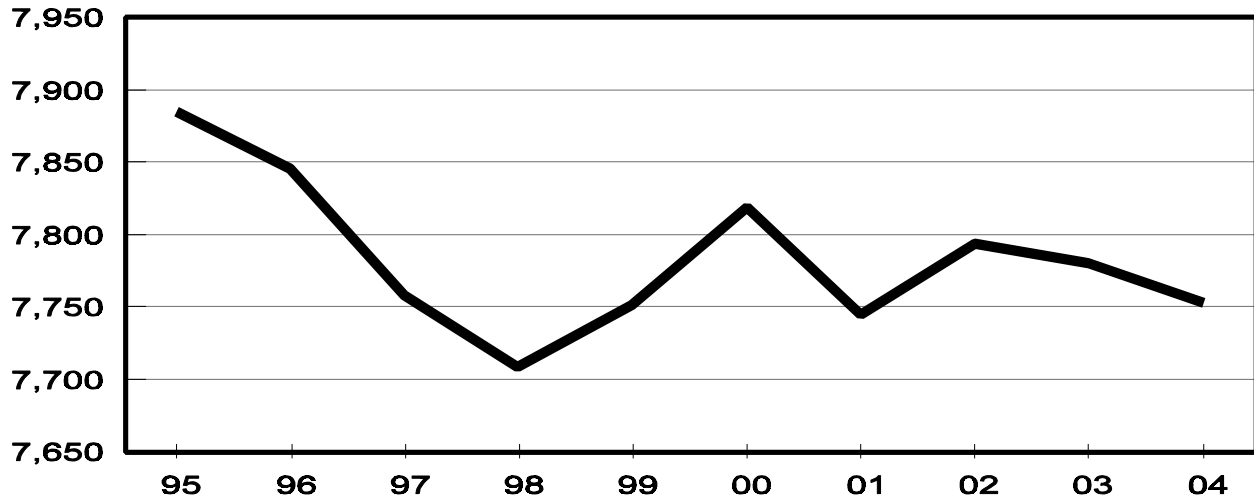
¹ 2004 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**July Milk Cows, 1995-2004
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. Where feasible, States utilize state and federal administrative data, rather than conduct a monthly or quarterly survey, to estimate milk production. This eliminates duplication of data gathering by different government agencies. Indications of milk cow inventory are also obtained in the January and July Cattle Surveys.

Estimation Procedures: State offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of 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 0.5 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 9.00 million head by more than 0.5 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 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> 0.3	<i>Percent</i> 0.6	<i>Million Pounds</i> 262	<i>Million Pounds</i> 96	<i>Million Pounds</i> 3	<i>Million Pounds</i> 264	<i>Number</i> 6	<i>Number</i> 4
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i> 0.5	<i>Percent</i> 1.0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 90	<i>1,000 Head</i> 28	<i>1,000 Head</i> 0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 145	<i>Number</i> 6	<i>Number</i> 3

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

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