

Milk Production

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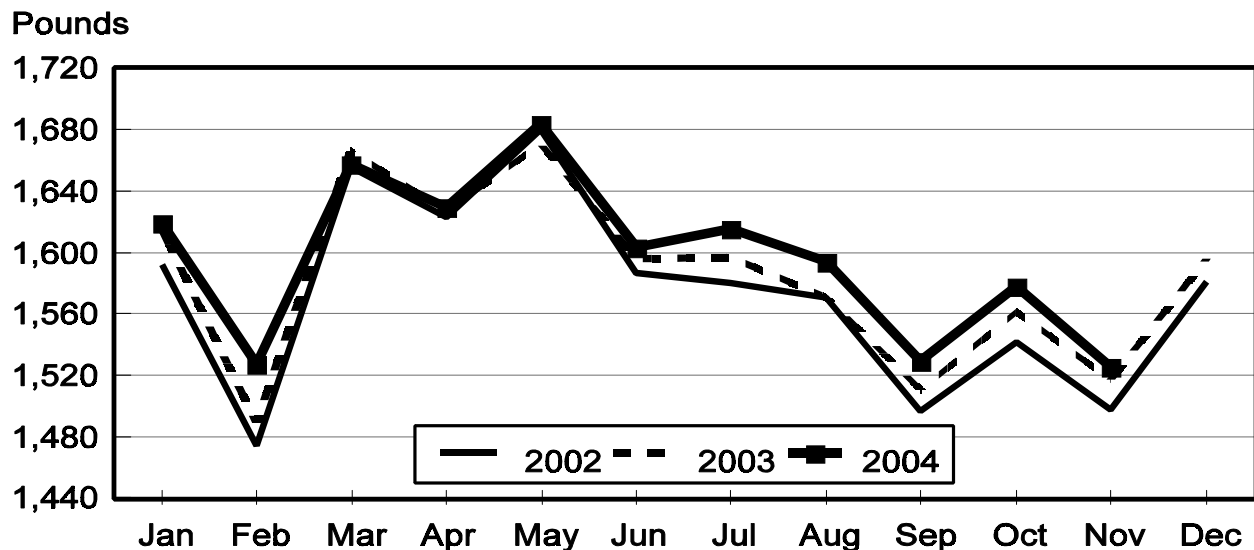
November Milk Production Up 1.2 Percent

Milk production in the 20 major States during November totaled 11.8 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from November 2003. October revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from October 2003. The October revision represented an increase of 0.1 percent or 9 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,526 pounds for November, 9 pounds above November 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 44,000 head more than November 2003, but unchanged from October 2004.

Monthly Milk per Cow 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	8,998	4,827	4,858	43,965	43,712	-0.6
Jul-Sep	9,073	9,033	4,601	4,671	41,746	42,193	1.1
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	7,759	1,597	1,616	12,421	12,541	1.0
Aug	7,771	7,766	1,571	1,594	12,207	12,376	1.4
Sep	7,764	7,769	1,511	1,529	11,731	11,878	1.3
Oct	7,743	7,765	1,561	1,578	12,083	12,254	1.4
Nov	7,721	7,765	1,517	1,526	11,709	11,846	1.2
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	8,989	1,604	1,611	14,634	14,479	-1.1
May	9,104	8,990	1,648	1,664	15,003	14,961	-0.3
Jun	9,097	9,014	1,575	1,583	14,328	14,272	-0.4
Jul	9,087	9,026	1,570	1,593	14,263	14,381	0.8
Aug	9,072	9,034	1,545	1,571	14,015	14,192	1.3
Sep	9,061	9,038	1,486	1,507	13,468	13,620	1.1
Oct	9,034	9,032	1,538	1,559	13,898	14,078	1.3
Nov	9,005	9,030	1,496	1,507	13,470	13,611	1.0
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, November 2003-2004

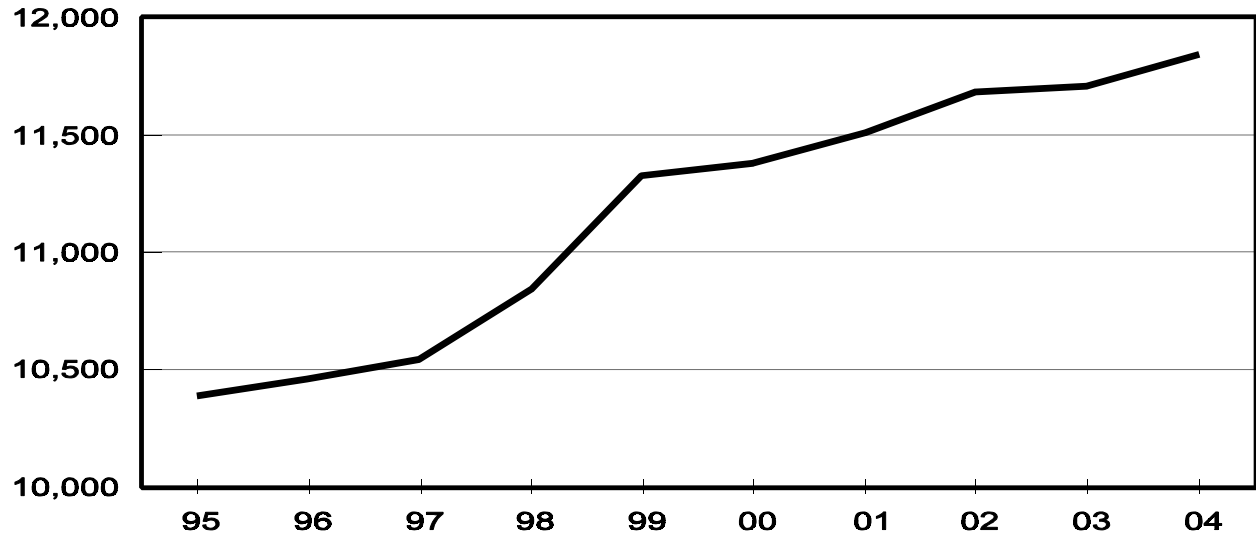
State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change From 2003
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	155	168	1,775	1,760	275	296	7.6
CA	1,694	1,741	1,665	1,700	2,821	2,960	4.9
FL	140	137	1,180	1,250	165	171	3.6
ID	412	436	1,740	1,720	717	750	4.6
IL	109	106	1,485	1,450	162	154	-4.9
IN	151	154	1,620	1,560	245	240	-2.0
IA	197	190	1,515	1,520	298	289	-3.0
KY	112	109	1,025	1,030	115	112	-2.6
MI	300	306	1,675	1,650	503	505	0.4
MN	465	460	1,390	1,390	646	639	-1.1
MO	125	120	1,190	1,215	149	146	-2.0
NM	320	324	1,670	1,605	534	520	-2.6
NY	660	646	1,410	1,410	931	911	-2.1
OH	258	266	1,370	1,390	353	370	4.8
PA	560	563	1,420	1,420	795	799	0.5
TX	317	320	1,440	1,455	456	466	2.2
VT	146	145	1,415	1,410	207	204	-1.4
VA	108	103	1,260	1,340	136	138	1.5
WA	243	234	1,810	1,820	440	426	-3.2
WI	1,249	1,237	1,410	1,415	1,761	1,750	-0.6
20-State Total	7,721	7,765	1,517	1,526	11,709	11,846	1.2

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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

Million Pounds



Milk Cows and Production: By State, October 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	167	1,735	1,770	269	296	10.0
CA	1,698	1,740	1,720	1,770	2,921	3,080	5.4
FL	140	137	1,105	1,160	155	159	2.6
ID	412	434	1,820	1,800	750	781	4.1
IL	109	106	1,495	1,480	163	157	-3.7
IN	155	152	1,650	1,605	256	244	-4.7
IA	198	190	1,540	1,540	305	293	-3.9
KY	111	109	1,035	1,035	115	113	-1.7
MI	303	305	1,790	1,730	542	528	-2.6
MN	465	460	1,410	1,425	656	656	
MO	126	120	1,200	1,230	151	148	-2.0
NM	318	325	1,745	1,690	555	549	-1.1
NY	665	650	1,455	1,470	968	956	-1.2
OH	259	266	1,420	1,420	368	378	2.7
PA	562	563	1,455	1,465	818	825	0.9
TX	317	320	1,420	1,470	450	470	4.4
VT	147	145	1,450	1,455	213	211	-0.9
VA	109	104	1,245	1,355	136	141	3.7
WA	244	234	1,890	1,895	461	443	-3.9
WI	1,250	1,238	1,465	1,475	1,831	1,826	-0.3
20-State Total	7,743	7,765	1,561	1,578	12,083	12,254	1.4

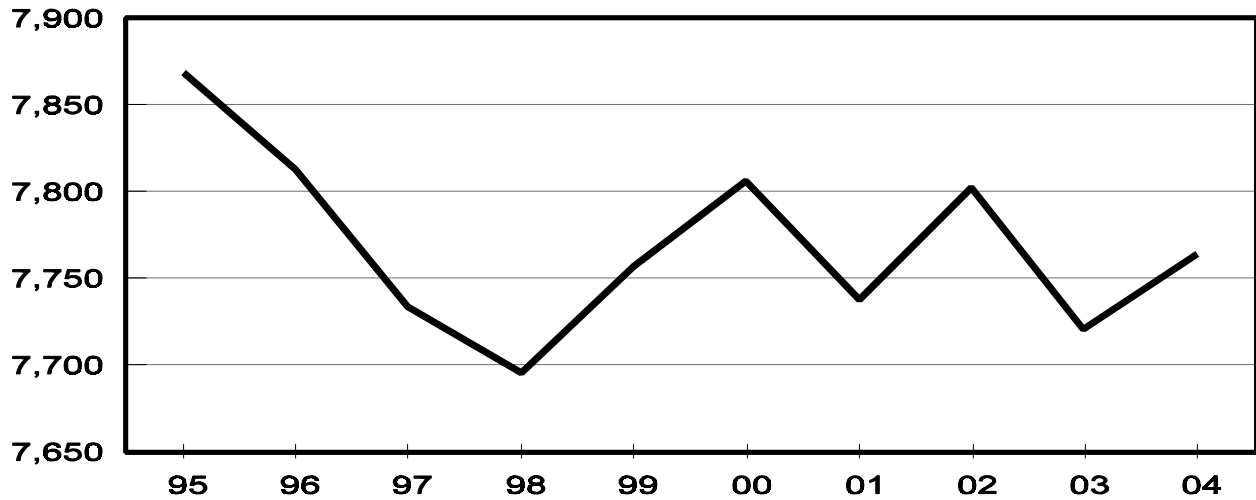
¹ 2004 revised.

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³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**November 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 July-September quarters is 0.6 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 9.03 million head by more than 0.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.1 percent.

Reliability of July-September 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>	<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>
	0.6	1.1	464	209	68	362	9	1
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>
	0.6	1.1	99	36	2	148	7	3

¹ Based on records for the past 10 July-September quarters.

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