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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

# Milk Production

Released November 17, 2006, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Milk Production* call Jason Hardegree at 202-720-3278, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

## October Milk Production Up 2.1 Percent

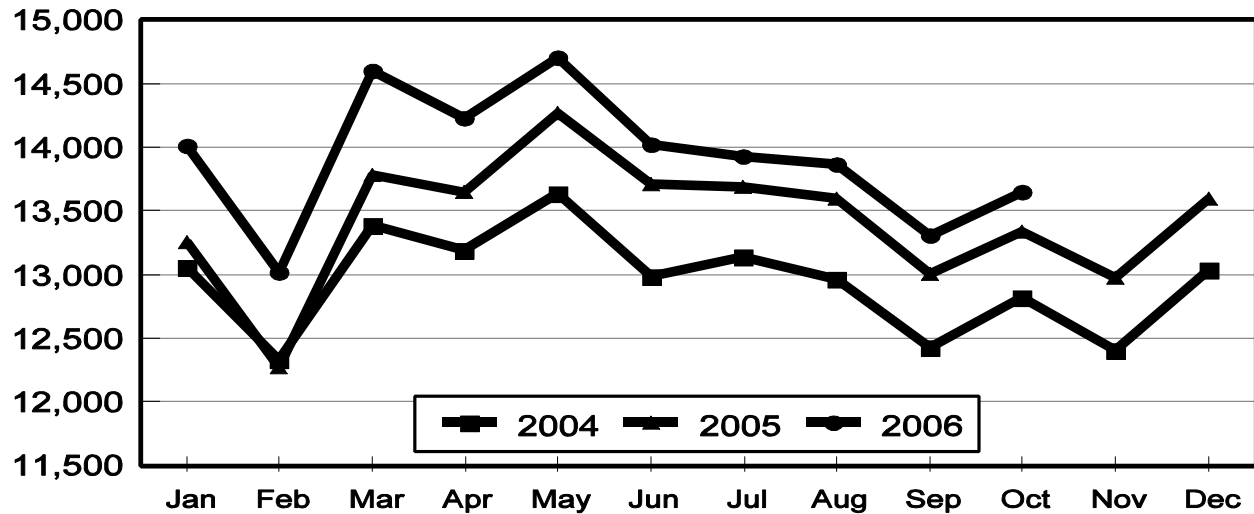
**Milk production** in the 23 major States during October totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 2.1 percent from October 2005. September revised production, at 13.3 billion pounds, was up 2.0 percent from September 2005. The September revision represented a decrease of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,656 pounds for October, 19 pounds above October 2005.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.25 million head, 78,000 head more than October 2005, and 2,000 head more than September 2006.

## Monthly Milk Production 23 States

Million Pounds



**Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 2005-2006 <sup>1</sup>**

Quarter	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	Change From 2005
	<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	9,002	9,094	4,816	5,009	43,350	45,553	5.1
Apr-Jun	9,041	9,133	5,069	5,136	45,831	46,908	2.3
Jul-Sep	9,060	9,117	4,871	4,906	44,134	44,731	1.4
Oct-Dec	9,060		4,821		43,674		
Annual	9,041		19,576		176,989		

<sup>1</sup> May not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 23 Selected States, 2005-2006 <sup>1</sup>**

Month	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	Change from 2005
	<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	8,087	8,195	1,643	1,710	13,287	14,014	5.5
Feb	8,084	8,206	1,522	1,587	12,301	13,022	5.9
Mar	8,099	8,228	1,707	1,775	13,825	14,604	5.6
Apr	8,117	8,240	1,690	1,727	13,717	14,228	3.7
May	8,131	8,257	1,760	1,780	14,311	14,700	2.7
Jun	8,138	8,269	1,690	1,695	13,755	14,017	1.9
Jul	8,151	8,259	1,683	1,686	13,715	13,925	1.5
Aug	8,162	8,252	1,671	1,680	13,640	13,861	1.6
Sep	8,167	8,244	1,599	1,615	13,057	13,312	2.0
Oct	8,168	8,246	1,637	1,656	13,373	13,652	2.1
Nov	8,167		1,592		13,002		
Dec	8,179		1,663		13,599		
Annual	8,138		19,857		161,582		

<sup>1</sup> 2006 revised.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**Estimated Milk Cows and Production: By Month, United States, 2005-2006 <sup>1</sup>**

Month	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	Change From 2005
	<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	9,000	9,079	1,624	1,689	14,614	15,333	4.9
Feb	8,996	9,091	1,504	1,567	13,530	14,248	5.3
Mar	9,009	9,113	1,688	1,753	15,206	15,972	5.0
Apr	9,030	9,120	1,666	1,704	15,047	15,541	3.3
May	9,042	9,135	1,735	1,758	15,697	16,056	2.3
Jun	9,050	9,145	1,668	1,674	15,087	15,311	1.5
Jul	9,053	9,129	1,656	1,661	14,978	15,159	1.2
Aug	9,060	9,116	1,643	1,655	14,896	15,085	1.3
Sep	9,066	9,105	1,572	1,591	14,260	14,487	1.6
Oct	9,060	9,107	1,613	1,631	14,611	14,856	1.7
Nov	9,056		1,569		14,209		
Dec	9,063		1,639		14,854		
Annual	9,041		19,576		176,989		

<sup>1</sup> 2005 revised.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

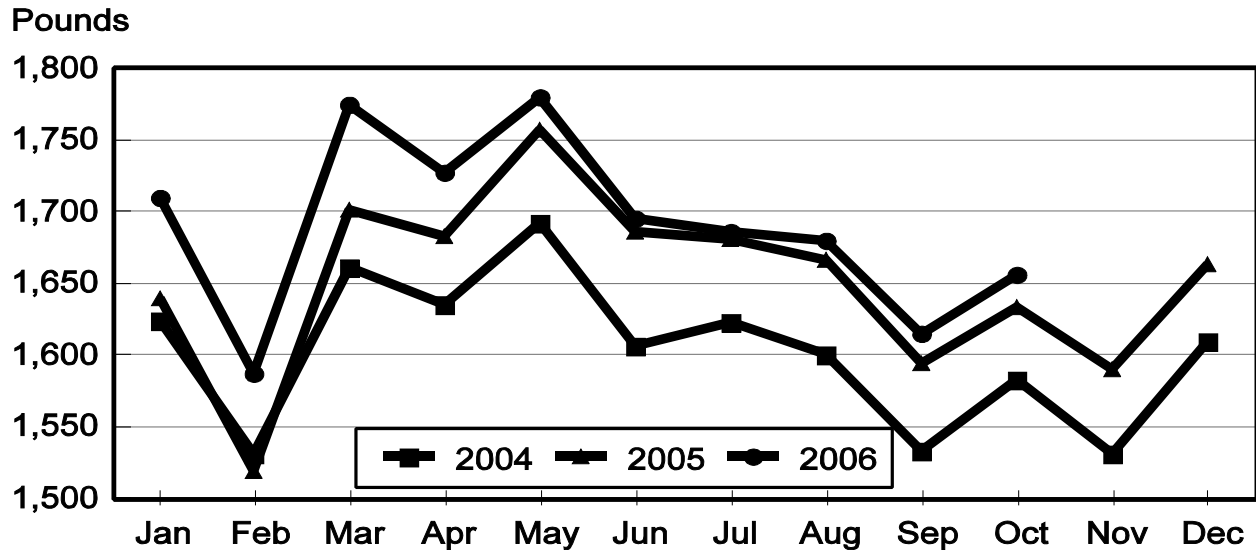
**Milk Cows and Production: By State, October 2005-2006**

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change From 2005
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	
	<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	161	166	1,840	1,815	296	301	1.7
CA	1,765	1,776	1,785	1,815	3,151	3,223	2.3
CO	106	112	1,870	1,920	198	215	8.6
FL	135	129	1,135	1,145	153	148	-3.3
ID	470	497	1,870	1,880	879	934	6.3
IL	104	103	1,510	1,550	157	160	1.9
IN	155	165	1,685	1,640	261	271	3.8
IA	198	200	1,690	1,670	335	334	-0.3
KS	112	112	1,680	1,680	188	188	
KY	103	95	1,040	1,090	107	104	-2.8
MI	313	321	1,790	1,850	560	594	6.1
MN	450	450	1,475	1,510	664	680	2.4
MO	114	115	1,280	1,240	146	143	-2.1
NM	335	360	1,760	1,675	590	603	2.2
NY	650	638	1,550	1,575	1,008	1,005	-0.3
OH	270	274	1,430	1,470	386	403	4.4
OR	121	117	1,560	1,580	189	185	-2.1
PA	558	552	1,550	1,600	865	883	2.1
TX	320	338	1,605	1,660	514	561	9.1
VT	142	140	1,505	1,485	214	208	-2.8
VA	105	103	1,370	1,350	144	139	-3.5
WA	243	237	1,925	1,930	468	457	-2.4
WI	1,238	1,246	1,535	1,535	1,900	1,913	0.7
23-State Total	8,168	8,246	1,637	1,656	13,373	13,652	2.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Monthly Milk per Cow 23 States



**Milk Cows and Production: By State, September 2005-2006 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Milk Cows <sup>2</sup>		Milk per Cow <sup>3</sup>		Milk Production <sup>3</sup>		
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	Change From 2005
	<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	161	165	1,725	1,710	278	282	1.4
CA	1,762	1,772	1,750	1,775	3,084	3,145	2.0
CO	106	112	1,875	1,910	199	214	7.5
FL	134	129	1,105	1,110	148	143	-3.4
ID	469	497	1,850	1,860	868	924	6.5
IL	104	103	1,450	1,485	151	153	1.3
IN	156	165	1,615	1,595	252	263	4.4
IA	197	200	1,665	1,590	328	318	-3.0
KS	112	113	1,610	1,630	180	184	2.2
KY	105	96	980	1,010	103	97	-5.8
MI	313	319	1,750	1,795	548	573	4.6
MN	450	450	1,435	1,470	646	662	2.5
MO	115	115	1,210	1,180	139	136	-2.2
NM	333	360	1,710	1,650	569	594	4.4
NY	649	640	1,515	1,530	983	979	-0.4
OH	270	274	1,420	1,450	383	397	3.7
OR	121	118	1,570	1,570	190	185	-2.6
PA	561	553	1,500	1,560	842	863	2.5
TX	320	338	1,515	1,585	485	536	10.5
VT	142	140	1,480	1,460	210	204	-2.9
VA	105	103	1,325	1,300	139	134	-3.6
WA	245	237	1,895	1,880	464	446	-3.9
WI	1,237	1,245	1,510	1,510	1,868	1,880	0.6
23-State Total	8,167	8,244	1,599	1,615	13,057	13,312	2.0

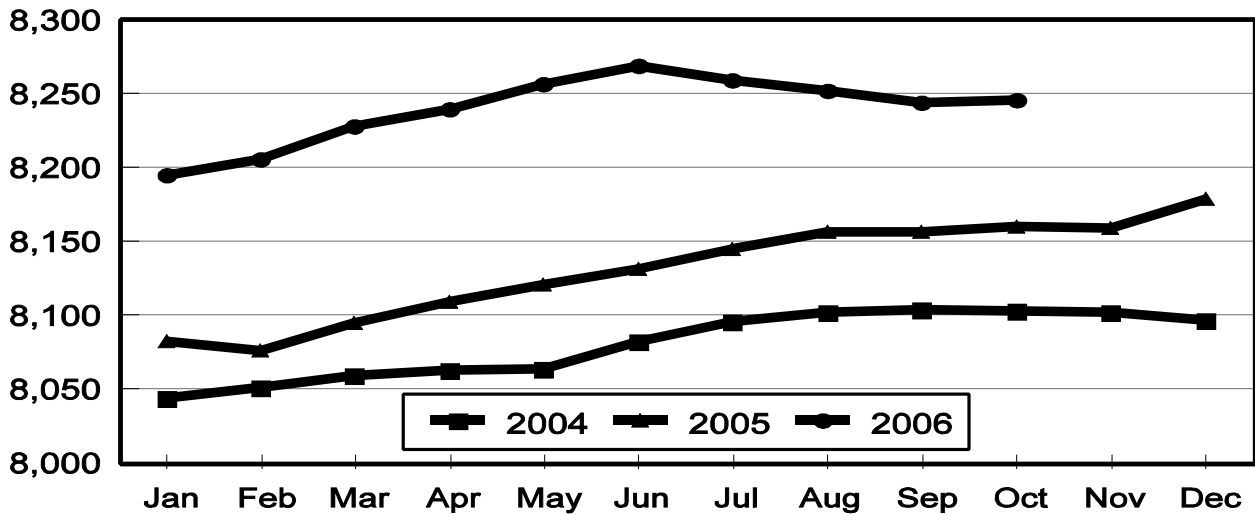
<sup>1</sup> 2005 and 2006 revised.

<sup>2</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Monthly Milk Cows 23 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 0.3 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 9.12 million head by more than 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.5 percent.

**Reliability of July-September Milk Estimates <sup>1</sup>**

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Quarters	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
				Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Number	Number
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i> 0.5	<i>Percent</i> 0.9	<i>Million Pounds</i> 403	<i>Million Pounds</i> 180	<i>Million Pounds</i> 62	<i>Million Pounds</i> 362	<i>Number</i> 7	<i>Number</i> 3
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i> 0.3	<i>Percent</i> 0.5	<i>1,000 Head</i> 46	<i>1,000 Head</i> 17	<i>1,000 Head</i> 2	<i>1,000 Head</i> 61	<i>Number</i> 6	<i>Number</i> 4

<sup>1</sup> Based on records for the past 10 July-September quarters.

**Information Contacts**

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

- Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch ..... (202) 720-3570
- William Weaver, Head, Livestock Section ..... (202) 720-3570
  - Bruce Boess - Hogs and Pigs ..... (202) 720-3106
  - Shawn Clark - Dairy Products ..... (202) 690-3236
  - Jason Hardegree - Milk Production and Milk Cows ..... (202) 720-3278
  - Scott Hollis - Sheep & Lambs, Goats ..... (202) 720-4751
  - Mike Miller - Cattle, Cattle on Feed ..... (202) 720-3040
  - Katy Paulsen - Livestock Slaughter ..... (515) 284-4340
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