

Milk Production

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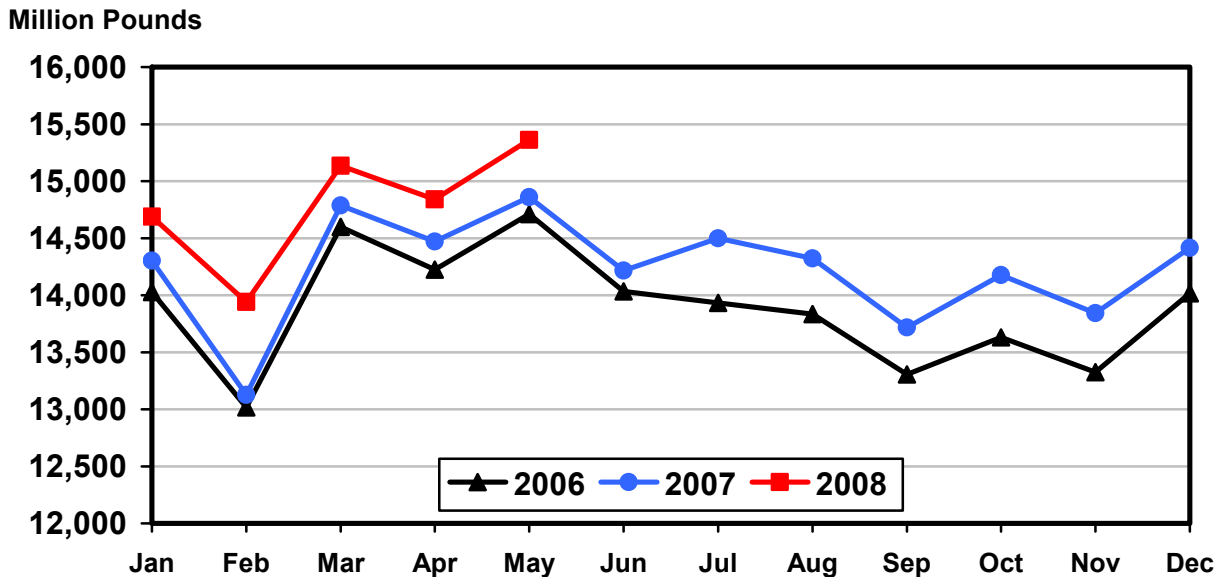
May Milk Production up 3.4 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 15.4 billion pounds, up 3.4 percent from May 2007. April revised production at 14.8 billion pounds, was up 2.6 percent from April 2007. The April revision represented an increase of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,816 pounds for May, 25 pounds above May 2007.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.46 million head, 162,000 head more than May 2007, and 12,000 head more than April 2008.

Monthly Milk Production 23 States



Milk Cows and Production: By Quarter, United States, 2007-2008 ¹

Quarter	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	Change From 2007
	<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	9,138	9,250	5,040	5,140	46,058	47,542	3.2
Apr-Jun	9,138		5,189		47,419		
Jul-Sep	9,159		5,034		46,110		
Oct-Dec	9,198		5,003		46,015		
Annual	9,158		20,267		185,602		

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, 23 Selected States, 2007-2008 ¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	Change from 2007
	<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	8,284	8,413	1,726	1,746	14,302	14,688	2.7
Feb	8,286	8,427	1,584	1,654	13,125	13,942	6.2
Mar	8,295	8,436	1,783	1,794	14,787	15,134	2.3
Apr	8,292	8,448	1,745	1,757	14,470	14,839	2.6
May	8,298	8,460	1,791	1,816	14,860	15,361	3.4
Jun	8,302		1,712		14,216		
Jul	8,322		1,742		14,500		
Aug	8,330		1,719		14,323		
Sep	8,341		1,645		13,718		
Oct	8,355		1,697		14,176		
Nov	8,369		1,654		13,843		
Dec	8,389		1,718		14,414		
Annual	8,322		20,516		170,734		

¹ 2008 previous month 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, 2007-2008 ¹

Month	Milk Cows ²		Milk Per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	Change From 2007
	<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	9,135	9,240	1,708	1,726	15,605	15,945	2.2
Feb	9,136	9,252	1,567	1,637	14,321	15,145	5.8
Mar	9,142	9,259	1,765	1,777	16,132	16,452	2.0
Apr	9,132	9,270	1,726	1,738	15,763	16,113	2.2
May	9,138	9,281	1,771	1,796	16,180	16,667	3.0
Jun	9,144		1,692		15,476		
Jul	9,153		1,717		15,714		
Aug	9,159		1,695		15,525		
Sep	9,166		1,622		14,871		
Oct	9,181		1,674		15,370		
Nov	9,196		1,633		15,013		
Dec	9,217		1,696		15,632		
Annual	9,158		20,267		185,602		

¹ 2008 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

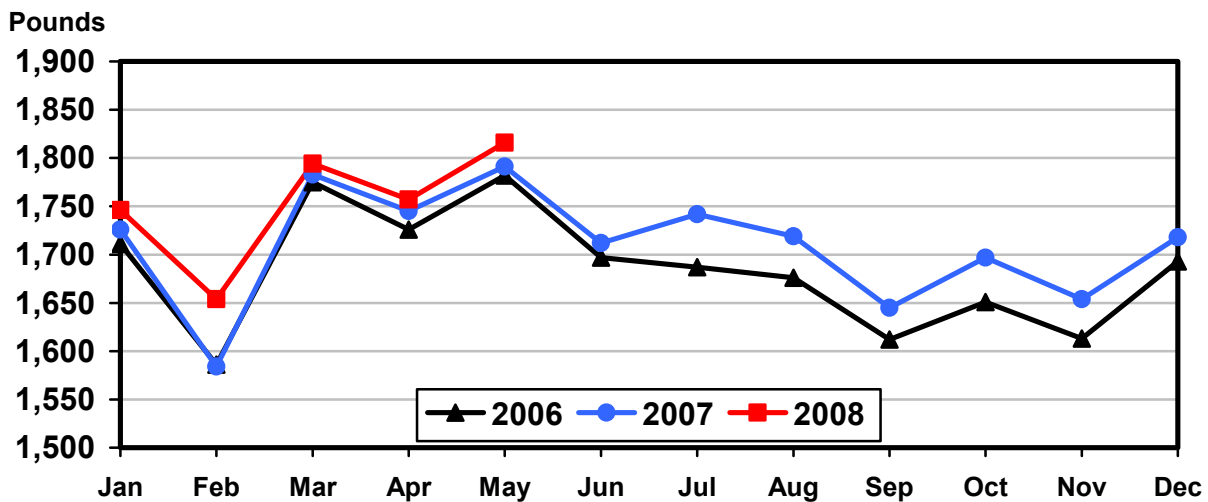
Milk Cows and Production: By State, May 2007-2008

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	Change From 2007
	<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	182	186	2,105	2,165	383	403	5.2
CA	1,806	1,848	1,925	1,935	3,477	3,576	2.8
CO	116	127	1,990	1,990	231	253	9.5
FL	128	123	1,615	1,565	207	192	-7.2
ID	506	550	1,930	1,940	977	1,067	9.2
IL	103	102	1,670	1,665	172	170	-1.2
IN	167	168	1,740	1,730	291	291	
IA	212	216	1,775	1,720	376	372	-1.1
KS	109	110	1,710	1,875	186	206	10.8
KY	91	92	1,250	1,210	114	111	-2.6
MI	332	347	1,935	1,900	642	659	2.6
MN	458	463	1,660	1,635	760	757	-0.4
MO	114	111	1,380	1,365	157	152	-3.2
NM	341	343	1,870	2,040	638	700	9.7
NY	626	626	1,690	1,770	1,058	1,108	4.7
OH	276	282	1,640	1,650	453	465	2.6
OR	115	113	1,710	1,620	197	183	-7.1
PA	549	548	1,720	1,720	944	943	-0.1
TX	347	372	1,870	1,995	649	742	14.3
VT	140	140	1,555	1,600	218	224	2.8
VA	100	98	1,570	1,570	157	154	-1.9
WA	233	244	2,025	2,025	472	494	4.7
WI	1,247	1,251	1,685	1,710	2,101	2,139	1.8
23-State Total	8,298	8,460	1,791	1,816	14,860	15,361	3.4

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk per Cow 23 States



Milk Cows and Production: By State, April 2007-2008 ¹

State	Milk Cows ²		Milk per Cow ³		Milk Production ³		Change From 2007
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	<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	182	186	2,090	2,140	380	398	4.7
CA	1,801	1,847	1,915	1,900	3,449	3,509	1.7
CO	115	127	1,900	1,910	219	243	11.0
FL	129	123	1,580	1,540	204	189	-7.4
ID	503	543	1,860	1,850	936	1,005	7.4
IL	103	102	1,645	1,615	169	165	-2.4
IN	168	168	1,725	1,690	290	284	-2.1
IA	211	216	1,710	1,670	361	361	
KS	110	110	1,680	1,820	185	200	8.1
KY	92	92	1,270	1,215	117	112	-4.3
MI	331	345	1,915	1,825	634	630	-0.6
MN	455	463	1,610	1,580	733	732	-0.1
MO	114	111	1,395	1,325	159	147	-7.5
NM	345	342	1,740	1,990	600	681	13.5
NY	627	626	1,605	1,670	1,006	1,045	3.9
OH	275	282	1,550	1,575	426	444	4.2
OR	115	113	1,670	1,550	192	175	-8.9
PA	550	549	1,690	1,670	930	917	-1.4
TX	347	370	1,860	1,965	645	727	12.7
VT	140	140	1,495	1,560	209	218	4.3
VA	100	98	1,550	1,570	155	154	-0.6
WA	233	244	1,970	1,950	459	476	3.7
WI	1,246	1,251	1,615	1,620	2,012	2,027	0.7
23-State Total	8,292	8,448	1,745	1,757	14,470	14,839	2.6

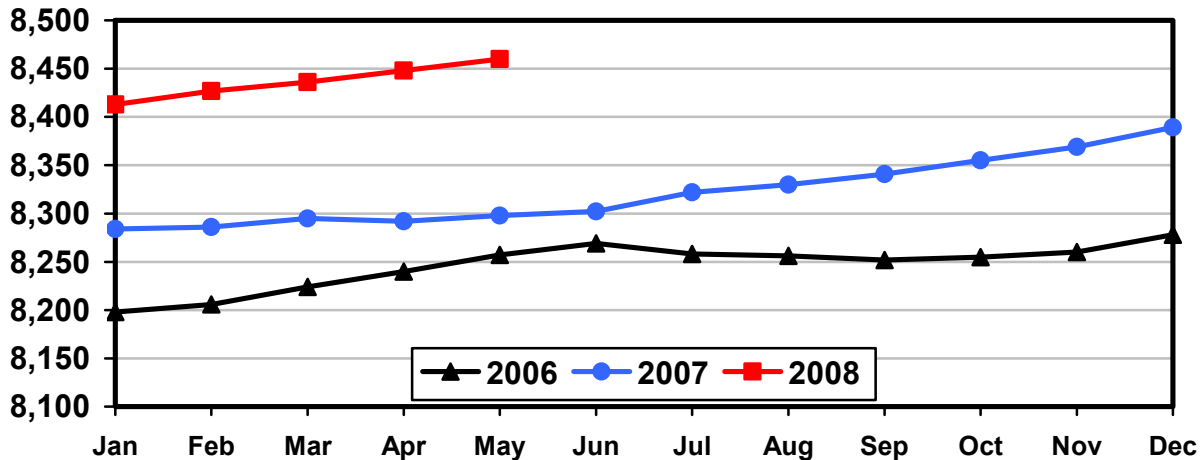
¹ 2008 revised.

² Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

³ 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 the 23 State milk cow inventory estimates over the past 24 months is 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final May estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 8.46 million head by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.2 percent.

Reliability of Monthly Milk Production Estimates ¹

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90% Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Months	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
				Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Number	Number
Milk Production	<i>Percent</i> 0.2	<i>Percent</i> 0.3	<i>Million Pounds</i> 47	19	0	74	9	14
All Milk Cows	<i>Percent</i> 0.1	<i>Percent</i> 0.2	<i>1,000 Head</i> 15	<i>1,000 Head</i> 7	<i>1,000 Head</i> 0	<i>1,000 Head</i> 15	<i>Number</i> 1	<i>Number</i> 20

¹ Based on the 23 State total for the past 24 months.

Information Contacts

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

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