



Milk Production

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May Milk Production up 1.5 Percent

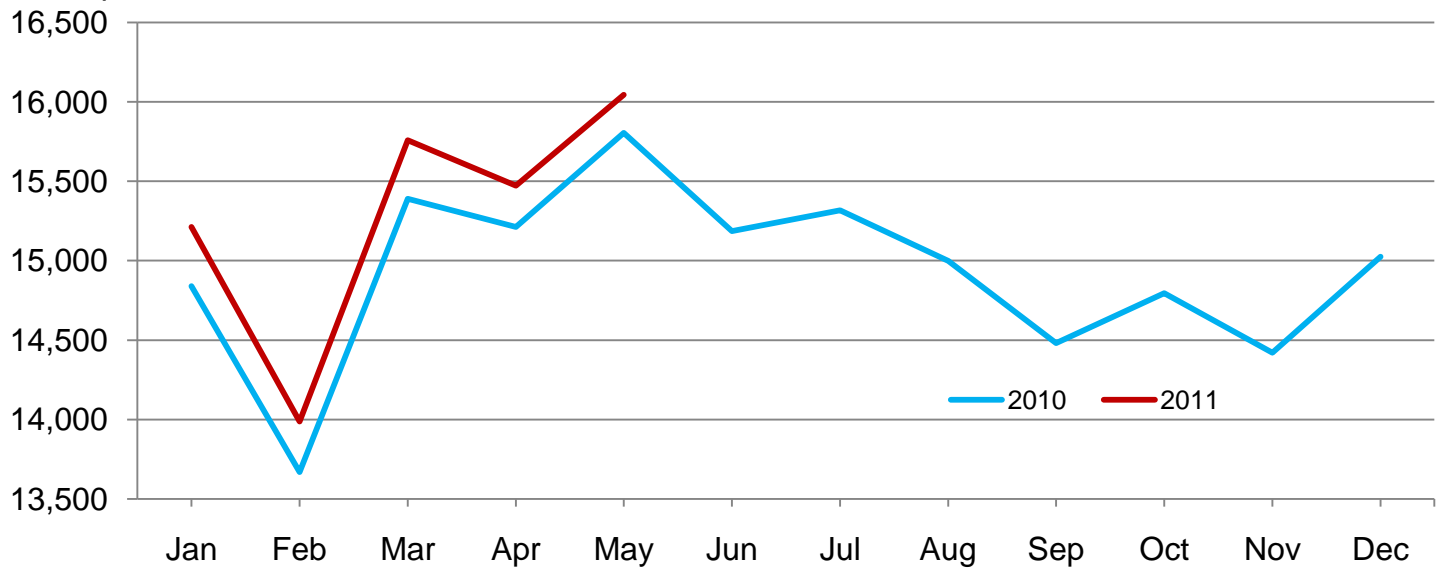
Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 16.0 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from May 2010. April revised production at 15.5 billion pounds, was up 1.7 percent from April 2010. The April revision represented an increase of 3 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,899 pounds for May, 6 pounds above May 2010.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.45 million head, 103,000 head more than May 2010, and 15,000 head more than April 2011.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2010-2011

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,093	9,164	5,212	5,284	47,392	48,426	2.2
April-June	9,119		5,462		49,809		
July-September	9,126		5,267		48,070		
October-December	9,130		5,208		47,548		
Annual	9,117		21,149		192,819		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 23 Selected States: 2010-2011

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,319	8,404	1,784	1,810	14,839	15,213	2.5
February	8,323	8,405	1,642	1,664	13,670	13,987	2.3
March	8,329	8,426	1,848	1,870	15,389	15,757	2.4
April	8,337	8,435	1,825	1,834	15,213	15,471	1.7
May	8,347	8,450	1,893	1,899	15,804	16,043	1.5
June	8,356		1,817		15,186		
July	8,375		1,829		15,316		
August	8,369		1,792		14,998		
September	8,371		1,730		14,481		
October	8,372		1,767		14,796		
November	8,373		1,722		14,421		
December	8,387		1,791		15,025		
Annual	8,355		21,440		179,138		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2010-2011

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	Change from 2010
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,089	9,157	1,763	1,790	16,020	16,387	2.3
February	9,092	9,158	1,623	1,645	14,758	15,066	2.1
March	9,099	9,178	1,826	1,849	16,614	16,973	2.2
April	9,108	9,187	1,802	1,814	16,416	16,665	1.5
May	9,119	9,200	1,869	1,877	17,040	17,270	1.3
June	9,129		1,791		16,353		
July	9,135		1,799		16,436		
August	9,123		1,764		16,094		
September	9,121		1,704		15,540		
October	9,123		1,743		15,900		
November	9,125		1,698		15,498		
December	9,141		1,767		16,150		
Annual	9,117		21,149		192,819		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: May 2010 and 2011

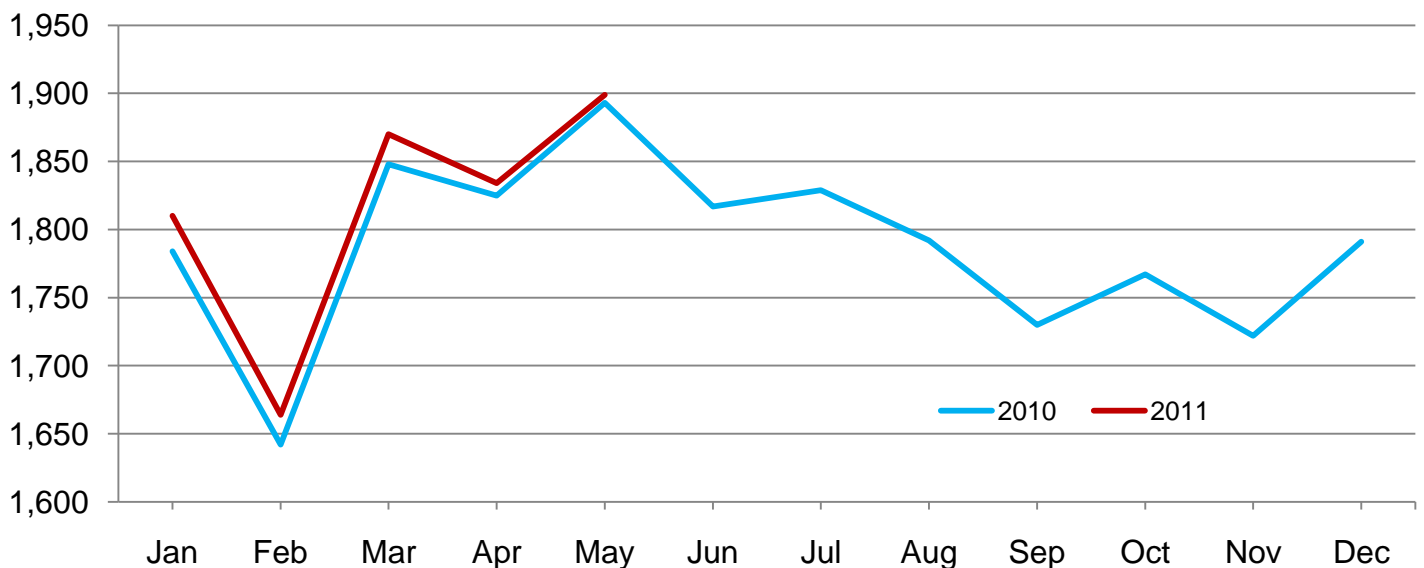
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2010
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	173	186	2,160	2,140	374	398	6.4
California	1,755	1,772	2,020	2,075	3,545	3,677	3.7
Colorado	117	126	2,050	2,030	240	256	6.7
Florida	115	118	1,700	1,720	196	203	3.6
Idaho	559	577	1,940	1,980	1,084	1,142	5.4
Illinois	101	98	1,720	1,700	174	167	-4.0
Indiana	169	170	1,815	1,805	307	307	
Iowa	212	208	1,820	1,860	386	387	0.3
Kansas	116	121	1,860	1,870	216	226	4.6
Michigan	359	364	2,065	2,040	741	743	0.3
Minnesota	470	471	1,725	1,675	811	789	-2.7
Missouri	101	96	1,340	1,360	135	131	-3.0
New Mexico	324	327	2,160	2,180	700	713	1.9
New York	610	610	1,850	1,825	1,129	1,113	-1.4
Ohio	271	268	1,765	1,680	478	450	-5.9
Oregon	116	120	1,780	1,790	206	215	4.4
Pennsylvania	541	543	1,750	1,730	947	939	-0.8
Texas	410	430	1,880	1,950	771	839	8.8
Utah	85	87	1,850	1,810	157	157	
Vermont	137	135	1,625	1,655	223	223	
Virginia	95	96	1,640	1,605	156	154	-1.3
Washington	250	261	2,030	2,050	508	535	5.3
Wisconsin	1,261	1,266	1,840	1,800	2,320	2,279	-1.8
23-State Total	8,347	8,450	1,893	1,899	15,804	16,043	1.5

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk per Cow – 23 Selected States

Pounds



Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: April 2010 and 2011

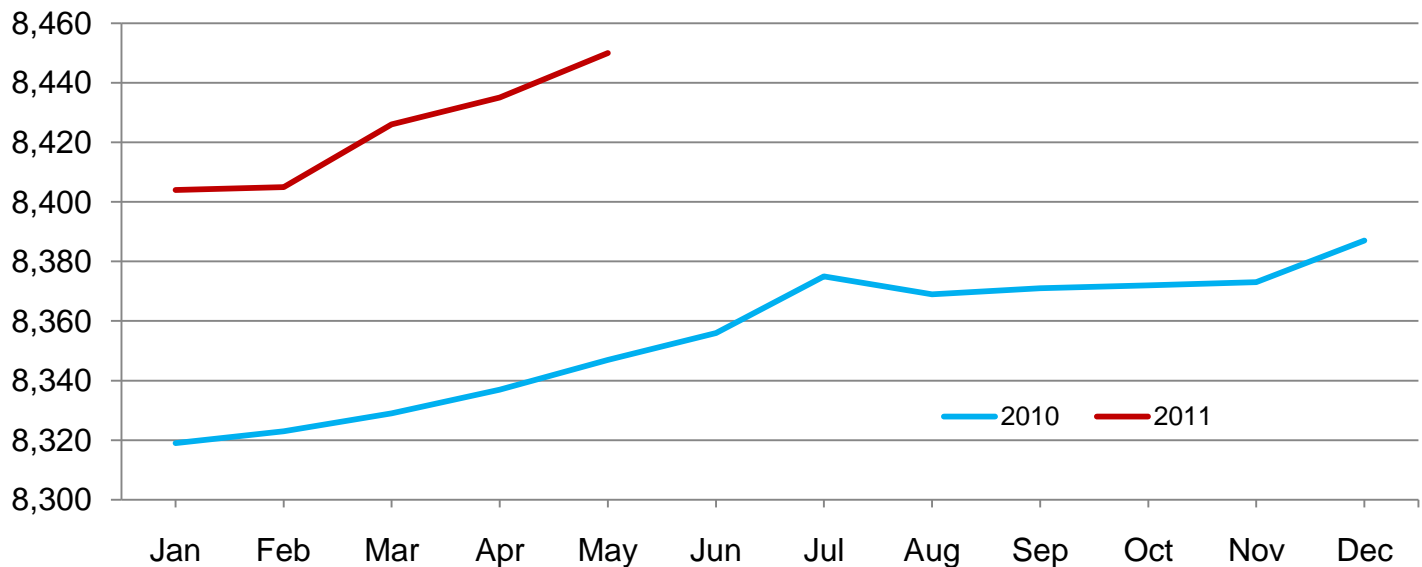
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2010
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	171	187	2,145	2,125	367	397	8.2
California	1,755	1,769	1,955	1,990	3,431	3,520	2.6
Colorado	117	126	1,975	1,985	231	250	8.2
Florida	114	118	1,770	1,750	202	207	2.5
Idaho	557	576	1,850	1,870	1,030	1,077	4.6
Illinois	101	98	1,670	1,680	169	165	-2.4
Indiana	169	171	1,745	1,740	295	298	1.0
Iowa	212	209	1,750	1,780	371	372	0.3
Kansas	116	121	1,805	1,820	209	220	5.3
Michigan	357	362	1,970	1,955	703	708	0.7
Minnesota	470	471	1,650	1,615	776	761	-1.9
Missouri	101	95	1,325	1,380	134	131	-2.2
New Mexico	323	326	2,090	2,125	675	693	2.7
New York	610	610	1,755	1,770	1,071	1,080	0.8
Ohio	272	268	1,680	1,620	457	434	-5.0
Oregon	115	119	1,730	1,730	199	206	3.5
Pennsylvania	541	543	1,710	1,690	925	918	-0.8
Texas	410	426	1,855	1,915	761	816	7.2
Utah	84	87	1,780	1,740	150	151	0.7
Vermont	137	135	1,565	1,600	214	216	0.9
Virginia	95	96	1,590	1,585	151	152	0.7
Washington	249	256	1,975	1,990	492	509	3.5
Wisconsin	1,261	1,266	1,745	1,730	2,200	2,190	-0.5
23-State Total	8,337	8,435	1,825	1,834	15,213	15,471	1.7

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



Statistical Methodology

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 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 estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 8.45 million head by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.1 percent.

Reliability of Monthly Milk Production Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Milk production	0.2	0.3	20	0	63	17	6
All milk cows	0.1	0.1	5	0	15	18	4

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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