



Milk Production

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August Milk Production up 2.2 Percent

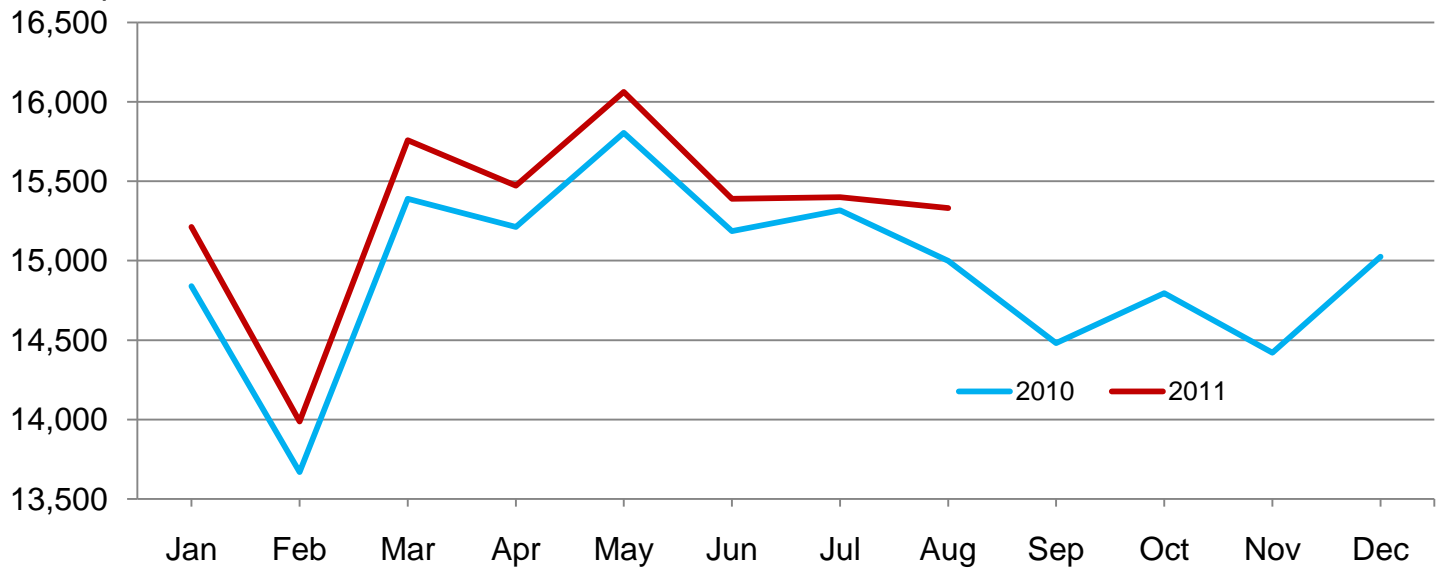
Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 15.3 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from August 2010. July revised production at 15.4 billion pounds, was up 0.5 percent from July 2010. The July revision represented a decrease of 45 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,810 pounds for August, 18 pounds above August 2010.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.47 million head, 102,000 head more than August 2010, and 3,000 head more than July 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	9,165	5,212	5,283	47,392	48,421	2.2
April-June	9,119	9,198	5,462	5,483	49,809	50,434	1.3
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	8,451	1,893	1,901	15,804	16,063	1.6
June	8,356	8,460	1,817	1,819	15,186	15,389	1.3
July	8,375	8,468	1,829	1,819	15,316	15,400	0.5
August	8,369	8,471	1,792	1,810	14,998	15,330	2.2
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	9,158	1,763	1,789	16,020	16,385	2.3
February	9,092	9,158	1,623	1,645	14,758	15,065	2.1
March	9,099	9,178	1,826	1,849	16,614	16,971	2.1
April	9,108	9,185	1,802	1,812	16,416	16,645	1.4
May	9,119	9,200	1,869	1,877	17,040	17,266	1.3
June	9,129	9,208	1,791	1,794	16,353	16,523	1.0
July	9,135	9,215	1,799	1,791	16,436	16,508	0.4
August	9,123	9,217	1,764	1,783	16,094	16,432	2.1
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: August 2010 and 2011

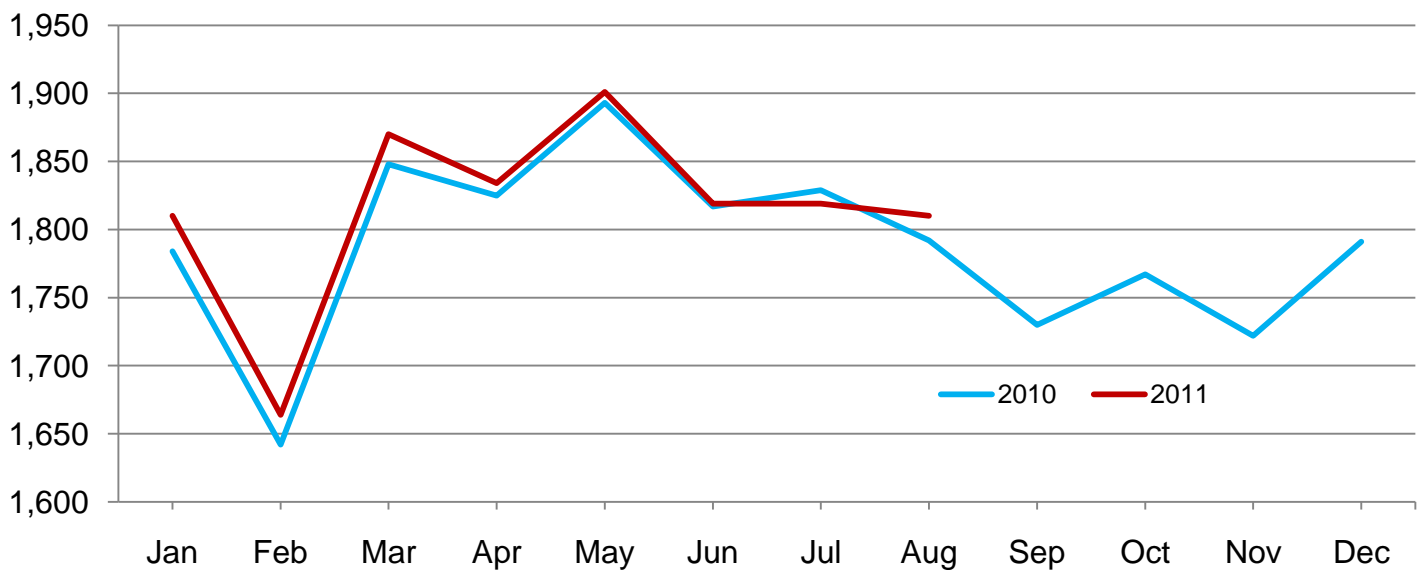
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2010
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	180	187	1,765	1,810	318	338	6.3
California	1,753	1,777	1,940	1,970	3,401	3,501	2.9
Colorado	120	129	2,025	2,000	243	258	6.2
Florida	114	119	1,335	1,400	152	167	9.9
Idaho	571	582	2,000	2,040	1,142	1,187	3.9
Illinois	99	98	1,495	1,540	148	151	2.0
Indiana	169	171	1,645	1,680	278	287	3.2
Iowa	207	199	1,700	1,760	352	350	-0.6
Kansas	120	124	1,725	1,750	207	217	4.8
Michigan	359	368	1,955	1,955	702	719	2.4
Minnesota	470	471	1,595	1,520	750	716	-4.5
Missouri	99	96	1,150	1,090	114	105	-7.9
New Mexico	318	330	2,040	2,065	649	681	4.9
New York	611	610	1,790	1,785	1,094	1,089	-0.5
Ohio	270	266	1,610	1,590	435	423	-2.8
Oregon	121	123	1,730	1,765	209	217	3.8
Pennsylvania	541	539	1,670	1,640	903	884	-2.1
Texas	415	435	1,695	1,795	703	781	11.1
Utah	85	88	1,830	1,820	156	160	2.6
Vermont	137	134	1,570	1,580	215	212	-1.4
Virginia	95	96	1,475	1,450	140	139	-0.7
Washington	252	265	2,015	2,045	508	542	6.7
Wisconsin	1,263	1,264	1,725	1,745	2,179	2,206	1.2
23-State Total	8,369	8,471	1,792	1,810	14,998	15,330	2.2

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: July 2010 and 2011

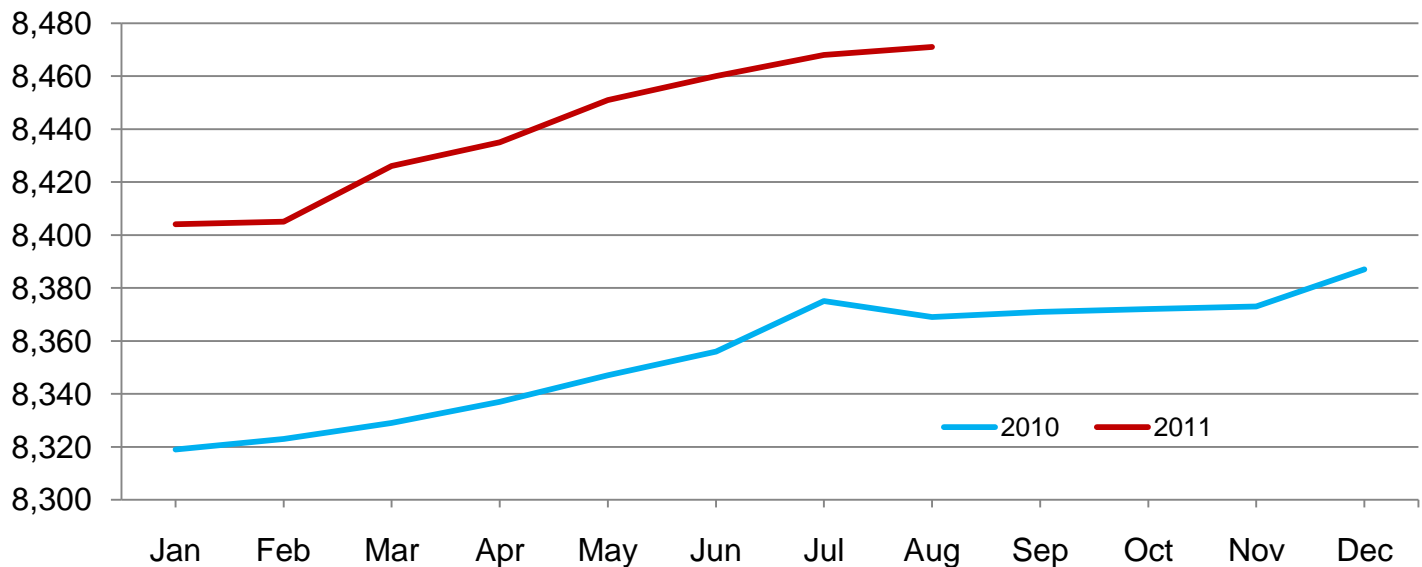
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2010
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	179	186	1,870	1,885	335	351	4.8
California	1,753	1,776	1,940	1,990	3,401	3,534	3.9
Colorado	119	128	2,050	2,010	244	257	5.3
Florida	115	119	1,530	1,520	176	181	2.8
Idaho	569	582	2,000	2,050	1,138	1,193	4.8
Illinois	101	98	1,575	1,540	159	151	-5.0
Indiana	169	170	1,730	1,695	292	288	-1.4
Iowa	209	200	1,760	1,720	368	344	-6.5
Kansas	120	124	1,760	1,765	211	219	3.8
Michigan	359	367	2,020	1,945	725	714	-1.5
Minnesota	470	471	1,675	1,535	787	723	-8.1
Missouri	100	96	1,190	1,110	119	107	-10.1
New Mexico	324	330	2,095	2,105	679	695	2.4
New York	611	610	1,790	1,790	1,094	1,092	-0.2
Ohio	270	266	1,640	1,580	443	420	-5.2
Oregon	120	123	1,730	1,790	208	220	5.8
Pennsylvania	541	540	1,680	1,630	909	880	-3.2
Texas	415	435	1,775	1,835	737	798	8.3
Utah	85	88	1,860	1,840	158	162	2.5
Vermont	136	134	1,550	1,600	211	214	1.4
Virginia	95	96	1,505	1,440	143	138	-3.5
Washington	252	265	2,030	2,055	512	545	6.4
Wisconsin	1,263	1,264	1,795	1,720	2,267	2,174	-4.1
23-State Total	8,375	8,468	1,829	1,819	15,316	15,400	0.5

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 8.47 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	15	8
All milk cows	0.1	0.1	4	0	15	18	3

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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