



Milk Production

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September Milk Production up 1.1 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during September totaled 14.8 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from September 2012. August revised production at 15.7 billion pounds, was up 2.5 percent from August 2012. The August revision represented a decrease of 33 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,741 pounds for September, 12 pounds above September 2012.

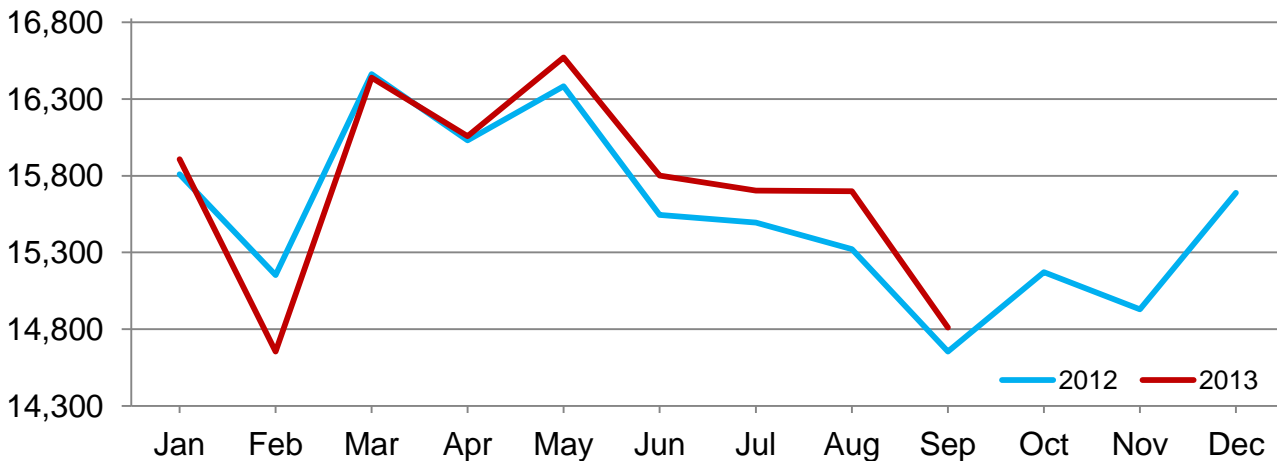
The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.51 million head, 33,000 head more than September 2012, but 19,000 head less than August 2013.

July - September Milk Production up 1.5 Percent

Milk production in the United States during the July - September quarter totaled 49.4 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.23 million head, 16,000 head more than the same period last year.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2012 - 2013

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013	Change From 2012
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Percent)
January-March	9,257		5,514		51,044	50,501	-1.1
April-June	9,259		5,563		51,509	51,962	0.9
July-September	9,211	9,227	5,284	5,356	48,675	49,419	1.5
October-December	9,203		5,335		49,096		
Annual	9,233		21,697		200,324		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July.

Milk Cows and Production By Month – 23 Selected States: 2012 - 2013

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013	Change from 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,502	8,498	1,860	1,872	15,810	15,907	0.6
February	8,513	8,502	1,780	1,723	15,153	14,653	-3.3
March	8,525		1,931		16,462	16,440	-0.1
April	8,529		1,880		16,031	16,059	0.2
May	8,525		1,922		16,384	16,572	1.1
June	8,509		1,827		15,544	15,801	1.7
July	8,494	8,529	1,824	1,841	15,495	15,703	1.3
August	8,492	8,525	1,804	1,842	15,322	15,700	2.5
September	8,473	8,506	1,729	1,741	14,653	14,810	1.1
October	8,467		1,792		15,172		
November	8,478		1,761		14,929		
December	8,494		1,847		15,688		
Annual	8,500		21,957		186,643		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production By Month – United States: 2012 - 2013

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013	Change from 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,242	9,222	1,841	1,853	17,016	17,091	0.4
February	9,257	9,226	1,762	1,707	16,310	15,745	-3.5
March	9,271		1,911		17,718	17,665	-0.3
April	9,273		1,858		17,232	17,241	0.1
May	9,263		1,900		17,601	17,783	1.0
June	9,241		1,805		16,676	16,938	1.6
July	9,222	9,242	1,798	1,817	16,585	16,792	1.2
August	9,217	9,232	1,780	1,819	16,403	16,790	2.4
September	9,195	9,207	1,706	1,720	15,687	15,837	1.0
October	9,189		1,770		16,267		
November	9,201		1,740		16,008		
December	9,218		1,825		16,821		
Annual	9,233		21,697		200,324		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: September 2012 and 2013

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2012
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	181	188	1,745	1,720	316	323	2.2
California	1,779	1,781	1,790	1,795	3,184	3,197	0.4
Colorado	135	137	1,955	1,965	264	269	1.9
Florida	123	123	1,250	1,340	154	165	7.1
Idaho	579	570	1,930	1,930	1,117	1,100	-1.5
Illinois	100	98	1,470	1,490	147	146	-0.7
Indiana	174	177	1,685	1,710	293	303	3.4
Iowa	201	207	1,720	1,765	346	365	5.5
Kansas	126	134	1,740	1,730	219	232	5.9
Michigan	374	381	1,900	1,930	711	735	3.4
Minnesota	465	465	1,550	1,550	721	721	
Missouri	93	92	1,110	1,110	103	102	-1.0
New Mexico	326	322	1,960	1,955	639	630	-1.4
New York	610	610	1,740	1,770	1,061	1,080	1.8
Ohio	270	270	1,540	1,545	416	417	0.2
Oregon	123	123	1,665	1,660	205	204	-0.5
Pennsylvania	533	532	1,545	1,570	823	835	1.5
Texas	433	440	1,705	1,700	738	748	1.4
Utah	88	91	1,760	1,780	155	162	4.5
Vermont	133	133	1,550	1,560	206	207	0.5
Virginia	95	95	1,380	1,430	131	136	3.8
Washington	261	265	1,935	1,935	505	513	1.6
Wisconsin	1,271	1,272	1,730	1,745	2,199	2,220	1.0
23-State Total	8,473	8,506	1,729	1,741	14,653	14,810	1.1

¹ Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: August 2012

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	Change 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	184	188	1,770	1,830	326	344	5.5
California	1,781	1,780	1,855	1,910	3,304	3,400	2.9
Colorado	134	137	2,050	2,095	275	287	4.4
Florida	123	123	1,410	1,450	173	178	2.9
Idaho	580	575	2,040	2,050	1,183	1,179	-0.3
Illinois	100	100	1,550	1,570	155	157	1.3
Indiana	176	178	1,780	1,800	313	320	2.2
Iowa	203	207	1,790	1,895	363	392	8.0
Kansas	126	135	1,795	1,790	226	242	7.1
Michigan	376	382	2,000	2,045	752	781	3.9
Minnesota	465	465	1,620	1,635	753	760	0.9
Missouri	94	93	1,120	1,140	105	106	1.0
New Mexico	328	324	2,015	2,015	661	653	-1.2
New York	610	610	1,810	1,885	1,104	1,150	4.2
Ohio	269	271	1,620	1,655	436	449	3.0
Oregon	123	123	1,740	1,750	214	215	0.5
Pennsylvania	533	533	1,615	1,660	861	885	2.8
Texas	437	440	1,750	1,795	765	790	3.3
Utah	89	91	1,850	1,860	165	169	2.4
Vermont	133	135	1,610	1,630	214	220	2.8
Virginia	96	95	1,440	1,490	138	142	2.9
Washington	261	268	2,005	2,040	523	547	4.6
Wisconsin	1,271	1,272	1,820	1,835	2,313	2,334	0.9
23-State Total	8,492	8,525	1,804	1,842	15,322	15,700	2.5

¹ Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Revised April - June

[Excludes milk sucked by calves]

State	April - June milk cows ¹		April - June milk production ²		
	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013	Change from 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	10.0		37.0	34.0	-8.1
Alaska	0.4		1.4	0.8	-42.9
Arizona	192.0		1,214.0	1,200.0	-1.2
Arkansas	11.0		38.0	30.0	-21.1
California	1,784.0		10,899.0	10,825.0	-0.7
Colorado	132.0		814.0	834.0	2.5
Connecticut	18.5		93.0	98.0	5.4
Delaware	5.0		24.8	24.6	-0.8
Florida	123.0		638.0	647.0	1.4
Georgia	80.0		409.0	419.0	2.4
Hawaii	2.0		7.6	7.9	3.9
Idaho	580.0		3,434.0	3,450.0	0.5
Illinois	100.0		503.0	507.0	0.8
Indiana	176.0		967.0	1,012.0	4.7
Iowa	206.0		1,125.0	1,172.0	4.2
Kansas	125.0		693.0	749.0	8.1
Kentucky	74.0		294.0	284.0	-3.4
Louisiana	18.0		61.0	58.0	-4.9
Maine	33.0		158.0	157.0	-0.6
Maryland	51.0		252.0	249.0	-1.2
Massachusetts	12.0		56.0	61.0	8.9
Michigan	375.0		2,252.0	2,308.0	2.5
Minnesota	465.0		2,291.0	2,322.0	1.4
Mississippi	14.0		54.0	51.0	-5.6
Missouri	94.0		386.0	369.0	-4.4
Montana	14.0		76.0	76.0	-
Nebraska	56.0		300.0	299.0	-0.3
Nevada	29.0		173.0	174.0	0.6
New Hampshire	14.0		72.0	68.0	-5.6
New Jersey	7.5		35.0	33.0	-5.7
New Mexico	335.0		2,111.0	2,093.0	-0.9
New York	610.0		3,370.0	3,472.0	3.0
North Carolina	46.0		246.0	246.0	-
North Dakota	18.0		88.0	89.0	1.1
Ohio	271.0		1,379.0	1,403.0	1.7
Oklahoma	49.0		219.0	216.0	-1.4
Oregon	123.0		649.0	650.0	0.2
Pennsylvania	536.0		2,677.0	2,719.0	1.6
Rhode Island	1.0		5.0	4.7	-6.0
South Carolina	15.5		74.0	72.0	-2.7
South Dakota	93.0		494.0	501.0	1.4
Tennessee	50.0		210.0	203.0	-3.3
Texas	440.0		2,475.0	2,456.0	-0.8
Utah	91.0		498.0	489.0	-1.8
Vermont	133.0		653.0	672.0	2.9
Virginia	96.0		444.0	451.0	1.6
Washington	263.0		1,600.0	1,636.0	2.3
West Virginia	10.0		41.0	41.0	-
Wisconsin	1,271.0		6,887.0	6,996.0	1.6
Wyoming	6.0		31.3	32.7	4.5
United States	9,259.0		51,509.0	51,962.0	0.9

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July.

Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Preliminary July - September 2012 and 2013

[Excludes milk sucked by calves]

State	July - September milk cows ¹		July - September milk production ²		
	2012	2013 ³	2012	2013	Change from 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	9.5	9.0	27.0	27.0	-
Alaska	0.4	0.3	1.4	0.8	-42.9
Arizona	183.0	188.0	996.0	1,014.0	1.8
Arkansas	10.0	8.0	28.0	22.0	-21.4
California	1,780.0	1,781.0	9,986.0	9,972.0	-0.1
Colorado	134.0	137.0	812.0	844.0	3.9
Connecticut	18.0	18.0	86.0	91.0	5.8
Delaware	5.0	4.7	22.0	21.6	-1.8
Florida	123.0	123.0	514.0	543.0	5.6
Georgia	80.0	79.0	338.0	350.0	3.6
Hawaii	2.0	2.2	7.0	7.4	5.7
Idaho	579.0	575.0	3,487.0	3,453.0	-1.0
Illinois	100.0	99.0	454.0	460.0	1.3
Indiana	175.0	178.0	907.0	945.0	4.2
Iowa	202.0	207.0	1,059.0	1,141.0	7.7
Kansas	126.0	135.0	667.0	722.0	8.2
Kentucky	73.0	70.0	251.0	246.0	-2.0
Louisiana	17.0	15.0	45.0	43.0	-4.4
Maine	32.0	31.0	152.0	150.0	-1.3
Maryland	51.0	49.0	233.0	227.0	-2.6
Massachusetts	12.0	12.5	53.0	56.0	5.7
Michigan	375.0	381.0	2,206.0	2,284.0	3.5
Minnesota	465.0	465.0	2,209.0	2,246.0	1.7
Mississippi	14.0	13.0	43.0	39.0	-9.3
Missouri	94.0	93.0	318.0	317.0	-0.3
Montana	14.0	14.0	75.0	74.0	-1.3
Nebraska	56.0	54.0	289.0	283.0	-2.1
Nevada	28.0	29.0	167.0	170.0	1.8
New Hampshire	13.5	13.0	67.0	67.0	-
New Jersey	7.0	7.0	31.0	31.0	-
New Mexico	327.0	323.0	1,976.0	1,972.0	-0.2
New York	610.0	610.0	3,278.0	3,365.0	2.7
North Carolina	46.0	46.0	216.0	221.0	2.3
North Dakota	18.0	17.5	86.0	84.0	-2.3
Ohio	269.0	271.0	1,281.0	1,308.0	2.1
Oklahoma	47.0	43.0	188.0	176.0	-6.4
Oregon	123.0	123.0	637.0	636.0	-0.2
Pennsylvania	533.0	533.0	2,544.0	2,590.0	1.8
Rhode Island	0.9	0.9	4.3	4.1	-4.7
South Carolina	15.0	15.0	57.0	58.0	1.8
South Dakota	92.0	94.0	485.0	510.0	5.2
Tennessee	49.0	47.0	182.0	176.0	-3.3
Texas	437.0	438.0	2,282.0	2,358.0	3.3
Utah	89.0	91.0	491.0	502.0	2.2
Vermont	133.0	134.0	638.0	646.0	1.3
Virginia	96.0	95.0	406.0	419.0	3.2
Washington	261.0	267.0	1,554.0	1,607.0	3.4
West Virginia	10.0	9.5	39.0	38.0	-2.6
Wisconsin	1,271.0	1,272.0	6,768.0	6,869.0	1.5
Wyoming	6.0	6.0	31.8	32.7	2.8
United States	9,211.0	9,227.0	48,675.0	49,419.0	1.5

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July.

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 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 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, milk per cow, and number of milk cows are subject to revision the following month after initial publication for monthly States or the following quarter for the quarterly States. Normally, administrative data from Federal Market Orders, State Departments of Agriculture, or other sources are the main basis for revisions. However, administrative data for all States may not be available in time for these revisions. 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 20 quarters is 0.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 9.23 million head by more than 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 percent.

Reliability of Quarterly Milk Production Estimates

[Based on data for the past 20 quarters]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Quarters	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Milk production	0.1	0.2	38	3	96	16	4
All milk cows	0.2	0.3	9	0	52	13	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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Tiffany Hora – Livestock Slaughter	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278

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