



Milk Production

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July Milk Production up 1.4 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 16.8 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from July 2015. June revised production, at 16.7 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from June 2015. The June revision represented an increase of 9 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,946 pounds for July, 24 pounds above July 2015. This is the highest production per cow for the month of July since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.65 million head, 19,000 head more than July 2015, and 2,000 head more than June 2016.

July Milk Production in the United States up 1.4 Percent

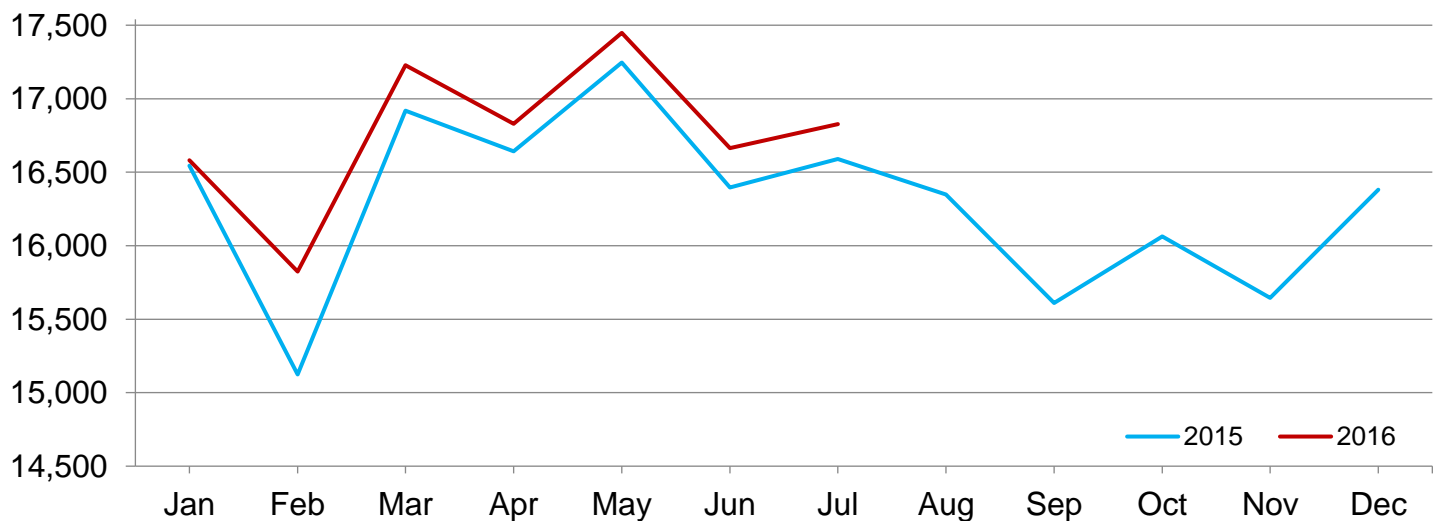
Milk production in the United States during July totaled 17.9 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from July 2015.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,920 pounds for July, 23 pounds above July 2015.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.33 million head, 18,000 head more than July 2015, and 2,000 head more than June 2016.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2015-2016

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	Change from 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,309	9,319	5,579	5,692	51,936	53,041	2.1
April-June	9,321	9,328	5,763	5,828	53,720	54,360	1.2
July-September	9,315		5,549		51,685		
October-December	9,321		5,503		51,292		
Annual	9,317		22,393		208,633		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production By Month – 23 Selected States: 2015-2016

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	Change from 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,621	8,627	1,919	1,922	16,544	16,581	0.2
February	8,621	8,633	1,754	1,833	15,124	15,824	4.6
March	8,623	8,644	1,962	1,993	16,918	17,227	1.8
April	8,627	8,644	1,929	1,947	16,641	16,830	1.1
May	8,633	8,644	1,998	2,019	17,246	17,448	1.2
June	8,630	8,647	1,900	1,927	16,397	16,664	1.6
July	8,630	8,649	1,922	1,946	16,589	16,828	1.4
August	8,633		1,894		16,349		
September	8,636		1,807		15,609		
October	8,638		1,860		16,063		
November	8,640		1,811		15,646		
December	8,638		1,896		16,381		
Annual	8,631		22,652		195,507		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production By Month – United States: 2015-2016

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	Change from 2015
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,308	9,310	1,900	1,903	17,685	17,718	0.2
February	9,308	9,317	1,737	1,815	16,166	16,912	4.6
March	9,311	9,329	1,942	1,974	18,085	18,411	1.8
April	9,316	9,327	1,909	1,925	17,788	17,959	1.0
May	9,324	9,327	1,976	1,997	18,428	18,622	1.1
June	9,323	9,330	1,878	1,906	17,504	17,779	1.6
July	9,314	9,332	1,897	1,920	17,665	17,915	1.4
August	9,315		1,868		17,403		
September	9,317		1,784		16,617		
October	9,320		1,838		17,130		
November	9,322		1,790		16,689		
December	9,320		1,875		17,473		
Annual	9,317		22,393		208,633		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: July 2015 and 2016

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2015
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	195	198	1,985	1,980	387	392	1.3
California	1,778	1,768	1,915	1,910	3,405	3,377	-0.8
Colorado	145	150	2,220	2,240	322	336	4.3
Florida	125	121	1,715	1,670	214	202	-5.6
Idaho	586	595	2,095	2,140	1,228	1,273	3.7
Illinois	94	94	1,650	1,660	155	156	0.6
Indiana	181	184	1,850	1,850	335	340	1.5
Iowa	211	211	1,915	1,960	404	414	2.5
Kansas	143	145	1,845	1,870	264	271	2.7
Michigan	409	420	2,170	2,210	888	928	4.5
Minnesota	460	462	1,760	1,780	810	822	1.5
New Mexico	323	310	2,040	2,100	659	651	-1.2
New York	619	620	1,970	2,045	1,219	1,268	4.0
Ohio	266	266	1,770	1,780	471	473	0.4
Oregon	122	125	1,745	1,750	213	219	2.8
Pennsylvania	530	530	1,730	1,735	917	920	0.3
South Dakota	107	115	1,895	1,870	203	215	5.9
Texas	462	471	1,850	1,895	855	893	4.4
Utah	96	92	2,010	1,990	193	183	-5.2
Vermont	132	130	1,740	1,770	230	230	-
Virginia	91	90	1,630	1,590	148	143	-3.4
Washington	275	274	2,035	2,045	560	560	-
Wisconsin	1,280	1,278	1,960	2,005	2,509	2,562	2.1
23-State Total	8,630	8,649	1,922	1,946	16,589	16,828	1.4

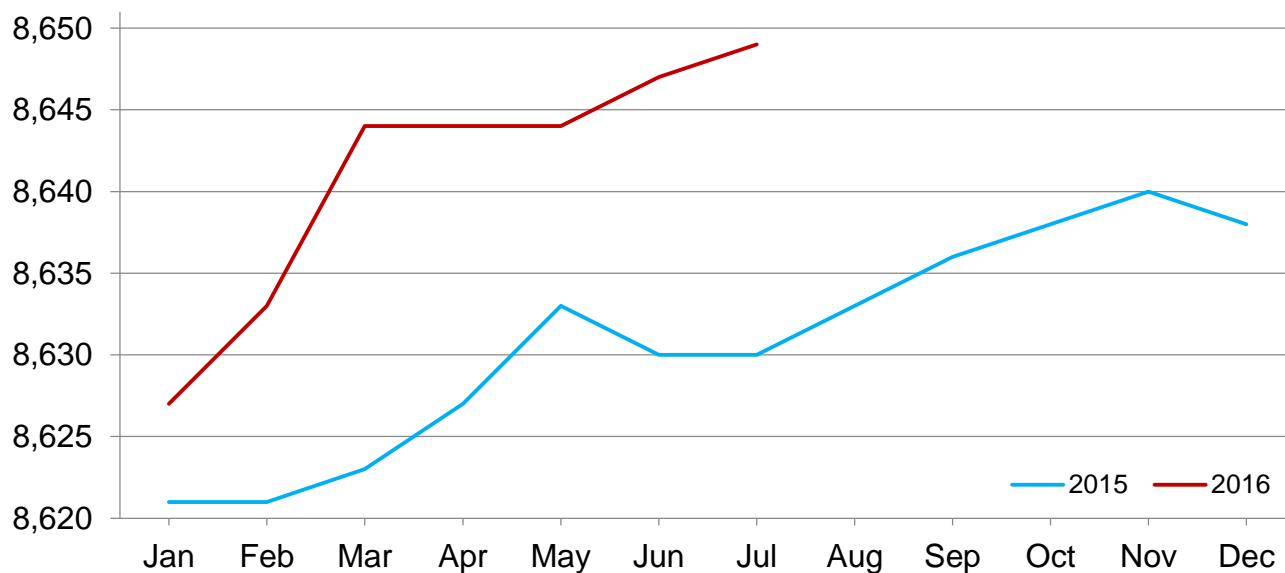
- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: June 2015 and 2016

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2015
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	195	198	2,045	2,050	399	406	1.8
California	1,778	1,769	1,910	1,900	3,396	3,361	-1.0
Colorado	145	150	2,140	2,160	310	324	4.5
Florida	125	122	1,790	1,730	224	211	-5.8
Idaho	586	593	2,040	2,090	1,195	1,239	3.7
Illinois	94	94	1,690	1,700	159	160	0.6
Indiana	181	184	1,825	1,830	330	337	2.1
Iowa	212	211	1,910	1,960	405	414	2.2
Kansas	143	145	1,810	1,855	259	269	3.9
Michigan	408	419	2,135	2,200	871	922	5.9
Minnesota	460	462	1,730	1,755	796	811	1.9
New Mexico	323	310	2,035	2,045	657	634	-3.5
New York	618	620	1,940	2,015	1,199	1,249	4.2
Ohio	266	266	1,730	1,750	460	466	1.3
Oregon	124	125	1,735	1,735	215	217	0.9
Pennsylvania	530	530	1,715	1,725	909	914	0.6
South Dakota	106	115	1,860	1,820	197	209	6.1
Texas	462	468	1,835	1,880	848	880	3.8
Utah	96	92	1,990	1,950	191	179	-6.3
Vermont	132	131	1,710	1,750	226	229	1.3
Virginia	91	90	1,620	1,590	147	143	-2.7
Washington	275	275	2,010	2,010	553	553	-
Wisconsin	1,280	1,278	1,915	1,985	2,451	2,537	3.5
23-State Total	8,630	8,647	1,900	1,927	16,397	16,664	1.6

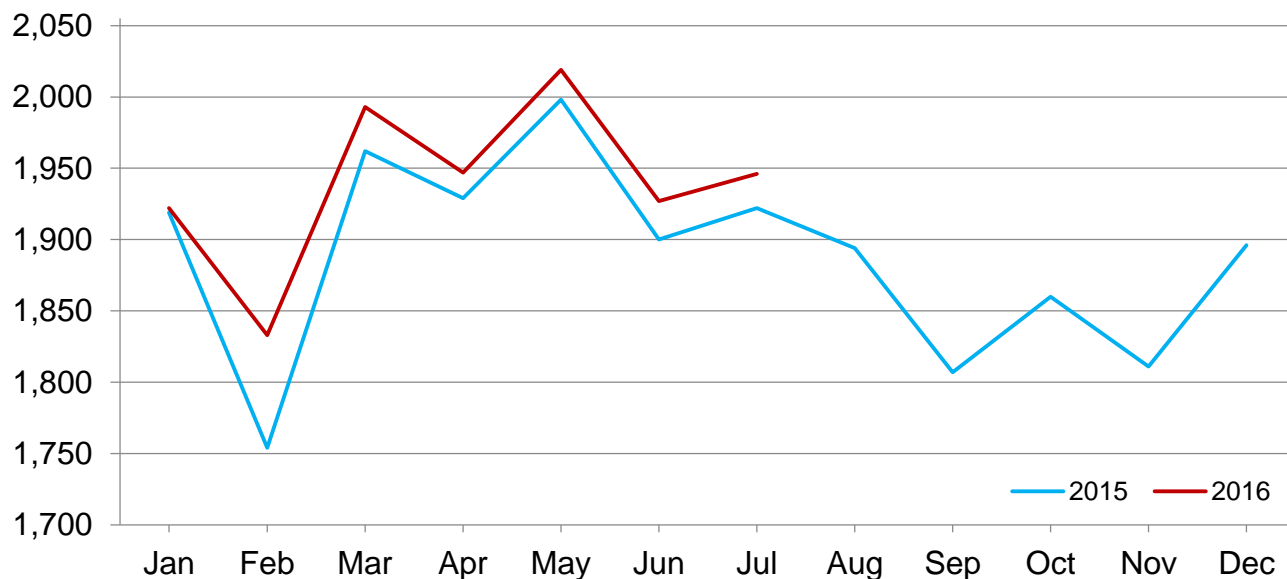
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² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk per Cow – 23 Selected States

Pounds



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 Survey.

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 in the table below. 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 production estimates over the past 24 months 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 16.8 billion pounds by more than 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 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	22	2	71	18	6
All Milk cows	0.0	0.1	3	0	8	16	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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Michael Klamm – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278

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