

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

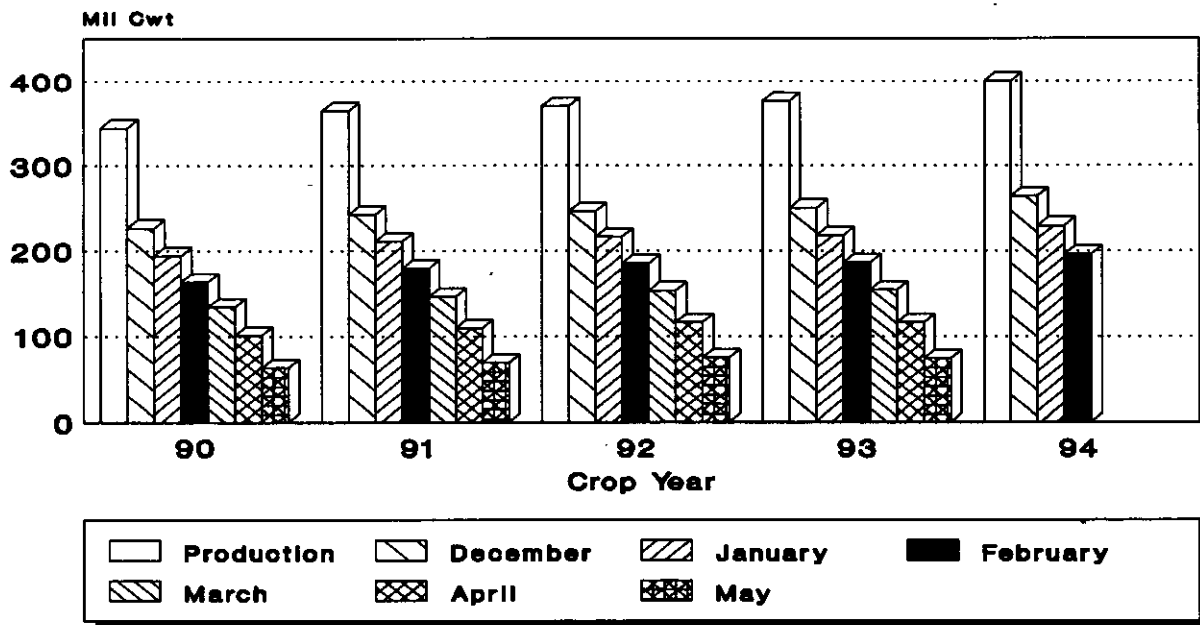
Washington, D.C.

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Potato Stocks 5 Percent Above Last Year

February 1, 1995, potato stocks totaled 196 million cwt, up 5 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent above two years ago. Disappearance was a record high 204 million cwt, up 8 percent from a year ago and 11 percent above two years ago. Processing accounted for 98.3 million cwt through January, 9 percent more than last year and 16 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss of 23.7 million cwt was up 5 percent from last year.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks
15 Storage States



Production by crop year
Stocks by month following harvest

For information call Arvin Budge at (202) 720-4285. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1985-94

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
		1,000 Cwt					
1985	343,984	235,475	202,800	171,510	138,720	104,540	65,380
1986	307,928	209,435	180,915	154,545	128,720	95,090	59,790
1987	335,607	225,890	196,760	167,325	138,800	105,905	70,030
1988	305,623	206,420	177,750	151,050	124,485	92,585	59,355
1989	316,097	202,050	173,550	144,290	116,600	84,320	50,675
1990	344,200	225,500	194,460	162,850	134,470	101,150	63,040
1991	363,541	242,070	211,005	178,515	145,820	108,865	69,110
1992	368,516	246,820	215,990	184,560	152,795	115,785	75,040
1993	375,004	249,710	217,800	186,090	154,135	115,970	73,860
1994	400,385	263,630	229,350	196,005			

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1992-94 ^{1/}

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Season
	1,000 Cwt						
ID & OR-Malheur Co:							
1992	22,180	29,080	35,710	42,800	50,090	57,090	80,570
1993	24,090	30,540	37,150	44,720	53,070	61,440	85,780
1994	26,620	34,230	42,330				
ME ^{2/} :							
1992	1,195	1,630	2,205	2,720	3,390	4,020	5,055
1993	1,350	1,720	2,210	2,505	2,890	3,275	4,555
1994	1,510	1,840	2,275				
WA & OR-Other:							
1992	26,840	31,550	35,950	41,670	46,530	51,630	63,510
1993	28,260	33,350	39,010	45,020	51,290	57,180	70,690
1994	28,690	33,500	39,120				
Oth Sts ^{3/} :							
1992	7,140	9,220	11,265	13,305	15,550	17,555	25,070
1993	7,605	9,515	11,605	13,720	16,080	18,705	25,690
1994	8,790	12,045	14,605				
Total:							
1992	57,355	71,480	85,130	100,495	115,560	130,295	174,205
1993	61,305	75,125	89,975	105,965	123,330	140,600	186,715
1994	65,610	81,615	98,330				

^{1/} Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the state in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, MN, ND, and WI.

^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

^{3/} MI, MN, ND, and WI.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on February 1, 1994-95

State	Crop of 1993			Crop of 1994		
	Prod	Stocks	%	Prod	Stocks	%
		Feb 1, 1994	of Prod		Feb 1, 1995	of Prod
	--- 1,000 Cwt ---	Percent		--- 1,000 Cwt ---	Percent	
CA	4,800	2,700	56	4,400	2,700	61
CO	25,270	13,300	53	25,795	13,700	53
ID	126,192	75,500	60	134,340	73,500	55
ME	19,890	10,300	52	17,250	9,400	54
MI	11,780	4,400	37	12,180	4,600	38
MN	12,650	6,100	48	17,755	9,600	54
MT	2,700	2,440	90	3,200	2,860	89
NE	3,008	1,370	46	3,888	1,690	43
NY						
Long Island	1,643	200	12	1,617	300	19
Upstate	6,050	1,000	17	6,188	1,800	29
ND	21,090	10,200	48	28,200	12,500	44
OH	1,140	80	7	1,348	155	11
OR	23,103	14,900	64	25,784	15,400	60
PA	4,600	1,400	30	3,780	1,100	29
WA	88,500	32,000	36	88,920	37,500	42
WI	22,588	10,200	45	25,740	9,200	36
Total 15 States:	375,004	186,090	50	400,385	196,005	49

Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, February 1, 1994-95

State	Potato Types					
	Reds		Whites		Russets	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	Percent					
CO	7	4			93	96
ID			7	5	93	95
ME		1	80	81	20	18
MI			75	75	25	25
MN	8	12	15	16	77	72
NY	7	5	91	93	2	2
ND	17	12	52	44	31	44
OR			2	1	98	99
PA	3	3	97	97		
WA					100	100
WI	1	2	10	17	89	81
11 State Avg.	2	2	16	14	82	84

Potato Stocks Up 5 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 196 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1995, up 5 percent from last year and 6 percent above two years ago. Storage accounted for 49 percent of fall production this year, 1 percent less than last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 14 percent white, and 84 percent russet, with more russets and less whites than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest through January was a record high 204 million cwt, 8 percent more than last year and 11 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 23.7 million cwt, up 5 percent from the 22.7 million cwt lost last year and 3 percent above the 23.0 million cwt lost from the 1992 crop.

Processor usage totaled 98.3 million cwt to February 1, 1995, up 9 percent from a year ago and 16 percent above two years ago. January processing of 16.7 million cwt of potatoes was up 13 percent from last year and 22 percent above 1993.

Eastern States stored 12.6 million cwt of potatoes this year, down 2 percent from last year and 26 percent below 1993. Maine's stocks were down 9 percent and Pennsylvania's were off 21 percent. New York's stocks were up 75 percent from last year but 6 percent below two years ago.

Central States accounted for 37.7 million cwt of potato stocks this February, up 17 percent from last year but 1 percent below two years ago. North Dakota and Nebraska potato stocks were both up 23 percent and Minnesota stored 57 percent more than last year. Michigan's cellars stored 5 percent more potatoes than a year ago, while the small amount left in Ohio was nearly doubled that of a year ago. Wisconsin's stocks were down 10 percent from last year.

Western States held 146 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 1995. This is up 3 percent from last year and 12 percent above two years ago. Idaho's stocks were off 3 percent and accounted for 50 percent of the Western total. Oregon's stocks were up 3 percent and Washington gained 17 percent. Colorado's stocks were up 3 percent from last year and California's storage was the same as a year ago. Montana's stocks, mainly seed, were up 17 percent.

Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.2 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 196 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.2 percent or approximately 6.3 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.6 percent or approximately 11.0 million cwt.

The 10-year (1984-93) record of the differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.5 million cwt, ranging from 0.2 million to 14.2 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the February 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 9 out of 10 years.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final February Stocks, United States, 1984-94

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks <u>1/</u>
	1,000 Cwt	Percent	1,000 Cwt
1984	142,990	98.8	144,760
1985	169,810	99.0	171,510
1986	150,640	97.5	154,545
1987	167,110	99.9	167,325
1988	144,625	95.7	151,050
1989	143,150	99.2	144,290
1990	154,310	94.8	162,850
1991	178,965	100.3	178,515
1992	170,385	92.3	184,560
1993	178,070	95.7	186,090
1994	196,005	---	

1/ As reported in the September "Potatoes" annual report.

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes not yet moved and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes for the past 5 years averaged 90.6 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.4 percent. Most seed for use the following year is on hand, but remains as part of stocks until planted.

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on March 14, 1995.

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