

Potato Stocks



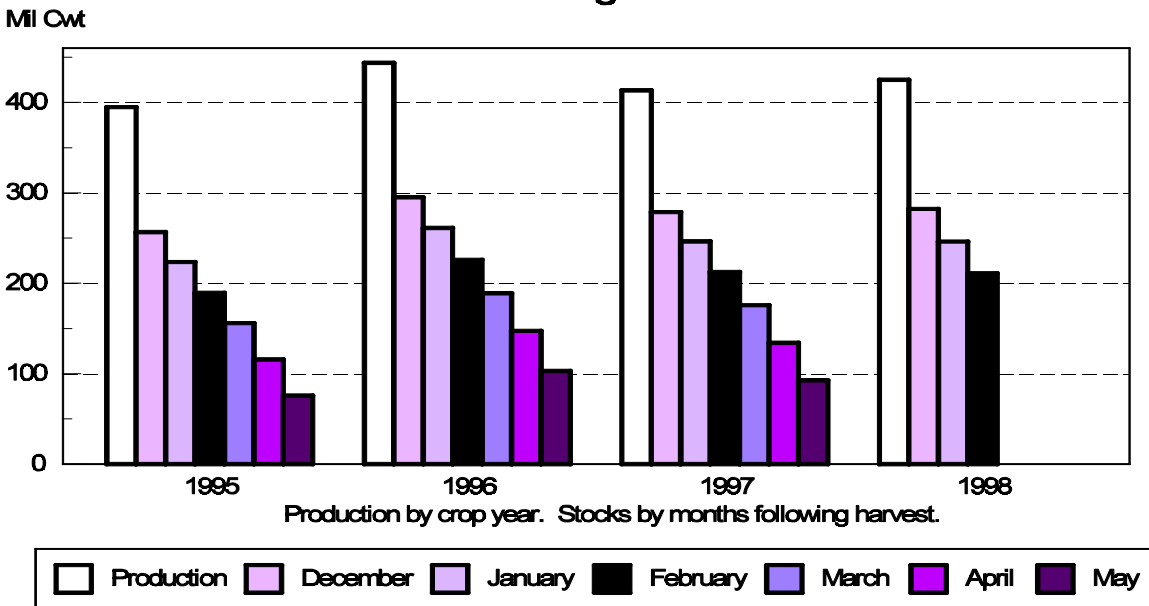
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February Potato Stocks Down 1 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 211 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1999, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 50 percent of 1998 fall production, down 1 percent from a year ago. This year's storage held more russets and round whites but fewer long whites than a year earlier. Disappearance, at 214 million cwt, is up 6 percent from last year including a 9 percent gain in processing.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1989-98

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	376,954	249,410	217,300	185,490	153,435	115,170	72,860
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,585	103,210
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840
1998	424,897	282,300	246,220	211,100			

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 8 States, 1995-98 ¹

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Season
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ID & OR-Malheur Co							
1995	27,310	35,040	43,260	51,530	59,060	66,690	89,250
1996	31,060	38,210	45,420	54,640	62,570	70,720	96,970
1997	26,880	33,950	41,050	49,470	57,620	65,750	91,450
1998	27,510	34,700	42,670				
ME ²							
1995	1,455	1,850	2,430	2,850	3,435	3,965	5,725
1996	1,790	2,115	2,820	3,280	3,820	4,420	6,495
1997	1,250	1,720	2,265	2,735	3,355	3,900	5,870
1998	1,180	1,710	2,260				
WA & OR - Other							
1995	30,000	35,170	39,460	45,280	51,730	57,360	70,250
1996	31,670	36,660	41,700	48,740	55,570	62,320	80,970
1997	28,580	33,990	38,690	46,400	53,720	59,780	76,930
1998	33,460	38,895	45,650				
Oth Sts ³							
1995	12,650	15,630	18,815	21,985	25,510	28,610	33,580
1996	13,720	17,000	20,645	24,085	27,650	30,830	43,100
1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365	37,842
1998 ⁴	11,020	13,785	17,510				
Total							
1995	71,415	87,690	103,965	121,645	139,735	156,625	198,805
1996	78,240	93,985	110,585	130,745	149,610	168,290	227,535
1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795	212,092
1998	73,170	89,090	108,090				

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.

⁴ January 1999 corrected.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on February 1, 1998-99

State	Crop of 1997			Crop of 1998		
	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 1998	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 1999	% of Prod
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	4,200	2,100	50	3,708	2,000	54
CO	24,993	14,700	59	25,360	14,000	55
ID	140,314	81,000	58	139,650	79,000	57
ME	19,080	12,100	63	18,060	10,500	58
MI	14,250	5,500	39	14,725	5,400	37
MN	20,440	10,500	51	21,170	10,500	50
MT	3,328	2,980	90	3,180	2,890	91
NE	7,761	3,300	43	8,175	4,240	52
NY	7,150	1,500	21	7,290	1,600	22
ND	22,000	11,900	54	28,670	14,000	49
OH	1,170	82	7	1,200	70	6
OR	27,319	16,000	59	26,229	15,800	60
PA	3,173	1,200	38	3,360	800	24
WA	88,160	36,500	41	93,225	36,500	39
WI	30,175	13,200	44	30,895	13,800	45
15 States	413,513	212,562	51	424,897	211,100	50

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, February 1, 1998-99**

State	Potato Types							
	Reds		Round Whites		Long Whites		Russets	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	5	4	2	6			93	90
ID					8	4	92	96
ME	4	4	49	46	7	9	40	41
MI	1	1	74	84			25	15
MN	10	12	7	5	3	3	80	80
NY	5	5	93	93			2	2
ND	12	11	13	18	5	3	70	68
OR	1		2	2	1	4	96	94
PA	3	2	97	98				
WA	1	1			3	3	96	96
WI	1	2	16	18			83	80
11 St Avg	2	2	9	10	5	3	84	85

**Fall Potatoes: Production, February 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 States and Fall Season, 1995-98 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Feb 1	Total Used For Seed	Farm Disposition		
					Where Grown		Sold
					Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrinkage and Loss	
		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	1995	5,330	2,800	242	10	460	4,860
	1996	4,600	2,500	200	23	472	4,105
	1997	4,200	2,100	206	20	340	3,840
	1998	3,708	2,000				
CO	1995	23,808	13,400	1,950	1,285	2,048	20,475
	1996	29,175	18,100	1,925	1,485	3,975	23,715
	1997	24,993	14,700	1,895	1,340	2,773	20,880
	1998	25,360	14,000				
ID	1995	132,657	73,500	8,700	1,785	8,920	121,952
	1996	142,800	82,000	8,600	1,500	10,100	131,200
	1997	140,314	81,000	8,700	1,130	9,258	129,926
	1998	139,650	79,000				
ME	1995	17,160	10,400	1,716	420	1,025	15,715
	1996	21,175	13,100	1,584	395	1,800	18,980
	1997	19,080	12,100	1,430	275	1,760	17,045
	1998	18,060	10,500				
MI	1995	16,350	6,500	962	168	690	15,492
	1996	13,800	4,600	768	300	1,300	12,200
	1997	14,250	5,500	864	200	1,300	12,750
	1998	14,725	5,400				
MN	1995	20,790	10,200	1,573	346	1,757	18,687
	1996	24,600	13,200	1,348	445	4,158	19,997
	1997	20,440	10,500	1,640	450	1,717	18,273
	1998	21,170	10,500				
MT	1995	2,940	2,600	239	128	147	2,665
	1996	3,213	2,850	239	137	221	2,855
	1997	3,328	2,980	244	152	208	2,968
	1998	3,180	2,890				
NE	1995	3,680	2,000	292	187	284	3,209
	1996	4,402	2,440	451	169	439	3,794
	1997	7,761	3,300	462	203	380	7,178
	1998	8,175	4,240				
NY	1995	7,425	1,500	594	155	290	6,980
	1996	7,420	1,400	583	127	341	6,952
	1997	7,150	1,500	607	139	315	6,696
	1998	7,290	1,600				

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**Fall Potatoes: Production, February 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 States and Fall Season, 1995-98 (continued)**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Feb 1	Total Used For Seed	Farm Disposition		
					Where Grown		Sold
					Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrinkage and Loss	
		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ND	1995	25,410	11,500	2,211	280	2,800	22,330
	1996	28,820	15,000	2,188	360	5,270	23,190
	1997	22,000	11,900	2,142	355	2,266	19,379
	1998	28,670	14,000				
OH	1995	1,404	60	107	4	10	1,390
	1996	1,275	90	109	5	35	1,235
	1997	1,170	82	105	8	37	1,125
	1998	1,200	70				
OR	1995	24,788	12,300	1,475	148	1,450	23,190
	1996	30,124	19,000	1,345	305	2,560	27,259
	1997	27,319	16,000	1,405	195	1,555	25,569
	1998	26,229	15,800				
PA	1995	4,080	1,200	314	20	102	3,958
	1996	4,160	1,300	266	81	320	3,759
	1997	3,173	1,200	276	78	176	2,919
	1998	3,360	800				
WA	1995	80,850	30,500	3,912	300	6,400	74,150
	1996	94,990	36,500	3,648	300	6,800	87,890
	1997	88,160	36,500	3,840	300	6,400	81,460
	1998	93,225	36,500				
WI	1995	28,113	10,900	1,806	298	1,350	26,465
	1996	33,150	14,000	1,710	320	1,425	31,405
	1997	30,175	13,200	1,764	275	1,448	28,452
	1998	30,895	13,800				
15 Sts	1995	394,785	189,360	26,093	5,534	27,733	361,518
	1996	443,704	226,080	24,964	5,952	39,216	398,536
	1997	413,513	212,562	25,580	5,120	29,933	378,460
	1998	424,897	211,100				
23 Fall Sts	1995	404,852		26,813	5,569	28,604	370,679
	1996	454,388		25,608	6,054	40,087	408,247
	1997	423,190		26,224	5,260	30,841	387,089
	1998	434,368					

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States,
1995-97 Marketing Years**

State	Crop Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	1995			4	8	10	10	11	10	10	12	10	9	6
	1996			4	7	9	9	10	9	10	11	10	11	10
	1997		1	4	8	9	11	10	8	11	11	10	10	7
ID	1995		4	16	17	6	7	6	6	9	8	8	7	6
	1996		6	14	18	7	5	6	6	9	8	8	6	7
	1997		6	15	12	8	8	8	6	7	7	9	7	7
ME	1995		2	5	7	9	9	11	11	17	18	7	4	
	1996		1	8	7	7	8	10	9	14	16	9	11	
	1997		1	6	7	8	8	10	9	15	17	10	9	
MI	1995		5	11	15	13	13	11	6	9	11	6		
	1996	1	9	10	11	11	9	12	11	10	9	5	2	
	1997	3	9	10	8	11	11	11	12	11	8	6		
MN	1995		2	30	26	6	4	5	5	6	8	6	2	
	1996		6	22	19	11	5	5	7	8	8	5	4	
	1997		5	22	25	11	7	5	6	7	7	5		
NY	1995		6	15	15	17	16	12	8	6	4	1		
	1996		7	17	17	14	14	10	8	7	4	2		
	1997		8	15	15	16	15	13	9	5	3	1		
ND	1995		3	14	16	9	10	9	9	8	9	11	2	
	1996		4	12	22	8	7	7	8	10	7	6	7	2
	1997		1	12	16	13	8	12	9	9	8	6	5	1
OR	1995	1	12	16	25	7	6	6	5	5	7	7	1	2
	1996	1	14	16	26	7	5	5	5	4	6	5	5	1
	1997	1	9	14	30	8	6	5	6	6	5	6	3	1
PA	1995		18	18	18	13	13	9	5	3	2	1		
	1996	1	12	15	13	11	9	10	8	9	6	4	2	
	1997	1	13	13	12	12	12	10	8	7	8	3	1	
WA	1995		16	13	32	7	3	4	4	7	5	4	4	1
	1996		17	11	31	8	3	4	4	5	5	5	5	2
	1997		12	14	31	7	4	4	4	6	6	6	5	1
WI	1995	1	9	17	13	12	7	10	9	11	8	3		
	1996	1	6	20	14	10	7	8	11	9	7	4	3	
	1997	1	7	17	14	10	9	8	11	10	7	4	2	

Potato Stocks Down 1 Percent

February 1, 1999 **potato stocks** totaled 211 million cwt, down 1 percent from a year ago and 7 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 50 percent of fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago. Stocks by type were 2 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 3 percent long white, and 85 percent russets, with more russets and round whites but fewer long whites than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to February 1 totaled 214 million cwt this season, up 6 percent from last year but 2 percent below the record high two years ago. January disappearance of 35.1 million cwt was 3 percent above last year but down slightly from two years ago. Shrink and loss of 22.5 million cwt was up 16 percent from last year but 3 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 1998 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 108.1 million cwt, up 9 percent from the 1997 crop but 2 percent below the 1996 crop. In January, processors claimed a record 19.0 million cwt of potatoes, up 23 percent from last year and 14 percent above two years ago. The two month total (December and January) was up 14 percent from a year earlier.

Eastern States stored 12.9 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1999, down 13 percent from a year ago and 18 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings were down 13 percent and Pennsylvania's stocks were off one-third. New York's storage was up 7 percent from last year.

Central States accounted for 48.0 million cwt of potato stocks this February, 8 percent above 1998 but 5 percent below 1997. North Dakota's stocks were up 18 percent and Nebraska was up 28 percent. Stocks in Wisconsin were up 5 percent from last year. Minnesota's stocks were equal to last year and Michigan's stocks fell 2 percent. Ohio's stocks were 15 percent below last year.

Western States held 150.2 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 1999, down 2 percent from last year and 7 percent below 1997. Idaho's stocks were down 2 percent from a year ago, and Oregon's were off 1 percent. Colorado and California were down 5 percent each and Montana's storage was down 3 percent. Washington's stocks were the same as last year.

Fall Potatoes: Stocks on December 1, 1995-98¹

State	1995	1996	1997	1998
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	4,000	3,500	2,700	2,900
CO	18,200	23,100	19,400	18,800
ID	96,000	102,000	102,000	101,000
ME	13,800	16,900	15,600	14,100
MI	9,600	8,000	8,500	8,800
MN	13,500	16,500	13,500	13,500
MT	2,800	3,050	3,180	3,050
NE	2,600	3,160	5,300	5,480
NY	3,400	3,700	3,600	3,800
ND	17,000	20,500	16,000	20,500
OH	310	290	350	270
OR	17,200	23,600	20,500	20,000
PA	2,400	2,800	2,000	1,400
WA	39,500	48,000	47,000	49,000
WI	16,400	20,000	19,200	19,700
15 States	256,710	295,100	278,830	282,300

¹ The revised December 1 stocks estimates for 1995-97 are based on the 1992-97 final production estimates published on December 18, 1998. These production data are available in the Field Crops - Final Estimates 1992-97, Statistical Bulletin 947. The December 1, 1998 stocks are unchanged from the January 14, 1999 Potato Stocks report.

Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 211 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.4 percent or approximately 7.17 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.8 percent or approximately 12.2 million cwt. The 10-year (1989-98) record of the differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 6.13 million cwt, ranging from 0.45 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, 1988-98

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	96.8	202,470
1995	184,755	97.6	189,360
1996	220,465	97.5	226,080
1997	205,850	96.8	212,562
1998	211,100		

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 90.8 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.2 percent. Most seed for use the following year is still on hand February 1st, but remains part of stocks until moved or planted.

Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed, United States, 1993-98

Crop Year	Fall Potatoes					Amount Used for Seed All Seasons Following year
	Production	Sold	Sold as % of Prod	Not Sold	Not Sold as % of Prod	
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1993	387,885	353,052	91.0	34,833	9.0	29,076
1994	422,345	380,818	90.2	41,527	9.8	29,428
1995	404,852	370,679	91.6	34,173	8.4	30,561
1996	454,388	408,247	89.8	46,141	10.2	29,138
1997	423,190	387,089	91.5	36,101	8.5	29,975
1998	434,368					

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on March 12, 1999.

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