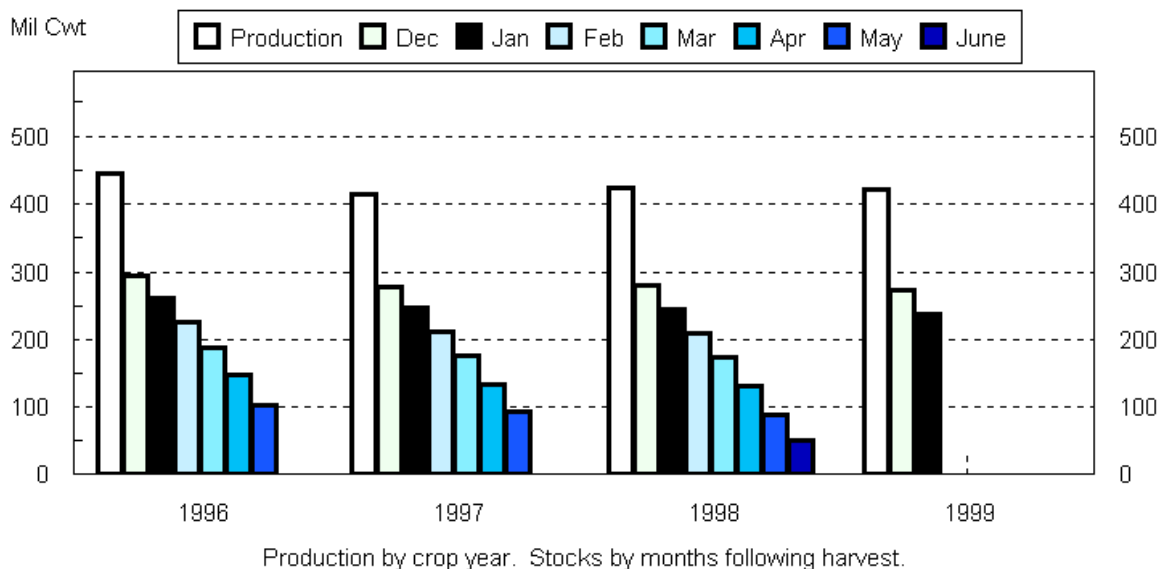


Released January 14, 2000, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Potato Stocks" call Arvin Budge at (202) 720-4285, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

January Potato Stocks Off 3 Percent

January 1, 2000 potato stocks total 238 million cwt in the 15 major States, down 3 percent from the last two years. January stocks accounted for 57 percent of fall production compared with 58 percent last year. Seasonal disappearance hit a record high 182 million cwt in the 15 States, up 3 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous record high in 1996. Fryers and dehydrators used 90.3 million cwt so far this season, up fractionally from last year.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1990-99

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 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>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	274,370	238,160					

¹ Data not available prior to 1998.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 8 States, 1996-99 ¹

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 ²	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>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ID & OR-Mal								
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	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
1999	27,970	34,490						
ME ³								
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	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
1999	1,375	1,670						
WA & OR-Oth								
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	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
1999	33,440	39,620						
Oth Sts ⁴								
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	11,615	14,550	18,150	20,900	24,710	27,855	31,635	37,662
1999	11,785	14,495						
Total								
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	74,185	90,075	109,000	128,385	149,275	167,765	186,940	220,197
1999	74,570	90,275						

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 Data not available prior to 1998.

³ Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

⁴ MI, MN, ND, and WI.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on January 1, 1999-00

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 1999	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 1999	Stocks Jan 1, 2000	Jan % 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>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	3,708	2,400	65	4,005	3,200	2,500	62
CO	25,360	16,500	65	25,762	19,500	17,300	67
ID	138,000	89,000	64	133,330	96,000	86,000	65
ME	18,060	12,500	69	17,813	14,500	13,000	73
MI	14,648	7,500	51	14,963	8,800	7,100	47
MN	21,170	12,000	57	18,020	10,000	8,500	47
MT	3,180	2,980	94	3,325	3,220	3,120	94
NE	8,175	3,900	48	8,904	5,300	4,320	49
NY	7,290	2,300	32	6,758	3,700	2,600	38
ND	28,670	17,500	61	26,400	16,500	13,000	49
OH	1,200	150	13	987	250	120	12
OR	26,229	17,500	67	28,020	22,800	20,500	73
PA	3,360	1,500	45	3,080	1,600	1,200	39
WA	93,225	43,500	47	95,200	48,000	41,000	43
WI	30,895	17,000	55	34,000	21,000	17,900	53
15 States	423,170	246,230	58	420,567	274,370	238,160	57

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, January 1, 1999-00**

State	Potato Types											
	Reds			Round Whites			Long Whites			Russets		
	Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000	Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000	Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000	Jan 1999	Dec 1999	Jan 2000
	<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	4	4	4	6	2	2				90	94	94
ID							4	5	5	96	95	95
ME	4	3	3	46	50	48	9	10	10	41	37	39
MI	1	2	2	84	87	89				15	11	9
MN	12	7	4	5	5	5	3	1		80	87	91
NY	5	5	5	93	93	93				2	2	2
ND	12	15	11	22	22	21	5	13	6	61	50	62
OR	1	1	1	2	2	2	4	2	2	93	95	95
PA	2	3	3	98	97	97						
WA	1	1	1		1		4	6	4	95	92	95
WI	2	3	2	20	30	25				78	67	73
11 St Avg	2	2	2	10	12	11	4	5	4	84	81	83

**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 1996-99 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Jan 1	Total Used For Fall 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	1996	4,600	3,000	200	23	472	4,105
	1997	4,200	2,300	206	20	340	3,840
	1998	3,708	2,400	171	29	720	2,959
	1999	4,005	2,500				
CO	1996	29,175	20,700	1,925	1,485	3,975	23,715
	1997	24,993	17,000	1,895	1,340	2,773	20,880
	1998	25,360	16,500	1,930	1,615	2,615	21,130
	1999	25,762	17,300				
ID	1996	142,800	92,000	8,600	1,500	10,100	131,200
	1997	140,314	91,500	8,700	1,130	9,258	129,926
	1998	138,000	89,000	8,400	1,280	9,756	126,964
	1999	133,330	86,000				
ME	1996	21,175	15,300	1,584	395	1,800	18,980
	1997	19,080	14,100	1,430	275	1,760	17,045
	1998	18,060	12,500	1,496	360	1,740	15,960
	1999	17,813	13,000				
MI	1996	13,800	6,600	768	300	1,300	12,200
	1997	14,250	7,000	864	200	1,300	12,750
	1998	14,648	7,500	888	200	1,348	13,100
	1999	14,963	7,100				
MN	1996	24,600	14,900	1,348	445	4,158	19,997
	1997	20,440	12,000	1,640	450	1,717	18,273
	1998	21,170	12,000	1,400	254	1,440	19,476
	1999	18,020	8,500				
MT	1996	3,213	2,950	239	137	221	2,855
	1997	3,328	3,080	244	152	208	2,968
	1998	3,180	2,980	253	145	265	2,770
	1999	3,325	3,120				
NE	1996	4,402	2,800	451	169	439	3,794
	1997	7,761	4,300	462	203	380	7,178
	1998	8,175	3,900	469	166	881	7,128
	1999	8,904	4,320				
NY	1996	7,420	2,400	583	127	341	6,952
	1997	7,150	2,500	607	139	315	6,696
	1998	7,290	2,300	572	110	330	6,850
	1999	6,758	2,600				

--continued

**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 1996-99 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Jan 1	Total Used For Fall 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	1996	28,820	18,000	2,188	360	5,270	23,190
	1997	22,000	13,800	2,142	355	2,266	19,379
	1998	28,670	17,500	2,250	395	2,840	25,435
	1999	26,400	13,000				
OH	1996	1,275	170	109	5	35	1,235
	1997	1,170	170	105	8	37	1,125
	1998	1,200	150	100	8	37	1,155
	1999	987	120				
OR	1996	30,124	21,500	1,345	305	2,560	27,259
	1997	27,319	19,000	1,405	195	1,555	25,569
	1998	26,229	17,500	1,382	195	2,206	23,828
	1999	28,020	20,500				
PA	1996	4,160	1,800	266	81	320	3,759
	1997	3,173	1,500	276	78	176	2,919
	1998	3,360	1,500	261	50	252	3,058
	1999	3,080	1,200				
WA	1996	94,990	42,000	3,648	300	6,800	87,890
	1997	88,160	41,500	3,840	300	6,400	81,460
	1998	93,225	43,500	4,080	300	6,500	86,425
	1999	95,200	41,000				
WI	1996	33,150	17,200	1,710	320	1,425	31,405
	1997	30,175	16,800	1,764	275	1,448	28,452
	1998	30,895	17,000	1,720	265	2,360	28,270
	1999	34,000	17,900				
15 Sts	1996	443,704	261,320	24,964	5,952	39,216	398,536
	1997	413,513	246,550	25,580	5,120	29,933	378,460
	1998	423,170	246,230	25,372	5,372	33,290	384,508
	1999	420,567	238,160				
23 Fall Sts	1996	454,388		25,608	6,054	40,087	408,247
	1997	423,190		26,224	5,260	30,841	387,089
	1998	432,737		25,929	5,584	34,231	392,922
	1999	429,847					

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States,
1996-98 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>
CA	1996													
	1997													
	1998				13	12	13	11	10	12	10	8	7	4
CO	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
	1998			5	8	9	12	10	10	12	11	10	9	4
ID	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
	1998		6	11	20	6	6	7	6	8	9	9	6	6
ME	1996		1	8	7	7	8	10	9	14	16	9	11	
	1997		1	6	7	8	8	10	9	15	17	10	9	
	1998		1	7	9	9	9	10	11	14	12	9	9	
MI	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		
	1998	3	8	9	9	9	12	14	9	12	10	5		
MN	1996		6	22	19	11	5	5	7	8	8	5	4	
	1997		5	22	25	11	7	5	6	7	7	5		
	1998		11	16	14	10	5	7	6	8	9	6	8	
NY	1996		7	17	17	14	14	10	8	7	4	2		
	1997		8	15	15	16	15	13	9	5	3	1		
	1998		7	16	16	16	15	11	8	6	4	1		
ND	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
	1998		3	13	14	10	10	8	7	7	9	10	6	3
OR	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
	1998	2	12	15	27	8	5	4	5	6	6	4	4	2
PA	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	
	1998		14	12	11	12	15	11	9	7	6	2	1	
WA	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
	1998		16	13	25	7	3	5	6	7	5	6	6	1
WI	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	
	1998	1	6	18	13	10	10	10	9	9	8	4	2	

Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 15 Fall Storage States, 1996-99

Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	Total Jun 1	Season
	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>
1996	24.2	26.1	28.2	30.0	32.3	34.8		39.2
1997	15.3	17.3	19.3	21.3	23.5	25.6		30.0
1998	19.8	21.7	23.6	25.3	27.3	29.2	30.9	33.1
1999	17.2	21.1						

Potato Stocks Down 3 Percent

The **15 major potato States** held 238 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 2000, down 3 percent from the last two years. Storage accounted for 57 percent of 1999 fall production, one percentage point below last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 11 percent round white, 4 percent long white (Shepody) and 83 percent russet; with more russets, and fewer whites than a year ago.

Disappearance in the 15 States from the start of harvest to January 1, 2000 was a record high 182 million cwt, up 3 percent from the same period last year and slightly above the previous record high in 1996. December's disappearance set a new record 36.2 million cwt, 4 percent more than a year ago. Shrink and loss jumped to 21.1 million cwt this season, down 3 percent from 1998, but 22 percent above two years ago. December losses, at 3.89 million cwt, reflect heavy clean-up in the north-central States.

Processors used 90.3 million cwt of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season, up fractionally from a year ago and 8 percent above two years ago. December usage was 15.7 million cwt, down 1 percent from last year's record high, but 3 percent above 1997.

Eastern States stored 16.8 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, up 3 percent from last year but 7 percent below 1998. Maine's stocks were up 4 percent, New York's storage gained 13 percent, but Pennsylvania's stocks declined 20 percent.

Central States accounted for 50.9 million cwt of potato stocks this January, down 12 percent from last year and 6 percent lower than two years ago. Minnesota's stocks dropped 29 percent and North Dakota fell 26 percent from last year. Michigan was off 5 percent and Ohio slipped 20 percent. Wisconsin gained 5 percent and Nebraska stored 11 percent more potatoes than last year.

Western States held 170 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 2000, down 1 percent from a year ago and 2 percent below two years ago. Colorado and Montana were up 5 percent each and Oregon stored 17 percent more potatoes this year than last. Idaho's stocks were off 3 percent and Washington's were down 6 percent.

Reliability of January 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the January 1 stocks estimate is 2.8 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 238 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.8 percent or approximately 6.7 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.8 percent or approximately 11.4 million cwt.

The 10-year (1990-99) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 5.5 million cwt. During the 10-year period, January 1 stocks estimates have been below the final estimate each year.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final January 1 Stocks, United States, 1989-99

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1989	173,400	99.9	173,550
1990	186,160	95.7	194,460
1991	210,935	100.0	211,005
1992	201,690	93.4	215,990
1993	209,270	96.3	217,300
1994	229,350	96.1	238,560
1995	218,970	98.0	223,550
1996	256,520	98.2	261,320
1997	240,850	97.7	246,550
1998	246,220	100.0	246,230
1999	238,160		

Note: Stocks are the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes not yet moved, 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 90.7 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage and loss and home use accounted for the remaining 9.3 percent. Most seed for use the following crop year is on hand and remains part of stocks until planted.

Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed, United States, 1994-99

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>
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	432,737	392,922	90.8	39,815	9.2	29,516
1999	429,847					

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on February 14, 2000.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports by Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

There are two options for subscribing via e-mail. All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. 1) Starting with the NASS Home Page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>, click on **Publications**, then click on the **Subscribe by E-mail** button which takes you to the page describing e-mail delivery of reports. Finally, click on **Go to the Subscription Page** and follow the instructions. 2) If you do NOT have Internet access, send an e-mail message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu. In the body of the message type the word: **list**.

AUTOFAX ACCESS

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts. Document 0411 is a list of available reports.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-834-0125 FAX: 703-834-0110
(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.