

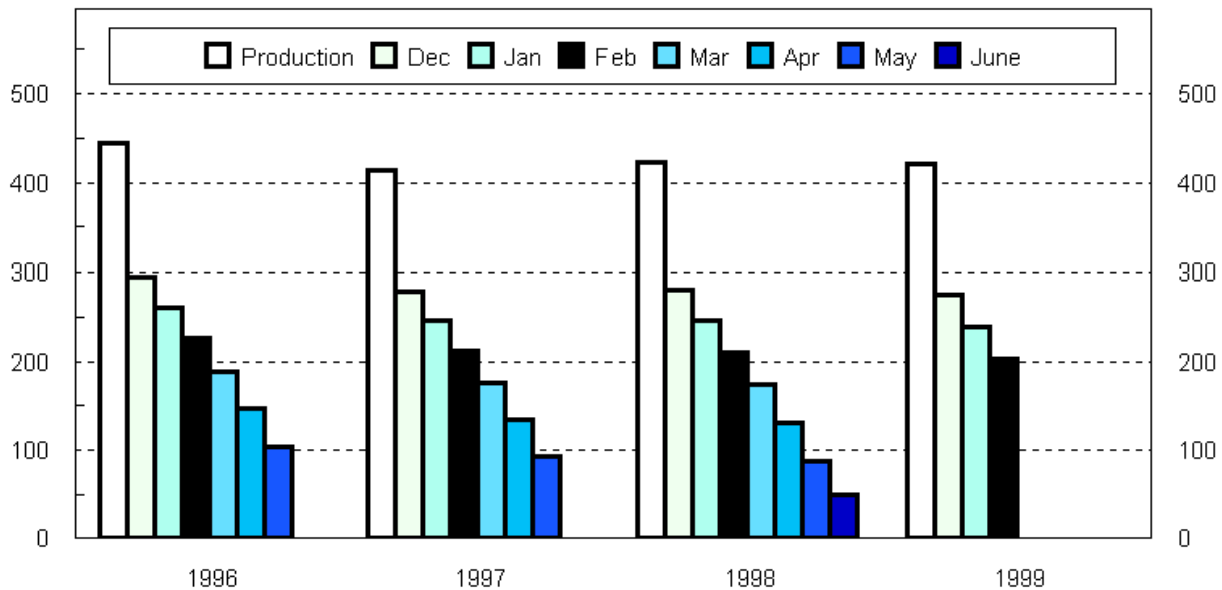
Released February 14, 2000, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Potato Stocks" call Arvin Budge at (202) 720-4285, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

## February Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 206 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 2000, down 2 percent from last year and 3 percent below two years ago. Stocks accounted for 49 percent of 1999 fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago. This year's storage held more russets but fewer reds than a year earlier. Disappearance of 215 million cwt, is up 1 percent from last year. Processing, at 106 million cwt is down 3 percent.

## Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States

Mill Cwt



Production by crop year. Stocks by months following harvest.

**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 <sup>1</sup>
	<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	205,780				

<sup>1</sup> Data not available prior to 1998.

**Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 8 States, 1996-99 <sup>1</sup>**

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 <sup>2</sup>	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>
<b>ID &amp; OR-Mal</b>								
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	40,790					
<b>ME <sup>3</sup></b>								
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	2,310					
<b>WA &amp; OR-Oth</b>								
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	45,500					
<b>Oth Sts <sup>4</sup></b>								
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	17,295					
<b>Total</b>								
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	105,895					

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Data not available prior to 1998.

<sup>3</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

<sup>4</sup> MI, MN, ND, and WI.

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

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 1999	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 2000 <sup>1</sup>	% 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	3,708	2,000	54	4,005	2,200	55
CO	25,360	14,200	56	25,762	15,100	59
ID	138,000	77,500	56	133,330	76,500	57
ME	18,060	10,500	58	17,813	11,300	63
MI	14,648	5,400	37	14,963	5,800	39
MN	21,170	10,500	50	18,020	7,100	39
MT	3,180	2,850	90	3,325	3,000	90
NE	8,175	2,900	35	8,904	3,250	37
NY	7,290	1,500	21	6,758	1,500	22
ND	28,670	15,000	52	26,400	10,500	40
OH	1,200	90	8	987	80	8
OR	26,229	15,800	60	28,020	18,600	66
PA	3,360	900	27	3,080	850	28
WA	93,225	36,500	39	95,200	35,000	37
WI	30,895	14,000	45	34,000	15,000	44
15 States	423,170	209,640	50	420,567	205,780	49

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

State	Potato Types							
	Reds		Round Whites		Long Whites		Russets	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	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>
CO	4	4	6	2			90	94
ID					4	5	96	95
ME	4	3	46	46	9	8	41	43
MI	1	1	84	89			15	10
MN	12	4	5	5	3		80	91
NY	5	5	93	90			2	5
ND	11	10	18	22	3	6	68	62
OR			2	1	4	1	94	98
PA	2	3	98	97				
WA	1	1			3	3	96	96
WI	2	1	18	24			80	75
11 St Avg	2	1	10	10	3	3	85	86

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

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Feb 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	2,500	200	23	472	4,105
	1997	4,200	2,100	206	20	340	3,840
	1998	3,708	2,000	171	29	720	2,959
	1999	4,005	2,200				
CO	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	14,200	1,930	1,615	2,615	21,130
	1999	25,762	15,100				
ID	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	138,000	77,500	8,400	1,280	9,756	126,964
	1999	133,330	76,500				
ME	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	1,496	360	1,740	15,960
	1999	17,813	11,300				
MI	1996	13,800	4,600	768	300	1,300	12,200
	1997	14,250	5,500	864	200	1,300	12,750
	1998	14,648	5,400	888	200	1,348	13,100
	1999	14,963	5,800				
MN	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	1,400	254	1,440	19,476
	1999	18,020	7,100				
MT	1996	3,213	2,850	239	137	221	2,855
	1997	3,328	2,980	244	152	208	2,968
	1998	3,180	2,850	253	145	265	2,770
	1999	3,325	3,000				
NE	1996	4,402	2,440	451	169	439	3,794
	1997	7,761	3,300	462	203	380	7,178
	1998	8,175	2,900	469	166	881	7,128
	1999	8,904	3,250				
NY	1996	7,420	1,400	583	127	341	6,952
	1997	7,150	1,500	607	139	315	6,696
	1998	7,290	1,500	572	110	330	6,850
	1999	6,758	1,500				

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

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Feb 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	15,000	2,188	360	5,270	23,190
	1997	22,000	11,900	2,142	355	2,266	19,379
	1998	28,670	15,000	2,250	395	2,840	25,435
	1999	26,400	10,500				
OH	1996	1,275	90	109	5	35	1,235
	1997	1,170	82	105	8	37	1,125
	1998	1,200	90	100	8	37	1,155
	1999	987	80				
OR	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	1,382	195	2,206	23,828
	1999	28,020	18,600				
PA	1996	4,160	1,300	266	81	320	3,759
	1997	3,173	1,200	276	78	176	2,919
	1998	3,360	900	261	50	252	3,058
	1999	3,080	850				
WA	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	4,080	300	6,500	86,425
	1999	95,200	35,000				
WI	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	14,000	1,720	265	2,360	28,270
	1999	34,000	15,000				
15 Sts	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	423,170	209,640	25,372	5,372	33,290	384,508
	1999	420,567	205,780				
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	

## Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent

February 1, 2000 **potato stocks** totaled 206 million cwt, down 2 percent from a year ago and 3 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 49 percent of fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago. Stocks by type were 1 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 3 percent long white (Shepodys), and 86 percent russets, with more russets but fewer reds than a year ago.

**Disappearance** from the start of harvest to February 1 totaled 215 million cwt this season, up 1 percent from last year and 7 percent above two years ago. January disappearance of 32.4 million cwt was 12 percent below last year and down 5 percent from two years ago. Shrink and loss of 23.4 million cwt was down 1 percent from last year but 21 percent above two years ago.

**Processing** of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 106 million cwt, down 3 percent from the 1998 crop but 7 percent above the 1997 crop. In January, processors used 15.6 million cwt of potatoes, down 17 percent from last year but 1 percent above two years ago.

**Eastern States** stored 13.7 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 2000, up 6 percent from a year ago but 8 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings were up 8 percent, New York's were the same, but Pennsylvania's stocks were off 6 percent from last year.

**Central States** accounted for 41.7 million cwt of potato stocks this February, down 13 percent from 1999 and 6 percent below 1998. Minnesota's stocks dropped by 32 percent and North Dakota's stocks fell 30 percent from last year. Michigan and Wisconsin were up 7 percent each. Nebraska's stocks were up 12 percent, while Ohio was off 11 percent.

**Western States** held 150 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 2000, up 1 percent from last year but 2 percent below 1998. Oregon's stocks were up 18 percent from a year ago, but were mostly offset by a 4 percent decline in Washington and a 1 percent dip in Idaho. Colorado's stocks were up 6 percent and Montana's were up 5 percent. California's potato stocks were up 10 percent.

**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	23.4					

## Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 206 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.3 percent or approximately 6.8 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.6 percent or approximately 11.5 million cwt.

The 10-year (1990-99) record of differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates were up an average of 5.3 million cwt, ranging from 14.2 million cwt below the final to 1.46 million cwt above. During the 10-year period, the February 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 8 out of 10 years.

### Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final February 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	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	100.7	209,640
1999	205,780		

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 90.7 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.3 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, 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 March 14, 2000.

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