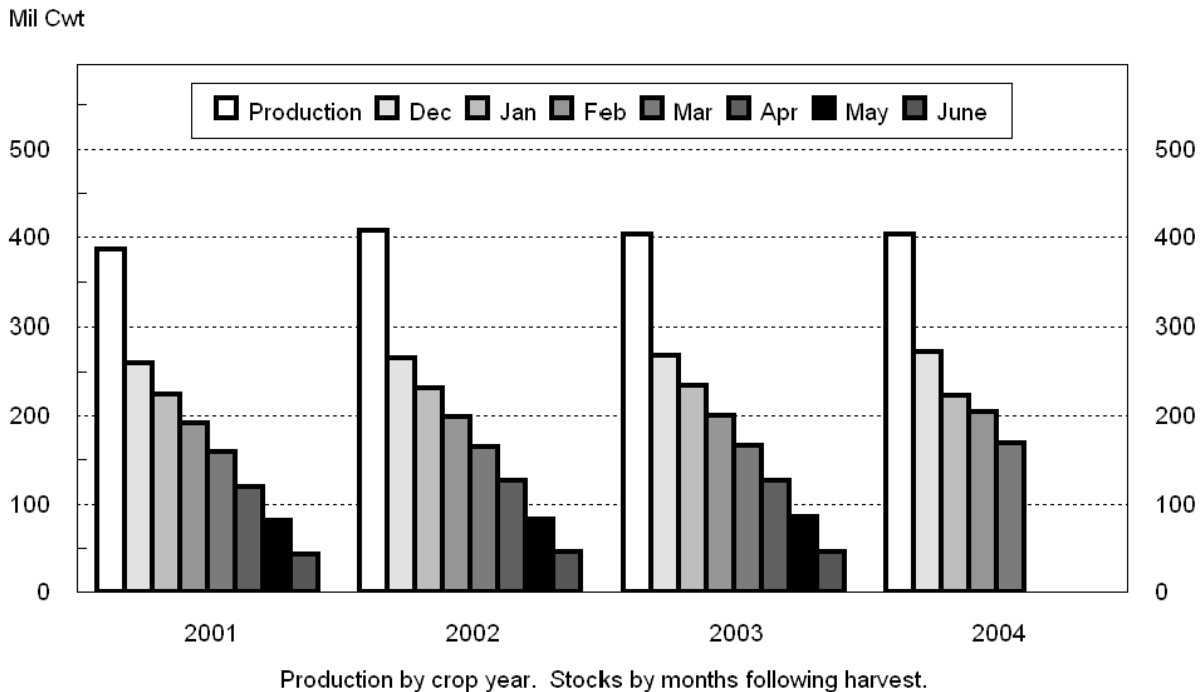


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Potato Stocks Up 1 Percent from Last Year

The 15 major potato States held 168 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2005, up 1 percent from last year and 2 percent above 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 42 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year. Disappearance of 235 million cwt of potatoes is down 1 percent from last year and 3 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 24.6 million cwt so far this season, is up 9 percent from last year and 10 percent above the same date in 2003. Processors in the 9 major States used 119 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 1 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 23.7 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year and 15 percent below the same date in 2003.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1995-2004

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>
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	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003	403,181	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004	403,327	271,800	238,220	204,190	168,420			

¹ Data not available prior to 1998.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 2002-2004 ¹

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 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>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ID & OR-Mal								
2002	28,380	34,860	41,200	48,600	56,240	63,840	71,280	85,390
2003	24,310	30,730	36,260	43,640	49,570	56,380	63,770	77,530
2004	24,360	30,840	36,820	44,610				
ME ²								
2002	2,230	2,715	3,345	3,905	4,505	5,225	5,905	7,835
2003	1,590	2,085	2,720	3,420	4,095	4,740	5,400	7,270
2004	1,555	1,985	2,615	3,150				
WA & OR-Oth								
2002	33,680	39,490	44,190	51,920	58,710	64,300	71,480	79,110
2003	32,670	38,520	43,610	51,210	58,500	64,160	72,350	79,800
2004	32,305	38,130	43,570	50,730				
Other Sts ³								
2002	12,675	15,530	18,735	21,780	24,810	27,405	30,655	38,700
2003	13,835	16,505	19,590	22,685	25,920	29,480	32,845	42,160
2004	12,525	15,035	18,005	20,945				
Total								
2002	76,965	92,595	107,470	126,205	144,265	160,770	179,320	211,035
2003	72,405	87,840	102,180	120,955	138,085	154,760	174,365	206,760
2004	70,745	85,990	101,010	119,435				
Dehydrated ⁴								
2002	15,675	19,660	23,710	27,950	31,915	36,105	40,455	48,940
2003	14,250	18,440	22,050	26,090	30,290	34,630	39,070	47,750
2004	13,365	17,015	19,995	23,735				

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, and WI.

² Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

³ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI.

⁴ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. Includes CO, ID, NV, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on March 1, 2004-2005 ¹

State	Crop of 2003			Crop of 2004		
	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 2004 ²	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 2005 ²	% 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	3,528	1,300	37	3,876	1,300	34
CO	23,652	10,700	45	23,148	11,100	48
ID	123,180	58,000	47	131,970	64,000	48
ME	17,030	8,900	52	19,220	9,400	49
MI	15,015	5,100	34	13,650	3,900	29
MN	22,330	9,600	43	18,920	8,800	47
MT	3,339	2,800	84	3,551	3,200	90
NE	9,744			9,288		
NY	6,510	700	11	5,184	700	14
ND	27,440	13,000	47	26,765	13,100	49
OH	1,097			1,080		
OR	20,991	11,000	52	19,775	9,000	46
PA	3,375	700	21	2,640	700	27
WA	93,150	29,500	32	93,810	29,000	31
WI	32,800	11,200	34	30,450	11,000	36
Other Sts		3,780			3,220	
15 Sts	403,181	166,280	41	403,327	168,420	42

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2004 totaled 26.4 million cwt.

² Missing stocks combined into "Other Sts".

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes that are 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.

**Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed,
United States, 1999-2004**

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>
1999	429,847	390,210	90.8	39,637	9.2	29,580
2000	467,529	420,301	89.9	47,228	10.1	27,137
2001	393,631	358,812	91.2	34,819	8.8	28,625
2002	413,581	378,796	91.6	34,785	8.4	28,149
2003	410,588	371,755	90.5	38,833	9.5	26,360
2004	410,023					

**Fall Potatoes: Production, March 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 2001-2004 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Mar 1 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	2001	1,513	600	226	3	150	1,360
	2002	4,316	2,000	208	16	399	3,901
	2003	3,528	1,300	169	1	343	3,184
	2004	3,876	1,300				
CO	2001	21,357	9,400	1,790	1,465	1,887	18,005
	2002	27,885	13,100	1,724	1,460	2,845	23,580
	2003	23,652	10,700	1,625	1,410	2,507	19,735
	2004	23,148	11,100				
ID	2001	120,200	58,000	8,250	1,230	8,261	110,709
	2002	133,385	62,000	7,920	1,440	8,650	123,295
	2003	123,180	58,000	7,700	1,463	8,900	112,817
	2004	131,970	64,000				
ME	2001	16,430	7,100	1,355	301	849	15,280
	2002	16,960	8,000	1,386	310	790	15,860
	2003	17,030	8,900	1,245	215	2,430	14,385
	2004	19,220	9,400				
MI	2001	13,950	3,200	1,181	245	945	12,760
	2002	13,878	4,500	1,099	205	1,400	12,273
	2003	15,015	5,100	1,060	265	1,680	13,070
	2004	13,650	3,900				
MN	2001	18,425	7,900	1,178	190	1,700	16,535
	2002	18,810	7,400	1,080	130	1,400	17,280
	2003	22,330	9,600	1,060	130	1,800	20,400
	2004	18,920	8,800				
MT	2001	3,296	2,460	263	152	188	2,956
	2002	3,224	2,800	257	145	142	2,937
	2003	3,339	2,800	268	160	270	2,909
	2004	3,551	3,200				
NE	2001	8,400		570	153	720	7,527
	2002	8,611		611	149	612	7,850
	2003	9,744		616	194	840	8,710
	2004	9,288					
NY	2001	5,942	600	495	100	502	5,340
	2002	5,500	600	488	100	350	5,050
	2003	6,510	700	440	100	520	5,890
	2004	5,184	700				

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

**Fall Potatoes: Production, March 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 2001-2004 Crop Years (continued)**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Mar 1 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	2001	26,400	12,300	2,301	320	3,960	22,120
	2002	23,460	10,000	2,223	450	2,650	20,360
	2003	27,440	13,000	1,805	390	3,700	23,350
	2004	26,765	13,100				
OH	2001	1,097		95	3	36	1,058
	2002	902		95	2	11	889
	2003	1,097		76	6	40	1,051
	2004	1,080					
OR	2001	20,730	11,500	1,200	175	1,059	19,496
	2002	24,936	9,900	1,021	266	1,386	23,284
	2003	20,991	11,000	955	275	1,290	19,426
	2004	19,775	9,000				
PA	2001	2,938	600	238	59	120	2,759
	2002	2,128	500	238	36	78	2,014
	2003	3,375	700	228	42	287	3,046
	2004	2,640	700				
WA	2001	94,400	32,500	3,888	300	7,000	87,100
	2002	92,340	30,500	3,912	300	6,500	85,540
	2003	93,150	29,500	4,000	280	5,600	87,270
	2004	93,810	29,000				
WI	2001	31,955	10,000	1,596	278	1,947	29,730
	2002	30,750	11,000	1,782	265	1,738	28,747
	2003	32,800	11,200	1,650	300	2,750	29,750
	2004	30,450	11,000				
Other Sts	2001		2,430				
	2002		2,910				
	2003		3,780				
	2004		3,220				
15 Sts	2001	387,033	158,590	24,626	4,974	29,324	352,735
	2002	407,085	165,210	24,044	5,274	28,951	372,860
	2003	403,181	166,280	22,897	5,231	32,957	364,993
	2004	403,327	168,420				
Fall Sts	2001	393,631		25,043	5,039	29,780	358,812
	2002	413,581		24,496	5,399	29,386	378,796
	2003	410,588		23,249	5,254	33,579	371,755
	2004	410,023					

¹ Missing stocks combined into "Other Sts" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States,
2001-2003 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	2001					21	6	20	13	20	20			
	2002				11	11	11	10	10	10	13	8	9	7
	2003				13	12	15	14	9	8	10	7	12	
CO	2001			5	10	11	12	12	9	11	10	11	7	2
	2002			4	9	10	10	11	9	11	11	10	7	8
	2003			6	8	9	10	11	9	12	14	8	7	6
ID	2001		3	12	13	8	6	7	9	10	10	10	6	6
	2002		4	8	11	10	7	8	8	10	11	10	7	6
	2003		4	8	10	11	8	7	8	10	11	11	6	6
ME	2001		1	9	10	9	9	12	11	11	12	8	5	3
	2002		2	7	11	9	8	10	9	10	15	10	5	4
	2003		1	5	11	8	9	10	10	11	15	10	6	4
MI	2001	3	7	8	12	11	12	13	11	11	8	3	1	
	2002	4	7	11	12	13	8	6	8	12	13	6		
	2003	1	7	8	11	11	11	10	8	13	12	8		
MN	2001		10	9	7	7	6	7	9	10	10	9	8	8
	2002		9	9	9	7	8	7	9	7	10	12	8	5
	2003		9	10	10	9	6	5	6	9	10	9	9	8
NY	2001		4	20	18	17	15	9	7	6	4			
	2002		8	17	16	14	11	14	10	7	3			
	2003		1	8	29	20	17	8	7	6	4			
ND	2001			18	10	12	7	8	7	7	14	11	6	
	2002		2	22	10	9	6	9	4	8	10	13	5	2
	2003			23	10	6	7	6	9	7	11	10	9	2
OR	2001		7	13	21	8	6	5	7	7	8	8	7	3
	2002		11	9	21	9	9	6	9	8	6	7	3	2
	2003		10	9	19	9	8	7	7	7	8	8	5	3
PA	2001		17	16	15	12	12	10	8	7	2	1		
	2002		18	14	17	14	10	9	6	5	4	3		
	2003		15	18	14	11	10	10	9	6	5	2		
WA	2001		11	13	25	7	6	5	7	7	6	7	5	1
	2002		17	12	19	9	5	5	7	6	6	7	6	1
	2003		16	12	22	7	6	5	7	6	6	7	5	1
WI	2001	1	6	13	14	12	10	9	8	10	11	5	1	
	2002	1	7	12	12	12	9	9	8	12	10	6	2	
	2003	1	6	12	12	12	10	9	10	10	9	7	2	

March Potato Stocks Up 1 Percent from Last Year

The 15 major potato States held 168 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2005, up 1 percent from last year and 2 percent above 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 42 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year.

Disappearance of 235 million cwt from the start of harvest to March 1, is down 1 percent from last year and 3 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 24.6 million cwt, is up 9 percent from last year and 10 percent above the same date in 2003.

Processors used 119 million cwt of 2004 crop potatoes so far this season, down 1 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below two years ago. February usage, at 18.4 million cwt, is 2 percent below both last year and two years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, processing increased 2 percent from a year ago, while Washington and the rest of Oregon processing decreased 1 percent from last season. Dehydrating usage accounts for 23.7 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year and 15 percent below the same date in 2003.

Western States held 118 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, up 4 percent from last year but 2 percent below two years ago. Montana's potato stocks are up 14 percent from last year, Idaho's storages hold 10 percent more, and Colorado's potato sheds stored 4 percent more than last year. Oregon's potato stocks are down 18 percent and Washington's sheds hold 2 percent less than last year. California's stocks are unchanged from a year ago.

Central States accounted for 40.0 million cwt of potato stocks on March 1, down 6 percent from last year but 12 percent above two years ago. Michigan's potato stocks are down 24 percent, Minnesota potato sheds stored 8 percent less than last year, and Wisconsin's stocks decreased 2 percent. Nebraska and Ohio potato stocks combined decreased 15 percent from last year. North Dakota's sheds are the only sheds in the Central States storing more potatoes than last year, with an increase of 1 percent.

Eastern States stored 10.8 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, up 5 percent from last year and 19 percent above two years ago. Maine's potato sheds hold 6 percent more than last year, while New York and Pennsylvania's sheds remain unchanged from a year ago.

Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 15 Fall Storage States, 2001-2004

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>
2001	14.8	17.4	19.8	21.8	23.6	25.1	26.7	29.3
2002	15.5	18.2	20.5	22.4	24.2	25.8	27.2	29.0
2003	15.0	17.4	20.5	22.6	25.4	27.5	29.9	33.0
2004	16.6	20.0	22.5	24.6				

Reliability of March 1 Stocks Estimates

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the March 1 stocks estimate, the “Root Mean Square Error,” a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the March 1 stocks estimate and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20-year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the “Root Mean Square Error.” Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimate relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year’s estimate are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the March 1 stocks estimate is 3.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 168 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.5 percent or approximately 5.9 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.0 percent or approximately 10.1 million cwt.

The 10-year (1994-2003) record of differences between the March 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.3 million cwt, ranging from 9.3 million cwt above the final to 6.3 million cwt below the final. During the 10-year period, the March 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 5 years and above 5 years.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final March 1 Stocks,
United States, 1994-2004**

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1994	163,305	96.3	169,570
1995	152,255	97.6	156,020
1996	184,565	97.5	189,210
1997	170,325	96.8	175,870
1998	174,100	100.3	173,650
1999	170,050	100.3	169,620
2000	198,320	100.3	197,670
2001	167,870	105.9	158,590
2002	163,900	99.2	165,210
2003	166,690	100.2	166,280
2004	168,420		

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