

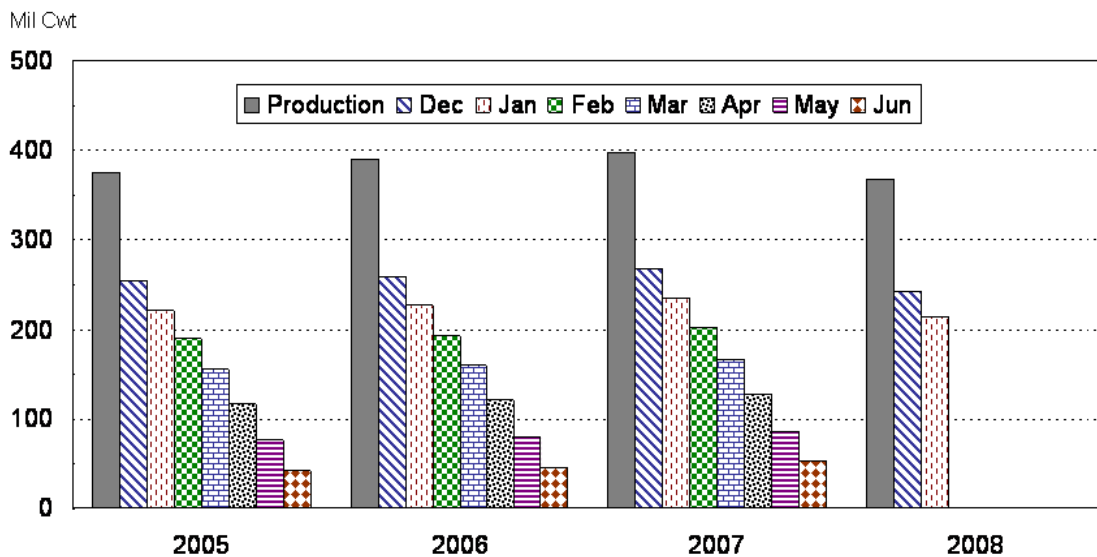
Released January 15, 2009, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Potato Stocks* call Faye Propson at (202) 720-4285, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Potato Stocks Down 9 Percent From January 2008

The 13 major potato States held 213 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2009, down 9 percent from a year ago and 6 percent below January 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 58 percent of the 2008 fall storage States' production, down 1 point from January 1, 2008. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 3.30 million cwt on January 1, 2009, down 3 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 155 million cwt, was 5 percent below both January 1, 2008 and 2007. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 14.8 million cwt, was down 10 percent from the same date in 2008 and 8 percent below 2007. Processors in the 9 major States have used 87.3 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 3 percent from the same period last year and down 4 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 14.6 million cwt of the total processing, down 13 percent from last year and 24 percent below the same period in 2007.

Beginning this month, previous month's stocks, shrinkage, and dehydration estimates are open for revisions. Any changes will be indicated with a footnote.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 13 Storage States



Production by crop year. Stocks by months following harvest.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 1999-2008

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 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>
1999 ¹	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000 ¹	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001 ¹	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002 ¹	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003 ¹	403,566	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004 ¹	404,017	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	375,118	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,527	259,300	226,100	192,600	159,700	121,000	79,050	44,460
2007	397,753	267,500	234,100	200,500	165,000	127,000	85,460	51,920
2008 ²	367,715	243,300	212,500					

¹ 15 major States.

² December 1, 2008 stocks revised.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 2006-2008 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								
2006	27,090	34,070	41,350	48,940	56,650	63,680	71,220	85,630
2007	26,230	33,250	40,310	48,660	55,460	63,000	70,700	88,030
2008	22,360	28,980						
ME ²								
2006	1,755	2,360	2,910	3,465	4,185	4,810	5,470	7,635
2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,990	4,670	5,240	7,640
2008 ³	1,635	2,240						
WA & OR-Oth								
2006	30,980	37,060	42,190	49,930	56,690	63,170	70,410	77,355
2007	30,595	36,940	42,350	50,165	57,160	67,690	72,380	82,770
2008	32,570	37,750						
Other Sts ⁴								
2006	14,270	17,695	21,290	24,545	28,040	31,370	34,830	43,565
2007	15,040	17,535	20,755	23,900	26,650	29,710	32,600	39,430
2008	15,195	18,375						
Total								
2006	74,095	91,185	107,740	126,880	145,565	163,030	181,930	214,185
2007	73,565	89,895	106,230	126,165	143,260	165,070	180,920	217,870
2008 ³	71,760	87,345						
Dehydrated ⁵								
2006	14,590	19,250	23,635	27,885	32,210	36,480	40,915	49,370
2007	12,815	16,785	21,040	25,350	29,500	33,650	37,975	46,760
2008	10,745	14,565						

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 and WI.

² Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

³ December revised.

⁴ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI.

⁵ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes CO, ID, NV, OR, WA, and WI.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States,
January 1, 2008-2009¹**

State	Crop of 2007			Crop of 2008			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 2008	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 2008	Stocks Jan 1, 2009	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	3,792	1,600	42	3,939	1,900	1,500	38
CO	20,981	13,200	63	21,338	16,400	14,500	68
ID	130,010	82,000	63	114,805	83,000	73,500	64
ME ²	16,668	11,400	68	14,769	11,300	10,000	68
MI ²	14,700	7,000	48	14,875	8,300	6,500	44
MN	21,560	11,600	54	20,400	13,000	11,300	55
MT ²	3,696	3,400	92	3,465	3,400	3,300	95
NE ²	8,217	4,500	55	8,342	5,500	4,900	59
NY	5,216	2,100	40	5,696	2,600	1,800	32
ND	23,660	12,500	53	22,680	14,800	12,500	55
OR ²	20,293	16,100	79	18,676	16,100	14,100	75
WA	100,800	52,000	52	93,000	49,500	43,800	47
WI	28,160	16,700	59	25,730	17,500	14,800	58
13 States ²	397,753	234,100	59	367,715	243,300	212,500	58
Klamath Basin ³		3,400			4,000	3,300	

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2008 totaled 24.5 million cwt.

² December 1, 2008 stocks revised.

³ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR.

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
10 Selected States, January 1, 2008-2009**

State	Potato Types														
	Reds			Round Whites			Long Whites			Yellows			Russets		
	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Jan 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009
<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>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	4	3	3	3	1	1				11	11	11	82	85	85
ID	2	2	2		1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	94	95	95
ME	3	2	2	43	43	41	1			2	3	3	51	52	54
MI	1	1	1	86	83	87				1	1	1	12	15	11
MN	12	9	8	5	3	2					2	1	83	86	89
NY ¹	16	5	4	69	89	92				13	6	4	2		
ND	13	15	14	13	7	7	4	8	8	1	1	1	69	69	70
OR	1	1	1	6	7	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	91	90	91
WA	3	3	3	4	5	5	7	11	11	1	1	1	85	80	80
WI	2	5	4	33	12	15							65	83	81
10 St Avg	4	4	3	10	9	9	3	3	3	2	2	2	81	82	82

¹ December 2008 Revised.

**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
13 Storage States and Fall Season States, 2005-2008 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	Stocks Jan 1 <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	Total Used For Fall Seed <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	Farm Disposition		
					Where Grown		Sold <i>1,000 Cwt</i>
					Seed, Feed, Home Use <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	Shrinkage and Loss <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	
CA	2005	3,306	1,300	249		331	2,975
	2006	3,870	1,500	210		480	3,390
	2007	3,792	1,600	279		372	3,420
	2008	3,939	1,500				
CO	2005	22,910	15,000	1,498	1,200	1,650	20,060
	2006	22,686	15,200	1,480	1,140	2,056	19,490
	2007	20,981	13,200	1,482	1,060	2,236	17,685
	2008	21,338	14,500				
ID	2005	118,288	75,500	7,370	1,230	7,800	109,258
	2006	128,915	80,000	7,875	1,188	8,200	119,527
	2007	130,010	82,000	6,930	945	8,700	120,365
	2008	114,805	73,500				
ME	2005	15,455	11,200	1,264	242	1,183	14,030
	2006	17,385	12,800	1,236	228	1,482	16,270
	2007	16,668	11,400	1,172	195	800	15,820
	2008	14,769	10,000				
MI	2005	13,910	6,200	1,044	182	1,728	12,000
	2006	14,190	6,300	961	180	1,800	12,210
	2007	14,700	7,000	1,046	185	1,115	13,400
	2008	14,875	6,500				
MN	2005	18,450	11,100	1,040	140	1,600	15,890
	2006	21,250	11,600	1,190	250	1,700	18,450
	2007	21,560	11,600	946	118	1,112	19,450
	2008	20,400	11,300				
MT	2005	3,445	3,300	244	156	210	3,079
	2006	3,518	3,300	270	180	130	3,208
	2007	3,696	3,400	273	172	227	3,297
	2008	3,465	3,300				
NE	2005	8,245	4,700	515	231	834	7,180
	2006	8,730	4,900	521	200	775	7,755
	2007	8,217	4,500	497	186	716	7,315
	2008	8,342	4,900				
NY	2005	5,226	2,200	453	100	491	4,635
	2006	5,700	2,200	460	100	480	5,120
	2007	5,216	2,100	432	94	370	4,752
	2008	5,696	1,800				

--continued

**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
13 Storage States and Fall Season States, 2005-2008 Crop Years (continued)**

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	2005	20,500	11,500	1,900	240	1,810	18,450
	2006	25,480	15,000	1,853	240	2,290	22,950
	2007	23,660	12,500	1,577	240	2,220	21,200
	2008	22,680	12,500				
OR	2005	22,023	16,500	837	255	1,392	20,376
	2006	18,533	13,900	880	260	1,020	17,253
	2007	20,293	16,100	863	193	1,220	18,825
	2008	18,676	14,100				
WA	2005	95,480	46,500	3,900	240	6,000	89,240
	2006	89,900	42,500	4,290	240	5,500	84,160
	2007	100,800	52,000	3,875	236	6,500	95,564
	2008	93,000	43,800				
WI	2005	27,880	15,500	1,452	300	1,380	26,200
	2006	29,370	16,900	1,430	245	1,925	27,200
	2007	28,160	16,700	1,548	250	1,505	26,405
	2008	25,730	14,800				
13 States	2005	378,732	220,500	21,766	4,516	26,409	343,373
	2006	389,527	226,100	22,656	4,451	27,838	356,983
	2007	397,753	234,100	20,920	3,874	27,093	367,498
	2008	367,715	212,500				
Fall States	2005	383,563		22,415	4,545	27,115	351,083
	2006	399,176		23,337	4,482	28,576	365,863
	2007	406,800		21,547	3,899	27,796	375,823
	2008	376,386					
Klamath Basin ¹	2005						
	2006		3,400				
	2007		3,400				
	2008		3,300				

¹ Estimates began in December 2006. Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR.

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 91.3 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss, and home use account for the remaining 8.7 percent.

**Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed,
United States, 2003-2008¹**

Crop Year	Fall Potatoes					Amount Used for Seed All Seasons Following Year
	Production	Sold	Sold as % of Production	Not Sold	Not Sold as % of Production	
	<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>
2003	410,973	371,755	90.5	39,218	9.5	26,687
2004	410,683	369,781	90.0	40,902	10.0	24,768
2005	383,563	351,083	91.5	32,480	8.5	25,659
2006	399,176	365,863	91.7	33,313	8.3	26,437
2007	406,800	375,823	92.4	30,977	7.6	24,512
2008	376,386					

¹ Production revised in *Field Crops, Final Estimates 2002 - 2007* publication released December 31, 2008. Disposition will be revised in *Potatoes and Sweet Potatoes, Final Estimates 2003 - 2007* publication, which will be released January 30, 2009.

Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 13 Fall Storage States, 2005-2008

Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	Total Jun 1
	<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>
2005	12.7	15.0	16.8	18.4	20.2	22.0	23.7
2006	13.2	16.1	18.4	20.4	22.3	24.0	25.5
2007	14.2	16.4	18.4	20.2	22.1	24.0	25.3
2008 ¹	12.8	14.8					

¹ December 1, 2008 shrink and loss revised.

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States and United States,
2005-2007 Marketing Years**

State	Marketing 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	2005				4	14	22	10	11	12	12	8	7	
	2006				9	15	11	15	10	11	12	9	5	3
	2007			6	9	12	11	10	8	9	9	11	11	4
CO	2005			5	8	10	10	10	8	11	10	12	10	6
	2006			6	7	9	9	10	9	10	11	11	11	7
	2007			5	9	11	10	11	9	10	10	12	7	6
ID	2005		2	11	13	8	7	8	7	11	10	10	6	7
	2006		3	11	12	8	7	8	8	10	10	9	7	7
	2007		3	12	12	8	7	7	8	9	10	9	7	8
ME	2005			5	11	8	9	10	9	12	15	10	6	5
	2006			8	7	8	9	9	8	13	13	12	7	6
	2007			8	8	9	9	10	10	10	13	10	5	8
MI	2005	1	8	11	13	12	12	12	10	10	8	3		
	2006	1	9	12	13	12	12	12	7	11	7	4		
	2007	3	7	10	11	11	12	11	10	9	8	6	2	
MN	2005		7	6	4	7	15	12	12	14	9	3	6	5
	2006	5	8	7	7	7	7	8	9	11	10	10	11	
	2007	1	10	9	8	8	8	8	8	10	9	9	6	6
NY	2005		2	14	14	12	13	10	12	14	7	2		
	2006		4	15	14	12	14	16	7	10	4	4		
	2007	1	5	11	11	13	17	11	7	13	8	3		
ND	2005		2	25	13	5	9	9	9	8	10	7	2	1
	2006		3	27	11	6	6	11	5	7	10	9	4	1
	2007		7	30	5	10	7	7	6	6	7	4	3	8
OR	2005		17	10	13	5	7	5	8	9	10	8	4	4
	2006		12	10	13	5	7	7	7	10	10	8	7	4
	2007		12	8	13	6	5	6	7	10	12	9	7	5
WA	2005		14	13	23	7	6	4	6	7	7	7	5	1
	2006		15	11	25	7	6	5	7	6	6	6	5	1
	2007		13	11	25	7	6	6	7	6	6	6	5	2
WI	2005	1	6	16	11	10	10	9	9	10	8	8	2	
	2006	1	6	15	10	10	10	9	9	11	10	6	3	
	2007	1	5	14	12	10	10	9	11	12	10	5	1	
US	2005		7	12	14	8	8	7	8	10	9	8	5	4
	2006		7	12	14	8	7	8	8	9	9	8	6	4
	2007		7	12	14	8	8	7	8	8	9	8	6	

Reliability of January 1 Stocks Estimates

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the January 1 stocks estimate, the “Root Mean Square Error,” a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the January 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 January 1 stocks estimate is 2.7 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 213 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.7 percent, or approximately 5.74 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.6 percent, or approximately 9.78 million cwt.

The 20-year (1988-2007) record of differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.39 million cwt, ranging from 14.3 million cwt above the final to 10,000 cwt below the final. During the 20-year period, the January 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 15 years and above 5 years.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final January 1 Stocks,
United States, 1998-2008**

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1998	246,220	100.0	246,230
1999	238,160	99.3	239,910
2000	272,960	99.2	275,270
2001	233,420	103.9	224,680
2002	232,140	100.3	231,490
2003	233,880	100.1	233,590
2004	238,220	100.6	236,700
2005	218,900	99.3	220,500
2006	220,000	97.3	226,100
2007	237,500	101.5	234,100
2008	212,500		

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