

Potato Stocks

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Potato Stocks Down 11 Percent From June 2008

The 13 major potato States held 44.8 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2009, down 11 percent from a year ago but 1 percent above June 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 12 percent of the 2008 fall storage States' production, slightly below June 1, 2008. Potato disappearance, at 323 million cwt, was 7 percent below June 1, 2008 and down 6 percent from 2007. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 23.8 million cwt, was down 6 percent from the same date in 2008 and 7 percent below 2007.

Processors in the 9 major States have used 169 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 7 percent from both the same period last year and 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 31.9 million cwt of the total processing, down 16 percent from last year and 22 percent below the same period in 2007.

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

State	Crop of 2007			Crop of 2008			
	Prod	Stocks Jun 1, 2008 ²	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks May 1, 2009	Stocks Jun 1, 2009 ²	Jun % 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	300	8	3,939	500	400	10
CO	20,981	2,500	12	21,338	5,300	3,400	16
ID	130,010	23,000	18	114,805	30,000	18,500	16
ME	16,668	2,500	15	14,769	3,700	2,200	15
MI	14,700			14,875	700	100	1
MN ³	21,560	2,400	11	20,400	4,500	3,400	17
MT	3,696			3,465		40	1
NE	8,217			8,342	1,100		
NY	5,216			5,696			
ND ³	23,660	2,800	12	22,680	4,000	2,000	9
OR	20,293	4,200	21	18,676	5,300	3,800	20
WA	100,800	11,000	11	93,000	16,500	8,300	9
WI	28,160	1,000	4	25,730	3,600	2,000	8
Other States		720			800	630	
13 States ³	397,753	50,420	13	367,715	76,000	44,770	12
Klamath Basin ^{4 5}					750		

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

² Missing stocks combined into "Other States".

³ May 1, 2009 stocks revised.

⁴ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR. Included in the 13 State total.

⁵ Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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	258,900	225,800	192,200	159,500	120,900	79,050	44,460
2007	397,753	265,500	232,300	199,300	163,400	125,500	83,960	50,420
2008 ²	367,715	243,300	212,800	183,500	151,400	114,450	76,000	44,770

¹ 15 major States.

² May 1, 2009 stocks revised.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 2006-2008¹

State and Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To 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	35,430	42,150	49,030	55,570	62,940	
ME ²								
2006	1,785	2,390	2,940	3,490	4,215	4,840	5,500	7,675
2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,990	4,670	5,240	7,550
2008	1,635	2,240	2,890	3,505	4,000	4,795	5,540	
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	42,490	49,795	56,350	62,620	70,625	
Other Sts ³								
2006	14,355	17,800	21,415	24,690	28,205	31,560	35,040	43,565
2007	15,040	17,535	20,755	23,900	26,650	29,710	32,600	39,430
2008 ⁴	12,535	15,190	18,250	21,150	24,140	26,635	29,595	
Total								
2006	74,210	91,320	107,895	127,050	145,760	163,250	182,170	214,225
2007	73,565	89,895	106,230	126,165	143,260	165,070	180,920	217,780
2008 ⁴	69,100	84,160	99,060	116,600	133,520	149,620	168,700	
Dehydrated ⁵								
2006	14,590	19,250	23,635	27,885	32,210	36,480	40,915	49,375
2007	12,815	16,785	21,040	25,350	29,500	33,650	37,975	46,660
2008 ⁴	10,745	14,570	18,405	21,535	24,945	28,265	31,940	

¹ Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced.

² Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.

³ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in WI.

⁴ May 1, 2009 revised.

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

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	To 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	12.7	14.9	16.8	18.7	20.6	22.3	23.8

Reliability of June 1 Stocks Estimates

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the June 1 stocks estimate, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the June 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 June 1 stocks estimate is 9.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 44.8 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 9.2 percent, or approximately 4.12 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 16.8 percent, or approximately 7.52 million cwt.

Changes between the June 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 2.95 million cwt, ranging from 160,000 cwt to 8.46 million cwt. During the 20 year period, the June 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 5 times and above 5 times.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final June 1 Stocks, United States, Crop of 1998-2008

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1998	51,390	102.2	50,270
1999	46,670	98.8	47,220
2000	63,160	103.1	61,270
2001	51,450	119.7	42,990
2002	45,720	99.7	45,880
2003	47,410	103.0	46,020
2004	51,000	98.6	51,700
2005	39,960	96.2	41,560
2006	38,830	87.3	44,460
2007	58,390	115.8	50,420
2008	44,770		

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