



# Potato Stocks

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## Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent From February 2015

The 13 major potato States held 197 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2016, down 2 percent from February 1, 2015. Potatoes in storage accounted for 49 percent of the fall storage States' 2015 production, 2 percentage points lower than last year. Potato disappearance, at 202 million cwt, was up 3 percent from February 1, 2015. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 16.9 million cwt, was 7 percent lower than last year. Processors in the 9 major States used 108 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 1 percent from February 2015.

## Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: February 1, 2015-2016

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2014 totaled 26.1 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2014			Crop of 2015			
	Production	Stocks February 1, 2015	February stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks December 1, 2015	Stocks February 1, 2016	February stocks as a percent of production
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)
California .....	3,901	1,600	41	3,720	2,000	1,250	34
Colorado .....	23,196	13,000	56	22,857	16,600	12,500	55
Idaho .....	132,880	74,000	56	130,320	90,000	71,000	54
Maine .....	14,645	8,500	58	16,160	12,500	8,900	55
Michigan .....	15,725	5,000	32	17,550	10,900	6,500	37
Minnesota .....	16,400	7,800	48	16,200	11,800	8,800	54
Montana .....	3,616	3,400	94	3,488	3,300	3,200	92
Nebraska .....	7,943	3,300	42	6,873	4,100	2,700	39
New York .....	4,345	1,400	32	4,161	2,200	1,500	36
North Dakota .....	23,870	12,200	51	27,200	19,500	14,500	53
Oregon .....	22,562	13,200	59	21,784	17,000	12,000	55
Washington .....	101,475	44,000	43	100,300	56,000	42,000	42
Wisconsin .....	26,240	13,400	51	27,500	17,500	11,700	43
Total .....	396,798	200,800	51	398,113	263,400	196,550	49
Klamath Basin <sup>1</sup> .....	(NA)	3,000	(NA)	(NA)	4,700	2,650	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the 13 States total.

## Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: 2006-2015

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun.]

Crop year	Production	December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
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 .....	369,866	243,700	213,200	183,900	152,700	115,800	78,100	45,300
2009 .....	383,962	265,800	234,300	203,500	169,700	128,700	89,610	55,120
2010 .....	357,467	240,200	209,400	180,300	148,500	111,000	72,000	41,320
2011 .....	382,318	253,000	(NA)	187,500	(NA)	115,650	(NA)	43,340
2012 .....	410,367	271,500	(NA)	204,600	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2013 .....	386,824	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	119,050	(NA)	46,885
2014 .....	396,798	265,700	(NA)	200,800	(NA)	128,700	(NA)	56,335
2015 .....	398,113	263,000	(NA)	196,550				

(NA) Not available.

## Fall Potato Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks – 10 Selected States: February 1, 2015 and 2016

State	Potato Types														
	Reds			Round whites			Long whites			Yellows			Russets		
	Feb 2015	Dec 2015	Feb 2016	Feb 2015	Dec 2015	Feb 2016	Feb 2015	Dec 2015	Feb 2016	Feb 2015	Dec 2015	Feb 2016	Feb 2015	Dec 2015	Feb 2016
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Colorado .....	5	5	4	13	12	13	-	-	-	9	8	9	73	75	74
Idaho .....	2	2	3	1	2	5	1	1	-	1	1	3	95	94	89
Maine .....	3	3	6	38	34	37	2	2	1	4	3	3	53	58	53
Michigan .....	-	-	1	85	85	86	-	-	-	1	1	1	14	14	12
Minnesota .....	11	12	7	4	10	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	83	74	86
New York .....	1	3	3	98	94	93	-	-	-	1	2	4	-	1	-
North Dakota .....	24	23	20	17	28	22	2	6	5	1	1	1	56	42	52
Oregon .....	1	3	1	6	6	2	-	1	-	2	2	4	91	88	93
Washington .....	3	3	4	4	5	3	4	2	1	1	2	2	88	88	90
Wisconsin .....	9	4	3	32	34	31	2	-	-	2	1	1	55	61	65
10 State average .....	5	5	5	10	14	12	2	1	1	2	2	3	81	78	79

- Represents zero.

## Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 9 States: 2014-2016

[Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

State	Current year	Following year						
	December 1, 2014	January 1, 2015	February 1, 2015	March 1, 2015	April 1, 2015	May 1, 2015	June 1, 2015	Season
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon .....	27,685	33,995	40,850	47,985	54,665	63,025	70,600	86,870
Maine .....	1,410	1,845	2,415	2,930	3,475	3,980	4,445	5,622
Washington and Oregon .....	31,870	37,190	42,715	50,380	57,340	64,525	72,365	88,615
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	13,705	17,295	20,865	24,685	28,550	32,080	35,415	40,456
United States .....	74,670	90,325	106,845	125,980	144,030	163,610	182,825	221,563
Dehydrated <sup>2</sup> .....	13,045	16,325	19,965	23,645	26,345	31,515	35,490	46,340

  

State	Current year	Following year						
	December 1, 2015	January 1, 2016	February 1, 2016	March 1, 2016	April 1, 2016	May 1, 2016	June 1, 2016	Season
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon .....	26,850	33,115	39,655					
Maine .....	1,250	1,690	2,190					
Washington and Oregon .....	33,955	39,970	46,320					
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	13,300	16,501	19,758					
United States .....	75,355	91,276	107,923					
Dehydrated <sup>2</sup> .....	12,154	15,821	19,493					

<sup>1</sup> Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Estimates for 2015-2016 no longer include Nevada.

<sup>2</sup> Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington.

## Accumulated Potato Shrinkage and Loss – 13 Fall Storage States: 2014-2016

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2014	January 1, 2015	February 1, 2015	March 1, 2015	April 1, 2015	May 1, 2015	June 1, 2015
	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)
2014 ....	14.2	16.6	18.2	20.4	22.1	24.0	25.5
Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2015	January 1, 2016	February 1, 2016	March 1, 2016	April 1, 2016	May 1, 2016	June 1, 2016
	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)
2015 ....	12.9	15.1	16.9				

### Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** The potato stock estimates in this report are based on a survey conducted in the first week of February in the 13 major fall potato producing States, which account for 90 percent of all potato production. The potato stocks survey includes a sample of approximately 900 growers, processors, and storage facilities that are contacted to obtain the quantity of potatoes stored as of the first of the month, as well as shrinkage and loss information.

Monthly processing data is collected from all known potato processing facilities in eight States (Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin). An effort is made to obtain a report from all facilities. Estimates are made for missing facilities to make the survey complete.

**Estimating Procedures:** Information obtained from the potato stocks survey, processing survey, and federal administrative data, is used to establish estimates of stocks, shrinkage and loss, and processing usage. These estimates are reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates.

**Revision Policy:** Stocks, shrink and loss, and processing estimates for the previous estimating period are subject to revision based on late and/or updated information. At the end of the marketing season, all information available, including disposition data, are thoroughly reviewed and any necessary revisions for the entire crop year are published in the *Potatoes Annual Summary*.

**Reliability:** Reliability of the stocks and processing data must be treated separately because the survey designs for the two surveys are very different. The stocks estimates are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding stocks are not included in the sample. This variability, as measured by the relative standard error at the United States level, is approximately 2.3 percent. This means that chances are approximately 95 out of 100 that survey estimates for stocks will be within plus or minus 4.0 percent of the value that could be developed by averaging the estimates produced from all possible samples selected from the same population and surveyed using the same procedures.

Survey indications are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. Processing, as well as stocks, are subject to these types of errors. These errors cannot be measured directly, but they are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch .....	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Vincent Davis – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Cherries.....	(202) 720-2157
Fleming Gibson – Citrus, Coffee, Tropical Fruits.....	(202) 720-5412
Greg Lemmons – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Dave Losh – Hops.....	(360) 709-2400
Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans .....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schaubert – Floriculture, Grapes, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts .....	(202) 720-4215
Chris Singh – Apples, Apricots, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288

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