Milk Production

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June Milk Production down 0.8 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during June totaled 18.0 billion pounds, down 0.8 percent from June 2023. May revised production, at 18.8 billion pounds, was down 0.8 percent from May 2023. The May revision represented a decrease of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

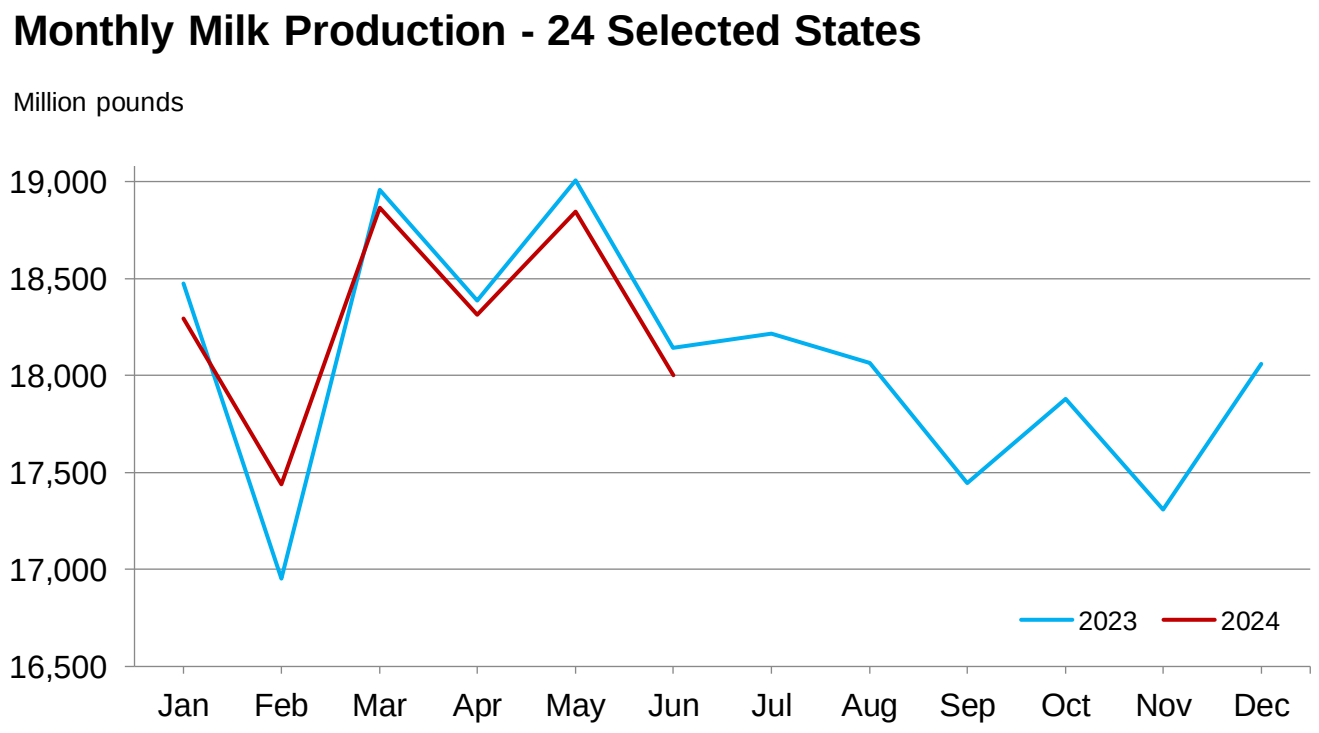
Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 2,025 pounds for June, 8 pounds below June 2023.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.89 million head, 37,000 head less than June 2023, but 2,000 head more than May 2024.

April-June Milk Production down 0.8 Percent

Milk production in the United States during the April - June quarter totaled 57.5 billion pounds, down 0.8 percent from the April - June quarter last year.

The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.33 million head, 3,000 head less than the January - March quarter, and 76,000 head less than the same period last year.



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2023-2024

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Quarter	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,418	9,337	6,035	6,100	56,837	56,959	0.2
April-June	9,410	9,334	6,164	6,162	58,004	57,517	-0.8
July-September	9,366		5,978		55,994		
October-December	9,349		5,940		55,529		
Annual	9,386		24,117		226,364		

[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2023-2024

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,922	8,870	2,071	2,062	18,474	18,294	-1.0
February	8,939	8,888	1,897	1,962	16,953	17,439	2.9
March	8,952	8,892	2,118	2,122	18,956	18,865	-0.5
April	8,941	8,888	2,056	2,061	18,386	18,314	-0.4
May	8,945	8,886	2,125	2,121	19,006	18,845	-0.8
June	8,925	8,888	2,033	2,025	18,141	18,000	-0.8
July	8,909		2,045		18,216		
August	8,906		2,028		18,065		
September	8,907		1,958		17,444		
October	8,900		2,009		17,880		
November	8,891		1,947		17,311		
December	8,894		2,031		18,061		
Annual	8,919		24,318		216,893		

[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2023-2024

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,401	9,323	2,054	2,047	19,308	19,083	-1.2
February	9,419	9,343	1,881	1,947	17,718	18,195	2.7
March	9,433	9,346	2,100	2,106	19,811	19,681	-0.7
April	9,414	9,335	2,040	2,046	19,204	19,098	-0.6
May	9,418	9,333	2,108	2,106	19,852	19,652	-1.0
June	9,397	9,335	2,016	2,010	18,948	18,767	-1.0
July	9,368		2,027		18,985		
August	9,365		2,010		18,828		
September	9,366		1,941		18,181		
October	9,355		1,993		18,645		
November	9,345		1,932		18,051		
December	9,348		2,015		18,833		
Annual	9,386		24,117		226,364		

[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

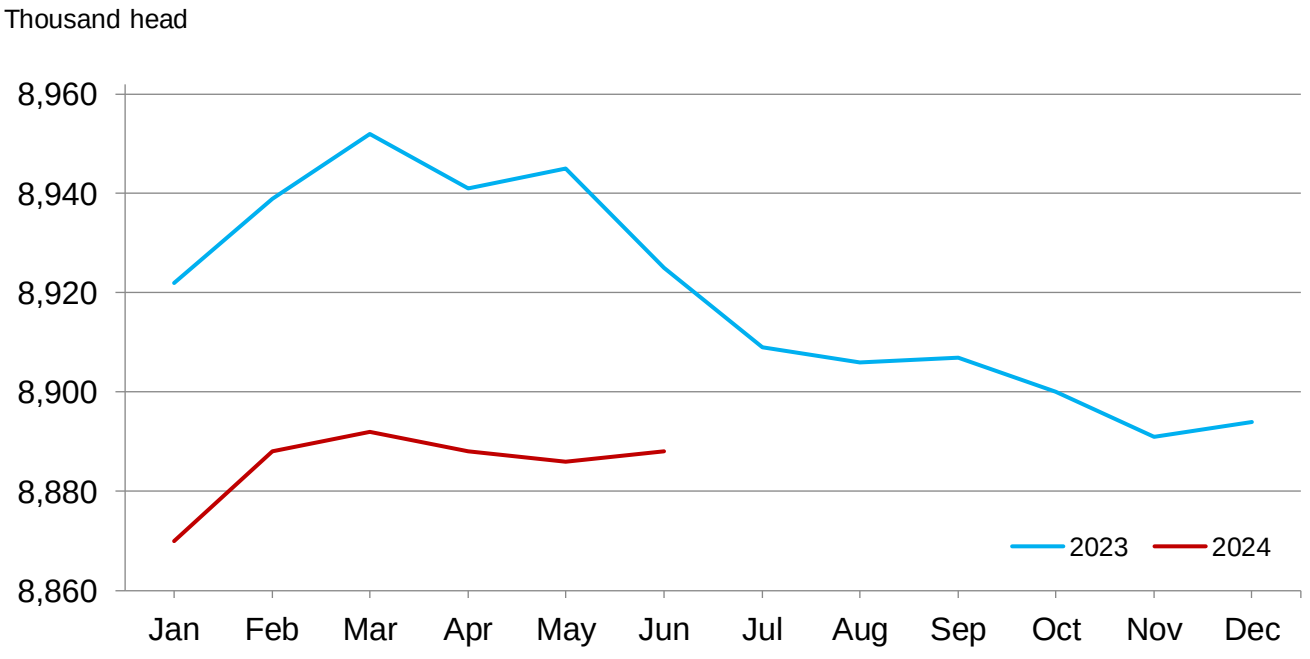
Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: June 2023 and 2024

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	200	192	2,030	2,030	406	390	-3.9
California	1,714	1,709	1,995	1,965	3,419	3,358	-1.8
Colorado	204	203	2,145	2,135	438	433	-1.1
Florida	95	99	1,705	1,715	162	170	4.9
Georgia	93	85	1,850	1,860	172	158	-8.1
Idaho	670	668	2,145	2,130	1,437	1,423	-1.0
Illinois	79	78	1,835	1,810	145	141	-2.8
Indiana	189	188	2,010	1,990	380	374	-1.6
Iowa	240	243	2,070	2,070	497	503	1.2
Kansas	175	173	1,955	1,955	342	338	-1.2
Michigan	438	438	2,310	2,290	1,012	1,003	-0.9
Minnesota	452	446	1,945	1,950	879	870	-1.0
New Mexico	275	238	2,000	2,020	550	481	-12.5
New York	630	630	2,155	2,130	1,358	1,342	-1.2
Ohio	252	252	1,875	1,865	473	470	-0.6
Oregon	120	119	1,760	1,775	211	211	-
Pennsylvania	466	465	1,770	1,735	825	807	-2.2
South Dakota	195	212	1,925	1,915	375	406	8.3
Texas	635	648	2,095	2,115	1,330	1,371	3.1
Utah	91	90	1,980	1,980	180	178	-1.1
Vermont	117	114	1,805	1,800	211	205	-2.8
Virginia	68	66	1,720	1,700	117	112	-4.3
Washington	258	260	2,010	2,030	519	528	1.7
Wisconsin	1,269	1,272	2,130	2,145	2,703	2,728	0.9
24-State Total	8,925	8,888	2,033	2,025	18,141	18,000	-0.8

- Represents zero.
[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows - 24 Selected States

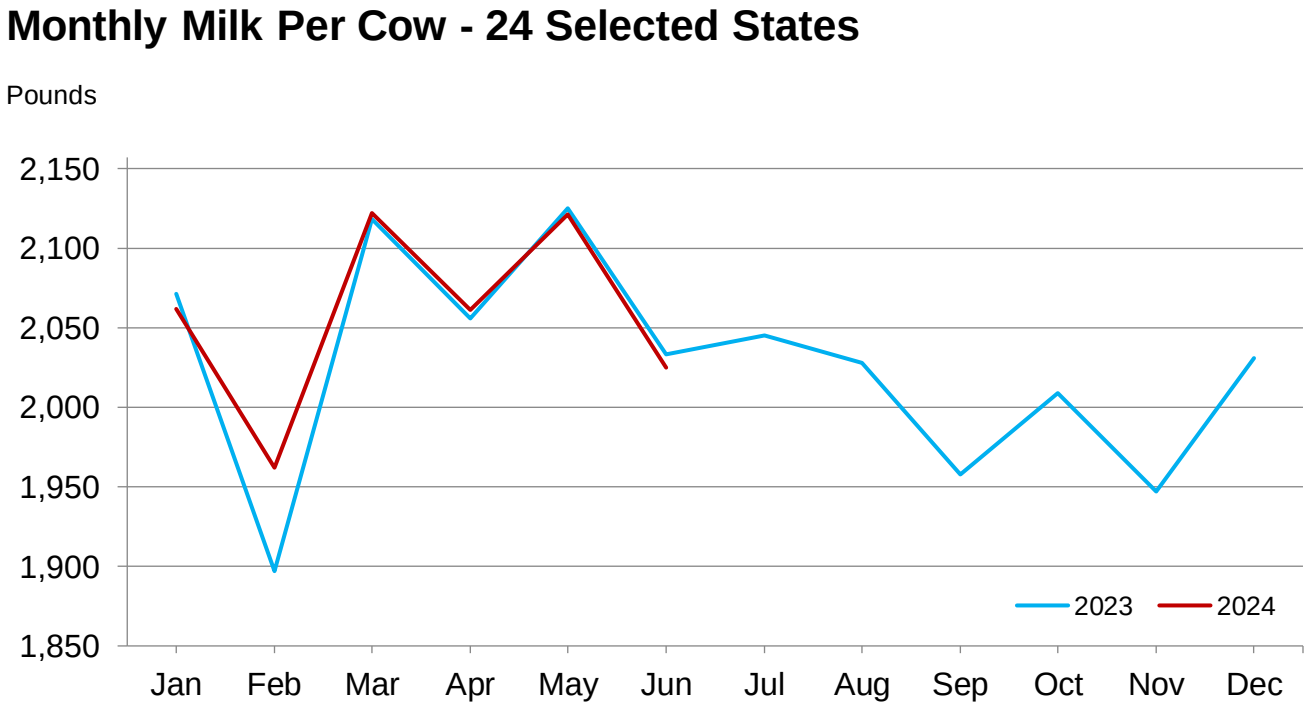


Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: May 2023 and 2024

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	198	192	2,190	2,185	434	420	-3.2
California	1,715	1,709	2,125	2,095	3,644	3,580	-1.8
Colorado	206	203	2,235	2,230	460	453	-1.5
Florida	94	100	1,820	1,780	171	178	4.1
Georgia	93	85	1,950	1,945	181	165	-8.8
Idaho	670	668	2,215	2,195	1,484	1,466	-1.2
Illinois	79	78	1,915	1,930	151	151	-
Indiana	189	189	2,070	2,055	391	388	-0.8
Iowa	240	243	2,135	2,150	512	522	2.0
Kansas	179	173	2,055	2,065	368	357	-3.0
Michigan	436	438	2,400	2,375	1,046	1,040	-0.6
Minnesota	454	446	1,995	2,020	906	901	-0.6
New Mexico	280	238	2,160	2,170	605	516	-14.7
New York	630	630	2,225	2,230	1,402	1,405	0.2
Ohio	252	253	1,945	1,930	490	488	-0.4
Oregon	122	118	1,830	1,840	223	217	-2.7
Pennsylvania	466	465	1,855	1,825	864	849	-1.7
South Dakota	193	212	1,975	1,975	381	419	10.0
Texas	645	643	2,240	2,240	1,445	1,440	-0.3
Utah	91	90	2,030	2,035	185	183	-1.1
Vermont	118	114	1,890	1,885	223	215	-3.6
Virginia	67	67	1,845	1,820	124	122	-1.6
Washington	258	260	2,095	2,100	541	546	0.9
Wisconsin	1,270	1,272	2,185	2,220	2,775	2,824	1.8
24-State Total	8,945	8,886	2,125	2,121	19,006	18,845	-0.8

- Represents zero.
[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.



Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Revised January - March 2023 and 2024

[May not add due to rounding]

State	January - March milk cows [1]		January - March milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	2.5	2.5	9.0	8.0	-11.1
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)
Arizona	194.0	194.0	1,238.0	1,257.0	1.5
Arkansas	3.0	2.5	10.0	8.0	-20.0
California	1,718.0	1,709.0	10,446.0	10,564.0	1.1
Colorado	201.0	201.0	1,295.0	1,307.0	0.9
Connecticut	18.5	17.5	109.0	107.0	-1.8
Delaware	2.7	2.6	12.8	12.9	0.8
Florida	91.0	99.0	490.0	545.0	11.2
Georgia	92.0	87.0	540.0	502.0	-7.0
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)
Idaho	667.0	665.0	4,146.0	4,122.0	-0.6
Illinois	79.0	79.0	433.0	442.0	2.1
Indiana	189.0	190.0	1,124.0	1,124.0	-
Iowa	240.0	241.0	1,474.0	1,510.0	2.4
Kansas	178.0	174.0	1,058.0	1,053.0	-0.5
Kentucky	46.0	43.0	245.0	223.0	-9.0
Louisiana	8.0	8.0	30.0	29.0	-3.3
Maine	25.0	24.0	135.0	134.0	-0.7
Maryland	40.0	40.0	213.0	220.0	3.3
Massachusetts	9.0	9.0	45.0	45.0	-
Michigan	435.0	439.0	2,984.0	3,024.0	1.3
Minnesota	455.0	448.0	2,616.0	2,608.0	-0.3
Mississippi	6.0	5.5	23.0	19.0	-17.4
Missouri	64.0	59.0	223.0	209.0	-6.3
Montana	9.5	9.0	53.0	51.0	-3.8
Nebraska	55.0	51.0	340.0	315.0	-7.4
Nevada	33.0	32.0	185.0	194.0	4.9
New Hampshire	10.0	9.5	53.0	52.0	-1.9
New Jersey	4.1	4.0	22.0	22.0	-
New Mexico	281.0	241.0	1,779.0	1,532.0	-13.9
New York	630.0	630.0	3,941.0	3,975.0	0.9
North Carolina	39.0	38.0	235.0	228.0	-3.0
North Dakota	13.0	10.0	73.0	58.0	-20.5
Ohio	252.0	255.0	1,399.0	1,426.0	1.9
Oklahoma	41.0	39.0	195.0	188.0	-3.6
Oregon	125.0	116.0	648.0	602.0	-7.1
Pennsylvania	466.0	465.0	2,500.0	2,500.0	-
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	2.4	2.4	-
South Carolina	8.5	8.0	41.0	39.0	-4.9
South Dakota	188.0	210.0	1,058.0	1,196.0	13.0
Tennessee	26.0	25.0	123.0	118.0	-4.1
Texas	655.0	641.0	4,281.0	4,189.0	-2.1
Utah	90.0	89.0	512.0	514.0	0.4
Vermont	118.0	116.0	634.0	625.0	-1.4
Virginia	68.0	67.0	358.0	361.0	0.8
Washington	257.0	258.0	1,538.0	1,562.0	1.6
West Virginia	4.5	4.0	17.0	15.0	-11.8
Wisconsin	1,270.0	1,270.0	7,891.0	8,058.0	2.1
Wyoming	9.0	9.0	58.6	62.0	5.8
Other States [3]	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.7	21.4
United States	9,418.0	9,337.0	56,837.0	56,959.0	0.2

- Represents zero.
(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NA) Not available.
[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.
[3] Other States includes Alaska and Hawaii.

Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Preliminary April - June 2023 and 2024

[May not add due to rounding]

State	April - June milk cows [1]		April - June milk production [2]		
	2023	2024	2023	2024	Change from 2023
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama	2.5	2.5	8.0	7.0	-12.5
Alaska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)
Arizona	198.0	192.0	1,268.0	1,231.0	-2.9
Arkansas	3.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	-22.2
California	1,715.0	1,709.0	10,600.0	10,474.0	-1.2
Colorado	205.0	203.0	1,342.0	1,327.0	-1.1
Connecticut	18.0	17.5	109.0	108.0	-0.9
Delaware	2.7	2.6	12.7	12.3	-3.1
Florida	94.0	100.0	499.0	539.0	8.0
Georgia	93.0	85.0	533.0	490.0	-8.1
Hawaii	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(NA)
Idaho	670.0	668.0	4,329.0	4,301.0	-0.6
Illinois	79.0	78.0	443.0	441.0	-0.5
Indiana	189.0	189.0	1,151.0	1,139.0	-1.0
Iowa	240.0	243.0	1,503.0	1,534.0	2.1
Kansas	178.0	173.0	1,070.0	1,038.0	-3.0
Kentucky	45.0	43.0	244.0	228.0	-6.6
Louisiana	8.0	7.5	29.0	25.0	-13.8
Maine	25.0	24.0	142.0	141.0	-0.7
Maryland	40.0	39.0	216.0	207.0	-4.2
Massachusetts	9.0	9.0	47.0	47.0	-
Michigan	437.0	438.0	3,065.0	3,053.0	-0.4
Minnesota	453.0	446.0	2,659.0	2,638.0	-0.8
Mississippi	6.0	5.5	20.0	18.0	-10.0
Missouri	63.0	58.0	240.0	218.0	-9.2
Montana	9.5	8.5	55.0	50.0	-9.1
Nebraska	55.0	51.0	345.0	318.0	-7.8
Nevada	34.0	31.0	199.0	195.0	-2.0
New Hampshire	9.5	9.5	53.0	52.0	-1.9
New Jersey	4.0	4.0	22.0	22.0	-
New Mexico	279.0	237.0	1,757.0	1,495.0	-14.9
New York	630.0	630.0	4,102.0	4,095.0	-0.2
North Carolina	38.0	38.0	229.0	228.0	-0.4
North Dakota	12.0	9.5	71.0	57.0	-19.7
Ohio	252.0	253.0	1,436.0	1,437.0	0.1
Oklahoma	39.0	39.0	179.0	186.0	3.9
Oregon	122.0	118.0	655.0	636.0	-2.9
Pennsylvania	466.0	465.0	2,544.0	2,500.0	-1.7
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	2.5	2.3	-8.0
South Carolina	8.5	8.0	40.0	39.0	-2.5
South Dakota	192.0	212.0	1,114.0	1,228.0	10.2
Tennessee	25.0	24.0	119.0	114.0	-4.2
Texas	642.0	644.0	4,188.0	4,177.0	-0.3
Utah	91.0	90.0	539.0	536.0	-0.6
Vermont	118.0	114.0	649.0	627.0	-3.4
Virginia	67.0	67.0	362.0	356.0	-1.7
Washington	259.0	260.0	1,591.0	1,606.0	0.9
West Virginia	4.5	4.0	17.0	15.0	-11.8
Wisconsin	1,269.0	1,272.0	8,134.0	8,261.0	1.6
Wyoming	9.5	9.0	60.8	59.4	-2.3
Other States [3]	0.9	0.9	1.7	2.0	17.6
United States	9,410.0	9,334.0	58,004.0	57,517.0	-0.8

- Represents zero.
(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NA) Not available.
[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.
[3] Other States includes Alaska and Hawaii.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Primary data used to determine these estimates were obtained from a sample of producers. Individual States maintain a list of all known milk producers and information on the size of their herd. States use all known sources of producers to ensure that their lists are as complete as possible. Generally, all large producers and a sample of small producers are included in the survey. Questionnaires are mailed to producers near the end of the month to obtain data for the first day of the month. Additional reports are obtained by telephone, as needed, to supplement the mail response. Where feasible, States utilize state and federal administrative data to estimate milk production. This eliminates duplication of data gathering by different government agencies. Indications of milk cow inventory are also obtained in the January Cattle Surveys.

Estimation Procedures: Regional Field Offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications, historic trends, and any available administrative data. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: Milk production, milk per cow, and number of milk cows are subject to revision the following month after initial publication for monthly States or the following quarter for the quarterly States. Normally, administrative data from Federal Market Orders, State Departments of Agriculture, or other sources are the main basis for revisions. However, administrative data for all States may not be available in time for these revisions. Estimates are again subject to revisions in February each year based on additional administrative data. In the event that additional changes are necessary, a third revision is possible in February the following year. Estimates are again reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions are made after that date.

Reliability: Since all operations with dairy animals are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items on the next page. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for milk production estimates over the past 20 quarters is 0.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 57.5 billion pounds by more than 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 percent.

Reliability of Quarterly Milk Production Estimates

[Based on data for the past 20 quarters]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Quarters	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Milk production	0.2	0.3	71	0	216	8	11
All milk cows	0.1	0.2	8	1	29	9	11

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

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Donnie Fike – Dairy Products ..... (202) 690-3347
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Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats ..... (202) 720-4448

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