



# Potato Stocks

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## Potato Stocks Down 36 Percent From June 2010

The 13 major potato States held 35.5 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2011, down 36 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 10 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, four percentage points below June 1, 2010. Potato disappearance, at 316 million cwt, was 4 percent below June 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 23.3 million cwt, was down 18 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 161 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 1 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 25.8 million cwt of the total processing, down 14 percent from last year.

## Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: June 1, 2010-2011

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2010 totaled 23.7 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2009			Crop of 2010			
	Production	Stocks June 1, 2010	June stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks May 1, 2011	Stocks June 1, 2011	June stocks as a percent of production
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)
California .....	3,960	400	10	2,280	400	(D)	(D)
Colorado .....	22,080	3,300	15	21,528	4,300	2,500	12
Idaho .....	132,500	25,500	19	114,440	30,000	19,000	17
Maine .....	15,263	2,200	14	15,892	3,800	2,100	13
Michigan .....	15,660	(D)	(D)	15,660	900	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	20,700	3,000	14	17,010	3,300	2,100	12
Montana .....	3,298	(D)	(D)	3,673	500	(D)	(D)
Nebraska .....	8,756	(D)	(D)	7,719	1,100	(D)	(D)
New York .....	4,950	(D)	(D)	5,120	200	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	19,125	1,700	9	22,000	3,700	1,700	8
Oregon .....	21,460	2,800	13	20,058	4,900	3,100	15
Washington .....	87,230	14,100	16	81,740	10,300	3,000	4
Wisconsin .....	28,980	1,500	5	24,293	2,300	900	4
Other States .....	-	620	(X)	-	-	1,050	(X)
United States .....	383,962	55,120	14	351,413	65,700	35,450	10
Klamath Basin <sup>1</sup> ..	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(NA)	520	(D)	(NA)

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

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

## Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 2001-2010

[For 2000-2004, data accounts for 15 major producing States. Beginning in 2005 data accounts for 13 major producing States]

Crop year	Production	December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)							
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 .....	403,566	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004 .....	404,017	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005 .....	378,732	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 .....	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 .....	351,413	234,700	204,500	175,700	143,200	105,300	65,700	35,450

## Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing, 9 States: 2008-2010

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

State and crop year	To December 1	To January 1	To February 1	To March 1	To April 1	To May 1	To June 1	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 Oregon, Malheur								
2008 .....	22,380	28,980	35,430	42,150	49,030	55,570	62,940	77,340
2009 .....	23,110	29,180	35,170	42,050	49,200	56,100	62,930	79,400
2010 .....	21,040	26,840	32,700	39,240	46,180	52,790	59,360	
Maine <sup>1</sup>								
2008 .....	1,555	2,130	2,765	3,355	3,815	4,565	5,265	7,120
2009 .....	1,575	2,060	2,680	3,265	3,915	4,550	5,260	7,160
2010 .....	1,915	2,460	3,090	3,725	4,420	5,080	5,745	
Washington and Oregon, Other								
2008 .....	32,560	38,050	42,795	49,865	56,350	62,635	70,625	81,260
2009 .....	25,395	31,245	36,530	43,780	50,130	56,700	64,805	75,690
2010 .....	27,670	33,570	38,815	46,700	53,280	60,145	67,650	
Other States <sup>2</sup>								
2008 .....	12,480	15,120	18,165	21,030	24,025	26,515	29,590	37,285
2009 .....	10,865	13,565	16,305	18,995	21,600	24,355	27,375	34,240
2010 .....	11,660	14,605	17,240	20,165	23,000	25,550	28,445	
Total								
2008 .....	68,975	84,280	99,155	116,400	133,220	149,285	168,420	203,005
2009 .....	60,945	76,050	90,685	108,090	124,845	141,705	160,370	196,490
2010 .....	62,285	77,475	91,845	109,830	126,880	143,565	161,200	
Dehydrated <sup>3</sup>								
2008 .....	10,675	14,490	18,335	21,465	24,875	28,195	31,870	39,345
2009 .....	10,985	14,035	17,150	19,895	23,155	26,630	30,045	38,915
2010 .....	7,845	10,795	13,640	16,485	19,415	22,700	25,770	

<sup>1</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.

<sup>2</sup> Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in Wisconsin.

<sup>3</sup> Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin.

## Potato Shrinkage and Loss -13 Fall Storage States: 2007-2010

Crop year	To December 1	To January 1	To February 1	To March 1	To April 1	To May 1	To June 1
	(million cwt)						
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
2009 .....	14.3	16.5	18.8	21.1	24.4	26.5	28.5
2010 .....	12.7	14.7	16.6	18.6	20.4	22.1	23.3

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Potato stocks surveys are conducted in 13 major fall potato producing States, which account for nearly 88 percent of the United States all potato production. Growers, processors, and storage facilities are contacted each month from December through June to obtain the quantity of potatoes stored as of the first of the month, as well as shrinkage and loss information. Processing data is collected in nine States (Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin).

**Estimating Procedures:** Information obtained from the potato stocks surveys along with 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, processing, and shrinkage and loss estimates for the previous month are subject to revision based on late and/or updated information. At the end of the marketing season, all information available, including disposition data, will be thoroughly reviewed and any necessary revisions for the entire crop year will be published in the *Potatoes Annual Summary*.

**Reliability:** Survey indications are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding potato stocks are not included in the sample. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. 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.

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 6.7 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 35.5 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.7 percent, or approximately 2.38 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 11.5 percent, or approximately 4.08 million cwt.

Changes between the June 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 2.82 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 7 times and above 5 times.

### Fall Potato Preliminary and Final June 1 Stocks – United States: 2000-2010 Crop Years

Crop year	Preliminary stocks (1,000 cwt)	Percent of final (percent)	Final stocks (1,000 cwt)
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	98.8	45,300
2009 .....	51,300	93.1	55,120
2010 .....	35,450	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

## 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)

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