



Potato Stocks

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Potato Stocks Down 4 Percent From December 2018 For Comparable States

The major potato States held 267 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2019, down 4 percent from December 1, 2018 for comparable States. Potatoes in storage accounted for 63 percent of the States' 2019 production. For comparable States, potatoes in storage accounted for 67 percent of the States' 2019 production, unchanged from the previous year. Potato disappearance, at 155 million cwt, was down 2 percent for comparable States from December 1, 2018. Season-to-date shrink and loss was reported as 13.3 million cwt. Processors in the 8 major States used 76.3 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 3 percent from December 2018.

Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: December 1, 2018-2019

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2019 totaled 27.6 million cwt]

| State | Crop of 2018 | | | Crop of 2019 | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------------|---|
| | Production | Stocks December 1, 2018 | December stocks as a percent of production | Production | Stocks December 1, 2019 | December stocks as a percent of production |
| | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (percent) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (percent) |
| California ¹ | 3,212 | 2,200 | 68 | 17,028 | 2,800 | 16 |
| Colorado | 21,722 | 15,600 | 72 | 19,666 | 13,800 | 70 |
| Florida ² | 5,512 | (NA) | (NA) | 6,831 | (D) | (D) |
| Idaho | 141,750 | 101,000 | 71 | 133,980 | 95,000 | 71 |
| Maine | 15,035 | 10,900 | 72 | 16,480 | 12,400 | 75 |
| Michigan | 18,240 | 10,500 | 58 | 19,475 | 12,100 | 62 |
| Minnesota | 18,705 | 12,800 | 68 | 18,040 | 12,300 | 68 |
| Montana ³ | 3,885 | 3,700 | 95 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| Nebraska | 9,264 | 5,000 | 54 | 9,259 | 5,100 | 55 |
| New York ³ | 3,886 | 2,000 | 51 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| North Dakota | 23,725 | 17,000 | 72 | 20,945 | 14,000 | 67 |
| Oregon | 27,000 | 21,100 | 78 | 22,680 | 17,900 | 79 |
| Texas ² | 7,438 | (NA) | (NA) | 7,612 | (D) | (D) |
| Washington | 100,800 | 57,500 | 57 | 101,475 | 58,500 | 58 |
| Wisconsin | 27,135 | 20,000 | 74 | 28,980 | 20,500 | 71 |
| Other States ⁴ | - | - | - | - | 2,700 | (NA) |
| Total ⁵ | 414,359 | 279,300 | 67 | 422,451 | 267,100 | 63 |
| Klamath Basin ⁶ | (NA) | 5,100 | (NA) | (NA) | 5,200 | (NA) |

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Beginning in 2019, estimates represent all potatoes.

² Estimates began in 2019.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2019.

⁴ Includes data withheld above.

⁵ For 2018, production total excludes Florida and Texas.

⁶ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the total.

Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: 2010-2019

[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) |
| 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 | 388,204 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | 119,450 | (NA) | 47,085 |
| 2014 | 399,118 | 267,500 | (NA) | 206,600 | (NA) | 139,200 | (NA) | 63,535 |
| 2015 | 403,062 | 267,900 | (NA) | 205,900 | (NA) | 137,200 | (NA) | 60,080 |
| 2016 | 412,688 | 275,800 | (NA) | 213,000 | (NA) | 142,600 | (NA) | 67,570 |
| 2017 | 406,800 | 277,900 | (NA) | 210,600 | (NA) | 138,800 | (NA) | 63,740 |
| 2018 | 414,359 | 279,300 | (NA) | 212,800 | (NA) | 144,700 | (NA) | 70,370 |
| 2019 ¹ | 422,451 | 267,100 | | | | | | |

(NA) Not available.

¹ Beginning in 2019, production represents all potatoes.

Potato Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks – 13 Major States: December 1, 2018-2019

| State | Potato types | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Reds | | Round whites | | Long whites | | Yellows | | Russets | |
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| California ¹ | 5 | 5 | 61 | 51 | - | - | 2 | 19 | 32 | 25 |
| Colorado | 7 | 3 | 8 | (D) | - | (D) | 8 | 7 | 77 | 86 |
| Florida ² | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) |
| Idaho | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | (D) | 1 | (D) | 92 | 91 |
| Maine | 6 | 5 | 38 | 35 | 1 | (D) | 3 | (D) | 52 | 56 |
| Michigan | 1 | (D) | 78 | 79 | - | - | 1 | (D) | 20 | 20 |
| Minnesota | 7 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 86 | 91 |
| Montana ³ | 2 | (NA) | 2 | (NA) | - | (NA) | 4 | (NA) | 92 | (NA) |
| Nebraska | 2 | (D) | 62 | 61 | - | (D) | 1 | (D) | 35 | 36 |
| New York ³ | 5 | (NA) | 88 | (NA) | 1 | (NA) | 5 | (NA) | 1 | (NA) |
| North Dakota | 21 | 20 | 27 | 24 | 4 | (D) | 3 | (D) | 45 | 51 |
| Oregon | 1 | (D) | 3 | 2 | 4 | (D) | 2 | (D) | 90 | 91 |
| Texas ² | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) | (NA) | (D) |
| Washington | 4 | 3 | 1 | (D) | 1 | (D) | 3 | 3 | 91 | 92 |
| Wisconsin | 4 | 3 | 28 | 22 | - | (D) | 2 | (D) | 66 | 71 |
| 13 State average | 5 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 80 | 82 |

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Beginning in 2019, estimates represent all California.

² Estimates began in 2019.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2019.

Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 8 States: 2018-2020

[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, 2018 | January 1, 2019 | February 1, 2019 | March 1, 2019 | April 1, 2019 | May 1, 2019 | June 1, 2019 | 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 | 25,325 | 32,020 | 39,495 | 47,395 | 55,250 | 63,225 | 71,340 | 95,974 |
| Maine | 1,470 | 1,890 | 2,400 | 2,870 | 3,450 | 3,870 | 4,290 | 5,050 |
| Washington and Oregon | 36,405 | 43,420 | 50,400 | 57,720 | 65,095 | 71,405 | 79,130 | 97,176 |
| Other States ¹ | 10,643 | 15,048 | 18,836 | 23,479 | 27,079 | 30,423 | 34,392 | 40,470 |
| United States | 73,843 | 92,378 | 111,131 | 131,464 | 150,874 | 168,923 | 189,152 | 238,670 |
| Dehydrated ² | 13,810 | 17,065 | 20,775 | 24,420 | 28,315 | 32,620 | 36,660 | 47,648 |

| State | Current year | Following year | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | December 1, 2019 | January 1, 2020 | February 1, 2020 | March 1, 2020 | April 1, 2020 | May 1, 2020 | June 1, 2020 | 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 | 26,655 | | | | | | | |
| Maine | 1,585 | | | | | | | |
| Washington and Oregon | 34,720 | | | | | | | |
| Other States ¹ | 13,315 | | | | | | | |
| United States | 76,275 | | | | | | | |
| Dehydrated ² | 11,855 | | | | | | | |

¹ Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

² Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington.

Accumulated Potato Shrinkage and Loss – 13 Major States: 2018-2020

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop year | Current year | Following year | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | December 1, 2018 | January 1, 2019 | February 1, 2019 | March 1, 2019 | April 1, 2019 | May 1, 2019 | June 1, 2019 |
| | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) |
| 2018 | 12.2 | 13.8 | 15.5 | 17.2 | 18.6 | 20.2 | 22.0 |

| Crop year | Current year | Following year | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | December 1, 2019 | January 1, 2020 | February 1, 2020 | March 1, 2020 | April 1, 2020 | May 1, 2020 | June 1, 2020 |
| | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) |
| 2019 | 13.3 | | | | | | |

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The potato stock estimates in this report are based primarily on a survey conducted in the first week of December in the potato producing States. The potato stocks survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of approximately 885 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 monthly shrinkage and loss information.

Monthly processing data is collected from a census of 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.

Data was collected by mail, internet, telephone, or personal interview to obtain information on potato stocks, monthly potato processing, and monthly shrink and loss.

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 2.0 percent which means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current potato stock estimate will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 3.5 percent.

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@usda.gov

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch..... | (202) 720-2127 |
| Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section..... | (202) 720-2127 |
| Joshua Bates – Almonds, Apples, Apricots, Asparagus, Carrots, Coffee, Onions, Plums, Prunes, Sweet Corn, Tobacco..... | (202) 720-4288 |
| Jorge Garcia-Pratts – Dry Beans, Garlic, Hazelnuts, Honeydews, Kiwifruit, Lettuce, Maple Syrup, Mint, Pears, Sweet Cherries, Tart Cherries, Tomatoes..... | (202) 720-2127 |
| Fleming Gibson – Cauliflower, Celery, Grapefruit, Lemons, Macadamia, Mandarins and tangerines, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges..... | (202) 720-5412 |
| Greg Lemmons – Cranberries, Cucumbers, Pistachios, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Strawberries, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes, Tame Blueberries, Wild Blueberries..... | (202) 720-4285 |
| Dan Norris – Artichokes, Cantaloupes, Dry Edible Peas, Green Peas, Lentils, Nectarines, Papayas, Peaches, Snap Beans, Spinach, Walnuts, Watermelons..... | (202) 720-3250 |
| Dawn Smoker – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chickpeas, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Grapes, Hops, Pecans..... | (202) 720-4215 |

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