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October Milk Production up 1.7 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during October totaled 17.3 billion pounds, up 1.7 percent from October 2018. September revised production, at 16.8 billion pounds, was up 1.7 percent from September 2018. The September revision represented an increase of 7 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 1,964 pounds for October, 33 pounds above October 2018.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.81 million head, 1,000 head less than October 2018, but 5,000 head more than September 2019.

October Milk Production in the United States up 1.3 Percent

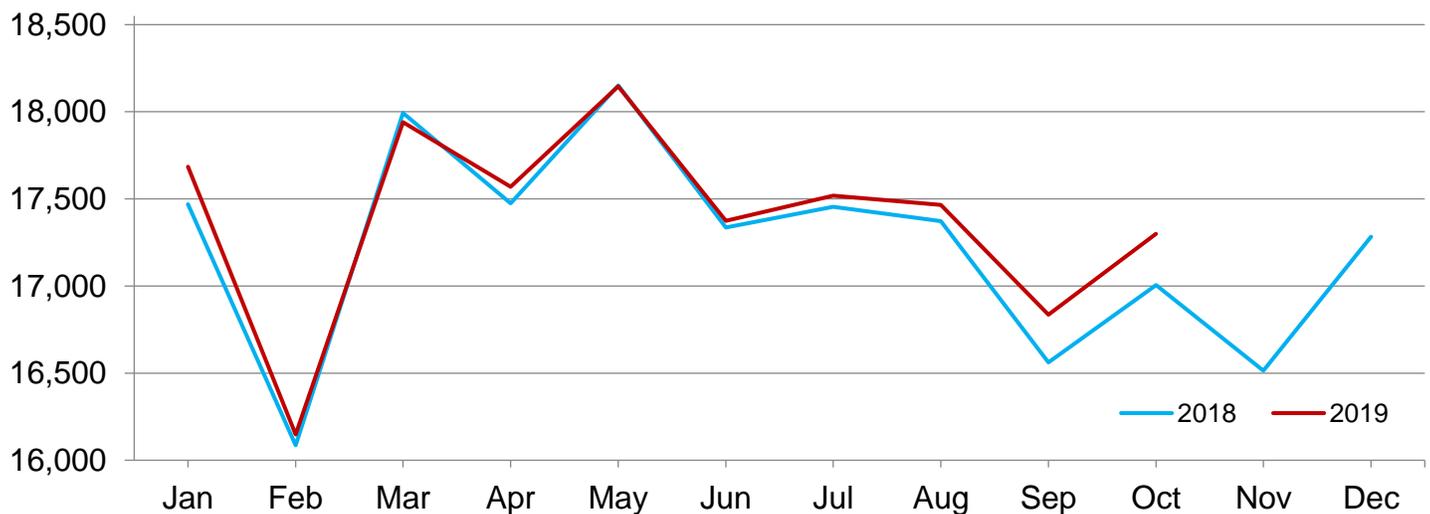
Milk production in the United States during October totaled 18.1 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from October 2018.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,941 pounds for October, 33 pounds above October 2018.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.33 million head, 40,000 head less than October 2018, but 5,000 head more than September 2019.

Monthly Milk Production – 24 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2018-2019

[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		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change from 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,435	9,344	5,766	5,827	54,399	54,450	0.1
April-June	9,418	9,327	5,928	5,980	55,831	55,778	-0.1
July-September	9,383	9,319	5,752	5,823	53,969	54,268	0.6
October-December	9,359		5,703		53,376		
Annual	9,399		23,149		217,575		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2018-2019

[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		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change from 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,856	8,805	1,973	2,009	17,469	17,685	1.2
February	8,855	8,805	1,817	1,834	16,086	16,148	0.4
March	8,849	8,788	2,033	2,041	17,994	17,940	-0.3
April	8,844	8,788	1,976	1,999	17,475	17,570	0.5
May	8,848	8,790	2,051	2,064	18,151	18,146	-
June	8,840	8,777	1,961	1,979	17,336	17,374	0.2
July	8,829	8,779	1,977	1,995	17,454	17,518	0.4
August	8,826	8,789	1,968	1,987	17,372	17,466	0.5
September	8,807	8,801	1,880	1,913	16,561	16,836	1.7
October	8,807	8,806	1,931	1,964	17,005	17,299	1.7
November	8,802		1,876		16,514		
December	8,798		1,964		17,282		
Annual	8,830		23,407		206,699		

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2018-2019

[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		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	Change from 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,438	9,352	1,953	1,989	18,437	18,600	0.9
February	9,436	9,350	1,799	1,816	16,973	16,981	-
March	9,430	9,330	2,014	2,022	18,989	18,869	-0.6
April	9,418	9,330	1,955	1,978	18,412	18,458	0.2
May	9,422	9,332	2,030	2,043	19,131	19,064	-0.4
June	9,414	9,319	1,943	1,959	18,288	18,256	-0.2
July	9,392	9,319	1,952	1,970	18,329	18,355	0.1
August	9,389	9,317	1,943	1,963	18,245	18,290	0.2
September	9,368	9,322	1,857	1,890	17,395	17,623	1.3
October	9,367	9,327	1,908	1,941	17,873	18,105	1.3
November	9,358		1,854		17,348		
December	9,353		1,941		18,155		
Annual	9,399		23,149		217,575		

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: October 2018 and 2019

[May not add due to rounding]

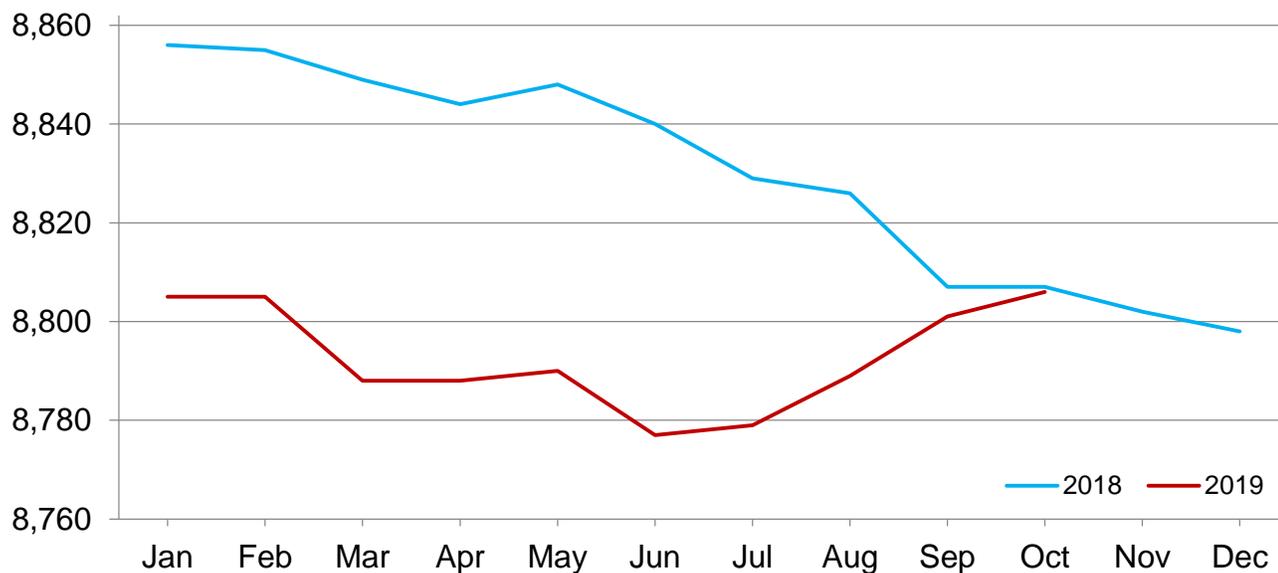
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2018
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	205	194	1,910	1,905	392	370	-5.6
California	1,732	1,727	1,915	1,975	3,317	3,411	2.8
Colorado	178	189	2,165	2,160	385	408	6.0
Florida	118	116	1,440	1,485	170	172	1.2
Georgia	81	80	1,670	1,700	135	136	0.7
Idaho	610	630	2,100	2,080	1,281	1,310	2.3
Illinois	86	83	1,675	1,705	144	142	-1.4
Indiana	182	175	1,870	1,885	340	330	-2.9
Iowa	220	217	2,025	2,035	446	442	-0.9
Kansas	160	163	1,925	1,940	308	316	2.6
Michigan	422	428	2,195	2,230	926	954	3.0
Minnesota	451	447	1,810	1,860	816	831	1.8
New Mexico	327	328	2,015	2,055	659	674	2.3
New York	621	626	1,995	2,015	1,239	1,261	1.8
Ohio	256	252	1,750	1,790	448	451	0.7
Oregon	124	124	1,725	1,735	214	215	0.5
Pennsylvania	515	485	1,665	1,705	857	827	-3.5
South Dakota	121	127	1,885	1,885	228	239	4.8
Texas	540	571	1,935	2,000	1,045	1,142	9.3
Utah	100	98	1,935	1,945	194	191	-1.5
Vermont	126	125	1,760	1,785	222	223	0.5
Virginia	80	73	1,595	1,625	128	119	-7.0
Washington	279	281	2,045	2,025	571	569	-0.4
Wisconsin	1,273	1,267	1,995	2,025	2,540	2,566	1.0
24-State Total	8,807	8,806	1,931	1,964	17,005	17,299	1.7

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows – 24 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: September 2018 and 2019

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2018
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	206	194	1,795	1,790	370	347	-6.2
California	1,732	1,727	1,860	1,895	3,222	3,273	1.6
Colorado	178	189	2,115	2,110	376	399	6.1
Florida	118	116	1,380	1,415	163	164	0.6
Georgia	80	80	1,610	1,640	129	131	1.6
Idaho	610	629	2,045	2,060	1,247	1,296	3.9
Illinois	88	83	1,570	1,600	138	133	-3.6
Indiana	182	175	1,770	1,800	322	315	-2.2
Iowa	220	217	1,920	1,950	422	423	0.2
Kansas	160	163	1,870	1,910	299	311	4.0
Michigan	422	428	2,115	2,170	893	929	4.0
Minnesota	451	447	1,770	1,820	798	814	2.0
New Mexico	327	327	2,005	2,045	656	669	2.0
New York	621	627	1,950	1,965	1,211	1,232	1.7
Ohio	255	251	1,680	1,725	428	433	1.2
Oregon	122	124	1,690	1,700	206	211	2.4
Pennsylvania	517	485	1,610	1,650	832	800	-3.8
South Dakota	121	126	1,840	1,865	223	235	5.4
Texas	540	570	1,925	1,995	1,040	1,137	9.3
Utah	100	97	1,920	1,925	192	187	-2.6
Vermont	126	125	1,720	1,745	217	218	0.5
Virginia	81	73	1,520	1,560	123	114	-7.3
Washington	277	281	1,995	2,005	553	563	1.8
Wisconsin	1,273	1,267	1,965	1,975	2,501	2,502	-
24-State Total	8,807	8,801	1,880	1,913	16,561	16,836	1.7

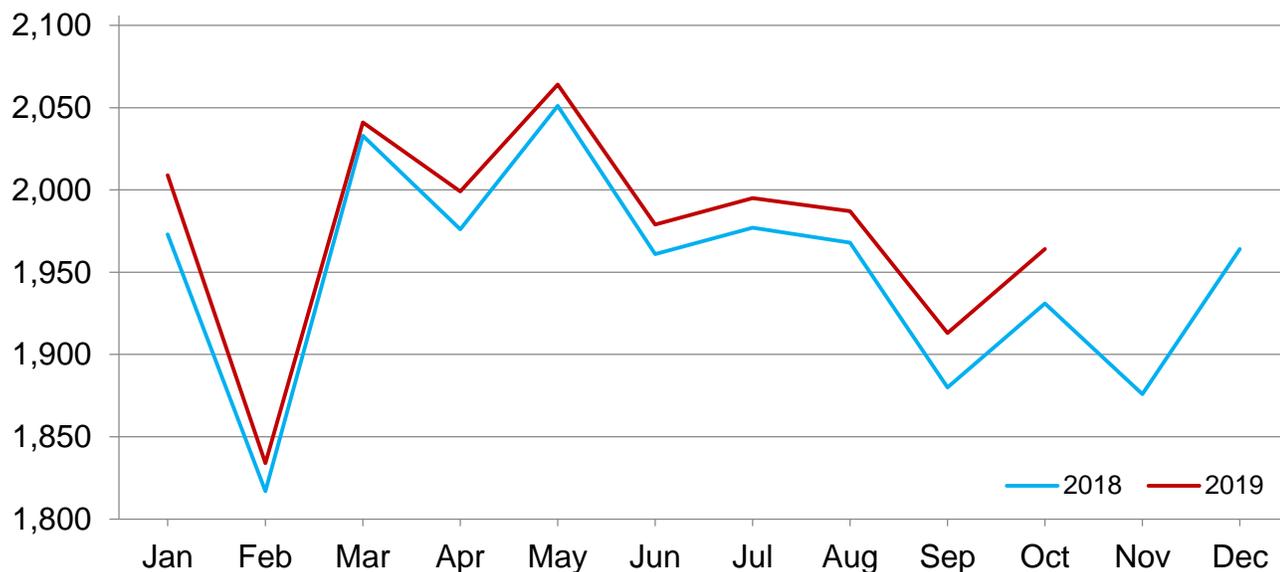
- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk per Cow – 24 Selected States

Pounds



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 such as Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Dairy Market News. Indications of milk cow inventory are also obtained in the January Cattle Survey.

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 in the table below. 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 the 24 State milk production estimates over the past 21 months is 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 17.3 billion pounds by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.2 percent.

Reliability of Monthly Milk Production Estimates

[Based on data for the past 21 months. 24-State data not available prior to 2018]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Milk production	0.1	0.2	20	2	59	16	5
All Milk cows	0.2	0.3	10	0	31	16	3

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) 720-4448
Heidi Lanouette – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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