



Released September 19, 2014, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

August Milk Production up 2.6 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 16.2 billion pounds, up 2.6 percent from August 2013. July revised production, at 16.4 billion pounds, was up 4.0 percent from July 2013. The July revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,885 pounds for August, 35 pounds above August 2013. This is the highest production per cow for the month of August since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.58 million head, 60,000 head more than August 2013, but 1,000 head less than July 2014.

August Milk Production in the United States up 2.5 Percent

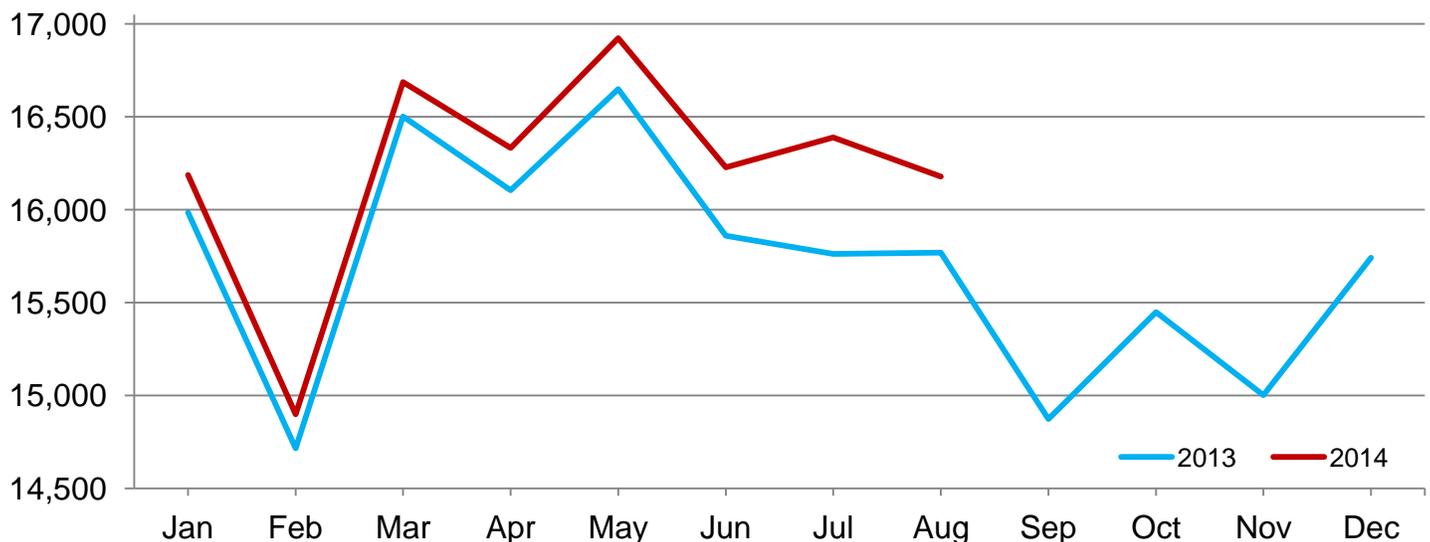
Milk production in the United States during August totaled 17.2 billion pounds, up 2.5 percent from August 2013.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,856 pounds for August, 37 pounds above August 2013.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.28 million head, 47,000 head more than August 2013, but 1,000 head less than July 2014.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2013-2014

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change From 2013
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Percent)
January-March		9,214		5,540	50,545	51,046	1.0
April-June		9,254		5,713	51,997	52,867	1.7
July-September	9,224		5,356		49,408		
October-December	9,201		5,355		49,268		
Annual	9,221		21,822		201,218		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June. 2013 annual totals include modeled data.

Milk Cows and Production By Month – 23 Selected States: 2013-2014

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,497	8,512	1,881	1,902	15,985	16,186	1.3
February	8,498	8,513	1,732	1,750	14,715	14,899	1.3
March		8,521		1,958	16,501	16,687	1.1
April		8,542		1,912	16,105	16,332	1.4
May		8,559		1,977	16,648	16,922	1.6
June		8,572		1,893	15,860	16,227	2.3
July	8,522	8,583	1,850	1,909	15,762	16,388	4.0
August	8,522	8,582	1,850	1,885	15,768	16,177	2.6
September	8,508		1,748		14,874		
October	8,504		1,817		15,449		
November	8,499		1,765		15,002		
December	8,504		1,851		15,741		
Annual	8,508		22,145		188,410		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production By Month – United States: 2013-2014

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,222	9,210	1,855	1,878	17,109	17,293	1.1
February	9,223	9,212	1,709	1,728	15,759	15,920	1.0
March		9,221		1,934	17,677	17,833	0.9
April		9,239		1,891	17,249	17,470	1.3
May		9,255		1,954	17,813	18,082	1.5
June		9,267		1,868	16,935	17,315	2.2
July	9,235	9,277	1,818	1,881	16,788	17,450	3.9
August	9,229	9,276	1,819	1,856	16,789	17,217	2.5
September	9,208		1,719		15,831		
October	9,203		1,790		16,475		
November	9,198		1,740		16,003		
December	9,202		1,825		16,790		
Annual	9,221		21,822		201,218		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: August 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	188	193	1,830	1,860	344	359	4.4
California	1,780	1,778	1,910	1,940	3,400	3,449	1.4
Colorado	137	145	2,095	2,135	287	310	8.0
Florida	123	123	1,450	1,570	178	193	8.4
Idaho	573	579	2,060	2,100	1,180	1,216	3.1
Illinois	97	95	1,550	1,580	150	150	-
Indiana	177	179	1,810	1,875	320	336	5.0
Iowa	208	208	1,850	1,860	385	387	0.5
Kansas	135	142	1,790	1,805	242	256	5.8
Michigan	381	394	2,050	2,115	781	833	6.7
Minnesota	465	460	1,635	1,660	760	764	0.5
New Mexico	324	323	2,015	2,100	653	678	3.8
New York	610	615	1,885	1,920	1,150	1,181	2.7
Ohio	271	266	1,680	1,735	455	462	1.5
Oregon	123	123	1,750	1,740	215	214	-0.5
Pennsylvania	533	530	1,660	1,680	885	890	0.6
South Dakota	95	97	1,835	1,855	174	180	3.4
Texas	440	470	1,795	1,785	790	839	6.2
Utah	92	95	1,915	1,925	176	183	4.0
Vermont	135	132	1,630	1,725	220	228	3.6
Virginia	95	93	1,490	1,580	142	147	3.5
Washington	268	272	2,040	2,060	547	560	2.4
Wisconsin	1,272	1,270	1,835	1,860	2,334	2,362	1.2
23-State Total	8,522	8,582	1,850	1,885	15,768	16,177	2.6

- Represents zero.

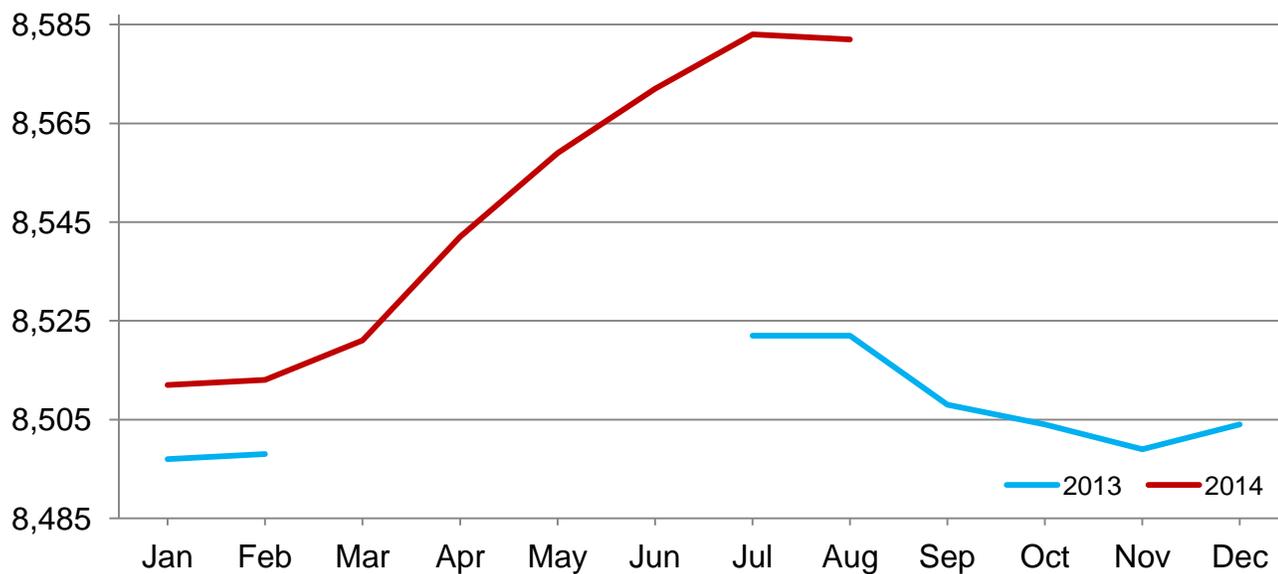
¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: July 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change from 2013
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	188	193	1,845	1,960	347	378	8.9
California	1,780	1,779	1,895	1,980	3,373	3,522	4.4
Colorado	137	145	2,100	2,150	288	312	8.3
Florida	123	123	1,630	1,715	200	211	5.5
Idaho	574	579	2,045	2,115	1,174	1,225	4.3
Illinois	97	95	1,550	1,650	150	157	4.7
Indiana	177	179	1,785	1,875	316	336	6.3
Iowa	210	208	1,835	1,900	385	395	2.6
Kansas	136	142	1,820	1,845	248	262	5.6
Michigan	381	394	2,010	2,120	766	835	9.0
Minnesota	465	460	1,645	1,670	765	768	0.4
New Mexico	324	323	2,125	2,130	689	688	-0.1
New York	610	615	1,860	1,925	1,135	1,184	4.3
Ohio	271	266	1,650	1,735	447	462	3.4
Oregon	123	123	1,765	1,755	217	216	-0.5
Pennsylvania	534	530	1,630	1,690	870	896	3.0
South Dakota	95	97	1,830	1,845	174	179	2.9
Texas	435	470	1,885	1,840	820	865	5.5
Utah	92	95	1,915	1,940	176	184	4.5
Vermont	135	132	1,620	1,730	219	228	4.1
Virginia	95	93	1,480	1,580	141	147	4.3
Washington	268	272	2,040	2,070	547	563	2.9
Wisconsin	1,272	1,270	1,820	1,870	2,315	2,375	2.6
23-State Total	8,522	8,583	1,850	1,909	15,762	16,388	4.0

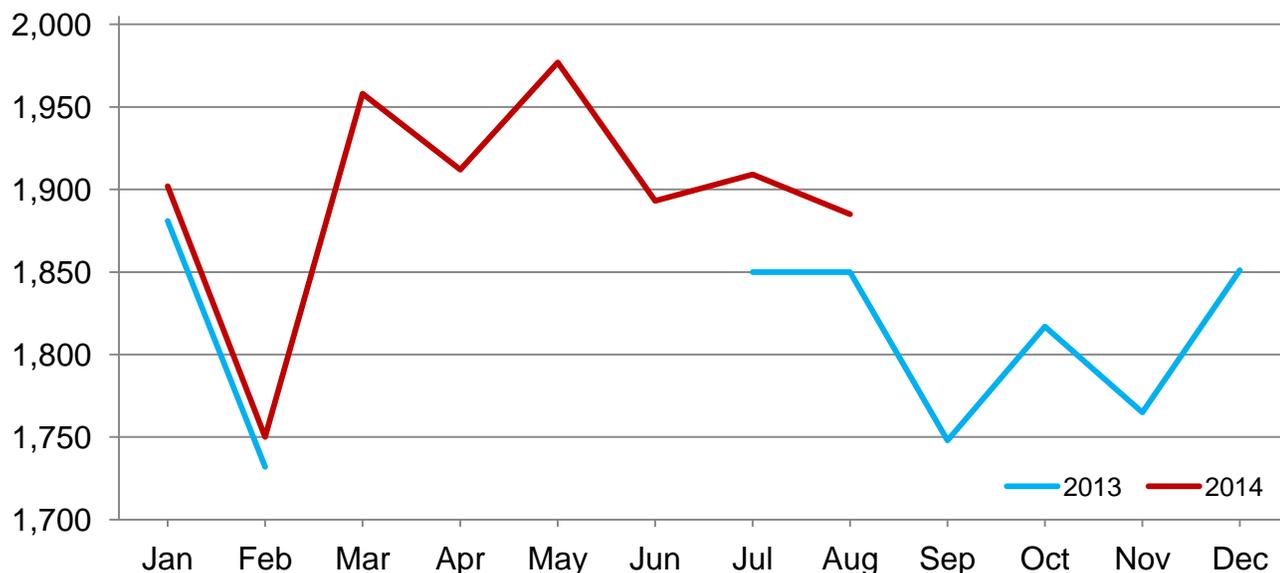
¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Monthly Milk per Cow – 23 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. Indications of milk cow inventory are also obtained in the January Cattle Surveys.

Estimation Procedures: State 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 23 State milk production estimates over the past 24 months 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 16.2 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 Monthly Milk Production Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

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	0.2	0.3	26	1	81	17	7
All Milk cows	0.1	0.1	5	0	11	12	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@nass.usda.gov.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Travis Averill – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Tiffany Hora – Livestock Slaughter	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Evan Schulz – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-6147

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

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.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.