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## March Milk Production up 1.1 Percent

**Milk production** in the 23 major States during March totaled 16.7 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from March 2013. February revised production at 14.9 billion pounds, was up 1.3 percent from February 2013. The February revision represented a decrease of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,959 pounds for March.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States for March was 8.51 million head, 1,000 head more than February 2014.

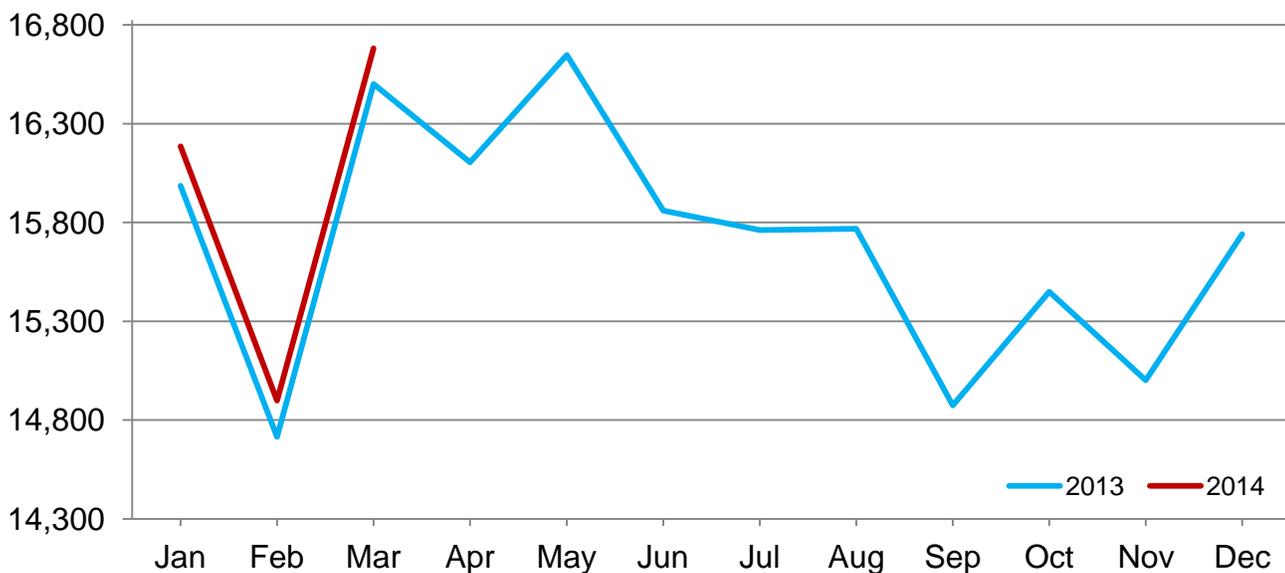
## January - March Milk Production up 1.0 Percent

**Milk production** in the United States during the January - March quarter totaled 51.1 billion pounds, up 1.0 percent from the January - March quarter last year.

**The average number of milk cows** in the United States during the quarter was 9.22 million head.

## 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	Change From 2013
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Percent)
January-March .....		9,215		5,541	50,545	51,056	1.0
April-June .....					51,997		
July-September .....	9,224		5,356		49,408		
October-December .....	9,201		5,355		49,268		
Annual .....	9,221		21,822		201,218		

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	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 .....		8,514		1,959	16,501	16,681	1.1
April .....					16,105		
May .....					16,648		
June .....					15,860		
July .....	8,522		1,850		15,762		
August .....	8,522		1,850		15,768		
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		

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January .....	9,222	9,212	1,855	1,878	17,109	17,298	1.1
February .....	9,223	9,215	1,709	1,728	15,759	15,925	1.1
March .....		9,218		1,935	17,677	17,833	0.9
April .....					17,249		
May .....					17,813		
June .....					16,935		
July .....	9,235		1,818		16,788		
August .....	9,229		1,819		16,789		
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		

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> 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: March 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2013
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....		192		2,230	423	428	1.2
California .....		1,781		2,140	3,676	3,811	3.7
Colorado .....		140		2,120	279	297	6.5
Florida .....		123		1,905	227	234	3.1
Idaho .....		568		2,025	1,131	1,150	1.7
Illinois .....		95		1,770	171	168	-1.8
Indiana .....		176		1,890	331	333	0.6
Iowa .....		204		1,925	407	393	-3.4
Kansas .....		136		1,875	252	255	1.2
Michigan .....		381		2,090	794	796	0.3
Minnesota .....		459		1,700	811	780	-3.8
New Mexico .....		323		2,210	715	714	-0.1
New York .....		615		1,885	1,159	1,159	-
Ohio .....		266		1,720	481	458	-4.8
Oregon .....		125		1,800	216	225	4.2
Pennsylvania .....		531		1,750	926	929	0.3
South Dakota .....		95		1,830	171	174	1.8
Texas .....		445		2,010	840	894	6.4
Utah .....		95		1,860	171	177	3.5
Vermont .....		131		1,730	226	227	0.4
Virginia .....		93		1,690	153	157	2.6
Washington .....		270		2,075	541	560	3.5
Wisconsin .....		1,270		1,860	2,400	2,362	-1.6
23-State Total .....		8,514		1,959	16,501	16,681	1.1

- Represents zero.

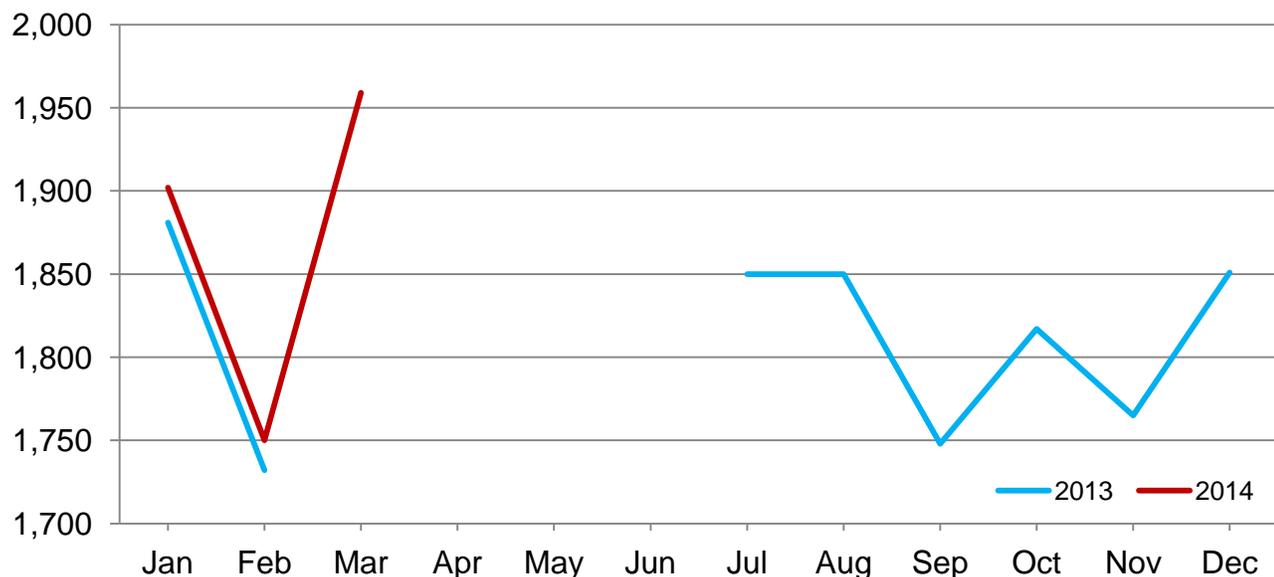
<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> 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



## Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: February 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

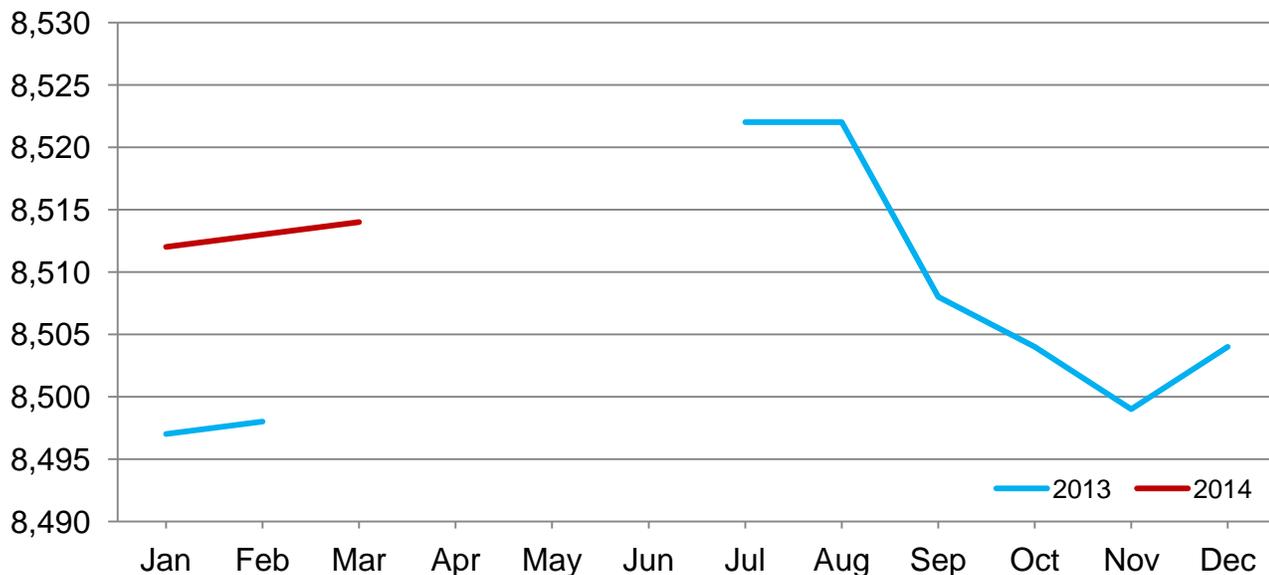
	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2013
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....	190	192	1,940	1,965	369	377	2.2
California .....	1,780	1,780	1,815	1,910	3,231	3,400	5.2
Colorado .....	135	140	1,865	1,885	252	264	4.8
Florida .....	122	123	1,670	1,715	204	211	3.4
Idaho .....	577	567	1,740	1,820	1,004	1,032	2.8
Illinois .....	97	96	1,590	1,550	154	149	-3.2
Indiana .....	174	176	1,710	1,680	298	296	-0.7
Iowa .....	208	205	1,750	1,725	364	354	-2.7
Kansas .....	132	137	1,705	1,695	225	232	3.1
Michigan .....	378	381	1,880	1,880	711	716	0.7
Minnesota .....	465	460	1,565	1,530	728	704	-3.3
New Mexico .....	322	323	1,985	1,950	639	630	-1.4
New York .....	610	615	1,695	1,690	1,034	1,039	0.5
Ohio .....	271	266	1,590	1,560	431	415	-3.7
Oregon .....	123	124	1,555	1,595	191	198	3.7
Pennsylvania .....	534	531	1,560	1,565	833	831	-0.2
South Dakota .....	92	95	1,665	1,650	153	157	2.6
Texas .....	435	443	1,740	1,760	757	780	3.0
Utah .....	91	95	1,660	1,650	151	157	4.0
Vermont .....	134	132	1,505	1,545	202	204	1.0
Virginia .....	94	93	1,460	1,500	137	140	2.2
Washington .....	264	269	1,825	1,850	482	498	3.3
Wisconsin .....	1,270	1,270	1,705	1,665	2,165	2,115	-2.3
23-State Total .....	8,498	8,513	1,732	1,750	14,715	14,899	1.3

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



## Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Revised October - December 2012 and 2013

[May not add due to rounding]

State	October - December milk cows <sup>1</sup>		October - December milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2012	2013	2012	2013	Change from 2012
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....	9.0	9.0	29.0	28.0	-3.4
Alaska .....	0.4	0.3	1.2	0.8	-33.3
Arizona .....	185.0	190.0	1,068.0	1,089.0	2.0
Arkansas .....	9.5	8.0	28.0	22.0	-21.4
California .....	1,779.0	1,780.0	9,989.0	10,086.0	1.0
Colorado .....	135.0	138.0	807.0	839.0	4.0
Connecticut .....	18.0	18.0	86.0	90.0	4.7
Delaware .....	4.7	4.7	22.0	22.7	3.2
Florida .....	122.0	123.0	531.0	553.0	4.1
Georgia .....	80.0	80.0	359.0	368.0	2.5
Hawaii .....	2.1	2.2	6.6	7.2	9.1
Idaho .....	578.0	567.0	3,348.0	3,286.0	-1.9
Illinois .....	98.0	96.0	474.0	457.0	-3.6
Indiana .....	173.0	178.0	921.0	951.0	3.3
Iowa .....	204.0	206.0	1,139.0	1,126.0	-1.1
Kansas .....	129.0	135.0	698.0	742.0	6.3
Kentucky .....	73.0	69.0	269.0	257.0	-4.5
Louisiana .....	16.0	15.0	49.0	46.0	-6.1
Maine .....	32.0	30.0	150.0	146.0	-2.7
Maryland .....	51.0	50.0	239.0	241.0	0.8
Massachusetts .....	12.5	12.0	55.0	54.0	-1.8
Michigan .....	375.0	380.0	2,234.0	2,261.0	1.2
Minnesota .....	465.0	461.0	2,273.0	2,232.0	-1.8
Mississippi .....	14.0	13.0	46.0	43.0	-6.5
Missouri .....	93.0	90.0	334.0	318.0	-4.8
Montana .....	14.0	14.0	74.0	75.0	1.4
Nebraska .....	55.0	53.0	297.0	285.0	-4.0
Nevada .....	29.0	29.0	159.0	161.0	1.3
New Hampshire .....	13.5	13.5	65.0	67.0	3.1
New Jersey .....	7.0	7.0	30.0	31.0	3.3
New Mexico .....	323.0	322.0	1,976.0	1,955.0	-1.1
New York .....	610.0	611.0	3,257.0	3,307.0	1.5
North Carolina .....	46.0	45.0	226.0	227.0	0.4
North Dakota .....	18.0	17.0	87.0	81.0	-6.9
Ohio .....	270.0	268.0	1,343.0	1,322.0	-1.6
Oklahoma .....	46.0	44.0	201.0	191.0	-5.0
Oregon .....	123.0	123.0	608.0	616.0	1.3
Pennsylvania .....	533.0	530.0	2,594.0	2,587.0	-0.3
Rhode Island .....	0.9	0.9	4.1	4.0	-2.4
South Carolina .....	15.5	15.5	64.0	63.0	-1.6
South Dakota .....	92.0	95.0	497.0	511.0	2.8
Tennessee .....	49.0	47.0	191.0	182.0	-4.7
Texas .....	431.0	440.0	2,336.0	2,381.0	1.9
Utah .....	91.0	93.0	505.0	507.0	0.4
Vermont .....	134.0	132.0	637.0	639.0	0.3
Virginia .....	95.0	94.0	423.0	432.0	2.1
Washington .....	262.0	266.0	1,520.0	1,546.0	1.7
West Virginia .....	10.0	9.0	38.0	34.0	-10.5
Wisconsin .....	1,271.0	1,271.0	6,824.0	6,767.0	-0.8
Wyoming .....	6.0	6.0	31.5	31.0	-1.6
United States .....	9,203.0	9,201.0	49,143.0	49,268.0	0.3

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Milk Cows and Production – States and United States: Preliminary January - March 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

State	January - March milk cows <sup>1</sup>		January - March milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Alabama .....		9.0	33.0	31.0	-6.1
Alaska .....		0.3	0.8	0.8	-
Arizona .....		192.0	1,186.0	1,202.0	1.3
Arkansas .....		7.5	31.0	24.0	-22.6
California .....	1,781.0		10,369.0	10,826.0	4.4
Colorado .....		140.0	806.0	852.0	5.7
Connecticut .....		19.0	92.0	96.0	4.3
Delaware .....		4.7	24.7	24.5	-0.8
Florida .....		123.0	642.0	668.0	4.0
Georgia .....		81.0	414.0	435.0	5.1
Hawaii .....		2.3	7.0	7.4	5.7
Idaho .....		567.0	3,241.0	3,317.0	2.3
Illinois .....		96.0	493.0	477.0	-3.2
Indiana .....		177.0	953.0	958.0	0.5
Iowa .....		205.0	1,171.0	1,137.0	-2.9
Kansas .....		137.0	722.0	743.0	2.9
Kentucky .....		68.0	292.0	276.0	-5.5
Louisiana .....		15.0	60.0	56.0	-6.7
Maine .....		30.0	151.0	146.0	-3.3
Maryland .....		50.0	250.0	250.0	-
Massachusetts .....		12.5	59.0	59.0	-
Michigan .....		381.0	2,284.0	2,301.0	0.7
Minnesota .....		460.0	2,336.0	2,261.0	-3.2
Mississippi .....		13.0	52.0	51.0	-1.9
Missouri .....		90.0	346.0	336.0	-2.9
Montana .....		14.0	73.0	76.0	4.1
Nebraska .....		53.0	298.0	291.0	-2.3
Nevada .....		29.0	157.0	174.0	10.8
New Hampshire .....		14.0	69.0	71.0	2.9
New Jersey .....		7.0	32.0	32.0	-
New Mexico .....		323.0	2,042.0	2,026.0	-0.8
New York .....		615.0	3,325.0	3,333.0	0.2
North Carolina .....		45.0	244.0	245.0	0.4
North Dakota .....		17.0	88.0	81.0	-8.0
Ohio .....		266.0	1,379.0	1,334.0	-3.3
Oklahoma .....		41.0	217.0	182.0	-16.1
Oregon .....		124.0	613.0	638.0	4.1
Pennsylvania .....		531.0	2,663.0	2,663.0	-
Rhode Island .....		0.9	4.2	4.0	-4.8
South Carolina .....		16.0	72.0	71.0	-1.4
South Dakota .....		95.0	495.0	504.0	1.8
Tennessee .....		46.0	206.0	204.0	-1.0
Texas .....		443.0	2,415.0	2,519.0	4.3
Utah .....		95.0	490.0	507.0	3.5
Vermont .....		132.0	649.0	654.0	0.8
Virginia .....		93.0	440.0	450.0	2.3
Washington .....		269.0	1,547.0	1,601.0	3.5
West Virginia .....		9.0	39.0	35.0	-10.3
Wisconsin .....		1,270.0	6,940.0	6,795.0	-2.1
Wyoming .....		6.0	32.0	31.5	-1.6
United States .....		9,215.0	50,545.0	51,056.0	1.0

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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

## 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 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 cow inventory estimates over the past 20 quarters 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 9.22 million head by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.1 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 .....	0.1	0.2	34	1	96	15	5
All milk cows .....	0.1	0.1	4	0	10	12	4

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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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
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Sheep and Goats.....	(202) 720-4751
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products .....	(202) 690-3236
Tiffany Hora – Livestock Slaughter .....	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278

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