

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
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MILK PRODUCTION ON DECEMBER 1, 1931

Milk production per cow on December 1, 1931 was about the same as on that date last year and about three per cent above average December production per cow during the previous five years, according to reports which the United States Department of Agriculture has received from crop correspondents in all parts of the country. The records for the 23,000 herds reported for December 1 showed an average of 12.08 pounds of milk per milk cow. Those reported on the same date last year averaged 12.12 pounds. During the previous 5 years the December 1 average was 11.63 pounds per cow. As the number of milk cows is increasing in nearly all parts of the country, total milk production on the first of the month is believed to be three or four per cent above production on that date last year.

The milk production per cow reported by crop correspondents on December 1 was about 3 per cent below the production reported on November 1, indicating slightly more than the usual decline during the period. Much of this decrease, however, occurred in northern states where late fall pasturage conditions were unusually favorable until late in November. In the surplus grain areas, where corn and oat prices are lower in comparison with the price of butterfat than in any December since 1921, farmers were feeding rather heavily on December 1 and milk production was continuing at a high level. In the Northeast where milk prices are now relatively low, farmers have been feeding less grain than at the same time last year and milk production per cow was lower than on December 1 last year and only slightly above the December 1 average during the previous 5 years. In most of the South, east of Texas and Oklahoma, production was slightly below average, though above the very low production reported last year.

In most parts of the country the percentage of the cows being milked averages slightly higher than has previously been reported and the number of cows being culled from the herds is the lowest in years.

DAILY MILK PRODUCTION OF MILK COWS IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP CORRESPONDENTS  
December 1, 1931, with comparisons 1/

STATE	Pounds per cow per day		
	Dec. 1, 1925-1929	Dec. 1, 1930	Dec. 1, 1931
Me.	12.5	13.3	12.6
N.H.	15.0	15.0	14.4
Vt.	12.3	13.1	13.7
Mass.	16.4	16.3	15.8
R.I.	16.2	19.0	18.6
Conn.	15.8	16.1	15.5
N.Y.	14.0	14.7	14.2
N.J.	17.6	13.0	13.4
Pa.	15.0	15.3	15.2
N.ATL.	14.49	15.02	14.72
Ohio	13.4	14.1	13.9
Ind.	12.4	12.5	12.8
Ill.	11.7	13.0	12.5
Mich.	14.1	14.6	15.0
Wis.	13.3	13.7	13.7
E.N.CENT.	13.04	13.65	13.62
Minn.	13.0	13.1	13.8
Iowa	10.8	12.3	12.5
Mo.	8.2	9.9	8.9
N.Dak.	9.8	9.3	10.0
S.Dak.	8.8	10.4	9.4
Nebr.	10.4	11.3	12.0
Kans.	11.1	12.3	11.9
W.N.CENT.	10.56	11.46	11.37
Del.	13.0	14.0	15.0
Md.	14.1	13.8	13.1
Va.	10.9	10.0	10.1
W.Va.	10.1	9.8	10.1
N.C.	10.7	10.6	10.5
S.C.	9.2	9.3	9.8
Ga.	9.1	8.3	8.6
Fla.	7.0	6.6	7.4
S.ATL.	10.59	9.96	10.14
Ky.	10.5	9.8	10.0
Tenn.	9.2	9.7	9.4
Ala.	7.8	8.0	7.8
Miss.	7.2	7.0	6.9
Ark.	8.2	7.4	8.0
La.	6.5	7.6	6.6
Okla.	9.5	9.1	9.7
Tex.	8.3	8.2	8.5
S.CENT.	8.65	8.64	8.77
Mont.	10.1	12.4	11.3
Idaho	14.7	15.3	15.2
Wyo.	10.2	11.5	10.2
Colo.	11.4	12.1	11.4
N.Mex.	9.5	6.4	10.5
Ariz.	14.9	14.3	16.1
Utah	14.6	15.0	14.1
Nev.	13.1	11.2	14.7
Wash.	15.9	14.8	15.0
Oreg.	14.2	14.0	13.8
Calif.	14.6	13.6	16.4
WEST.	13.16	13.34	13.58
U.S.	11.68	12.12	12.08

1/These are not estimates of production but merely averages as calculated by dividing the reported daily milk production of herds kept by crop correspondents by the number of milk cows in these herds. For December 1931 the record includes 22,309 herds and 180,515 cows. For the less important dairy states the numbers reported are not sufficient to provide reliable indications of changes.