



ISSN: 1949-1557

Released September 18, 2019, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## August Milk Production up 0.4 Percent

**Milk production** in the 24 major States during August totaled 17.4 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent from August 2018. July revised production, at 17.5 billion pounds, was up 0.4 percent from July 2018. The July revision represented an increase of 38 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 24 major States averaged 1,986 pounds for August, 18 pounds above August 2018.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 24 major States was 8.78 million head, 48,000 head less than August 2018, and 1,000 head less than July 2019.

## August Milk Production in the United States up 0.2 Percent

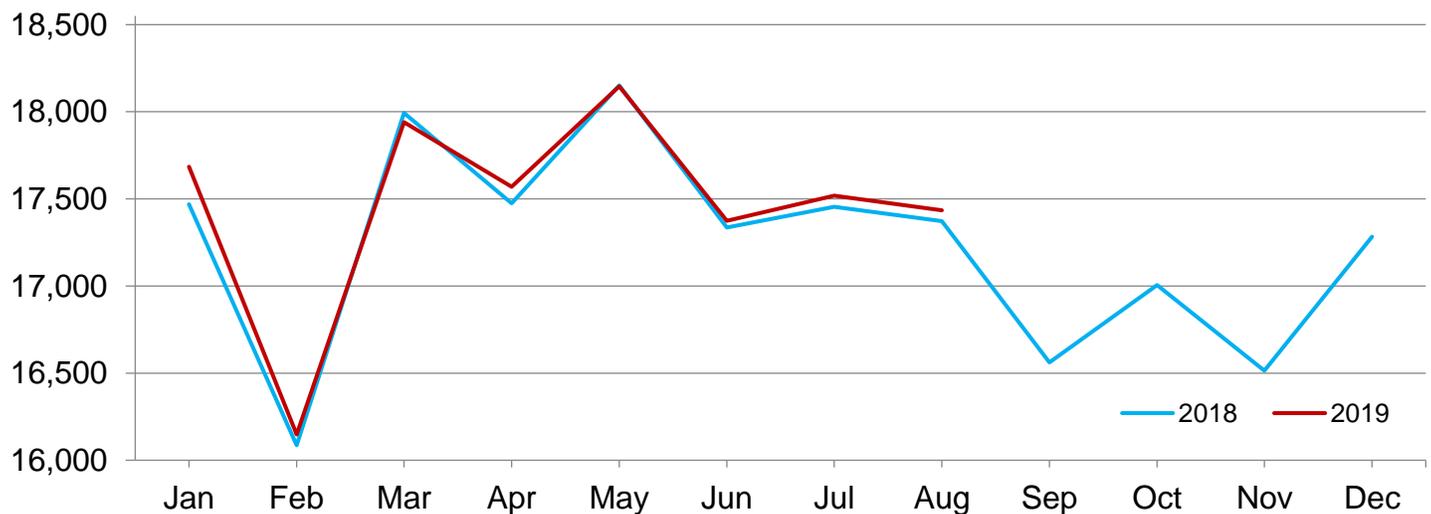
**Milk production** in the United States during August totaled 18.3 billion pounds, up 0.2 percent from August 2018.

**Production per cow** in the United States averaged 1,962 pounds for August, 19 pounds above August 2018.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the United States was 9.32 million head, 71,000 head less than August 2018, and 2,000 head less than July 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	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		5,752		53,969		
October-December .....	9,359		5,703		53,376		
Annual .....	9,399		23,149		217,575		

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	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	8,778	1,968	1,986	17,372	17,434	0.4
September .....	8,807		1,880		16,561		
October .....	8,807		1,931		17,005		
November .....	8,802		1,876		16,514		
December .....	8,798		1,964		17,282		
Annual .....	8,830		23,407		206,699		

- Represents zero.

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	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	9,333	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	9,320	1,952	1,971	18,329	18,370	0.2
August .....	9,389	9,318	1,943	1,962	18,245	18,280	0.2
September .....	9,368		1,857		17,395		
October .....	9,367		1,908		17,873		
November .....	9,358		1,854		17,348		
December .....	9,353		1,941		18,155		
Annual .....	9,399		23,149		217,575		

- Represents zero.

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

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

## Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: August 2018 and 2019

[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 2018
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....	206	193	1,835	1,840	378	355	-6.1
California .....	1,734	1,728	1,905	1,940	3,303	3,352	1.5
Colorado .....	178	187	2,210	2,200	393	411	4.6
Florida .....	119	115	1,515	1,565	180	180	-
Georgia .....	79	80	1,760	1,740	139	139	-
Idaho .....	610	625	2,170	2,180	1,324	1,363	2.9
Illinois .....	90	83	1,675	1,670	151	139	-7.9
Indiana .....	184	175	1,880	1,895	346	332	-4.0
Iowa .....	220	216	1,995	2,015	439	435	-0.9
Kansas .....	160	162	1,970	1,980	315	321	1.9
Michigan .....	423	425	2,240	2,265	948	963	1.6
Minnesota .....	451	447	1,860	1,885	839	843	0.5
New Mexico .....	328	323	2,100	2,100	689	678	-1.6
New York .....	622	627	2,055	2,060	1,278	1,292	1.1
Ohio .....	258	250	1,790	1,830	462	458	-0.9
Oregon .....	122	124	1,760	1,780	215	221	2.8
Pennsylvania .....	519	485	1,700	1,710	882	829	-6.0
South Dakota .....	121	123	1,915	1,935	232	238	2.6
Texas .....	540	565	2,035	2,035	1,099	1,150	4.6
Utah .....	101	97	2,000	2,010	202	195	-3.5
Vermont .....	127	126	1,785	1,800	227	227	-
Virginia .....	83	74	1,585	1,575	132	117	-11.4
Washington .....	277	281	2,075	2,085	575	586	1.9
Wisconsin .....	1,274	1,267	2,060	2,060	2,624	2,610	-0.5
24-State Total .....	8,826	8,778	1,968	1,986	17,372	17,434	0.4

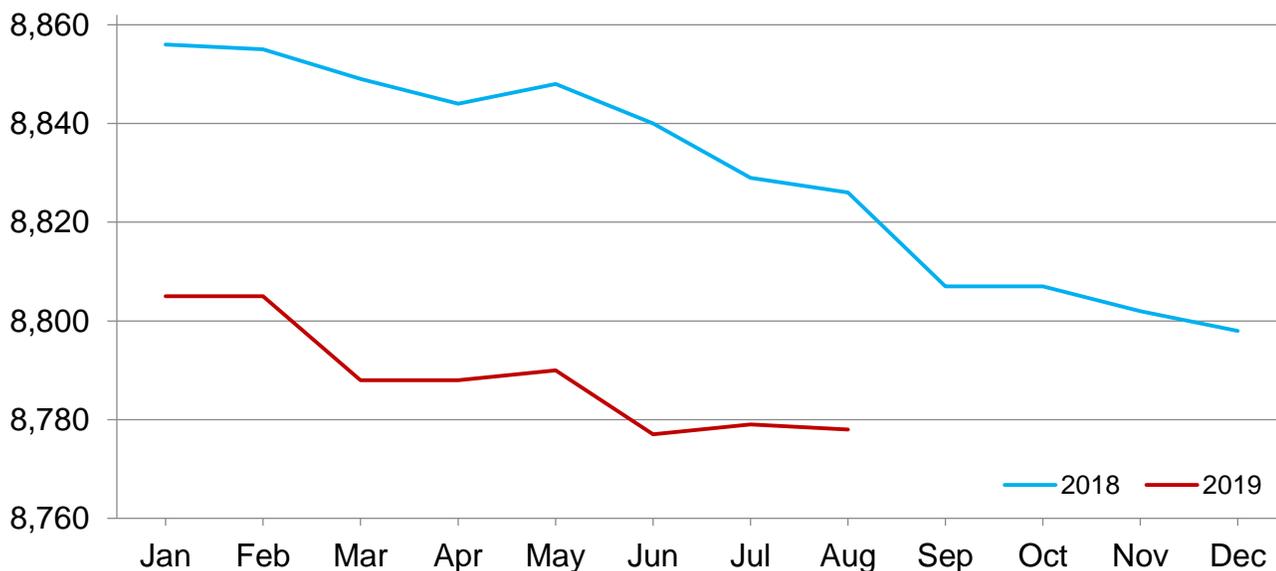
- Represents zero.

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

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

## Monthly Milk Cows – 24 Selected States

Thousand head



## Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: July 2018 and 2019

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		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	1,895	1,900	390	369	-5.4
California .....	1,734	1,728	1,900	1,955	3,295	3,378	2.5
Colorado .....	177	187	2,215	2,205	392	412	5.1
Florida .....	119	115	1,580	1,670	188	192	2.1
Georgia .....	81	81	1,770	1,765	143	143	-
Idaho .....	610	625	2,175	2,190	1,327	1,369	3.2
Illinois .....	92	83	1,680	1,685	155	140	-9.7
Indiana .....	184	175	1,890	1,890	348	331	-4.9
Iowa .....	220	216	1,995	1,990	439	430	-2.1
Kansas .....	159	162	1,970	1,970	313	319	1.9
Michigan .....	423	425	2,240	2,255	948	958	1.1
Minnesota .....	452	447	1,860	1,895	841	847	0.7
New Mexico .....	328	323	2,140	2,155	702	696	-0.9
New York .....	622	627	2,065	2,050	1,284	1,285	0.1
Ohio .....	260	248	1,795	1,830	467	454	-2.8
Oregon .....	121	124	1,790	1,805	217	224	3.2
Pennsylvania .....	520	485	1,730	1,715	900	832	-7.6
South Dakota .....	121	123	1,900	1,920	230	236	2.6
Texas .....	538	565	2,050	2,065	1,103	1,167	5.8
Utah .....	101	97	2,000	2,010	202	195	-3.5
Vermont .....	127	126	1,770	1,810	225	228	1.3
Virginia .....	83	74	1,610	1,600	134	118	-11.9
Washington .....	277	281	2,095	2,120	580	596	2.8
Wisconsin .....	1,274	1,268	2,065	2,050	2,631	2,599	-1.2
24-State Total .....	8,829	8,779	1,977	1,995	17,454	17,518	0.4

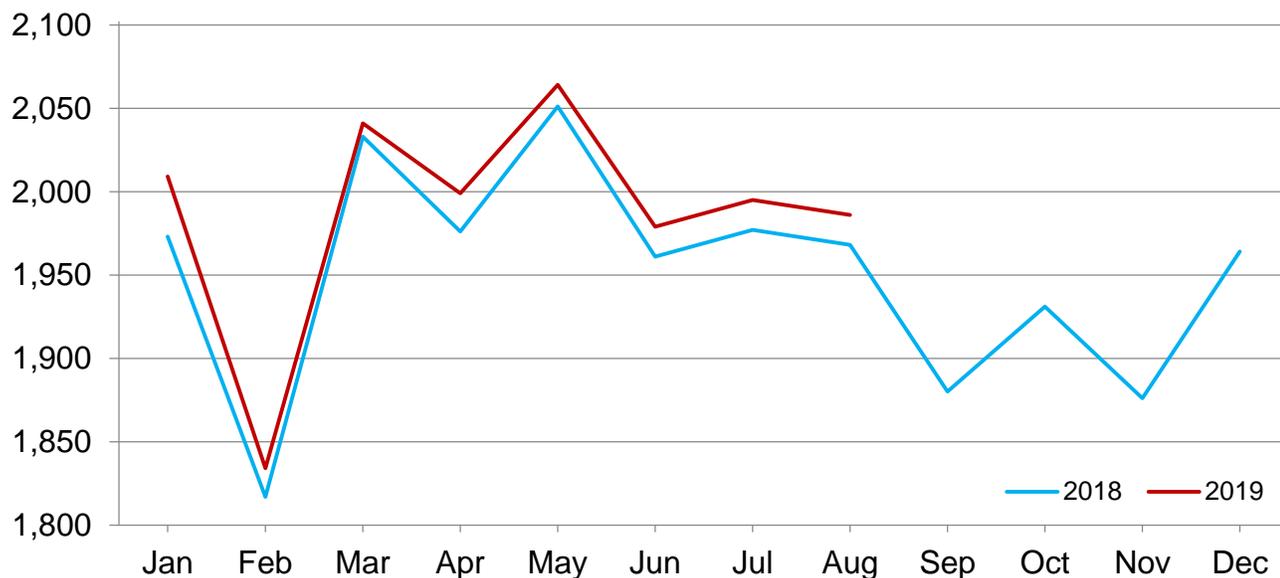
- Represents zero.

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 19 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 17.4 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 19 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	14	5
All Milk cows .....	0.2	0.3	10	0	31	14	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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section .....	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 720-0585
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

## Access to NASS Reports

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

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# USDA Data Users' Meeting



## **USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting** **Tuesday, October 15, 2019**

American Farm Bureau Federation  
600 Maryland Ave SW #1000w  
Washington, DC 20024

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details and additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website ([https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education\\_and\\_Outreach/Meeting/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php)). Contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or [vernita.murray@nass.usda.gov](mailto:vernita.murray@nass.usda.gov) or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or [patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov](mailto:patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov) for information.