



ISSN: 1949-1557

Released August 18, 2017, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

July Milk Production up 1.9 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 17.2 billion pounds, up 1.9 percent from July 2016. June revised production, at 16.9 billion pounds, was up 1.7 percent from June 2016. The June revision represented an increase of 5 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,969 pounds for July, 21 pounds above July 2016. This is the highest production per cow for the month of July since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.73 million head, 72,000 head more than July 2016, but 1,000 head less than June 2017.

July Milk Production in the United States up 1.8 Percent

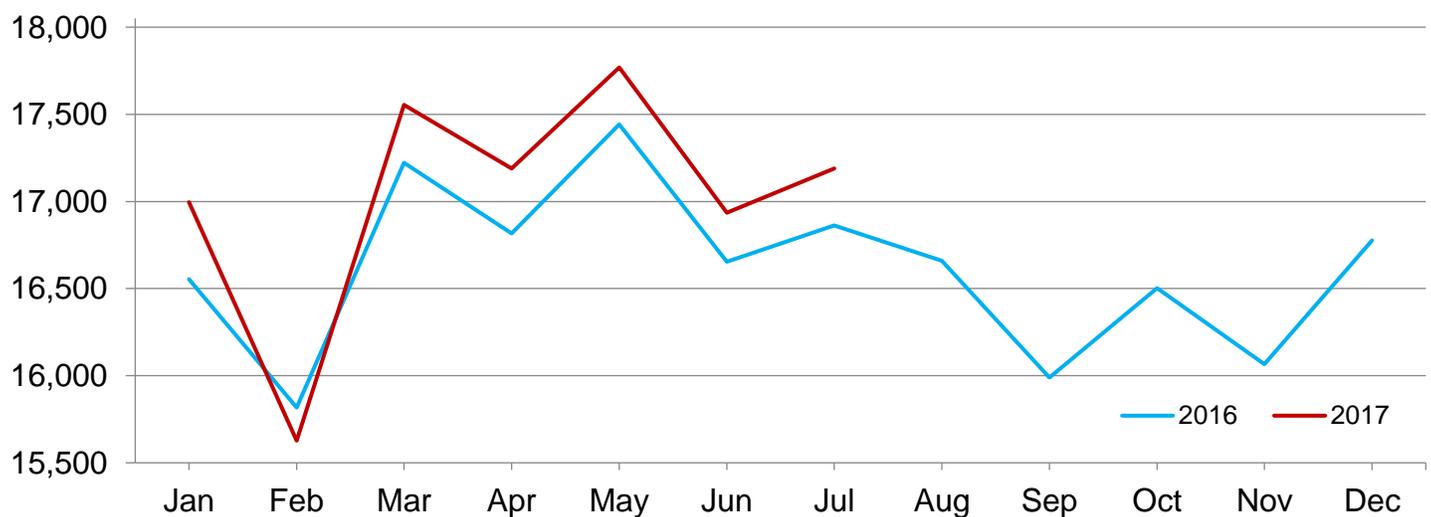
Milk production in the United States during July totaled 18.2 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from July 2016.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,940 pounds for July, 20 pounds above July 2016.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 74,000 head more than July 2016, but 1,000 head less than June 2017.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2016-2017

[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		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	Change from 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,312	9,370	5,691	5,717	52,998	53,568	1.1
April-June	9,323	9,399	5,828	5,885	54,331	55,313	1.8
July-September	9,331		5,636		52,590		
October-December	9,344		5,620		52,517		
Annual	9,328		22,774		212,436		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production By Month – 23 Selected States: 2016-2017

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	Change from 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,621	8,691	1,920	1,955	16,553	16,995	2.7
February	8,628	8,694	1,833	1,797	15,817	15,627	-1.2
March	8,637	8,711	1,994	2,015	17,222	17,554	1.9
April	8,638	8,720	1,947	1,971	16,817	17,189	2.2
May	8,641	8,727	2,019	2,036	17,442	17,769	1.9
June	8,648	8,731	1,926	1,940	16,654	16,935	1.7
July	8,658	8,730	1,948	1,969	16,863	17,189	1.9
August	8,666		1,922		16,659		
September	8,664		1,845		15,989		
October	8,668		1,904		16,503		
November	8,675		1,852		16,066		
December	8,683		1,932		16,777		
Annual	8,652		23,042		199,362		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production By Month – United States: 2016-2017

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	Change from 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,304	9,362	1,902	1,938	17,693	18,145	2.6
February	9,311	9,365	1,815	1,782	16,904	16,684	-1.3
March	9,321	9,382	1,974	1,997	18,401	18,739	1.8
April	9,321	9,392	1,925	1,950	17,947	18,319	2.1
May	9,322	9,400	1,997	2,015	18,613	18,942	1.8
June	9,326	9,404	1,906	1,920	17,771	18,052	1.6
July	9,329	9,403	1,920	1,940	17,908	18,238	1.8
August	9,334		1,895		17,692		
September	9,331		1,821		16,990		
October	9,335		1,882		17,565		
November	9,344		1,830		17,100		
December	9,354		1,908		17,852		
Annual	9,328		22,774		212,436		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: July 2016 and 2017

[May not add due to rounding]

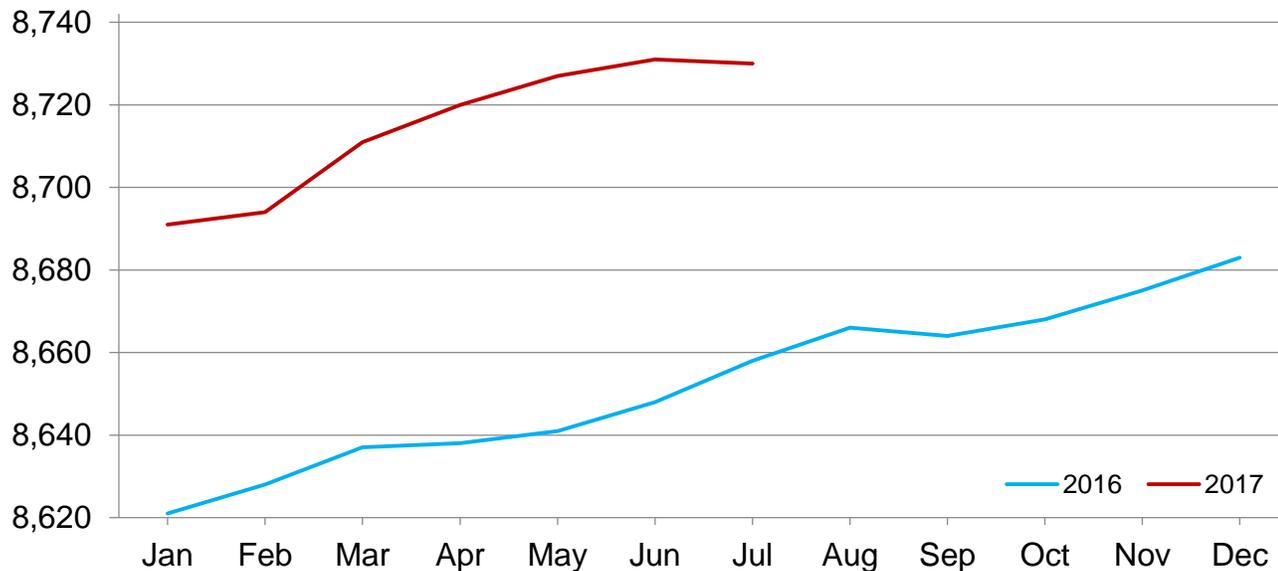
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2016 (percent)
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	
Arizona	196	203	1,940	1,990	380	404	6.3
California	1,760	1,747	1,920	1,930	3,379	3,372	-0.2
Colorado	152	160	2,225	2,255	338	361	6.8
Florida	121	124	1,645	1,635	199	203	2.0
Idaho	599	601	2,165	2,155	1,297	1,295	-0.2
Illinois	94	93	1,660	1,700	156	158	1.3
Indiana	184	186	1,870	1,870	344	348	1.2
Iowa	214	217	1,985	2,000	425	434	2.1
Kansas	145	151	1,880	1,880	273	284	4.0
Michigan	420	427	2,220	2,245	932	959	2.9
Minnesota	462	458	1,765	1,835	815	840	3.1
New Mexico	313	332	2,080	2,125	651	706	8.4
New York	620	624	2,050	2,035	1,271	1,270	-0.1
Ohio	266	262	1,770	1,790	471	469	-0.4
Oregon	125	124	1,785	1,745	223	216	-3.1
Pennsylvania	530	525	1,720	1,730	912	908	-0.4
South Dakota	115	118	1,870	1,895	215	224	4.2
Texas	480	515	1,860	1,990	893	1,025	14.8
Utah	90	96	1,970	2,020	177	194	9.6
Vermont	130	129	1,770	1,800	230	232	0.9
Virginia	89	87	1,585	1,600	141	139	-1.4
Washington	275	273	2,080	2,050	572	560	-2.1
Wisconsin	1,278	1,278	2,010	2,025	2,569	2,588	0.7
23-State Total	8,658	8,730	1,948	1,969	16,863	17,189	1.9

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: June 2016 and 2017

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2016
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	196	203	2,030	2,090	398	424	6.5
California	1,763	1,749	1,905	1,880	3,359	3,288	-2.1
Colorado	150	160	2,140	2,170	321	347	8.1
Florida	122	124	1,730	1,725	211	214	1.4
Idaho	594	601	2,090	2,090	1,241	1,256	1.2
Illinois	94	93	1,670	1,720	157	160	1.9
Indiana	184	186	1,830	1,860	337	346	2.7
Iowa	213	217	1,965	1,975	419	429	2.4
Kansas	145	151	1,855	1,865	269	282	4.8
Michigan	419	427	2,200	2,220	922	948	2.8
Minnesota	462	458	1,755	1,805	811	827	2.0
New Mexico	310	332	2,045	2,095	634	696	9.8
New York	620	624	2,015	2,010	1,249	1,254	0.4
Ohio	266	262	1,750	1,785	466	468	0.4
Oregon	125	124	1,760	1,725	220	214	-2.7
Pennsylvania	530	525	1,710	1,725	906	906	-
South Dakota	115	118	1,820	1,840	209	217	3.8
Texas	475	515	1,860	1,975	884	1,017	15.0
Utah	91	95	1,970	2,000	179	190	6.1
Vermont	131	129	1,750	1,765	229	228	-0.4
Virginia	90	87	1,590	1,625	143	141	-1.4
Washington	275	273	2,010	2,025	553	553	-
Wisconsin	1,278	1,278	1,985	1,980	2,537	2,530	-0.3
23-State Total	8,648	8,731	1,926	1,940	16,654	16,935	1.7

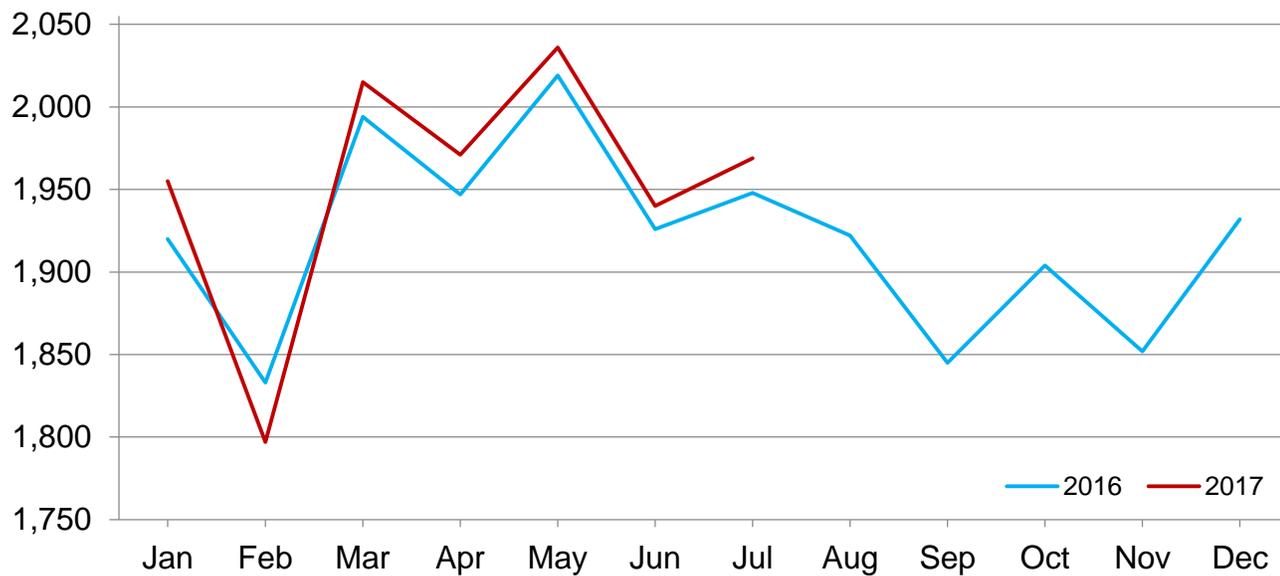
- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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 Survey.

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 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 17.2 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 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	0.1	0.2	17	1	41	14	10
All Milk cows	0.1	0.1	4	0	10	8	14

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.

Vacant, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Scott Hollis, Head, Livestock Section	(202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 720-3240
David Colwell – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-8784
Donnie Fike – Dairy Products	(202) 690-3236
Michael Klamm – 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

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: 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 www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and 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.

USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting Tuesday, October 24, 2017

**Embassy Suites Hotel Kansas City Plaza
220 West 43rd Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-756-1720**

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 2017 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 or 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) or contact Zisa Lubarov-Walton (NASS) at 202-720-8141 or at zisa.lubarov-walton@nass.usda.gov.

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, October 25, 2017. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (<http://lmic.info/page/meetings>) or contact James Robb at (303) 716-9933.