

TOTAL POTATO STOCKS



March 1, 1971

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Storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers in fall producing areas totaled 94.6 million hundredweight on March 1, 1971, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This was 8 percent more than the 87.4 million on hand a year earlier and 15 percent more than the 81.9 million cwt. on hand March 1, 1969. These stocks consist of potatoes held for all uses on March 1.

Stocks in the eight eastern fall States, at 24.7 million, were 4 percent above last year's holdings of 23.7 million cwt. Maine had 19.9 million cwt., compared with 19.2 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Long Island had fewer potatoes on hand but other eastern areas generally had more potatoes in storage than a year earlier.

March 1 stocks in the eight central States totaled 16.8 million cwt. this year compared with 15.6 in 1970. The North Dakota total of 6.9 million compares with 6.0 million a year earlier. Minnesota, with 4.6 million cwt., is down from 5.2 million a year ago and Nebraska stocks equal the March 1, 1970 level. Stocks in Wisconsin and Michigan were each more than a year earlier.

In the eight western fall States, March 1 holdings were 53.1 million cwt., 11 percent above last year and a record high for March 1. Stocks in Idaho, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Wyoming are above a year earlier, but were lower in Montana, Utah and California. Idaho, with 32.3 million cwt., had 9 percent more than the March 1, 1970 level of 29.5 million. Washington stocks, at 9.7 million cwt., were up 24 percent.

Disappearance from storage during February 1971 of 25.5 million cwt. compares with 23.8 million last year and 26.3 million, the record February high in 1968. Disappearance of 1970 fall crop potatoes to March 1, 1971 was 157.2 million compared with 151.1 million cwt. from the 1969 crop and 138.9 for the 1968 crop, during comparable periods. Movement to chippers and fresh market outlets during February and movement for the season, as indicated by rail and truck unloads was below comparable periods a year earlier. During February and for the season to March 1, larger quantities were used in the manufacture of food products other than chips (excluding starch and flour) than a year earlier. Processing for flour and starch, both in February and for the season to March 1, was below year-earlier levels.

Fall Potatoes: Production and total stocks, 1959-70

Year	Production	Total Stocks			
		December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1
		:following year	:following year	:following year	:following year
1,000 cwt.					
1959	167,435	118,560	98,640	77,500	58,175
1960	175,071	122,740	103,595	82,670	62,645
1961	204,235	145,020	122,215	96,120	72,960
1962 1/	194,875	135,745	115,770	91,970	70,250
1963	198,195	136,995	115,000	89,300	67,280
1964	174,491	114,550	94,205	73,120	54,535
1965	216,809	147,070	123,460	98,260	74,605
1966	227,787	152,640	127,380	103,040	79,517
1967	231,224	161,710	139,350	112,770	86,465
1968	220,786	152,800	130,430	104,915	81,900
1969 2/	238,475	162,505	137,965	111,165	87,350
1970	251,765	173,060	148,260	120,130	94,590

1/ Seasonal groupings effective with 1962: All Idaho and Oregon classified as fall. In Colorado, all areas outside of San Luis Valley classified as late summer and the San Luis Valley as fall. 2/ Revised August 1970 Pot 6 (70).

Estimates of Total Resident Population, 50 States, July 1, 1964-71

Area	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Millions								
Eastern	75.3	76.4	77.0	77.6	78.5	79.2	1/	1/
Central	84.6	85.4	86.4	87.3	87.9	88.7	1/	1/
Western	31.5	32.0	32.5	33.0	33.5	34.0	1/	1/
Total	191.4	193.8	195.9	197.9	199.9	201.9	204.3	206.6

1/ Not available.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.
July 1, 1971 projection by Economic Research Service, USDA

Potatoes: Production and total stocks of fall potatoes held by growers and local dealers on March 1, 1970 and March 1, 1971 1/

State	Crop of 1969		Crop of 1970	
	Production	Total stocks : March 1, 1970	Production	Total stocks : March 1, 1971
		1,000 cwt.		
Maine	35,100	19,200	35,700	19,900
Connecticut	1,215	120	1,127	120
New York				
Long Island	6,812	950	6,291	800
Upstate	8,342	1,650	8,568	1,800
Pennsylvania	7,810	1,550	8,280	1,800
Other States 2/	2,706	250	2,973	270
8 Eastern	61,985	23,720	62,759	24,690
Michigan	6,744	1,600	7,566	2,200
Wisconsin	9,000	2,150	9,125	2,200
Minnesota	13,500	5,150	11,440	4,600
North Dakota	16,159	6,000	17,400	6,900
Nebraska	1,908	500	1,750	500
Other States 2/	3,882	240	4,882	440
8 Central	51,193	15,640	52,163	16,840
Montana	1,388	1,050	1,388	950
Idaho	69,870	29,500	73,195	32,300
Wyoming	578	100	612	110
Colorado	8,695	3,050	9,990	3,300
Utah	1,332	340	1,088	300
Washington	21,930	7,800	25,010	9,700
Oregon	13,412	3,500	16,056	4,000
California	8,092	2,650	9,504	2,400
8 Western 3/	125,297	47,990	136,843	53,060
Total 24				
Fall States 3/	238,475	87,350	251,765	94,590

1/ Total stocks consist of "production less total disappearance to date".

2/ Eastern - New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

Central - Ohio, Indiana and South Dakota.

3/ Estimates for Nevada discontinued in 1969; U. S. production and stocks estimates for 1969 adjusted for comparability between the two years.

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