



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service



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# Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses 2001 Summary

## January 2002

# USDA



## General Refrigerated Warehouse Capacity Up 5 Percent

**General refrigerated storage capacity** in the United States totaled 3.04 billion gross cubic feet on October 1, 2001, an increase of 5 percent since the previous survey was conducted two years ago. While most of the increase was due to new construction, some was due to the increased survey coverage of existing warehouses. This was the 42nd biennial survey of refrigerated warehouses. The five States with the largest gross general warehouse capacity (million cubic feet) were: California with 433; Florida, 231; Washington, 189; Wisconsin, 162 and Texas with 157.

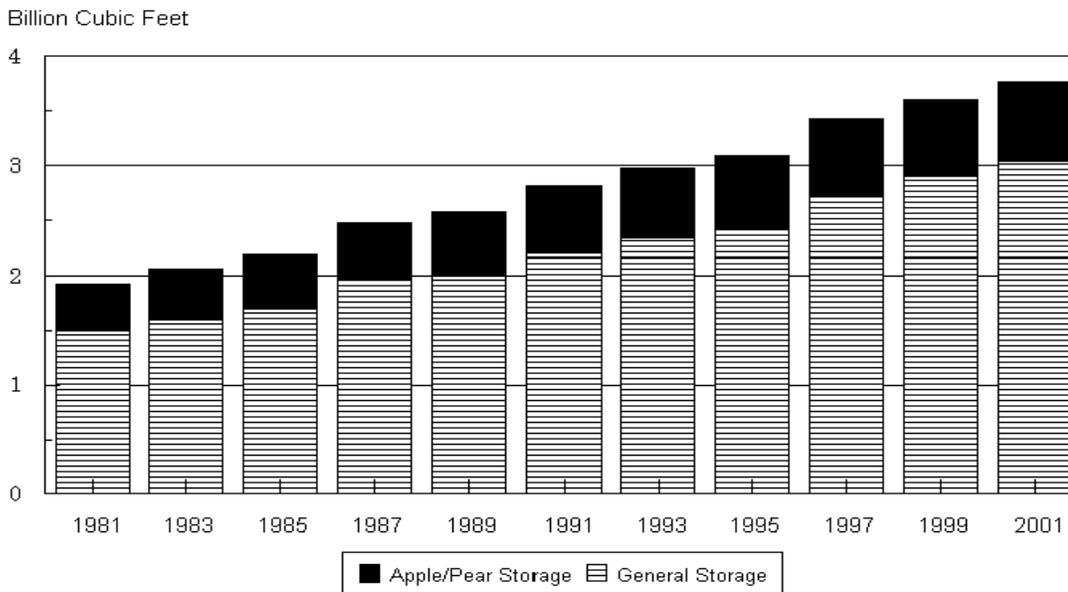
**Usable refrigerated space** in general storages was 2.39 billion cubic feet, or 79 percent of the gross space. Usable freezer space was 77 percent of the usable refrigerated space with the remaining 23 percent used as cooler space. Convertible refrigerated space was classified as usable freezer space.

**Public general warehouse capacity** totaled 2.25 billion gross cubic feet in 2001, accounting for 74 percent of the general storage. Public general storage capacity increased 5 percent since 1999 and is 43 percent above the capacity of ten years ago.

**Private and semiprivate general warehouse capacity** totaled 789 million gross cubic feet, or 26 percent of the general gross refrigerated space.

**Apple and pear storage** totaled 727 million gross cubic feet, up 3 percent from October 1, 1999. Controlled atmosphere (CA) capacity totaled 164 million bushels, up 6 percent from 1999. The State of Washington had 81 percent of the Nation's CA capacity.

Gross Refrigerated Storage Capacity  
by Principal Storage Activity, U.S., 1981-2001



**Refrigerated Warehouses: Number by Type, State,  
and United States, October 1, 2001**

State	General Storages			Apple & Pear Storages			Total
	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total	Regular	CA	All <sup>1</sup>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	13	10	23				23
AK	2	23	25				25
AZ	5	3	8	1	2	2	10
AR	15	7	22				22
CA	122	104	226	29	5	30	256
CO	9	7	16	8	1	8	24
CT	3	4	7	28	7	29	36
DE	3	7	10	2		2	12
FL	38	33	71				71
GA	35	30	65				65
HI	3	1	4				4
ID	6	15	21	8	6	8	29
IL	25	13	38	15	1	15	53
IN	16	5	21	26	4	28	49
IA	31	6	37	2		2	39
KS	10	3	13	1		1	14
KY	5	1	6	4		4	10
LA	14	7	21				21
ME	1	16	17	23	14	23	40
MD	7	5	12	5	3	6	18
MA	22	13	35	54	25	58	93
MI	25	22	47	153	101	181	228
MN	24	24	48	12	1	12	60
MS	7	7	14				14
MO	22	5	27	4		4	31
MT	3	2	5				5
NE	13	9	22	1		1	23
NV	1	4	5				5
NH	1	2	3	26	12	26	29
NJ	25	9	34	19	3	21	55
NM	1	3	4	1	1	2	6
NY	32	51	83	146	92	154	237
NC	16	5	21	15	3	17	38
ND	3	1	4				4
OH	18	7	25	53	13	53	78
OK	5	6	11	1		1	12
OR	14	27	41	58	18	62	103
PA	34	10	44	113	15	114	158
RI		3	3	5	2	7	10
SC	11	3	14	4		4	18
SD	2	4	6				6
TN	13	4	17				17
TX	44	24	68				68
UT	10	7	17	20	7	22	39
VT	2	2	2	11	5	11	13
VA	20	12	32	30	10	31	63
WA	38	33	71	228	212	273	344
WV	2	2	4	12	5	15	19
WI	46	80	126	16	1	17	143
WY	1		1				1
US	816	681	1,497	1,134	569	1,244	2,741

<sup>1</sup> Firms with both regular and CA storage are counted once.

**General Refrigerated Warehouses: Number by Size Group,  
United States, October 1, 2001**

Size (Cubic Feet)	Public	Private	All
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
0-499,999	123	355	478
500,000-999,999	125	111	236
1,000,000-2,499,999	250	125	375
2,500,000-4,999,999	201	63	264
5,000,000 and Over	119	27	146

**Apple and Pear Refrigerated Warehouses: Number by Size Group,  
United States, October 1, 2001**

Size (Bushels)	Regular <sup>1</sup>	CA <sup>1</sup>	All
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
0-49,999	753	202	662
50,000-99,999	136	104	192
100,000-499,999	200	173	252
500,000-999,999	33	45	68
1,000,000 and Over	12	45	70

<sup>1</sup> Number of operations with regular or CA storage. Many operators have both types in the same building, thus the count of regular plus CA does not equal "All".

**Refrigerated Storage: Gross Capacity by Type of Warehouse,  
United States, October 1, 1983-01**

Year	Public	Private and Semi-private	Total <sup>1</sup>
	<i>Million Cubic Feet</i>	<i>Million Cubic Feet</i>	<i>Million Cubic Feet</i>
1983	1,047	1,019	2,067
1985	1,130	1,056	2,186
1987	1,306	1,171	2,476
1989	1,414	1,158	2,571
1991	1,600	1,208	2,808
1993	1,700	1,272	2,972
1995	1,765	1,323	3,088
1997	2,068	1,359	3,427
1999	2,168	1,437	3,606
2001	2,266	1,501	3,767

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Refrigerated Space: By Type of Warehouse, United States, October 1, 2001 <sup>1</sup>**

Type	Number	Gross Space			Usable Space		
		Cooler	Freezer	Total	Cooler	Freezer	Total
		<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>					
General							
Public	815	394,236	1,857,708	2,251,944	308,409	1,479,375	1,787,784
Private & Semiprvt	675	306,674	482,183	788,857	232,161	371,489	603,648
Total	1,515	700,910	2,339,891	3,040,801	540,570	1,850,864	2,391,432
Apple							
Public	19	14,177	6	14,183	10,275	5	10,280
Private & Semiprvt	1,235	704,839	7,573	712,412	569,787	5,722	575,509
Total	1,254	719,016	7,579	726,595	580,062	5,727	585,789
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>1,419,926</b>	<b>2,347,470</b>	<b>3,767,396</b>	<b>1,120,630</b>	<b>1,856,591</b>	<b>2,977,221</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Gross Refrigerated Space: By Type of Warehouse, United States, October 1, 1983-01 <sup>1</sup>**

Type	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>				
General					
Public	1,028,300	1,110,394	1,285,860	1,391,901	1,572,879
Private and Semiprivate	573,463	589,132	676,369	603,402	624,005
Total	1,601,763	1,699,526	1,962,229	1,995,303	2,196,884
Apple					
Public	18,871	19,383	19,750	21,945	27,227
Private and Semiprivate	445,996	466,768	494,404	554,150	584,296
Total	464,867	486,151	514,154	576,095	611,523
<b>Total, All</b>	<b>2,066,631</b>	<b>2,185,677</b>	<b>2,476,384</b>	<b>2,571,397</b>	<b>2,808,407</b>
	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>				
General					
Public	1,678,461	1,741,585	2,043,908	2,146,643	2,251,943
Private and Semiprivate	658,893	674,649	683,372	756,505	788,853
Total	2,337,354	2,416,234	2,727,280	2,903,152	3,040,796
Apple					
Public	21,645	23,419	23,907	21,690	14,183
Private and Semiprivate	613,093	647,993	675,838	680,736	712,412
Total	634,737	671,412	699,745	702,426	726,595
<b>Total, All</b>	<b>2,972,092</b>	<b>3,087,646</b>	<b>3,427,025</b>	<b>3,605,578</b>	<b>3,767,394</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**General Storages: Gross and Usable Refrigerated Space  
by State and United States, October 1, 2001<sup>1 2</sup>**

State	Gross Space			Usable Space		
	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>					
AL	27,252	1,858	29,110	22,711	1,572	24,283
AK	*	*	3,871	*	*	3,254
AZ	*	*	*	*	*	*
AR	64,881	17,756	82,637	54,211	13,368	67,579
CA	298,116	134,523	432,639	232,951	106,157	339,108
CO	12,629	5,119	17,748	9,105	3,694	12,799
CT	5,039	222	5,261	4,056	174	4,230
DE	10,699	15,462	26,161	6,917	11,685	18,602
FL	94,849	136,628	231,477	78,129	111,434	189,563
GA	118,276	13,325	131,601	94,972	11,143	106,115
HI	930	2,968	3,898	680	1,187	1,867
ID	33,630	27,107	60,737	30,536	22,524	53,060
IL	97,734	17,080	114,814	74,825	12,069	86,894
IN	42,459	1,004	43,463	33,296	674	33,970
IA	68,375	4,775	73,150	56,769	3,124	59,893
KS	59,924	23,540	83,464	46,843	17,523	64,366
KY	22,248	*	22,337	19,414	*	19,487
LA	10,042	303	10,345	8,358	272	8,630
ME	1,834	10,382	12,216	1,391	6,638	8,029
MD	20,747	6,736	27,483	15,750	4,896	20,646
MA	46,342	8,316	54,658	39,286	5,203	44,489
MI	71,232	22,701	93,933	55,206	18,686	73,892
MN	47,011	17,200	64,211	34,401	11,876	46,277
MS	15,275	7,620	22,895	11,785	5,211	16,996
MO	88,051	12,766	100,817	70,676	11,328	82,004
MT	*	*	*	*	*	*
NE	32,170	8,889	41,059	25,448	7,128	32,576
NV	2,830	4,540	7,370	2,830	3,706	6,536
NH	*	*	*	*	*	*
NJ	62,105	8,099	70,204	45,840	6,233	52,073
NM	*	*	1,156	*	*	1,026
NY	54,048	32,155	86,203	42,232	25,663	67,895
NC	46,987	12,167	59,154	38,978	9,544	48,522
ND	4,564	3,562	8,126	3,597	6,225	6,222
OH	53,665	16,982	70,647	42,202	11,732	53,934
OK	7,195	4,293	11,488	4,839	3,453	8,292
OR	69,199	35,165	104,364	57,539	26,498	84,037
PA	119,183	15,086	134,269	95,839	11,225	107,064
RI	*	*	*	*	*	*
SC	21,535	3,437	24,972	17,292	2,905	20,197
SD	3,127	9,196	12,323	2,375	4,174	6,549
TN	32,276	8,122	40,398	25,313	5,057	30,370
TX	143,459	13,191	156,650	98,406	10,562	108,968
UT	19,247	7,295	26,542	16,341	5,591	21,932
VT	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	42,129	18,733	60,862	34,085	14,219	48,304
WA	139,528	49,612	189,140	113,850	38,355	152,205
WV	*	*	2,419	*	*	1,096
WI	122,111	39,472	161,583	102,793	25,917	128,710
WY	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	19,010	11,466	22,941	15,717	8,620	18,888
US	2,251,943	788,853	3,040,796	1,787,784	603,645	2,391,429

\* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Included in "Other States" and U.S. totals.

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Includes frozen juice tank storage capacity.

**General Storages: Gross and Usable Cooler Space  
by State and United States, October 1, 2001<sup>1 2</sup>**

State	Gross Space			Usable Space		
	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>					
AL	*	*	5,040	*	*	4,354
AK	*	*	136	*	*	130
AZ	*	*	*	*	*	*
AR	*	*	3,201	*	*	2,431
CA	73,667	89,728	163,395	58,061	71,182	129,243
CO	*	*	5,178	*	*	3,758
CT	*	*	1,026	*	*	717
DE	*	*	*	*	*	*
FL	20,839	54,835	75,674	17,500	44,267	61,767
GA	30,922	8,577	39,499	24,247	7,197	31,444
HI	*	*	*	*	*	*
ID	*	*	2,212	*	*	1,755
IL	14,108	8,419	22,527	10,651	6,219	16,870
IN	3,897	637	4,534	3,127	420	3,547
IA	11,304	3,396	14,700	8,803	2,070	10,873
KS	*	*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	1,754	42	1,796	1,458	32	1,490
ME	*	*	286	*	*	245
MD	*	*	1,215	*	*	942
MA	4,585	547	5,132	3,754	399	4,153
MI	9,529	7,306	16,835	7,783	6,240	14,023
MN	7,598	8,317	15,915	6,044	5,367	11,411
MS	*	*	*	*	*	*
MO	*	*	31,685	*	*	26,318
MT	*	*	*	*	*	*
NE	*	*	9,467	*	*	7,517
NV	*	*	1,491	*	*	1,340
NH	*	*	*	*	*	*
NJ	20,938	2,787	23,725	16,393	1,977	18,370
NM	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	10,281	14,601	24,882	6,794	11,600	18,394
NC	2,104	2,152	4,256	1,910	1,689	3,599
ND	*	*	*	*	*	*
OH	4,784	1,112	5,896	3,562	911	4,473
OK	*	*	3,669	*	*	2,998
OR	*	*	4,762	*	*	3,617
PA	*	*	19,439	*	*	14,082
RI	*	*	*	*	*	*
SC	*	*	636	*	*	429
SD	*	*	6,676	*	*	3,106
TN	*	*	2,224	*	*	1,411
TX	28,879	8,819	37,698	20,037	6,997	27,034
UT	*	*	1,522	*	*	1,156
VT	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	10,618	8,182	18,800	8,784	7,129	15,913
WA	6,404	10,756	17,160	5,311	7,652	12,963
WV	*	*	*	*	*	*
WI	35,129	30,825	65,954	28,773	19,367	48,140
WY	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	96,896	45,636	42,667	75,417	31,446	30,557
US	394,236	306,674	700,910	308,409	232,161	540,570

\* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Included in "Other States" and U.S. totals.

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Includes frozen juice tank storage capacity.

**General Storages: Gross and Usable Freezer Space  
by State and United States, October 1, 2001<sup>1 2</sup>**

State	Gross Space			Usable Space		
	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total	Public	Private & Semiprvt	Total
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>					
AL	*	*	24,069	*	*	19,928
AK	*	*	3,735	*	*	3,125
AZ	*	*	*	*	*	*
AR	*	*	79,435	*	*	65,148
CA	224,449	44,795	269,244	174,889	34,975	209,864
CO	*	*	12,570	*	*	9,041
CT	*	*	4,235	*	*	3,513
DE	*	*	*	*	*	*
FL	74,009	81,793	155,802	60,629	67,168	127,797
GA	87,354	4,748	92,102	70,725	3,946	74,671
HI	*	*	*	*	*	*
ID	*	*	58,526	*	*	51,305
IL	83,626	8,661	92,287	*	*	70,025
IN	38,563	367	38,930	30,169	254	30,423
IA	57,072	1,379	58,451	47,966	1,054	49,020
KS	*	*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	*	*	*	6,900	240	7,140
ME	*	*	11,930	*	*	7,784
MD	*	*	26,269	*	*	19,704
MA	41,757	7,769	49,526	35,532	4,804	40,336
MI	61,703	15,395	77,098	47,423	12,446	59,869
MN	39,412	8,882	48,294	28,357	6,509	34,866
MS	*	*	*	*	*	*
MO	*	*	69,132	*	*	55,686
MT	*	*	*	*	*	*
NE	*	*	31,592	*	*	25,059
NV	*	*	5,879	*	*	5,197
NH	*	*	*	*	*	*
NJ	41,167	5,312	46,479	29,448	4,255	33,703
NM	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	43,767	17,554	61,321	35,438	14,063	49,501
NC	44,883	10,014	54,897	37,068	7,856	44,924
ND	*	*	*	*	*	*
OH	48,882	15,870	64,752	38,640	10,821	49,461
OK	*	*	7,819	*	*	5,296
OR	*	*	99,604	*	*	80,421
PA	*	*	114,830	*	*	92,983
RI	*	*	*	*	*	*
SC	*	*	24,337	*	*	19,767
SD	*	*	5,647	*	*	3,443
TN	*	*	38,173	*	*	28,960
TX	114,580	4,373	118,953	78,368	3,565	81,933
UT	*	*	25,020	*	*	20,775
VT	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	31,511	10,551	42,062	25,301	7,090	32,391
WA	133,123	38,857	171,980	108,539	30,703	139,242
WV	*	*	*	*	*	*
WI	86,982	8,647	95,629	74,020	6,550	80,570
WY	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	604,868	197,216	159,282	549,963	155,190	117,993
US	1,857,708	482,183	2,339,891	1,479,375	371,489	1,850,864

\* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Included in "Other States" and U.S. totals.

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Includes frozen juice tank storage capacity.

**Apple and Pear Storages: Gross and Usable Refrigerated Space, Regular  
and CA Capacity by State and United States, October 1, 2001<sup>1 2</sup>**

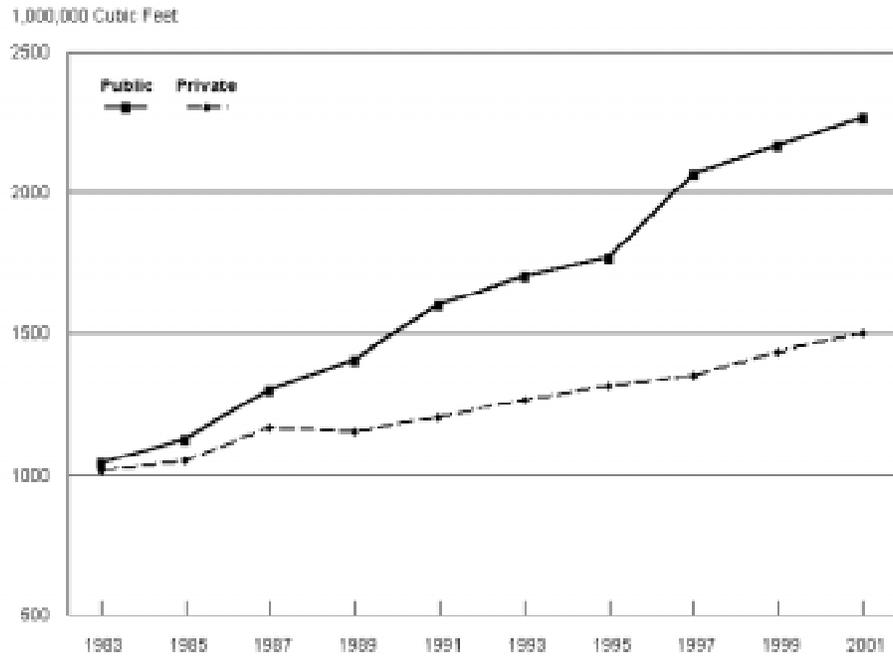
State	Refrigerated Space		Apple Storage Capacity		
	Gross	Usable	Regular	Controlled Atmosphere	Total
	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Cubic Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
CA	28,873	21,664	6,140	1,538	7,678
CO	2,584	2,115	646	163	809
CT	1,698	1,346	351	187	538
ID	5,278	4,573	1,479	994	2,473
IL	1,234	1,033	356	80	436
IN	2,280	1,789	375	206	581
KY	141	110	36		36
ME	3,640	3,124	718	715	1,433
MD	1,390	1,115	173	354	527
MA	4,153	3,409	797	514	1,311
MI	33,880	29,742	5,104	7,537	12,641
MN	761	656	261	33	294
NH	2,021	1,747	330	476	806
NJ	2,155	1,768	512	165	677
NY	36,446	31,552	5,292	7,590	12,882
NC	6,194	5,069	1,072	480	1,552
OH	3,425	2,791	779	332	1,111
OR	50,944	39,809	7,935	3,774	11,709
PA	27,685	21,659	5,368	2,344	7,712
RI	139	126	34	8	42
SC	383	301	124		124
UT	2,678	2,358	507	494	1,001
VT	2,221	1,884	317	507	824
VA	11,767	10,234	2,059	2,026	4,085
WA	483,786	389,550	62,135	132,668	194,803
WV	7,135	5,859	1,870	418	2,288
WI	740	625	243	65	308
Oth Sts	2,964	2,331	430	236	666
US	726,595	588,339	105,443	163,904	269,347

\* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Included in "Other States" and U.S. totals.

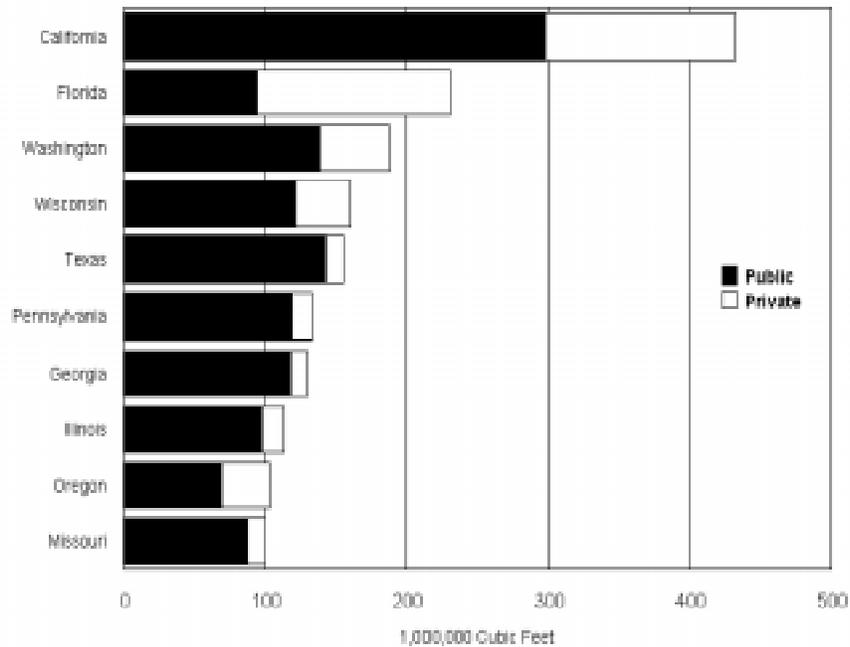
<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Firms in this table store only apples or pears. Nearly all the storages are private and nearly all the space is cooler, thus public use and freezer space breakouts are not presented at the State level. See page 4 for U.S. totals.

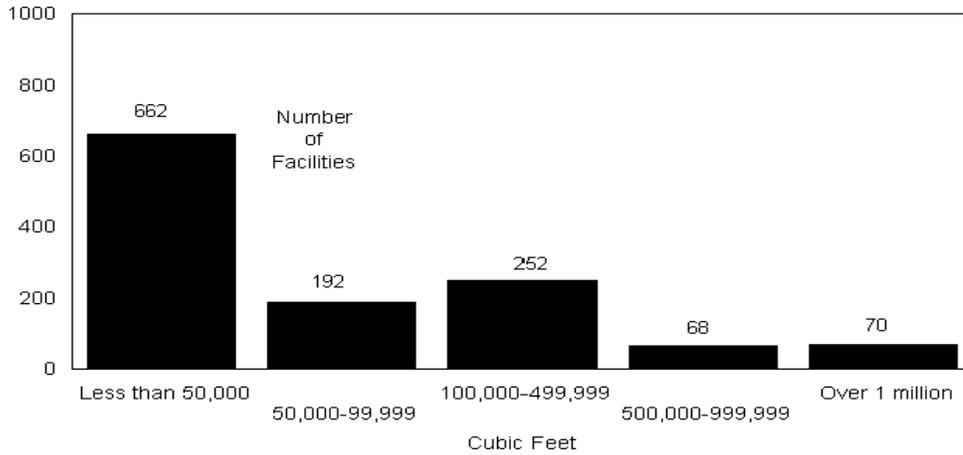
General and Apple Storages: Gross Refrigerated Space,  
by Type, October 1, 1983-2001



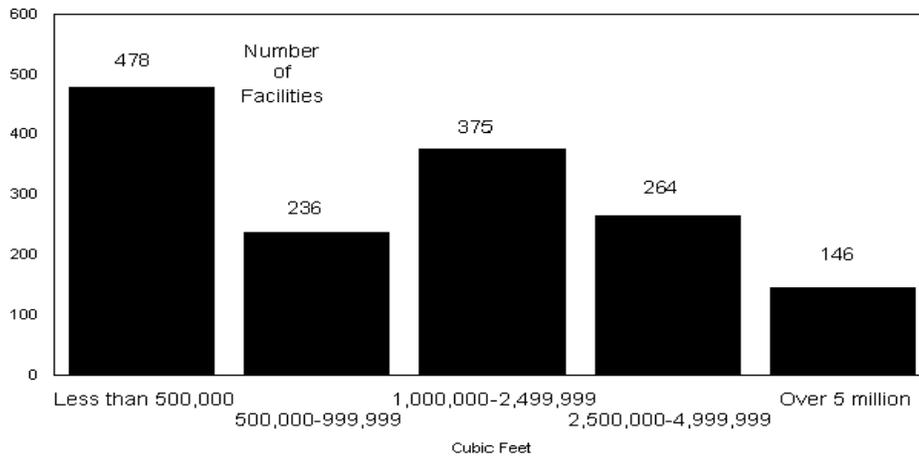
General Storages: Gross Refrigerated Space,  
by 10 Largest States, October 1, 2001



Apple and Pear Refrigerated Warehouses: Number by Size Group,  
United States, October 1, 2001



General Refrigerated Warehouses: Number by Size Group,  
United States, October 1, 2001



## Definitions

**General storages:** Includes refrigerated facilities classified as general storages, plus facilities classified as storing only cheese, meat, or citrus concentrates.

**Public general storages:** Refrigerated facilities maintained for storing food for others at specified rates per unit.

**Private and semiprivate general storages:** Refrigerated facilities maintained by an operator to facilitate his principal function as a producer, processor, or manufacturer of food products. The space is used to store the owner's products, although some space may be used by others at specified rates per unit stored. Working space, chill rooms, and curing rooms in meat storages are not included in the storage statistics.

**Apple and pear storages:** Refrigerated facilities maintained exclusively for storing apples or pears. Storages operated by cooperatives for use by members are included as private storages.

**Cooler space:** Space that maintains temperatures between 0 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Freezer space:** Space that maintains temperatures at 0 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

**Controlled atmosphere (CA) space:** Sealed cooler space in which the oxygen and carbon dioxide content is controlled to extend the storage life of apples or pears.

**Gross space:** Total area under refrigeration, measured from wall to wall and from floor to ceiling.

**Usable space:** Actual area used for storing commodities. Gross space less an allowance for aisles, posts, coils, blowers, etc.

**Number of storages:** Storages at different locations are counted separately even though operated by the same management.

## Survey Procedures and Reliability

**Survey procedures:** Questionnaires were mailed about the 20th of September to operators of over 3,000 public and private cold storage warehouses. Two thousand seven hundred forty-nine firms met the qualifications that their warehouses were artificially cooled to a temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, and normally stored food products for 30 days or more. The other firms who received questionnaires either did not qualify or the plants had ceased being cold storage facilities during the past two years. The list included specialized storage facilities meeting the 30 day requirement, such as fruit houses, dairy manufacturing plants, frozen fruit, fruit juice, and vegetable processors, and poultry and meat packing plants. Wholesalers, jobbers, packer branch houses, and frozen food processors whose entire inventories are turned over more than once a month were excluded. Firms that did not respond were mailed a second request and/or phoned or visited.

**Estimating procedures:** Data for reporting firms were added to estimates for non-reporting firms to obtain State and National totals. Estimates for non-reporting firms were set based on previous reports or administrative data.

**Revision policy:** These data are considered to be final and will not be revised.

**Reliability:** Usable reports were received from about 2,480 firms which represent about 90 percent of the total capacity tabulated. The numbers published should be considered to be minimum figures as there are cold storage firms that are not known to NASS. Special care in identifying individual plants minimizes duplication. Survey data are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by carefully reviewing all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

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