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July Milk Production up 4.0 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 16.4 billion pounds, up 4.0 percent from July 2013. June revised production, at 16.2 billion pounds, was up 2.3 percent from June 2013. The June revision represented an increase of 50 million pounds or 0.3 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,911 pounds for July, 61 pounds above July 2013. 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 8.58 million head, 56,000 head more than July 2013, and 6,000 head more than June 2014.

July Milk Production in the United States up 3.9 Percent

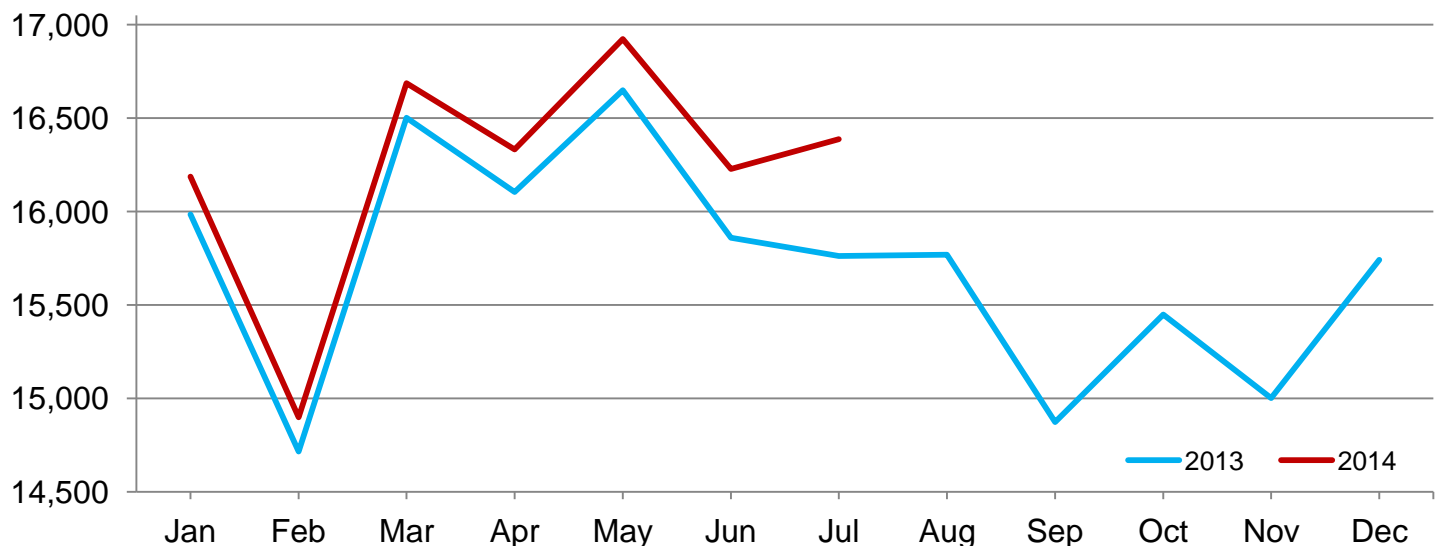
Milk production in the United States during July totaled 17.5 billion pounds, up 3.9 percent from July 2013.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,882 pounds for July, 64 pounds above July 2013.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.27 million head, 37,000 head more than July 2013, and 5,000 head more than June 2014.

Monthly Milk Production – 23 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2013-2014

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change From 2013
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Percent)
January-March		9,214		5,540	50,545	51,046	1.0
April-June		9,254		5,713	51,997	52,867	1.7
July-September	9,224		5,356		49,408		
October-December	9,201		5,355		49,268		
Annual	9,221		21,822		201,218		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June. 2013 annual totals include modeled data.

Milk Cows and Production By Month – 23 Selected States: 2013-2014

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,497	8,512	1,881	1,902	15,985	16,186	1.3
February	8,498	8,513	1,732	1,750	14,715	14,899	1.3
March		8,521		1,958	16,501	16,687	1.1
April		8,542		1,912	16,105	16,332	1.4
May		8,559		1,977	16,648	16,922	1.6
June		8,572		1,893	15,860	16,227	2.3
July	8,522	8,578	1,850	1,911	15,762	16,389	4.0
August	8,522		1,850		15,768		
September	8,508		1,748		14,874		
October	8,504		1,817		15,449		
November	8,499		1,765		15,002		
December	8,504		1,851		15,741		
Annual	8,508		22,145		188,410		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production By Month – United States: 2013-2014

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,222	9,210	1,855	1,878	17,109	17,293	1.1
February	9,223	9,212	1,709	1,728	15,759	15,920	1.0
March		9,221		1,934	17,677	17,833	0.9
April		9,239		1,891	17,249	17,470	1.3
May		9,255		1,954	17,813	18,082	1.5
June		9,267		1,868	16,935	17,315	2.2
July	9,235	9,272	1,818	1,882	16,788	17,450	3.9
August	9,229		1,819		16,789		
September	9,208		1,719		15,831		
October	9,203		1,790		16,475		
November	9,198		1,740		16,003		
December	9,202		1,825		16,790		
Annual	9,221		21,822		201,218		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

³ Survey was not conducted in April and July, resulting in no milk cow and milk per cow data for March through June.

Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: July 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2013
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	188	193	1,845	1,960	347	378	8.9
California	1,780	1,778	1,895	1,980	3,373	3,520	4.4
Colorado	137	145	2,100	2,135	288	310	7.6
Florida	123	123	1,630	1,710	200	210	5.0
Idaho	574	580	2,045	2,105	1,174	1,221	4.0
Illinois	97	95	1,550	1,660	150	158	5.3
Indiana	177	179	1,785	1,875	316	336	6.3
Iowa	210	207	1,835	1,890	385	391	1.6
Kansas	136	142	1,820	1,845	248	262	5.6
Michigan	381	391	2,010	2,120	766	829	8.2
Minnesota	465	460	1,645	1,660	765	764	-0.1
New Mexico	324	323	2,125	2,130	689	688	-0.1
New York	610	615	1,860	1,935	1,135	1,190	4.8
Ohio	271	266	1,650	1,735	447	462	3.4
Oregon	123	123	1,765	1,750	217	215	-0.9
Pennsylvania	534	530	1,630	1,690	870	896	3.0
South Dakota	95	97	1,830	1,845	174	179	2.9
Texas	435	470	1,885	1,840	820	865	5.5
Utah	92	95	1,915	1,940	176	184	4.5
Vermont	135	132	1,620	1,730	219	228	4.1
Virginia	95	92	1,480	1,585	141	146	3.5
Washington	268	272	2,040	2,070	547	563	2.9
Wisconsin	1,272	1,270	1,820	1,885	2,315	2,394	3.4
23-State Total	8,522	8,578	1,850	1,911	15,762	16,389	4.0

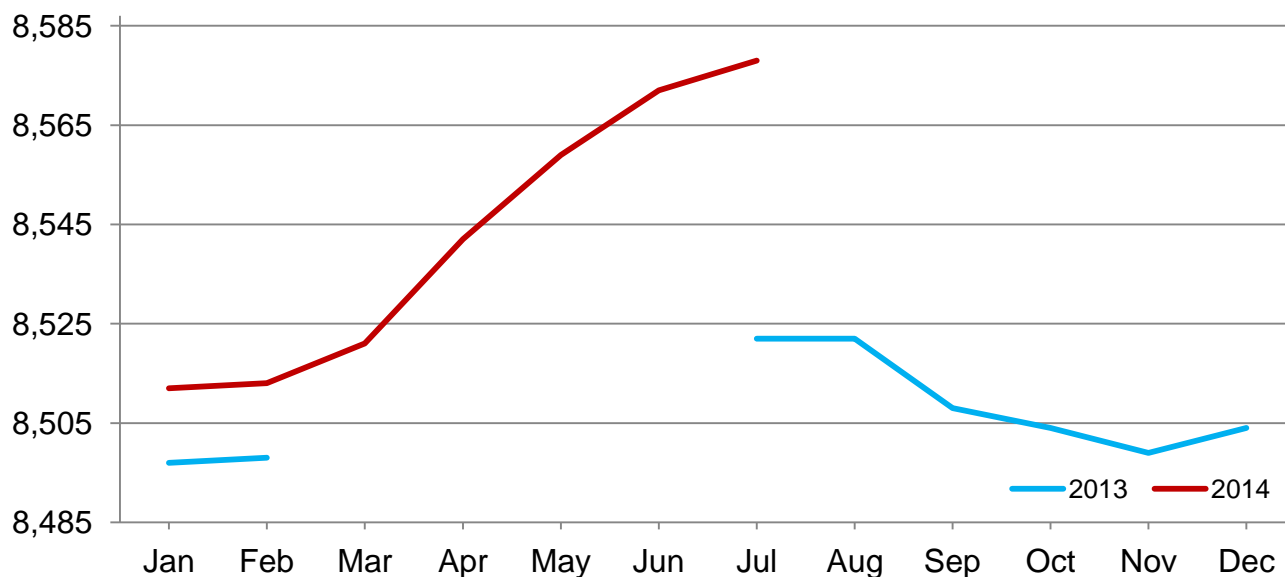
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Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: June 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk Production ²		Change from 2013
	2013 ³	2014	2013 ³	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona		193		2,045	378	395	4.5
California		1,779		1,995	3,489	3,549	1.7
Colorado		145		2,105	279	305	9.3
Florida		123		1,765	202	217	7.4
Idaho		577		2,065	1,156	1,192	3.1
Illinois		95		1,650	153	157	2.6
Indiana		178		1,840	319	328	2.8
Iowa		207		1,860	383	385	0.5
Kansas		142		1,830	244	260	6.6
Michigan		387		2,085	770	807	4.8
Minnesota		460		1,645	760	757	-0.4
New Mexico		323		2,130	679	688	1.3
New York		615		1,890	1,147	1,162	1.3
Ohio		266		1,695	458	451	-1.5
Oregon		125		1,735	215	217	0.9
Pennsylvania		530		1,665	880	882	0.2
South Dakota		97		1,805	168	175	4.2
Texas		468		1,850	800	866	8.3
Utah		95		1,890	173	180	4.0
Vermont		131		1,710	221	224	1.4
Virginia		93		1,570	143	146	2.1
Washington		274		2,050	541	562	3.9
Wisconsin		1,269		1,830	2,302	2,322	0.9
23-State Total		8,572		1,893	15,860	16,227	2.3

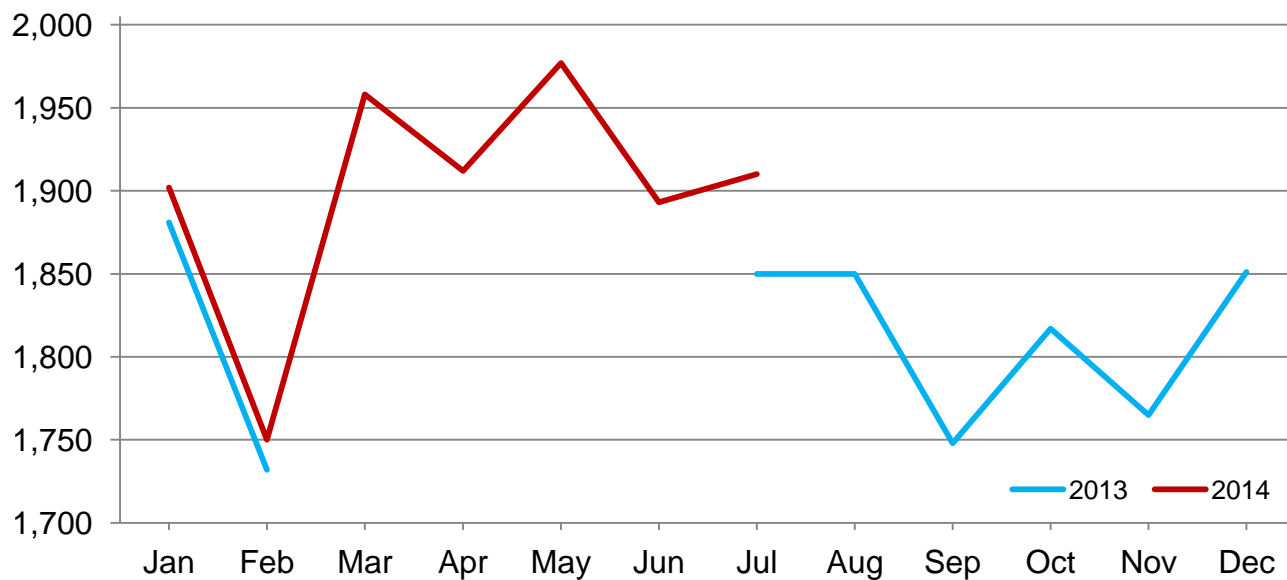
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Monthly Milk per Cow – 23 Selected States

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 Surveys.

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 0.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 16.4 billion pounds by more than 0.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.3 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	0.2	0.3	25	2	81	17	7
All Milk cows	0.1	0.1	4	0	11	10	12

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.

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