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## May Milk Production up 1.5 Percent

**Milk production** in the 23 major States during May totaled 16.9 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from May 2013. April revised production, at 16.3 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from April 2013. The April revision represented an increase of 27 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,976 pounds for May. This is the highest production per cow for the month of May since the 23 State series began in 2003.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.55 million head, 10,000 head more than April 2014.

## May Milk Production in the United States up 1.4 Percent

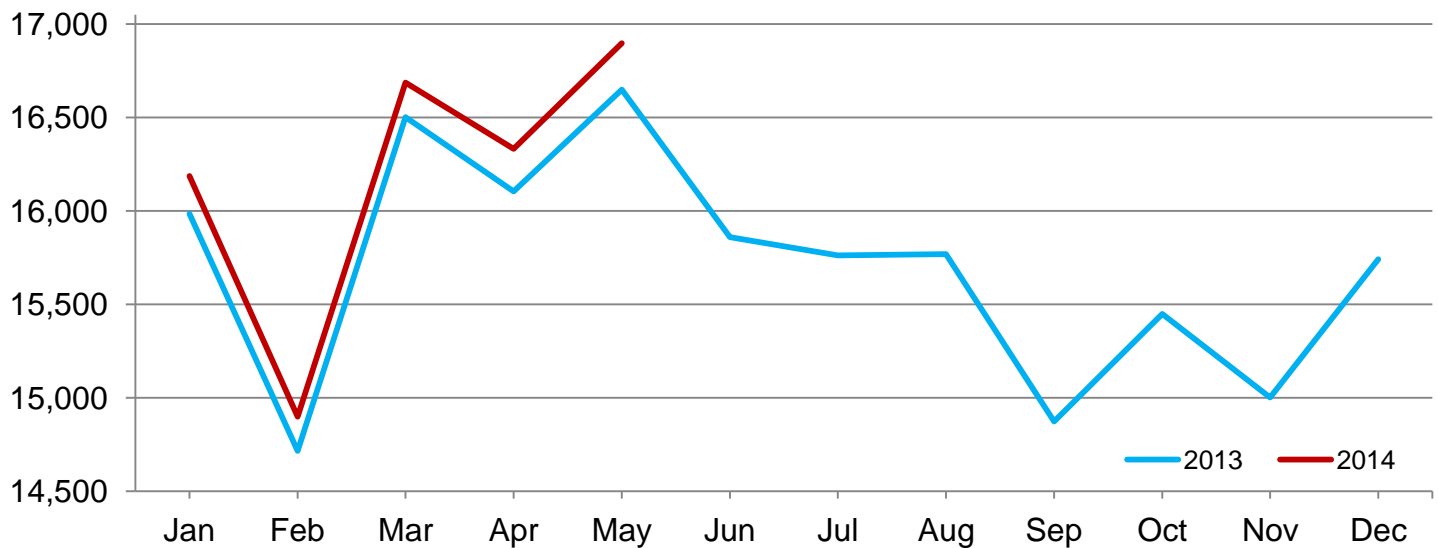
**Milk production** in the United States during May totaled 18.1 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from May 2013.

**Production per cow** in the United States averaged 1,951 pounds for May.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the United States was 9.25 million head, 10,000 head more than April 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	Change From 2013
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(Pounds)	(Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Million Pounds)	(Percent)
January-March .....		9,216		5,541	50,545	51,062	1.0
April-June .....					51,997		
July-September .....	9,224		5,356		49,408		
October-December .....	9,201		5,355		49,268		
Annual .....	9,221		21,822		201,218		

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	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 .....		8,552		1,976	16,648	16,897	1.5
June .....					15,860		
July .....	8,522		1,850		15,762		
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		

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	Change from 2013
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January .....	9,222	9,212	1,855	1,878	17,109	17,298	1.1
February .....	9,223	9,215	1,709	1,728	15,759	15,925	1.1
March .....		9,221		1,935	17,677	17,839	0.9
April .....		9,242		1,889	17,249	17,456	1.2
May .....		9,252		1,951	17,813	18,055	1.4
June .....					16,935		
July .....	9,235		1,818		16,788		
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		

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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: May 2013 and 2014

[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 2013
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....		192		2,225	411	427	3.9
California .....		1,780		2,110	3,720	3,756	1.0
Colorado .....		143		2,165	283	310	9.5
Florida .....		123		1,895	225	233	3.6
Idaho .....		572		2,070	1,178	1,184	0.5
Illinois .....		95		1,770	167	168	0.6
Indiana .....		177		1,935	340	342	0.6
Iowa .....		208		1,970	405	410	1.2
Kansas .....		141		1,955	258	276	7.0
Michigan .....		384		2,145	798	824	3.3
Minnesota .....		460		1,710	788	787	-0.1
New Mexico .....		323		2,240	714	724	1.4
New York .....		615		1,935	1,193	1,190	-0.3
Ohio .....		266		1,795	489	477	-2.5
Oregon .....		125		1,815	222	227	2.3
Pennsylvania .....		530		1,750	941	928	-1.4
South Dakota .....		97		1,855	170	180	5.9
Texas .....		460		2,010	840	925	10.1
Utah .....		95		1,915	177	182	2.8
Vermont .....		131		1,755	231	230	-0.4
Virginia .....		93		1,700	155	158	1.9
Washington .....		273		2,100	558	573	2.7
Wisconsin .....		1,269		1,880	2,385	2,386	-
23-State Total .....		8,552		1,976	16,648	16,897	1.5

- Represents zero.

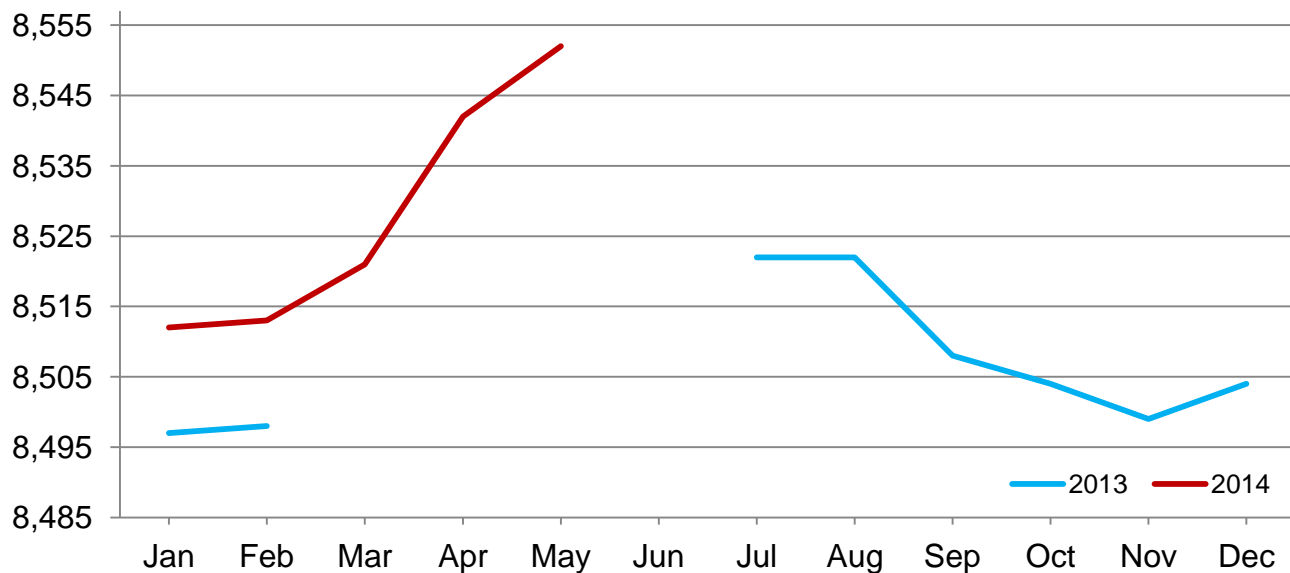
<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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

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

## Monthly Milk Cows – 23 Selected States

Thousand head



## Milk Cows and Production – 23 Selected States: April 2013 and 2014

[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2013
	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013 <sup>3</sup>	2014	2013	2014	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....		192		2,210	411	424	3.2
California .....		1,780		2,065	3,622	3,676	1.5
Colorado .....		143		2,070	271	296	9.2
Florida .....		123		1,870	220	230	4.5
Idaho .....		571		1,995	1,117	1,139	2.0
Illinois .....		95		1,710	166	162	-2.4
Indiana .....		176		1,845	328	325	-0.9
Iowa .....		206		1,880	394	387	-1.8
Kansas .....		140		1,885	247	264	6.9
Michigan .....		383		2,060	765	789	3.1
Minnesota .....		460		1,660	774	764	-1.3
New Mexico .....		323		2,135	700	690	-1.4
New York .....		615		1,845	1,132	1,135	0.3
Ohio .....		267		1,710	473	457	-3.4
Oregon .....		125		1,770	213	221	3.8
Pennsylvania .....		531		1,705	904	905	0.1
South Dakota .....		97		1,785	163	173	6.1
Texas .....		455		1,950	816	887	8.7
Utah .....		95		1,830	170	174	2.4
Vermont .....		131		1,695	220	222	0.9
Virginia .....		93		1,660	153	154	0.7
Washington .....		272		2,040	537	555	3.4
Wisconsin .....		1,269		1,815	2,309	2,303	-0.3
23-State Total .....		8,542		1,912	16,105	16,332	1.4

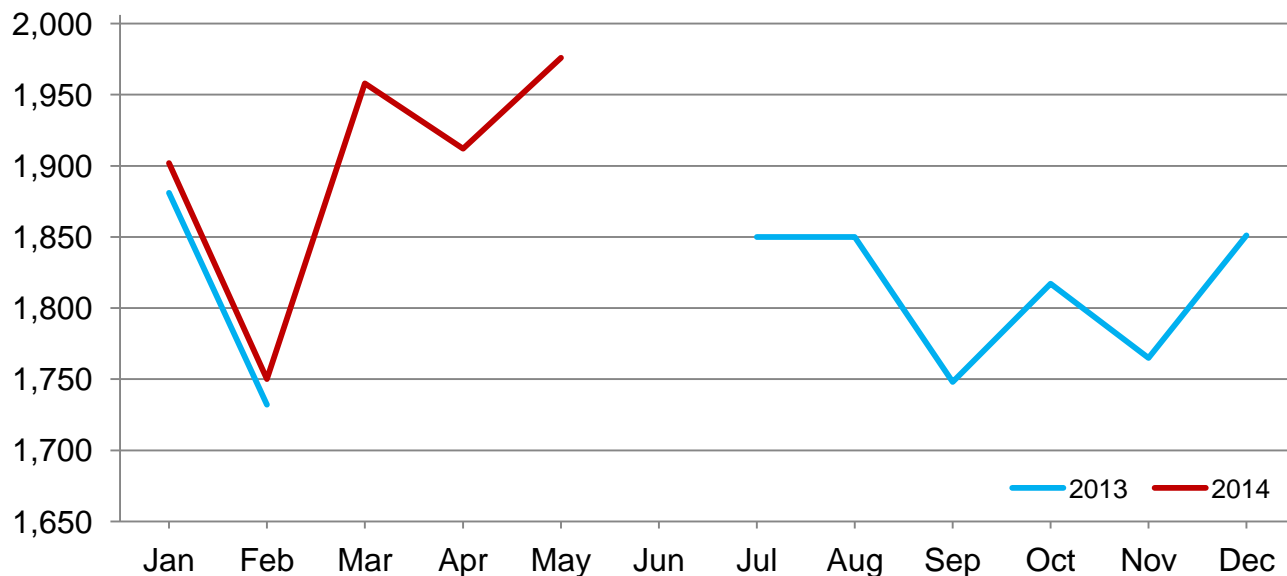
<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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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 16.9 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	23	2	81	16	8
All Milk cows .....	0.1	0.1	4	0	11	9	13

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

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Doug Bounds – Hogs and Pigs .....	(202) 720-3106
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Tiffany Hora – Livestock Slaughter .....	(515) 284-4340
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278

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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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