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November Milk Production up 3.1 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during November totaled 17.2 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from November 2019. October revised production, at 17.7 billion pounds, was up 2.5 percent from October 2019. The October revision represented a decrease of 7 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 1,935 pounds for November, 41 pounds above November 2019.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.90 million head, 82,000 head more than November 2019, and 13,000 head more than October 2020.

November Milk Production in the United States up 3.0 Percent

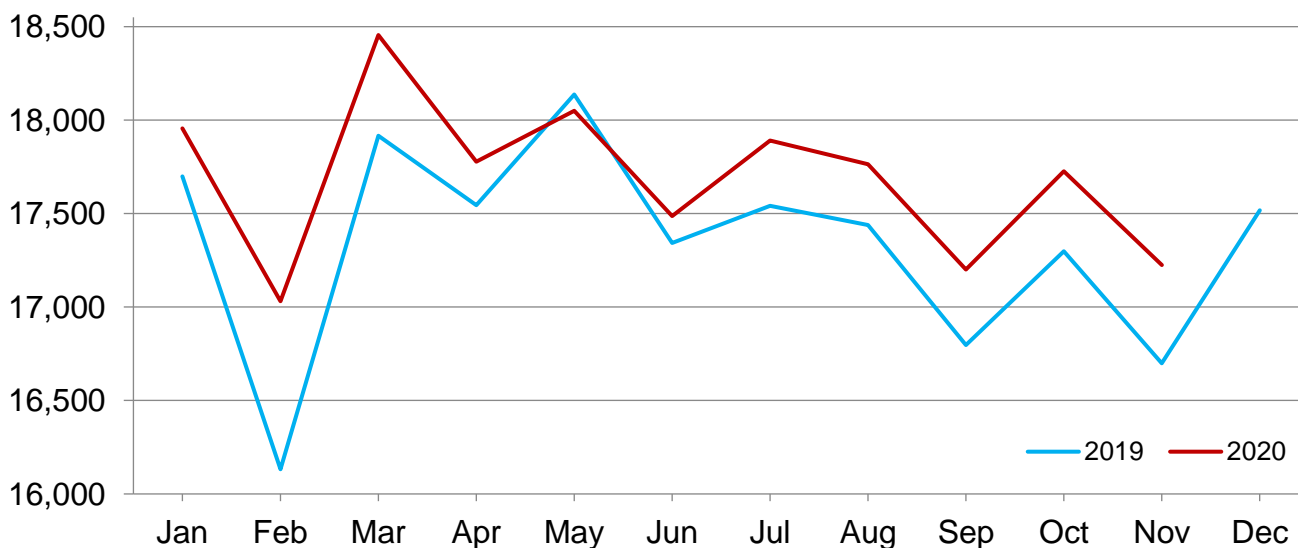
Milk production in the United States during November totaled 18.0 billion pounds, up 3.0 percent from November 2019.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,916 pounds for November, 43 pounds above November 2019.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.41 million head, 62,000 head more than November 2019, and 12,000 head more than October 2020.

Monthly Milk Production - 24 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter - United States: 2019-2020

[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		
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	Change from 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,346	9,374	5,823	5,988	54,423	56,130	3.1
April-June	9,331	9,362	5,971	5,981	55,716	55,997	0.5
July-September	9,322	9,365	5,818	5,907	54,237	55,323	2.0
October-December	9,345		5,779		54,006		
Annual	9,336		23,391		218,382		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2019-2020

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	Change from 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,805	8,834	2,010	2,033	17,699	17,956	1.5
February	8,803	8,848	1,833	1,925	16,132	17,031	5.6
March	8,789	8,857	2,038	2,084	17,916	18,455	3.0
April	8,788	8,852	1,996	2,008	17,544	17,778	1.3
May	8,790	8,836	2,063	2,043	18,137	18,049	-0.5
June	8,784	8,827	1,974	1,981	17,342	17,486	0.8
July	8,785	8,840	1,997	2,024	17,542	17,891	2.0
August	8,789	8,845	1,984	2,008	17,439	17,764	1.9
September	8,805	8,864	1,908	1,941	16,796	17,201	2.4
October	8,819	8,886	1,962	1,995	17,299	17,726	2.5
November	8,817	8,899	1,894	1,935	16,699	17,224	3.1
December	8,816		1,987		17,517		
Annual	8,799		23,646		208,062		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2019-2020

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	Change from 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,354	9,361	1,990	2,015	18,612	18,860	1.3
February	9,352	9,375	1,814	1,908	16,966	17,890	5.4
March	9,333	9,385	2,019	2,065	18,845	19,380	2.8
April	9,332	9,375	1,975	1,992	18,433	18,675	1.3
May	9,333	9,360	2,042	2,025	19,058	18,955	-0.5
June	9,327	9,350	1,954	1,964	18,225	18,367	0.8
July	9,315	9,357	1,973	2,001	18,375	18,725	1.9
August	9,318	9,361	1,960	1,986	18,267	18,595	1.8
September	9,333	9,376	1,885	1,920	17,595	18,003	2.3
October	9,347	9,395	1,940	1,975	18,135	18,553	2.3
November	9,345	9,407	1,873	1,916	17,506	18,025	3.0
December	9,343		1,966		18,365		
Annual	9,336		23,391		218,382		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: November 2019 and 2020

[May not add due to rounding]

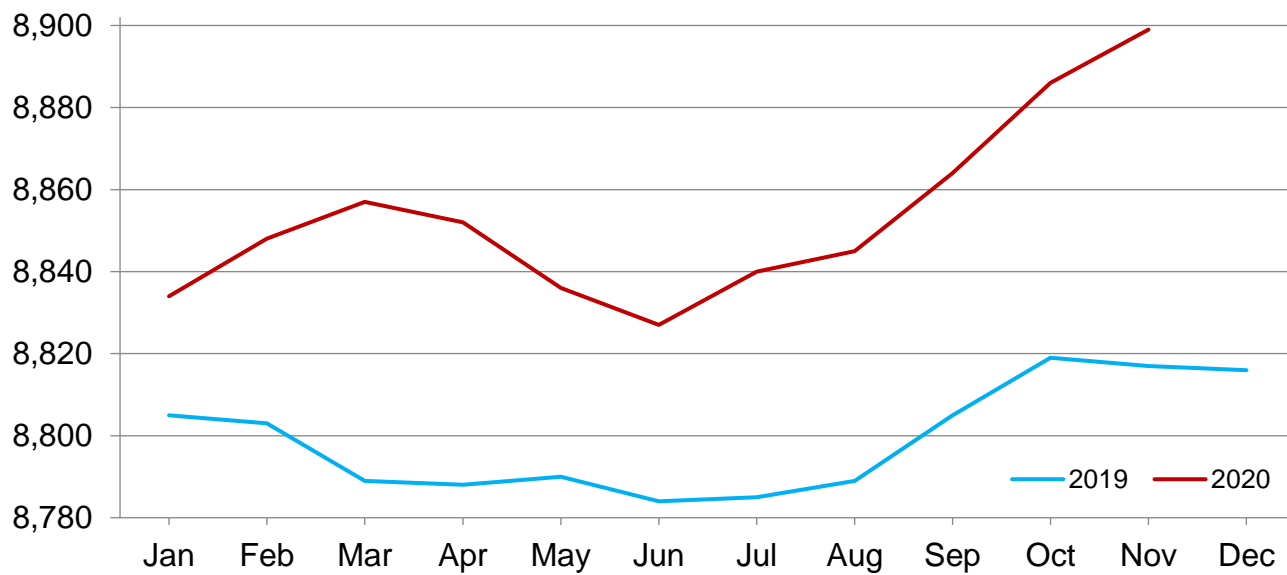
State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2019
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	196	195	1,990	1,960	390	382	-2.1
California	1,725	1,720	1,895	1,950	3,269	3,354	2.6
Colorado	190	201	2,085	2,110	396	424	7.1
Florida	117	112	1,570	1,570	184	176	-4.3
Georgia	81	81	1,755	1,780	142	144	1.4
Idaho	634	645	2,000	2,005	1,268	1,293	2.0
Illinois	82	84	1,700	1,750	139	147	5.8
Indiana	176	191	1,825	1,865	321	356	10.9
Iowa	216	219	1,980	2,000	428	438	2.3
Kansas	165	173	1,920	1,940	317	336	6.0
Michigan	427	433	2,125	2,170	907	940	3.6
Minnesota	446	448	1,770	1,830	789	820	3.9
New Mexico	330	332	1,970	2,005	650	666	2.5
New York	626	626	1,940	1,980	1,214	1,239	2.1
Ohio	252	257	1,730	1,780	436	457	4.8
Oregon	127	125	1,645	1,650	209	206	-1.4
Pennsylvania	485	482	1,665	1,690	808	815	0.9
South Dakota	127	140	1,825	1,880	232	263	13.4
Texas	575	608	1,955	2,030	1,124	1,234	9.8
Utah	97	95	1,860	1,880	180	179	-0.6
Vermont	124	120	1,725	1,725	214	207	-3.3
Virginia	74	74	1,610	1,630	119	121	1.7
Washington	281	279	1,930	1,935	542	540	-0.4
Wisconsin	1,264	1,259	1,915	1,975	2,421	2,487	2.7
24-State Total	8,817	8,899	1,894	1,935	16,699	17,224	3.1

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows - 24 Selected States

Thousand head



Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: October 2019 and 2020

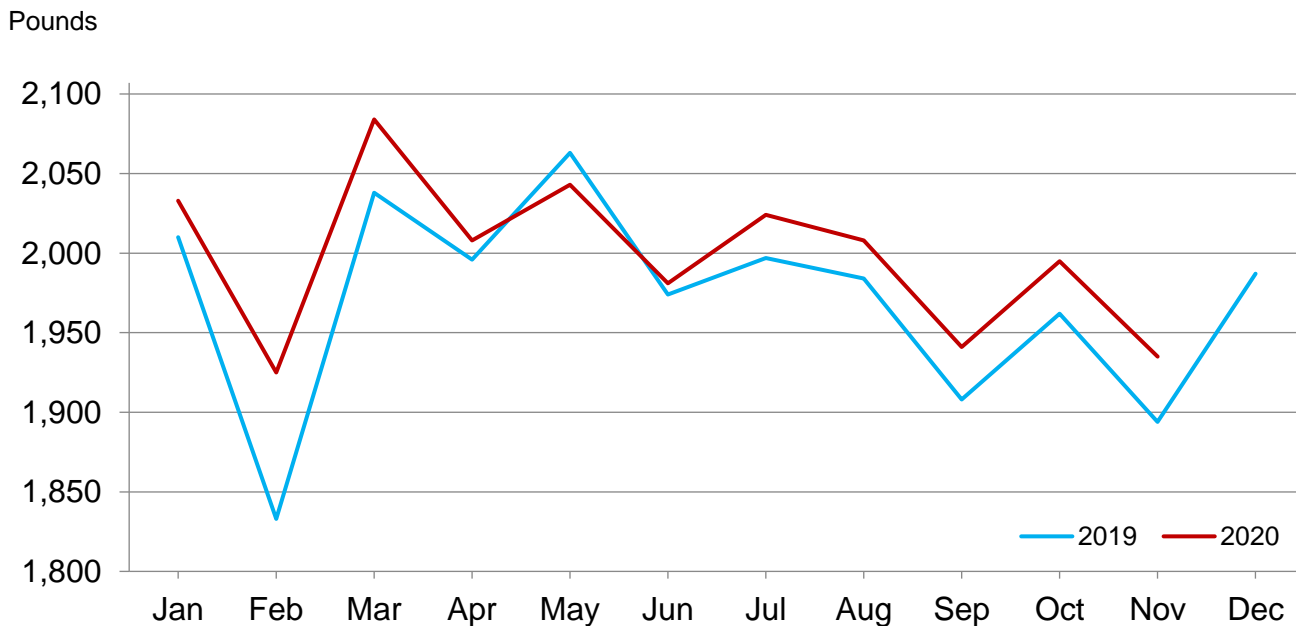
[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2019
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	197	196	1,985	1,960	391	384	-1.8
California	1,725	1,720	1,940	1,965	3,347	3,380	1.0
Colorado	190	201	2,160	2,185	410	439	7.1
Florida	118	112	1,515	1,525	179	171	-4.5
Georgia	81	81	1,715	1,740	139	141	1.4
Idaho	632	645	2,095	2,100	1,324	1,355	2.3
Illinois	81	84	1,690	1,740	137	146	6.6
Indiana	176	191	1,920	1,960	338	374	10.7
Iowa	217	219	2,040	2,065	443	452	2.0
Kansas	164	172	1,975	1,985	324	341	5.2
Michigan	428	431	2,230	2,270	954	978	2.5
Minnesota	447	446	1,845	1,920	825	856	3.8
New Mexico	330	332	2,040	2,065	673	686	1.9
New York	626	626	2,015	2,035	1,261	1,274	1.0
Ohio	252	256	1,790	1,850	451	474	5.1
Oregon	126	124	1,745	1,740	220	216	-1.8
Pennsylvania	485	482	1,705	1,760	827	848	2.5
South Dakota	127	140	1,900	1,955	241	274	13.7
Texas	575	603	2,035	2,100	1,170	1,266	8.2
Utah	97	95	1,945	1,950	189	185	-2.1
Vermont	125	120	1,790	1,765	224	212	-5.4
Virginia	74	74	1,620	1,660	120	123	2.5
Washington	281	279	2,025	2,035	569	568	-0.2
Wisconsin	1,265	1,257	2,010	2,055	2,543	2,583	1.6
24-State Total	8,819	8,886	1,962	1,995	17,299	17,726	2.5

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Per Cow - 24 Selected States



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 such as Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Dairy Market News. Indications of milk cow inventory are also obtained in the January Cattle Survey.

Estimation Procedures: Regional Field 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 24 State milk production estimates over the past 24 months is 0.3 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 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.5 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	0.3	0.5	36	0	115	14	9
All Milk cows	0.1	0.1	6	0	16	17	5

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@usda.gov.

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Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed	(202) 720-3040
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Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products	(202) 720-4448
Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

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