



Released June 20, 2025, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

May Milk Production up 1.7 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during May totaled 19.1 billion pounds, up 1.7 percent from May 2024. April revised production, at 18.6 billion pounds, was up 1.7 percent from April 2024. The April revision represented an increase of 17 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 2,125 pounds for May, 7 pounds above May 2024.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 9.00 million head, 118,000 head more than May 2024, and 6,000 head more than April 2025.

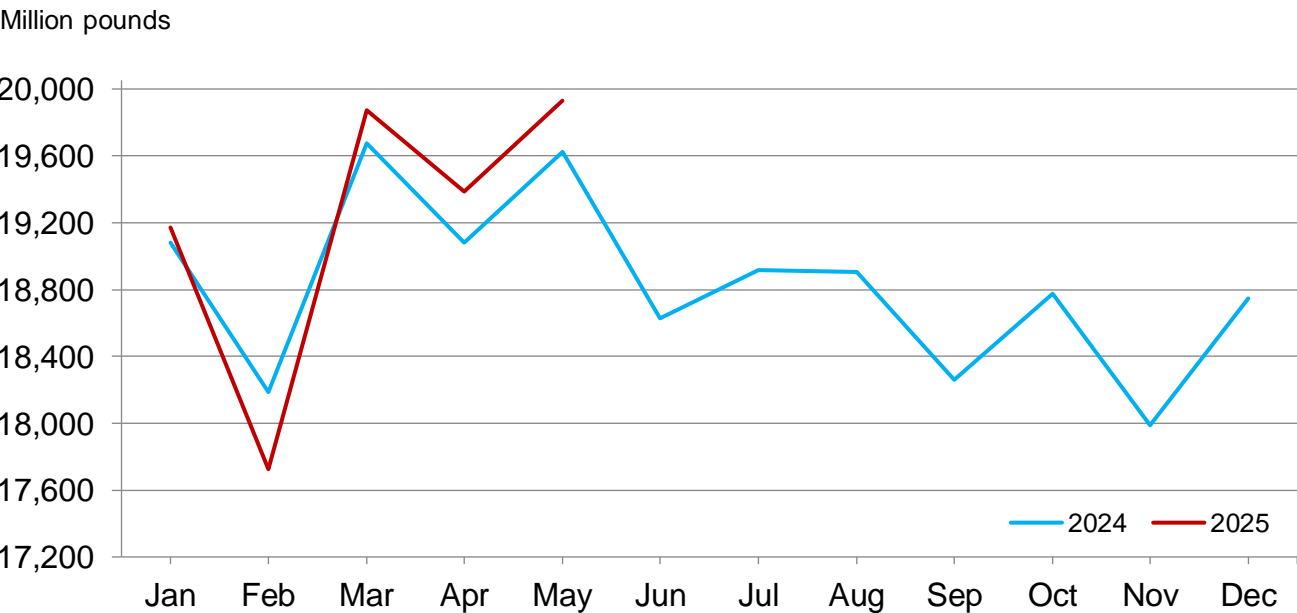
May Milk Production in the United States up 1.6 Percent

Milk production in the United States during May totaled 19.9 billion pounds, up 1.6 percent from May 2024.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 2,110 pounds for May, 7 pounds above May 2024.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.45 million head, 114,000 head more than May 2024, and 5,000 head more than April 2025.

Monthly Milk Production - 24 Selected States



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2024-2025

[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		
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	Change from 2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,338	9,402	6,098	6,038	56,943	56,772	-0.3
April-June	9,330		6,145		57,333		
July-September	9,341		6,004		56,085		
October-December	9,360		5,930		55,507		
Annual	9,342		24,178		225,868		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2024-2025

[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		
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	Change from 2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,871	8,950	2,062	2,056	18,293	18,401	0.6
February	8,888	8,955	1,961	1,900	17,432	17,011	-2.4
March	8,892	8,976	2,121	2,125	18,861	19,075	1.1
April	8,890	8,998	2,059	2,069	18,305	18,618	1.7
May	8,886	9,004	2,118	2,125	18,821	19,137	1.7
June	8,878		2,012		17,861		
July	8,886		2,045		18,175		
August	8,903		2,040		18,164		
September	8,911		1,969		17,544		
October	8,927		2,019		18,025		
November	8,919		1,936		17,270		
December	8,916		2,018		17,996		
Annual	8,897		24,362		216,747		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2024-2025

[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		
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	Change from 2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,324	9,389	2,047	2,042	19,083	19,173	0.5
February	9,343	9,396	1,946	1,886	18,185	17,725	-2.5
March	9,347	9,420	2,105	2,110	19,675	19,874	1.0
April	9,336	9,440	2,044	2,053	19,082	19,385	1.6
May	9,331	9,445	2,103	2,110	19,624	19,930	1.6
June	9,323		1,998		18,627		
July	9,326		2,029		18,918		
August	9,344		2,023		18,906		
September	9,353		1,952		18,261		
October	9,367		2,004		18,775		
November	9,359		1,922		17,988		
December	9,355		2,004		18,744		
Annual	9,342		24,178		225,868		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: May 2024 and 2025

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	Change from 2024
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	192	191	2,185	2,190	420	418	-0.5
California	1,708	1,710	2,095	2,055	3,578	3,514	-1.8
Colorado	203	210	2,230	2,240	453	470	3.8
Florida	100	95	1,780	1,885	178	179	0.6
Georgia	85	87	1,945	2,045	165	178	7.9
Idaho	666	697	2,160	2,190	1,439	1,526	6.0
Illinois	78	75	1,930	1,930	151	145	-4.0
Indiana	189	189	2,055	2,070	388	391	0.8
Iowa	243	244	2,150	2,155	522	526	0.8
Kansas	173	199	2,065	2,075	357	413	15.7
Michigan	438	447	2,375	2,400	1,040	1,073	3.2
Minnesota	446	441	2,020	2,035	901	897	-0.4
New Mexico	238	239	2,170	2,165	516	517	0.2
New York	630	638	2,230	2,230	1,405	1,423	1.3
Ohio	253	253	1,930	1,970	488	498	2.0
Oregon	118	116	1,840	1,830	217	212	-2.3
Pennsylvania	465	464	1,825	1,830	849	849	-
South Dakota	212	230	1,975	1,995	419	459	9.5
Texas	645	690	2,235	2,275	1,442	1,570	8.9
Utah	91	94	2,030	2,025	185	190	2.7
Vermont	114	113	1,885	1,915	215	216	0.5
Virginia	67	67	1,820	1,840	122	123	0.8
Washington	260	250	2,105	2,115	547	529	-3.3
Wisconsin	1,272	1,265	2,220	2,230	2,824	2,821	-0.1
24-State Total	8,886	9,004	2,118	2,125	18,821	19,137	1.7

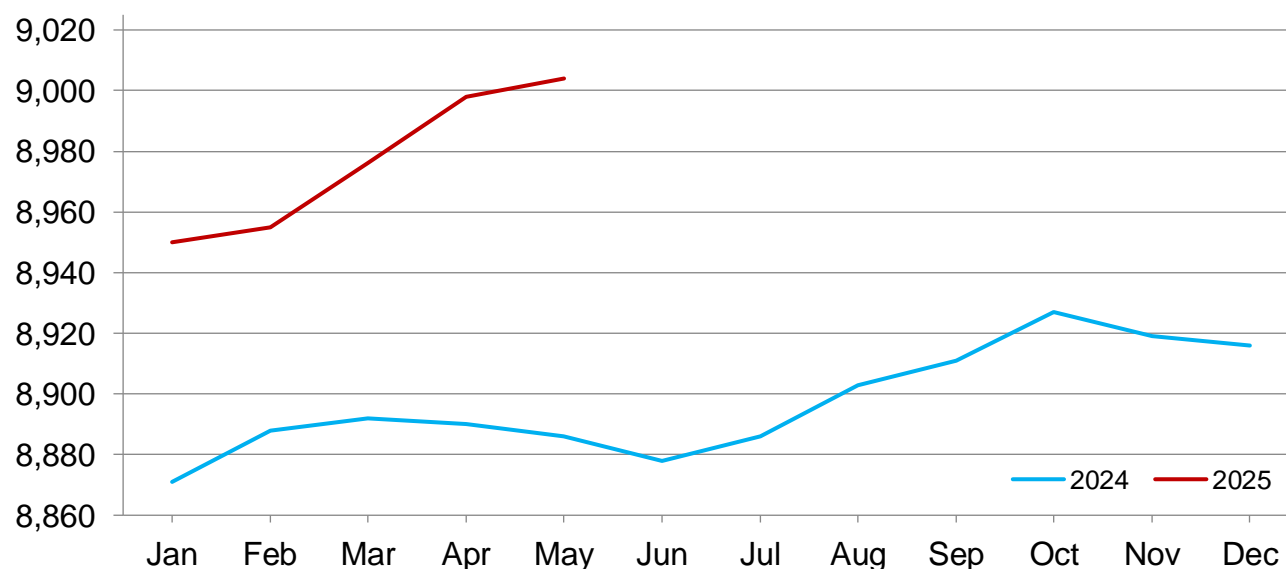
- Represents zero.

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: April 2024 and 2025

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2024
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	193	191	2,180	2,185	421	417	-1.0
California	1,709	1,710	2,065	2,030	3,529	3,471	-1.6
Colorado	203	209	2,170	2,170	441	454	2.9
Florida	102	95	1,875	1,910	191	181	-5.2
Georgia	85	87	1,965	2,040	167	177	6.0
Idaho	669	697	2,110	2,110	1,412	1,471	4.2
Illinois	79	76	1,880	1,880	149	143	-4.0
Indiana	189	189	1,995	2,000	377	378	0.3
Iowa	243	244	2,095	2,085	509	509	-
Kansas	173	196	1,980	2,020	343	396	15.5
Michigan	438	444	2,310	2,315	1,012	1,028	1.6
Minnesota	446	442	1,945	1,995	867	882	1.7
New Mexico	235	240	2,120	2,120	498	509	2.2
New York	630	635	2,140	2,165	1,348	1,375	2.0
Ohio	255	253	1,880	1,920	479	486	1.5
Oregon	118	116	1,765	1,760	208	204	-1.9
Pennsylvania	465	464	1,805	1,810	839	840	0.1
South Dakota	212	230	1,900	1,925	403	443	9.9
Texas	640	690	2,135	2,190	1,366	1,511	10.6
Utah	91	94	1,935	1,945	176	183	4.0
Vermont	115	113	1,800	1,850	207	209	1.0
Virginia	67	67	1,825	1,840	122	123	0.8
Washington	261	251	2,040	2,050	532	515	-3.2
Wisconsin	1,272	1,265	2,130	2,145	2,709	2,713	0.1
24-State Total	8,890	8,998	2,059	2,069	18,305	18,618	1.7

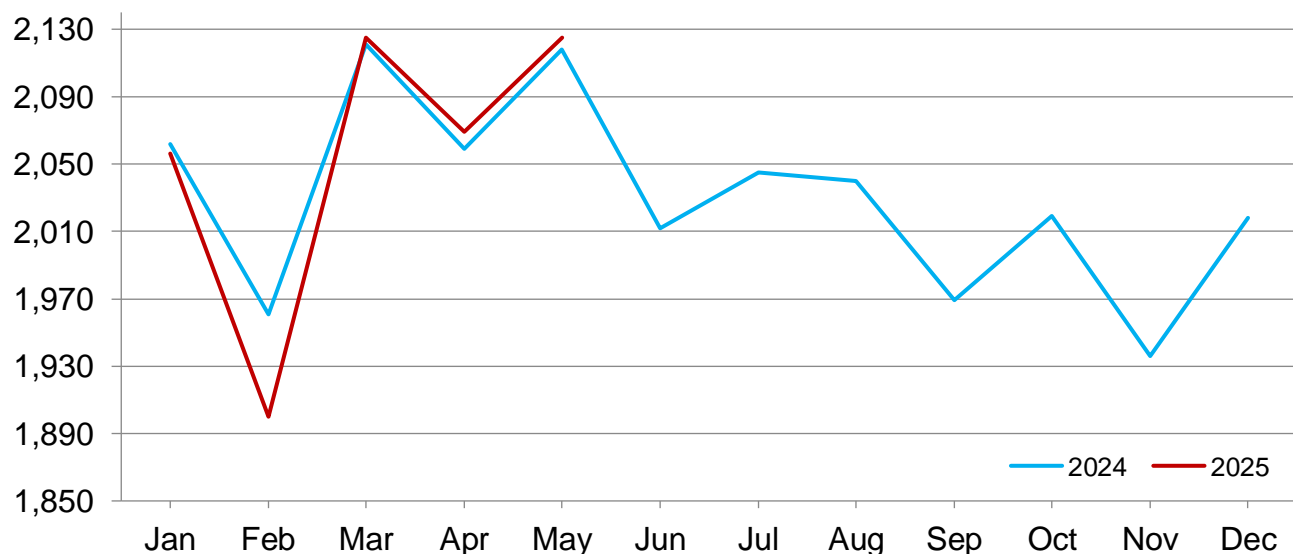
- Represents zero.

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Per Cow - 24 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 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 19.1 billion pounds by more than 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.6 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	0.6	50	0	139	12	11
All Milk cows	0.1	0.2	10	2	25	11	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@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
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Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448

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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@usda.gov.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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