



Released August 21, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

July Milk Production up 2.3 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during July totaled 19.4 billion pounds, up 2.3 percent from July 2025. June revised production, at 19.1 billion pounds, was up 3.1 percent from June 2025. The June revision represented an increase of 124 million pounds or 0.7 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 2,093 pounds for July, 5 pounds above July 2025.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 9.27 million head, 185,000 head more than July 2025, and 2,000 head more than June 2026.

July Milk Production in the United States up 2.2 Percent

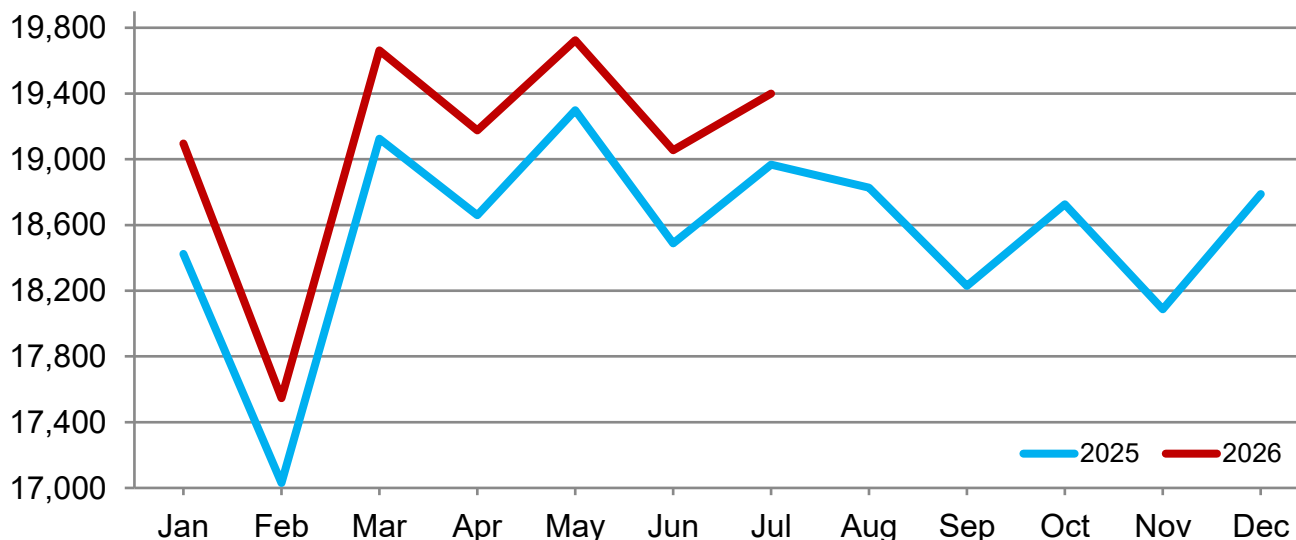
Milk production in the United States during July totaled 20.1 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from July 2025.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 2,075 pounds for July, 3 pounds above July 2025.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.71 million head, 199,000 head more than July 2025, but unchanged from June 2026.

Monthly Milk Production - 24 Selected States

Million pounds



Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2025-2026

[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		
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,410	9,622	6,043	6,091	56,865	58,603	3.1
April-June	9,474	9,677	6,205	6,233	58,783	60,318	2.6
July-September	9,543		6,100		58,208		
October-December	9,564		6,044		57,802		
Annual	9,498		24,390		231,658		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2025-2026

[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		
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	8,954	9,170	2,058	2,082	18,423	19,095	3.6
February	8,966	9,175	1,899	1,912	17,030	17,546	3.0
March	8,995	9,198	2,126	2,138	19,124	19,662	2.8
April	9,017	9,218	2,069	2,080	18,659	19,175	2.8
May	9,043	9,213	2,134	2,141	19,298	19,724	2.2
June	9,046	9,265	2,044	2,057	18,489	19,054	3.1
July	9,082	9,267	2,088	2,093	18,967	19,399	2.3
August	9,113		2,066		18,827		
September	9,142		1,994		18,230		
October	9,137		2,049		18,726		
November	9,130		1,981		18,088		
December	9,139		2,056		18,787		
Annual	9,064		24,564		222,648		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2025-2026

[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		
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January	9,391	9,610	2,044	2,068	19,194	19,875	3.5
February	9,404	9,614	1,887	1,900	17,746	18,263	2.9
March	9,434	9,641	2,112	2,123	19,925	20,465	2.7
April	9,455	9,664	2,055	2,065	19,432	19,960	2.7
May	9,481	9,658	2,120	2,126	20,097	20,529	2.1
June	9,485	9,710	2,030	2,042	19,254	19,829	3.0
July	9,511	9,710	2,072	2,075	19,706	20,145	2.2
August	9,543		2,050		19,560		
September	9,574		1,978		18,942		
October	9,566		2,035		19,469		
November	9,559		1,967		18,804		
December	9,566		2,042		19,529		
Annual	9,498		24,390		231,658		

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: July 2025 and 2026

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	196	202	1,950	1,965	382	397	3.9
California	1,715	1,714	2,045	2,030	3,507	3,479	-0.8
Colorado	211	219	2,220	2,225	468	487	4.1
Florida	97	102	1,765	1,775	171	181	5.8
Georgia	89	90	1,950	2,025	174	182	4.6
Idaho	723	735	2,230	2,240	1,612	1,646	2.1
Illinois	74	75	1,810	1,815	134	136	1.5
Indiana	189	198	2,010	2,015	380	399	5.0
Iowa	242	243	2,100	2,110	508	513	1.0
Kansas	213	245	2,010	2,015	428	494	15.4
Michigan	453	467	2,355	2,355	1,067	1,100	3.1
Minnesota	445	459	2,030	2,040	903	936	3.7
New Mexico	236	238	2,065	2,070	487	493	1.2
New York	644	655	2,210	2,220	1,423	1,454	2.2
Ohio	252	251	1,925	1,925	485	483	-0.4
Oregon	120	128	1,815	1,815	218	232	6.4
Pennsylvania	460	455	1,760	1,780	810	810	-
South Dakota	234	250	2,005	2,005	469	501	6.8
Texas	700	726	2,205	2,220	1,544	1,612	4.4
Utah	98	99	2,020	2,025	198	200	1.0
Vermont	114	114	1,875	1,880	214	214	-
Virginia	66	68	1,735	1,740	115	118	2.6
Washington	239	235	2,055	2,045	491	481	-2.0
Wisconsin	1,272	1,299	2,185	2,195	2,779	2,851	2.6
24-State Total	9,082	9,267	2,088	2,093	18,967	19,399	2.3

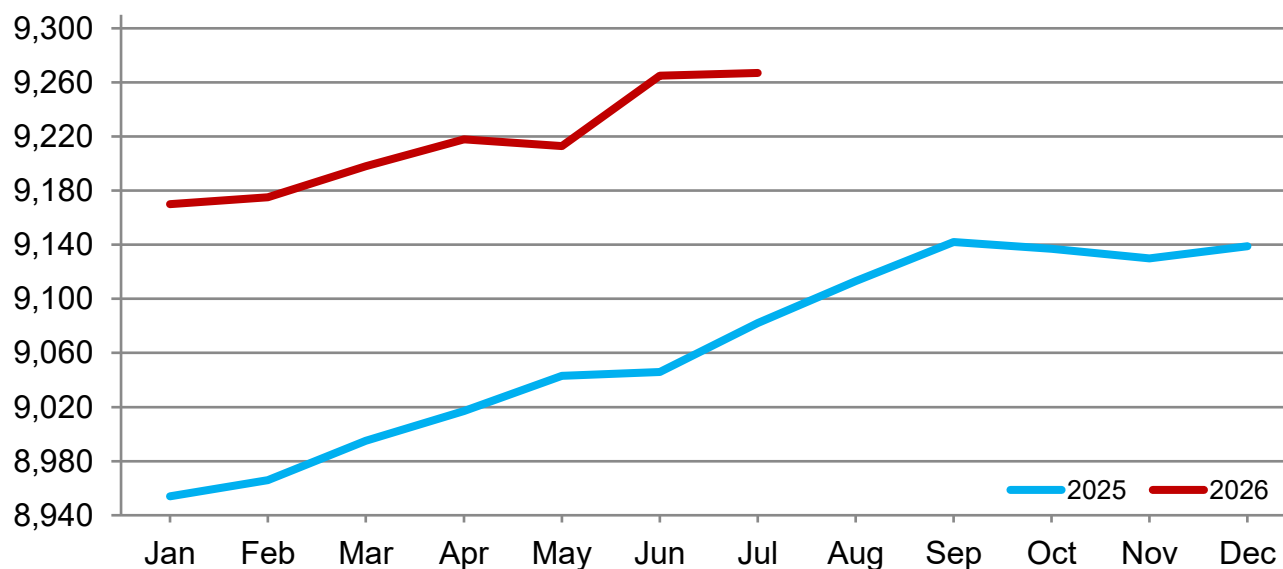
- Represents zero.

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: June 2025 and 2026

[May not add due to rounding]

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	Change from 2025
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	191	200	2,040	2,055	390	411	5.4
California	1,710	1,714	2,005	2,000	3,429	3,428	(Z)
Colorado	211	221	2,155	2,165	455	478	5.1
Florida	97	101	1,805	1,805	175	182	4.0
Georgia	87	89	1,960	2,030	171	181	5.8
Idaho	715	733	2,150	2,165	1,537	1,587	3.3
Illinois	75	76	1,830	1,835	137	139	1.5
Indiana	191	198	1,990	1,995	380	395	3.9
Iowa	242	245	2,060	2,075	499	508	1.8
Kansas	206	244	1,975	1,980	407	483	18.7
Michigan	452	467	2,290	2,310	1,035	1,079	4.3
Minnesota	444	456	1,980	1,995	879	910	3.5
New Mexico	238	239	2,035	2,035	484	486	0.4
New York	641	655	2,150	2,170	1,378	1,421	3.1
Ohio	254	253	1,890	1,890	480	478	-0.4
Oregon	118	128	1,770	1,775	209	227	8.6
Pennsylvania	460	455	1,740	1,760	800	801	0.1
South Dakota	233	250	1,925	1,940	449	485	8.0
Texas	696	725	2,160	2,175	1,503	1,577	4.9
Utah	96	99	1,985	1,995	191	198	3.7
Vermont	113	113	1,830	1,840	207	208	0.5
Virginia	67	69	1,720	1,730	115	119	3.5
Washington	239	236	2,010	2,010	480	474	-1.3
Wisconsin	1,270	1,299	2,125	2,155	2,699	2,799	3.7
24-State Total	9,046	9,265	2,044	2,057	18,489	19,054	3.1

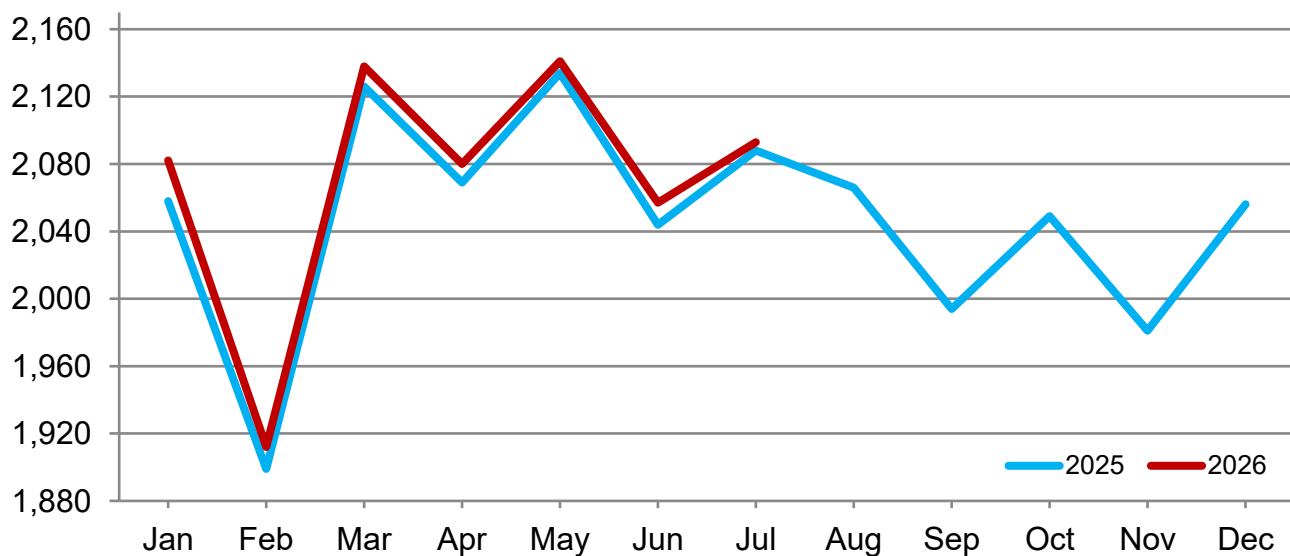
(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

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 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 19.4 billion pounds by more than 0.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.7 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	0.4	0.7	57	1	161	18	6
All Milk cows	0.2	0.4	18	1	42	19	5

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - Estimation Branch Contacts

For more information about specific data items, please contact the Estimation Branch staff members below. You can also email inquiries to nass@usda.gov.

Anthony Prillaman, Associate Deputy Administrator (202) 720-2127

Darin Jantzi, Section Chief..... (701) 412-5953

Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Eggs, Hogs and Pigs, Layers, Sheep and Goats

Jeff Lemmons, Section Chief..... (202) 973-3272

Cattle, Cattle on Feed, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage

Fleming Gibson, Section Chief (Acting)..... (202) 236-2428

Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Dairy Products, Livestock Slaughter, Poultry Slaughter, Trout, Turkey Hatchery, Turkey Raised

Julie Weber, Section Chief (202) 317-0165

Cost of Pollination, Egg Products, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Milk Production

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov.
- The national specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov 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.

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.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.