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## February Milk Production down 0.7 Percent

**Milk production** in the 24 major States during February totaled 16.7 billion pounds, down 0.7 percent from February 2021. January revised production, at 18.2 billion pounds, was down 1.5 percent from January 2021. The January revision represented a decrease of 19 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

**Production per cow** in the 24 major States averaged 1,887 pounds for February, 3 pounds above February 2021.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the 24 major States was 8.88 million head, 77,000 head less than February 2021, but 3,000 head more than January 2022.

## February Milk Production in the United States down 1.0 Percent

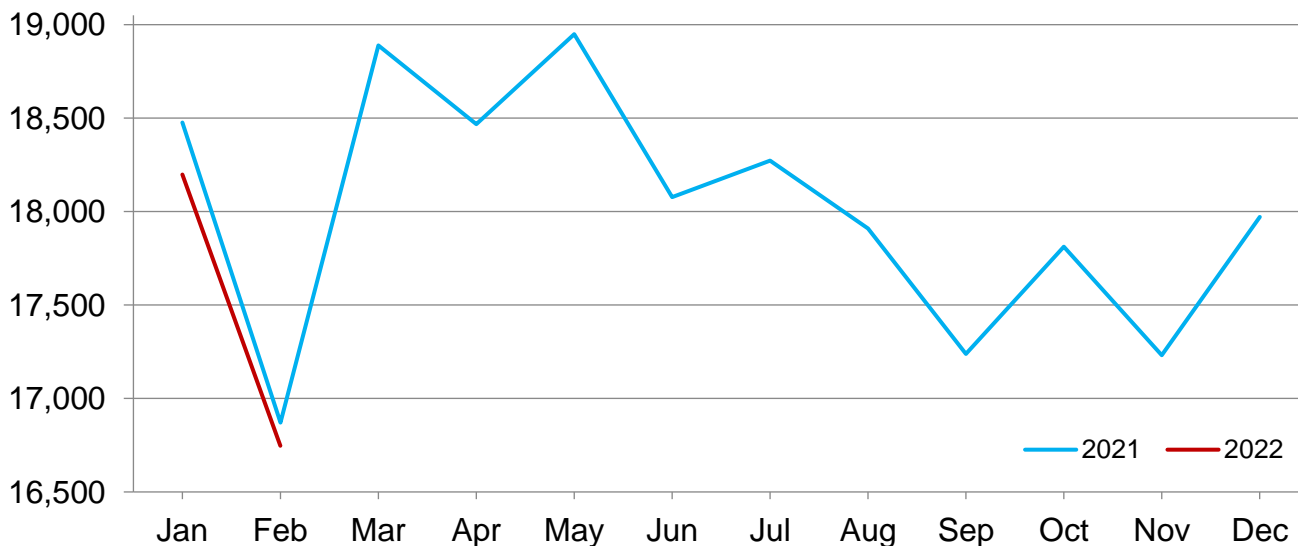
**Milk production** in the United States during February totaled 17.5 billion pounds, down 1.0 percent from February 2021.

**Production per cow** in the United States averaged 1,869 pounds for February, 1 pound above February 2021.

**The number of milk cows** on farms in the United States was 9.37 million head, 96,000 head less than February 2021, but 3,000 head more than January 2022.

## Monthly Milk Production - 24 Selected States

Million pounds



## Milk Cows and Production by Quarter – United States: 2021-2022

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

Quarter	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	Change from 2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March .....	9,466		6,005		56,847		
April-June .....	9,503		6,119		58,147		
July-September .....	9,442		5,914		55,836		
October-December .....	9,381		5,909		55,428		
Annual .....	9,448		23,948		226,258		

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

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

## Milk Cows and Production by Month – 24 Selected States: 2021-2022

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

Month	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	Change from 2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January .....	8,938	8,874	2,067	2,051	18,477	18,198	-1.5
February .....	8,954	8,877	1,884	1,887	16,871	16,747	-0.7
March .....	8,970		2,106		18,888		
April .....	8,987		2,055		18,467		
May .....	8,996		2,106		18,949		
June .....	8,991		2,011		18,078		
July .....	8,983		2,034		18,272		
August .....	8,939		2,004		17,910		
September .....	8,909		1,935		17,239		
October .....	8,892		2,003		17,812		
November .....	8,888		1,939		17,232		
December .....	8,880		2,024		17,971		
Annual .....	8,944		24,169		216,166		

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

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

## Estimated Milk Cows and Production by Month – United States: 2021-2022

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

Month	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	Change from 2021
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January .....	9,450	9,367	2,049	2,032	19,365	19,030	-1.7
February .....	9,466	9,370	1,868	1,869	17,685	17,515	-1.0
March .....	9,482		2,088		19,797		
April .....	9,500		2,037		19,350		
May .....	9,507		2,088		19,855		
June .....	9,501		1,994		18,942		
July .....	9,483		2,014		19,097		
August .....	9,438		1,984		18,721		
September .....	9,405		1,916		18,018		
October .....	9,387		1,984		18,623		
November .....	9,382		1,920		18,015		
December .....	9,373		2,005		18,790		
Annual .....	9,448		23,948		226,258		

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

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

## Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: February 2021 and 2022

[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 2021
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....	200	193	2,000	1,990	400	384	-4.0
California .....	1,720	1,721	1,935	1,930	3,328	3,322	-0.2
Colorado .....	203	202	1,995	2,000	405	404	-0.2
Florida .....	108	103	1,695	1,695	183	175	-4.4
Georgia .....	80	88	1,790	1,840	143	162	13.3
Idaho .....	652	652	1,910	1,910	1,245	1,245	-
Illinois .....	83	80	1,725	1,720	143	138	-3.5
Indiana .....	193	187	1,820	1,830	351	342	-2.6
Iowa .....	224	225	1,905	1,900	427	428	0.2
Kansas .....	174	169	1,860	1,850	324	313	-3.4
Michigan .....	441	428	2,100	2,100	926	899	-2.9
Minnesota .....	461	453	1,780	1,755	821	795	-3.2
New Mexico .....	336	292	1,955	1,955	657	571	-13.1
New York .....	626	620	1,905	1,910	1,193	1,184	-0.8
Ohio .....	260	248	1,700	1,720	442	427	-3.4
Oregon .....	125	125	1,605	1,600	201	200	-0.5
Pennsylvania .....	475	468	1,680	1,690	798	791	-0.9
South Dakota .....	143	170	1,755	1,745	251	297	18.3
Texas .....	618	633	1,950	1,985	1,205	1,257	4.3
Utah .....	96	94	1,770	1,770	170	166	-2.4
Vermont .....	120	119	1,660	1,660	199	198	-0.5
Virginia .....	74	71	1,600	1,615	118	115	-2.5
Washington .....	278	263	1,850	1,865	514	490	-4.7
Wisconsin .....	1,264	1,273	1,920	1,920	2,427	2,444	0.7
24-State Total .....	8,954	8,877	1,884	1,887	16,871	16,747	-0.7

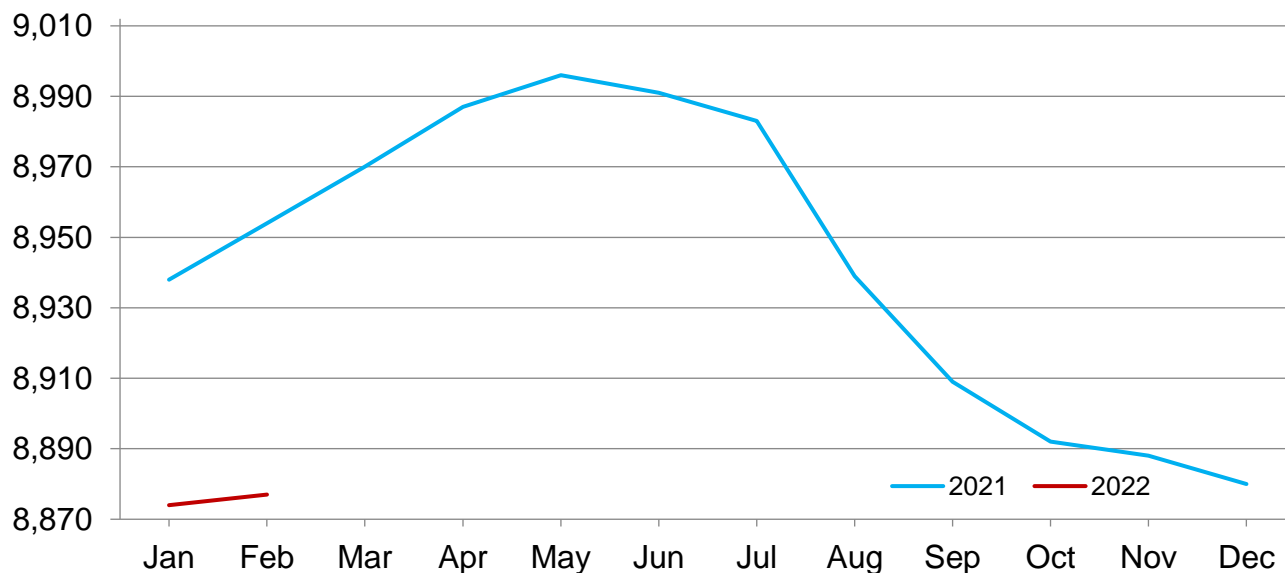
- Represents zero.

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

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

## Monthly Milk Cows - 24 Selected States

Thousand head



## Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: January 2021 and 2022

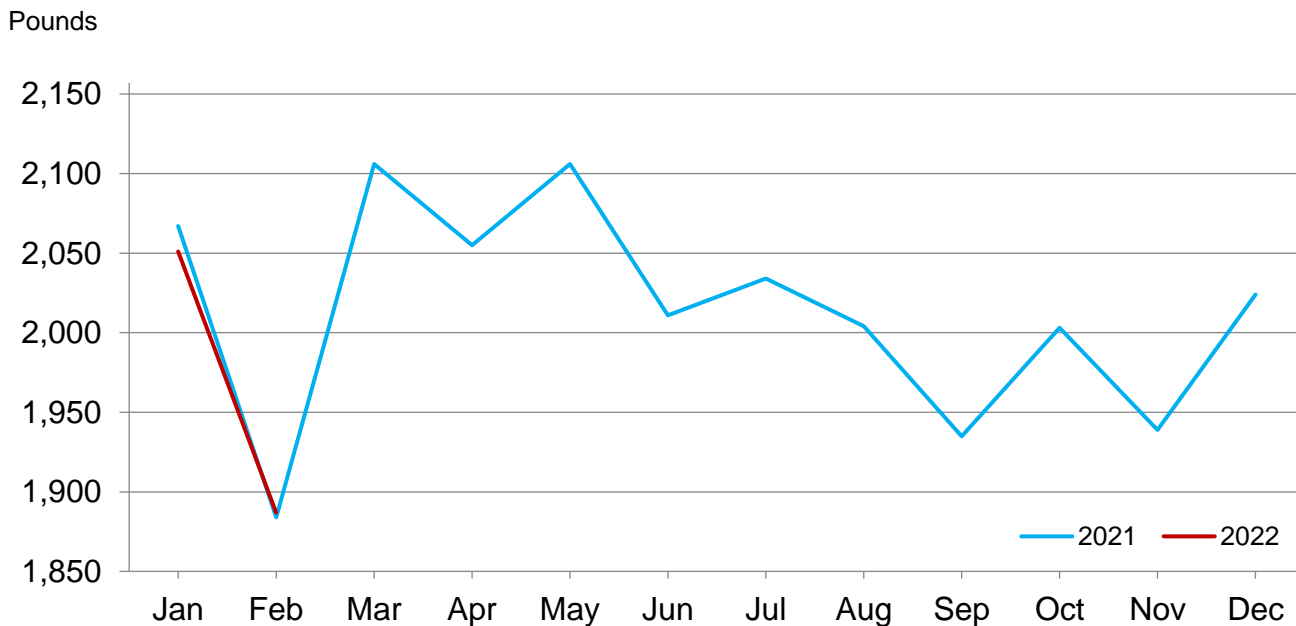
[May not add due to rounding]

	Milk cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk per cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk production <sup>2</sup>		Change from 2021
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona .....	200	194	2,160	2,145	432	416	-3.7
California .....	1,720	1,720	2,095	2,055	3,603	3,535	-1.9
Colorado .....	203	202	2,215	2,205	450	445	-1.1
Florida .....	109	103	1,825	1,800	199	185	-7.0
Georgia .....	80	86	1,950	1,995	156	172	10.3
Idaho .....	648	652	2,095	2,095	1,358	1,366	0.6
Illinois .....	84	80	1,870	1,865	157	149	-5.1
Indiana .....	193	186	2,000	2,015	386	375	-2.8
Iowa .....	222	225	2,105	2,095	467	471	0.9
Kansas .....	174	169	2,065	2,050	359	346	-3.6
Michigan .....	440	430	2,310	2,285	1,016	983	-3.2
Minnesota .....	457	456	1,955	1,915	893	873	-2.2
New Mexico .....	337	295	2,140	2,150	721	634	-12.1
New York .....	625	620	2,100	2,090	1,313	1,296	-1.3
Ohio .....	259	248	1,875	1,865	486	463	-4.7
Oregon .....	125	124	1,760	1,750	220	217	-1.4
Pennsylvania .....	475	468	1,840	1,810	874	847	-3.1
South Dakota .....	142	170	1,955	1,940	278	330	18.7
Texas .....	616	628	2,160	2,195	1,331	1,378	3.5
Utah .....	95	94	1,970	1,935	187	182	-2.7
Vermont .....	120	119	1,835	1,815	220	216	-1.8
Virginia .....	74	71	1,760	1,760	130	125	-3.8
Washington .....	278	261	2,035	2,020	566	527	-6.9
Wisconsin .....	1,262	1,273	2,120	2,095	2,675	2,667	-0.3
24-State Total .....	8,938	8,874	2,067	2,051	18,477	18,198	-1.5

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 16.7 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	4	181	16	8
All Milk cows .....	0.2	0.3	12	1	30	15	9

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

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Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter .....	(202) 690-8632
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed .....	(202) 720-3040
Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs .....	(202) 720-3106
Logan Hartley-Sanguinett – Sheep and Goats .....	(202) 690-3236
Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows .....	(202) 720-3278
Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products .....	(202) 720-4448

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

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