

# Dairy Summary, 1998

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**Milk Production Up Slightly:** Pennsylvania's milk production for 1998 was 10.85 billion pounds, 185 million pounds more than 1997 production. Monthly milk production during 1998 was higher than monthly production in all but 3 months of 1997. During June, October and December, milk production was below the 1997 monthly totals.

The 1998 average milk production per cow was 17,415 pounds for the year, 460 pounds more than 1997's production of 16,951 pounds per cow.

Pennsylvania remained fourth in the nation's ranking in milk production, producing 6.9 percent of the nation's milk. California is first with 17.5 percent of the U.S. production, followed by Wisconsin and New York, respectively.

The number of milk cows in the State averaged 623,000 head in 1998, 6,000 less than in 1997. The number of commercial dairy farms for 1998 is estimated at 9,900, down 300 from 1997. Commercial dairy farms are defined as farms with 10 or more milk cows in operation during the year.

**Milk Disposition & Income:** Gross income from marketings of Pennsylvania milk during 1998 totaled 1.73 billion dollars, up 13 percent from 1997. Marketings totaled 10.8 billion pounds in 1998, slightly less than in 1997. Returns from both wholesale and retail sales in 1998 averaged \$16.07 per hundred pounds of milk, compared with \$14.32 per hundred pounds in 1997.

An estimated 76 million pounds of milk were used on farms where produced. Calves in the Commonwealth were fed 65 millions pounds of milk, while 11 million pounds were used by producer's households as fluid milk, cream and butter.

**Production Costs:** Costs of producing milk in Pennsylvania averaged \$13.53 per hundred pounds of milk during 1998, compared with \$14.64 during 1997. This estimated cost of producing milk does not include any returns (costs) for management or equity capital, or changes in inventory values of capital items, but does include a return to operator and family labor.

Pennsylvania: Cost of Producing Milk, Selected Items & Total, By Months, 1998

Month	Purchased Feed	Fertilizer & Lime	Fuels & Lubricants	Dairy Animals Purchased	Hauling	Interest	Depreciation	Value Family Labor	Hired Labor	Other	Total
<i>Dollars Per Cwt. of Milk Shipped</i>											
January	3.343	0.429	0.231	0.163	0.577	0.410	0.918	2.408	0.582	4.500	13.56
February	2.876	0.172	0.204	0.246	0.562	0.421	0.945	2.316	0.665	4.628	13.04
March	3.027	0.426	0.303	0.399	0.542	0.412	0.923	2.192	0.709	4.523	13.46
April	2.896	0.945	0.287	0.385	0.537	0.425	0.612	2.266	0.550	4.532	13.44
May	2.569	1.727	0.340	0.143	0.518	0.444	0.639	3.120	0.781	4.731	15.01
June	2.786	1.060	0.324	0.173	0.547	0.445	0.641	2.525	0.633	4.743	13.88
July	2.879	0.700	0.361	0.357	0.560	0.410	0.590	2.725	0.689	4.261	13.53
August	3.052	0.309	0.282	0.126	0.555	0.419	0.603	2.479	0.755	4.354	12.93
September	2.947	0.190	0.307	0.164	0.565	0.421	0.606	2.752	0.745	4.373	13.07
October	3.214	0.257	0.333	0.240	0.553	0.410	0.590	2.617	0.707	4.260	13.18
November	3.243	0.325	0.323	0.210	0.530	0.408	0.587	2.272	0.639	4.237	12.77
December	3.451	0.986	0.254	0.399	0.593	0.409	0.589	2.889	0.635	4.295	14.50
Average	3.023	0.627	0.296	0.250	0.553	0.419	0.687	2.547	0.674	4.453	13.53
% of Total	22.4	4.6	2.2	1.9	4.1	3.1	5.1	18.8	5.0	32.9	100.0