

## 2008 Annual Milk Production

Wisconsin's 1.25 million milk cows produced 24.5 billion pounds of milk in 2008. This represents a 2 percent increase from 2007 and is the state's highest annual milk production since 1988. Statewide, milk per cow averaged 19,546 pounds, 236 pounds more than a year earlier. In 2008, Wisconsin accounted for 13 percent of the nation's production.

Nationally, 190 billion pounds of milk were produced in 2008, up 2 percent from 2007. Average milk per cow grew to 20,396, up 192 pounds from the previous year. The number of milk cows in the U.S. continued to grow in 2008. There were 9.32 million cows, 126, 000 more than in the previous year.

California continues to be the nation's top milk producer with 41.2 billion pounds in 2008. Wisconsin was second with 24.5 billion pounds, followed by New York with 12.4 billion pounds. Idaho and Pennsylvania remained in fourth and fifth places with 12.3 and 10.6 billion pounds of milk, respectively.

The average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk in Wisconsin during 2008 was 13,730, down 440 from the previous year. The U.S. total was 57,127 licensed dairy herds, a loss of 2,003 herds.

## Milk Production, Wisconsin, 2007-2008

Month	Milk cows 1/		Rate per cow 2/		Production 2/		Production % chnge 3/ 2008/07
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	Thousand head		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
January	1,245	1,250	1,630	1,635	2,029	2,044	+1
February	1,246	1,250	1,470	1,545	1,832	1,931	+5
March	1,246	1,251	1,640	1,660	2,043	2,077	+2
April	1,246	1,251	1,615	1,620	2,012	2,027	+1
May	1,247	1,251	1,685	1,710	2,101	2,139	+2
June	1,247	1,252	1,620	1,650	2,020	2,066	+2
July	1,248	1,252	1,675	1,670	2,090	2,091	n.c.
August	1,248	1,252	1,645	1,650	2,053	2,066	+1
September	1,248	1,253	1,575	1,580	1,966	1,980	+1
October	1,249	1,253	1,600	1,625	1,998	2,036	+2
November	1,249	1,254	1,550	1,565	1,936	1,963	+1
December	1,250	1,255	1,600	1,635	2,000	2,052	+3

1/Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/Excludes milk sucked by calves. 3/February 2008 had 29 days and February 2007 had 28 days, so percent change not directly comparable. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

## Annual Milk Cows and Production, Major States and United States, 2007-2008

State	Milk cows 1/		Rate per cow 2/		Production 2/		Production % chnge 2008/07
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	Thousand head		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
WI	1,247	1,25	19,310	19,546	24,080	24,472	+2
CA	1,813	1,84	22,440	22,344	40,683	41,203	+1
ID	513	549	22,513	22,432	11,549	12,315	+7
MI	335	350	22,761	22,180	7,625	7,763	+2
MN	460	464	18,817	18,927	8,656	8,782	+1
NM	332	338	21,958	23,269	7,290	7,865	+8
NY	627	626	19,303	19,859	12,103	12,432	+3
PA	550	549	19,422	19,262	10,682	10,575	-1
TX	389	418	18,982	20,134	7,384	8,416	+14
US	9,189	9,31	20,204	20,396	185,654	189,992	+2

1/Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. 2/Excludes milk sucked by calves. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.