

## Wisconsin Dairy Operations by Size Group

Wisconsin averaged 14,400 milk cow operations during 2007, down 500 from a year earlier. The most common size in Wisconsin continued to be 50-99 head, with 6,100 herds. There were 200 fewer herds in this group than in 2006, but it still accounted for 42 percent of all herds. The second largest category was 30-49 head, with a count of 3,600 farms. Farms with 1-29 head accounted for 1,900 milk operations, 13 percent of the total.

The total number of dairy herds with 100 or more cows, at 2,800, has not changed since 2003. These larger farms account for 19 percent of all dairy operations in the state. There were 1,800 operations with 100-199 head, 50 fewer than a year ago. The number of farms with 200-299 head increased to 750, and farms with 500 or more head rose to 250.

Almost one-third of all milk cows in Wisconsin are found on farms with 50-99 head, and they account for 29 percent of the state's milk production. The largest farms, those with 500 or more head, have shown the most growth in cow numbers and milk production. Five years ago, they had only 13 percent of the state's milk cows, whereas in 2007, they accounted for 18 percent. The amount of milk they contribute to the state's total has steadily risen from 15 percent in 2003 to 22 percent in 2007.

### MILK COW OPERATIONS: By Size Group, Wisconsin, 2003-2007 1/

Year	Operations having:						Operations having:					
	1-29 head	30-49 head	50-99 head	100-199 head	200-499 head	500+ head	1-29 head	30-49 head	50-99 head	100-199 head	200-499 head	500+ head
	Number						Percent					
2003	2,500	4,500	7,100	1,900	700	200	14.8	26.6	42.0	11.2	4.1	1.2
2004	2,300	4,100	6,700	1,900	700	200	14.5	25.8	42.1	11.9	4.4	1.3
2005	2,200	3,900	6,400	1,850	750	200	14.4	25.5	41.8	12.1	4.9	1.3
2006	2,100	3,700	6,300	1,850	720	230	14.1	24.8	42.3	12.4	4.8	1.5
<b>2007</b>	1,900	3,600	6,100	1,800	750	250	13.2	25.0	42.4	12.5	5.2	1.7

1/Sum of parts may not equal 100.0 percent due to rounding. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

### MILK COW INVENTORY AND PRODUCTION: By Size Group, Wisconsin, 2003-2007

Year	Inventory on operations having:						Milk production on operations having:					
	1-29 head	30-49 head	50-99 head	100-199 head	200-499 head	500+ head	1-29 head	30-49 head	50-99 head	100-199 head	200-499 head	500+ head
	Percent						Percent					
2003	3.0	13.0	36.0	19.0	16.0	13.0	2.5	12.0	34.0	19.0	17.5	15.0
2004	3.0	12.5	35.0	19.5	16.5	13.5	2.5	11.5	34.0	19.0	17.5	15.5
2005	3.0	12.5	34.0	19.0	17.5	14.0	2.0	11.0	34.0	19.0	18.0	16.0
2006	2.5	12.0	33.0	19.0	17.0	16.5	2.0	11.0	32.0	19.0	17.0	19.0
<b>2007</b>	2.5	12.0	31.5	18.5	17.5	18.0	1.5	10.0	29.0	18.5	19.0	22.0

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO