



Potato Stocks

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Potato Stocks Up 3 Percent From April 2018

The 13 major potato States held 143 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2019, up 3 percent from April 1, 2018. Potatoes in storage accounted for 34 percent of the fall storage States' 2018 production, the same percentage as the previous year. Potato disappearance, at 277 million cwt, was up 3 percent from April 1, 2018. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.5 million cwt, was 6 percent higher than the same time last year. Processors in the 8 major States used 150 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 3 percent from April 2018.

Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: April 1, 2018-2019

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2018 totaled 28.8 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2017			Crop of 2018			
	Production	Stocks April 1, 2018	April stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks February 1, 2019	Stocks April 1, 2019	April stocks as a percent of production
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)
California	3,321	1,100	33	3,225	(D)	900	28
Colorado	21,220	7,200	34	21,722	11,300	7,100	33
Idaho	134,850	52,000	39	140,175	79,000	56,000	40
Maine	15,200	5,000	33	15,345	8,700	5,200	34
Michigan	18,315	3,800	21	18,240	6,500	3,000	16
Minnesota	18,428	7,200	39	18,705	8,000	6,000	32
Montana	3,774	2,800	74	3,830	3,500	3,040	79
Nebraska	9,025	2,100	23	9,361	3,700	2,300	25
New York	4,032	800	20	4,118	(D)	800	19
North Dakota	24,420	9,600	39	23,360	11,700	6,900	30
Oregon	25,245	8,300	33	28,060	15,000	10,000	36
Washington	99,220	29,000	29	105,600	49,000	32,000	30
Wisconsin	29,750	9,900	33	28,400	14,500	9,900	35
Other States	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	2,800	(NA)	(NA)
Total	406,800	138,800	34	420,141	213,700	143,140	34
Klamath Basin ¹	(NA)	1,800	(NA)	(NA)	(D)	1,700	(NA)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the 13 States total.

Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: 2009-2018

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Production	Stocks						
		December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
2009	383,962	265,800	234,300	203,500	169,700	128,700	89,610	55,120
2010	357,467	240,200	209,400	180,300	148,500	111,000	72,000	41,320
2011	382,318	253,000	(NA)	187,500	(NA)	115,650	(NA)	43,340
2012	410,367	271,500	(NA)	204,600	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2013	396,655	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	119,450	(NA)	47,085
2014	406,080	267,500	(NA)	206,600	(NA)	139,200	(NA)	63,535
2015	409,281	267,900	(NA)	205,900	(NA)	137,200	(NA)	60,080
2016	412,688	275,800	(NA)	213,000	(NA)	142,600	(NA)	67,570
2017	406,800	277,900	(NA)	210,600	(NA)	138,800	(NA)	63,740
2018	420,141	283,600	(NA)	213,700	(NA)	143,140		

(NA) Not available.

Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 8 States: 2017-2019

[Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

State	Current year	Following year						
	December 1, 2017	January 1, 2018	February 1, 2018	March 1, 2018	April 1, 2018	May 1, 2018	June 1, 2018	Season
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon	24,840	31,920	38,950	46,610	54,060	61,285	69,840	87,379
Maine	1,510	1,880	2,370	2,880	3,460	4,010	4,560	4,829
Washington and Oregon	32,885	39,925	46,515	54,355	61,780	68,555	76,495	91,160
Other States ¹	10,030	14,181	18,075	22,740	26,535	30,425	34,740	42,856
United States	69,265	87,906	105,910	126,585	145,835	164,275	185,635	226,224
Dehydrated ²	10,595	14,304	18,085	21,680	25,775	29,800	34,410	44,263

State	Current year	Following year						
	December 1, 2018	January 1, 2019	February 1, 2019	March 1, 2019	April 1, 2019	May 1, 2019	June 1, 2019	Season
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon	25,170	31,985	39,490	47,395	55,250			
Maine	1,470	1,890	2,400	2,870	3,450			
Washington and Oregon	36,395	43,385	50,400	57,720	65,095			
Other States ¹	10,738	14,578	18,381	23,049	26,669			
United States	73,773	91,838	110,671	131,034	150,464			
Dehydrated ²	13,655	17,030	20,775	24,420	28,315			

¹ Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

² Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington.

Accumulated Potato Shrinkage and Loss – 13 Fall Storage States: 2017-2019

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2017	January 1, 2018	February 1, 2018	March 1, 2018	April 1, 2018	May 1, 2018	June 1, 2018
	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)
2017	12.1	14.2	15.9	17.5	19.3	21.0	22.5
Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2018	January 1, 2019	February 1, 2019	March 1, 2019	April 1, 2019	May 1, 2019	June 1, 2019
	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)	(million cwt)
2018	13.1	15.1	17.1	19.0	20.5		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The potato stock estimates in this report are based primarily on a survey conducted in the first week of April in the thirteen major fall potato producing States, which account for 93 percent of all potato production last year. The potato stocks survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of approximately 975 growers, processors, and storage facilities that are contacted to obtain the quantity of potatoes stored as of the first of the month, as well as monthly shrinkage and loss information.

Monthly processing data is collected from a census of all known potato processing facilities in eight States (Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin). An effort is made to obtain a report from all facilities. Estimates are made for missing facilities to make the survey complete.

Data was collected by mail, internet, telephone, or personal interview to obtain information on potato stocks, monthly potato processing, and monthly shrink and loss.

Estimating Procedures: Information obtained from the potato stocks survey, processing survey, and federal administrative data, is used to establish estimates of stocks, shrinkage and loss, and processing usage. These estimates are reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates.

Revision Policy: Stocks, shrink and loss, and processing estimates for the previous estimating period are subject to revision based on late and/or updated information. At the end of the marketing season, all information available, including disposition data, are thoroughly reviewed and any necessary revisions for the entire crop year are published in the *Potatoes Annual Summary*.

Reliability: Reliability of the stocks and processing data must be treated separately because the survey designs for the two surveys are very different. The stocks estimates are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding stocks are not included in the sample. This variability, as measured by the relative standard error at the United States level, is approximately 4.4 percent which means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current potato stock estimate will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 4.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 7.6 percent.

Survey indications are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. Processing, as well as stocks, are subject to these types of errors. These errors cannot be measured directly, but they are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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Greg Lemmons – Blackberries, Blueberries, Boysenberries, Cranberries, Cucumbers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes	(202) 720-4285
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