



Potato Stocks

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Potato Stocks Up Slightly from December 2019

Potato States held 270 million cwt in storage on December 1, 2020, up slightly from December 1, 2019. Potatoes in storage accounted for 65 percent of the States' 2020 production compared with 63 percent a year earlier. The indicated potato disappearance, at 145 million cwt, was down 7 percent from the same period last year. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 13.2 million cwt, was 9 percent higher than the same time last year. Processors in the 8 States used 71.9 million cwt of potatoes for the season, down 6 percent from December 2019.

Potato Production and Stocks – 13 States: December 1, 2019-2020

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2020 totaled 23.7 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2019			Crop of 2020		
	Production	Stocks December 1, 2019	December stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks December 1, 2020	December stocks as a percent of production
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)
California	16,842	3,000	18	13,694	2,600	19
Colorado	19,666	13,800	70	22,865	16,800	73
Florida	6,958	(D)	(D)	5,450	(D)	(D)
Idaho	130,900	92,000	70	136,500	97,000	71
Maine	16,738	12,400	74	13,383	9,800	73
Michigan	20,370	12,500	61	17,390	10,900	63
Minnesota	17,845	11,600	65	17,430	12,400	71
Nebraska	9,595	5,100	53	9,163	5,100	56
North Dakota	19,430	14,000	72	22,913	16,100	70
Oregon	25,311	20,300	80	27,900	22,400	80
Texas	7,104	(D)	(D)	4,253	(D)	(D)
Washington	104,960	61,000	58	96,250	55,000	57
Wisconsin	28,700	20,400	71	28,290	20,500	72
Other States ¹	-	3,100	(X)	-	1,800	(X)
Total	424,419	269,200	63	415,481	270,400	65
Klamath Basin ²	(NA)	5,800	(NA)	(NA)	5,600	(NA)

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Includes data withheld above.

² Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the total.

Potato Production and Stocks – 13 States: 2011-2020

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Production	December 1	February 1	April 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)				
2011	382,318	253,000	187,500	115,650	43,340
2012	410,367	271,500	204,600	(NA)	(NA)
2013	388,204	(NA)	(NA)	119,450	47,085
2014	399,118	267,500	206,600	139,200	63,535
2015	403,062	267,900	205,900	137,200	60,080
2016	412,688	275,800	213,000	142,600	67,570
2017	406,800	277,900	210,600	138,800	63,740
2018	414,359	279,300	212,800	144,700	70,370
2019 ¹	424,419	269,200	203,000	127,000	58,000
2020	415,481	270,400			

(NA) Not available.

¹ Beginning in 2019, production represents all potatoes.

Potato Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks – 13 States: December 1, 2019-2020

State	Potato types									
	Reds		Round whites		Long whites		Yellows		Russets	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
California	5	6	51	47	-	-	19	20	25	27
Colorado	3	4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	7	7	86	86
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	3	2	3	3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	91	92
Maine	5	4	35	39	(D)	1	(D)	4	56	52
Michigan	(D)	(D)	79	79	-	-	(D)	(D)	20	18
Minnesota	3	5	3	4	1	(D)	2	(D)	91	88
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	61	61	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	36	37
North Dakota	20	16	24	27	(D)	2	(D)	3	51	52
Oregon	(D)	(D)	2	2	(D)	2	(D)	(D)	91	92
Texas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	3	3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	3	3	92	89
Wisconsin	3	5	22	31	(D)	-	(D)	2	71	62
13 State average	4	4	12	13	1	1	2	3	81	79

- Represents zero.

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

Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 8 States: 2019-2021

[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, 2019	January 1, 2020	February 1, 2020	March 1, 2020	April 1, 2020	May 1, 2020	June 1, 2020	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	26,655	33,170	39,840	47,980	55,775	61,640	69,395	86,863
Maine	1,585	2,050	2,610	2,875	3,285	3,590	4,040	5,050
Washington and Oregon	34,755	42,045	49,685	59,535	67,325	71,280	78,895	94,700
Other States ¹	13,315	17,485	21,170	24,940	28,430	31,263	34,565	39,346
United States	76,310	94,750	113,305	135,330	154,815	167,773	186,895	225,959
Dehydrated ²	11,850	15,075	18,620	21,865	25,510	28,780	32,080	40,285

State	Current year	Following year						
	December 1, 2020	January 1, 2021	February 1, 2021	March 1, 2021	April 1, 2021	May 1, 2021	June 1, 2021	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	27,195							
Maine	1,475							
Washington and Oregon	31,930							
Other States ¹	11,340							
United States	71,940							
Dehydrated ²	13,140							

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

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

Accumulated Potato Shrinkage and Loss – 13 States: 2019-2021

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2019	January 1, 2020	February 1, 2020	March 1, 2020	April 1, 2020	May 1, 2020	June 1, 2020
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
2019	12,141	13,626	15,259	17,061	18,465	20,157	22,261
Crop year	Current year	Following year					
	December 1, 2020	January 1, 2021	February 1, 2021	March 1, 2021	April 1, 2021	May 1, 2021	June 1, 2021
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
2020	13,228						

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The December 1 potato stock estimates in this report are based primarily on a survey conducted in the first week of December in the potato producing States. The potato stocks survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of approximately 840 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* released in September.

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 1.6 percent. This means that chances are approximately 95 out of 100 that the survey estimates for stocks will be within plus or minus 3.2 percent of the value that could be developed by averaging the estimates produced from all possible samples selected from the same population and surveyed using the same procedures.

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@usda.gov

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Heidi Lanouette – Blueberries, Cranberries, Cucumbers, Pistachios, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Strawberries, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes	(202) 720-4285
Robert Little – Apricots, Dry Beans, Lettuce, Macadamia, Maple Syrup, Nectarines, Pears, Snap Beans, Spinach, Tomatoes	(202) 720-3250
Anastasiya Osborne – Almonds, Apples, Asparagus, Carrots, Coffee, Onions Plums, Prunes, Sweet Corn, Tobacco.....	(202) 720-4288
Krishna Rizal – Artichokes, Cauliflower, Celery, Garlic, Grapefruit, Hazelnuts, Kiwifruit, Lemons, Mandarins and tangerines, Mint, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges.....	(202) 720-5412
Dawn Smoker – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chickpeas, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Grapes, Hops, Pecans	(202) 720-4215
Fleming Gibson – Cantaloupes, Dry Edible Peas, Green Peas, Honeydews, Lentils, Papayas, Peaches, Sweet Cherries, Tart Cherries, Walnuts, Watermelons	(202) 720-2127

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