



# Potato Stocks

ISSN: 1949-1565

Released June 17, 2015, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Potato Stocks Up 20 Percent From June 2014

The 13 major potato States held 56.5 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2015, up 20 percent from June 2014. Potatoes in storage accounted for 14 percent of the 2014 fall storage States' production, 2 percentage points higher than last year. Potato disappearance, at 345 million cwt, was up 1 percent from June 1, 2014. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 25.8 million cwt, was 7 percent lower than last year. Processors in the 9 major States used 181 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 2 percent from June 2014.

## Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: June 1, 2014-2015

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2013 totaled 25.6 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2013			Crop of 2014			
	Production	Stocks June 1, 2014	June stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks April 1, 2015	Stocks June 1, 2015	June stocks as a percent of production
	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(percent)
California .....	3,504	(D)	(D)	4,038	700	(D)	(D)
Colorado .....	20,304	2,800	14	23,735	8,800	3,500	15
Idaho .....	131,131	20,000	15	135,920	50,000	24,000	18
Maine .....	15,660	(D)	(D)	15,150	5,500	2,200	15
Michigan .....	15,840	(D)	(D)	15,725	1,650	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	17,325	3,000	17	16,800	5,000	2,800	17
Montana .....	3,441	(D)	(D)	3,616	2,000	(D)	(D)
Nebraska .....	8,418	(D)	(D)	6,438	1,700	600	9
New York .....	4,959	(D)	(D)	4,424	500	(D)	(D)
North Dakota .....	22,620	1,800	8	24,255	7,400	2,700	11
Oregon .....	21,582	3,000	14	22,562	8,200	2,700	12
Washington .....	96,000	12,500	13	101,475	29,000	12,500	12
Wisconsin .....	26,040	1,300	5	27,090	8,700	4,500	17
Other States .....	(NA)	2,485	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	985	(NA)
Total .....	386,824	46,885	12	401,228	129,150	56,485	14
Klamath Basin <sup>1</sup> .....	(NA)	(D)	(X)	(NA)	1,500	(D)	(X)

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

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Included in the 13 States total.

## Fall Potato Production and Stocks - 13 Major States: 2005-2014

Crop year	Production	December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)							
2005 .....	375,118	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006 .....	389,527	258,900	225,800	192,200	159,500	120,900	79,050	44,460
2007 .....	397,753	265,500	232,300	199,300	163,400	125,500	83,960	50,420
2008 .....	369,866	243,700	213,200	183,900	152,700	115,800	78,100	45,300
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 .....	386,824	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	119,050	(NA)	46,885
2014 .....	401,228	267,400	(NA)	202,700	(NA)	129,150	(NA)	56,485

(NA) Not available.

## Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing - 9 States: 2012-2014

[Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced]

State and crop year	To December 1	To January 1	To February 1	To March 1	To April 1	To May 1	To June 1	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 Oregon, Malheur								
2012 .....	27,900	34,740	41,890	49,980	57,750	65,430	73,430	89,780
2013 .....	25,770	32,060	39,090	46,320	53,755	61,780	70,425	85,280
2014 .....	27,685	33,995	40,850	47,905	55,665	63,025	70,600	
Maine <sup>1</sup>								
2012 .....	1,890	2,380	3,005	3,600	4,290	5,075	5,740	7,720
2013 .....	1,570	1,990	2,510	3,060	3,680	4,240	4,800	6,315
2014 .....	1,410	1,845	2,415	2,925	3,475	3,980	4,445	
Washington and Oregon, Other								
2012 .....	31,295	37,730	43,820	51,765	57,915	64,500	70,470	80,400
2013 .....	31,575	37,990	45,420	52,690	59,025	64,905	72,325	80,655
2014 .....	31,870	37,190	42,715	50,380	57,340	64,525	72,365	
Other States <sup>2</sup>								
2012 .....	14,270	16,765	19,785	22,520	25,170	28,320	31,100	40,395
2013 .....	11,365	14,280	17,470	20,475	23,695	26,990	30,195	37,425
2014 .....	13,440	16,730	20,190	23,660	27,300	30,585	33,690	
Total								
2012 .....	75,355	91,615	108,500	127,865	145,125	163,325	180,740	218,295
2013 .....	70,280	86,320	104,490	122,545	140,155	157,915	177,745	209,675
2014 .....	74,405	89,760	106,170	124,870	143,780	162,115	181,100	
Dehydrated <sup>3</sup>								
2012 .....	13,965	17,640	22,000	26,105	30,135	34,610	38,945	47,305
2013 .....	12,065	15,875	19,835	23,380	27,140	31,095	34,895	44,385
2014 .....	12,935	16,170	19,770	23,450	26,845	30,915	34,820	

<sup>1</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.

<sup>2</sup> Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in Wisconsin.

<sup>3</sup> Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington.

## Potato Shrinkage and Loss - 13 Fall Storage States: 2011-2014

Crop year	To December 1	To January 1	To February 1	To March 1	To April 1	To May 1	To June 1
	(million cwt)						
2011 .....	13.7	16.4	18.8	20.8	22.9	24.5	25.9
2012 .....	13.8	16.4	18.9	NA	NA	NA	NA
2013 .....	NA	NA	NA	NA	21.9	25.0	27.6
2014 .....	14.2	16.6	18.2	20.4	22.1	24.0	25.8

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Potato stocks surveys are conducted in 13 major fall potato producing States, which account for 90 percent of the United States all potato production. Growers, processors, and storage facilities are contacted during the months of December, February, April, and June to obtain the quantity of potatoes stored as of the first of the month, as well as shrinkage and loss information. Processing data is collected in nine States (Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin).

**Estimating Procedures:** Information obtained from the potato stocks surveys along with 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, processing, and shrinkage and loss 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, will be thoroughly reviewed and any necessary revisions for the entire crop year will be published in the Potatoes Annual Summary.

**Reliability:** Survey indications are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding potato stocks are not included in the sample. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. 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.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the April 1 stocks estimate, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the June 1 stocks estimate and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 15 year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error". Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimate relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's estimate are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the June 1 stocks estimate is 8.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 56.5 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 8.5 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 14.8 percent.

Changes between the June 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates during the past 15 years have averaged 2.71 million cwt, ranging from 160,000 cwt to 8.46 million cwt. During the 15 year period, the June 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 9 times, and above 6 times.

### Fall Potato Preliminary and Final June 1 Stocks – United States: 2004-2014 Crop Years

Crop year	Preliminary stocks (1,000 cwt)	Percent of final (percent)	Final stocks (1,000 cwt)
2004 .....	51,000	98.6	51,700
2005 .....	39,960	96.2	41,560
2006 .....	38,830	87.3	44,460
2007 .....	58,390	115.8	50,420
2008 .....	44,770	98.8	45,300
2009 .....	51,300	93.1	55,120
2010 .....	35,450	85.8	41,320
2011 .....	43,930	101.4	43,340
2012 .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2013 .....	46,485	99.1	46,885
2014 .....	56,485	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch .....	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Vincent Davis – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries, Cherries .....	(202) 720-2157
Fleming Gibson – Citrus, Coffee, Grapes, Sugar Crops, Tropical Fruits .....	(202) 720-5412
Greg Lemmons – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Dave Losh – Hops .....	(360) 709-2400
Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans .....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schaubert – Floriculture, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts .....	(202) 720-4215
Chris Singh – Apples, Apricots, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).