



Potato Stocks

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Potato Stocks Down 7 Percent From April 2019 For Comparable States

The major potato States held 132 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2020, down 7 percent from April 1, 2019 for comparable States. Potatoes in storage accounted for 31 percent of the States' 2019 production. For comparable States, potatoes in storage accounted for 33 percent of the States' 2019 production, down 2 percent from the previous year. Potato disappearance, at 291 million cwt, was down 1 percent from April 1, 2019 for comparable States. Season-to-date shrink and loss was reported as 20.2 million cwt. Processors in the 8 major States used 155 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 3 percent from April 2019.

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

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2019 totaled 27.6 million cwt]

State	Crop of 2018			Crop of 2019			
	Production	Stocks April 1, 2019	April stocks as a percent of production	Production	Stocks February 1, 2020	Stocks April 1, 2020	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 ¹	3,212	900	28	18,601	1,600	600	3
Colorado	21,722	7,600	35	19,219	10,400	5,800	30
Florida ²	5,512	(NA)	(NA)	7,074	(D)	(D)	(D)
Idaho	141,750	57,000	40	130,900	73,000	49,000	37
Maine	15,035	4,700	31	16,223	9,500	6,300	39
Michigan	18,240	3,400	19	19,763	8,000	3,900	20
Minnesota	18,705	6,700	36	18,040	9,300	7,100	39
Montana ³	3,885	3,100	80	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Nebraska	9,264	2,300	25	9,456	3,800	2,600	27
New York ³	3,886	800	21	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
North Dakota	23,725	6,900	29	20,300	9,900	6,100	30
Oregon	27,000	9,800	36	25,144	14,300	8,900	35
Texas ²	7,438	(NA)	(NA)	6,825	(D)	(D)	(D)
Washington	100,800	29,500	29	103,125	46,500	29,500	29
Wisconsin	27,135	12,000	44	28,220	15,400	11,200	40
Other States ⁴	-	-	(X)	-	1,400	500	(X)
Total ⁵	414,359	144,700	35	422,890	203,100	131,500	31
Klamath Basin ⁶	(NA)	1,700	(NA)	(NA)	3,200	1,300	(NA)

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Prior to 2019, the production and stocks estimates represent fall potatoes. Beginning in 2019, they represent all potatoes.

² Estimates began in 2019.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2019.

⁴ Includes data withheld above.

⁵ For 2018, production total excludes Florida and Texas.

⁶ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the total.

Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: 2010-2019

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop year	Stocks							
	Production	December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	(1,000 cwt)							
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	388,204	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	119,450	(NA)	47,085
2014	399,118	267,500	(NA)	206,600	(NA)	139,200	(NA)	63,535
2015	403,062	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	414,359	279,300	(NA)	212,800	(NA)	144,700	(NA)	70,370
2019 ¹	422,890	266,400	(NA)	203,100	(NA)	131,500		

(NA) Not available.

¹ Prior to 2019, the production and stocks estimates represent fall potatoes. Beginning in 2019, they represent all potatoes.

Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 8 States: 2018-2020

[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, 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	25,325	32,020	39,495	47,395	55,250	63,225	71,340	95,974
Maine	1,470	1,890	2,400	2,870	3,450	3,870	4,290	5,050
Washington and Oregon	36,405	43,420	50,400	57,720	65,095	71,405	79,130	97,176
Other States ¹	10,643	15,048	18,836	23,479	27,079	30,423	34,392	40,470
United States	73,843	92,378	111,131	131,464	150,874	168,923	189,152	238,670
Dehydrated ²	13,810	17,065	20,775	24,420	28,315	32,620	36,660	47,648

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	33,155	39,840	48,100	55,965			
Maine	1,585	2,050	2,610	2,875	3,285			
Washington and Oregon	34,755	42,045	49,685	59,535	67,355			
Other States ¹	13,315	17,485	21,170	24,940	28,430			
United States	76,310	94,735	113,305	135,450	155,035			
Dehydrated ²	11,850	15,075	18,620	21,985	25,695			

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 Major States: 2018-2020

[Prior to 2019, the shrinkage and loss estimates represent fall potatoes. Beginning in 2019, they represent all potatoes. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

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
2018	(million cwt) 12.2	(million cwt) 13.8	(million cwt) 15.5	(million cwt) 17.2	(million cwt) 18.6	(million cwt) 20.2	(million cwt) 22.0
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
2019	(million cwt) 13.4	(million cwt) 14.9	(million cwt) 16.6	(million cwt) 18.7	(million cwt) 20.2		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The April 1 potato stocks estimate in this report are based primarily on a survey conducted in the first week of April in the potato producing States. The potato stocks survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of approximately 885 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 2.8 percent. This means that chances are approximately 95 out of 100 that survey estimates for stocks will be within plus or minus 5.6 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

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Joshua Bates – Almonds, Apples, Apricots, Asparagus, Carrots, Coffee, Onions, Plums, Prunes, Sweet Corn, Tobacco	(202) 720-4288
Fleming Gibson – Cauliflower, Celery, Grapefruit, Lemons, Macadamia, Mandarins and tangerines, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges	(202) 720-5412
Greg Lemmons – Cranberries, Cucumbers, Pistachios, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Strawberries, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes, Tame Blueberries, Wild Blueberries.....	(202) 720-4285
Dan Norris – Artichokes, Cantaloupes, Dry Edible Peas, Green Peas, Lentils, Nectarines, Papayas, Peaches, Snap Beans, Spinach, Walnuts, Watermelons	(202) 720-3250
Krishna Rizal – Dry Beans, Garlic, Hazelnuts, Honeydews, Kiwifruit, Lettuce, Maple Syrup, Mint, Pears, Sweet Cherries, Tart Cherries, Tomatoes	(202) 720-2157
Dawn Smoker – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chickpeas, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Grapes, Hops, Pecans	(202) 720-4215

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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@usda.gov.

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USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT**

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold a virtual meeting for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2020 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php). Contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or vernita.murray@usda.gov or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or patricia.snipe@usda.gov for information.