



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

April 29, 2020 - Vol. 20, No. 8

Inside This Issue:

- Specialty Cheese Production
- Dairy Products Annual Summary
- Chickens & Eggs
- Milk Production

The Wisconsin Farm Reporter is compiled from data and reports released by the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

All NASS data and reports are available free at www.nass.usda.gov

SPECIALTY CHEESE PRODUCTION Wisconsin, 2018 and 2019

Type	2018 number of producers	2018 revised production (1,000 lbs.)	2019 number of producers	2019 production (1,000 lbs.)	Change in production from 2018 (percent)
Asiago	14	28,882	14	33,007	+14
Cheddar ¹	45	28,681	44	30,216	+5
Farmers	13	1,475	11	1,088	-26
Feta	9	102,505	10	101,035	-1
Gorgonzola	9	18,007	8	16,547	-8
Gouda	29	14,188	28	14,458	+2
Italian Fontina	12	11,447	11	10,047	-12
Havarti	12	40,455	12	43,209	+7
Hispanic	15	93,395	16	98,242	+5
Limburger	1	464	1	365	-21
Monterey Jack ¹	15	9,392	16	13,126	+40
Parmesan Wheel	6	70,948	6	74,656	+5
Romano Wheel	8	9,516	6	9,773	+3
All Other ²	54	373,378	51	372,507	0
Total ³	99	802,732	96	818,276	+2

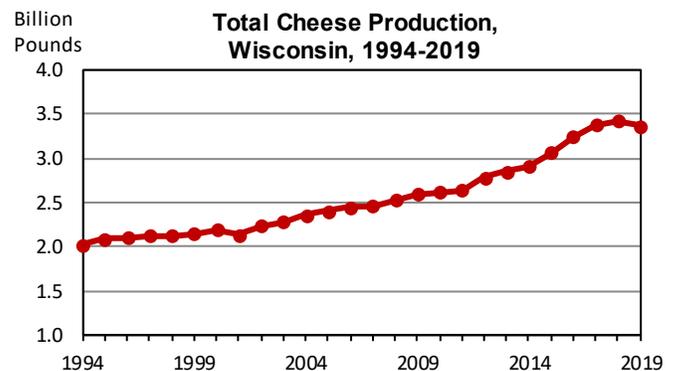
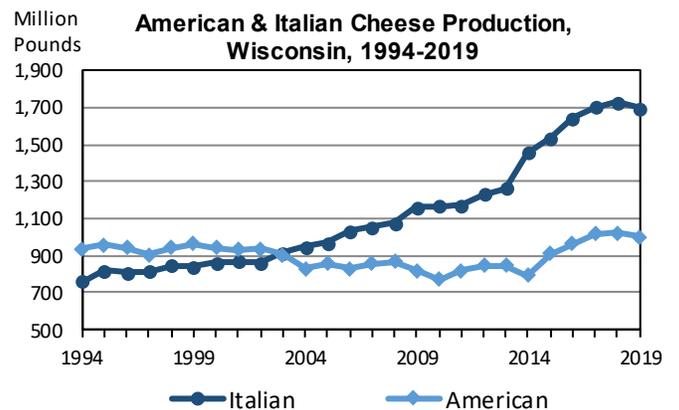
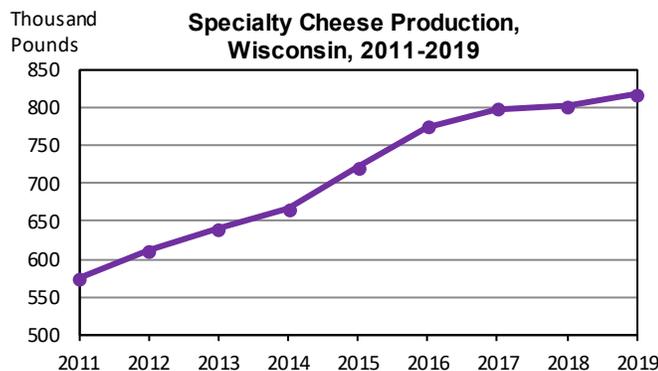
¹ Includes only specialty types of this variety. ² Combined to avoid disclosure of individual plant data. Includes: Alpine, American Grana, Auribella, Bel Paese, Blue, Brie and Camembert, Butterkase, Edam, Fior di Latte, Fontinella, Gruyere, other specialty Italian, Italic, Juustoleipa, Kasser, Mascarpone, Middle Eastern cheeses, Morning Sun, specialty Mozzarella, other specialty Parmesan, Pepato, Peperon, specialty Provolone, other specialty Romano, Soft-ripened, specialty Swiss, Tvarog Polish, and Yogurt cheese. ³ Total cheese plants producing one or more specialty cheeses. ⁴ Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

Wisconsin Specialty Cheese Production Up 2 Percent

With 26 percent of the nation's total cheese production, Wisconsin maintained its ranking as the nation's top cheese producing state in 2019. At 818 million pounds, specialty cheese accounted for 24 percent of Wisconsin's total cheese production. This was an increase of 15.5 million pounds over 2018.

Ninety-six of the State's 127 cheese plants manufactured at least one type of specialty cheese during 2019. Blue, Feta, Havarti, Hispanic types, specialty Mozzarella, and Parmesan Wheel remain the most popular varieties. Production of specialty varieties of Monterey Jack rose 40 percent over the previous year, while Asiago production was up 14 percent.

Wisconsin cheese makers are known for offering a wide variety of high quality specialty cheeses. A specialty cheese is a value-added product which commands a premium price. According to the Wisconsin Specialty Cheese Institute, the nature of specialty cheese is derived from one or more unique qualities, such as exotic origin, particular processing or design, limited supply, unusual application or use, and extraordinary packaging or channel of sale. The common denominator is its very high quality.



Cheese Production: Wisconsin, 2015-2019

Year	Total cheese ¹	Total American ²	Hispanic	Muenster	Italian	Mozzarella	Swiss
<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>							
2015.....	3,069,641	909,749	77,197	60,935	1,537,095	1,051,136	16,651
2016.....	3,248,440	963,413	85,403	60,232	1,642,286	1,092,440	18,201
2017.....	3,376,769	1,016,702	90,982	61,690	1,703,029	1,110,105	16,664
2018.....	3,422,961	1,025,840	93,395	61,871	1,729,627	1,138,200	17,377
2019.....	3,363,863	1,003,082	98,242	63,837	1,698,941	1,110,363	16,974

¹Includes cream cheese and other miscellaneous types of cheese. Does not include cottage cheese. ²Includes Cheddar, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, and Monterey Jack.

American Cheese Production, By Style: Wisconsin, 2019

Style	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>	Percent of total ¹
American Cheddar		
40-lb block.....	252,377	25.1
640-lb block.....	299,527	29.9
Other types ²	160,691	16.0
Colby.....	80,962	8.1
Monterey Jack.....	209,525	20.9
Total American types.....	1,003,082	100.0

¹ Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding. ² Includes barrels.

Italian Cheese Production, By Style: Wisconsin, 2019

Style	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>	Percent of total ¹
Hard		
Asiago.....	33,007	1.9
Parmesan.....	223,017	13.1
Provolone.....	208,042	12.3
Romano.....	29,168	1.7
Soft		
Mozzarella.....	1,110,363	65.4
All other.....	95,344	5.6
Total Italian.....	1,698,941	100.0

¹ Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Processed Cheese And Cheese Foods: Wisconsin, 2015-2019

Year	Processed cheese	Processed cheese foods & spreads	Cold pack cheese and cheese food
<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>			
2015.....	665,990	264,920	29,135
2016.....	703,388	184,271	21,867
2017.....	716,886	161,199	25,813
2018.....	694,099	162,822	24,647
2019.....	582,021	336,670	25,116

Whey Products: Wisconsin, 2015-2019

Year	Dry whey		Total lactose	Whey protein concentrate
	Human	Animal		
<i>(1,000 pounds solids)</i>				
2015.....	308,562	4,076	221,184	107,410
2016.....	312,946	4,390	259,609	103,949
2017.....	345,567	3,795	278,454	107,971
2018.....	319,747	6,240	285,464	109,894
2019.....	285,831	4,791	260,280	105,503

Total Cheese, Excluding Cottage Cheese: Wisconsin, 2019

Ranges of Annual Production	State Plants	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>
Less than 1 million pounds.....	34	4,800
1 to 4.99 million pounds.....	22	55,282
5 to 9.99 million pounds.....	17	129,676
10 to 24.99 million pounds.....	13	233,191
25 million pounds and over.....	41	2,940,914
Total.....	127	3,363,863

Cheddar Cheese: Wisconsin, 2019

Ranges of Annual Production ¹	State Plants	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>
Less than 1 million pounds.....	41	8,568
1 to 9.99 million pounds.....	11	27,116
10 million pounds and over.....	17	676,911
Total.....	69	712,595

¹Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Cheddar production.

Italian Cheese: Wisconsin, 2019

Ranges of Annual Production ¹	State Plants	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>
Less than 1 million pounds.....	21	4,005
1 to 19.99 million pounds.....	12	89,457
20 million pounds and over.....	26	1,605,479
Total.....	59	1,698,941

¹Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Italian production.

Mozzarella Cheese: Wisconsin, 2019

Ranges of Annual Production ¹	State Plants	Production <i>(1,000 lbs)</i>
Less than 1 million pounds.....	13	3,131
1 to 19.99 million pounds.....	8	42,085
20 million pounds and over.....	16	1,065,147
Total.....	37	1,110,363

1. Plant qualifies for a certain range based only on its Mozzarella production.

Chickens and Eggs

Wisconsin **egg production** during March 2020 was 188 million eggs, up 11 percent from last month and last year. The average number of **all layers on hand** during March 2020 was 7.42 million, up 4 percent from last month and up 2 percent from last year. **Eggs per 100 layers** for March were 2,532, up 6 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 9.53 billion during March 2020, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 8.29 billion table eggs, and 1.24 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.15 billion were broiler-type and 90.3 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during March 2020 totaled 395 million, down 3 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,411 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2019.

Total layers in the United States on April 1, 2020 totaled 396 million, down 3 percent from last year. The 396 million layers consisted of 331 million layers producing table or market type

eggs, 61.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.40 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2020, averaged 78.0 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from April 1, 2019.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2020 totaled 55.9 million, up slightly from March 2019. Eggs in incubators totaled 57.6 million on April 1, 2020, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 322 thousand during March 2020, up 70 percent from March 2019.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2020 totaled 855 million, up 2 percent from March 2019. Eggs in incubators totaled 710 million on April 1, 2020, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During March 2019 and 2020

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 & above		All layers on hand		Eggs per 100 layers		Total egg production		Table egg production	
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
	<i>(1,000 layers)</i>				<i>(eggs)</i>		<i>(million eggs)</i>			
Alabama	1,421	1,425	10,203	10,697	1,901	1,935	194.0	207.0	35.2	36.4
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	14,998	15,208	2,027	2,017	304.0	306.8	(D)	(D)
California	12,931	13,121	13,639	13,789	2,401	2,489	327.5	343.2	(D)	(D)
Colorado	4,391	4,608	4,904	5,116	2,571	2,594	126.1	132.7	(D)	(D)
Georgia	9,981	9,191	20,513	19,771	2,135	2,173	438.0	429.6	242.2	229.9
Illinois	6,077	5,508	6,615	6,082	2,237	2,496	148.0	151.8	145.5	147.4
Indiana	34,028	33,627	35,304	34,886	2,507	2,525	885.2	880.9	868.1	864.6
Iowa	57,502	53,771	59,229	55,663	2,414	2,489	1,429.8	1,385.4	1,408.2	1,360.6
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	5,733	5,817	2,226	2,264	127.6	131.7	(D)	(D)
Maryland	2,512	2,467	2,704	2,665	2,548	2,552	68.9	68.0	67.6	66.6
Michigan	15,943	14,177	16,257	14,472	2,483	2,510	403.6	363.3	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	10,582	7,900	11,151	8,445	2,516	2,612	280.6	220.6	272.3	212.8
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	5,706	5,729	2,114	2,114	120.6	121.1	(D)	(D)
Missouri	7,854	7,558	12,845	12,725	2,436	2,491	312.9	317.0	278.2	280.5
Nebraska	8,211	7,871	8,491	8,477	2,527	2,496	214.6	211.6	209.4	199.4
New York	4,959	5,065	5,506	5,616	2,621	2,591	144.3	145.5	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	6,276	7,007	14,909	15,746	2,132	2,136	317.9	336.4	157.8	175.8
Ohio	36,177	34,683	37,376	35,895	2,547	2,485	951.8	892.1	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	3,069	2,889	1,952	1,983	59.9	57.3	(D)	(D)
Oregon	2,184	2,108	2,377	2,279	2,541	2,554	60.4	58.2	60.4	58.2
Pennsylvania	27,131	28,356	29,651	30,945	2,454	2,544	727.5	787.2	697.6	756.1
South Carolina	2,972	2,575	4,259	3,909	2,343	2,228	99.8	87.1	77.1	63.6
South Dakota	2,795	2,687	2,850	2,742	2,488	2,702	70.9	74.1	70.9	74.1
Texas	(D)	(D)	22,574	22,978	2,332	2,276	526.4	523.0	(D)	(D)
Utah	4,777	4,390	4,829	4,442	2,618	2,591	126.4	115.1	126.4	115.1
Virginia	922	767	2,774	2,583	2,199	2,218	61.0	57.3	30.5	25.8
Washington	6,764	6,425	6,929	6,589	2,670	2,629	185.0	173.2	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	6,184	6,301	7,298	7,416	2,328	2,532	169.9	187.8	163.9	181.5
Other States ¹	26,874	25,710	32,979	31,741	2,402	2,412	792.2	765.5	715.0	689.0
United States ²	327,245	314,888	405,672	395,312	2,385	2,411	9,674.8	9,530.5	8,469.9	8,290.5

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. ¹ Includes data for States not published in this table. ²Data may not add to totals due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some states to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals.

Milk Production

Milk production in Wisconsin during March 2020 totaled 2.61 billion pounds, down less than 1 percent from the previous March. The average number of milk cows during March, at 1.26 million head, was the same as last month but down 10,000 from last year. Monthly production per cow averaged 2,070 pounds, up 15 pounds from last March.

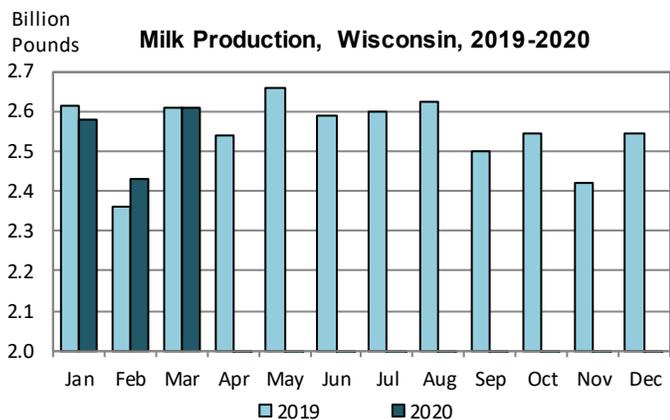
Milk production in the 24 major States during March totaled 18.3 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from March 2019. February revised production at 17.0 billion pounds, was up 5.6 percent from February 2019. The February revision represented a decrease of 7 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Adjusting February production for the additional day due to leap year causes February revised production to be up 1.9 percent on a per day basis. Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 2,072 pounds for March, 34 pounds above March 2019. The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.85 million head, 64,000 head more than March 2019, and 5,000 head more than February 2020.

Milk production in the United States during the January - March quarter totaled 56.0 billion pounds, up 2.9 percent from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.37 million head, 27,000 head more than the October - December quarter, and 26,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production, Selected States, March 2019 and 2020

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Production ²		Change from 2019
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	
	(thousand head)		(pounds)		(million pounds)		(percent)
Arizona	201	197	2,195	2,225	441	438	-0.7
California	1,726	1,723	2,070	2,100	3,573	3,618	+1.3
Colorado	182	193	2,200	2,230	400	430	+7.5
Florida	116	115	1,880	1,875	218	216	-0.9
Georgia	82	82	2,010	2,025	165	166	+0.6
Idaho	618	647	2,095	2,105	1,295	1,362	+5.2
Illinois	84	82	1,880	1,940	158	159	+0.6
Indiana	180	176	1,985	2,045	357	360	+0.8
Iowa	219	218	2,075	2,110	454	460	+1.3
Kansas	163	170	1,970	2,030	321	345	+7.5
Michigan	425	428	2,285	2,320	971	993	+2.3
Minnesota	448	445	1,880	1,910	842	850	+1.0
New Mexico	322	332	2,210	2,195	712	729	+2.4
New York	627	626	2,055	2,100	1,288	1,315	+2.1
Ohio	251	253	1,855	1,915	466	484	+3.9
Oregon	122	125	1,780	1,775	217	222	+2.3
Pennsylvania	495	485	1,795	1,870	889	907	+2.0
South Dakota	124	129	1,895	1,945	235	251	+6.8
Texas	557	590	2,125	2,180	1,184	1,286	+8.6
Utah	98	98	1,940	1,960	190	192	+1.1
Vermont	126	124	1,855	1,870	234	232	-0.9
Virginia	76	75	1,760	1,830	134	137	+2.2
Washington	277	280	2,030	2,070	562	580	+3.2
Wisconsin	1,270	1,260	2,055	2,070	2,610	2,608	-0.1
24-State Total	8,789	8,853	2,038	2,072	17,916	18,340	2.4

¹Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. ²Excludes milk sucked by calves.



The Wisconsin Farm Reporter has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection.

Media contact: Greg Bussler
 USDA, NASS, Upper Midwest Region,
 Wisconsin Field office

(800)789-9277
 (608)224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>