

## Dairy Industry Economic Impact

# Georgia

**FUEL UP  
WITH MILK**  
JUNE DAIRY MONTH

The Georgia dairy industry generated an estimated \$1,191.7 million in economic activity in 2008.

Georgia ranked 25th in milk production, 26th in number of milk cows, and 32nd in milk output per cow during 2008 in the U.S.

Georgia had 6 milk processing plants. Three were located in Atlanta; Baxley, Braselton and Moultrie had one each.

Total amount of milk produced in the state during 2008 amounted 161.31 million gallons (or 1,355 million pounds of milk).

There were 270 licensed commercial dairy farms operating in Georgia during 2008. There were no (0) Grade B or Grade C dairy farms.

In Georgia, cash receipts for the sale of milk by dairy farmers amounted to \$283.7 million during 2008.

There were an estimated 76,000 milk cows on dairy farms in the state during 2008.

Each dairy cow in Georgia produced an average of 2,123 gallons of milk in 2008.

In Georgia, about 80 percent of the milk produced in 2008 was used and consumed in the form of fluid milk dairy products.

In 2008, Georgia dairy cows produced an average of 5.82 gallons of milk per day, or enough to make 4.93 pounds of cheese or 2.33 pounds of butter. To produce this much milk, a cow consumes 35 gallons of water, 20 pounds of grain and feed concentrates and 55 pounds of corn silage.

The average value of a day's milk was about \$10.23 per cow during 2008. Sales of other products associated with the dairy may add another \$2.30 per cow per day.

In 2008, a dairy cow in Georgia cost about \$2,100 per head. A typical Georgia dairy farm has a herd of 281 milking cows.

The top ranking dairy counties according to the number of Grade A dairy farms in 2008 were:

Macon County, with 39 dairy farms  
Morgan County, with 30 dairy farms  
Putnam County, with 29 dairy farms  
Greene County, with 15 dairy farms  
Jefferson County, with 11 dairy farms

The top ranking counties for milk production during 2008 were:

Macon County, 214.6 million pounds  
Putnam County, 111.7 million pounds  
Morgan County, 84.9 million pounds  
Appling County, 82.8 million pounds

**SUDIA**

The Southeast  
United Dairy Industry  
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