

Mississippi



Dairy Industry Economic Impact

Mississippi ranked 41st in milk production, 37th in number of milk cows, 47th in milk output per cow and 37th in number of licensed dairy operations during 2010 in the United States.

Mississippi had two milk processing plants operating during 2010 that were located in Hattiesburg and Kosciusko.

Total amount of milk produced in the state during 2010 amounted to 25.93 million gallons (or 223 million pounds of milk).

In Mississippi, cash receipts for the sale of milk by dairy farmers amounted to \$40.7 million during 2010.

There were an estimated 17,000 milk cows on dairy farms in the state during 2010.

Each dairy cow in Mississippi produced an average of 1,525 gallons of milk in 2010.

In Mississippi, about 100 percent of the milk produced in 2010 was used and consumed in the form of fluid milk dairy foods.

In 2010, Mississippi dairy cows produced an average of 4.18 gallons of milk per day, or enough to make 3.34 pounds of cheese or 1.74 pounds of butter. To produce this much milk, an average cow consumes 50 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 \$6.61 per cow during 2010. Sales of other products associated with the dairy may add another \$1.65 per cow per day.

In 2010, a dairy cow in Mississippi cost about \$1,300 per head. A typical Mississippi dairy farm has a herd of 131 milking cows.

The top six ranking dairy counties according to the number of Grade A dairy farms during 2010 were:

Walthall County, with 15 dairy farms
Marion County, with 15 dairy farms
Lincoln County, with 11 dairy farms

Copiah County, with 7 dairy farms
Five other Counties, with 4 dairy farms

The top six ranking counties for milk production during 2010 were:

Marion County, 2.7 million pounds
Lincoln County, 1.4 million pounds
Marshall County, 1.4 million pounds

Walthall County, 1.3 million pounds
Pike County, 1.1 million pounds
Newton County, 830 thousand pounds