

Louisiana



Dairy Industry Economic Impact

Louisiana ranked 40th in milk production, 35th in number of milk cows, 50th in milk output per cow and 31st in number of licensed dairy operations during 2010 in the United States.

Louisiana had six milk processing plants operating during 2010 that were located in Baker, Baton Rouge, Hammond, Lafayette, New Orleans and Shreveport.

Total amount of milk produced in the state during 2010 amounted to 27.33 million gallons (or 235 million pounds of milk).

In Louisiana, cash receipts for the sale of milk by dairy farmers amounted to \$41.4 million during 2010.

There were an estimated 20,000 milk cows on dairy farms in the state during 2010.

Each dairy cow in Louisiana produced an average of 1,366 gallons of milk in 2010.

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

In 2010, Louisiana dairy cows produced an average of 3.74 gallons of milk per day, or enough to make 2.99 pounds of cheese or 1.59 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 \$5.79 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 Louisiana cost about \$1,260 per head. A typical Louisiana dairy farm has a herd of 133 milking cows.

Louisiana's top six ranking dairy parishes according to the number of Grade A dairy farms during 2010 were:

Tangipahoa Parish, with 65 dairy farms
Washington Parish, with 43 dairy farms
St. Helena Parish, with 12 dairy farms

De Soto Parish, with 5 dairy farms
Sabine Parish, with 4 dairy farms
No Other Parishes with at least 3 farms

Louisiana's top six ranking milk producing parishes for 2010 were:

Tangipahoa Parish, 8.4 million pounds
Washington Parish, 5.7 million pounds
St. Helena Parish, 2.4 million pounds

De Soto Parish, 940,000 pounds
Sabine Parish, 610,000 pounds
No Other Parishes with at least 3 farms