

Kentucky



Dairy Industry Economic Impact

Kentucky ranked 27th in milk production, 25th in number of milk cows, 43th in milk output per cow and 12th in number of licensed dairy operations during 2010 in the United States.

Kentucky had eight fluid milk processing plants operating during 2010 located in Fulton, London, Louisville, Madisonville, Murray, Newport, Somerset and Winchester.

Total amount of milk produced in the state during 2010 amounted 134.53 million gallons (or 1,157 million pounds of milk).

In Kentucky, cash receipts for the sale of milk by dairy farmers amounted to \$204.1 million during 2010.

There were an estimated 78,000 milk cows on dairy farms in the state during 2010.

Each dairy cow in Kentucky produced an average of 1,725 gallons of milk in 2010.

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

In 2010, Kentucky dairy cows produced an average of 4.73 gallons of milk per day, or enough to make 3.78 pounds of cheese or 1.97 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 \$7.27 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 Kentucky cost about \$1,410 per head. A typical Kentucky dairy farm has a herd of 83 milking cows.

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

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

Christian County, with 64 dairy farms
Barren County, with 58 dairy farms
Todd County, with 45 dairy farms

Metcalf County, with 37 dairy farms
Hart County, with 32 dairy farms
Adair County, with 29 dairy farms

Barren County, 12.1 million pounds
Logan County, 7.5 million pounds
Warren County, 5.2 million pounds

Metcalf County, 3.8 million pounds
Todd County, 3.7 million pounds
Christian County, 3.0 million pounds