

	Farms reporting	Dollars	Percent
Livestock, poultry, and their products sold	1,367,291	\$27,896,509,036	100
Poultry and poultry products	196,643	3,906,912,457	14
Dairy products	360,102	5,417,798,133	19
Dairy cattle and calves	332,403	930,825,316	3
Other cattle and calves	948,728	13,086,549,070	47
Hogs, sheep, and goats	610,470	4,354,869,503	16
Other livestock and livestock products	70,692	199,554,557	1

The production of milk is largely concentrated in the Northeast, The Great Lakes area, and California. These 16 States accounted for 63 percent of the total value of dairy products sold from class 1-5 farms in 1969, and had 58 percent of the class 1-5 farms reporting dairy products sold in the United States.

Milk cows on farms		
	Number	Percent
1969		
United States	11,174,521	100
The Northeast	2,022,877	18
The North Central	5,396,943	48
The South	2,442,385	22
The West	1,312,316	12
1964		
United States	14,622,604	100
The Northeast	2,533,397	17
The North Central	7,326,656	50
The South	3,190,520	22
The West	1,572,031	11

The number of farms reporting milk cows declined by almost 50 percent from 1964 to 1969. About 568,000 U.S. farms had milk cows in 1969, compared with some 1.1 million in 1964 and 1.8 million in 1959. The steady decline in the number of farms keeping milk cows has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in size of the remaining milk cow herds; therefore, today's milk supply is being produced by fewer, but larger herds. This has been made possible by technological advancements in the form of new equipment and facilities which permitted the small milk-cow herds to be expanded considerably. Therefore, producers who have been able and willing to invest in new equipment and facilities have greatly increased the size of their operations. Small milk-cow herds which once played an important role in milk production, have been declining rapidly in number, and seem to be headed in the direction of further reduction. The number of milk cows has been steadily declining since their peak in 1940, and the number, beginning in 1959, has been smaller than the number in 1900.

From 1959 to 1969, the number of milk cows declined more than 5.4 million or an average of 540,000 per year. Increases in

milk production per cow, attractiveness of other types of farming, increasing off-farm employment of farm operators and members of their families, and technological developments eliminating small-sized-milk producing units have contributed to both decline in milk cows and to the decrease in the number of farms producing milk for sale.

In 1964, more than 588,000 class 1-5 farms were selling dairy products; by 1969, the number of farms had decreased by 228,000 to 360,000. While the number of farms with milk cows and the number of farms producing milk has declined, the size of the remaining producing units has increased. The number of farms having less than 10 milk cows declined from over 2 million in 1954 to 278,000 in 1969. There were approximately one-half as many farms with 10 to 19 milk cows in 1969 as in 1964. There was a decrease of 42 percent from 1964 to 1969 in the number of farms with less than 20 milk cows. The number of farms with 30 milk cows and over decreased from 147,000 in 1964 to 132,000 in 1969. However, there has been a continuing increase in the number of farms with more than 200 milk cows over the past 10 years. These farms increased 13.4 percent from 1964 to 1969.

Table 12. Milk Cows—Inventory—by Number of Milk Cows Per Farm: 1954 to 1969

	1969		1964		1959 ¹		1954 ¹	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farms reporting								
Farms with milk cows, total all farms	568,237	100.0	1,133,912	100.0	1,836,785	100.0	2,956,900	100.0
Milk cows per farm:								
Under 30	435,798	76.7	986,418	87.0	1,712,884	93.3	2,862,204	96.8
1 to 4	223,711	39.4	572,649	50.5	1,057,828	57.6	1,800,443	60.9
5 to 9	54,677	9.6	139,231	12.3	252,467	13.7	494,371	16.7
10 to 19	84,194	14.8	160,315	14.1	281,740	14.2	417,676	14.1
20 to 29	73,216	12.9	114,223	10.1	140,849	7.7	149,714	5.1
30 to 49	84,118	14.8	100,871	8.9	89,338	4.9	70,948	2.4
50 to 99	38,467	6.8	37,633	3.3	27,969	1.5	19,026	0.6
100 to 199	7,368	1.3	6,698	0.6	4,900	0.3		
200 and over	2,486	0.4	2,192	0.2	1,694	0.1	4,722	0.2
Milk cows (thousands)								
Total	11,175	100.0	14,623	100.0	16,824	100.0	(NA)	(NA)
Milk cows per farm:								
Under 30	3,727	33.3	6,897	47.2	10,584	62.9	(NA)	(NA)
1 to 4	389	3.5	1,009	7.0	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
5 to 9	370	3.3	934	6.4	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
10 to 19	1,221	10.9	2,237	15.3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
20 to 29	1,747	15.6	2,717	18.6	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
30 to 49	3,116	27.9	3,701	25.3	3,247	19.3	(NA)	(NA)
50 to 99	2,447	21.9	2,385	16.3	1,784	10.6	(NA)	(NA)
100 to 199	938	8.4	858	5.9			(NA)	(NA)
200 and over	947	8.5	782	5.3	1,208	7.2	(NA)	(NA)

¹Data for continental United States are based on reports for only a sample of farms for 1959 and 1954.

²Includes data for all abnormal farms with more than 9 milk cows.

The value of dairy products sold increased, on class 1-5 farms, from \$4,637 million in 1964 to \$5,418 million in 1969. A