



12 December 2013

Availability & usage of milk by dairies in England & Wales – October 2013

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Key points

This release shows the latest monthly information on the volume of milk used by dairies in England and Wales for the production of a range of liquid milk and milk products.

The key results for October 2013 are given below:

- The intake of raw whole milk was 863 million litres, a 16.3 per cent increase on the same period last year.
- 370 million litres of whole milk and 95 million litres of skim milk were used for liquid milk.
- 195 million litres of whole milk and 27 million litres of skim milk were used for cheese production.

This monthly release will be updated at 09:30 on 16 January 2014.

A dataset for England & Wales and UK level information is available on the Defra website:
[Availability and usage of milk: E&W and UK.](#)

A dataset of size distributions showing the structure of UK dairy companies is now also available for 2012, 2009 and 2006 on the above website.

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Section 1: Availability & usage of milk by dairies in England and Wales

Table 1 shows the volume of milk used by dairies in England and Wales for the production of a range of milk products during October 2013. The majority of milk is used to make liquid milk and cheese, with small amounts being used for cream, yogurt and other milk products.

Table 1:
Availability & usage of milk by dairies in England and Wales – October 2013 (a)(b)

	Whole milk ('000 litres)	Skim milk ('000 skim litres)	Cream ('000 cream litres)
Total Availability	643,853	207,944	38,267
Intake	863,041	13,820	13,203
Separation			
Total separated	-219,187	-	-
Obtained from separation	-	194,123	25,064
Total Usage	643,853	207,944	38,267
Liquid milk	370,504	95,278	-
Butter	-	-	17,381
Cheese	195,474	26,974	1,647
Cheddar	156,921	..	..
Other long life territorials	14,895	..	..
Cheshire	..	..	..
Other short life territorials (c)	9,606	..	..
Blue vein	10,150	..	..
Other cheese	3,903	..	..
Cream			
48% fat and over	-	-	7,857
29% to 48% fat	-	-	5,438
under 29% fat	-	-	1,179
Other (inc. powders, yoghurt & condensed milk)	34,422	84,594	1,637
Sub sales to other organisations	44,352	1,837	4,702
Stock change and wastage	-899	-740	-1,574

(a) “..” denotes not available. To protect the confidentiality of individual respondents it is not possible to publish all the data that are collected.

(a) “-” denotes not applicable.

(b) Due to rounding, totals may not agree with the sum of the individual items.

(c) This month the volume of whole milk used for Cheshire cheese is not available, to protect confidentiality of individual respondents. The volume of milk used is included with ‘Other short life territorials’.

Section 2: Methodology, Notes and Revisions Policy

1. The information in this release is used by the UK government and the EU as evidence for assessing market conditions and evaluating agricultural policy. Statistics on milk used by dairies in the production of drinking milk and milk products is required by the EU under Council Directive 96/16EC (and subsequent amendments). Other users include the food and farming industry, academia and the general public. Our contact details are available on the front page of this notice for you to send feedback or ask questions about the information provided.
2. The statistics presented in this release are from the monthly survey of milk availability and usage by dairies in England and Wales. It is a voluntary sample survey with 30 dairies sampled monthly and an additional 28 dairies surveyed quarterly. The response rate is regularly 100 per cent. Monthly estimates are made for the dairies which are only sampled quarterly.
3. The 58 dairies in this survey population cover approximately 90 per cent of the total milk available for processing (according to Rural Payments Agency data on the total volume of milk delivered to dairies). The figures are not raised to account for the remaining 10 per cent of milk deliveries.
4. Similar surveys are run by RERAD in Scotland and DARD in Northern Ireland, though their surveys account for all milk used by dairies in Scotland and Northern Ireland.
5. The data are subject to a variety of validation checks which identify inconsistencies in the data. All data are cleaned prior to publication in discussion with the survey respondents.

Revisions policy

6. Figures in this release are provisional and subject to revision. We will provide information about any revisions we make to previously published information in this statistics release, and the associated datasets. Revisions could occur for various reasons, including:
 - a) if we have not received survey data from respondents we make an estimate based on their previous returns. These estimates are replaced with actual figures when they are received.
 - b) survey respondents occasionally supply amended figures for previous periods.
7. **This month there are minor revisions to previously published figures from April to August 2013 due to improved estimates for non-responses and for September 2013 due to revised survey data.**