



13 June 2013

Utilisation of milk by dairies in England & Wales – April 2013

Contents

Section 1	England & Wales milk utilisation	page 2
Section 2	Methodology, notes and revisions policy	page 3

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 April 2013 are given below:

- The intake of raw whole milk was 765 million litres, an 11 per cent decrease on the same period last year.
- 331 million litres of whole milk and 98 million litres of skim milk were used for liquid milk.
- 193 million litres of whole milk and 26 million litres of skim milk were used for cheese production.

This monthly notice will be updated at 09:30 on 11 July 2013.

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Section 1: Utilisation of milk by Dairies in England and Wales – April 2013

Table 1 shows the volume of milk used by dairies in England and Wales for the production of a range of milk products during April 2013. This survey regularly accounts for over 95% of the milk available for processing in England and Wales. The majority of the remaining milk is used to make liquid milk and cheese, with small amounts being used for cream, yogurt and other milk products.

Table 1: Utilisation of milk by Dairies in England and Wales – April 2013 (a)(b)

	Whole milk ('000 litres)	Skim milk ('000 skim litres)	Cream ('000 cream litres)
Total Available	575,955	169,224	45,339
Intake	764,779	12,216	13,521
Separation			
Total separated	-188,825	..	..
Obtained from separation	..	157,008	31,817
Total Disposals	575,955	169,224	45,339
Liquid milk	331,479	97,784	..
Butter	..	..	19,530
Cheese	192,816	25,918	1,661
Cheddar	153,718	..	..
Other long life territorials	19,006	..	..
Cheshire (c)	..	..	..
Other short life territorials (c)	7,278	..	..
Blue vein	7,542	..	..
Other cheese	5,272	..	..
Cream			
48% fat and over	..	..	11,016
29% to 48% fat	..	..	5,338
under 29% fat	..	..	2,172
Other (inc. powders, yoghurt & condensed milk)	27,511	45,367	2,098
Sub sales to other organisations	15,139	1,345	4,664
Stock change and wastage	9,008	-1,190	-1,140

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

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

(c) This month whole milk used for Cheshire cheese is confidential. The milk used is included with ‘Other short life territorials’.

Section 2: Methodology, Notes and Revisions Policy

1. The information in this notice 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 19/16EC (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. Defra runs a regular survey of milk utilisation by dairies in England and Wales. It is a voluntary sample survey with 32 monthly respondents and 29 quarterly respondents. The response rate is regularly 100 per cent. The figures presented in this notice are aggregated totals for these respondents. The figures are not raised to account for all the milk delivered to dairies in England and Wales. 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.
3. The total volume of milk recorded by the Defra survey for England and Wales is compared with information from the Rural Payments Agency on the volume of milk delivered to dairies (information which is collected under milk quota regulations). Further information regarding survey coverage is contained in Section 1 of this notice.
4. 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

5. Figures in this notice are provisional and subject to revision. We will provide information about any revisions we make to previously published information in this statistics notice, 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.
6. **This month there are minor revisions to previously published figures from March 2013 due to revised survey data.**