



# 2021 Dairy Facts North Carolina

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North Carolina is home to about **41,000** dairy cows

Dairy cows produced an average of **8.3** gallons of milk per day

**90%** of all milk produced in 2020 was used and consumed in the form of fluid milk

North Carolina has

**145** dairy farms and a typical dairy farm has a herd of about **283** milking cows

The average value of a day's milk per cow was about **\$12.92**

In 2020, a dairy cow in North Carolina cost about **\$1,190**

The top five milk producing counties:

- 1. Iredell**
- 2. Randolph**
- 3. Gaston**
- 4. Alexander**
- 5. Lincoln**



The total amount of milk produced equaled **104 million** gallons

Each dairy cow in North Carolina provided an average of **2,538** gallons of milk in 2020

## North Carolina rankings

**28th** in milk production,  
**30th** in number of milk cows,  
**25th** in milk output per cow, and  
**25th** in the number of licensed dairy operations during 2020 in the United States.