

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
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January 22, 1944.

STOCKS OF EVAPORATED AND CONDENSED MILK  
 HELD BY WHOLESALE GROCERS  
 (December 31, 1943)

Stocks of evaporated milk in hands of wholesale grocers on December 31, 1943 were about 2-1/2 times the size of the record low stocks a year earlier, but only moderately above stocks held at the end of 1940 and 1941 according to reports from about 300 firms reporting to the United States Department of Agriculture. During the last quarter of 1943 the decline in stocks held by wholesale grocers was somewhat less than the 5-year (1937-41) average as compared with more than average movement of stocks out of manufacturers' hands. Wholesale grocers reported 45 days supply on hand December 31, 1943 compared with 49 days supply on September 30, 1943 and 16 days supply at the end of 1942.

Stocks of evaporated milk, case goods, held by 307 wholesale grocers on December 31, 1943 totaled 31,447,753 pounds. These same plants also reported 578,717 pounds of condensed milk, case goods. On September 30, 1943, stocks as reported by 315 firms totaled 43,148,548 pounds of evaporated and 790,829 pounds of condensed milk. At the close of 1942, stocks held by 333 firms totaled 13,689,894 pounds of evaporated and 369,056 pounds of condensed but stocks at that time were abnormally low.

The same firms reporting both on September 30 and December 31, 1943 showed a decline of 26 percent in evaporated milk stocks, or from 42,533,317 pounds on September 30 to 31,404,490 pounds on December 31, while their stocks of condensed dropped 25 percent, or from 773,746 pounds to 578,507 pounds during that time.

For the first 11 months of 1943 production of canned evaporated milk was 13 percent less than that of the corresponding months of 1942 while production of canned condensed milk was 70 percent larger.

STOCKS REPORTED DECEMBER 31, 1943

		Number of firms reporting	Condensed Milk (pounds)	Evaporated Milk (pounds)
TOTAL	DEC. 31, 1943	307	578,717	31,447,753
	DEC. 31, 1942	333	369,056	13,689,894
	SEPT. 30, 1943*	315	790,829	43,148,548
	SEPT. 30, 1942	327	712,218	30,288,801
COMBINED TOTALS -				
	DEC. 31, 1943	307	32,026,470	
	DEC. 31, 1942	333	14,058,950	
	SEPT. 30, 1943*	315	43,939,377	
	SEPT. 30, 1942	327	31,001,019	

\* Revised figures include late reports.

COMPARISON FOR SAME FIRMS REPORTING DIFFERENT PERIODS  
 (Pounds)

299 Firms - Evap. Milk - Dec. 31, 1943 -	31,156,549	301 Firms - Dec. 31, 1943 -	31,404,490
" " " " Dec. 31, 1942 -	12,484,172	" " Sept. 30, 1943 -	42,533,317
" " Cond. Milk Dec. 31, 1943 -	572,840	" " Dec. 31, 1943 -	578,507
" " " " Dec. 31, 1942 -	357,351	" " Sept. 30, 1943 -	773,746
260 firms reported an average of 45 days' supply -	Dec. 31, 1943		
291 " " " " " " 16 " " -	Dec. 31, 1942 (Revised)		
276 " " " " " " 49 " " -	Sept. 30, 1943		

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## TOTAL STOCKS ON DECEMBER 31, 1943 - 307 FIRMS

Class of Product	Net weight per can	Cans per case	Cases on hand Dec. 31, 1943
Evaporated Milk (Unsweetened)	14½ oz.	48	649,582
" " "	6 oz.	96	17,625
" " "	6 oz.	48	110,538
" " "	8 lbs.	6	12,090
Condensed Milk (Sweetened)	15 oz.	24	11,463
" " "	14 oz.	24	14,161
" " "	14 oz.	48	436
" " "	11 oz.	48	15

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