Your milk starts on one of 190 dairy farms in North Carolina. A typical North Carolina dairy farm has a herd of about 237 milking cows. North Carolina is home to approximately 45,000 milk cows.

Each North Carolina dairy cow provides an average of 2,460 gallons of milk per year. That's about 8.1 gallons of milk per day, or 6.9 pounds of cheese. Which is enough to make 3.3 pounds of butter.

The total amount of milk produced in the state amounted to 952 million pounds. That's equal to 111 million gallons of milk. Of all milk produced in 2017 was used and consumed in the form of fluid milk. 93%

In 2017, a dairy cow in North Carolina cost about $1,615. The average value of a day’s milk per cow was about $12.55.

North Carolina is 29th in milk production, 29th in number of dairy cows in the United States, 25th in milk output per cow, 24th in the number of licensed dairy operations.

2017 top milk producing counties were:
1. Iredell (341.9 million pounds)
2. Randolph (119.3 million pounds)
3. Yadkin (46.0 million pounds)
4. Gaston
5. Lincoln

To learn more, visit thedairyalliance.com

*All facts are based on 2017 USDA and NCAGR data*