



Broiler Hatchery

Released December 30, 2003, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "*Broiler Hatchery*" call Jody Roberts at (202) 690-8632, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 205 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 27, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 27, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 27, 2003 were 8.65 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.

* * * * *

The next "*Broiler Hatchery*" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on January 7, 2004.

Subscription Information

To subscribe to NASS reports or to order single copies, call toll free, **1-800-999-6779**. You may write: ERS/NASS, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161.

Broiler Eggs Set, 19 Selected States

State	Week Ending					
	Nov 22 2003	Nov 29 2003	Dec 6 2003	Dec 13 2003	Dec 20 2003	Dec 27 2003
	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>
AL	28,630	*29,133	29,379	29,560	*29,419	29,541
AR	29,996	30,923	*30,882	30,992	30,777	31,091
DE	3,546	3,785	3,828	3,805	3,777	3,740
FL	1,352	1,352	1,354	1,354	1,353	1,353
GA	32,026	*33,213	*32,538	33,269	32,128	32,811
KY	6,884	6,895	6,965	6,768	6,781	6,647
LA	3,845	3,846	3,832	3,847	3,784	3,452
MD	8,752	8,865	8,763	8,868	8,884	8,810
MS	18,571	19,027	19,237	19,396	19,182	18,908
NC	17,986	18,386	*16,278	18,004	18,046	17,187
OK	6,391	6,312	6,358	6,371	6,442	6,314
PA	3,845	3,841	3,795	3,624	*3,799	3,823
SC	3,618	3,940	3,794	3,861	3,517	3,614
TX	14,779	14,854	14,151	13,879	14,882	14,631
VA	6,622	6,622	6,438	6,349	6,325	6,174
CA, MO, TN, & WV	17,313	17,594	16,821	16,591	17,284	17,274
19 State Total	204,156	*208,588	*204,413	206,538	*206,380	205,370
Previous Year Total	200,518	202,537	199,994	203,251	200,056	201,018
Pct. of Prev. Year	102	103	102	102	103	102

* Revised

Broiler Chicks Placed, 19 Selected States

State	Week Ending					
	Nov 22 2003	Nov 29 2003	Dec 6 2003	Dec 13 2003	Dec 20 2003	Dec 27 2003
	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>	<i>Thousand</i>
AL	19,326	21,133	21,822	21,878	*21,240	22,003
AR	22,777	23,381	22,786	23,280	24,764	25,686
DE	4,901	6,159	4,892	4,689	4,857	4,349
FL	1,548	1,809	1,644	1,420	*1,827	1,703
GA	23,264	24,971	25,137	24,688	*26,081	26,148
KY	5,219	5,051	5,432	5,849	*5,761	5,688
LA	3,976	3,885	3,868	3,933	3,554	3,708
MD	5,636	5,243	5,299	5,942	6,101	6,277
MS	14,292	15,146	15,738	15,804	*16,328	16,463
NC	13,844	14,130	14,550	14,354	14,608	13,481
OK	4,255	4,476	5,858	5,512	4,383	3,880
PA	2,496	2,674	2,663	2,669	*2,646	2,592
SC	4,325	4,294	4,273	3,842	4,469	3,928
TX	11,887	12,276	12,030	12,292	12,356	11,822
VA	4,953	4,527	5,822	5,285	5,131	4,985
CA, MO, TN, & WV	13,995	15,256	16,000	15,254	16,027	15,136
19 State Total	156,694	164,411	167,814	166,691	*170,133	167,849
Previous Year Total	154,972	161,690	161,841	163,147	164,898	162,414
Pct. of Prev. Year	101	102	104	102	103	103

* Revised