



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 9 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 188 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 24, 2011. This was down 9 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 85 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Down 5 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 159 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 24, 2011. Placements were down 5 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through September 24, 2011 were 6.39 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	August 20, 2011	August 27, 2011	September 3, 2011	September 10, 2011	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	26,616	26,955	26,364	26,473	25,701	27,117
Arkansas	20,808	20,994	19,852	18,938	19,104	18,961
Delaware	3,015	2,886	2,906	2,908	2,852	2,895
Florida	1,352	1,364	1,350	1,352	1,074	1,351
Georgia	31,810	31,646	31,519	30,771	29,570	31,268
Kentucky	7,852	7,888	7,453	7,704	7,140	7,760
Louisiana	3,243	3,167	2,947	3,258	3,183	3,242
Maryland	7,451	7,645	7,399	6,863	6,852	6,820
Mississippi	18,312	17,602	16,780	17,569	17,813	16,824
North Carolina	19,496	19,368	18,960	17,621	18,245	18,670
Oklahoma	6,713	6,702	6,701	6,228	6,465	6,751
Pennsylvania	3,510	3,799	3,877	3,718	3,438	3,593
South Carolina	5,353	5,413	4,891	4,892	5,522	5,263
Texas	13,476	13,480	14,223	14,367	12,835	14,127
Virginia	5,826	5,723	5,933	5,859	5,363	5,663
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	18,895	18,819	18,549	18,755	16,110	17,708
19 State total	193,728	193,451	189,704	187,276	181,267	188,013
Previous year total	207,381	206,575	203,941	204,833	196,963	205,808
Percent of previous year	93	94	93	91	92	91

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	August 20, 2011	August 27, 2011	September 3, 2011	September 10, 2011	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,923	18,717	19,276	19,616	20,087	18,304
Arkansas	19,180	18,514	19,024	19,575	19,412	18,760
Delaware	4,741	4,890	4,444	4,328	5,154	5,074
Florida	1,150	1,147	1,137	1,251	1,140	1,156
Georgia	26,179	27,358	26,269	25,851	26,026	27,801
Kentucky	6,081	6,816	6,287	6,198	6,747	5,910
Louisiana	2,967	2,993	2,952	2,928	2,851	2,676
Maryland	4,876	5,294	5,645	6,319	5,397	4,784
Mississippi	16,160	16,145	15,984	15,962	15,314	14,533
North Carolina	15,629	15,700	15,378	14,969	15,445	15,218
Oklahoma	4,160	4,711	3,905	4,317	4,842	3,712
Pennsylvania	3,078	3,187	3,087	2,897	3,045	3,224
South Carolina	4,008	4,595	5,146	4,629	4,932	3,699
Texas	12,593	12,544	11,648	11,503	11,481	11,732
Virginia	5,564	4,911	4,353	4,543	4,439	5,067
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	15,678	16,173	17,427	16,043	15,667	17,088
19 State total	161,967	163,695	161,962	160,929	161,979	158,738
Previous year total	171,749	170,866	170,109	170,626	169,940	167,630
Percent of previous year	94	96	95	94	95	95

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected from all known chicken hatcheries within the 19 States. The 19 States account for approximately 97 percent of the broilers produced on an annual basis. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All known hatcheries within the 19 States respond via fax. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone.

Estimating Procedures: All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. All hatcheries are accounted for in the estimates. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State and 19 State totals.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week's data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

Reliability: Hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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