



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 8 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 184 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 22, 2011. This was down 8 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 6 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 152 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 22, 2011. Placements were down 6 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through October 22, 2011 were 7.01 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011	October 22, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	25,428	27,057	25,440	26,498	26,590	25,793
Arkansas	19,087	18,961	18,949	19,417	17,686	18,395
Delaware	2,852	2,895	3,045	3,041	3,176	3,019
Florida	1,074	1,351	1,354	1,349	1,349	1,347
Georgia	29,180	31,247	29,914	30,878	29,635	29,888
Kentucky	6,161	7,738	7,145	7,342	7,090	7,309
Louisiana	3,183	3,242	3,118	3,212	3,241	3,209
Maryland	6,852	6,820	7,517	6,839	7,040	6,913
Mississippi	17,813	16,824	15,990	16,535	17,093	16,952
North Carolina	18,211	18,858	18,840	18,331	18,258	19,349
Oklahoma	6,465	6,751	6,280	6,813	6,112	6,323
Pennsylvania	3,438	3,558	3,353	3,734	3,926	3,807
South Carolina	5,522	5,263	4,956	4,866	5,487	5,193
Texas	12,590	14,232	13,269	13,423	13,097	13,373
Virginia	5,363	5,663	5,461	5,773	5,850	5,650
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,824	17,818	17,613	18,450	17,891	17,018
19 State total	180,043	188,278	182,244	186,501	183,521	183,538
Previous year total	196,963	205,808	197,354	200,470	196,697	200,202
Percent of previous year	91	91	92	93	93	92

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011	October 22, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,087	18,304	19,468	18,155	19,780	18,202
Arkansas	19,412	18,793	17,501	18,649	19,044	17,562
Delaware	5,154	5,074	3,913	3,882	4,045	4,955
Florida	1,140	1,156	1,156	931	1,159	1,154
Georgia	26,026	27,748	26,814	25,292	27,604	26,089
Kentucky	6,747	5,910	6,192	4,970	5,585	5,997
Louisiana	2,851	2,676	2,909	2,830	2,910	2,807
Maryland	5,397	4,784	6,199	5,560	5,681	5,085
Mississippi	15,314	14,533	15,196	15,253	14,465	13,795
North Carolina	15,445	15,168	13,845	14,605	14,304	14,827
Oklahoma	4,842	3,712	3,527	4,089	3,193	3,888
Pennsylvania	3,045	3,208	3,077	2,839	2,921	2,754
South Carolina	4,932	3,811	3,702	3,460	3,789	4,252
Texas	11,506	11,770	11,380	10,318	11,813	11,130
Virginia	4,439	5,067	4,229	4,436	4,700	4,279
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	15,679	16,647	15,772	14,602	15,244	15,344
19 State total	162,016	158,361	154,880	149,871	156,237	152,120
Previous year total	169,940	167,630	169,617	162,438	169,422	161,719
Percent of previous year	95	94	91	92	92	94

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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