



Broiler Hatchery

ISSN: 1949-1840

Released November 2, 2011, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 7 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 186 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 29, 2011. This was down 7 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Down 8 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 153 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 29, 2011. Placements were down 8 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through October 29, 2011 were 7.16 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011	October 22, 2011	October 29, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,057	25,440	26,879	26,590	25,626	25,275
Arkansas	18,961	18,949	19,417	17,686	18,395	19,291
Delaware	2,895	3,045	3,041	3,176	3,019	2,750
Florida	1,351	1,354	1,349	1,349	1,347	1,350
Georgia	31,247	29,914	30,846	29,635	29,888	29,497
Kentucky	7,738	7,117	7,285	7,090	7,309	7,649
Louisiana	3,242	3,118	3,041	3,241	3,209	3,192
Maryland	6,820	7,517	6,839	7,040	6,913	7,697
Mississippi	16,824	15,990	16,535	17,093	16,949	16,120
North Carolina	18,858	18,840	18,275	18,258	19,349	19,433
Oklahoma	6,751	6,280	6,813	6,112	6,323	6,802
Pennsylvania	3,558	3,353	3,734	3,926	3,928	3,575
South Carolina	5,263	4,956	4,866	5,487	5,193	5,119
Texas	14,232	13,269	13,423	13,097	13,373	14,497
Virginia	5,663	5,461	5,773	5,850	5,650	5,884
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	17,818	17,613	18,450	17,713	17,103	17,774
19 State total	188,278	182,216	186,566	183,343	183,574	185,905
Previous year total	205,808	197,354	200,470	196,697	200,202	200,781
Percent of previous year	91	92	93	93	92	93

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011	October 22, 2011	October 29, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	18,304	19,468	18,155	19,780	18,277	19,642
Arkansas	18,793	17,501	18,649	19,044	17,562	17,680
Delaware	5,074	3,913	3,882	4,045	4,955	4,114
Florida	1,156	1,156	931	1,159	1,154	1,150
Georgia	27,748	26,814	25,292	27,604	26,115	25,738
Kentucky	5,910	6,192	4,970	5,585	5,997	6,253
Louisiana	2,676	2,909	2,830	2,910	2,807	2,748
Maryland	4,784	6,199	5,560	5,681	5,085	4,394
Mississippi	14,533	15,196	15,253	14,465	13,660	14,266
North Carolina	15,168	13,845	14,605	14,304	14,728	13,918
Oklahoma	3,712	3,527	4,089	3,193	3,888	4,574
Pennsylvania	3,208	3,077	2,839	2,921	2,768	3,089
South Carolina	3,811	3,702	3,460	3,789	4,439	4,506
Texas	11,770	11,380	10,318	11,813	11,130	11,243
Virginia	5,067	4,229	4,436	4,700	4,279	4,385
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,647	15,772	14,602	15,244	15,433	15,289
19 State total	158,361	154,880	149,871	156,237	152,277	152,989
Previous year total	167,630	169,617	162,438	169,422	161,719	165,722
Percent of previous year	94	91	92	92	94	92

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

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Cody Brokmeyer – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
David Colwell – Cold Storage	(202) 720-8784
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Egg Products.....	(202) 720-3244

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