



Broiler Hatchery

ISSN: 1949-1840

Released December 28, 2011, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 5 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 194 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 24, 2011. This was down 5 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 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 163 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 24, 2011. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through December 24, 2011 were 8.42 billion, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,403	27,726	27,771	28,071	27,892	27,698
Arkansas	20,519	19,987	20,074	20,174	20,038	20,121
Delaware	2,903	3,095	3,127	3,127	3,124	3,126
Florida	1,349	1,351	1,346	1,352	1,351	1,349
Georgia	31,927	31,647	31,993	31,595	31,779	31,694
Kentucky	7,660	7,199	7,522	7,463	7,601	7,377
Louisiana	3,374	3,379	3,364	3,364	3,409	3,364
Maryland	6,875	7,632	7,275	7,322	7,121	7,483
Mississippi	18,186	17,775	18,229	18,100	18,337	18,266
Missouri	7,871	8,036	8,052	7,931	7,941	7,945
North Carolina	20,111	19,958	20,019	19,654	19,629	19,767
Oklahoma	6,620	6,576	6,401	6,721	6,802	6,710
Pennsylvania	3,764	3,794	3,854	3,756	3,759	3,786
South Carolina	5,535	5,352	5,048	5,200	5,509	5,362
Texas	14,551	14,459	14,225	14,317	14,365	13,723
Virginia	5,947	5,962	5,660	6,166	5,813	6,041
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,110	11,273	10,922	11,292	10,416	10,650
19 State total	195,705	195,201	194,882	195,605	194,886	194,462
Previous year total	205,716	207,175	203,973	205,282	205,187	205,240
Percent of previous year	95	94	96	95	95	95

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	17,798	17,578	19,231	20,541	19,985	20,587
Arkansas	18,902	19,647	20,749	19,633	19,201	19,332
Delaware	4,493	4,428	4,303	3,501	4,439	3,255
Florida	1,162	978	1,299	1,052	1,073	964
Georgia	24,488	25,440	25,259	26,653	27,411	27,603
Kentucky	6,452	6,217	5,972	6,610	5,558	6,018
Louisiana	3,038	2,995	2,920	2,992	2,955	2,972
Maryland	4,736	5,317	6,729	6,825	6,261	6,667
Mississippi	13,958	15,320	14,971	15,595	15,133	15,600
Missouri	4,956	4,983	5,183	5,628	5,895	5,734
North Carolina	15,783	16,099	16,108	15,557	15,239	15,731
Oklahoma	3,555	3,686	3,286	4,068	4,172	4,204
Pennsylvania	2,789	2,858	3,096	3,113	3,167	3,230
South Carolina	4,527	5,026	4,660	4,323	4,565	4,087
Texas	12,334	11,897	11,931	12,062	12,128	11,657
Virginia	4,643	4,778	4,281	4,699	4,571	4,624
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,142	10,575	11,558	10,527	10,967	10,676
19 State total	153,756	157,822	161,536	163,379	162,720	162,941
Previous year total	165,149	164,970	168,395	169,211	170,078	168,134
Percent of previous year	93	96	96	97	96	97

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all chicken hatcheries within the 19 States that hatch at least one million chicks a year. 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 hatcheries within the 19 States that meet the minimum size criteria are given adequate time to respond to the weekly survey. 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. 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: 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 – Honey, 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, Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink	(202) 720-3244

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Receive NASS Updates” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.
- Printed reports may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling toll-free (800) 999-6779, or (703) 605-6220 if calling from outside the United States or Canada. Accepted methods of payment are Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.