



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 4 Percent**

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 194 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 31, 2011. This was down 4 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 31, 2011. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through December 31, 2011 were 8.58 billion, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,726	27,771	28,093	27,892	27,533	27,549
Arkansas .....	19,987	20,074	20,174	20,038	20,121	20,287
Delaware .....	3,095	3,127	3,127	3,124	3,126	3,232
Florida .....	1,351	1,346	1,352	1,351	1,349	1,347
Georgia .....	31,647	31,993	31,595	31,779	31,679	31,839
Kentucky .....	7,226	7,542	7,609	7,601	7,499	7,444
Louisiana .....	3,379	3,364	3,364	3,409	3,364	3,348
Maryland .....	7,632	7,275	7,322	7,121	7,483	7,447
Mississippi .....	17,775	18,229	18,100	18,337	18,266	17,763
Missouri .....	8,036	8,052	7,931	7,941	7,945	7,433
North Carolina .....	19,958	20,019	19,768	19,629	19,767	19,927
Oklahoma .....	6,576	6,401	6,721	6,802	6,710	6,268
Pennsylvania .....	3,794	3,854	3,756	3,927	3,769	3,812
South Carolina .....	5,352	5,048	5,200	5,509	5,362	5,164
Texas .....	14,459	14,225	14,317	14,365	13,723	13,898
Virginia .....	5,962	5,660	6,045	5,813	6,041	5,909
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	11,273	10,922	11,292	10,321	11,445	11,432
19 State total .....	195,228	194,902	195,766	194,959	195,182	194,099
Previous year total .....	207,175	203,973	205,282	205,187	205,240	203,224
Percent of previous year .....	94	96	95	95	95	96

## Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	17,578	19,231	20,541	19,985	20,588	20,811
Arkansas .....	19,647	20,749	19,633	19,201	19,333	20,378
Delaware .....	4,428	4,303	3,501	4,439	3,355	4,385
Florida .....	978	1,299	1,052	1,073	964	1,160
Georgia .....	25,440	25,259	26,653	27,411	27,617	26,832
Kentucky .....	6,217	5,972	6,610	5,558	6,015	6,381
Louisiana .....	2,995	2,920	2,992	2,955	2,972	2,943
Maryland .....	5,317	6,729	6,825	6,261	6,667	5,968
Mississippi .....	15,320	14,971	15,595	15,133	15,590	15,407
Missouri .....	4,983	5,183	5,628	5,895	5,734	5,004
North Carolina .....	16,099	16,108	15,557	15,239	15,729	15,697
Oklahoma .....	3,686	3,286	4,068	4,172	4,264	3,746
Pennsylvania .....	2,858	3,096	3,113	3,114	3,196	3,072
South Carolina .....	5,026	4,660	4,323	4,565	4,087	4,115
Texas .....	11,897	11,931	12,062	12,128	11,657	11,838
Virginia .....	4,778	4,281	4,699	4,571	4,624	4,710
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,575	11,558	10,527	10,967	10,823	10,536
19 State total .....	157,822	161,536	163,379	162,667	163,215	162,983
Previous year total .....	164,970	168,395	169,211	170,078	168,134	168,813
Percent of previous year .....	96	96	97	96	97	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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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