



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 6 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 193 million eggs in incubators during the week ending January 7, 2012. This was down 6 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 4 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 162 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 7, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011 and 2012

State	Week ending					
	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,771	28,093	27,904	27,533	27,549	27,126
Arkansas	20,074	20,174	20,038	20,121	20,287	20,082
Delaware	3,127	3,127	3,124	3,126	3,232	3,265
Florida	1,346	1,352	1,351	1,349	1,347	1,351
Georgia	31,993	31,595	31,846	31,679	31,839	31,430
Kentucky	7,542	7,593	7,715	7,499	7,550	7,635
Louisiana	3,364	3,364	3,409	3,364	3,348	3,364
Maryland	7,275	7,322	7,121	7,483	7,447	7,364
Mississippi	18,229	18,100	18,337	18,266	17,763	17,573
Missouri	8,052	7,931	7,941	7,945	7,433	7,853
North Carolina	20,019	19,768	19,707	19,767	19,927	19,772
Oklahoma	6,401	6,721	6,802	6,710	6,268	6,585
Pennsylvania	3,854	3,756	3,927	3,769	3,812	3,818
South Carolina	5,048	5,200	5,509	5,362	5,164	5,250
Texas	14,237	14,330	14,353	13,711	13,887	14,089
Virginia	5,660	6,045	5,813	6,041	5,909	5,694
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,673	10,939	10,190	11,126	10,709	10,619
19 State total	194,665	195,410	195,087	194,851	193,471	192,870
Previous year total	203,973	205,282	205,187	205,240	203,224	205,419
Percent of previous year	95	95	95	95	95	94

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011 and 2012

State	Week ending					
	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,231	20,541	19,985	20,588	20,811	20,143
Arkansas	20,749	19,633	19,201	19,333	20,378	19,296
Delaware	4,303	3,501	4,439	3,355	4,385	3,952
Florida	1,299	1,052	1,073	964	1,160	1,160
Georgia	25,259	26,653	27,411	27,617	26,832	27,027
Kentucky	5,972	6,610	5,558	6,015	6,378	6,098
Louisiana	2,920	2,992	2,955	2,972	2,943	2,987
Maryland	6,729	6,825	6,261	6,667	5,968	5,474
Mississippi	14,971	15,595	15,133	15,590	15,407	15,527
Missouri	5,183	5,628	5,895	5,734	5,004	5,554
North Carolina	16,108	15,557	15,239	15,729	15,697	15,496
Oklahoma	3,286	4,068	4,172	4,264	3,746	4,042
Pennsylvania	3,096	3,113	3,114	3,196	3,134	3,275
South Carolina	4,660	4,323	4,565	4,183	4,115	4,828
Texas	11,931	12,072	12,138	11,667	11,848	11,941
Virginia	4,281	4,699	4,571	4,624	4,710	5,698
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,509	10,428	10,821	10,689	10,339	9,569
19 State total	161,487	163,290	162,531	163,187	162,855	162,067
Previous year total	168,395	169,211	170,078	168,134	168,813	168,417
Percent of previous year	96	97	96	97	96	96

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

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