



Broiler Hatchery

ISSN: 1949-1840

Released January 18, 2012, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 6 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 192 million eggs in incubators during the week ending January 14, 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 14, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through January 14, 2012 were 324 million, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

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

State	Week ending					
	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	28,093	27,904	27,704	27,549	27,127	26,905
Arkansas	20,174	20,038	20,121	20,287	20,082	20,085
Delaware	3,127	3,124	3,126	3,232	3,265	3,257
Florida	1,352	1,351	1,349	1,347	1,351	1,351
Georgia	31,595	31,846	31,679	31,839	31,430	31,350
Kentucky	7,556	7,716	7,568	7,550	7,635	7,571
Louisiana	3,364	3,409	3,333	3,348	3,364	3,379
Maryland	7,322	7,121	7,483	7,447	7,364	7,098
Mississippi	18,100	18,337	18,266	17,763	17,573	17,475
Missouri	7,931	7,941	7,945	7,433	7,853	7,623
North Carolina	19,768	19,707	20,094	19,927	19,772	20,010
Oklahoma	6,721	6,802	6,710	6,268	6,585	6,787
Pennsylvania	3,756	3,927	3,769	3,812	3,662	3,785
South Carolina	5,200	5,509	5,362	5,164	5,250	5,348
Texas	14,330	14,353	14,054	13,887	14,089	13,652
Virginia	6,045	5,813	6,041	5,909	5,694	5,939
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,939	10,190	11,126	10,709	10,619	10,814
19 State total	195,373	195,088	195,730	193,471	192,715	192,429
Previous year total	205,282	205,187	205,240	203,224	205,419	205,099
Percent of previous year	95	95	95	95	94	94

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

State	Week ending					
	December 10, 2011	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,541	19,985	20,588	20,811	20,132	19,899
Arkansas	19,633	19,201	19,333	20,378	19,296	18,017
Delaware	3,501	4,439	3,355	4,385	3,952	4,220
Florida	1,052	1,073	964	1,160	1,160	1,166
Georgia	26,653	27,411	27,617	26,917	26,997	27,329
Kentucky	6,610	5,558	6,015	6,378	6,098	6,021
Louisiana	2,992	2,955	2,972	2,943	2,987	2,992
Maryland	6,825	6,261	6,667	5,968	5,474	5,213
Mississippi	15,595	15,133	15,590	15,407	15,542	15,610
Missouri	5,628	5,895	5,734	5,004	5,554	6,087
North Carolina	15,557	15,239	15,729	15,635	15,439	15,812
Oklahoma	4,068	4,172	4,264	3,746	4,042	4,693
Pennsylvania	3,113	3,114	3,196	3,134	3,196	3,290
South Carolina	4,323	4,565	4,183	4,115	4,828	4,435
Texas	12,072	12,138	11,667	11,848	11,941	11,772
Virginia	4,699	4,571	4,624	4,710	5,698	4,693
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,428	10,821	10,689	10,339	9,569	10,872
19 State total	163,290	162,531	163,187	162,878	161,905	162,121
Previous year total	169,211	170,078	168,134	168,813	168,417	168,220
Percent of previous year	97	96	97	96	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

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.