



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **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 January 21, 2012. 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 4 Percent**

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 161 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 21, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through January 21, 2012 were 486 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 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012	January 21, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,904	27,704	27,562	27,127	26,905	27,092
Arkansas .....	20,038	20,121	20,187	20,082	20,085	20,073
Delaware .....	3,124	3,126	3,232	3,265	3,261	3,262
Florida .....	1,351	1,349	1,347	1,351	1,351	1,353
Georgia .....	31,846	31,736	31,839	31,430	31,386	31,148
Kentucky .....	7,716	7,648	7,619	7,635	7,571	7,643
Louisiana .....	3,409	3,333	3,348	3,364	3,379	3,440
Maryland .....	7,121	7,483	7,447	7,364	7,098	7,628
Mississippi .....	18,337	18,266	17,763	17,573	17,475	18,111
Missouri .....	7,941	7,945	7,433	7,853	7,623	7,677
North Carolina .....	19,707	20,094	19,927	19,772	20,010	19,988
Oklahoma .....	6,802	6,710	6,268	6,585	6,787	6,721
Pennsylvania .....	3,927	3,769	3,812	3,662	3,875	3,877
South Carolina .....	5,509	5,362	5,164	5,250	5,348	5,363
Texas .....	14,353	14,054	13,887	14,089	13,652	14,249
Virginia .....	5,813	6,041	5,909	5,694	5,939	6,231
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,190	11,126	10,709	10,208	10,454	9,659
19 State total .....	195,088	195,867	193,453	192,304	192,199	193,515
Previous year total .....	205,187	205,240	203,224	205,419	205,099	204,116
Percent of previous year .....	95	95	95	94	94	95

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

State	Week ending					
	December 17, 2011	December 24, 2011	December 31, 2011	January 7, 2012	January 14, 2012	January 21, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	19,985	20,588	20,811	20,132	19,898	20,269
Arkansas .....	19,201	19,333	20,378	19,296	18,012	18,621
Delaware .....	4,439	3,355	4,385	3,952	4,547	4,027
Florida .....	1,073	964	1,160	1,160	1,160	953
Georgia .....	27,411	27,617	26,917	26,997	27,346	26,950
Kentucky .....	5,558	6,015	6,378	6,098	6,021	5,990
Louisiana .....	2,955	2,972	2,943	2,987	2,992	2,995
Maryland .....	6,261	6,667	5,968	5,474	6,060	6,277
Mississippi .....	15,133	15,590	15,407	15,542	15,594	15,060
Missouri .....	5,895	5,734	5,004	5,554	6,087	4,913
North Carolina .....	15,239	15,729	15,635	15,439	15,738	15,694
Oklahoma .....	4,172	4,264	3,746	4,042	4,693	4,599
Pennsylvania .....	3,114	3,196	3,134	3,196	3,136	3,183
South Carolina .....	4,565	4,183	4,115	4,828	4,435	4,221
Texas .....	12,138	11,667	11,848	11,941	11,772	11,553
Virginia .....	4,571	4,624	4,710	5,698	4,693	4,844
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,821	10,689	10,339	9,589	10,881	10,619
19 State total .....	162,531	163,187	162,878	161,925	163,065	160,768
Previous year total .....	170,078	168,134	168,813	168,417	168,220	167,507
Percent of previous year .....	96	97	96	96	97	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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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