



# Broiler Hatchery

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

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 200 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 21, 2012. 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 167 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 21, 2012. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through April 21, 2012 were 2.61 billion, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	March 17, 2012	March 24, 2012	March 31, 2012	April 7, 2012	April 14, 2012	April 21, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	28,269	28,083	27,426	27,989	27,854	28,393
Arkansas .....	20,142	20,771	21,178	21,240	21,233	21,168
Delaware .....	3,415	3,388	3,517	3,506	3,550	3,622
Florida .....	1,351	1,348	1,350	1,349	1,352	1,347
Georgia .....	32,249	31,890	32,796	32,564	32,536	32,274
Kentucky .....	7,775	7,417	7,683	7,709	7,641	7,360
Louisiana .....	3,470	3,440	3,500	3,500	3,530	3,530
Maryland .....	7,678	7,192	7,000	7,128	7,393	7,570
Mississippi .....	17,784	17,907	17,907	17,878	17,717	18,068
Missouri .....	7,482	7,657	7,464	7,701	7,686	7,711
North Carolina .....	19,969	20,031	20,223	20,381	20,556	20,434
Oklahoma .....	6,365	6,728	6,930	6,910	6,688	6,849
Pennsylvania .....	3,859	3,771	3,576	3,754	3,753	3,793
South Carolina .....	5,118	5,448	5,385	5,488	5,364	5,483
Texas .....	15,075	14,941	14,933	14,972	14,816	14,821
Virginia .....	6,137	5,950	6,311	6,415	6,166	6,399
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	11,413	10,526	10,783	10,668	11,554	11,262
19 State total .....	197,551	196,488	197,962	199,152	199,389	200,084
Previous year total .....	208,714	209,434	207,520	207,969	208,968	209,132
Percent of previous year .....	95	94	95	96	95	96

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

State	Week ending					
	March 17, 2012	March 24, 2012	March 31, 2012	April 7, 2012	April 14, 2012	April 21, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	20,106	19,610	20,335	20,595	20,546	19,932
Arkansas .....	19,004	20,043	20,144	18,964	19,564	20,389
Delaware .....	3,901	4,043	3,724	4,760	4,647	4,733
Florida .....	1,407	1,217	1,016	1,233	1,289	1,202
Georgia .....	27,862	27,284	27,051	27,899	25,950	27,448
Kentucky .....	4,894	6,594	6,214	5,964	6,012	6,391
Louisiana .....	2,983	3,032	3,025	3,356	3,040	3,095
Maryland .....	6,110	5,927	7,020	5,488	5,915	6,244
Mississippi .....	15,447	15,207	15,136	15,282	15,444	15,418
Missouri .....	5,325	5,245	5,548	5,413	5,972	4,892
North Carolina .....	16,753	16,294	17,064	16,334	16,403	16,561
Oklahoma .....	4,605	4,533	3,959	4,123	3,662	4,238
Pennsylvania .....	3,117	3,113	3,144	3,103	2,927	3,010
South Carolina .....	3,646	4,696	4,218	4,096	4,919	4,754
Texas .....	12,223	12,143	12,524	12,235	12,723	12,612
Virginia .....	4,784	5,365	4,735	4,592	4,824	4,457
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,845	10,359	10,859	11,778	10,857	11,146
19 State total .....	163,012	164,705	165,716	165,215	164,694	166,522
Previous year total .....	170,422	172,880	171,899	172,098	173,110	172,008
Percent of previous year .....	96	95	96	96	95	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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