



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 4 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 199 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 5, 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 84 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 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 5, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through May 5, 2012 were 2.94 billion, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

| State | Week ending | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2012 | April 7, 2012 | April 14, 2012 | April 21, 2012 | April 28, 2012 | May 5, 2012 |
| | (1,000 eggs) | (1,000 eggs) | (1,000 eggs) | (1,000 eggs) | (1,000 eggs) | (1,000 eggs) |
| Alabama | 27,426 | 27,990 | 27,904 | 28,393 | 27,188 | 28,109 |
| Arkansas | 21,178 | 21,240 | 21,233 | 21,168 | 21,246 | 21,684 |
| Delaware | 3,517 | 3,506 | 3,550 | 3,622 | 3,470 | 3,620 |
| Florida | 1,350 | 1,349 | 1,352 | 1,347 | 1,353 | 1,352 |
| Georgia | 32,796 | 32,564 | 32,536 | 32,274 | 32,356 | 32,743 |
| Kentucky | 7,822 | 7,825 | 7,687 | 7,358 | 7,394 | 7,659 |
| Louisiana | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,530 | 3,530 | 3,440 | 3,359 |
| Maryland | 7,000 | 7,128 | 7,393 | 7,570 | 7,628 | 7,449 |
| Mississippi | 17,907 | 17,878 | 17,717 | 18,068 | 17,689 | 17,731 |
| Missouri | 7,464 | 7,701 | 7,686 | 7,711 | 7,473 | 7,481 |
| North Carolina | 20,223 | 20,381 | 20,557 | 20,434 | 20,142 | 20,416 |
| Oklahoma | 6,930 | 6,910 | 6,688 | 6,849 | 6,970 | 6,712 |
| Pennsylvania | 3,576 | 3,754 | 3,934 | 3,795 | 3,597 | 3,678 |
| South Carolina | 5,385 | 5,488 | 5,364 | 5,483 | 5,437 | 5,376 |
| Texas | 14,933 | 14,972 | 14,816 | 14,821 | 14,560 | 14,595 |
| Virginia | 6,311 | 6,415 | 6,166 | 6,399 | 6,294 | 6,290 |
| California, Tennessee, and West Virginia | 10,782 | 10,711 | 11,562 | 11,267 | 10,597 | 10,914 |
| 19 State total | 198,100 | 199,312 | 199,675 | 200,089 | 196,834 | 199,168 |
| Previous year total | 207,520 | 207,969 | 208,968 | 209,132 | 207,087 | 207,982 |
| Percent of previous year | 95 | 96 | 96 | 96 | 95 | 96 |

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

| State | Week ending | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | March 31, 2012 | April 7, 2012 | April 14, 2012 | April 21, 2012 | April 28, 2012 | May 5, 2012 |
| | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) |
| Alabama | 20,335 | 20,595 | 20,546 | 19,877 | 20,201 | 20,237 |
| Arkansas | 20,144 | 18,964 | 19,564 | 20,389 | 19,093 | 19,044 |
| Delaware | 3,724 | 4,760 | 4,647 | 4,733 | 4,190 | 4,350 |
| Florida | 1,016 | 1,233 | 1,289 | 1,202 | 1,250 | 1,083 |
| Georgia | 27,051 | 27,899 | 25,950 | 27,592 | 27,300 | 28,268 |
| Kentucky | 6,214 | 5,964 | 6,097 | 6,222 | 6,390 | 6,035 |
| Louisiana | 3,025 | 3,356 | 3,040 | 3,095 | 3,084 | 3,124 |
| Maryland | 7,020 | 5,488 | 5,915 | 6,244 | 6,677 | 6,380 |
| Mississippi | 15,136 | 15,282 | 15,444 | 15,418 | 15,353 | 14,867 |
| Missouri | 5,548 | 5,413 | 5,972 | 4,892 | 5,921 | 5,767 |
| North Carolina | 17,064 | 16,334 | 16,403 | 16,421 | 16,189 | 16,390 |
| Oklahoma | 3,959 | 4,123 | 3,662 | 4,238 | 4,887 | 4,791 |
| Pennsylvania | 3,144 | 3,103 | 2,927 | 2,892 | 3,101 | 3,142 |
| South Carolina | 4,218 | 4,096 | 4,919 | 4,754 | 5,350 | 4,520 |
| Texas | 12,524 | 12,235 | 12,723 | 12,612 | 12,414 | 12,238 |
| Virginia | 4,735 | 4,592 | 4,824 | 4,457 | 4,906 | 4,604 |
| California, Tennessee, and West Virginia | 10,859 | 11,770 | 10,860 | 11,158 | 10,597 | 11,207 |
| 19 State total | 165,716 | 165,207 | 164,782 | 166,196 | 166,903 | 166,047 |
| Previous year total | 171,899 | 172,098 | 173,110 | 172,008 | 172,624 | 172,506 |
| Percent of previous year | 96 | 96 | 95 | 97 | 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

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|--|----------------|
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| LaKeya Jones – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Honey, Egg Products, Mink | (202) 720-0585 |
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