



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 3 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 201 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 26, 2012. This was down 3 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 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 26, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through May 26, 2012 were 3.44 billion, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	April 21, 2012	April 28, 2012	May 5, 2012	May 12, 2012	May 19, 2012	May 26, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	28,211	28,238	28,305	27,795	28,384	28,328
Arkansas	21,168	21,246	21,684	21,793	21,765	21,747
Delaware	3,622	3,470	3,620	3,622	3,696	3,699
Florida	1,347	1,353	1,352	1,353	1,353	1,353
Georgia	32,220	32,356	32,743	32,771	32,619	32,705
Kentucky	7,451	7,421	7,750	7,728	7,735	7,618
Louisiana	3,530	3,440	3,485	3,470	3,455	3,409
Maryland	7,570	7,628	7,449	7,087	7,200	7,388
Mississippi	18,068	17,404	18,003	18,185	17,810	18,079
Missouri	7,711	7,473	7,481	7,687	7,726	7,719
North Carolina	20,434	20,139	20,583	20,389	20,426	20,173
Oklahoma	6,849	6,970	6,712	6,926	6,843	7,126
Pennsylvania	3,795	3,597	3,610	3,636	3,721	3,672
South Carolina	5,771	5,437	5,376	5,481	5,462	5,277
Texas	14,782	14,551	14,696	14,627	14,769	14,776
Virginia	6,399	6,294	6,290	6,281	6,279	6,353
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,267	11,145	10,718	10,901	11,115	11,284
19 State total	200,195	198,162	199,857	199,732	200,358	200,706
Previous year total	209,132	207,087	207,982	206,342	206,792	205,932
Percent of previous year	96	96	96	97	97	97

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	April 21, 2012	April 28, 2012	May 5, 2012	May 12, 2012	May 19, 2012	May 26, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,877	20,201	20,231	19,775	20,746	20,230
Arkansas	20,389	19,093	18,848	20,132	19,908	20,026
Delaware	4,733	4,190	4,350	3,956	4,361	3,733
Florida	1,202	1,250	1,083	1,328	1,509	1,333
Georgia	27,592	27,300	28,245	27,482	26,779	28,149
Kentucky	6,222	6,453	6,119	6,666	5,876	5,809
Louisiana	3,095	3,084	3,124	3,130	3,075	3,111
Maryland	6,244	6,677	6,380	6,860	6,377	6,497
Mississippi	15,418	15,353	14,874	15,477	15,042	15,432
Missouri	4,894	5,924	5,767	5,113	5,491	5,414
North Carolina	16,421	16,189	16,434	16,649	16,278	16,709
Oklahoma	4,238	4,887	5,067	4,573	4,237	4,326
Pennsylvania	2,892	3,101	3,138	3,151	3,009	3,021
South Carolina	4,754	5,350	4,520	4,819	3,779	3,766
Texas	12,622	12,424	12,242	12,343	12,106	12,351
Virginia	4,457	4,906	4,604	4,935	5,187	5,056
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,158	10,290	11,207	10,680	11,626	11,103
19 State total	166,208	166,672	166,233	167,069	165,386	166,066
Previous year total	172,008	172,624	172,506	174,014	172,512	172,753
Percent of previous year	97	97	96	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

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