



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down Slightly**

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 193 million eggs in incubators during the week ending August 11, 2012. This was down slightly 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 Up Slightly**

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 163 million chicks for meat production during the week ending August 11, 2012. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through August 11, 2012 were 5.25 billion, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

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

State	Week ending					
	July 7, 2012	July 14, 2012	July 21, 2012	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,313	27,908	27,947	28,149	27,656	27,996
Arkansas .....	20,278	19,621	19,931	20,915	21,130	21,057
Delaware .....	3,371	3,295	3,503	3,501	3,497	3,279
Florida .....	1,353	1,352	1,341	1,352	1,353	1,352
Georgia .....	32,496	32,461	31,849	31,573	31,739	31,738
Kentucky .....	7,452	7,659	7,790	7,811	7,659	7,673
Louisiana .....	3,258	3,409	3,107	3,167	3,227	3,211
Maryland .....	7,045	7,351	7,220	7,600	7,595	7,254
Mississippi .....	17,655	18,063	17,795	17,838	17,667	17,192
Missouri .....	7,388	8,068	8,024	7,835	7,863	8,036
North Carolina .....	19,825	19,816	19,628	19,638	19,510	19,222
Oklahoma .....	6,798	6,465	6,689	6,714	6,476	6,276
Pennsylvania .....	3,616	3,767	3,535	3,570	3,441	3,487
South Carolina .....	5,306	5,298	5,319	5,603	5,313	5,328
Texas .....	14,138	14,612	14,500	14,254	14,394	13,789
Virginia .....	5,854	6,222	6,217	6,182	6,089	6,074
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,619	10,744	10,722	10,683	10,763	10,460
19 State total .....	193,765	196,111	195,117	196,385	195,372	193,424
Previous year total .....	194,961	196,576	195,141	194,434	195,036	194,164
Percent of previous year .....	99	100	100	101	100	100

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

State	Week ending					
	July 7, 2012	July 14, 2012	July 21, 2012	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	19,941	20,301	20,517	19,417	19,749	19,683
Arkansas .....	20,381	19,209	20,502	19,313	17,406	18,903
Delaware .....	4,720	4,989	4,250	3,153	3,361	4,085
Florida .....	1,234	1,168	1,179	1,211	1,138	1,010
Georgia .....	26,599	26,917	26,546	28,246	28,124	28,437
Kentucky .....	5,906	5,873	6,142	5,925	6,483	6,447
Louisiana .....	2,913	2,961	3,098	2,935	3,067	2,794
Maryland .....	5,716	5,582	7,131	6,093	6,452	6,135
Mississippi .....	14,915	15,485	15,216	14,933	15,326	15,360
Missouri .....	5,111	5,064	4,708	5,159	6,071	5,711
North Carolina .....	15,844	15,714	16,227	15,898	16,407	15,496
Oklahoma .....	4,248	4,343	4,335	4,151	4,914	3,896
Pennsylvania .....	3,020	3,003	2,962	2,986	3,157	2,891
South Carolina .....	4,831	4,524	4,142	4,273	4,033	4,049
Texas .....	12,127	12,156	11,930	11,905	12,169	12,224
Virginia .....	4,294	4,712	4,312	5,383	5,327	5,224
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	11,859	11,203	10,696	10,201	10,544	10,258
19 State total .....	163,659	163,204	163,893	161,182	163,728	162,603
Previous year total .....	165,957	164,445	162,828	162,898	164,050	162,336
Percent of previous year .....	99	99	101	99	100	100

## 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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