



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 192 million eggs in incubators during the week ending August 25, 2012. This was down 1 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 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 162 million chicks for meat production during the week ending August 25, 2012. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through August 25, 2012 were 5.58 billion, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	July 21, 2012	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,947	28,141	27,360	27,996	27,551	27,927
Arkansas	19,931	20,915	21,130	21,057	20,944	20,651
Delaware	3,503	3,501	3,497	3,279	3,176	3,286
Florida	1,341	1,352	1,353	1,352	1,353	1,349
Georgia	31,849	31,573	31,739	31,773	31,810	30,825
Kentucky	7,742	7,728	7,631	7,673	7,639	7,641
Louisiana	3,107	3,167	3,165	3,211	3,135	3,167
Maryland	7,220	7,600	7,595	7,254	7,341	7,346
Mississippi	17,795	17,838	17,667	17,075	16,782	16,226
Missouri	8,024	7,835	7,863	8,036	8,022	8,032
North Carolina	19,628	19,638	19,600	19,222	19,474	19,688
Oklahoma	6,689	6,714	6,476	6,276	6,891	6,686
Pennsylvania	3,535	3,570	3,538	3,398	3,655	3,625
South Carolina	5,319	5,603	5,313	5,328	5,040	5,265
Texas	14,500	14,254	14,394	13,789	13,066	13,491
Virginia	6,217	6,182	6,089	6,074	6,043	6,049
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,722	10,683	10,763	10,460	10,029	10,490
19 State total	195,069	196,294	195,173	193,253	191,951	191,744
Previous year total	195,141	194,434	195,036	194,164	193,090	193,007
Percent of previous year	100	101	100	100	99	99

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	July 21, 2012	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,517	19,417	19,749	19,688	19,877	20,089
Arkansas	20,502	19,313	17,406	18,903	19,160	19,431
Delaware	4,250	3,153	3,361	4,085	4,394	4,577
Florida	1,179	1,211	1,138	1,010	1,304	1,248
Georgia	26,546	28,246	28,124	28,416	26,860	26,597
Kentucky	6,142	5,925	6,483	6,683	5,893	6,196
Louisiana	3,098	2,935	3,067	2,794	2,796	2,836
Maryland	7,131	6,093	6,452	6,135	6,483	4,842
Mississippi	15,216	14,933	15,326	15,357	15,261	15,207
Missouri	4,708	5,159	6,071	5,711	5,029	5,723
North Carolina	16,227	15,898	16,407	15,503	15,323	15,684
Oklahoma	4,335	4,151	4,914	3,896	4,892	4,163
Pennsylvania	2,962	2,986	3,157	2,911	2,901	2,979
South Carolina	4,142	4,273	4,033	4,049	4,453	4,587
Texas	11,930	11,905	12,169	12,224	12,010	11,882
Virginia	4,312	5,383	5,327	5,224	4,721	4,918
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,696	10,201	10,544	9,913	11,084	10,859
19 State total	163,893	161,182	163,728	162,502	162,441	161,818
Previous year total	162,828	162,898	164,050	162,336	161,039	162,943
Percent of previous year	101	99	100	100	101	99

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

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Cody Brokmeyer – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
David Colwell – Cold Storage	(202) 720-8784
LaKeya Jones – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Honey, Egg Products, Mink	(202) 720-0585
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-3244

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