



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 189 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 1, 2012. This was up slightly 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 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 160 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 1, 2012. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through September 1, 2012 were 5.74 billion, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	28,141	27,360	27,840	27,551	27,927	27,193
Arkansas	20,915	21,130	21,057	20,944	20,651	20,757
Delaware	3,501	3,497	3,279	3,176	3,286	3,259
Florida	1,352	1,353	1,352	1,353	1,349	1,347
Georgia	31,573	31,739	31,773	31,810	31,721	31,331
Kentucky	7,728	7,601	7,738	7,639	7,641	7,616
Louisiana	3,167	3,165	3,211	3,135	3,167	3,211
Maryland	7,600	7,595	7,254	7,341	7,346	6,944
Mississippi	17,838	17,667	17,075	16,724	16,168	16,326
Missouri	7,835	7,863	8,036	8,022	8,032	7,708
North Carolina	19,638	19,600	19,222	19,474	19,688	19,445
Oklahoma	6,714	6,476	6,276	6,891	6,686	6,693
Pennsylvania	3,570	3,538	3,398	3,655	3,726	3,579
South Carolina	5,603	5,313	5,328	5,040	5,265	4,721
Texas	14,254	14,394	13,789	13,066	13,491	12,731
Virginia	6,182	6,089	6,074	6,043	6,049	5,985
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,683	10,763	10,378	10,076	10,347	10,620
19 State total	196,294	195,143	193,080	191,940	192,540	189,466
Previous year total	194,434	195,036	194,164	193,090	193,007	189,258
Percent of previous year	101	100	99	99	100	100

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	July 28, 2012	August 4, 2012	August 11, 2012	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,417	19,749	19,688	19,877	20,005	20,043
Arkansas	19,313	17,406	18,903	19,160	19,431	19,027
Delaware	3,153	3,361	4,085	4,394	4,577	4,947
Florida	1,211	1,138	1,010	1,304	1,248	1,186
Georgia	28,246	28,124	28,416	26,860	26,659	26,271
Kentucky	5,925	6,483	6,683	5,893	6,126	6,404
Louisiana	2,935	3,067	2,794	2,796	2,836	2,871
Maryland	6,093	6,452	6,135	6,483	5,682	5,738
Mississippi	14,933	15,326	15,357	15,258	15,202	14,397
Missouri	5,159	6,071	5,711	5,029	5,723	5,854
North Carolina	15,898	16,407	15,503	15,323	15,684	15,827
Oklahoma	4,151	4,914	3,896	4,892	4,163	4,437
Pennsylvania	2,986	3,157	2,911	2,901	2,953	2,845
South Carolina	4,273	4,033	4,049	4,453	4,587	3,847
Texas	11,905	12,169	12,224	12,010	11,882	11,448
Virginia	5,383	5,327	5,224	4,721	4,918	3,877
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,201	10,479	9,913	11,084	10,859	11,073
19 State total	161,182	163,663	162,502	162,438	162,535	160,092
Previous year total	162,898	164,050	162,336	161,039	162,943	160,923
Percent of previous year	99	100	100	101	100	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

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