



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 189 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 22, 2012. This was up 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 Up 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 159 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 22, 2012. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through September 22, 2012 were 6.22 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,300	28,073	27,312	26,639	26,841	27,468
Arkansas	20,944	20,651	20,757	19,074	19,420	20,859
Delaware	3,176	3,286	3,259	3,143	3,155	3,153
Florida	1,353	1,349	1,347	1,353	1,088	1,353
Georgia	31,810	31,721	31,606	30,962	30,475	31,914
Kentucky	7,602	7,696	7,697	7,249	6,980	7,430
Louisiana	3,135	3,167	3,211	3,285	3,272	3,008
Maryland	7,341	7,346	6,944	6,932	7,182	7,119
Mississippi	16,724	15,751	16,386	16,740	16,489	15,600
Missouri	8,022	8,032	8,019	8,037	7,366	7,252
North Carolina	19,474	19,688	19,445	18,217	18,394	19,206
Oklahoma	6,891	6,686	6,693	6,539	6,459	6,736
Pennsylvania	3,655	3,726	3,584	3,505	3,473	3,562
South Carolina	5,173	5,265	4,721	5,402	5,513	4,855
Texas	13,022	13,446	12,784	13,495	12,533	12,786
Virginia	6,043	6,049	5,985	5,798	5,500	6,032
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,053	10,316	10,521	10,110	9,531	10,460
19 State total	191,718	192,248	190,271	186,480	183,671	188,793
Previous year total	193,090	193,007	189,258	185,218	179,528	187,841
Percent of previous year	99	100	101	101	102	101

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	August 18, 2012	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,872	20,005	20,056	19,993	19,801	19,617
Arkansas	19,160	19,431	19,027	20,937	20,760	19,973
Delaware	4,394	4,577	4,947	4,023	4,033	3,907
Florida	1,304	1,248	1,186	1,105	1,300	972
Georgia	26,860	26,659	26,271	25,810	27,497	26,332
Kentucky	5,893	6,126	6,404	6,403	5,812	6,138
Louisiana	2,796	2,836	2,871	2,857	2,847	2,818
Maryland	6,483	5,682	5,738	6,350	5,620	5,924
Mississippi	15,258	15,202	14,397	14,411	13,447	14,178
Missouri	5,029	5,723	5,854	4,937	5,032	5,513
North Carolina	15,323	15,684	15,827	15,780	16,165	15,602
Oklahoma	4,892	4,163	4,437	3,843	4,202	4,247
Pennsylvania	2,901	2,953	2,838	3,040	3,140	3,022
South Carolina	4,453	4,587	3,847	5,263	3,871	4,417
Texas	12,001	11,873	11,439	10,614	11,183	10,801
Virginia	4,721	4,918	3,877	4,503	5,424	4,889
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,038	10,797	11,021	9,684	10,378	10,701
19 State total	162,378	162,464	160,037	159,553	160,512	159,051
Previous year total	161,039	162,943	160,923	160,203	160,820	157,901
Percent of previous year	101	100	99	100	100	101

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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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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