



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 186 million eggs in incubators during the week ending September 29, 2012. This was up 2 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 Slightly

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 154 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 29, 2012. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through September 29, 2012 were 6.37 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	28,073	27,312	26,375	26,841	27,468	26,059
Arkansas	20,651	20,757	19,074	19,420	20,859	20,187
Delaware	3,286	3,259	3,143	3,155	3,153	3,142
Florida	1,349	1,347	1,353	1,088	1,353	1,351
Georgia	31,721	31,596	30,962	30,475	31,914	30,722
Kentucky	7,696	7,675	6,682	6,980	7,416	7,017
Louisiana	3,167	3,211	3,285	3,272	3,008	3,122
Maryland	7,346	6,944	6,932	7,182	7,119	7,121
Mississippi	15,751	16,386	16,740	16,489	15,600	16,447
Missouri	8,032	8,019	8,037	7,366	7,252	6,914
North Carolina	19,688	19,445	18,217	18,394	19,206	19,370
Oklahoma	6,686	6,693	6,539	6,459	6,736	6,829
Pennsylvania	3,726	3,584	3,505	3,473	3,271	3,516
South Carolina	5,265	4,721	5,402	5,513	4,852	5,300
Texas	13,446	12,784	13,495	12,533	12,786	13,655
Virginia	6,049	5,985	5,798	5,500	6,032	5,426
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,316	10,445	10,074	9,553	9,413	9,627
19 State total	192,248	190,163	185,613	183,693	187,438	185,805
Previous year total	193,007	189,258	185,218	179,528	187,841	181,765
Percent of previous year	100	100	100	102	100	102

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	August 25, 2012	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,005	20,056	19,993	19,801	19,617	19,464
Arkansas	19,431	19,027	20,937	20,760	19,973	17,313
Delaware	4,577	4,947	4,023	4,033	3,907	4,261
Florida	1,248	1,186	1,105	1,300	972	1,215
Georgia	26,659	26,271	25,810	27,497	26,306	25,970
Kentucky	6,126	6,404	6,403	5,828	6,249	5,636
Louisiana	2,836	2,871	2,857	2,847	2,818	2,970
Maryland	5,682	5,738	6,350	5,620	5,924	5,262
Mississippi	15,202	14,397	14,411	13,447	14,178	14,355
Missouri	5,723	5,854	4,937	5,032	5,513	5,797
North Carolina	15,684	15,827	15,780	16,165	15,602	14,737
Oklahoma	4,163	4,437	3,843	4,202	4,247	4,893
Pennsylvania	2,953	2,838	3,040	3,140	2,997	2,933
South Carolina	4,587	3,847	5,263	3,871	4,373	4,424
Texas	11,873	11,439	10,614	11,183	10,801	11,209
Virginia	4,918	3,877	4,503	5,424	4,889	4,647
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,797	11,021	9,668	10,349	10,581	9,346
19 State total	162,464	160,037	159,537	160,499	158,947	154,432
Previous year total	162,943	160,923	160,203	160,820	157,901	154,383
Percent of previous year	100	99	100	100	101	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

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