



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 188 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 6, 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 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 154 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 6, 2012. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through October 6, 2012 were 6.52 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,312	26,375	26,820	27,468	26,059	27,144
Arkansas	20,757	19,074	19,989	20,859	20,187	20,310
Delaware	3,259	3,143	3,155	3,153	3,142	3,161
Florida	1,347	1,353	1,088	1,353	1,351	1,351
Georgia	31,596	30,962	30,475	31,914	30,722	30,771
Kentucky	7,675	6,682	7,179	7,416	7,018	7,550
Louisiana	3,211	3,285	3,272	3,008	3,122	3,287
Maryland	6,944	6,932	7,182	7,119	7,121	6,654
Mississippi	16,386	16,740	16,606	15,600	16,447	16,511
Missouri	8,019	8,037	7,366	7,252	6,914	7,823
North Carolina	19,445	18,217	18,361	19,206	19,370	18,927
Oklahoma	6,693	6,539	6,459	6,736	6,829	6,936
Pennsylvania	3,584	3,505	3,473	3,271	3,608	3,518
South Carolina	4,721	5,402	5,513	4,852	5,300	4,792
Texas	12,855	13,566	12,552	12,806	13,675	13,220
Virginia	5,985	5,798	5,500	6,032	5,426	5,909
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,453	10,076	9,643	9,413	9,581	10,250
19 State total	190,242	185,686	184,633	187,458	185,872	188,114
Previous year total	189,258	185,218	179,528	187,841	181,765	186,317
Percent of previous year	101	100	103	100	102	101

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 1, 2012	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,056	19,993	19,801	19,617	19,464	18,901
Arkansas	19,027	20,937	20,760	19,973	17,313	18,700
Delaware	4,947	4,023	4,033	3,907	4,261	4,118
Florida	1,186	1,105	1,300	972	1,215	935
Georgia	26,271	25,810	27,497	26,306	25,970	26,726
Kentucky	6,404	6,403	5,828	6,249	5,679	5,747
Louisiana	2,871	2,857	2,847	2,818	2,970	2,952
Maryland	5,738	6,350	5,620	5,924	5,262	5,440
Mississippi	14,397	14,411	13,447	14,178	14,355	14,301
Missouri	5,854	4,937	5,032	5,513	5,797	4,874
North Carolina	15,827	15,780	16,165	15,602	14,737	14,634
Oklahoma	4,437	3,843	4,202	4,247	4,893	4,465
Pennsylvania	2,838	3,040	3,140	2,997	2,935	2,925
South Carolina	3,847	5,263	3,871	4,373	4,424	4,601
Texas	11,439	10,671	11,240	10,858	11,266	10,867
Virginia	3,877	4,503	5,424	4,889	4,647	4,228
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,021	9,668	10,346	10,579	9,352	9,469
19 State total	160,037	159,594	160,553	159,002	154,540	153,883
Previous year total	160,923	160,203	160,820	157,901	154,383	148,802
Percent of previous year	99	100	100	101	100	103

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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