



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 182 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 13, 2012. This was up slightly 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 156 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 13, 2012. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through October 13, 2012 were 6.68 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	26,375	26,820	27,370	25,877	27,144	25,966
Arkansas	19,074	19,989	20,859	20,187	20,310	17,697
Delaware	3,143	3,155	3,153	3,142	3,161	3,152
Florida	1,353	1,088	1,353	1,351	1,351	1,353
Georgia	30,962	30,475	31,914	30,722	30,771	30,588
Kentucky	6,582	7,007	7,588	7,018	7,550	7,554
Louisiana	3,285	3,272	3,146	3,122	3,287	3,304
Maryland	6,932	7,182	7,119	7,121	6,654	7,471
Mississippi	16,740	16,606	15,600	16,447	16,511	16,587
Missouri	8,037	7,366	7,252	6,914	7,823	7,606
North Carolina	18,217	18,361	19,206	19,370	19,099	17,722
Oklahoma	6,539	6,441	6,717	6,811	6,936	6,287
Pennsylvania	3,505	3,473	3,271	3,608	3,672	3,592
South Carolina	5,402	5,513	5,042	5,300	4,792	4,924
Texas	13,566	12,552	12,806	13,675	13,220	13,014
Virginia	5,798	5,500	6,032	5,426	5,909	5,945
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,076	9,643	9,413	9,812	9,860	9,599
19 State total	185,586	184,443	187,841	185,903	188,050	182,361
Previous year total	185,218	179,528	187,841	181,765	186,317	181,852
Percent of previous year	100	103	100	102	101	100

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 8, 2012	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,993	19,801	19,617	19,472	18,901	19,760
Arkansas	20,937	20,760	19,973	17,313	18,701	18,906
Delaware	4,023	4,033	3,907	4,261	4,118	3,830
Florida	1,105	1,300	972	1,215	935	935
Georgia	25,810	27,497	26,306	25,970	26,749	27,770
Kentucky	6,403	5,828	6,249	5,682	5,690	6,770
Louisiana	2,857	2,847	2,897	2,970	2,952	2,845
Maryland	6,350	5,620	5,924	5,262	5,440	6,031
Mississippi	14,411	13,447	14,178	14,355	14,301	13,543
Missouri	4,937	5,032	5,513	5,797	4,874	5,327
North Carolina	15,780	16,165	15,602	14,737	14,664	14,325
Oklahoma	3,843	4,202	4,247	4,893	4,465	4,782
Pennsylvania	3,040	3,140	2,997	2,935	2,902	2,747
South Carolina	5,263	3,871	4,551	4,424	4,601	3,704
Texas	10,671	11,240	10,858	11,266	10,867	10,735
Virginia	4,503	5,424	4,889	4,647	4,228	4,832
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,668	10,346	10,579	9,473	9,462	9,045
19 State total	159,594	160,553	159,259	154,672	153,850	155,887
Previous year total	160,203	160,820	157,901	154,383	148,802	155,108
Percent of previous year	100	100	101	100	103	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

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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