



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 3 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 181 million eggs in incubators during the week ending November 3, 2012. This was down 3 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 151 million chicks for meat production during the week ending November 3, 2012. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through November 3, 2012 were 7.14 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	25,744	27,088	26,053	25,458	25,755	24,787
Arkansas	20,196	20,310	17,697	18,329	20,061	20,132
Delaware	3,142	3,161	3,158	3,162	3,240	3,284
Florida	1,351	1,351	1,353	1,088	1,353	1,351
Georgia	30,314	31,333	30,865	28,132	30,168	29,852
Kentucky	7,173	7,654	7,014	6,956	7,319	7,330
Louisiana	3,122	2,977	3,304	3,298	3,183	2,956
Maryland	7,121	6,654	7,471	7,071	6,769	6,804
Mississippi	16,170	16,496	16,543	16,364	16,365	15,168
Missouri	6,914	7,823	7,606	7,210	7,867	6,859
North Carolina	19,454	18,565	17,382	18,305	19,331	19,266
Oklahoma	6,811	6,936	6,287	6,416	6,622	6,662
Pennsylvania	3,608	3,639	3,647	3,377	3,209	3,193
South Carolina	5,300	4,792	4,924	5,654	5,122	5,156
Texas	13,675	13,220	13,014	12,603	13,200	12,989
Virginia	5,490	5,971	6,019	5,543	6,195	4,780
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,765	9,898	9,550	8,428	10,573	10,271
19 State total	185,350	187,868	181,887	177,394	186,332	180,840
Previous year total	181,765	186,317	181,852	183,537	185,172	186,594
Percent of previous year	102	101	100	97	101	97

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,472	18,901	19,778	18,660	19,380	18,778
Arkansas	17,313	18,701	18,906	18,637	19,282	17,289
Delaware	4,261	4,118	3,509	3,720	4,280	4,046
Florida	1,215	935	935	1,023	1,291	1,015
Georgia	25,976	27,034	27,814	25,953	26,577	25,812
Kentucky	5,682	5,690	6,718	5,762	5,910	5,544
Louisiana	2,970	2,952	2,845	2,700	2,703	2,949
Maryland	5,262	5,440	6,386	6,331	5,239	5,808
Mississippi	14,363	14,301	13,545	13,616	14,142	13,994
Missouri	5,797	4,874	5,327	4,770	5,543	4,996
North Carolina	14,737	14,664	14,407	15,158	14,988	14,505
Oklahoma	4,893	4,465	4,782	4,854	4,356	3,706
Pennsylvania	2,935	2,778	2,675	2,980	2,957	3,044
South Carolina	4,424	4,601	3,704	4,127	3,818	4,161
Texas	11,266	10,867	10,735	11,668	11,132	11,011
Virginia	4,647	4,228	4,877	4,495	4,494	4,526
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,473	9,425	9,027	9,804	10,673	9,875
19 State total	154,686	153,974	155,970	154,258	156,765	151,059
Previous year total	154,383	148,802	155,108	151,134	153,311	149,126
Percent of previous year	100	103	101	102	102	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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