



# Broiler Hatchery

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## Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 196 million eggs in incubators during the week ending November 17, 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 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 156 million chicks for meat production during the week ending November 17, 2012. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through November 17, 2012 were 7.45 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012	November 10, 2012	November 17, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)				
Alabama .....	26,053	26,218	25,961	24,787	26,932	27,513
Arkansas .....	17,697	18,329	20,507	20,132	21,045	21,688
Delaware .....	3,158	3,162	3,240	3,284	3,389	3,415
Florida .....	1,353	1,088	1,353	1,351	1,353	1,351
Georgia .....	30,865	28,995	30,168	29,852	31,559	32,130
Kentucky .....	7,014	6,483	7,210	7,330	7,094	7,517
Louisiana .....	3,304	3,298	3,183	2,956	2,956	3,288
Maryland .....	7,471	7,071	6,766	6,803	7,136	7,158
Mississippi .....	16,543	16,364	16,365	15,168	17,223	16,865
Missouri .....	7,606	7,210	7,867	6,859	7,258	8,040
North Carolina .....	17,382	17,924	19,331	19,266	20,202	19,553
Oklahoma .....	6,287	6,416	6,622	6,662	6,553	6,830
Pennsylvania .....	3,647	3,353	3,246	3,167	3,546	3,678
South Carolina .....	4,924	5,654	5,252	5,156	5,129	5,402
Texas .....	13,034	12,609	13,381	12,996	13,980	14,128
Virginia .....	6,019	5,543	6,195	4,780	5,127	6,275
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	9,461	8,418	10,563	10,261	10,414	10,883
19 State total .....	181,818	178,135	187,210	180,810	190,896	195,714
Previous year total .....	181,852	183,537	185,172	186,594	194,224	195,158
Percent of previous year .....	100	97	101	97	98	100

## Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012	November 10, 2012	November 17, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)				
Alabama .....	19,778	18,660	19,380	18,979	18,543	19,054
Arkansas .....	18,906	18,637	19,282	17,289	17,258	20,306
Delaware .....	3,509	3,720	4,232	4,164	4,095	4,371
Florida .....	935	1,023	1,291	1,276	1,035	1,326
Georgia .....	27,814	25,953	26,577	25,812	25,119	25,014
Kentucky .....	6,718	5,762	5,910	5,544	5,247	5,659
Louisiana .....	2,845	2,700	2,703	2,949	2,981	2,891
Maryland .....	6,386	6,331	5,259	5,712	5,246	5,307
Mississippi .....	13,545	13,616	14,142	13,994	13,869	13,993
Missouri .....	5,327	4,770	5,543	4,996	4,849	5,265
North Carolina .....	14,407	15,158	14,988	14,505	15,055	15,679
Oklahoma .....	4,782	4,854	4,356	3,706	4,181	3,680
Pennsylvania .....	2,675	2,972	2,945	2,901	2,634	2,647
South Carolina .....	3,704	4,127	3,818	4,251	3,726	4,365
Texas .....	10,751	11,684	11,148	11,027	10,769	11,234
Virginia .....	4,877	4,495	4,494	4,526	4,349	4,507
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	9,020	9,802	10,666	10,090	8,560	10,729
19 State total .....	155,979	154,264	156,734	151,721	147,516	156,027
Previous year total .....	155,108	151,134	153,311	149,126	152,174	152,567
Percent of previous year .....	101	102	102	102	97	102

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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