



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 198 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 1, 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 Down 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 160 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 1, 2012. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through December 1, 2012 were 7.76 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012	November 10, 2012	November 17, 2012	November 24, 2012	December 1, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	25,961	24,206	26,346	27,513	27,056	27,369
Arkansas	20,507	20,132	20,996	21,688	21,632	22,063
Delaware	3,240	3,284	3,389	3,415	3,413	3,415
Florida	1,353	1,351	1,353	1,351	1,353	1,655
Georgia	30,168	29,979	31,559	32,130	31,711	33,372
Kentucky	7,104	7,412	7,397	7,638	7,171	6,761
Louisiana	3,183	2,956	2,956	3,288	3,258	3,258
Maryland	6,766	6,803	7,136	7,158	7,182	7,067
Mississippi	16,365	15,168	17,223	16,865	17,178	17,089
Missouri	7,867	6,859	7,258	8,040	8,013	8,012
North Carolina	19,331	19,336	19,975	19,553	19,786	19,794
Oklahoma	6,622	6,662	6,553	6,830	6,825	7,026
Pennsylvania	3,246	3,530	3,546	3,749	3,630	3,648
South Carolina	5,252	5,156	5,129	5,243	5,657	5,557
Texas	13,381	12,996	13,980	14,128	14,000	14,764
Virginia	6,195	4,780	5,127	6,275	6,455	6,638
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,563	9,966	10,414	10,883	10,288	10,755
19 State total	187,104	180,576	190,337	195,747	194,608	198,243
Previous year total	185,172	186,594	194,224	195,158	194,560	194,178
Percent of previous year	101	97	98	100	100	102

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	October 27, 2012	November 3, 2012	November 10, 2012	November 17, 2012	November 24, 2012	December 1, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,723	19,325	18,897	19,390	17,883	19,786
Arkansas	19,282	17,289	17,258	20,306	18,987	19,476
Delaware	4,232	4,164	4,095	4,371	4,309	3,550
Florida	1,291	1,276	1,035	1,326	1,162	1,020
Georgia	26,231	25,812	24,781	24,678	24,791	26,359
Kentucky	5,910	5,544	5,250	5,745	5,875	5,542
Louisiana	2,703	2,949	2,981	2,891	2,664	2,642
Maryland	5,259	5,712	5,246	5,307	5,710	7,060
Mississippi	14,142	13,994	13,869	13,993	12,984	14,757
Missouri	5,543	4,996	4,849	5,265	4,869	5,316
North Carolina	14,988	14,505	15,055	15,712	16,127	16,603
Oklahoma	4,356	3,706	4,181	3,680	3,997	4,204
Pennsylvania	2,945	2,901	2,634	2,488	2,965	2,949
South Carolina	3,818	4,251	3,726	4,184	4,885	3,843
Texas	11,148	11,027	10,769	11,234	11,140	11,811
Virginia	4,494	4,526	4,349	4,507	3,929	3,592
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,666	10,090	8,560	10,729	9,435	11,042
19 State total	156,731	152,067	147,535	155,806	151,712	159,552
Previous year total	153,311	149,126	152,174	152,567	156,853	160,576
Percent of previous year	102	102	97	102	97	99

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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