



# 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 December 22, 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 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 167 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 22, 2012. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through December 22, 2012 were 8.25 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

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

State	Week ending					
	November 17, 2012	November 24, 2012	December 1, 2012	December 8, 2012	December 15, 2012	December 22, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,978	28,045	27,975	27,628	27,607	27,736
Arkansas .....	21,588	21,532	21,963	20,830	21,845	21,128
Delaware .....	3,415	3,413	3,415	3,414	3,415	3,414
Florida .....	1,351	1,353	1,655	1,048	1,350	1,353
Georgia .....	32,130	32,298	34,317	30,251	32,433	32,432
Kentucky .....	7,966	7,350	7,283	7,696	7,694	7,679
Louisiana .....	3,288	3,258	3,258	3,273	3,288	3,304
Maryland .....	7,158	7,182	7,067	7,117	7,185	7,153
Mississippi .....	16,865	17,178	17,089	17,377	16,927	16,575
Missouri .....	8,040	8,013	8,012	7,713	7,881	7,897
North Carolina .....	19,640	20,043	20,022	19,259	19,992	19,979
Oklahoma .....	6,830	6,825	7,026	6,809	6,581	6,968
Pennsylvania .....	3,749	3,701	3,935	3,583	3,812	3,729
South Carolina .....	5,397	5,657	5,557	5,316	4,675	5,462
Texas .....	14,128	14,212	14,764	13,761	14,237	14,033
Virginia .....	6,275	6,455	6,638	6,002	6,476	6,490
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,830	10,420	10,939	9,443	9,694	10,575
19 State total .....	196,628	196,935	200,915	190,520	195,092	195,907
Previous year total .....	195,158	194,560	194,178	194,887	194,602	195,380
Percent of previous year .....	101	101	103	98	100	100

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

State	Week ending					
	November 17, 2012	November 24, 2012	December 1, 2012	December 8, 2012	December 15, 2012	December 22, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	19,390	17,883	19,786	21,156	21,449	21,366
Arkansas .....	20,306	18,987	19,476	19,134	20,377	19,661
Delaware .....	4,371	4,309	3,550	3,831	4,086	3,744
Florida .....	1,326	1,162	1,020	1,369	1,311	1,304
Georgia .....	24,885	24,958	26,525	25,978	26,221	27,338
Kentucky .....	5,745	5,875	5,542	6,122	6,315	5,624
Louisiana .....	2,891	2,664	2,642	2,940	2,912	2,958
Maryland .....	5,307	5,710	7,060	6,526	6,198	5,513
Mississippi .....	13,993	12,984	14,757	14,396	14,770	14,652
Missouri .....	5,265	4,869	5,316	5,768	5,720	5,633
North Carolina .....	15,712	16,127	16,728	15,865	16,416	16,861
Oklahoma .....	3,680	3,997	4,204	5,307	4,718	5,273
Pennsylvania .....	2,488	2,772	2,804	3,084	2,900	3,283
South Carolina .....	4,184	4,885	3,843	5,064	4,344	4,763
Texas .....	11,256	11,162	11,832	11,940	11,809	12,416
Virginia .....	4,507	3,929	3,592	4,264	4,456	4,973
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,589	9,465	10,742	10,657	9,602	11,489
19 State total .....	155,895	151,738	159,419	163,401	163,604	166,851
Previous year total .....	152,567	156,853	160,576	162,541	162,116	162,753
Percent of previous year .....	102	97	99	101	101	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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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