August Egg Production Down 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.57 billion during August 2007, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.13 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 65 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during August 2007 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. August egg production per 100 layers was 2,229 eggs, down slightly from August 2006.

All layers in the U.S. on September 1, 2007 totaled 339 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 339 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 2007, averaged 71.7 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from September 1, 2006.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 3 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during August 2007 totaled 36.8 million, up 3 percent from August 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.3 million on September 1, 2007, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 278,000 during August 2007, down 2 percent from August 2006.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 2 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during August 2007 totaled 829 million, up 2 percent from August 2006. Eggs in incubators totaled 670 million on September 1, 2007, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.68 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during August 2007, up 1 percent from August 2006.
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Average Number of Layers on Hand and Egg Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, Forced Molt, and Pullets</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg-Type Hatchery</td>
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<td>Broiler-Type Intended Placements</td>
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## All Layers: Average Number on Hand During the Month, United States, 2005-07

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<thead>
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<th>Month</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 Layers</td>
<td>1,000 Layers</td>
<td>1,000 Layers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec (^1)</td>
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<td>348,810</td>
<td>348,098</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>347,874</td>
<td>349,677</td>
<td>347,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>348,784</td>
<td>350,018</td>
<td>347,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>347,120</td>
<td>350,470</td>
<td>346,437</td>
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<td>Apr</td>
<td>343,927</td>
<td>348,643</td>
<td>343,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>342,162</td>
<td>345,223</td>
<td>341,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>340,200</td>
<td>342,685</td>
<td>339,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul (^2)</td>
<td>338,917</td>
<td>341,252</td>
<td>338,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>339,777</td>
<td>341,540</td>
<td>339,471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>341,433</td>
<td>343,147</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>343,381</td>
<td>344,538</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>346,314</td>
<td>346,936</td>
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\(^1\) December preceding year.
\(^2\) Revised 2007 only.

## Eggs: Production During the Month by Type, United States, 2006-07 \(^1\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Total Eggs</th>
<th>Table Eggs</th>
<th>Hatching Eggs</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Million Eggs</td>
<td>Million Eggs</td>
<td>Million Eggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec (^2)</td>
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<td>7,777</td>
<td>6,697</td>
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<td>7,727</td>
<td>7,637</td>
<td>6,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>6,980</td>
<td>6,916</td>
<td>5,983</td>
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<td>Mar</td>
<td>7,843</td>
<td>7,769</td>
<td>6,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>7,543</td>
<td>7,435</td>
<td>6,468</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>7,637</td>
<td>7,591</td>
<td>6,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>7,401</td>
<td>7,355</td>
<td>6,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul (^3)</td>
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<td>7,573</td>
<td>6,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>7,647</td>
<td>7,568</td>
<td>6,557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>7,430</td>
<td>6,379</td>
<td>6,449</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
<td>7,678</td>
<td>6,600</td>
<td>1,078</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>7,549</td>
<td>6,506</td>
<td>1,043</td>
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<td>77,954</td>
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\(^1\) Totals may not add due to rounding.
\(^2\) December preceding year.
\(^3\) Revised 2007 only.
Average Number of Layers
United States, 2005 - 2007
During the Month

All Egg Production
United States, 2005 - 2007
During the Month
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Layers During Jul</td>
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<td>338,892</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
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<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>279,737</td>
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<td>103</td>
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<td>Egg-Type Hatching</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggs per 100 Layers During Jul</td>
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<td>2,235</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>2,300</td>
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<td>99</td>
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<td>66</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg-Type Hatching</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layers on Aug 1</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>340,728</td>
<td>339,505</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>283,401</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eggs per 100 Layers on Aug 1</td>
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<td>72.1</td>
<td>101</td>
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<td>77.1</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egg-Type Hatching</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced Molt Layers on Aug 1</td>
<td>Percent</td>
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<td>3.4</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Being Molted</td>
<td></td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent with Molt Completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layers Sold for Slaughter During Jul</td>
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<td>12,871</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Jul</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>9,197</td>
<td>7,434</td>
<td>81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pullets on Aug 1</td>
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<td>101,755</td>
<td>102,416</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pullets Added During Jul 1</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>21,265</td>
<td>20,865</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Totals may not add due to rounding.
2 Revised.
3 Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.
### Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced Molt, United States, August-September 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Layers During Aug</strong></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
<td></td>
<td>341,540</td>
<td>339,471</td>
<td>99</td>
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<td>Table Egg Type</td>
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<td>56,065</td>
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<td>Egg-Type Hatching</td>
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<td>2,730</td>
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<td>2,229</td>
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<td>65</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Layers on Sep 1</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
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<td><strong>Eggs per 100 Layers on Sep 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>Hatching Egg Type</td>
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<td>75.7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Forced Molt Layers on Sep 1</strong></td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Being Molted</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent with Molt Completed</td>
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<td>25.9</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>93</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Layers Sold for Slaughter During Aug</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>13,345</td>
<td>105</td>
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<td><strong>Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Aug</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All Layers</td>
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<td><strong>Pullets on Sep 1</strong></td>
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<td>101,001</td>
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<td>All Layers</td>
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<td>22,612</td>
<td>21,691</td>
<td>96</td>
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</table>

1 Totals may not add due to rounding.
2 Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.
### Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State and United States, During July 2006-07

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above</th>
<th>All Layers ¹</th>
<th>Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>2007 ²</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
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<td>AL</td>
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<td>1,194</td>
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<td>4,041</td>
<td>13,976</td>
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1 Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.
2 Revised.
3 Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
### Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State and United States, During August 2006-07

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<th>Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹</th>
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¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
# Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
## July 2006-07

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1 Totals may not add due to rounding.
2 Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in US totals.
3 Revised.
4 Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
## Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States, August 2006-07

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1. Totals may not add due to rounding.
2. Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in US totals.
3. Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
## Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month, United States, 2006-07

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1 As of first of month.

2 Revised 2007 only.

---

## All Layers: Percent Molt Completed

United States, 2005 - 2007
First of the Month

![Graph showing percent molt completed from 2005 to 2007](image-url)
### Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State and United States, September 2006-07

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<td>2.5</td>
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<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
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<td>4.0</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
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1. As of first of month.
2. Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
### Hatchery Production: Eggs in Incubators, Chicks Hatched, and Placements by Type, United States, August-September 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Egg-Type</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggs in Incubators on Sep 1</td>
<td>36,724</td>
<td>35,305</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicks Hatched During Aug</td>
<td>35,611</td>
<td>36,838</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicks Hatched Jan thru Aug</td>
<td>288,296</td>
<td>304,834</td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pullets Hatched During Aug for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
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<td>7-18 Months Earlier</td>
<td>2,902</td>
<td>2,915</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Broiler-Type</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggs in Incubators on Sep 1</td>
<td>656,902</td>
<td>669,586</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicks Hatched During Aug</td>
<td>810,030</td>
<td>828,788</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicks Hatched Jan thru Aug</td>
<td>6,355,881</td>
<td>6,429,533</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>7,684</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-15 Months Earlier</td>
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<td>64,870</td>
<td>101</td>
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1 2007 includes pullet chicks hatched Feb 2006 through Jan 2007.

### Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States, September 1, 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
<td>6,440</td>
<td>5,152</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E North Central</td>
<td>6,906</td>
<td>6,728</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W North Central</td>
<td>8,580</td>
<td>8,935</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Atlantic</td>
<td>4,615</td>
<td>4,285</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>5,431</td>
<td>5,411</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>4,752</td>
<td>4,794</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>36,724</td>
<td>35,305</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regions:
North Atlantic = CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.
E North Central = IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.
W North Central = IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.
South Atlantic = DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.
South Central = AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.
West = AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.
### Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By State and United States, August 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>During August</th>
<th>Jan-Aug</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2007</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>2,069</td>
<td>2,165</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>17,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN</td>
<td>4,918</td>
<td>5,088</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>40,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA</td>
<td>6,694</td>
<td>7,373</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>53,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>1,047</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>7,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>5,057</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>35,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oth Sts 1</td>
<td>15,898</td>
<td>17,125</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>133,871</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>35,611</td>
<td>36,838</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>288,296</td>
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</table>

1 Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

### Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>By Months</th>
<th>Cumulative</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>35,159</td>
<td>36,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>33,409</td>
<td>36,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>38,805</td>
<td>40,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>35,435</td>
<td>39,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>39,744</td>
<td>38,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>37,406</td>
<td>40,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>32,727</td>
<td>35,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>35,611</td>
<td>36,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>36,873</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>31,554</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>33,183</td>
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## Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply

### Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Pullet Chicks Hatched</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
<th>Cumulative Potential Plcmts Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>223</td>
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<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>121</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
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<td>108</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
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<td>191</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>284</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>260</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>206</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>205</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,873</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Reported by leading breeders. Coverage may not be 100 percent. Includes expected pullet chicks from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per 30 dozen case of eggs.

2 For August 2007, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Feb 2006 through Jan 2007. The 7-18 months represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements.

## Broiler-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States, September 1, 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
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<td>113</td>
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<tr>
<td>E North Central</td>
<td>9,121</td>
<td>11,354</td>
<td>124</td>
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<tr>
<td>W North Central</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Atlantic</td>
<td>242,917</td>
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<tr>
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<td>95</td>
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<tr>
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<td>669,586</td>
<td>102</td>
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</table>
## Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State and United States, August 2006-07

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>During August</th>
<th>Jan-Aug</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Percent</td>
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<td>15,564</td>
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<td>112,110</td>
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<td>CA, MO, TN, &amp; WV</td>
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<td>810,030</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>6,355,881</td>
</tr>
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1 States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.
2 Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

## Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2007 as % of 2006</th>
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<td>Percent</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Percent</td>
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<td>804,801</td>
<td>797,066</td>
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<td>723,733</td>
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<td>1,538,226</td>
<td>1,520,819</td>
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<td>810,732</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>2,356,068</td>
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<td>800,524</td>
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<td>6,355,881</td>
<td>6,429,533</td>
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<td>7,901,081</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Pullet Chicks Hatched 2006</td>
<td>Pullet Chicks Hatched 2007</td>
<td>2007 as % of 2006</td>
<td>Cumulative Potential Plcmts Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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</tr>
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<td>US Place-</td>
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<td>65,407</td>
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<td>7,135</td>
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<td>64,389</td>
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</tr>
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1 Reported by leading breeders. Coverage may not be 100 percent. Includes expected pullet chicks from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per 30 dozen case of eggs.
4 U.S. production of intended placements worldwide.
5 Revised 2007 only.
Reliability of Chicken and Eggs Estimates

Survey Procedures: Primary data for the "Chickens and Eggs" report are from weekly and/or monthly questionnaires sent to producers. An attempt is made to collect information for layer and egg estimates from each known contractor and independent producer who has at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, or pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 650 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. All known hatcheries, approximately 300, are contacted for information on a weekly and/or monthly basis.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the reported data. All data are checked 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, regional, and U.S. totals.

For chicken hatcheries, chicks hatched consist of all chicks of domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. Eggs set are eggs in incubators for the purpose of hatching. The relationship of egg-type chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings are carefully monitored. The disposition of egg-type chicks hatched prior to placement into the laying flock can vary significantly, which can make comparisons to changes in layer inventory inconsistent over time. Broiler chicks placed are specifically placed on feed for meat production. Intended placement data reported by leading breeders include pullet chicks expected from eggs sold the preceding month. The breeders in this report account for a large percentage of replacement pullets for hatchery supply flocks. Production of replacement pullets by these breeders indicates the number of pullets available to hatchery supply flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the flocks. “Hatchery Supply Flocks” include all generations of layers which could lay eggs to supply a hatchery. This includes the generations of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, pedigree, etc. Also included are research flocks, vaccine flocks, and specific pathogen-free flocks. The broiler cumulative potential placements are a moving total of the intended placements 7-15 months earlier. The egg-type cumulative potential placements of 7-18 months represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

Revision Policy: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual reports of "Chickens and Eggs Summary" and "Hatchery Production".

Reliability: Estimates are based on a census of all known contractors and independent producers who have at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets, or operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, 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.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch ..................................................... (202) 720-3570
Darin Jantzi, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section ....................... (202) 720-3570
David Colwell - Cold Storage ................................................................. (202) 720-8784
Fleming Gibson - Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Catfish Processing, Mink ........ (202) 690-3237
Sharyn Lavender - Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey ......................... (202) 720-3244
Kim Linonis - Layers, Eggs ............................................................... (202) 690-8632
Toby Paterson - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .................................................. (202) 720-0585
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