

Chickens and Eggs

Released April 23, 2010, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Layers and Eggs" call Kim Linonis at (202) 690-8632, for "Chicks Hatched" call Troy Marshall at (202) 720-3244, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

March Egg Production Up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.81 billion during March 2010, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.71 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 76 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2010 averaged 341 million, up slightly from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,292 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2009.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2010 totaled 342 million, up slightly from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 283 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.03 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2010, averaged 74.8 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from April 1, 2009.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 8 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2010 totaled 45.2 million, up 8 percent from March 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 42.9 million on April 1, 2010, up 14 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 260 thousand during March 2010, down 6 percent from March 2009.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up Slightly

Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2010 totaled 787 million, up slightly from March 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 640 million on April 1, 2010, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.61 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2010, down 2 percent from March 2009.

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**All Layers: Average Number on Hand During the Month,
United States, 2009-10**

Month	2009	2010
	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>
Dec ¹	340,638	339,744
Jan	341,400	339,009
Feb ²	341,068	339,086
Mar	340,914	340,919
Apr	340,170	
May	337,116	
Jun	334,032	
Jul	332,740	
Aug	332,612	
Sep	333,885	
Oct	335,819	
Nov	338,121	

¹ December preceding year.

² Revised 2010 only.

**Eggs: Production During the Month by Type,
United States, 2009-10**

Month	Total Eggs ¹		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
Dec ²	7,778	7,827	6,711	6,758	1,068	1,068
Jan	7,678	7,688	6,603	6,606	1,075	1,082
Feb ³	6,903	6,909	5,917	5,923	985	986
Mar	7,737	7,814	6,645	6,711	1,093	1,102
Apr	7,472		6,419		1,053	
May	7,607		6,515		1,092	
Jun	7,360		6,301		1,059	
Jul	7,590		6,505		1,085	
Aug	7,593		6,518		1,075	
Sep	7,376		6,349		1,027	
Oct	7,696		6,638		1,059	
Nov	7,569		6,541		1,027	
During Year ¹	90,359		77,664		12,698	

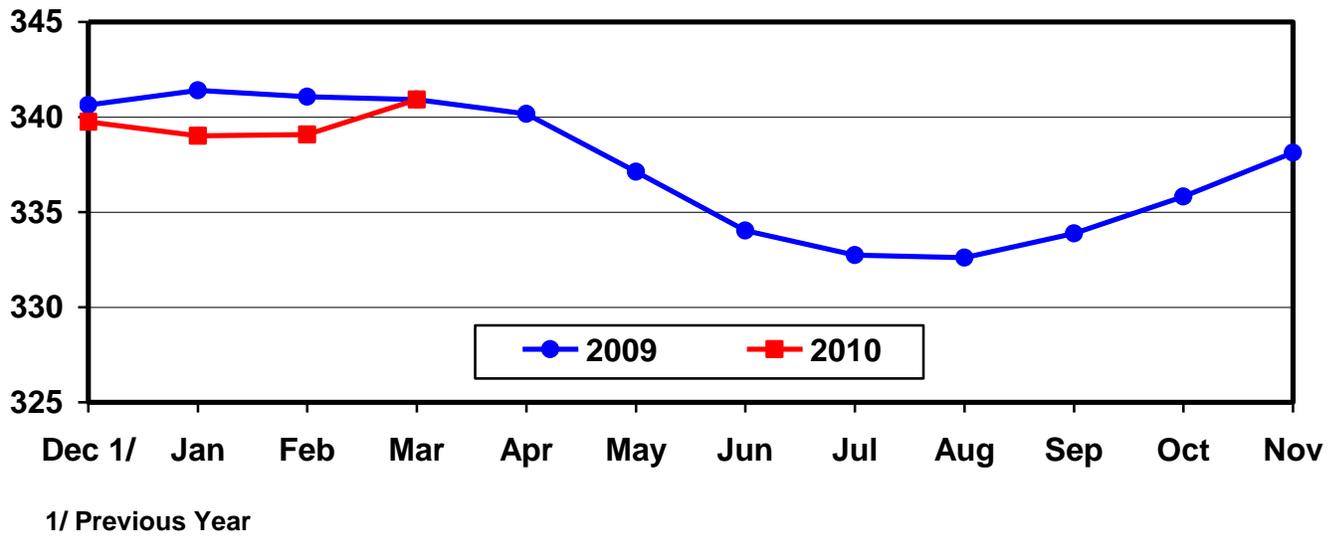
¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² December preceding year.

³ Revised 2010 only.

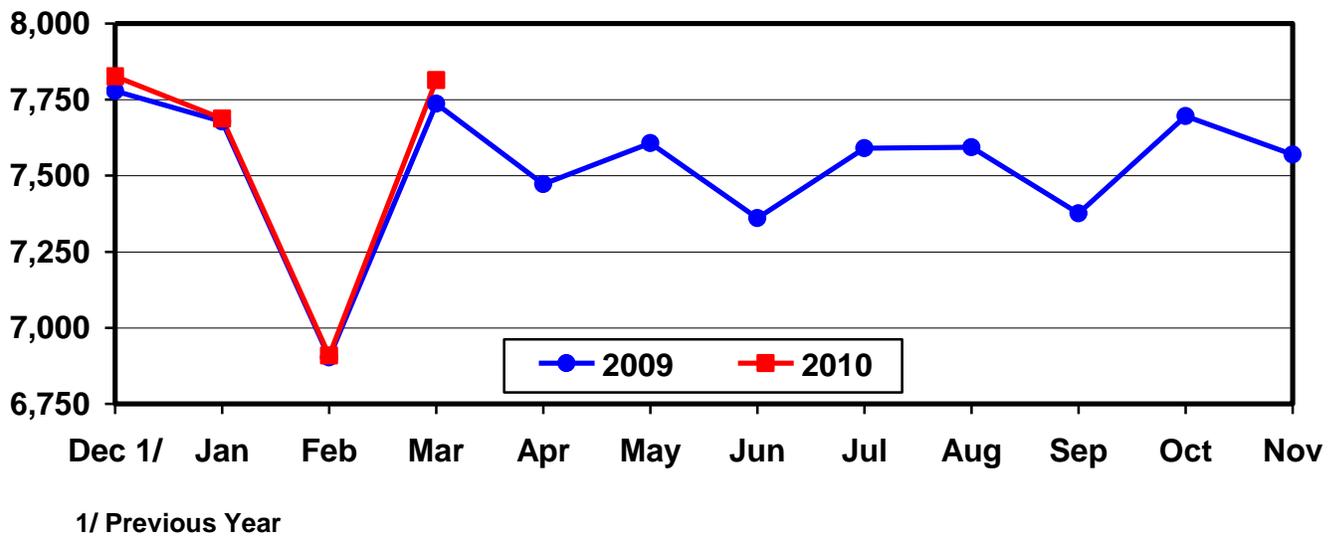
U.S. Average Number of Layers During the Month

Million Layers



U.S. All Egg Production During the Month

Million Eggs



**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, February-March 2009-10**

Item	Unit	2009	2010 ¹	2010 as % of 2009
Layers During Feb ²	1,000			
All Layers		341,068	339,086	99
Table Egg Type		283,670	281,123	99
Hatching Egg Type		57,398	57,963	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,341	55,001	101
Egg-Type Hatching		3,057	2,962	97
Eggs per 100 Layers During Feb	Number			
All Layers		2,024	2,038	101
Table Egg Type		2,086	2,107	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,716	1,701	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,687	1,669	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,224	2,296	103
Eggs Produced During Feb ²	Million			
All Layers		6,903	6,909	100
Table Egg Type		5,917	5,923	100
Hatching Egg Type		985	986	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		917	918	100
Egg-Type Hatching		68	68	100
Layers on Mar 1 ²	1,000			
All Layers		340,716	340,046	100
Table Egg Type		283,386	281,631	99
Hatching Egg Type		57,330	58,415	102
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,256	55,458	102
Egg-Type Hatching		3,074	2,957	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Mar 1	Number			
All Layers		72.4	73.1	101
Table Egg Type		74.5	75.7	102
Hatching Egg Type		61.7	60.6	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		60.8	59.4	98
Egg-Type Hatching		79.1	81.9	104
Forced Molt Layers on Mar 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		3.4	3.2	94
Percent with Molt Completed		21.5	21.0	98
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Feb	1,000	14,551	13,478	93
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Feb	1,000	7,278	6,753	93
Pullets on Mar 1	1,000	99,870	102,055	102
Pullets Added During Feb ³	1,000	20,833	22,023	106

¹ Revised.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

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, March-April 2009-10**

Item	Unit	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
Layers During Mar ¹	1,000			
All Layers		340,914	340,919	100
Table Egg Type		283,531	282,469	100
Hatching Egg Type		57,383	58,450	102
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,309	55,450	102
Egg-Type Hatching		3,074	3,000	98
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	Number			
All Layers		2,269	2,292	101
Table Egg Type		2,344	2,376	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,905	1,885	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,874	1,850	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,440	2,533	104
Eggs Produced During Mar ¹	Million			
All Layers		7,737	7,814	101
Table Egg Type		6,645	6,711	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,093	1,102	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,018	1,026	101
Egg-Type Hatching		75	76	101
Layers on Apr 1 ¹	1,000			
All Layers		341,067	341,757	100
Table Egg Type		283,651	283,289	100
Hatching Egg Type		57,416	58,468	102
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,346	55,434	102
Egg-Type Hatching		3,070	3,034	99
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	Number			
All Layers		73.9	74.8	101
Table Egg Type		76.5	77.6	101
Hatching Egg Type		61.1	61.0	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		60.1	60.0	100
Egg-Type Hatching		77.5	80.6	104
Forced Molt Layers on Apr 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		2.1	2.6	124
Percent with Molt Completed		21.8	21.2	97
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Mar	1,000	13,897	14,645	105
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	1,000	7,535	6,469	86
Pullets on Apr 1	1,000	100,877	101,651	101
Pullets Added During Mar ²	1,000	23,907	23,684	99

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 February 2009-10**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers		Eggs per 100 for All Layers	
	2009	2010 ¹	2009	2010 ¹	2009	2010 ¹
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	1,415	1,292	9,332	9,513	1,725	1,692
AR	3,495	3,172	12,863	12,299	1,765	1,789
CA	19,465	19,154	19,770	19,460	2,023	2,107
CO	3,409	3,053	3,890	3,571	2,288	2,240
CT	2,678	2,473	2,741	2,545	2,080	2,083
FL	9,627	9,369	9,948	9,664	1,960	2,080
GA	9,360	8,875	18,214	17,627	1,905	1,974
HI	307	267	334	312	1,557	1,699
IL	4,448	4,290	4,662	4,514	2,016	2,171
IN	23,655	23,074	24,399	23,822	2,029	2,091
IA	52,855	53,223	53,796	54,103	2,050	2,026
ME	3,584	3,546	3,667	3,601	1,909	2,194
MD	2,064	2,205	2,188	2,308	1,920	2,123
MI	9,446	10,158	9,610	10,325	2,216	2,150
MN	9,677	9,902	10,176	10,383	2,113	2,119
MS	1,450	1,475	5,967	6,101	1,877	1,819
MO	5,875	5,682	7,176	7,074	2,132	2,092
NE	9,623	9,329	9,673	9,379	2,161	2,186
NY	3,885	3,805	4,103	4,031	2,218	2,208
NC	5,279	6,057	12,454	13,308	1,951	1,871
OH	26,856	26,734	27,300	27,233	2,018	2,038
OR	2,339	2,054	2,486	2,171	2,333	2,165
PA	21,566	22,360	22,714	23,458	2,179	2,230
SC	3,098	3,130	4,389	4,394	1,982	1,912
SD	2,447	2,347	2,487	2,387	2,211	2,178
TX	14,800	13,379	19,412	17,980	2,025	2,041
UT ²		3,347		3,377		1,954
VA	1,342	1,138	2,942	3,416	1,801	1,786
WA	6,014	6,385	6,129	6,500	2,105	2,031
WI	4,256	4,119	4,836	4,689	2,068	2,090
Oth Sts ³	14,904	11,237	23,410	19,541	1,969	1,955
US	279,219	276,631	341,068	339,086	2,024	2,038

¹ Revised.

² Included in Oth Sts in 2009.

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 March 2009-10**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers		Eggs per 100 for All Layers	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	1,432	1,340	9,297	9,816	1,958	1,895
AR	3,522	3,258	12,792	12,299	1,986	2,025
CA	19,450	19,233	19,747	19,541	2,274	2,374
CO	3,404	3,192	3,854	3,702	2,543	2,485
CT	2,754	2,546	2,822	2,622	2,339	2,326
FL	9,628	9,272	9,989	9,560	2,222	2,385
GA	9,216	8,816	18,048	17,640	2,166	2,217
HI	310	261	337	306	1,751	1,863
IL	4,475	4,323	4,688	4,547	2,240	2,375
IN	23,507	23,123	24,315	23,886	2,311	2,353
IA	52,937	53,447	53,884	54,327	2,272	2,306
ME	3,450	3,570	3,531	3,625	2,181	2,455
MD	2,108	2,219	2,247	2,340	2,225	2,350
MI	9,666	10,104	9,830	10,273	2,411	2,453
MN	9,721	9,953	10,235	10,453	2,374	2,325
MS	1,484	1,474	6,042	6,050	2,085	2,083
MO	5,817	5,685	7,095	7,058	2,396	2,324
NE	9,697	9,382	9,747	9,432	2,360	2,439
NY	3,926	3,713	4,141	3,943	2,487	2,485
NC	5,304	5,920	12,504	13,358	2,127	2,089
OH	26,906	27,302	27,349	27,805	2,300	2,273
OR	2,290	2,197	2,433	2,329	2,630	2,447
PA	21,580	22,555	22,712	23,672	2,452	2,488
SC	2,979	3,140	4,276	4,417	2,198	2,196
SD	2,416	2,390	2,456	2,430	2,443	2,387
TX	14,757	13,411	19,303	17,957	2,269	2,300
UT ¹		3,358		3,388		2,243
VA	1,246	1,172	2,907	3,476	2,064	2,014
WA	6,007	6,344	6,122	6,459	2,369	2,384
WI	4,368	4,242	4,947	4,826	2,345	2,300
Oth Sts ²	14,723	11,035	23,264	19,382	2,205	2,172
US	279,080	277,977	340,914	340,919	2,269	2,292

¹ Included in Oth Sts in 2009.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
February 2009-10**

State	Total Production ¹		Table Eggs ²		Hatching Eggs ²	
	2009	2010 ³	2009	2010 ³	2009	2010
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	161	161	28	24	133	137
AR	227	220	73	72	154	148
CA	400	410				
CO	89	80				
CT	57	53				
FL	195	201	190	197	5	4
GA	347	348	194	194	153	154
HI	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	0	0
IL	94	98	91	95	3	3
IN	495	498	483	485	12	13
IA	1,103	1,096	1,089	1,083	14	13
ME	70	79				
MD	42	49	41	48	1	1
MI	213	222				
MN	215	220	207	212	8	8
MS	112	111	33	32	79	79
MO	153	148				
NE	209	205	209	205	0	0
NY	91	89				
NC	243	249	123	130	120	119
OH	551	555				
OR	58	47	56	46	2	1
PA	495	523	476	504	19	19
SC	87	84	66	64	21	20
SD	55	52	55	52	0	0
TX	393	367				
UT ⁴		66		66		0
VA	53	61	27	23	26	38
WA	129	132				
WI	100	98				
Oth Sts ⁵	461	382	337	265	124	117
US ¹	6,903	6,909	5,917	5,923	985	986

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 Included in Oth Sts in 2009.

⁵ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
March 2009-10**

State	Total Production ¹		Table Eggs ²		Hatching Eggs ²	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	182	186	34	30	148	156
AR	254	249	84	84	170	165
CA	449	464				
CO	98	92				
CT	66	61				
FL	222	228	215	224	7	4
GA	391	391	222	218	169	173
HI	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.7	0	0
IL	105	108	102	105	3	3
IN	562	562	547	548	15	14
IA	1,224	1,253	1,208	1,239	16	14
ME	77	89				
MD	50	55	49	54	1	1
MI	237	252				
MN	243	243	234	235	9	8
MS	126	126	36	38	90	88
MO	170	164				
NE	230	230	230	230	0	0
NY	103	98				
NC	266	279	134	145	132	134
OH	629	632				
OR	64	57	62	55	2	2
PA	557	589	537	568	20	21
SC	94	97	72	75	22	22
SD	60	58	60	58	0	0
TX	438	413				
UT ³		76		76		0
VA	60	70	31	28	29	42
WA	145	154				
WI	116	111				
Oth Sts ⁴	513	421	375	290	139	131
US ¹	7,737	7,814	6,645	6,711	1,093	1,102

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 Included in Oth Sts in 2009.

⁴ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month,
United States, 2009-10**

Month	Percent Being Molted ¹		Percent with Molt Completed ¹	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	3.3	2.7	21.3	20.6
Feb	3.4	3.6	21.6	20.1
Mar	3.4	3.2	21.5	21.0
Apr	2.1	2.6	21.8	21.2
May	4.5		20.7	
Jun	3.4		21.4	
Jul	3.4		20.8	
Aug	2.7		21.4	
Sep	2.9		21.2	
Oct	3.5		21.1	
Nov	2.3		21.9	
Dec	1.8		22.2	

¹ As of first of month.

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State
and United States, April 1, 2009-10**

State	Percent Being Molted ¹		Percent with Molt Completed ¹	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	0.5	1.0	6.0	5.5
AR	0.0	0.0	11.0	9.5
CA	2.0	2.0	29.0	29.0
CO	0.0	2.5	19.0	14.5
CT	0.0	0.0	19.0	8.5
FL	2.5	4.0	34.0	36.5
GA	1.0	0.0	11.5	15.5
HI	10.5	9.0	52.0	48.5
IL	0.0	1.0	34.5	20.0
IN	2.5	4.0	37.5	31.5
IA	3.5	3.0	35.0	35.0
ME	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MD	0.0	0.0	19.0	12.0
MI	5.0	1.5	25.0	25.0
MN	2.5	2.0	24.5	23.0
MS	1.0	0.5	9.5	8.5
MO	1.5	2.0	9.5	21.0
NE	1.5	0.0	1.0	3.0
NY	1.0	0.0	7.0	9.5
NC	0.0	0.0	11.5	9.5
OH	2.5	7.5	17.0	17.0
OR	4.5	5.0	30.0	26.0
PA	2.0	2.0	12.5	12.5
SC	1.0	0.0	17.0	16.0
SD	2.5	10.5	34.0	20.0
TX	2.0	1.5	18.5	13.0
UT ²		7.0		40.0
VA	0.0	7.5	11.5	14.0
WA	5.0	3.0	33.5	35.5
WI	0.0	7.0	25.0	34.0
Oth Sts ³	2.0	1.7	19.8	17.5
US	2.1	2.6	21.8	21.2

¹ As of first of month.

² Included in Oth Sts in 2009.

³ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**Hatchery Production: Eggs in Incubators, Chicks Hatched,
and Placements by Type, United States, March-April 2009-10**

Item	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	37,735	42,941	114
Chicks Hatched During Mar	41,737	45,151	108
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	116,344	124,065	107
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	277	260	94
7-18 Months Earlier ¹	2,969	3,308	111
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	627,232	640,266	102
Chicks Hatched During Mar	785,851	786,954	100
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	2,270,304	2,262,345	100
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	6,773	6,610	98
7-15 Months Earlier ²	65,535	62,142	95

¹ 2010 includes pullet chicks hatched Sep 2008 through Aug 2009.

² 2010 includes pullet chicks hatched Dec 2008 through Aug 2009.

**Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States,
April 1, 2009-10**

Region	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	5,853	5,834	100
E North Central	7,782	8,801	113
W North Central	9,148	9,004	98
South Atlantic	3,949	4,842	123
South Central	5,487	5,568	101
West	5,516	8,892	161
US	37,735	42,941	114

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 2009-10

Month	By Months			Cumulative		
	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	37,812	38,794	103	37,812	38,794	103
Feb	36,795	40,120	109	74,607	78,914	106
Mar	41,737	45,151	108	116,344	124,065	107
Apr	42,794			159,138		
May	40,758			199,896		
Jun	41,968			241,864		
Jul	36,213			278,077		
Aug	37,945			316,022		
Sep	40,515			356,537		
Oct	37,566			394,103		
Nov	34,512			428,615		
Dec	39,554			468,169		

**Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply
Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 2009-10**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched		2010 as % of 2009	Cumulative Potential Plcmts Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier ¹	
	2009	2010		2009	2010
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Jan	240	227	95	2,907	3,198
Feb	256	296	116	2,968	3,296
Mar	277	260	94	2,969	3,308
Apr	307			2,879	3,318
May	275			2,968	3,322
Jun	321			3,004	3,295
Jul	342			2,958	3,405
Aug	291			3,000	3,392
Sep	220			2,985	3,432
Oct	277			3,017	3,415
Nov	290			3,060	
Dec	309			3,108	
Total	3,405				

¹ For March 2010, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Sep 2008 through Aug 2009. 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, April 1, 2009-10**

Region	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	12,212	12,064	99
E North Central	12,330	12,655	103
W North Central	27,866	28,280	101
South Atlantic	231,727	235,619	102
South Central	318,921	328,189	103
West	24,176	23,459	97
US	627,232	640,266	102

**Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State
and United States, March 2009-10**

State	During March			Jan-Mar		
	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	110,186	110,257	100	316,873	316,845	100
AR	91,131	89,622	98	264,440	258,384	98
DE	12,975	12,275	95	36,682	34,895	95
FL	3,645	4,893	134	10,914	14,082	129
GA	119,397	115,942	97	349,116	334,188	96
KY	27,913	28,808	103	80,406	83,532	104
LA	11,570	12,681	110	36,369	36,471	100
MD	33,034	33,120	100	93,777	94,655	101
MS	67,563	72,363	107	191,302	206,649	108
NC	69,611	69,201	99	202,253	199,629	99
OK	25,050	24,416	97	71,524	71,795	100
PA	14,552	13,463	93	41,718	38,785	93
SC	19,998	20,428	102	58,370	58,917	101
TX	60,555	58,447	97	172,738	166,374	96
VA	22,300	23,790	107	63,205	66,628	105
CA, MO, TN, & WV	72,259	71,997	100	207,648	202,770	98
19 Sts ¹	761,739	761,703	100	2,197,335	2,184,599	99
Oth Sts ²	24,112	25,251	105	72,969	77,746	107
US	785,851	786,954	100	2,270,304	2,262,345	100

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, 2009-10

Month	By Months			Cumulative		
	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	780,219	775,615	99	780,219	775,615	99
Feb	704,234	699,776	99	1,484,453	1,475,391	99
Mar	785,851	786,954	100	2,270,304	2,262,345	100
Apr	758,663			3,028,967		
May	789,812			3,818,779		
Jun	773,590			4,592,369		
Jul	784,118			5,376,487		
Aug	781,423			6,157,910		
Sep	742,769			6,900,679		
Oct	730,698			7,631,377		
Nov	705,439			8,336,816		
Dec	779,533			9,116,349		

**Intended Placements: Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery
Supply Flocks by Month and Total, 2009-10**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched		2010 as % of 2009	Cumulative Potential Plcmts Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier ¹	
	2009	2010		2009	2010
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
US Place- ments					
Jan	7,142	7,219	101	65,952	62,833
Feb ²	7,215	6,994	97	65,444	62,005
Mar	6,773	6,610	98	65,535	62,142
Apr	6,240			65,173	62,672
May	7,658			65,203	61,918
Jun	7,157			64,693	62,049
Jul	6,214			64,183	61,903
Aug	7,163			64,206	62,882
Sep	7,110			63,204	61,918
Oct	6,388			62,823	61,371
Nov	7,346			62,601	
Dec	6,627			62,562	
Annual Total	83,033				
Total Place- ments ³					
Jan	8,410	8,626	103		
Feb	8,524	8,972	105		
Mar	8,626	8,910	103		
Apr	7,746				
May	9,143				
Jun	8,830				
Jul	7,469				
Aug	8,975				
Sep	8,947				
Oct	7,883				
Nov	8,916				
Dec	8,400				
Annual Total	101,869				

¹ For Mar 2010, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Dec 2008 through Aug 2009.

² Revised 2010 pullet chicks hatched and cumulative placements for September 2010.

³ U.S. production of intended placements worldwide.

Reliability of Chickens 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 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, 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 layer flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the laying 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 earlier 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.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for all layers over the past 24 months is 0.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 341 million layers by more than 0.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.2 percent.

Reliability of Layer and Egg Estimates

Item	Root Mean Square Error	90 Percent Confidence Level		Difference Between First and Latest Estimates			Number of Months	
				Average	Smallest	Largest	First Above Latest	First Below Latest
All Layers	<i>Percent</i> 0.1	<i>Percent</i> 0.2	<i>1,000</i> 8	<i>1,000</i> 432	<i>1,000</i> 138	<i>1,000</i> 873	<i>Number</i> 11	<i>Number</i> 13
Eggs	0.2	0.3	<i>Million Eggs</i> 0	<i>Million Eggs</i> 10	<i>Million Eggs</i> 0	<i>Million Eggs</i> 23	10	13

Regional Listing

North Atlantic: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

West 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.

Terms and Definitions of Chickens and Eggs Estimates

All Layers includes both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

Intended Placements are 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 case of 30 dozen eggs.

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
- Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section.....(202) 720-4447
- Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised.....(202) 690-3237
- David Colwell – Cold Storage.....(202) 720-8784
- Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production,
 Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink(202) 720-0585
- Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs.....(202) 690-8632
- Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey.....(202) 720-3244

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