



Chickens and Eggs

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December Egg Production Up 1 Percent

United States egg production totaled 7.90 billion during December 2010, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.83 billion table eggs, and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.00 billion were broiler-type and 67 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2010 averaged 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,313 eggs, up slightly from December 2009.

All layers in the United States on January 1, 2011 totaled 343 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 343 million layers consisted of 285 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on January 1, 2011, averaged 74.2 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from January 1, 2010.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Down 4 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during December 2010 totaled 37.9 million, down 4 percent from December 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 38.7 million on January 1, 2011, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 264 thousand during December 2010, down 15 percent from December 2009.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 1 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during December 2010 totaled 786 million, up 1 percent from December 2009. Eggs in incubators totaled 635 million on January 1, 2011, up slightly from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.50 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during December 2010, down 2 percent from December 2009.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	2010		2011	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		339,744		341,479
January		339,009		
February		339,086		
March		340,869		
April		339,946		
May		337,930		
June		338,461		
July		338,807		
August		338,980		
September		337,649		
October		335,890		
November		338,157		

¹ December preceding year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2010-2011

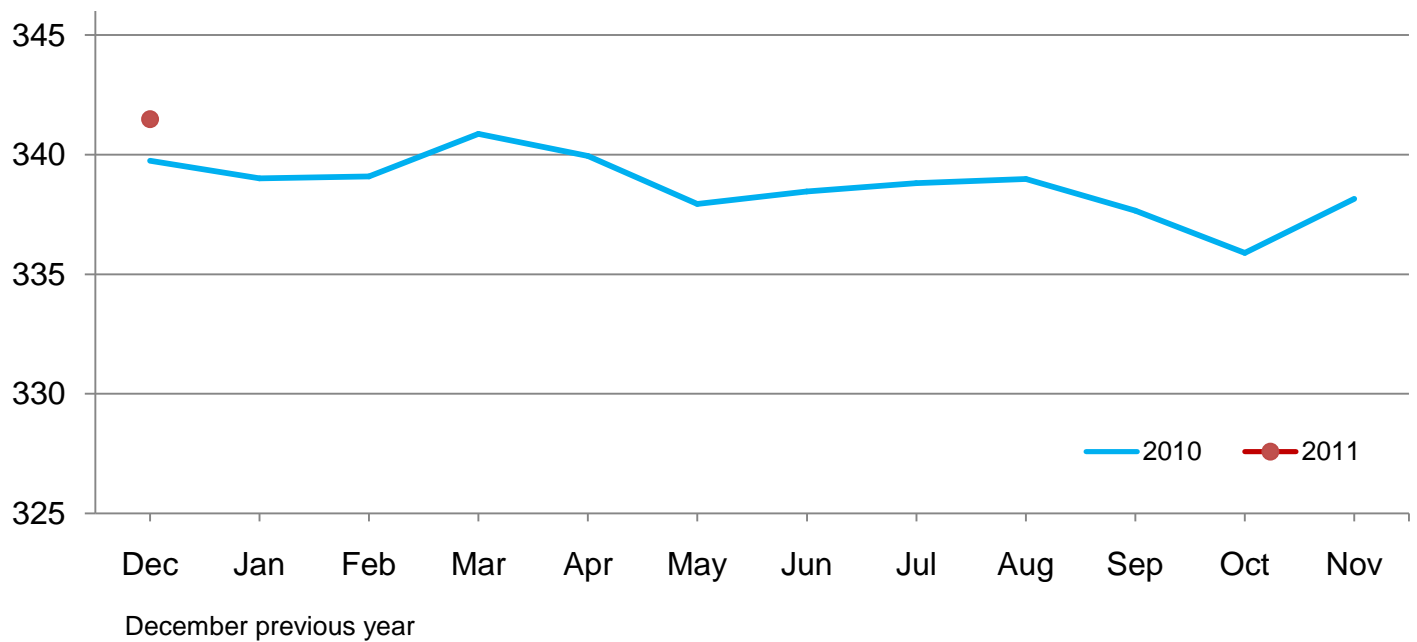
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	7,827	7,899	6,758	6,830	1,068	1,068
January	7,688		6,606		1,082	
February	6,909		5,923		986	
March	7,813		6,710		1,102	
April	7,548		6,473		1,075	
May	7,685		6,575		1,110	
June	7,455		6,386		1,069	
July	7,691		6,583		1,108	
August	7,739		6,642		1,097	
September	7,488		6,438		1,050	
October	7,676		6,596		1,080	
November	7,550		6,515		1,035	
During year	91,069		78,205		12,862	

¹ December preceding year.

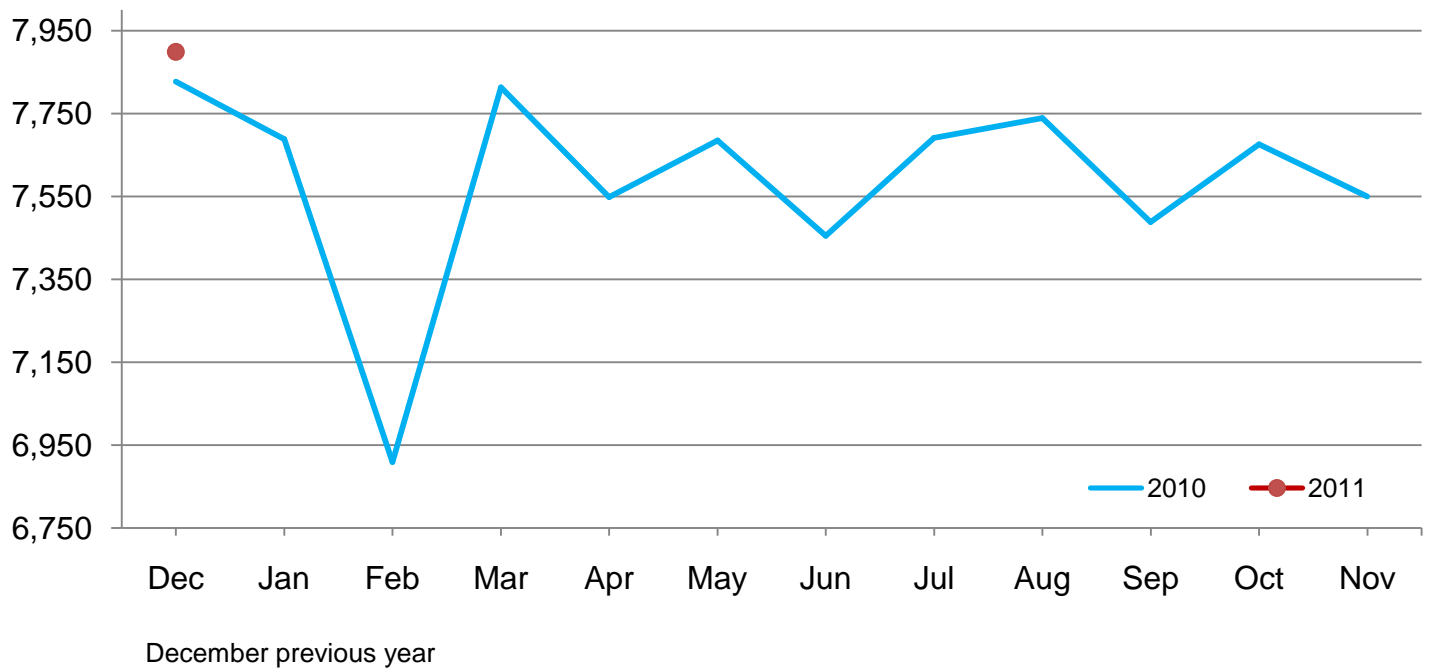
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Forced Molt – United States:
November-December 2009 and 2010**

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
Layers during November			
All layers 1,000	338,121	338,157	100
Table egg type 1,000	282,412	281,425	100
Hatching egg type 1,000	55,709	56,732	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	52,798	53,912	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,911	2,820	97
Eggs per 100 layers during November			
All layers number	2,239	2,233	100
Table egg type number	2,316	2,315	100
Hatching egg type number	1,844	1,824	99
Broiler-type hatching number	1,816	1,799	99
Egg-type hatching number	2,336	2,305	99
Eggs produced during November			
All layers million	7,569	7,550	100
Table egg type million	6,541	6,515	100
Hatching egg type million	1,027	1,035	101
Broiler-type hatching million	959	970	101
Egg-type hatching million	68	65	96
Layers on December 1			
All layers 1,000	339,526	340,189	100
Table egg type 1,000	283,463	283,863	100
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,063	56,326	100
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,157	53,621	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,906	2,705	93
Eggs per 100 layers on December 1			
All layers number	74.8	74.9	100
Table egg type number	77.5	77.8	100
Hatching egg type number	61.0	60.5	99
Broiler-type hatching number	60.1	59.7	99
Egg-type hatching number	77.1	75.6	98
Forced molt layers on December 1			
Being molted percent	1.8	1.8	100
Molt completed percent	22.2	22.6	102
Layers sold for slaughter during November 1,000	11,031	11,449	104
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during November 1,000	6,557	6,572	100
Pullets on December 1 1,000	101,588	104,303	103
Pullets added during November ¹ 1,000	20,926	22,058	105

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Forced Molt – United States:
December-January 2009-2011**

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
Layers during December			
All layers1,000	339,744	341,479	101
Table egg type1,000	283,314	284,640	100
Hatching egg type1,000	56,430	56,839	101
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,498	54,073	101
Egg-type hatching1,000	2,932	2,766	94
Eggs per 100 layers during December			
All layersnumber	2,304	2,313	100
Table egg typenumber	2,385	2,400	101
Hatching egg typenumber	1,893	1,879	99
Broiler-type hatchingnumber	1,862	1,851	99
Egg-type hatchingnumber	2,456	2,422	99
Eggs produced during December			
All layersmillion	7,827	7,899	101
Table egg typemillion	6,758	6,830	101
Hatching egg typemillion	1,068	1,068	100
Broiler-type hatchingmillion	996	1,001	101
Egg-type hatchingmillion	72	67	93
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
Layers on January 1			
All layers1,000	339,894	342,740	101
Table egg type1,000	283,138	285,401	101
Hatching egg type1,000	56,756	57,339	101
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,807	54,518	101
Egg-type hatching1,000	2,949	2,821	96
Eggs per 100 layers on January 1			
All layersnumber	73.8	74.2	101
Table egg typenumber	76.3	76.9	101
Hatching egg typenumber	61.2	60.6	99
Broiler-type hatchingnumber	60.2	59.6	99
Egg-type hatchingnumber	80.6	79.3	98
Forced molt layers on January 1			
Percent being moltedpercent	2.7	2.8	104
Percent with molt completedpercent	20.6	21.5	104
Layers sold for slaughter during December1,000	12,805	13,521	106
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, Composted or disappeared for any Reason during December1,000	7,328	7,284	99
Pullets on January 11,000	103,331	103,573	100
Pullets added during December ¹1,000	23,783	23,515	99

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During November 2009 and 2010

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Alabama	1,260	1,368	9,036	9,469	1,903	1,901
Arkansas	3,309	3,347	12,158	12,292	1,966	1,961
California	19,115	19,241	19,414	19,549	2,302	2,292
Colorado	3,292	3,253	3,770	3,657	2,414	2,379
Connecticut	2,496	2,248	2,562	2,315	2,264	2,289
Florida	9,611	9,263	9,961	9,652	2,389	2,300
Georgia	9,084	8,529	17,661	17,112	2,146	2,174
Hawaii	298	333	323	378	1,703	1,693
Illinois	4,456	4,347	4,672	4,557	2,290	2,260
Indiana	22,805	22,387	23,456	23,101	2,298	2,277
Iowa	53,320	51,756	54,180	52,643	2,235	2,211
Maine	3,619	3,524	3,710	3,579	2,210	2,347
Maryland	2,101	2,016	2,251	2,166	2,177	2,170
Michigan	10,178	10,000	10,328	10,150	2,266	2,424
Minnesota	9,865	10,072	10,367	10,526	2,267	2,309
Mississippi	1,515	1,433	5,885	5,969	2,005	1,994
Missouri	5,744	5,916	6,950	7,169	2,273	2,232
Nebraska	9,366	9,367	9,416	9,417	2,368	2,421
New York	3,860	3,977	4,084	4,203	2,400	2,451
North Carolina	5,877	5,868	12,987	13,208	2,071	2,029
Ohio	27,100	27,853	27,558	28,318	2,264	2,267
Oregon	2,047	2,231	2,193	2,355	2,554	2,420
Pennsylvania	22,091	23,305	23,199	24,397	2,392	2,406
South Carolina	3,234	3,033	4,583	4,312	2,117	2,203
South Dakota	2,404	2,350	2,444	2,390	2,373	2,343
Texas	13,505	14,040	17,774	18,351	2,273	2,278
Utah ¹	(NA)	3,316	(NA)	3,346	(NA)	2,361
Virginia	1,264	1,284	3,237	3,530	2,101	2,011
Washington	6,123	6,365	6,238	6,480	2,357	2,114
Wisconsin	4,342	4,172	4,896	4,705	2,431	2,317
Other States ²	14,669	10,739	22,828	18,861	2,138	2,115
United States	277,950	276,933	338,121	338,157	2,239	2,233

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2009.

² Includes data for states not listed in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During December 2009 and 2010

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Alabama	1,277	1,365	9,133	9,529	1,938	1,952
Arkansas	3,225	3,419	12,234	12,286	2,027	2,035
California	19,163	19,511	19,461	19,817	2,353	2,316
Colorado	3,189	3,243	3,701	3,619	2,513	2,515
Connecticut	2,564	2,342	2,632	2,405	2,318	2,328
Florida	9,784	9,407	10,127	9,794	2,400	2,430
Georgia	9,225	8,601	17,817	17,178	2,195	2,235
Hawaii ¹	276	(NA)	311	(NA)	1,768	(NA)
Illinois	4,560	4,390	4,782	4,600	2,363	2,391
Indiana	22,869	22,898	23,539	23,596	2,362	2,348
Iowa	53,612	52,537	54,475	53,374	2,296	2,299
Maine	3,561	3,559	3,652	3,614	2,355	2,407
Maryland	2,212	2,122	2,342	2,254	2,220	2,351
Michigan	10,082	10,119	10,232	10,269	2,404	2,454
Minnesota	9,825	9,991	10,331	10,384	2,362	2,408
Mississippi	1,513	1,451	6,115	6,002	2,028	2,033
Missouri	5,782	6,092	7,029	7,429	2,333	2,275
Nebraska	9,455	9,321	9,505	9,371	2,441	2,476
New York	3,750	4,085	3,976	4,312	2,465	2,505
North Carolina	6,050	5,786	13,186	13,242	2,139	2,084
Ohio	27,029	28,050	27,508	28,525	2,341	2,380
Oregon	2,003	2,213	2,138	2,351	2,572	2,510
Pennsylvania	22,422	23,876	23,542	25,012	2,481	2,491
South Carolina	3,195	3,030	4,483	4,270	2,164	2,272
South Dakota	2,396	2,347	2,436	2,387	2,504	2,472
Texas	13,706	14,240	17,998	18,618	2,328	2,331
Utah	3,272	3,306	3,302	3,336	2,362	2,368
Virginia	1,197	1,191	3,281	3,426	2,133	2,102
Washington	6,058	6,378	6,173	6,493	2,414	2,418
Wisconsin	4,306	4,167	4,861	4,699	2,469	2,405
Other States ²	11,274	11,121	19,442	19,287	2,186	2,193
United States	278,832	280,158	339,744	341,479	2,304	2,313

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2010.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: November 2009 and 2010

[Totals may not add due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	172	180	30	34	142	146
Arkansas	239	241	79	81	160	160
California	447	448	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	91	87	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	58	53	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	238	222	233	216	5	6
Georgia	379	372	217	208	162	164
Hawaii	5.5	6.4	5.5	6.4	-	-
Illinois	107	103	104	100	3	3
Indiana	539	526	528	515	11	11
Iowa	1,211	1,164	1,198	1,151	13	13
Maine	82	84	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	49	47	47	45	2	2
Michigan	234	246	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	235	243	226	236	9	7
Mississippi	118	119	37	36	81	83
Missouri	158	160	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	223	228	223	228	-	-
New York	98	103	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	269	268	142	141	127	127
Ohio	624	642	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	56	57	54	55	2	2
Pennsylvania	555	587	537	570	18	17
South Carolina	97	95	75	73	22	22
South Dakota	58	56	58	56	-	-
Texas	404	418	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah ¹	(NA)	79	(NA)	79	(NA)	-
Virginia	68	71	31	30	37	41
Washington	147	137	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	119	109	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	488	399	367	278	121	121
United States	7,569	7,550	6,541	6,515	1,027	1,035

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2009.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Totals may not add due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	177	186	30	34	147	152
Arkansas	248	250	81	86	167	164
California	458	459	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	93	91	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	61	56	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	243	238	237	232	6	6
Georgia	391	384	223	217	168	167
Hawaii ¹	5.5	(NA)	5.5	(NA)	-	(NA)
Illinois	113	110	110	107	3	3
Indiana	556	554	544	542	12	12
Iowa	1,251	1,227	1,238	1,215	13	12
Maine	86	87	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	52	53	51	52	1	1
Michigan	246	252	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	244	250	235	244	9	6
Mississippi	124	122	38	37	86	85
Missouri	164	169	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	232	232	232	232	-	-
New York	98	108	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	282	276	149	143	133	133
Ohio	644	679	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	55	59	53	57	2	2
Pennsylvania	584	623	564	603	20	20
South Carolina	97	97	75	75	22	22
South Dakota	61	59	61	59	-	-
Texas	419	434	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	78	79	78	79	-	-
Virginia	70	72	31	30	39	42
Washington	149	157	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	120	113	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	425	423	301	295	124	127
United States	7,827	7,899	6,758	6,830	1,068	1,068

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2010.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2010-2011

[As of the first of the month. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	2.7	2.8	20.6	21.5
February	3.6		20.1	
March	3.2		21.0	
April	2.6		21.1	
May	4.2		21.2	
June	3.3		22.6	
July	3.3		22.4	
August	3.4		22.4	
September	2.6		22.9	
October	4.4		21.6	
November	2.7		22.6	
December	1.8		22.6	

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: January 1, 2010 and 2011

[As of the first of the month]

State	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	0.5	1.0	8.0	5.5
Arkansas	1.0	1.5	9.5	12.0
California	4.5	5.5	31.0	28.0
Colorado	4.0	4.0	14.5	32.0
Connecticut	-	-	5.5	7.5
Florida	8.5	1.0	31.5	39.0
Georgia	1.5	2.5	17.0	18.5
Hawaii ¹	5.5	(NA)	51.5	(NA)
Illinois	-	-	26.5	29.0
Indiana	3.0	3.5	34.0	24.0
Iowa	3.0	3.5	29.0	36.0
Maine	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	3.0	7.5	24.0
Michigan	5.0	3.5	21.0	19.5
Minnesota	2.0	3.0	24.0	24.0
Mississippi	2.0	2.0	9.0	9.5
Missouri	3.5	5.0	18.5	17.5
Nebraska	-	1.0	2.5	2.5
New York	2.5	2.5	7.0	10.5
North Carolina	2.0	0.5	7.0	16.0
Ohio	2.5	4.0	20.5	18.0
Oregon	5.0	4.5	26.5	25.0
Pennsylvania	2.5	1.5	12.0	9.5
South Carolina	2.0	3.5	19.5	18.0
South Dakota	2.5	2.5	24.0	37.0
Texas	1.0	2.0	17.5	20.0
Utah	9.5	8.5	31.5	36.0
Virginia	-	-	15.5	14.5
Washington	3.5	5.0	29.5	32.0
Wisconsin	8.0	2.5	35.0	25.0
Other States ²	3.0	1.9	16.8	17.0
United States	2.7	2.8	20.6	21.5

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2011.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2010 and 2011

[December preceding year]

Item	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on January 1	38,929	38,693	99
Chicks hatched during December	39,554	37,845	96
Chicks hatched January through December	468,169	490,704	105
Pullets hatched during December for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	309	264	85
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	3,108	3,295	106
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on January 1	632,926	635,068	100
Chicks hatched during December	779,533	785,649	101
Chicks hatched January through December	9,116,349	9,268,260	102
Pullets hatched during December for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	6,627	6,497	98
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	62,562	63,183	101

¹ 2011 includes pullet chicks hatched June 2009 through May 2010.

² 2011 includes pullet chicks hatched September 2009 through May 2010.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators – Regions and United States: January 1, 2010 and 2011

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
North Atlantic	5,645	4,688	83
East North Central	7,514	7,508	100
West North Central	7,939	8,413	106
South Atlantic	4,261	5,645	132
South Central	5,896	5,223	89
West	7,674	7,216	94
United States	38,929	38,693	99

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2009-2010

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	37,812	38,794	103	37,812	38,794	103
February	36,795	40,120	109	74,607	78,914	106
March	41,737	45,151	108	116,344	124,065	107
April	42,794	47,503	111	159,138	171,568	108
May	40,758	43,075	106	199,896	214,643	107
June	41,968	42,623	102	241,864	257,266	106
July	36,213	38,053	105	278,077	295,319	106
August	37,945	37,023	98	316,022	332,342	105
September	40,515	40,307	99	356,537	372,649	105
October	37,566	41,263	110	394,103	413,912	105
November	34,512	38,947	113	428,615	452,859	106
December	39,554	37,845	96	468,169	490,704	105

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2009-2010

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2010 as percent of 2009	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2009	2010		2010	2011
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)
January	240	227	95	3,198	3,292
February	256	296	116	3,296	3,168
March	277	260	94	3,308	3,142
April	307	232	76	3,318	3,173
May	275	230	84	3,322	3,066
June	321	318	99	3,295	3,039
July	342	218	64	3,405	2,994
August	291	265	91	3,392	
September	220	251	114	3,432	
October	277	170	61	3,415	
November	290	263	91	3,340	
December	309	264	85	3,295	
Total	3,405	2,994	88		

¹ For December 2010, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched June 2009 through May 2010. 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 – Regions and United States: January 1, 2010 and 2011

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
North Atlantic	11,378	12,875	113
East North Central	12,866	12,327	96
West North Central	28,044	28,776	103
South Atlantic	232,302	236,998	102
South Central	326,940	321,807	98
West	21,396	22,285	104
United States	632,926	635,068	100

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

State	During December			January-December		
	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Alabama	108,444	109,235	101	1,271,867	1,304,132	103
Arkansas	88,619	86,488	98	1,030,732	1,044,356	101
Delaware	12,393	15,253	123	150,212	163,120	109
Florida	4,818	4,743	98	45,939	57,235	125
Georgia	114,450	121,481	106	1,368,382	1,381,969	101
Kentucky	29,288	27,704	95	332,791	337,649	101
Louisiana	12,789	12,782	100	138,738	149,469	108
Maryland	32,286	26,902	83	383,004	350,528	92
Mississippi	69,919	69,813	100	792,056	834,019	105
North Carolina	69,864	74,013	106	805,888	840,501	104
Oklahoma	25,865	23,534	91	296,453	286,778	97
Pennsylvania	14,130	14,313	101	164,722	160,932	98
South Carolina	20,366	19,890	98	238,034	243,211	102
Texas	58,554	59,435	102	691,610	685,272	99
Virginia	22,812	21,922	96	265,900	274,526	103
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	68,280	71,916	105	831,534	844,482	102
19 States ¹	752,877	759,424	101	8,807,862	8,958,179	102
Other States ²	26,656	26,225	98	308,487	310,081	101
United States	779,533	785,649	101	9,116,349	9,268,260	102

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: 2009-2010

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	780,219	775,615	99	780,219	775,615	99
February	704,234	699,776	99	1,484,453	1,475,391	99
March	785,851	786,954	100	2,270,304	2,262,345	100
April	758,663	767,225	101	3,028,967	3,029,570	100
May	789,812	797,833	101	3,818,779	3,827,403	100
June	773,590	786,707	102	4,592,369	4,614,110	100
July	784,118	800,860	102	5,376,487	5,414,970	101
August	781,423	798,529	102	6,157,910	6,213,499	101
September	742,769	761,473	103	6,900,679	6,974,972	101
October	730,698	766,978	105	7,631,377	7,741,950	101
November	705,439	740,661	105	8,336,816	8,482,611	102
December	779,533	785,649	101	9,116,349	9,268,260	102

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2009-2010

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2010 as percent of 2009	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2009	2010		2010	2011
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)
United States placements					
January	7,142	7,219	101	62,833	63,658
February	7,215	6,994	97	62,005	63,945
March	6,773	6,610	98	62,142	63,912
April	6,240	6,538	105	62,672	64,413
May	7,658	8,351	109	61,918	64,070
June	7,157	7,585	106	62,049	64,542
July	6,214	6,675	107	61,903	64,429
August	7,163	7,313	102	62,882	
September	7,110	7,128	100	62,218	
October	6,388	6,876	108	61,671	
November	7,346	7,466	102	61,995	
December	6,627	6,497	98	63,183	
Annual total	83,033	85,252	103		
Total placements ²					
January	8,410	8,626	103		
February	8,524	8,972	105		
March	8,626	8,910	103		
April	7,746	8,031	104		
May	9,143	10,338	113		
June	8,830	9,666	109		
July	7,469	8,520	114		
August	8,975	9,009	100		
September	8,947	9,087	102		
October	7,883	8,553	108		
November	8,916	9,157	103		
December	8,400	8,170	97		
Annual total	101,869	107,039	105		

¹ For December 2010, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched September 2009 through May 2010.

² United States production of intended placements worldwide.

Statistical Methodology

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 Summary*. Estimates will also be reviewed for chickens and eggs after data from the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

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

[Based on data for the past twenty-four months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
All layers	(percent) 0.1	(percent) 0.2	(1,000) 284	(1,000) -	(1,000) 835	(number) 18	(number) 5
Eggs	0.1	0.2	(million) 6	(million) -	(million) 20	18	5

- Represents zero.

Regional Listing

North Atlantic: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.

West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

South Atlantic: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.

South Central: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas.

West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

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. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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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