



Chickens and Eggs

ISSN: 1948-9064

Released March 21, 2014, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

February Egg Production Up 2 Percent

United States egg production totaled 7.36 billion during February 2014, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.40 billion table eggs, and 968 million hatching eggs, of which 899 million were broiler-type and 69 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2014 averaged 350 million, up 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 2,104 eggs, up 1 percent from February 2013.

All layers in the United States on March 1, 2014 totaled 350 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 350 million layers consisted of 294 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 52.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.02 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2014, averaged 75.3 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from March 1, 2013.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up Slightly

Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2014 totaled 40.4 million, up slightly from February 2013. Eggs in incubators totaled 38.5 million on March 1, 2014, down 7 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 226 thousand during February 2014, up 1 percent from February 2013.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Down Slightly

Broiler-type chicks hatched during February 2014 totaled 689 million, down slightly from February 2013. Eggs in incubators totaled 625 million on March 1, 2014, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.30 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during February 2014, up 2 percent from February 2013.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2013-2014

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

Month	2013		2014	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		345,961		352,253
January		344,935		350,936
February		345,966		350,028
March		347,762		
April		346,429		
May		345,069		
June		344,857		
July		344,764		
August		346,616		
September		346,671		
October		347,173		
November		350,666		

¹ December preceding year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2013-2014

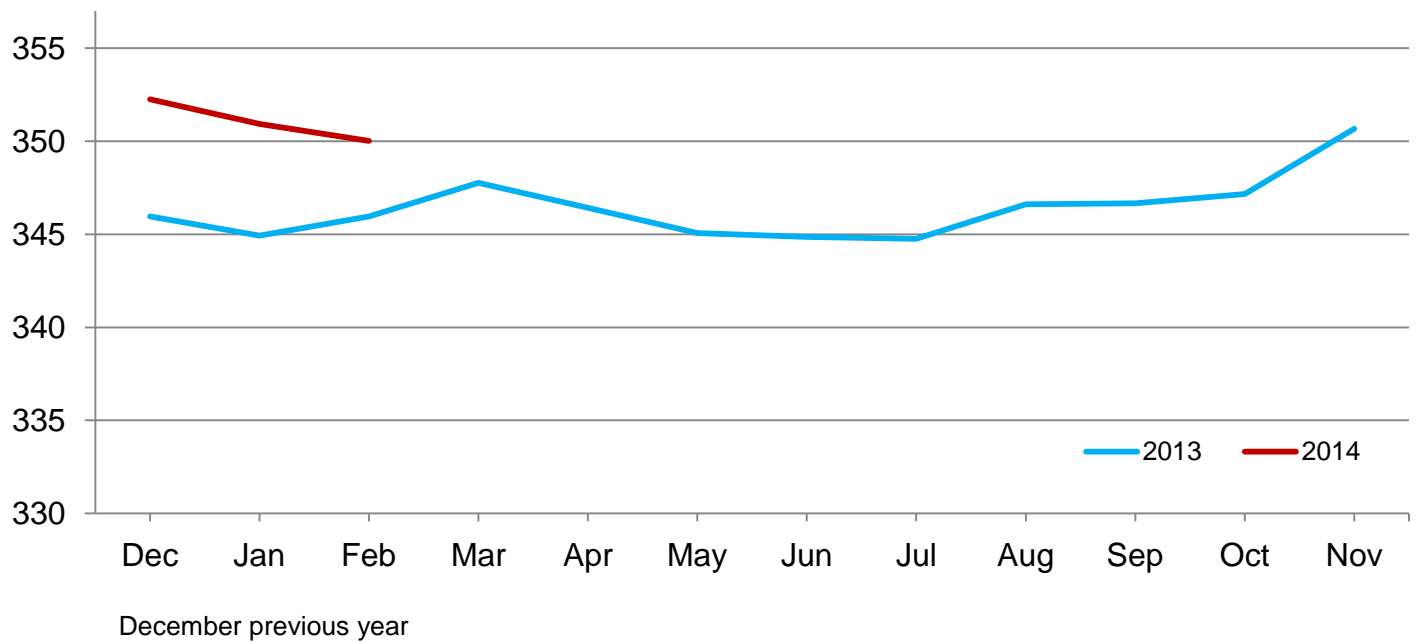
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	8,121	8,287	7,078	7,220	1,043	1,068
January	8,025	8,198	6,964	7,123	1,061	1,076
February	7,230	7,364	6,264	6,395	966	968
March	8,090		7,003		1,087	
April	7,827		6,761		1,066	
May	8,036		6,930		1,106	
June	7,757		6,688		1,069	
July	7,980		6,887		1,093	
August	8,078		6,991		1,087	
September	7,871		6,825		1,046	
October	8,165		7,090		1,075	
November	8,000		6,966		1,034	
During year	95,176		82,451		12,733	

¹ December preceding year.

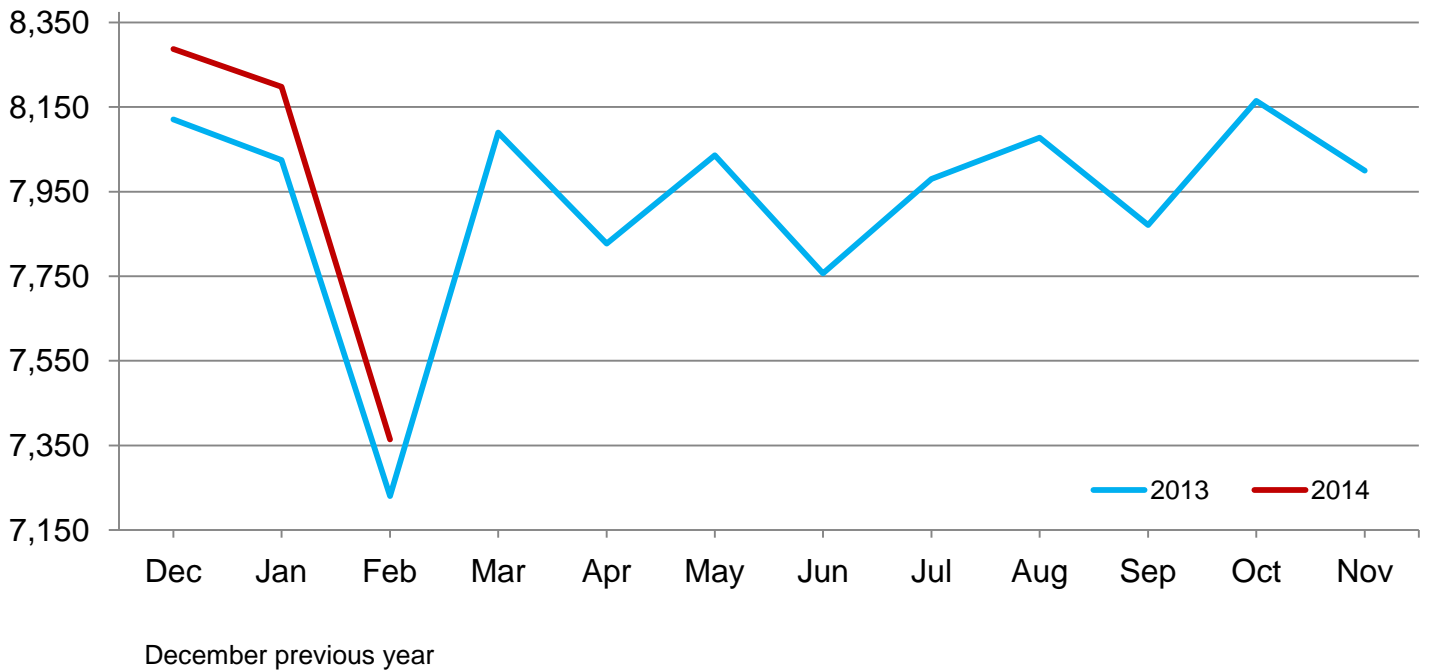
Average Layers During the Month – United States

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:
January-February 2013 and 2014**

[Totals may not add due to rounding.]

Item	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
Layers during January			
All layers1,000	344,935	350,936	102
Table egg type1,000	290,447	294,867	102
Hatching egg type1,000	54,488	56,069	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	51,461	52,968	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,027	3,101	102
Eggs per 100 layers during January			
All layers number	2,327	2,336	100
Table egg type number	2,398	2,416	101
Hatching egg type number	1,947	1,919	99
Broiler-type hatching number	1,914	1,886	99
Egg-type hatching number	2,511	2,483	99
Eggs produced during January			
All layers million	8,025	8,198	102
Table egg type million	6,964	7,123	102
Hatching egg type million	1,061	1,076	101
Broiler-type hatching million	985	999	101
Egg-type hatching million	76	77	101
Layers on February 1			
All layers1,000	344,916	350,005	101
Table egg type1,000	290,523	293,581	101
Hatching egg type1,000	54,393	56,424	104
Broiler-type hatching1,000	51,397	53,257	104
Egg-type hatching1,000	2,996	3,167	106
Eggs per 100 layers on February 1			
All layers number	74.8	74.8	100
Table egg type number	77.0	77.4	101
Hatching egg type number	63.0	61.4	97
Broiler-type hatching number	61.8	60.4	98
Egg-type hatching number	82.3	78.7	96
Forced molt layers on February 1			
Being moltedpercent	3.6	3.0	83
Molt completedpercent	18.9	18.1	96
Layers sold for slaughter during January1,000	15,347	15,714	102
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during January1,000	7,292	7,311	100
Pullets on February 11,000	105,732	105,927	100
Pullets added during January ¹1,000	24,281	21,587	89

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: February-March 2013 and 2014

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
Layers during February			
All layers 1,000	345,966	350,028	101
Table egg type 1,000	291,332	293,852	101
Hatching egg type 1,000	54,634	56,176	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	51,571	53,083	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,063	3,093	101
Eggs per 100 layers during February			
All layers number	2,090	2,104	101
Table egg type number	2,150	2,176	101
Hatching egg type number	1,768	1,723	97
Broiler-type hatching number	1,737	1,694	98
Egg-type hatching number	2,285	2,231	98
Eggs produced during February			
All layers million	7,230	7,364	102
Table egg type million	6,264	6,395	102
Hatching egg type million	966	968	100
Broiler-type hatching million	896	899	100
Egg-type hatching million	70	69	99
Layers on March 1			
All layers 1,000	347,025	350,026	101
Table egg type 1,000	292,165	294,110	101
Hatching egg type 1,000	54,860	55,916	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	51,737	52,900	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,123	3,016	97
Eggs per 100 layers on March 1			
All layers number	74.4	75.3	101
Table egg type number	76.5	77.9	102
Hatching egg type number	63.2	61.9	98
Broiler-type hatching number	62.0	60.7	98
Egg-type hatching number	82.3	81.5	99
Forced molt layers on March 1			
Being molted percent	2.6	2.5	96
Molt completed percent	19.4	17.8	92
Layers sold for slaughter during February 1,000	13,509	15,500	115
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during February 1,000	6,714	6,593	98
Pullets on March 1 1,000	105,535	105,665	100
Pullets added during February ¹ 1,000	23,255	23,341	100

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

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During January 2013 and 2014

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,468	1,506	9,199	9,188	2,000	1,937
Arkansas	3,744	3,698	12,558	12,479	2,054	2,067
California	18,118	16,306	18,477	16,735	2,327	2,378
Colorado	3,719	4,515	4,107	4,907	2,362	2,507
Connecticut	2,285	2,285	2,376	2,374	2,315	2,317
Florida	8,070	8,264	8,420	8,597	2,245	2,326
Georgia	8,993	9,265	17,491	18,081	2,144	2,207
Illinois	3,930	4,201	4,221	4,499	2,369	2,423
Indiana	25,549	26,576	26,371	27,543	2,347	2,393
Iowa	51,873	52,802	52,771	53,750	2,348	2,331
Maine	3,476	3,476	3,531	3,531	2,407	2,407
Maryland	2,261	2,669	2,376	2,784	2,399	2,335
Michigan	12,522	12,404	12,683	12,567	2,531	2,435
Minnesota	9,637	10,067	10,070	10,440	2,373	2,414
Mississippi	1,578	1,531	5,566	5,766	2,102	2,029
Missouri	6,505	6,364	8,094	8,029	2,422	2,317
Nebraska	9,221	9,325	9,271	9,375	2,535	2,517
New York	4,380	4,496	4,617	4,724	2,512	2,498
North Carolina	5,796	5,805	12,807	13,113	2,100	2,143
Ohio	27,784	27,798	28,207	28,352	2,382	2,472
Oregon	2,153	2,199	2,297	2,269	2,525	2,600
Pennsylvania	23,490	24,679	24,699	25,901	2,498	2,490
South Carolina	2,907	3,115	4,188	4,343	2,221	2,326
South Dakota	2,447	2,498	2,487	2,538	2,493	2,482
Texas	14,989	14,885	18,790	18,803	2,331	2,287
Utah	3,678	3,852	3,708	3,882	2,373	2,421
Virginia	1,113	1,093	2,717	2,733	2,098	2,159
Washington	6,464	6,829	6,582	6,946	2,400	2,303
Wisconsin	4,768	4,578	5,335	5,235	2,455	2,502
Other States ¹	12,935	13,018	20,919	21,452	2,247	2,224
United States	285,853	290,099	344,935	350,936	2,327	2,336

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During February 2013 and 2014

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,468	1,502	9,217	9,205	1,834	1,727
Arkansas	3,795	3,672	12,647	12,422	1,842	1,835
California	17,964	16,261	18,325	16,690	2,128	2,139
Colorado	3,814	4,472	4,183	4,825	2,128	2,259
Connecticut	2,242	2,242	2,333	2,331	2,057	2,059
Florida	7,983	8,193	8,332	8,520	2,016	2,124
Georgia	8,934	9,210	17,491	18,072	1,967	1,975
Illinois	4,031	4,423	4,322	4,717	2,175	2,184
Indiana	25,802	26,491	26,637	27,405	2,106	2,186
Iowa	52,096	53,044	53,014	54,046	2,101	2,087
Maine	3,503	3,503	3,558	3,558	2,192	2,192
Maryland	2,295	2,546	2,403	2,663	2,164	2,178
Michigan	12,688	12,646	12,862	12,821	2,255	2,239
Minnesota	9,629	9,982	10,064	10,358	2,116	2,192
Mississippi	1,579	1,530	5,608	5,785	1,890	1,850
Missouri	6,362	6,191	7,952	7,858	2,163	2,087
Nebraska	9,245	9,318	9,295	9,368	2,324	2,316
New York	4,411	4,428	4,652	4,652	2,322	2,257
North Carolina	5,775	5,727	12,713	12,983	1,856	1,972
Ohio	28,044	27,869	28,472	28,427	2,100	2,209
Oregon	2,083	2,181	2,215	2,251	2,302	2,266
Pennsylvania	23,686	24,244	24,870	25,490	2,236	2,252
South Carolina	3,028	3,024	4,289	4,235	1,958	2,007
South Dakota	2,639	2,517	2,679	2,557	2,240	2,190
Texas	14,644	14,786	18,491	18,716	2,093	2,073
Utah	3,601	3,894	3,631	3,924	2,203	2,115
Virginia	1,122	990	2,752	2,674	1,853	1,907
Washington	6,634	6,796	6,752	6,914	2,177	2,112
Wisconsin	4,710	4,394	5,278	5,053	2,141	2,078
Other States ¹	12,930	13,008	20,929	21,508	2,016	1,995
United States	286,737	289,084	345,966	350,028	2,090	2,104

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: January 2013 and 2014

[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	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	184	178	33	34	151	144
Arkansas	258	258	91	92	167	166
California	430	398	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	97	123	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	55	55	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	189	200	184	196	5	4
Georgia	375	399	209	228	166	171
Illinois	100	109	95	105	5	4
Indiana	619	659	603	640	16	19
Iowa	1,239	1,253	1,224	1,237	15	16
Maine	85	85	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	57	65	56	64	1	1
Michigan	321	306	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	239	252	232	246	7	6
Mississippi	117	117	38	37	79	80
Missouri	196	186	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	235	236	235	236	-	-
New York	116	118	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	269	281	140	146	129	135
Ohio	672	701	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	58	59	56	59	2	-
Pennsylvania	617	645	596	622	21	23
South Carolina	93	101	71	80	22	21
South Dakota	62	63	(D)	(D)	-	-
Texas	438	430	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	88	94	88	94	-	-
Virginia	57	59	28	28	29	31
Washington	158	160	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	131	131	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	470	477	342	343	128	135
United States	8,025	8,198	6,964	7,123	1,061	1,076

- Represents zero.

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

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: February 2013 and 2014

[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	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	169	159	31	31	138	128
Arkansas	233	228	82	80	151	148
California	390	357	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	89	109	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	48	48	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	168	181	164	177	4	4
Georgia	344	357	192	204	152	153
Illinois	94	103	90	99	4	4
Indiana	561	599	547	583	14	16
Iowa	1,114	1,128	1,099	1,112	15	16
Maine	78	78	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	52	58	51	57	1	1
Michigan	290	287	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	213	227	207	222	6	5
Mississippi	106	107	34	33	72	74
Missouri	172	164	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	216	217	216	217	-	-
New York	108	105	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	236	256	118	132	118	124
Ohio	598	628	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	51	51	49	51	2	-
Pennsylvania	556	574	537	554	19	20
South Carolina	84	85	63	67	21	18
South Dakota	60	56	60	56	-	-
Texas	387	388	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	80	83	80	83	-	-
Virginia	51	51	23	22	28	29
Washington	147	146	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	113	105	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	422	429	308	308	114	121
United States	7,230	7,364	6,264	6,395	966	968

- Represents zero.

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

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2013-2014

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

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	3.0	2.7	19.3	18.4
February	3.6	3.0	18.9	18.1
March	2.6	2.5	19.4	17.8
April	2.1		19.0	
May	3.6		18.4	
June	2.7		18.3	
July	3.1		18.5	
August	2.7		19.2	
September	2.7		19.0	
October	2.9		18.9	
November	2.3		18.8	
December	1.6		18.5	

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: March 1, 2013 and 2014

[As of the first of the month]

State	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	0.5	1.0	5.0	4.5
Arkansas	1.0	1.0	10.5	11.0
California	3.0	4.0	30.5	27.0
Colorado	3.5	1.5	27.5	16.5
Connecticut	9.0	9.0	8.5	8.5
Florida	7.0	4.0	36.0	31.0
Georgia	3.5	1.5	17.5	14.5
Illinois	2.0	-	11.5	15.0
Indiana	1.5	1.0	26.5	24.5
Iowa	3.0	4.0	27.5	27.0
Maine	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	-	4.0
Michigan	4.0	1.0	8.5	8.0
Minnesota	4.5	2.0	21.0	17.5
Mississippi	2.0	1.5	9.0	9.0
Missouri	-	1.5	15.0	19.5
Nebraska	-	-	4.0	2.5
New York	-	3.0	5.0	4.0
North Carolina	-	2.0	14.5	12.0
Ohio	2.5	3.0	27.5	20.5
Oregon	7.0	8.5	24.0	20.0
Pennsylvania	1.5	1.0	6.5	6.5
South Carolina	2.0	1.0	13.0	10.0
South Dakota	-	10.5	13.0	12.5
Texas	4.0	1.5	22.5	26.5
Utah	4.0	6.5	33.5	27.5
Virginia	4.5	4.0	10.0	14.5
Washington	6.0	5.0	25.0	23.5
Wisconsin	2.0	6.0	27.5	21.5
Other States ¹	3.0	3.1	15.8	13.0
United States	2.6	2.5	19.4	17.8

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2013 and 2014

Item	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on March 1	41,433	38,481	93
Chicks hatched during February	40,386	40,441	100
Chicks hatched January through February	82,206	84,575	103
Pullets hatched during February for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	224	226	101
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,871	2,787	97
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on March 1	621,874 ²	625,227	101
Chicks hatched during February	689,773 ²	688,826	100
Chicks hatched January through February	1,452,199 ²	1,455,935	100
Pullets hatched during February for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	7,156	7,301	102
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ³	60,656	60,850	100

¹ 2014 includes pullet chicks hatched August 2012 through July 2013.

² Revisions reflect a methodology change to exclude broiler-type hatcheries that hatch less than one million chicks on an annual basis

³ 2014 includes pullet chicks hatched November 2012 through July 2013.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – Regions and United States: 2013-2014

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	February 1		2014 as percent of 2013	March 1		2014 as percent of 2013
	2013	2014		2013	2014	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	5,093	3,590	70	5,029	5,296	105
East North Central	6,578	8,841	134	7,228	8,030	111
West North Central	9,537	10,042	105	10,579	8,557	81
South Atlantic	4,627	4,809	104	4,805	4,150	86
South Central	5,615	5,843	104	6,376	5,808	91
West	7,147	7,399	104	7,416	6,640	90
United States	38,597	40,524	105	41,433	38,481	93

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2013-2014

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	41,820	44,134	106	41,820	44,134	106
February	40,386	40,441	100	82,206	84,575	103
March	42,744			124,950		
April	43,565			168,515		
May	47,555			216,070		
June	40,052			256,122		
July	38,803			294,925		
August	35,828			330,753		
September	39,873			370,626		
October	41,686			412,312		
November	38,636			450,948		
December	41,144			492,092		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2013-2014

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2014 as percent of 2013	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2013	2014		2013	2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
January	350	270	77	2,834	2,791
February	224	226	101	2,871	2,787
March	172			2,890	2,793
April	233			2,844	2,860
May	215			2,764	2,827
June	189			2,788	2,765
July	267			2,677	2,953
August	343			2,764	2,873
September	273			2,750	2,875
October	153			2,712	
November	180			2,808	
December	354			2,721	
Total	2,953				

¹ For February 2014, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched August 2012 through July 2013. 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 on the First of the Month – Regions and United States: 2013-2014

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	February 1		2014 as percent of 2013	March 1		2014 as percent of 2013
	2013 ¹	2014		2013 ¹	2014	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	12,495	12,211	98	12,727	11,724	92
East North Central	12,694	13,855	109	13,004	13,833	106
West North Central	29,382	30,568	104	30,176	30,873	102
South Atlantic	234,696	242,155	103	236,975	243,106	103
South Central	304,597	306,192	101	308,832	307,272	99
West	19,655	19,002	97	20,160	18,419	91
United States	613,519	623,983	102	621,874	625,227	101

¹ Revisions reflect a methodology change to exclude broiler-type hatcheries that hatch less than one million chicks on an annual basis.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: February 2013 and 2014

State	During February			January-February		
	2013 ¹	2014	2014 as percent of 2013	2013 ¹	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
Alabama	94,350	94,265	100	199,200	198,885	100
Arkansas	73,292	68,377	93	154,564	146,282	95
Delaware	11,648	14,788	127	24,474	31,126	127
Florida	4,042	4,083	101	8,515	8,556	100
Georgia	110,350	110,377	100	231,195	234,669	102
Kentucky	25,075	24,803	99	52,968	53,218	100
Louisiana	11,328	13,100	116	23,883	27,253	114
Maryland	24,044	25,000	104	50,624	51,677	102
Mississippi	58,045	58,319	100	122,043	123,941	102
Missouri	27,180	28,210	104	57,241	59,681	104
North Carolina	66,861	66,615	100	141,272	140,807	100
Oklahoma	22,376	23,239	104	46,960	49,105	105
Pennsylvania	12,514	12,568	100	26,798	26,718	100
South Carolina	17,049	15,821	93	35,161	33,706	96
Texas	49,896	48,466	97	103,806	101,185	97
Virginia	21,480	21,019	98	45,303	44,842	99
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	33,734	33,676	100	72,977	69,177	95
19 States ²	663,264	662,726	100	1,396,984	1,400,828	100
Other States ³	26,509	26,100	98	55,215	55,107	100
United States	689,773	688,826	100	1,452,199	1,455,935	100

¹ Revisions reflect a methodology change to exclude broiler-type hatcheries that hatch less than one million chicks on an annual basis.

² States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

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

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2013-2014

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2013 ¹	2014	2014 as percent of 2013	2013 ¹	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	762,426	767,109	101	762,426	767,109	101
February	689,773	688,826	100	1,452,199	1,455,935	100
March	770,145			2,222,344		
April	747,619			2,969,963		
May	774,982			3,744,945		
June	761,741			4,506,686		
July	781,419			5,288,105		
August	773,635			6,061,740		
September	741,488			6,803,228		
October	735,457			7,538,685		
November	709,838			8,248,523		
December	770,759			9,019,282		

¹ Revisions reflect a methodology change to exclude broiler-type hatcheries that hatch less than one million chicks on an annual basis.

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2013-2014

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2014 as percent of 2013	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2013 (1,000 chicks)	2014 (1,000 chicks)		2013 (1,000 chicks)	2014 (1,000 chicks)
United States placements					
January	6,303	6,470	103	60,874	60,546
February	7,156	7,301	102	60,656	60,850
March	6,589			61,094	61,214
April	6,222			61,342	61,457
May	7,565			60,934	61,385
June	7,011			60,676	61,444
July	6,569			60,591	61,524
August	7,131			60,370	61,772
September	6,911			60,054	61,508
October	6,231			59,843	
November	7,215			59,994	
December	6,669			60,221	
Annual total	81,572				
Total placements ²					
January	8,012	8,077	101		
February	8,708	8,852	102		
March	8,277				
April	7,815				
May	9,100				
June	8,860				
July	8,174				
August	8,855				
September	8,635				
October	7,856				
November	8,784				
December	8,398				
Annual total	101,474				

¹ For February 2014, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched November 2012 through July 2013.

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 500 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Data for egg-type hatchery estimates are collected monthly from all egg-type hatcheries that hatch at least 50,000 chicks a year.

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 United States 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 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 0.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 350 million layers by more than 0.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.0 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) 0.6	(percent) 1.0	(1,000) 1,706	(1,000) 323	(1,000) 3,438	(number) 23	(number) 1
Eggs	0.6	1.1	(million) 44	(million) 7	(million) 84	23	1

Egg-Type Regional Listing

North Atlantic: Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania.
East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.
West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri.
South Atlantic: Florida, Georgia, Virginia.
South Central: Alabama, Mississippi, Texas.
West: California, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon.

Broiler-Type Regional Listing

North Atlantic: New York, Pennsylvania.
East North Central: Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin.
West North Central: Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri.
South Atlantic: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.
South Central: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas.
West: California, Oregon, Washington.

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
David Colwell – Cold Storage, Honey	(202) 720-8784
Dawn Keen – Egg Products	(202) 720-4448
Michael Klamm – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
Tom Kruchten – Census of Aquaculture	(202) 690-4870
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-3244
Vacant – Catfish Production, Trout Production, Mink	(202) 720-0585

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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