



Chickens and Eggs

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March Egg Production Up 1 Percent

United States egg production totaled 8.20 billion during March 2014, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 7.13 billion table eggs, and 1.07 billion hatching eggs, of which 995 million were broiler-type and 77 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2014 averaged 350 million, up 1 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,341 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2013.

All layers in the United States on April 1, 2014 totaled 350 million, up slightly from last year. The 350 million layers consisted of 294 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 53.2 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.02 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2014, averaged 75.7 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from April 1, 2013.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 1 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2014 totaled 44.0 million, up 1 percent from March 2013. Eggs in incubators totaled 43.7 million on April 1, 2014, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 235 thousand during March 2014, up 37 percent from March 2013.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Down Slightly

Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2014 totaled 770 million, down slightly from March 2013. Eggs in incubators totaled 628 million on April 1, 2014, up slightly from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.79 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2014, up 3 percent from March 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		349,980
March		347,762		350,071
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

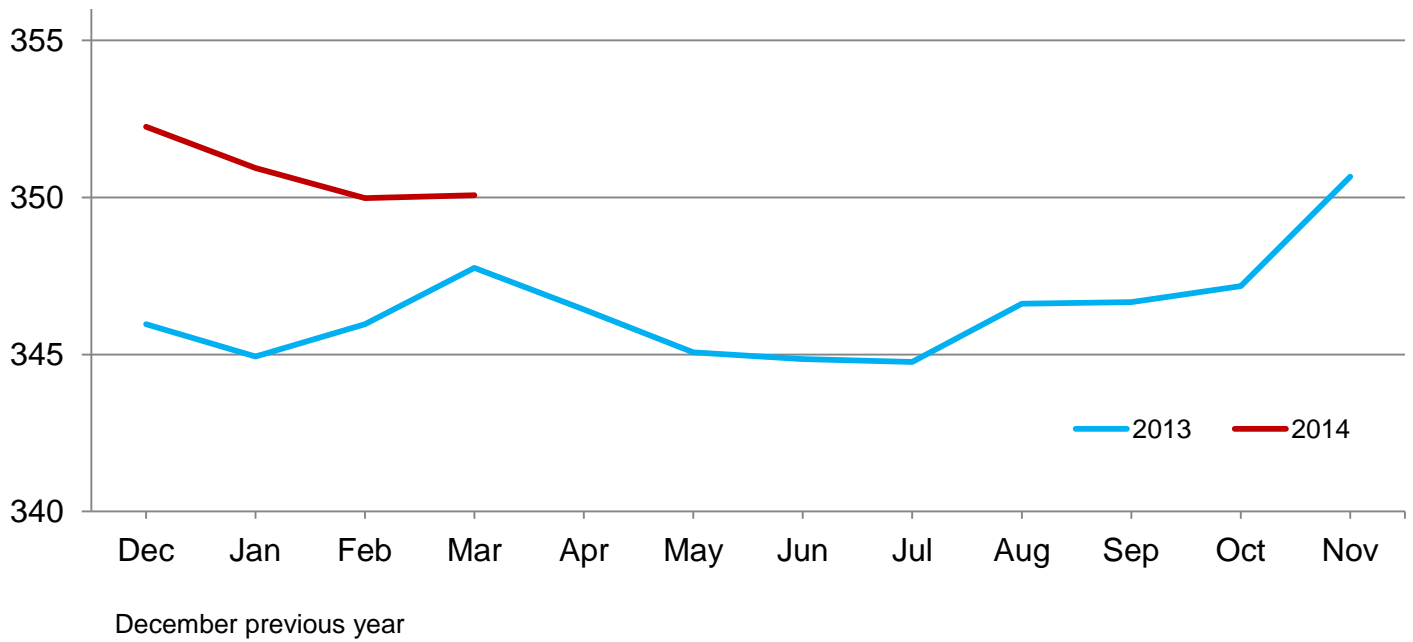
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

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	7,361	6,264	6,391	966	969
March	8,090	8,196	7,003	7,125	1,087	1,072
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.

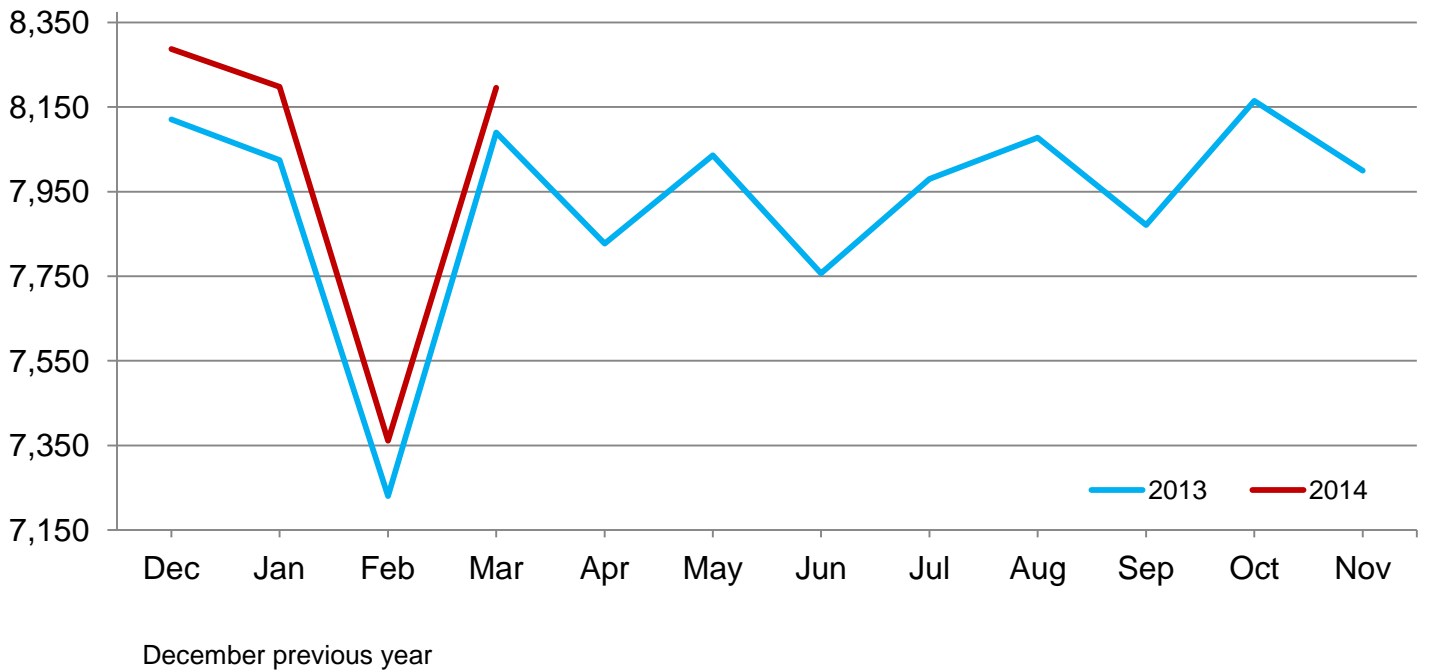
Average Layers During the Month – United States

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:
February-March 2013 and 2014**

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
Layers during February			
All layers1,000	345,966	349,980	101
Table egg type1,000	291,332	293,774	101
Hatching egg type1,000	54,634	56,206	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	51,571	53,100	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,063	3,106	101
Eggs per 100 layers during February			
All layers number	2,090	2,103	101
Table egg type number	2,150	2,175	101
Hatching egg type number	1,768	1,724	98
Broiler-type hatching number	1,737	1,693	97
Egg-type hatching number	2,285	2,254	99
Eggs produced during February			
All layers million	7,230	7,361	102
Table egg type million	6,264	6,391	102
Hatching egg type million	966	969	100
Broiler-type hatching million	896	899	100
Egg-type hatching million	70	70	100
Layers on March 1			
All layers1,000	347,025	349,930	101
Table egg type1,000	292,165	293,954	101
Hatching egg type1,000	54,860	55,976	102
Broiler-type hatching1,000	51,737	52,934	102
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,123	3,042	97
Eggs per 100 layers on March 1			
All layers number	74.4	75.2	101
Table egg type number	76.5	77.8	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 moltedpercent	2.6	2.5	96
Molt completedpercent	19.4	17.7	91
Layers sold for slaughter during February1,000	13,509	15,520	115
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during February1,000	6,714	6,581	98
Pullets on March 11,000	105,535	105,689	100
Pullets added during February ¹1,000	23,255	23,372	101

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: March-April 2013 and 2014

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2013	2014	2014 as percent of 2013
Layers during March			
All layers 1,000	347,762	350,071	101
Table egg type 1,000	292,141	293,959	101
Hatching egg type 1,000	55,621	56,112	101
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	52,442	53,078	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,179	3,034	95
Eggs per 100 layers during March			
All layers number	2,326	2,341	101
Table egg type number	2,397	2,424	101
Hatching egg type number	1,954	1,910	98
Broiler-type hatching number	1,916	1,875	98
Egg-type hatching number	2,579	2,538	98
Eggs produced during March			
All layers million	8,090	8,196	101
Table egg type million	7,003	7,125	102
Hatching egg type million	1,087	1,072	99
Broiler-type hatching million	1,005	995	99
Egg-type hatching million	82	77	94
Layers on April 1			
All layers 1,000	348,468	350,181	100
Table egg type 1,000	292,103	293,948	101
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,365	56,233	100
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,136	53,210	100
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,229	3,023	94
Eggs per 100 layers on April 1			
All layers number	75.6	75.7	100
Table egg type number	78.1	78.4	100
Hatching egg type number	62.6	61.1	98
Broiler-type hatching number	61.4	60.0	98
Egg-type hatching number	82.7	80.4	97
Forced molt layers on April 1			
Being molted percent	2.1	1.8	86
Molt completed percent	19.0	17.8	94
Layers sold for slaughter during March 1,000	13,201	14,163	107
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during March 1,000	6,491	7,418	114
Pullets on April 1 1,000	107,408	105,261	98
Pullets added during March ¹ 1,000	24,454	22,673	93

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

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	18,102	1,967	1,978
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	2,172
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	6,718	6,752	6,836	2,177	2,106
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	289,006	345,966	349,980	2,090	2,103

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During March 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	1,547	1,468	9,468	9,155	2,049	1,912
Arkansas	3,701	3,622	12,659	12,426	2,070	2,052
California	17,872	16,402	18,236	16,831	2,402	2,418
Colorado	3,870	4,497	4,238	4,849	2,336	2,537
Connecticut	2,272	2,272	2,363	2,361	2,370	2,372
Florida	7,856	8,181	8,192	8,491	2,295	2,426
Georgia	8,875	9,412	17,650	18,177	2,193	2,195
Illinois	3,910	4,547	4,214	4,838	2,302	2,418
Indiana	25,973	26,473	26,835	27,363	2,310	2,460
Iowa	52,428	53,242	53,418	54,216	2,374	2,302
Maine	3,496	3,496	3,551	3,551	2,450	2,450
Maryland	2,211	2,569	2,326	2,696	2,365	2,411
Michigan	12,812	12,966	12,989	13,141	2,541	2,580
Minnesota	9,735	10,047	10,170	10,422	2,340	2,380
Mississippi	1,579	1,530	5,757	5,832	2,032	2,040
Missouri	6,444	6,206	8,028	7,831	2,367	2,286
Nebraska	9,191	9,288	9,241	9,338	2,554	2,527
New York	4,342	4,413	4,579	4,637	2,599	2,523
North Carolina	5,743	5,627	12,814	12,940	2,045	2,148
Ohio	28,163	27,754	28,589	28,321	2,319	2,461
Oregon	2,121	2,224	2,253	2,294	2,486	2,528
Pennsylvania	23,902	23,858	25,091	25,084	2,523	2,500
South Carolina	3,153	2,968	4,407	4,174	2,156	2,180
South Dakota	2,598	2,506	2,638	2,546	2,464	2,435
Texas	14,480	14,696	18,415	18,619	2,292	2,326
Utah	3,709	3,933	3,739	3,963	2,327	2,347
Virginia	1,174	1,098	2,816	2,819	1,989	2,128
Washington	6,700	6,547	6,818	6,665	2,537	2,401
Wisconsin	4,738	4,349	5,307	5,008	2,431	2,236
Other States ¹	12,951	13,000	20,961	21,483	2,233	2,216
United States	287,546	289,191	347,762	350,071	2,326	2,341

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	358	192	204	152	154
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	225	207	220	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	144	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	113	105	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	422	429	308	308	114	121
United States	7,230	7,361	6,264	6,391	966	969

- 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: March 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	194	175	38	36	156	139
Arkansas	262	255	92	90	170	165
California	438	407	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	99	123	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	56	56	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	188	206	183	201	5	5
Georgia	387	399	216	231	171	168
Illinois	97	117	92	112	5	5
Indiana	620	673	603	656	17	17
Iowa	1,268	1,248	1,250	1,231	18	17
Maine	87	87	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	55	65	54	64	1	1
Michigan	330	339	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	238	248	231	242	7	6
Mississippi	117	119	37	37	80	82
Missouri	190	179	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	236	236	236	236	-	-
New York	119	117	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	262	278	128	141	134	137
Ohio	663	697	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	56	58	54	58	2	-
Pennsylvania	633	627	611	605	22	22
South Carolina	95	91	73	70	22	21
South Dakota	65	62	65	62	-	-
Texas	422	433	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	87	93	87	93	-	-
Virginia	56	60	25	28	31	32
Washington	173	160	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	129	112	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	468	476	341	342	127	135
United States	8,090	8,196	7,003	7,125	1,087	1,072

- 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	17.7
April	2.1	1.8	19.0	17.8
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: April 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	5.5	3.5
Arkansas	3.0	1.0	7.5	11.0
California	2.0	3.5	30.5	27.5
Colorado	4.0	-	30.5	15.5
Connecticut	8.0	8.0	17.0	16.5
Florida	1.0	1.0	38.0	29.0
Georgia	1.0	1.0	16.5	15.5
Illinois	4.5	-	8.0	14.0
Indiana	2.0	1.0	26.0	24.0
Iowa	3.5	4.5	26.0	26.5
Maine	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	-	3.5
Michigan	2.0	1.5	8.5	8.5
Minnesota	2.0	3.0	24.0	15.0
Mississippi	2.0	1.5	8.5	9.0
Missouri	-	-	14.0	21.0
Nebraska	-	-	3.0	1.5
New York	1.0	-	6.5	6.0
North Carolina	-	0.5	13.0	13.0
Ohio	1.5	2.0	25.5	20.5
Oregon	10.0	-	22.0	25.5
Pennsylvania	1.0	0.5	7.0	8.0
South Carolina	-	-	14.5	10.5
South Dakota	-	10.0	12.0	11.5
Texas	3.5	0.5	22.5	25.0
Utah	7.5	1.5	30.5	30.0
Virginia	2.5	-	14.0	10.5
Washington	3.5	1.0	23.5	26.5
Wisconsin	1.5	-	25.5	22.0
Other States ¹	1.8	2.2	16.6	13.5
United States	2.1	1.8	19.0	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 April 1	45,600	43,672	96
Chicks hatched during March	43,600	44,017	101
Chicks hatched January through March	128,894	128,474	100
Pullets hatched during March for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	172	235	137
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,890	2,716	94
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on April 1	627,029	628,428	100
Chicks hatched during March	773,426	769,779	100
Chicks hatched January through March	2,231,529	2,233,319	100
Pullets hatched during March for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	6,589	6,790	103
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	61,094	61,214	100

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

² 2014 includes pullet chicks hatched December 2012 through August 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	March 1		2014 as percent of 2013	April 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	5,121	5,296	103	5,543	5,040	91
East North Central	8,389	8,787	105	9,687	10,340	107
West North Central	10,107	8,557	85	12,617	10,004	79
South Atlantic	4,805	4,031	84	4,751	4,628	97
South Central	6,376	5,808	91	5,623	6,016	107
West	7,416	6,681	90	7,379	7,644	104
United States	42,214	39,160	93	45,600	43,672	96

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	43,454	44,134	102	43,454	44,134	102
February	41,840	40,323	96	85,294	84,457	99
March	43,600	44,017	101	128,894	128,474	100
April	45,423			174,317		
May	49,468			223,785		
June	41,584			265,369		
July	39,225			304,594		
August	38,231			342,825		
September	41,668			384,493		
October	42,406			426,899		
November	41,750			468,649		
December	41,144			509,793		

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	2,714
February	224	243	108	2,871	2,710
March	172	235	137	2,890	2,716
April	233			2,844	2,780
May	175			2,764	2,744
June	152			2,788	2,680
July	267			2,677	2,866
August	343			2,764	2,786
September	270			2,750	2,805
October	150			2,712	2,868
November	178			2,808	
December	352			2,681	
Total	2,866				

¹ For March 2014, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched September 2012 through August 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	March 1		2014 as percent of 2013	April 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	14,176	13,168	93	14,237	13,786	97
East North Central	13,004	13,895	107	13,216	14,000	106
West North Central	30,671	30,873	101	30,415	30,362	100
South Atlantic	236,922	243,145	103	237,236	244,726	103
South Central	307,806	306,094	99	307,593	305,370	99
West	22,412	21,418	96	24,332	20,184	83
United States	624,991	628,593	101	627,029	628,428	100

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

State	During March			January-March		
	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)
Alabama	103,953	104,730	101	303,302	303,615	100
Arkansas	81,395	75,638	93	235,774	221,920	94
Delaware	12,809	16,432	128	37,208	47,558	128
Florida	4,475	4,419	99	12,990	12,975	100
Georgia	122,710	122,506	100	353,905	357,175	101
Kentucky	27,958	27,449	98	80,926	80,693	100
Louisiana	12,761	14,450	113	36,644	41,703	114
Maryland	26,808	28,081	105	77,432	79,758	103
Mississippi	65,326	65,833	101	187,369	189,774	101
Missouri	31,460	31,556	100	88,701	91,237	103
North Carolina	75,008	74,637	100	216,217	215,444	100
Oklahoma	23,591	24,185	103	68,569	71,309	104
Pennsylvania	15,871	15,257	96	46,093	45,395	98
South Carolina	18,589	17,384	94	53,750	51,090	95
Texas	56,331	53,584	95	160,137	154,769	97
Virginia	23,563	24,223	103	68,866	69,065	100
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	41,122	40,152	98	118,921	115,466	97
19 States ¹	743,730	740,516	100	2,146,804	2,148,946	100
Other States ²	29,696	29,263	99	84,725	84,373	100
United States	773,426	769,779	100	2,231,529	2,233,319	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: 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	765,973	770,893	101	765,973	770,893	101
February	692,130	692,647	100	1,458,103	1,463,540	100
March	773,426	769,779	100	2,231,529	2,233,319	100
April	750,758			2,982,287		
May	778,086			3,760,373		
June	764,675			4,525,048		
July	783,999			5,309,047		
August	777,124			6,086,171		
September	744,907			6,831,078		
October	739,167			7,570,245		
November	713,191			8,283,436		
December	774,784			9,058,220		

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	7,239	101	60,656	60,850
March	6,589	6,790	103	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	61,446
October	6,231			59,843	61,225
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	9,068	104		
March	8,277	8,702	105		
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 March 2014, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched December 2012 through August 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) 1,618	(1,000) 48	(1,000) 3,438	(number) 22	(number) 2
Eggs	0.6	1.1	(million) 42	(million) 3	(million) 84	22	2

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

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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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