



Chickens and Eggs

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Special Note

The 2014 monthly and annual data and 2015 monthly data to date, for Egg-Type and Broiler-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month and Chicks Hatched by Month are now available on Quick Stats. Please contact the Livestock Branch at (202) 720-3570 or email at hq_sd_lb@nass.usda.gov with any questions or concerns.

April Egg Production Up Slightly

United States egg production totaled 8.21 billion during April 2015, up slightly from last year. Production included 7.11 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 87 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 2015 averaged 358 million, down 1 percent from last year. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,291 eggs, up 1 percent from April 2014.

All layers in the United States on May 1, 2015 totaled 354 million, down 2 percent from last year. The 354 million layers consisted of 296 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.38 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 2015, averaged 75.8 eggs per 100 layers, unchanged from May 1, 2014.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 9 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during April 2015 totaled 49.6 million, up 9 percent from April 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 48.0 million on May 1, 2015, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 219 thousand during April 2015, down 10 percent from April 2014.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 3 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during April 2015 totaled 773 million, up 3 percent from April 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 654 million on May 1, 2015, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 7.09 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 2015, up 6 percent from April 2014.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	2014		2015	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		360,673		365,691
January		359,556		363,732
February		358,967		362,338
March		359,955		362,501
April		360,826		358,455
May		360,383		
June		359,729		
July		360,787		
August		361,731		
September		361,813		
October		362,034		
November		364,017		

¹ December preceding year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2014-2015

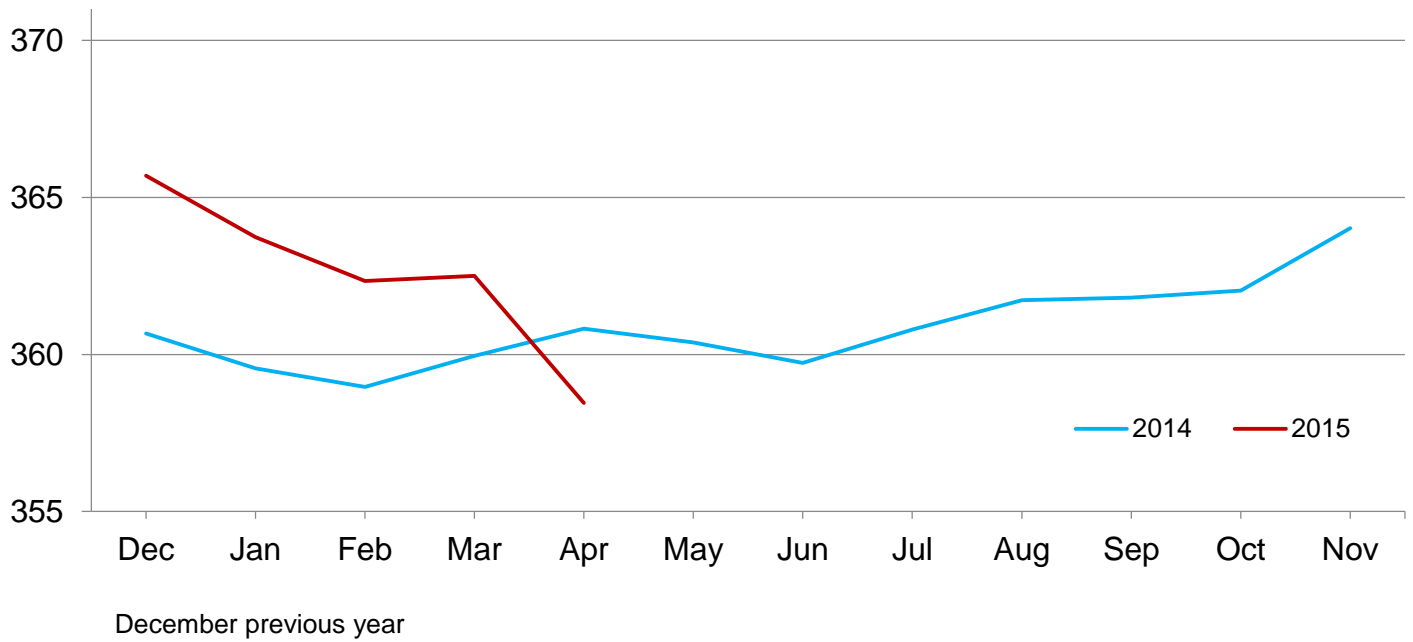
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	8,489	8,731	7,422	7,633	1,068	1,098
January	8,397	8,540	7,321	7,428	1,077	1,112
February	7,551	7,620	6,579	6,615	972	1,006
March	8,430	8,548	7,354	7,429	1,077	1,119
April	8,205	8,212	7,160	7,114	1,045	1,098
May	8,428		7,336		1,094	
June	8,151		7,091		1,060	
July	8,503		7,404		1,100	
August	8,491		7,394		1,098	
September	8,186		7,126		1,060	
October	8,526		7,433		1,094	
November	8,411		7,353		1,058	
During year	99,768		86,971		12,803	

¹ December preceding year.

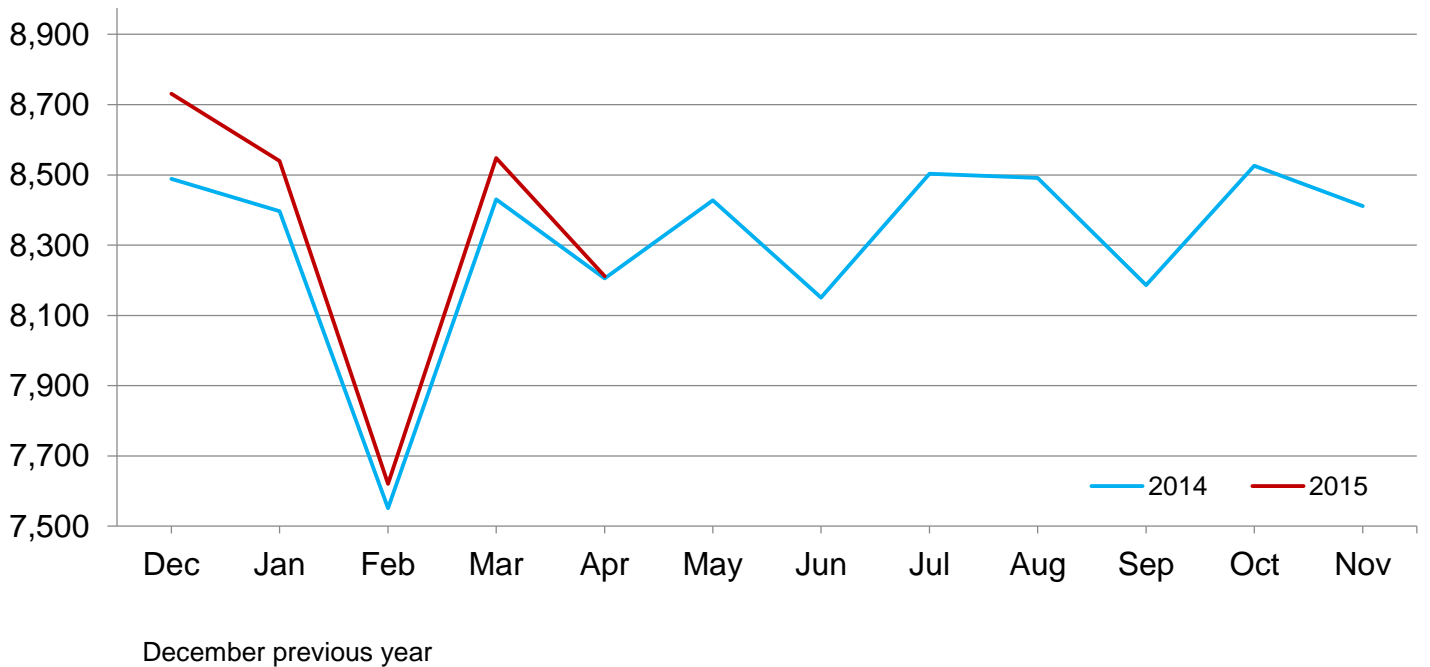
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: March-April 2014 and 2015

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during March			
All layers1,000	359,955	362,501	101
Table egg type1,000	303,711	304,586	100
Hatching egg type1,000	56,244	57,915	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,005	54,353	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,239	3,562	110
Eggs per 100 layers during March			
All layers number	2,342	2,358	101
Table egg type number	2,421	2,439	101
Hatching egg type number	1,915	1,932	101
Broiler-type hatching number	1,877	1,891	101
Egg-type hatching number	2,532	2,555	101
Eggs produced during March			
All layers million	8,430	8,548	101
Table egg type million	7,354	7,429	101
Hatching egg type million	1,077	1,119	104
Broiler-type hatching million	995	1,028	103
Egg-type hatching million	82	91	111
Layers on April 1			
All layers1,000	360,800	362,455	100
Table egg type1,000	304,398	304,100	100
Hatching egg type1,000	56,402	58,355	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,174	54,795	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,228	3,560	110
Eggs per 100 layers on April 1			
All layers number	75.7	76.8	101
Table egg type number	78.4	79.5	101
Hatching egg type number	61.1	62.3	102
Broiler-type hatching number	59.9	60.9	102
Egg-type hatching number	80.9	83.5	103
Molted layers on April 1			
Being molted percent	1.9	2.0	105
Molt completed percent	17.9	18.0	101
Layers sold for slaughter during March1,000	13,410	17,135	128
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during March1,000	7,895	7,763	98
Pullets on April 11,000	107,290	108,697	101
Pullets added during March ¹1,000	24,201	25,407	105

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

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: April-May 2014 and 2015

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during April			
All layers 1,000	360,826	358,455	99
Table egg type 1,000	304,256	300,030	99
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,570	58,425	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,267	54,953	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,303	3,472	105
Eggs per 100 layers during April			
All layers number	2,274	2,291	101
Table egg type number	2,353	2,371	101
Hatching egg type number	1,847	1,879	102
Broiler-type hatching number	1,812	1,840	102
Egg-type hatching number	2,422	2,506	103
Eggs produced during April			
All layers million	8,205	8,212	100
Table egg type million	7,160	7,114	99
Hatching egg type million	1,045	1,098	105
Broiler-type hatching million	965	1,011	105
Egg-type hatching million	80	87	109
Layers on May 1			
All layers 1,000	360,986	354,424	98
Table egg type 1,000	304,258	295,945	97
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,728	58,479	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,354	55,101	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,374	3,378	100
Eggs per 100 layers on May 1			
All layers number	75.8	75.8	100
Table egg type number	78.5	78.4	100
Hatching egg type number	61.6	62.8	102
Broiler-type hatching number	60.5	61.5	102
Egg-type hatching number	79.0	83.0	105
Molted layers on May 1			
Being molted percent	2.8	3.0	107
Molt completed percent	17.7	17.7	100
Layers sold for slaughter during April 1,000	14,441	15,866	110
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during April 1,000	6,942	14,583	210
Pullets on May 1 1,000	108,185	109,655	101
Pullets added during April ¹ 1,000	24,222	25,567	106

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

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During March 2014 and 2015

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,465	1,465	9,273	9,278	1,920	1,951
Arkansas	3,622	3,756	11,858	12,883	2,066	2,111
California	16,402	12,718	16,832	13,212	2,412	2,422
Colorado	4,497	3,926	4,871	4,338	2,546	2,444
Connecticut ¹	2,272	(NA)	2,366	(NA)	2,367	(NA)
Florida	8,181	8,755	8,548	9,148	2,422	2,405
Georgia	9,585	10,034	18,395	18,995	2,196	2,153
Illinois	4,547	4,365	5,015	4,812	2,413	2,348
Indiana	26,473	25,416	27,392	26,327	2,461	2,355
Iowa	58,048	58,226	59,210	59,466	2,300	2,376
Maine ¹	3,496	(NA)	3,551	(NA)	2,450	(NA)
Maryland	2,569	2,444	2,742	2,608	2,407	2,454
Michigan	13,044	12,663	13,282	12,916	2,582	2,539
Minnesota	10,194	11,287	10,616	11,742	2,383	2,461
Mississippi	1,530	1,542	5,848	5,731	2,052	2,129
Missouri	6,402	6,590	8,675	8,828	2,282	2,390
Nebraska	9,288	9,436	9,396	9,544	2,522	2,525
New York	4,593	4,672	4,949	5,036	2,526	2,542
North Carolina	5,627	6,754	13,032	14,509	2,149	2,164
Ohio	29,224	30,275	30,085	31,137	2,463	2,438
Oregon	2,168	2,305	2,307	2,444	2,514	2,660
Pennsylvania	23,458	23,617	25,373	25,671	2,503	2,598
South Carolina	2,968	3,165	4,210	4,466	2,185	2,284
South Dakota	2,503	2,547	2,645	2,689	2,457	2,492
Texas	14,696	14,792	18,811	18,997	2,328	2,279
Utah	3,947	4,115	3,985	4,153	2,334	2,408
Virginia	1,098	1,183	2,920	3,041	2,123	2,039
Washington	6,594	6,994	6,759	7,158	2,397	2,445
Wisconsin	4,223	4,575	4,997	5,356	2,241	2,409
Other States ²	12,994	18,888	22,012	28,016	2,208	2,277
United States	295,708	296,505	359,955	362,501	2,342	2,358

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During April 2014 and 2015

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,470	1,415	9,434	9,551	1,855	1,864
Arkansas	3,613	3,719	11,962	13,083	2,006	2,048
California	16,335	12,733	16,764	13,226	2,309	2,351
Colorado	4,410	4,172	4,783	4,621	2,530	2,316
Connecticut ¹	2,296	(NA)	2,390	(NA)	2,343	(NA)
Florida	8,106	8,688	8,488	9,052	2,344	2,254
Georgia	9,655	9,785	18,474	18,860	2,127	2,089
Illinois	4,414	4,403	4,882	4,862	2,417	2,283
Indiana	26,300	25,204	27,258	26,119	2,374	2,324
Iowa	58,019	54,876	59,206	56,105	2,297	2,319
Maine ¹	3,476	(NA)	3,531	(NA)	2,351	(NA)
Maryland	2,658	2,278	2,829	2,441	2,298	2,376
Michigan	12,885	12,457	13,123	12,710	2,484	2,478
Minnesota	10,258	11,175	10,696	11,629	2,291	2,408
Mississippi	1,530	1,516	5,805	5,738	1,964	2,022
Missouri	6,414	6,630	8,681	8,850	2,292	2,316
Nebraska	9,351	9,353	9,459	9,461	2,442	2,473
New York	4,655	4,528	5,014	4,889	2,413	2,454
North Carolina	5,744	6,417	13,289	14,162	2,032	2,125
Ohio	29,851	30,826	30,717	31,687	2,315	2,345
Oregon	2,178	2,199	2,317	2,338	2,546	2,524
Pennsylvania	23,240	23,559	25,114	25,567	2,429	2,542
South Carolina	2,993	3,089	4,254	4,417	2,163	2,151
South Dakota	2,550	2,518	2,692	2,660	2,192	2,444
Texas	14,658	14,845	18,750	18,892	2,229	2,213
Utah	3,944	4,111	3,982	4,149	2,310	2,314
Virginia	1,250	1,269	3,048	3,123	2,100	1,921
Washington	6,802	6,881	6,967	7,046	2,297	2,455
Wisconsin	4,254	4,375	5,027	5,154	2,347	2,328
Other States ²	12,944	18,928	21,890	28,063	2,156	2,220
United States	296,253	291,949	360,826	358,455	2,274	2,291

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: March 2014 and 2015

[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	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	178	181	38	37	140	144
Arkansas	245	272	91	99	154	173
California	406	320	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	124	106	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut ¹	56	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Florida	207	220	202	216	5	4
Georgia	404	409	236	238	168	171
Illinois	121	113	116	109	5	4
Indiana	674	620	657	602	17	18
Iowa	1,362	1,413	1,345	1,394	17	19
Maine ¹	87	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Maryland	66	64	65	63	1	1
Michigan	343	328	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	253	289	247	283	6	6
Mississippi	120	122	38	41	82	81
Missouri	198	211	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	237	241	237	241	-	-
New York	125	128	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	280	314	143	170	137	144
Ohio	741	759	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	58	65	58	65	-	-
Pennsylvania	635	667	607	636	28	31
South Carolina	92	102	71	78	21	24
South Dakota	65	67	65	67	-	-
Texas	438	433	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	93	100	93	100	-	-
Virginia	62	62	30	29	32	33
Washington	162	175	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	112	129	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	486	638	351	501	136	137
United States	8,430	8,548	7,354	7,429	1,077	1,119

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: April 2014 and 2015

[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	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	175	178	36	34	139	144
Arkansas	240	268	88	95	152	173
California	387	311	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	121	107	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut ¹	56	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Florida	199	204	194	200	5	4
Georgia	393	394	231	225	162	169
Illinois	118	111	113	107	5	4
Indiana	647	607	630	590	17	17
Iowa	1,360	1,301	1,343	1,282	17	19
Maine ¹	83	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Maryland	65	58	64	57	1	1
Michigan	326	315	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	245	280	240	274	5	6
Mississippi	114	116	36	37	78	79
Missouri	199	205	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	231	234	231	234	-	-
New York	121	120	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	270	301	139	162	131	139
Ohio	711	743	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	59	59	59	59	-	-
Pennsylvania	610	650	583	620	27	30
South Carolina	92	95	71	72	21	23
South Dakota	59	65	59	65	-	-
Texas	418	418	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	92	96	92	96	-	-
Virginia	64	60	32	28	32	32
Washington	160	173	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	118	120	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	472	623	342	488	130	135
United States	8,205	8,212	7,160	7,114	1,045	1,098

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Molted as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	2.7	2.1	18.2	18.1
February	2.8	3.3	18.0	17.9
March	2.4	1.9	18.0	18.9
April	1.9	2.0	17.9	18.0
May	2.8	3.0	17.7	17.7
June	3.0		17.2	
July	2.6		18.0	
August	3.3		18.0	
September	2.9		18.9	
October	3.3		19.3	
November	2.0		19.9	
December	1.3		19.3	

Molted as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: May 1, 2014 and 2015

[As of the first of the month]

State	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	1.0	0.5	4.0	6.5
Arkansas	2.0	1.5	9.5	15.0
California	7.0	4.5	28.5	31.5
Colorado	2.5	2.0	16.5	11.5
Connecticut ¹	8.0	(NA)	16.5	(NA)
Florida	5.5	10.0	24.5	40.0
Georgia	1.5	2.0	14.5	15.5
Illinois	1.0	7.5	17.0	22.5
Indiana	3.5	3.5	23.0	26.0
Iowa	2.0	4.5	26.0	26.0
Maine ¹	-	(NA)	-	(NA)
Maryland	3.5	-	3.5	-
Michigan	1.0	3.0	8.5	10.5
Minnesota	6.5	2.0	19.5	17.0
Mississippi	1.5	1.0	9.0	13.5
Missouri	1.0	2.5	21.5	16.0
Nebraska	-	-	3.0	1.5
New York	-	3.5	5.5	0.5
North Carolina	2.5	2.0	12.5	12.0
Ohio	4.0	3.5	23.0	20.0
Oregon	7.5	4.5	11.5	19.5
Pennsylvania	1.0	-	5.5	0.5
South Carolina	-	2.5	9.5	6.0
South Dakota	6.0	-	15.0	12.0
Texas	3.0	2.5	24.5	29.5
Utah	4.0	10.0	32.0	27.5
Virginia	9.5	6.5	10.5	15.5
Washington	6.5	5.0	21.0	20.0
Wisconsin	6.5	2.5	18.5	29.0
Other States ²	2.2	2.5	13.6	9.1
United States	2.8	3.0	17.7	17.7

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2014 and 2015

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on May 1	47,407	48,015	101
Chicks hatched during April	45,703	49,644	109
Chicks hatched January through April	175,380	186,986	107
Pullets hatched during April for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	243	219	90
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,780	2,987	107
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on May 1	639,159	653,728	102
Chicks hatched during April	750,447	772,794	103
Chicks hatched January through April	2,989,167	3,067,302	103
Pullets hatched during April for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	6,710	7,089	106
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	61,457	62,804	102

¹ 2015 includes pullet chicks hatched October 2013 through September 2014.

² 2015 includes pullet chicks hatched January 2014 through September 2014.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – Regions and United States: 2014-2015

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	April 1		2015 as percent of 2014	May 1		2015 as percent of 2014
	2014	2015		2014	2015	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	5,055	7,112	141	6,149	7,326	119
East North Central	10,139	10,602	105	10,864	10,007	92
West North Central	10,522	13,066	124	12,026	13,130	109
South Atlantic	4,628	4,638	100	4,562	4,706	103
South Central	6,016	6,740	112	6,414	5,702	89
West	6,837	7,123	104	7,392	7,144	97
United States	43,197	49,281	114	47,407	48,015	101

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	44,458	44,174	99	44,458	44,174	99
February	40,986	43,091	105	85,444	87,265	102
March	44,233	50,077	113	129,677	137,342	106
April	45,703	49,644	109	175,380	186,986	107
May	49,146			224,526		
June	44,006			268,532		
July	42,297			310,829		
August	39,803			350,632		
September	43,722			394,354		
October	44,468			438,822		
November	36,544			475,366		
December	42,980			518,346		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2015 as percent of 2014	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2014	2015		2014	2015
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
January	270	270	100	2,714	2,947
February	243	309	127	2,710	2,955
March	235	346	147	2,716	2,863
April	243	219	90	2,780	2,987
May	224			2,744	3,206
June	172			2,680	3,178
July	275			2,866	3,074
August	251			2,786	3,074
September	394			2,805	3,140
October	369			2,868	3,251
November	150			2,878	3,227
December	248			2,927	
Total	3,074				

¹ For April 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched October 2013 through September 2014. 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: 2014-2015

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	April 1		2015 as percent of 2014	May 1		2015 as percent of 2014
	2014	2015		2014	2015	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	13,930	14,386	103	13,933	15,039	108
East North Central	14,000	14,344	102	14,355	14,639	102
West North Central	30,362	30,262	100	30,675	31,036	101
South Atlantic	244,732	248,570	102	247,228	251,220	102
South Central	307,703	315,293	102	310,332	316,940	102
West	20,232	23,257	115	22,636	24,854	110
United States	630,959	646,112	102	639,159	653,728	102

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: April 2014 and 2015

State	During April			January-April		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
Alabama	102,373	105,122	103	405,988	416,887	103
Arkansas	73,335	77,302	105	295,091	309,309	105
Delaware	16,016	16,668	104	63,554	67,345	106
Florida	4,316	4,318	100	17,291	16,624	96
Georgia	120,769	119,503	99	477,948	479,667	100
Kentucky	27,219	27,673	102	107,903	110,734	103
Louisiana	13,805	13,837	100	55,508	55,150	99
Maryland	27,494	27,885	101	107,252	110,826	103
Mississippi	62,821	64,963	103	252,595	257,785	102
Missouri	29,613	29,350	99	120,850	116,956	97
North Carolina	72,274	76,297	106	287,731	299,437	104
Oklahoma	23,701	23,478	99	95,010	91,643	96
Pennsylvania	15,592	15,879	102	61,480	62,699	102
South Carolina	16,499	19,433	118	67,589	75,623	112
Texas	51,985	55,092	106	206,754	217,544	105
Virginia	23,979	23,416	98	93,040	93,914	101
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	40,361	43,726	108	160,775	171,069	106
19 States ¹	722,152	743,942	103	2,876,359	2,953,212	103
Other States ²	28,295	28,852	102	112,808	114,090	101
United States	750,447	772,794	103	2,989,167	3,067,302	103

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: 2014-2015

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	772,825	792,176	103	772,825	792,176	103
February	694,277	711,223	102	1,467,102	1,503,399	102
March	771,618	791,109	103	2,238,720	2,294,508	102
April	750,447	772,794	103	2,989,167	3,067,302	103
May	783,136			3,772,303		
June	764,412			4,536,715		
July	785,896			5,322,611		
August	789,582			6,112,193		
September	757,650			6,869,843		
October	762,311			7,632,154		
November	732,978			8,365,132		
December	795,846			9,160,978		

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2014-2015

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2015 as percent of 2014	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2014 (1,000 chicks)	2015 (1,000 chicks)		2014 (1,000 chicks)	2015 (1,000 chicks)
United States placements					
January	6,470	6,959	108	60,546	62,018
February	7,239	7,921	109	60,850	61,999
March	6,790	7,160	105	61,214	62,220
April	6,710	7,089	106	61,457	62,804
May	7,600			61,385	63,157
June	7,094			61,444	63,509
July	6,212			61,524	63,514
August	7,436			61,772	63,763
September	7,253			61,446	64,084
October	6,823			61,225	64,150
November	7,591			61,366	65,027
December	6,795			61,835	
Annual total	84,013				
Total placements ²					
January	8,077	8,382	104		
February	9,068	9,546	105		
March	8,702	8,875	102		
April	8,122	8,287	102		
May	9,470				
June	9,021				
July	7,916				
August	9,413				
September	9,228				
October	8,288				
November	9,540				
December	8,649				
Annual total	105,494				

¹ For April 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched January 2014 through September 2014.

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 2.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 358 million layers by more than 2.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.6 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) 2.1	(percent) 3.6	(1,000) 6,867	(1,000) 37	(1,000) 10,344	(number) 23	(number) 1
Eggs	2.2	3.8	(million) 166	(million) 1	(million) 271	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.

Molted Layers is the same data series as the previously published Forced Molt Layers. Nomenclature changed as of January 2015.

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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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
Sammy Neal – Catfish Production, Egg Products, Mink, Trout Production	(202) 720-3244
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