



Chickens and Eggs

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May Egg Production Down 5 Percent

United States egg production totaled 8.00 billion during May 2015, down 5 percent from last year. Production included 6.86 billion table eggs, and 1.14 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 83 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during May 2015 averaged 342 million, down 5 percent from last year. May egg production per 100 layers was 2,339 eggs, unchanged from May 2014.

All layers in the United States on June 1, 2015 totaled 329 million, down 8 percent from last year. The 329 million layers consisted of 271 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.19 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on June 1, 2015, averaged 75.0 eggs per 100 layers, unchanged from June 1, 2014.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Down 3 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during May 2015 totaled 47.7 million, down 3 percent from May 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 47.5 million on June 1, 2015, up 11 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 235 thousand during May 2015, up 5 percent from May 2014.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 3 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during May 2015 totaled 809 million, up 3 percent from May 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 657 million on June 1, 2015, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 7.54 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during May 2015, down 1 percent from May 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		358,416
May		360,383		341,874
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

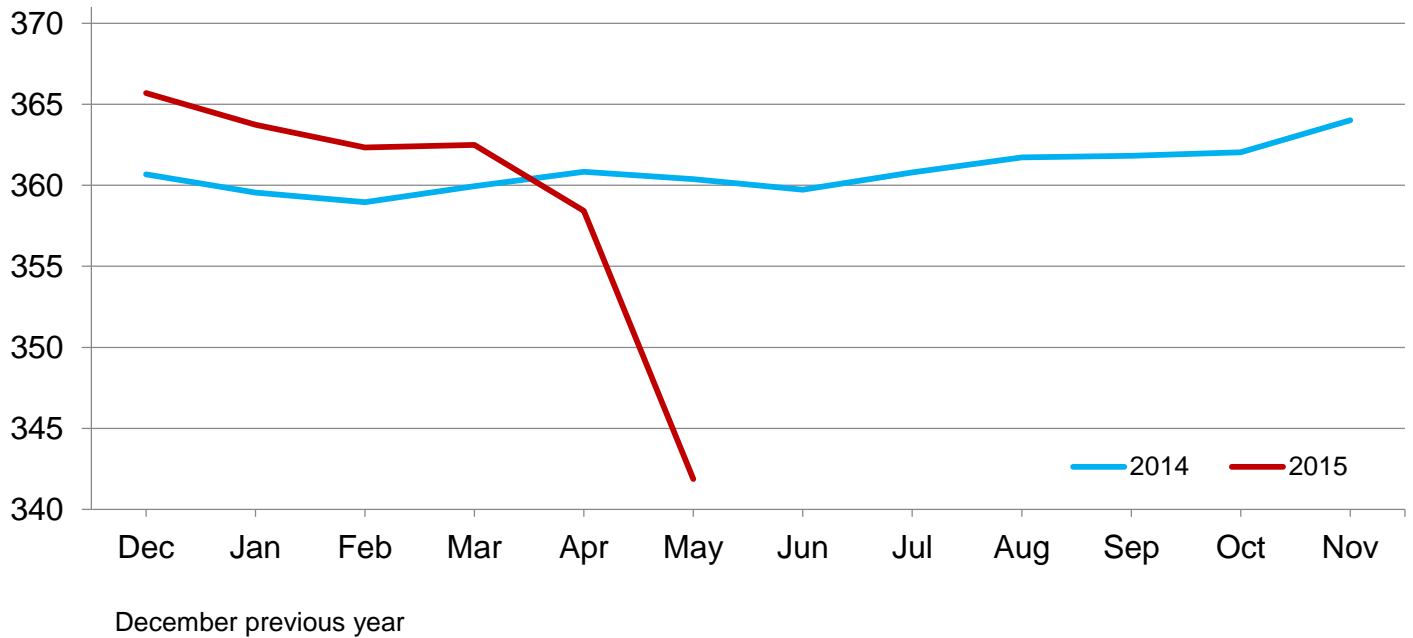
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

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	8,209	7,160	7,113	1,045	1,096
May	8,428	7,997	7,336	6,856	1,094	1,141
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.

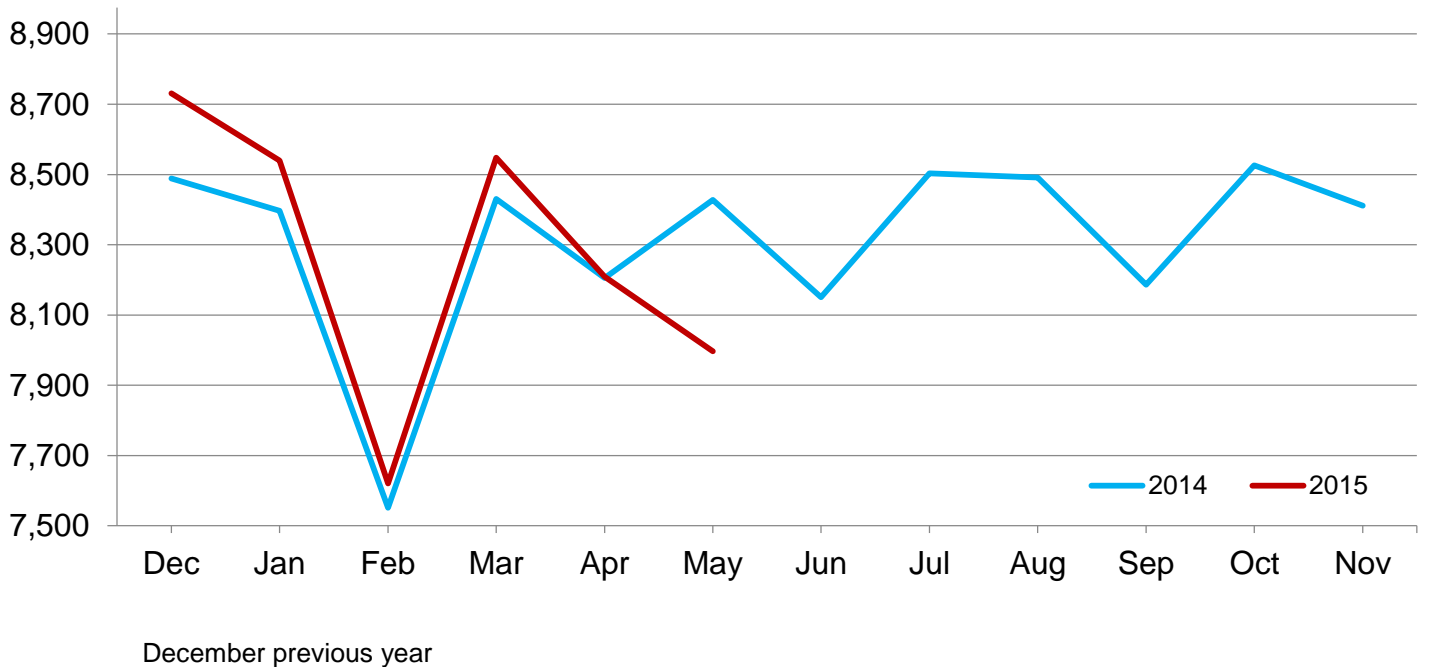
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



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

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during April			
All layers1,000	360,826	358,416	99
Table egg type1,000	304,256	300,041	99
Hatching egg type1,000	56,570	58,375	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,267	54,918	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,303	3,457	105
Eggs per 100 layers during April			
All layers number	2,274	2,290	101
Table egg type number	2,353	2,371	101
Hatching egg type number	1,847	1,878	102
Broiler-type hatching number	1,812	1,839	101
Egg-type hatching number	2,422	2,488	103
Eggs produced during April			
All layers million	8,205	8,209	100
Table egg type million	7,160	7,113	99
Hatching egg type million	1,045	1,096	105
Broiler-type hatching million	965	1,010	105
Egg-type hatching million	80	86	108
Layers on May 1			
All layers1,000	360,986	354,344	98
Table egg type1,000	304,258	295,966	97
Hatching egg type1,000	56,728	58,378	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,354	55,031	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,374	3,347	99
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	62.7	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	3.1	111
Molt completed percent	17.7	17.7	100
Layers sold for slaughter during April1,000	14,441	15,983	111
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during April1,000	6,942	14,580	210
Pullets on May 11,000	108,185	110,267	102
Pullets added during April ¹1,000	24,222	25,928	107

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

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

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during May			
All layers 1,000	360,383	341,874	95
Table egg type 1,000	303,607	283,294	93
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,776	58,580	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,446	55,305	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,330	3,275	98
Eggs per 100 layers during May			
All layers number	2,339	2,339	100
Table egg type number	2,416	2,420	100
Hatching egg type number	1,927	1,948	101
Broiler-type hatching number	1,892	1,913	101
Egg-type hatching number	2,492	2,534	102
Eggs produced during May			
All layers million	8,428	7,997	95
Table egg type million	7,336	6,856	93
Hatching egg type million	1,094	1,141	104
Broiler-type hatching million	1,011	1,058	105
Egg-type hatching million	83	83	100
Layers on June 1			
All layers 1,000	359,752	329,364	92
Table egg type 1,000	302,943	270,602	89
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,809	58,762	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,529	55,569	104
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,280	3,193	97
Eggs per 100 layers on June 1			
All layers number	75.0	75.0	100
Table egg type number	77.3	77.7	101
Hatching egg type number	62.3	62.8	101
Broiler-type hatching number	61.1	61.7	101
Egg-type hatching number	81.5	81.0	99
Molted layers on June 1			
Being molted percent	3.0	2.2	73
Molt completed percent	17.2	17.5	102
Layers sold for slaughter during May 1,000	15,207	16,637	109
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during May 1,000	8,373	31,426	375
Pullets on June 1 1,000	109,397	106,560	97
Pullets added during May ¹ 1,000	24,570	22,723	92

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

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	1,426	9,434	9,562	1,855	1,862
Arkansas	3,613	3,719	11,962	13,061	2,006	2,052
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	18,855	2,127	2,090
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	56,106	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	5,705	1,964	2,033
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	25,556	2,429	2,540
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	28,083	2,156	2,211
United States	296,253	291,960	360,826	358,416	2,274	2,290

(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 May 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	1,509	1,377	9,562	9,741	1,945	1,940
Arkansas	3,652	3,569	12,152	12,878	2,057	2,089
California	15,791	12,772	16,215	13,273	2,381	2,434
Colorado	4,357	4,182	4,730	4,628	2,600	2,420
Connecticut ¹	2,272	(NA)	2,366	(NA)	2,451	(NA)
Florida	8,066	8,499	8,460	8,853	2,329	2,282
Georgia	9,526	9,483	18,407	18,529	2,184	2,191
Illinois	4,206	4,239	4,690	4,718	2,495	2,395
Indiana	26,449	25,558	27,423	26,452	2,407	2,382
Iowa	58,188	43,007	59,422	44,172	2,395	2,325
Maine ¹	3,434	(NA)	3,489	(NA)	2,436	(NA)
Maryland	2,635	2,402	2,804	2,570	2,389	2,490
Michigan	12,760	12,537	12,991	12,780	2,486	2,535
Minnesota	10,329	9,531	10,784	9,986	2,328	2,403
Mississippi	1,530	1,528	5,662	5,841	2,031	2,072
Missouri	6,202	6,357	8,472	8,579	2,408	2,378
Nebraska	9,338	8,089	9,446	8,197	2,594	2,562
New York	4,694	4,499	5,052	4,859	2,474	2,531
North Carolina	5,718	6,344	13,232	14,141	2,139	2,150
Ohio	30,197	30,820	31,053	31,680	2,328	2,399
Oregon	2,181	2,069	2,320	2,208	2,716	2,672
Pennsylvania	23,102	23,399	24,958	25,342	2,516	2,569
South Carolina	3,080	3,119	4,361	4,441	2,224	2,184
South Dakota	2,532	2,050	2,674	2,192	2,244	2,600
Texas	14,800	14,927	18,920	18,958	2,262	2,252
Utah	3,956	4,232	3,994	4,270	2,379	2,342
Virginia	1,197	1,179	3,006	2,976	2,196	2,117
Washington	6,836	6,805	7,002	6,970	2,314	2,468
Wisconsin	4,183	3,760	4,957	4,539	2,401	2,379
Other States ²	12,884	18,880	21,779	28,101	2,236	2,285
United States	295,604	275,213	360,383	341,874	2,339	2,339

(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: 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	649	583	620	27	29
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	621	342	487	130	134
United States	8,205	8,209	7,160	7,113	1,045	1,096

- 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: May 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	186	189	39	35	147	154
Arkansas	250	269	88	91	162	178
California	386	323	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	123	112	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut ¹	58	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Florida	197	202	192	197	5	5
Georgia	402	406	232	230	170	176
Illinois	117	113	112	108	5	5
Indiana	660	630	641	613	19	17
Iowa	1,423	1,027	1,405	1,010	18	17
Maine ¹	85	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Maryland	67	64	66	63	1	1
Michigan	323	324	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	251	240	245	234	6	6
Mississippi	115	121	37	37	78	84
Missouri	204	204	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	245	210	245	210	-	-
New York	125	123	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	283	304	144	158	139	146
Ohio	723	760	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	63	59	63	59	-	-
Pennsylvania	628	651	602	622	26	29
South Carolina	97	97	75	74	22	23
South Dakota	60	57	60	57	-	-
Texas	428	427	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	95	100	95	100	-	-
Virginia	66	63	32	31	34	32
Washington	162	172	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	119	108	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	487	642	353	502	135	140
United States	8,428	7,997	7,336	6,856	1,094	1,141

- 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	3.1	17.7	17.7
June	3.0	2.2	17.2	17.5
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: June 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	1.5	2.0	5.0	5.5
Arkansas	3.0	1.5	10.5	14.0
California	4.5	1.5	29.5	32.0
Colorado	5.5	1.0	18.0	12.0
Connecticut ¹	-	(NA)	18.0	(NA)
Florida	10.5	5.0	21.0	45.0
Georgia	4.0	1.5	14.5	13.5
Illinois	-	6.5	10.5	24.5
Indiana	2.5	2.0	23.5	26.0
Iowa	2.5	1.0	24.0	23.5
Maine ¹	-	(NA)	-	(NA)
Maryland	-	-	7.0	3.0
Michigan	2.0	-	6.5	12.0
Minnesota	5.0	2.5	18.5	9.5
Mississippi	1.5	2.0	9.5	13.0
Missouri	2.5	3.0	19.5	11.5
Nebraska	-	-	3.0	2.0
New York	4.0	3.0	4.5	1.5
North Carolina	-	-	14.0	14.5
Ohio	4.5	3.5	22.0	21.0
Oregon	-	4.5	15.5	18.0
Pennsylvania	0.5	2.5	6.0	1.0
South Carolina	-	2.0	9.5	7.5
South Dakota	4.0	-	15.5	17.0
Texas	6.0	5.0	24.0	33.5
Utah	5.5	5.5	31.5	30.0
Virginia	-	-	13.5	17.5
Washington	5.0	6.0	18.0	20.0
Wisconsin	4.5	5.5	22.0	25.5
Other States ²	2.7	1.3	13.3	9.4
United States	3.0	2.2	17.2	17.5

- 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 June 1	42,738	47,478	111
Chicks hatched during May	49,146	47,652	97
Chicks hatched January through May	224,526	234,589	104
Pullets hatched during May for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	224	235	105
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,744	3,206	117
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on June 1	643,561	656,574	102
Chicks hatched during May	783,136	809,073	103
Chicks hatched January through May	3,772,303	3,876,414	103
Pullets hatched during May for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	7,600	7,541	99
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	61,385	63,157	103

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

² 2015 includes pullet chicks hatched February 2014 through October 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	May 1		2015 as percent of 2014	June 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	6,149	7,326	119	5,722	7,367	129
East North Central	10,864	9,683	89	9,396	9,550	102
West North Central	12,026	13,164	109	10,796	12,780	118
South Atlantic	4,562	4,706	103	4,315	5,465	127
South Central	6,414	5,702	89	5,998	5,873	98
West	7,392	7,119	96	6,511	6,443	99
United States	47,407	47,700	101	42,738	47,478	111

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	49,595	109	175,380	186,937	107
May	49,146	47,652	97	224,526	234,589	104
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	235	105	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	3,238
Total	3,074				

¹ For May 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched November 2013 through October 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	May 1		2015 as percent of 2014	June 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	13,933	15,039	108	13,908	14,315	103
East North Central	14,355	14,639	102	14,345	14,637	102
West North Central	30,675	31,036	101	30,582	31,538	103
South Atlantic	247,228	251,240	102	249,812	253,460	101
South Central	310,332	316,992	102	312,343	318,860	102
West	22,636	24,442	108	22,571	23,764	105
United States	639,159	653,388	102	643,561	656,574	102

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

State	During May			January-May		
	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	106,805	108,749	102	512,793	525,636	103
Arkansas	77,213	81,110	105	372,304	390,419	105
Delaware	16,797	17,345	103	80,351	84,690	105
Florida	4,427	4,520	102	21,718	21,144	97
Georgia	124,633	126,908	102	602,581	606,575	101
Kentucky	28,843	29,096	101	136,746	139,830	102
Louisiana	13,958	14,445	103	69,466	69,595	100
Maryland	28,672	29,195	102	135,924	140,021	103
Mississippi	64,023	66,681	104	316,618	324,466	102
Missouri	30,672	30,078	98	151,522	147,034	97
North Carolina	75,844	79,189	104	363,575	378,650	104
Oklahoma	24,418	24,414	100	119,428	116,057	97
Pennsylvania	16,266	16,851	104	77,746	79,550	102
South Carolina	18,027	20,185	112	85,616	95,808	112
Texas	54,132	58,351	108	260,886	275,895	106
Virginia	24,885	24,212	97	117,925	118,126	100
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	43,698	46,473	106	204,473	217,557	106
19 States ¹	753,313	777,802	103	3,629,672	3,731,053	103
Other States ²	29,823	31,271	105	142,631	145,361	102
United States	783,136	809,073	103	3,772,303	3,876,414	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	772,833	103	2,989,167	3,067,341	103
May	783,136	809,073	103	3,772,303	3,876,414	103
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	6,995	104	61,457	62,804
May	7,600	7,541	99	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	64,933
December	6,795			61,835	65,038
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	8,358	103		
May	9,470	9,409	99		
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 May 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched February 2014 through October 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 342 million layers by more than 2.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.5 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) 3.5	(1,000) 6,491	(1,000) 37	(1,000) 10,344	(number) 22	(number) 2
Eggs	2.2	3.7	(million) 157	(million) 1	(million) 271	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.

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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Heidi Gleich – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-0585
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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