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Eggs in Incubators on April 1 Down 2 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2014, in the United States totaled 27.2 million, down 2 percent from April 1, 2013. Eggs in incubators were up 4 percent from the March 1, 2014 total of 26.0 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During March Up 2 Percent from Last Year

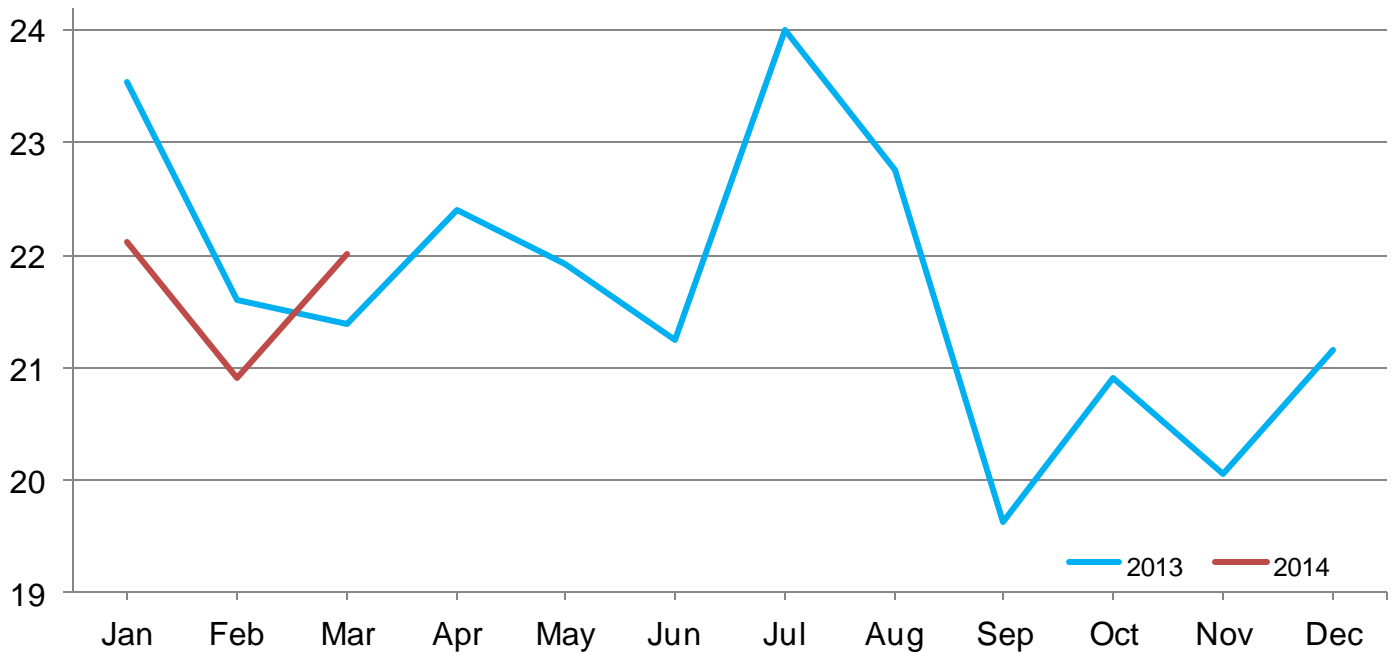
Turkey poults hatched during March 2014, in the United States totaled 22.4 million, up 2 percent from March 2013. Poults hatched were up 4 percent from the February 2014 total of 21.5 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During March Up 3 Percent from Last Year

The 22.0 million net poults placed during March 2014 in the United States were up 3 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were up 5 percent from the February 2014 total of 20.9 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2012-2014

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

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2012-2013	2013-2014		2012-2013	2013-2014	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	26,070	25,538	98	21,260	20,985	99
October	26,784	26,480	99	23,083	22,939	99
November	26,855	26,393	98	23,220	21,319	92
December	26,382	26,492	100	21,953	22,085	101
January	28,035	27,299	97	24,102	23,447	97
February	28,142	26,934	96	22,232	21,506	97
March	26,432	26,038	99	21,905	22,388	102
April	27,816	27,190	98	23,259		
May	26,576			22,339		
June	26,797			21,412		
July	27,789			23,885		
August	27,900			23,014		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2012-2014

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2012-2013	2013-2014		2012-2013	2013-2014	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,680	19,637	95	20,680	19,637	95
October	22,858	20,916	92	43,538	40,553	93
November	22,703	20,053	88	66,241	60,606	91
December	21,356	21,149	99	87,597	81,755	93
January	23,545	22,113	94	111,142	103,868	93
February	21,608	20,906	97	132,750	124,774	94
March	21,388	22,016	103	154,138	146,790	95
April	22,406			176,544		
May	21,928			198,472		
June	21,241			219,713		
July	23,995			243,708		
August	22,748			266,456		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries hatching 15,000 or more poults annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from 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 were 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. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poult Placement data include imported poults and exclude exported poults.

Cumulative net poult placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poults which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report, while annual revisions are published in the *Hatchery Production - Annual Summary* report in April.

Reliability: Turkey hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known 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 turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 27.2 million eggs by more than 1.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.2 percent.

Reliability of April Turkey Hatchery Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators	1.9	3.2	362	18	1,887	16	8
Poults hatched	0.9	1.5	157	1	463	16	8
Net poult placements	1.7	2.9	321	10	1,026	16	8

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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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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