



ISSN: 1949-1964

Released March 17, 2015, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Eggs in Incubators on March 1 Up 5 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2015, in the United States totaled 27.4 million, up 5 percent from March 1, 2014. Eggs in incubators were up 1 percent from the February 1, 2015 total of 27.1 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During February Up 2 Percent from Last Year

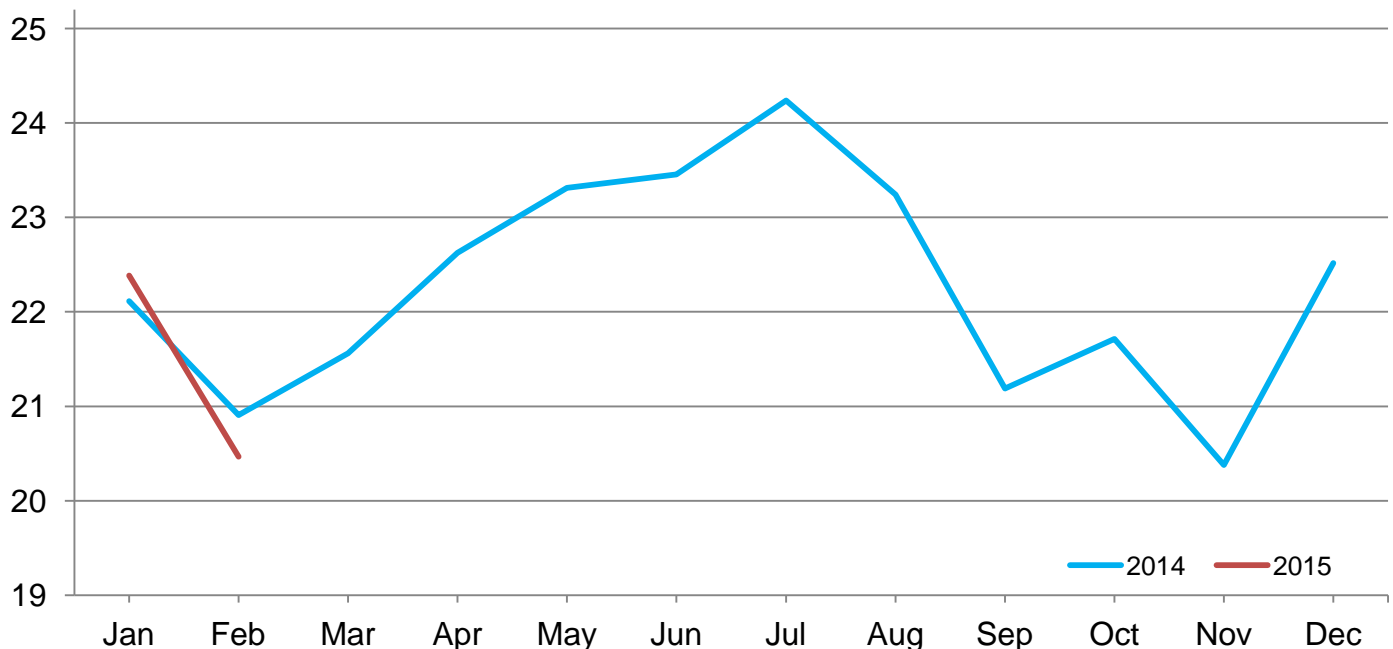
Turkey poults hatched during February 2015, in the United States totaled 21.9 million, up 2 percent from February 2014. Poults hatched were down 9 percent from the January 2015 total of 24.0 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During February Down 2 Percent from Last Year

The 20.5 million net poults placed during February 2015 in the United States were down 2 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 9 percent from the January 2015 total of 22.4 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2013-2015

[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
	2013-2014	2014-2015		2013-2014	2014-2015	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	25,538	27,299	107	20,985	22,866	109
October	26,480	27,733	105	22,939	23,764	104
November	26,393	28,162	107	21,319	21,936	103
December	26,492	28,866	109	22,085	24,660	112
January	27,299	29,281	107	23,447	24,023	102
February	26,934	27,144	101	21,506	21,916	102
March	26,038	27,435	105	22,388		
April	27,202			22,808		
May	29,022			24,194		
June	28,924			23,651		
July	28,584			24,413		
August	27,923			23,518		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2013-2015

[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
	2013-2014	2014-2015		2013-2014	2014-2015	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	19,637	21,188	108	19,637	21,188	108
October	20,916	21,712	104	40,553	42,900	106
November	20,053	20,379	102	60,606	63,279	104
December	21,149	22,516	106	81,755	85,795	105
January	22,113	22,383	101	103,868	108,178	104
February	20,906	20,466	98	124,774	128,644	103
March	21,562			146,336		
April	22,626			168,962		
May	23,313			192,275		
June	23,453			215,728		
July	24,238			239,966		
August	23,240			263,206		

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 the affects of these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and through 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 1.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 27.4 million eggs by more than 1.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.3 percent.

Reliability of March 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	1.4	2.3	267	0	1,123	19	4
Poults hatched	0.7	1.2	123	0	414	15	5
Net poult placements	1.4	2.4	260	10	631	12	12

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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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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