

Chickens and Eggs



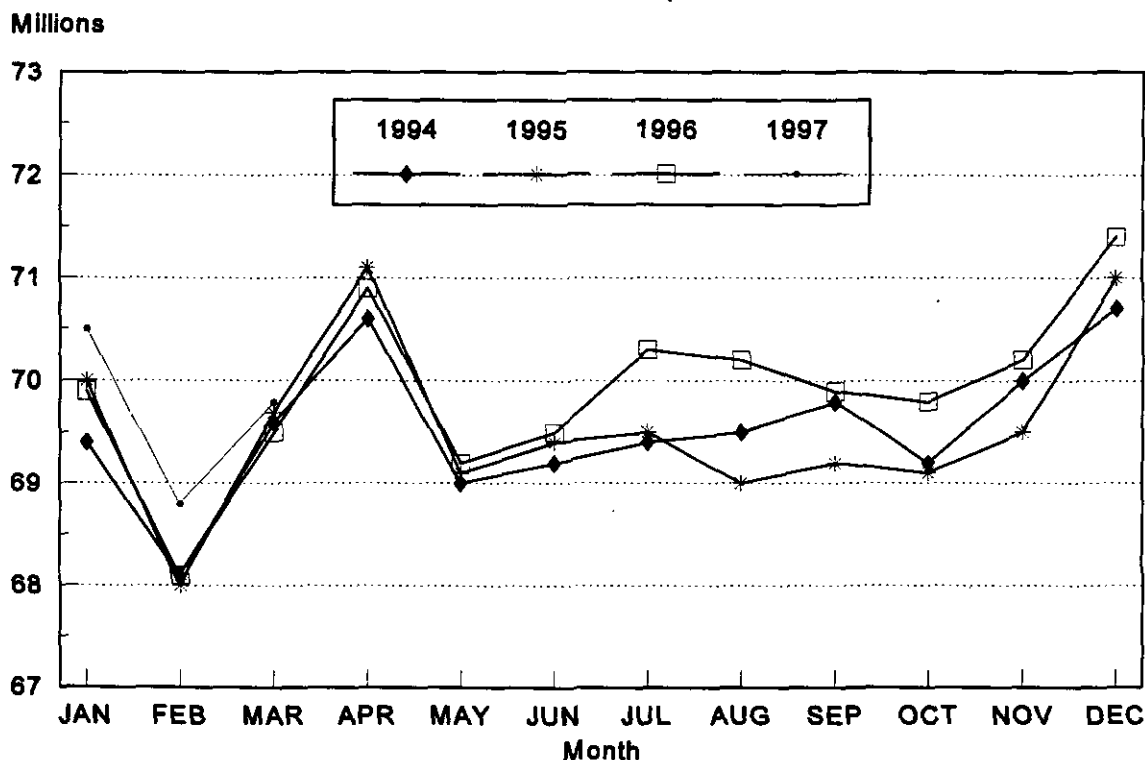
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February Egg Production Down 1 percent

U.S. egg production totaled 5.88 billion during February 1997, down 1 percent from the 5.95 billion produced in 1996. Production included 4.98 billion table eggs and 902 million hatching eggs, of which 848 million were broiler-type and 54.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 1997 averaged 303 million, up 2 percent from the average number of layers during February 1996. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,941 eggs, compared with 1,996 in February 1996.

All Layers: 1st of Month Rate of Lay United States, 1994-97



All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 1997, totaled 304 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 304 million layers consisted of 250 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 51.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 1997, averaged 69.8 eggs per 100 layers, up fractionally from the 69.5 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg production States produced 5.57 billion eggs during February, down 1 percent from February 1996. The average number of layers during February, at 287 million, was up 2 percent from the year earlier.

Individual State estimates are available for the 30 major egg producing States. These States are listed on page 8 of this release and account for approximately 95 percent of the total U.S. egg production. Production for the other States are grouped into an "Other States" category and combined with the 30 States published individually to obtain a U.S. estimate. Individual State estimates for "Other States" are available annually in the "**Layers and Egg Production**" report.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 2 Percent

Egg-type chicks **hatched** during February totaled 35.3 million, up 2 percent from February 1996. **Eggs in incubators** totaled 33.2 million on March 1, 1997, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks** by leading breeders totaled 216,000 during February 1997, down 9 percent from the 238,000 of February 1996.

Broiler Hatch Down 2 Percent

The February 1997 **hatch** of broiler-type chicks, at 631 million, was down 2 percent from February of the previous year. There were 592 million **eggs in incubators** on March 1, 1997, up 3 percent from a year earlier. February 1996 contained 29 days due to the leap year.

Leading breeders placed 5.80 million **broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks** during February 1997, down 2 percent from February 1996.

For information call Tom Kruchten at (202) 690-4870

Layers: Average Number During the Month,
United States, 1994-97

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997
1,000 Layers				
Dec 1/	290,642	299,160	298,861	303,669
Jan	290,041	298,367	298,814	303,293
Feb	290,047	297,293	298,357	303,066
Mar	290,719	296,561	298,209	
Apr	290,073	295,464	296,605	
May	288,784	293,198	294,458	
Jun	287,974	290,313	293,915	
Jul	287,990	288,213	295,349	
Aug	290,321	288,359	296,785	
Sep	293,381	290,337	297,696	
Oct	295,172	292,516	299,196	
Nov	297,134	296,724	301,604	

1/ December preceding year.

Eggs: Production During the Month by Type,
United States, 1996-97

Month	Total Eggs		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
Million Eggs						
Dec 1/	6,523	6,678	5,548	5,695	975	983
Jan	6,398	6,554	5,420	5,567	978	987
Feb	5,954	5,884	5,036	4,982	918	902
Mar	6,495		5,505		990	
Apr	6,243		5,284		959	
May	6,340		5,341		999	
Jun	6,169		5,209		960	
Jul	6,440		5,457		983	
Aug	6,447		5,465		982	
Sep	6,235		5,297		938	
Oct	6,495		5,539		956	
Nov	6,409		5,471		938	
During Year:	76,148	19,116	64,572	16,244	11,576	2,872

1/ December preceding year.

Eggs and Layers: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, January-February 1996-97 1/

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Jan (1,000)			
All Layers	298,814	303,293	101
Table Egg Type	245,523	249,494	102
Hatching Egg Type	53,291	53,799	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,698	51,120	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,593	2,679	103
Eggs per 100 Layers During Jan (Number)			
All Layers	2,141	2,161	101
Table Egg Type	2,208	2,231	101
Hatching Egg Type	1,835	1,835	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,813	1,809	100
Egg-Type Hatching	2,275	2,314	102
Eggs Produced During Jan (Million)			
All Layers	6,398	6,554	102
Table Egg Type	5,420	5,567	103
Hatching Egg Type	978	987	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	919	925	101
Egg-Type Hatching	59	62	105
Layers on Feb 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	298,320	302,486	101
Table Egg Type	244,854	248,515	101
Hatching Egg Type	53,466	53,971	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,847	51,287	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,619	2,684	102
Eggs per 100 Layers on Feb 1 (Number)			
All Layers	68.1	68.8	101
Table Egg Type	70.1	70.9	101
Hatching Egg Type	59.0	59.2	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	58.2	58.4	100
Egg-Type Hatching	75.6	76.1	101
Forced Molt Layers on Feb 1			
Percent Being Molted	5.4	5.1	94
Percent with Molt Completed	22.3	21.6	97

1/ Revised.

Eggs and Layers: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, February-March 1996-97

Item	: 1996 1/	: 1997 2/	: 1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Feb (1,000)	:	:	:
All Layers	: 298,357	: 303,066	: 102
Table Egg Type	: 244,708	: 249,024	: 102
Hatching Egg Type	: 53,649	: 54,042	: 101
Broiler-Type Hatching	: 50,970	: 51,378	: 101
Egg-Type Hatching	: 2,679	: 2,664	: 99
Eggs per 100 Layers During Feb (Number)	:	:	:
All Layers	: 1,996	: 1,941	: 97
Table Egg Type	: 2,058	: 2,001	: 97
Hatching Egg Type	: 1,711	: 1,669	: 98
Broiler-Type Hatching	: 1,689	: 1,651	: 98
Egg-Type Hatching	: 2,128	: 2,027	: 95
Eggs Produced During Feb (Million)	:	:	:
All Layers	: 5,954	: 5,884	: 99
Table Egg Type	: 5,036	: 4,982	: 99
Hatching Egg Type	: 918	: 902	: 98
Broiler-Type Hatching	: 861	: 848	: 98
Egg-Type Hatching	: 57	: 54	: 95
Layers on Mar 1 (1,000)	:	:	:
All Layers	: 298,348	: 303,596	: 102
Table Egg Type	: 244,539	: 249,511	: 102
Hatching Egg Type	: 53,809	: 54,085	: 101
Broiler-Type Hatching	: 51,078	: 51,453	: 101
Egg-Type Hatching	: 2,731	: 2,632	: 96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Mar 1 (Number)	:	:	:
All Layers	: 69.5	: 69.8	: 100
Table Egg Type	: 71.8	: 71.9	: 100
Hatching Egg Type	: 59.1	: 60.2	: 102
Broiler-Type Hatching	: 58.3	: 59.5	: 102
Egg-Type Hatching	: 74.8	: 75.7	: 101
Forced Molt Layers, Mar 1	:	:	:
Percent Being Molted	: 3.5	: 2.4	: 69
Percent with Molt Completed	: 23.3	: 22.8	: 98

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

Eggs and Layers: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced Molt, January-February, 30 Selected States, 1996-97 1/ 2/

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Jan (1,000)			
All Layers	282,679	287,363	102
Table Egg Type	232,897	237,127	102
Hatching Egg Type	49,782	50,236	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	47,273	47,669	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,509	2,567	102
Eggs per 100 Layers During Jan (Number)			
All Layers	2,142	2,160	101
Table Egg Type	2,207	2,230	101
Hatching Egg Type	1,838	1,833	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,813	1,806	100
Egg-Type Hatching	2,312	2,337	101
Eggs Produced During Jan (Million)			
All Layers	6,055	6,208	103
Table Egg Type	5,140	5,287	103
Hatching Egg Type	915	921	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	857	861	100
Egg-Type Hatching	58	60	103
Layers on Feb 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	282,343	286,425	101
Table Egg Type	232,385	235,983	102
Hatching Egg Type	49,958	50,442	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	47,423	47,862	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,535	2,580	102
Eggs per 100 Layers on Feb 1 (Number)			
All Layers	68.1	68.8	101
Table Egg Type	70.1	70.9	101
Hatching Egg Type	59.0	59.2	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	58.1	58.3	100
Egg-Type Hatching	75.8	76.2	101
Forced Molt Layers on Feb 1			
Percent Being Molted	5.4	5.1	94
Percent with Molt Completed	22.4	21.6	96
Layers Sold During Jan (1,000)	15,686	13,985	89
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, or Composted Disappeared For Any Reason During Jan (1,000)	2,568	3,364	131
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Feb 1 (1,000)	71,279	71,215	100
Pullets Added During Jan 3/ (1,000)	19,825	17,601	89

1/ The 30 States are listed in the table on page 8.

2/ Revised.

3/ 1996 is pullets added less than 20 weeks old to pullet flocks. 1997 is pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flock.

Eggs and Layers: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced Molt, 30 Selected States, February-March, 1996-97 1/

Item	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Feb (1,000)			
All Layers	282,355	287,013	102
Table Egg Type	232,245	236,614	102
Hatching Egg Type	50,110	50,399	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	47,527	47,839	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,583	2,560	99
Eggs per 100 Layers During Feb (Number)			
All Layers	1,996	1,941	97
Table Egg Type	2,057	1,999	97
Hatching Egg Type	1,712	1,671	98
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,687	1,651	98
Egg-Type Hatching	2,168	2,031	94
Eggs Produced During Feb (Million)			
All Layers	5,635	5,572	99
Table Egg Type	4,777	4,730	99
Hatching Egg Type	858	842	98
Broiler-Type Hatching	802	790	99
Egg-Type Hatching	56	52	93
Layers on Mar 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	282,333	287,564	102
Table Egg Type	232,091	237,231	102
Hatching Egg Type	50,242	50,333	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	47,618	47,805	100
Egg-Type Hatching	2,624	2,528	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Mar 1 (Number)			
All Layers	69.5	69.8	100
Table Egg Type	71.7	71.8	100
Hatching Egg Type	59.1	60.4	102
Broiler-Type Hatching	58.2	59.6	102
Egg-Type Hatching	74.9	75.4	101
Forced Molt Layers, Mar 1			
Percent Being Molted	3.5	2.5	71
Percent with Molt Completed	23.5	22.8	97
Layers Sold During Feb (1,000)	14,996	13,858	92
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Feb (1,000)	2,664	3,326	125
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Mar 1 (1,000)	71,112	73,525	103
Pullets Added During Feb 4/ (1,000)	20,485	18,609	91

1/ The 30 States are listed in the table on page 8.

2/ Revised.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ 1996 is pullets added less than 20 weeks old to pullet flocks. 1997 is pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During January 1996-97 1/

State	: Table Egg Layers in : : Flocks 30,000 and Above :		: All Layers 2/ :		: Eggs per 100 for : All Layers 2/ :	
	: 1996	: 1997	: 1996	: 1997	: 1996	: 1997
	: ----- 1,000 -----				: ----- Number -----	
AL	4,320	4,056	11,121	10,685	1,897	1,956
AR	5,469	4,707	15,749	14,740	1,892	1,872
CA	25,233	25,666	25,791	26,270	2,144	2,242
CO	2,696	2,735	3,276	3,292	2,167	2,157
CT	3,400	3,324	3,549	3,469	2,226	2,248
FL	8,502	8,212	9,194	8,949	2,175	2,168
GA	10,716	11,298	18,736	19,689	2,039	2,052
HI	738	712	785	737	2,012	2,037
IL	3,099	3,272	3,301	3,429	2,242	2,275
IN	20,614	19,956	21,667	20,824	2,183	2,267
IA	17,547	19,558	18,403	20,515	2,222	2,125
ME	4,862	5,020	4,974	5,112	2,413	2,426
MD	3,106	3,000	3,607	3,490	2,162	2,178
MI	5,013	4,777	5,281	5,021	2,114	2,204
MN	10,770	11,163	11,573	11,939	2,203	2,136
MS	2,306	2,130	6,240	6,759	1,987	1,938
MO	5,640	5,292	6,770	6,485	2,127	2,159
NE	8,989	9,200	9,139	9,350	2,139	2,254
NY	3,677	3,239	3,974	3,423	2,365	2,337
NC	6,054	5,351	13,824	12,814	1,902	1,920
OH	22,764	25,359	23,196	25,888	2,319	2,298
OK	2,000	1,703	3,900	3,716	2,077	1,991
OR	2,522	2,576	2,699	2,756	2,186	2,177
PA	20,020	20,275	21,378	21,533	2,273	2,336
SC	3,695	3,922	4,703	4,913	2,148	2,056
SD	1,570	1,798	1,745	2,028	2,275	2,201
TX	12,735	13,279	15,890	16,801	2,096	2,107
VA	1,660	2,530	3,802	4,001	2,025	2,000
WA	4,955	4,752	5,186	5,128	2,275	2,301
WI	2,726	3,001	3,226	3,607	2,232	2,301
30 Sts	227,398	231,863	282,679	287,363	2,142	2,160
Oth Sts 3/	11,316	11,284	16,135	15,930	2,126	2,172
US	238,714	243,147	298,814	303,293	2,141	2,161

1/ Revised.

2/ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

3/ Estimates for individual States are not available.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During February 1996-97 1/

State	: Table Egg Layers in :		: All Layers 2/ :		: Eggs per 100 for :	
	: Flocks 30,000 and Above :	:	: 1996 :	: 1997 :	: 1996 :	: 1997 :
	: 1996 :	: 1997 :	: 1996 :	: 1997 :	: 1996 :	: 1997 :
	: ----- 1,000 -----				: ----- Number -----	
AL	: 4,054	: 4,051	: 10,891	: 10,541	: 1,763	: 1,755
AR	: 5,712	: 4,648	: 16,053	: 14,914	: 1,757	: 1,676
CA	: 25,103	: 25,479	: 25,661	: 26,051	: 2,007	: 1,992
CO	: 2,654	: 2,669	: 3,232	: 3,222	: 2,073	: 1,955
CT	: 3,381	: 3,259	: 3,529	: 3,406	: 2,125	: 2,143
FL	: 8,346	: 8,051	: 9,040	: 8,764	: 1,991	: 1,928
GA	: 10,834	: 11,208	: 18,941	: 19,828	: 1,906	: 1,891
HI	: 727	: 699	: 774	: 723	: 1,946	: 1,893
IL	: 2,990	: 3,387	: 3,192	: 3,538	: 2,162	: 2,092
IN	: 20,729	: 20,097	: 21,791	: 20,980	: 2,047	: 2,045
IA	: 17,285	: 19,682	: 18,131	: 20,630	: 2,035	: 1,910
ME	: 4,837	: 5,131	: 4,967	: 5,227	: 2,275	: 2,181
MD	: 3,138	: 3,084	: 3,645	: 3,559	: 2,030	: 1,939
MI	: 4,895	: 4,866	: 5,155	: 5,115	: 2,071	: 1,949
MN	: 10,860	: 11,080	: 11,693	: 11,858	: 2,070	: 1,940
MS	: 2,310	: 2,062	: 6,252	: 6,705	: 1,823	: 1,730
MO	: 5,525	: 5,295	: 6,641	: 6,482	: 1,942	: 1,928
NE	: 8,976	: 9,277	: 9,126	: 9,427	: 2,004	: 1,921
NY	: 3,548	: 3,257	: 3,847	: 3,463	: 2,184	: 2,108
NC	: 6,058	: 5,353	: 13,897	: 12,835	: 1,749	: 1,753
OH	: 22,861	: 25,418	: 23,295	: 25,964	: 2,164	: 2,045
OK	: 2,000	: 1,690	: 3,868	: 3,640	: 1,939	: 1,813
OR	: 2,650	: 2,717	: 2,843	: 2,889	: 2,110	: 2,077
PA	: 19,880	: 20,080	: 21,230	: 21,336	: 2,124	: 2,104
SC	: 3,775	: 3,844	: 4,808	: 4,816	: 1,913	: 1,806
SD	: 1,558	: 1,773	: 1,730	: 2,025	: 2,074	: 2,016
TX	: 12,793	: 13,181	: 16,029	: 16,677	: 1,934	: 1,883
VA	: 1,617	: 2,347	: 3,710	: 3,810	: 1,887	: 1,785
WA	: 4,888	: 4,663	: 5,118	: 5,030	: 2,149	: 2,068
WI	: 2,775	: 2,954	: 3,266	: 3,558	: 2,051	: 2,080
30 Sts	: 226,759	: 231,302	: 282,355	: 287,013	: 1,996	: 1,941
Oth Sts 3/	: 11,154	: 11,330	: 16,002	: 16,053	: 1,994	: 1,944
US	: 237,913	: 242,632	: 298,357	: 303,066	: 1,996	: 1,941

1/ 1997 preliminary, 1996 Revised.

2/ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

3/ Estimates for individual States are not available.

Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
January 1996-97 1/

State	Total Production		Table Eggs 2/		Hatching Eggs 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Million Eggs					
AL	211	209	90	91	121	118
AR	298	276	115	96	183	180
CA	553	589				
CO	71	71				
CT	79	78				
FL	200	194	188	179	12	15
GA	382	404	229	245	153	159
HI	16	15	16	15	0	0
IL	74	78	73	77	1	1
IN	473	472	464	462	9	10
IA	409	436				
ME	120	124				
MD	78	76	70	68	8	8
MI	111	110				
MN	255	255	245	245	10	10
MS	124	131	52	45	72	86
MO	144	140				
NE	195	211	195	211	0	0
NY	94	80				
NC	263	246	131	120	132	126
OH	538	595				
OK	81	74	50	42	31	32
OR	59	60	58	58	1	2
PA	486	503	468	487	18	16
SC	101	101	82	84	19	17
SD	40	45	40	45	0	0
TX	333	354				
VA	77	80	40	52	37	28
WA	118	118				
WI	72	83				
30 Sts	6,055	6,208	5,140	5,287	915	921
Oth Sts 3/	343	346	280	280	63	66
US	6,398	6,554	5,420	5,567	978	987

1/ Revised.

2/ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

3/ Estimates for individual States are not available.

Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
February 1996-97 1/

State	Total Production		Table Eggs 2/		Hatching Eggs 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Million Eggs					
AL	192	185	80	81	112	104
AR	282	250	109	84	173	166
CA	515	519				
CO	67	63				
CT	75	73				
FL	180	169	168	156	12	13
GA	361	375	217	225	144	150
HI	15	14	15	14	0	0
IL	69	74	68	73	1	1
IN	446	429	437	420	9	9
IA	369	394				
ME	113	114				
MD	74	69	66	62	8	7
MI	107	100				
MN	242	230	232	221	10	9
MS	114	116	47	38	67	78
MO	129	125				
NE	183	181	183	181	0	0
NY	84	73				
NC	243	225	120	108	123	117
OH	504	531				
OK	75	66	46	37	29	29
OR	60	60	58	59	2	1
PA	451	449	436	435	15	14
SC	92	87	75	71	17	16
SD	36	41	36	41	0	0
TX	310	314				
VA	70	68	36	44	34	24
WA	110	104				
WI	67	74				
30 Sts	5,635	5,572	4,777	4,730	858	842
Oth Sts 3/	319	312	259	252	60	60
US	5,954	5,884	5,036	4,982	918	902

1/ 1997 preliminary, 1996 Revised.

2/ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

3/ Estimates for individual States are not available.

Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month,
United States, 1996-97 1/

Month	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Percent			
Jan	3.7	3.8	24.3	22.3
Feb	5.4	5.1	22.3	21.6
Mar	3.5	2.4	23.3	22.8
Apr	1.9		22.9	
May	5.4		22.2	
Jun	4.7		22.2	
Jul	4.0		22.9	
Aug	4.7		22.0	
Sep	4.3		22.3	
Oct	4.8		23.0	
Nov	3.1		23.9	
Dec	2.1		23.5	

1/ As of first of month.

Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State
and United States, March 1996-97 1/

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Percent			
AL	1.5	4.5	12.5	11.0
AR	2.0	3.0	9.5	8.0
CA	6.5	4.5	46.5	43.0
CO	2.5	2.0	25.0	25.0
CT	.0	.0	12.5	13.0
FL	5.5	2.5	28.0	36.0
GA	2.5	1.5	23.0	22.5
HI	5.0	8.0	52.5	46.5
IL	4.5	1.5	42.0	20.5
IN	3.0	1.5	23.5	19.0
IA	8.0	3.0	27.5	36.5
ME	.0	.5	.5	3.0
MD	4.0	3.5	33.0	32.0
MI	1.5	2.0	23.0	13.5
MN	1.5	5.5	33.5	30.5
MS	.5	.5	15.0	14.5
MO	1.5	.0	28.5	18.0
NE	7.5	5.0	33.0	26.0
NY	.0	1.5	8.5	5.0
NC	3.5	1.0	14.0	11.5
OH	.0	1.0	12.0	12.5
OK	3.0	1.5	11.5	12.5
OR	3.5	.5	36.0	39.5
PA	4.0	2.0	20.0	18.5
SC	3.0	2.0	30.5	24.0
SD	1.0	.0	23.0	53.0
TX	6.0	3.0	20.0	24.5
VA	5.0	.0	15.5	15.5
WA	6.5	6.0	39.5	44.0
WI	.5	3.5	27.5	23.0
30 Sts	3.5	2.5	23.5	22.8
Oth Sts 2/	3.0	1.1	20.5	22.5
US	3.5	2.4	23.3	22.8

1/ As of first of month.

2/ Estimates for individual States are not available.

Hatchery Production: Eggs in Incubators, Chicks Hatched,
and Placements by Type, United States, February-March 1996-97

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Mar 1	34,669	33,211	96
Chicks Hatched During Feb	34,652	35,318	102
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Feb	66,199	68,649	104
Pullets Hatched During Jan for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	238	216	91
7-18 Month Earlier 1/	3,089	2,929	95
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Mar 1	573,793	591,898	103
Chicks Hatched During Feb	646,085	631,259	98
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Feb	1,332,444	1,331,726	100
Pullets Hatched During Jan for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	5,916	5,799	98
7-15 Months Earlier 2/	54,522	56,512	104

1/ 1997 includes pullet chicks hatched Aug 1995 through Jul 1996.

2/ 1997 includes pullet chicks hatched Nov 1995 through Jul 1996.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States,
March 1, 1996-97

Geographic Division	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
North Atlantic	4,624	5,858	127
E North Central	9,167	8,525	93
W North Central	6,287	5,520	88
South Atlantic	5,231	4,766	91
South Central	3,587	3,590	100
West	5,773	4,952	86
US	34,669	33,211	96

Regional Listing:

North Atlantic = CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

E North Central = IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

W North Central = IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

South Atlantic = DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.

South Central = AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.

West = AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By State and United States,
February 1996-97

State	February			Jan-Feb		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
AR	1,277	1,005	79	2,108	1,608	76
FL	986	1,039	105	2,029	2,117	104
GA	1,899	2,039	107	4,029	4,138	103
IN	7,364	7,326	99	14,644	14,531	99
IA	3,301	3,381	102	5,394	6,880	128
KS	326	173	53	666	548	82
MN	2,326	2,247	97	4,241	4,420	104
MO	322	321	100	369	672	182
PA	4,046	4,868	120	7,306	9,103	125
Oth Sts 1/	12,805	12,919	101	25,413	24,632	97
US	34,652	35,318	102	66,199	68,649	104

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 1995-97

Month:	By Months			Cumulative				
	1995	1996	1997 as % of 1996	1995	1996	1997 as % of 1996		
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent		
Jan	32,375	31,547	33,331	106	32,375	31,547	33,331	106
Feb	32,745	34,652	35,318	102	65,120	66,199	68,649	104
Mar	36,021	37,687			101,141	103,886		
Apr	35,020	35,553			136,161	139,439		
May	37,482	38,477			173,643	177,916		
Jun	34,948	33,998			208,591	211,914		
Jul	29,554	33,828			238,145	245,742		
Aug	31,434	32,474			269,579	278,216		
Sep	33,578	31,956			303,157	310,172		
Oct	33,384	33,176			336,541	343,348		
Nov	29,130	31,495			365,671	374,843		
Dec	30,797	33,161			396,468	408,004		

Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply
Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 1995-97 1/

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			: 1997 : as % of : 1996	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier 2/		
	1995	1996	1997		1995	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----			Percent	----- 1,000 -----		
Jan	236	171	205	120	3,022	3,108	2,905
Feb	251	238	216	91	3,009	3,089	2,929
Mar	356	317			3,075	2,943	2,938
Apr	317	252			3,106	2,920	2,877
May	193	291			3,119	2,951	2,801
Jun	234	282			3,187	2,835	2,968
Jul	235	259			3,045	2,941	2,952
Aug	163	172			3,068	2,876	2,986
Sep	292	231			3,135	2,863	2,964
Oct	309	233			3,232	2,824	
Nov	124	291			3,272	2,759	
Dec	231	215			3,131	2,857	
Total	2,941	2,952					

1/ 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 30 dozen case of eggs.

2/ For February 1997, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Aug 1995 through Jul 1996. 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: By Region
and United States, March 1, 1996-97

Geographic Division	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
		----- 1,000 -----	
North Atlantic	12,531	11,984	96
E North Central	8,074	7,997	99
W North Central	19,331	22,729	118
South Atlantic	231,127	231,332	100
South Central	280,897	294,741	105
West	21,833	23,115	106
US	573,793	591,898	103

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State
and United States, February 1996-97

State	February			Jan-Feb		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
AL	80,253	82,820	103	168,102	174,840	104
AR	101,870	99,157	97	210,699	207,506	98
DE	15,494	15,053	97	32,079	31,125	97
FL	9,910	9,149	92	20,522	19,081	93
GA	96,817	95,542	99	201,541	201,817	100
MD	32,022	27,164	85	63,661	59,030	93
MS	52,653	55,756	106	109,125	117,710	108
NC	59,255	55,020	93	124,090	116,022	93
PA	10,121	11,574	114	21,407	24,344	114
SC	14,511	14,026	97	30,156	29,876	99
TX	38,764	36,949	95	81,081	81,095	100
VA	22,395	21,543	96	46,259	45,350	98
CA TN & WV	31,198	31,372	101	65,680	66,620	101
15 Sts 1/	565,263	555,125	98	1,174,402	1,174,416	100
OR & WA	4,894	5,233	107	10,673	11,529	108
Oth Sts 2/	75,928	70,901	93	147,369	145,781	99
US	646,085	631,259	98	1,332,444	1,331,726	100

1/ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

2/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Broiler Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 1995-97

Month	By Months			Cumulative				
	1995	1996	1997 as % of 1996	1995	1996	1997 as % of 1996		
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent		
Jan	662,476	686,359	700,467	102	662,476	686,359	700,467	102
Feb	600,116	646,085	631,259	98	1,262,592	1,332,444	1,331,726	100
Mar	679,090	689,719			1,941,682	2,022,163		
Apr	664,150	665,443			2,605,832	2,687,606		
May	692,004	698,176			3,297,836	3,385,782		
Jun	670,839	670,593			3,968,675	4,056,375		
Jul	673,687	677,611			4,642,362	4,733,986		
Aug	674,068	688,591			5,316,430	5,422,577		
Sep	638,901	656,696			5,955,331	6,079,273		
Oct	654,221	651,791			6,609,552	6,731,064		
Nov	627,767	631,292			7,237,319	7,362,356		
Dec	691,193	694,811			7,928,512	8,057,167		

Intended Placements: Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery
Supply Flocks by Month and Total, 1995-97 1/

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			: 1997 : as % of:	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier 2/		
	: 1995	: 1996	: 1997		: 1995	: 1996	: 1997
	----- 1,000 -----			Percent	----- 1,000 -----		
US							
Place-							
ments							
Jan	: 5,710	5,538	5,917	107	53,071	54,562	56,103
Feb	: 5,484	5,916	5,799	98	53,563	54,522	56,512
Mar	: 6,161	6,374			53,808	55,178	56,374
Apr	: 6,320	6,442			54,576	55,053	56,322
May	: 6,135	6,776			54,930	55,356	57,004
Jun	: 6,178	6,169			55,297	56,528	57,596
Jul	: 6,302	6,422			55,376	56,585	57,169
Aug	: 6,475	6,518			54,965	55,803	56,644
Sep	: 6,288	6,166			54,183	55,584	55,667
Oct	: 6,013	6,221			54,433	55,781	
Nov	: 6,656	6,508			54,649	55,921	
Dec	: 6,218	5,947			54,720	56,222	
Annual							
Total	: 73,940	74,997					
Total							
Place-							
ments ^{3/}							
Jan	: 7,040	6,782	7,234	107			
Feb	: 7,180	7,167	7,120	99			
Mar	: 7,577	7,645					
Apr	: 7,835	7,664					
May	: 7,873	8,234					
Jun	: 7,485	7,467					
Jul	: 7,730	7,923					
Aug	: 7,850	8,128					
Sep	: 7,730	7,771					
Oct	: 7,301	7,892					
Nov	: 7,784	7,860					
Dec	: 7,750	7,709					
Annual							
Total	: 91,135	92,242					

- 1/ 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 30 dozen case of eggs.
- 2/ For Feb 1997, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Nov 1995 through Jul 1996.
- 3/ U.S. production of intended placements worldwide.

Procedures and Reliability

Data Sources: 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 over 30,000 table egg layers. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 900 contractors, independent egg producers, and started pullet operations are contacted each month. All known hatcheries, approximately 360, are contacted for information on a weekly and/or monthly basis.

Revisions: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions needed after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual summaries of "Layers and Egg Production" and "Hatchery Production".

Procedures and Reliability: Operations are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond are phoned. Great care is exercised to ensure that all operations are accounted for during each survey period. However, there are usually missing reports that must be accounted for in the estimates.

Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the reported data. All data are checked for unusual values. All operations' data are compared to their own past operating profiles and also to trends from other operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. Survey data are subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by reviewing all data for consistency and reasonableness.

Egg-type chicks hatched are comprised of all chicks of egg-type domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. The relationship of chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings is 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.

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 egg supply flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the flocks. Beginning with the January 1996 publication the broiler-type cumulative potential placements went from 7-14 months earlier to 7-15 months earlier. The egg-type cumulative potential placements of 7-18 months represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

The next "Chickens and Eggs" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on April 22, 1997.

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