

Chickens and Eggs



USDA
Washington, D.C.

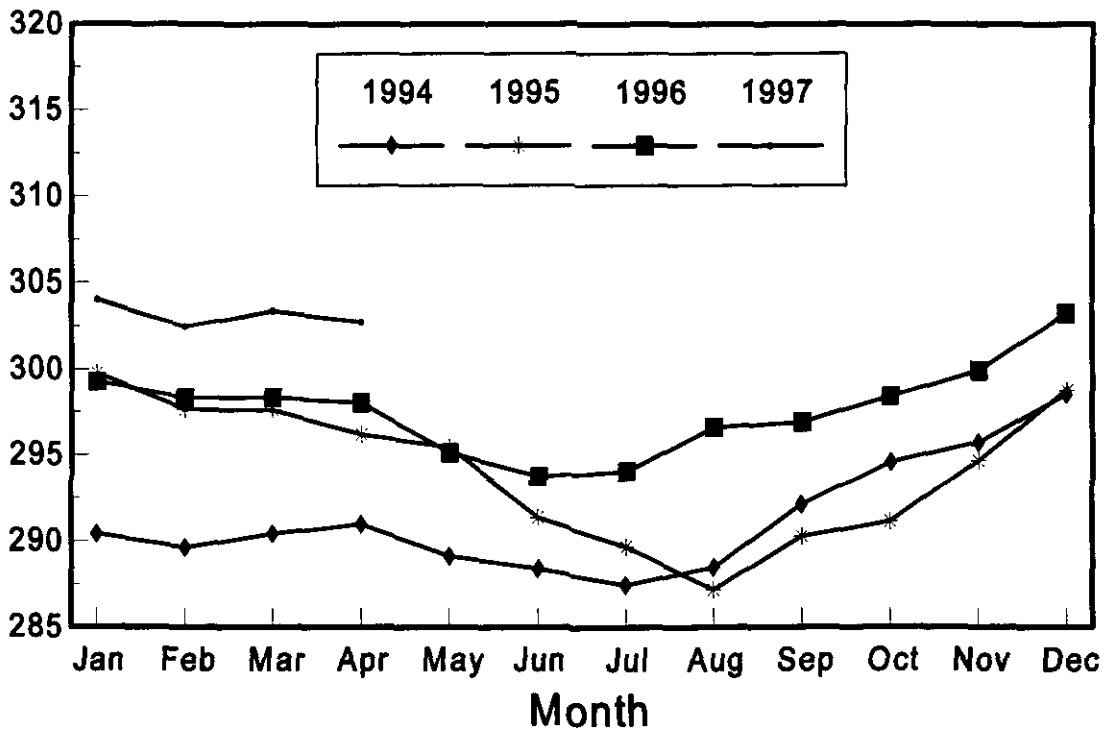
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March Egg Production Up 2 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 6.60 billion during March 1997, up 2 percent from the 6.50 billion produced in 1996. Production included 5.58 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs, of which 957 million were broiler-type and 63.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 1997 averaged 303 million, up 2 percent from the average number of layers during March 1996. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,177 eggs, compared with 2,178 in March 1996.

All Layers: 1st of Month United States, 1994-1997

Million Layers



All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 1997, totaled 303 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 303 million layers consisted of 248 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 52.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 1997, averaged 70.4 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from the 70.9 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg production States produced 6.25 billion eggs during March, up 2 percent from March 1996. The average number of layers during March, 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 Slightly

Egg-type chicks **hatched** during March totaled 37.6 million, up slightly from March 1996. **Eggs in incubators** totaled 35.2 million on April 1, 1997, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks** by leading breeders totaled 206,000 during March 1997, down 35 percent from the 317,000 of March 1996.

Broiler Hatch Up 3 Percent

The March 1997 **hatch** of broiler-type chicks, at 716 million, was up 3 percent from March of the previous year. There were 584 million **eggs in incubators** on April 1, 1997, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.44 million **broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks** during March 1997, up 6 percent from March 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	302,971
Mar	290,719	296,561	298,209	303,111
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	5,887	5,036	4,985	918	902
Mar	6,495	6,599	5,505	5,579	990	1,020
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	25,718	64,572	21,826	11,576	3,892

1/ December preceding year.

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

Item	:	1996	:	1997	:	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Feb (1,000)	:		:		:	
All Layers	:	298,357	:	302,971	:	102
Table Egg Type	:	244,708	:	248,929	:	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	:	1,943	:	97
Table Egg Type	:	2,058	:	2,003	:	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	:	5,887	:	99
Table Egg Type	:	5,036	:	4,985	:	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	:	303,406	:	102
Table Egg Type	:	244,539	:	249,321	:	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	:	69.9	:	101
Table Egg Type	:	71.8	:	72.0	:	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 on Mar 1	:		:		:	
Percent Being Molted	:	3.5	:	2.4	:	69
Percent with Molt Completed	:	23.3	:	22.9	:	98

1/ Revised.

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

Item	1996 1/	1997 2/	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Mar (1,000)			
All Layers	298,209	303,111	102
Table Egg Type	244,703	248,688	102
Hatching Egg Type	53,506	54,423	102
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,767	51,788	102
Egg-Type Hatching	2,739	2,635	96
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar (Number)			
All Layers	2,178	2,177	100
Table Egg Type	2,250	2,243	100
Hatching Egg Type	1,850	1,874	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,824	1,848	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,337	2,391	102
Eggs Produced During Mar (Million)			
All Layers	6,495	6,599	102
Table Egg Type	5,505	5,579	101
Hatching Egg Type	990	1,020	103
Broiler-Type Hatching	926	957	103
Egg-Type Hatching	64	63	98
Layers on Apr 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	298,029	302,770	102
Table Egg Type	244,850	248,033	101
Hatching Egg Type	53,179	54,737	103
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,440	52,112	103
Egg-Type Hatching	2,739	2,625	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1 (Number)			
All Layers	70.9	70.4	99
Table Egg Type	73.2	72.6	99
Hatching Egg Type	60.1	60.7	101
Broiler-Type Hatching	59.2	59.9	101
Egg-Type Hatching	76.9	77.2	100
Forced Molt Layers, Apr 1			
Percent Being Molted	1.9	3.0	158
Percent with Molt Completed	22.9	21.9	96

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

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

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Feb (1,000)			
All Layers	282,355	286,918	102
Table Egg Type	232,245	236,519	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	1,943	97
Table Egg Type	2,057	2,001	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	5,575	99
Table Egg Type	4,777	4,733	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	287,374	102
Table Egg Type	232,091	237,041	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	69.9	101
Table Egg Type	71.7	71.9	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 on Mar 1			
Percent Being Molted	3.5	2.5	71
Percent with Molt Completed	23.5	22.9	97
Layers Sold During Feb (1,000)	14,996	14,025	94
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, or Composted Disappeared For Any Reason During Feb (1,000)	2,664	3,333	125
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Mar 1 (1,000)	71,112	74,365	105
Pullets Added During Feb 3/ (1,000)	20,485	18,776	92

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, March-April, 1996-97 1/

Item		1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Mar	(1,000)			
All Layers		282,280	287,005	102
Table Egg Type		232,326	236,351	102
Hatching Egg Type		49,954	50,654	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		47,317	48,122	102
Egg-Type Hatching		2,637	2,532	96
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	(Number)			
All Layers		2,178	2,179	100
Table Egg Type		2,248	2,243	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,852	1,877	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,824	1,852	102
Egg-Type Hatching		2,351	2,370	101
Eggs Produced During Mar	(Million)			
All Layers		6,147	6,253	102
Table Egg Type		5,222	5,302	102
Hatching Egg Type		925	951	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		863	891	103
Egg-Type Hatching		62	60	97
Layers on Apr 1	(1,000)			
All Layers		282,199	286,601	102
Table Egg Type		232,552	235,647	101
Hatching Egg Type		49,647	50,954	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		47,004	48,429	103
Egg-Type Hatching		2,643	2,525	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	(Number)			
All Layers		70.9	70.6	100
Table Egg Type		73.2	72.7	99
Hatching Egg Type		60.0	60.7	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.1	59.9	101
Egg-Type Hatching		76.6	76.8	100
Forced Molt Layers, Apr 1				
Percent Being Molted		1.9	3.0	158
Percent with Molt Completed		23.0	21.9	95
Layers Sold During Mar	(1,000)	15,395	14,726	96
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	(1,000)	2,631	3,012	114
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1	(1,000)	69,846	74,822	107
Pullets Added During Mar 4/	(1,000)	17,235	16,939	98

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 February 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	4,054	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	25,384	25,661	25,956	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	1,910
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	231,207	282,355	286,918	1,996	1,943
Oth Sts 3/	11,154	11,330	16,002	16,053	1,994	1,944
US	237,913	242,537	298,357	302,971	1,996	1,943

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 March 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	: 4,044	: 4,147	: 10,810	: 10,653	: 1,924	: 1,990
AR	: 5,686	: 4,590	: 16,008	: 14,810	: 1,887	: 1,877
CA	: 24,706	: 24,977	: 25,246	: 25,553	: 2,242	: 2,219
CO	: 2,574	: 2,643	: 3,174	: 3,232	: 2,237	: 2,166
CT	: 3,342	: 3,255	: 3,484	: 3,401	: 2,296	: 2,411
FL	: 8,416	: 8,068	: 9,099	: 8,812	: 2,187	: 2,179
GA	: 10,923	: 11,149	: 18,962	: 19,948	: 2,120	: 2,126
HI	: 733	: 711	: 776	: 736	: 2,083	: 2,161
IL	: 2,948	: 3,346	: 3,141	: 3,488	: 2,356	: 2,322
IN	: 20,549	: 20,219	: 21,624	: 21,084	: 2,238	: 2,262
IA	: 17,351	: 19,967	: 18,210	: 20,899	: 2,186	: 2,201
ME	: 4,737	: 5,119	: 4,870	: 5,226	: 2,485	: 2,354
MD	: 3,153	: 3,068	: 3,621	: 3,476	: 2,154	: 2,244
MI	: 4,873	: 4,887	: 5,135	: 5,136	: 2,217	: 2,182
MN	: 11,033	: 10,998	: 11,881	: 11,771	: 2,222	: 2,175
MS	: 2,358	: 1,995	: 6,309	: 6,746	: 2,013	: 1,972
MO	: 5,448	: 5,532	: 6,573	: 6,722	: 2,099	: 2,172
NE	: 8,956	: 9,318	: 9,106	: 9,468	: 2,201	: 2,120
NY	: 3,609	: 3,197	: 3,928	: 3,412	: 2,317	: 2,286
NC	: 6,029	: 5,141	: 13,787	: 12,693	: 1,908	: 1,970
OH	: 23,019	: 25,772	: 23,494	: 26,331	: 2,328	: 2,290
OK	: 1,998	: 1,730	: 3,888	: 3,635	: 2,032	: 1,981
OR	: 2,601	: 2,800	: 2,804	: 2,963	: 2,389	: 2,362
PA	: 19,830	: 19,660	: 21,175	: 20,918	: 2,333	: 2,352
SC	: 3,793	: 3,725	: 4,781	: 4,701	: 2,175	: 2,191
SD	: 1,743	: 1,755	: 1,935	: 2,005	: 2,201	: 2,257
TX	: 12,996	: 13,183	: 16,272	: 16,665	: 2,132	: 2,112
VA	: 1,602	: 2,309	: 3,695	: 3,777	: 1,976	: 2,065
WA	: 4,914	: 4,715	: 5,152	: 5,079	: 2,368	: 2,323
WI	: 2,847	: 3,044	: 3,340	: 3,665	: 2,246	: 2,292
30 Sts	: 226,811	: 231,020	: 282,280	: 287,005	: 2,178	: 2,179
Oth Sts 3/	: 11,069	: 11,260	: 15,929	: 16,106	: 2,178	: 2,148
US	: 237,880	: 242,280	: 298,209	: 303,111	: 2,178	: 2,177

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,
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	517				
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	92	75	76	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	5,575	4,777	4,733	858	842
Oth Sts 3/	319	312	259	252	60	60
US	5,954	5,887	5,036	4,985	918	902

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,
March 1996-97 1/

State	Total Production		Table Eggs 2/		Hatching Eggs 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Million Eggs					
AL	208	212	87	95	121	117
AR	302	278	117	92	185	186
CA	566	567				
CO	71	70				
CT	80	82				
FL	199	192	185	176	14	16
GA	402	424	246	254	156	170
HI	16	16	16	16	0	0
IL	74	81	73	80	1	1
IN	484	477	475	467	9	10
IA	398	460				
ME	121	123				
MD	78	78	70	71	8	7
MI	114	112				
MN	264	256	253	246	11	10
MS	127	133	54	43	73	90
MO	138	146				
NE	200	201	200	201	0	0
NY	91	78				
NC	263	250	131	118	132	132
OH	547	603				
OK	79	72	49	41	30	31
OR	67	70	65	69	2	1
PA	494	492	477	476	17	16
SC	104	103	86	85	18	18
SD	43	45	43	45	0	0
TX	347	352				
VA	73	78	36	51	37	27
WA	122	118				
WI	75	84				
30 Sts	6,147	6,253	5,222	5,302	925	951
Oth Sts 3/	348	346	283	277	65	69
US	6,495	6,599	5,505	5,579	990	1,020

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	22.9
Apr	1.9	3.0	22.9	21.9
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, April 1996-97 1/

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Percent			
AL	1.0	3.5	10.0	12.0
AR	2.0	4.5	9.0	8.5
CA	1.5	6.5	46.5	40.0
CO	4.0	3.5	17.5	24.0
CT	3.0	.0	12.0	11.0
FL	2.0	3.0	32.5	26.5
GA	3.0	1.5	22.5	20.0
HI	8.0	7.5	47.0	47.5
IL	4.5	7.5	28.5	19.5
IN	1.5	1.5	23.5	17.5
IA	2.0	2.5	25.5	36.0
ME	.0	.0	.0	3.0
MD	7.0	5.0	31.0	38.0
MI	2.0	2.0	21.0	19.0
MN	1.0	2.0	31.5	31.5
MS	2.5	2.5	13.5	13.0
MO	.0	1.5	25.5	14.0
NE	4.0	5.0	35.0	25.5
NY	.0	1.0	3.5	3.0
NC	1.5	1.5	14.5	10.5
OH	.5	2.0	11.0	12.0
OK	1.5	3.5	13.0	12.5
OR	5.0	7.0	37.5	36.0
PA	1.5	2.0	21.5	18.0
SC	.0	3.5	32.5	27.0
SD	3.0	1.5	41.0	52.0
TX	3.5	2.5	21.0	25.0
VA	3.5	2.5	10.0	13.0
WA	3.0	7.0	40.5	42.0
WI	.5	4.5	26.0	21.5
30 Sts	1.9	3.0	23.0	21.9
Oth Sts 2/	2.5	3.0	20.3	22.0
US	1.9	3.0	22.9	21.9

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, March-April 1996-97

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----	-----	Percent
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	33,919	35,162	104
Chicks Hatched During Mar	37,474	37,648	100
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	103,624	106,297	103
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	317	206	65
7-18 Month Earlier 1/	2,943	3,007	102
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	561,736	583,986	104
Chicks Hatched During Mar	692,287	716,374	103
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	2,027,871	2,048,100	101
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	6,093	6,439	106
7-15 Months Earlier 2/	55,178	55,944	101

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

2/ 1997 includes pullet chicks hatched Dec 1995 through Aug 1996.

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

Geographic Division	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----	-----	Percent
North Atlantic	4,653	5,842	126
E North Central	8,668	9,623	111
W North Central	6,156	5,966	97
South Atlantic	5,003	4,895	98
South Central	4,788	3,929	82
West	4,651	4,907	106
US	33,919	35,162	104

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,
March 1996-97

State	March			Jan-Mar		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
AR	803	671	84	2,911	2,279	78
FL	963	1,289	134	2,968	3,406	115
GA	2,362	2,152	91	6,391	6,290	98
IN	7,505	7,377	98	22,149	21,908	99
IA	3,829	3,448	90	9,223	10,328	112
KS	178	248	139	844	796	94
MN	2,037	1,963	96	6,278	6,383	102
MO	427	427	100	796	1,099	138
PA	3,884	5,523	142	11,190	14,626	131
Oth Sts 1/	15,486	14,550	94	40,874	39,182	96
US	37,474	37,648	100	103,624	106,297	103

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	1997 as % of 1996	1995	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----			Percent	----- 1,000 -----			Percent
Jan	32,374	31,523	33,331	106	32,374	31,523	33,331	106
Feb	32,743	34,627	35,318	102	65,117	66,150	68,649	104
Mar	36,019	37,474	37,648	100	101,136	103,624	106,297	103
Apr	35,078	35,628			136,214	139,252		
May	37,540	38,607			173,754	177,859		
Jun	34,996	34,076			208,750	211,935		
Jul	29,572	33,331			238,322	245,266		
Aug	31,442	32,393			269,764	277,659		
Sep	33,586	32,070			303,350	309,729		
Oct	33,383	33,065			336,733	342,794		
Nov	29,129	31,437			365,862	374,231		
Dec	30,639	33,017			396,501	407,248		

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	219	208	95	3,022	3,108	2,953
Feb	251	238	219	92	3,009	3,089	2,984
Mar	356	317	206	65	3,075	2,943	3,007
Apr	317	252			3,106	2,920	2,946
May	193	291			3,119	2,951	2,870
Jun	234	282			3,187	2,835	2,956
Jul	235	266			3,045	2,941	2,940
Aug	163	186			3,068	2,924	2,929
Sep	292	231			3,135	2,911	2,910
Oct	309	233			3,232	2,872	2,799
Nov	124	210			3,272	2,807	
Dec	231	215			3,131	2,905	
Total	2,941	2,940					

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. Revised in "Hatchery Production" on April 15, 1997.

2/ For March 1997, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Sep 1995 through Aug 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, April 1, 1996-97

Geographic Division	: 1996	: 1997	: 1997 : as % of : 1996
North Atlantic	11,509	12,095	105
E North Central	7,794	8,021	103
W North Central	19,089	21,671	114
South Atlantic	223,357	226,005	101
South Central	277,851	293,772	106
West	22,136	22,422	101
US	561,736	583,986	104

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

State	March			Jan-Mar		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
AL	89,230	94,040	105	261,233	268,880	103
AR	107,837	109,624	102	318,553	317,130	100
DE	16,991	16,889	99	49,070	48,014	98
FL	10,466	10,507	100	30,988	29,588	95
GA	104,541	108,295	104	306,082	310,112	101
MD	32,015	31,734	99	92,442	90,764	98
MS	55,847	63,943	114	164,972	181,653	110
NC	64,572	64,632	100	188,662	180,654	96
PA	11,777	12,786	109	33,233	37,130	112
SC	15,682	15,699	100	45,838	45,575	99
TX	41,770	44,418	106	122,873	125,513	102
VA	24,387	24,272	100	70,646	69,622	99
CA TN & WV	35,707	36,403	102	101,370	103,023	102
15 Sts 1/	610,822	633,242	104	1,785,962	1,807,658	101
OR & WA	5,489	6,171	112	16,162	17,700	110
Oth Sts 2/	75,976	76,961	101	225,747	222,742	99
US	692,287	716,374	103	2,027,871	2,048,100	101

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	662,467	689,994	102	662,467	689,994	102
Feb	600,095	645,590	98	1,262,562	1,335,584	100
Mar	679,066	692,287	103	1,941,628	2,027,871	101
Apr	664,121	668,378		2,605,749	2,696,249	
May	691,935	700,556		3,297,684	3,396,805	
Jun	670,815	672,168		3,968,499	4,068,973	
Jul	673,666	679,766		4,642,165	4,748,739	
Aug	674,054	690,838		5,316,219	5,439,577	
Sep	638,882	658,976		5,955,101	6,098,553	
Oct	655,036	652,232		6,610,137	6,750,785	
Nov	629,208	631,142		7,239,345	7,381,927	
Dec	693,007	695,011		7,932,352	8,076,938	

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

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			: 1997 : as % of: : 1996	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	5,487	6,393	117	53,071	54,562	56,074
Feb	: 5,484	5,916	5,913	100	53,563	54,522	56,090
Mar	: 6,161	6,093	6,439	106	53,808	55,178	55,944
Apr	: 6,320	6,746			54,576	55,053	55,892
May	: 6,135	6,776			54,930	55,356	56,626
Jun	: 6,178	6,169			55,297	56,528	57,218
Jul	: 6,302	6,029			55,376	56,585	57,072
Aug	: 6,475	6,510			54,965	55,752	56,719
Sep	: 6,288	6,166			54,183	55,533	55,856
Oct	: 6,013	6,221			54,433	55,448	56,126
Nov	: 6,656	6,508			54,649	55,892	
Dec	: 6,218	5,947			54,720	56,193	
Annual							
Total	: 73,940	74,568					
Total							
Place-							
ments ^{3/}							
Jan	: 7,040	6,693	7,665	115			
Feb	: 7,180	7,167	7,252	101			
Mar	: 7,577	7,501	8,030	107			
Apr	: 7,835	7,903					
May	: 7,873	8,234					
Jun	: 7,485	7,467					
Jul	: 7,730	7,572					
Aug	: 7,850	8,120					
Sep	: 7,730	7,771					
Oct	: 7,301	7,892					
Nov	: 7,784	7,860					
Dec	: 7,750	7,709					
Annual							
Total	: 91,135	91,889					

- 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. Revised in "Hatchery Production" on April 15, 1997.
- 2/ For Mar 1997, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Dec 1995 through Aug 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 May 22, 1997.

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