

Chickens and Eggs



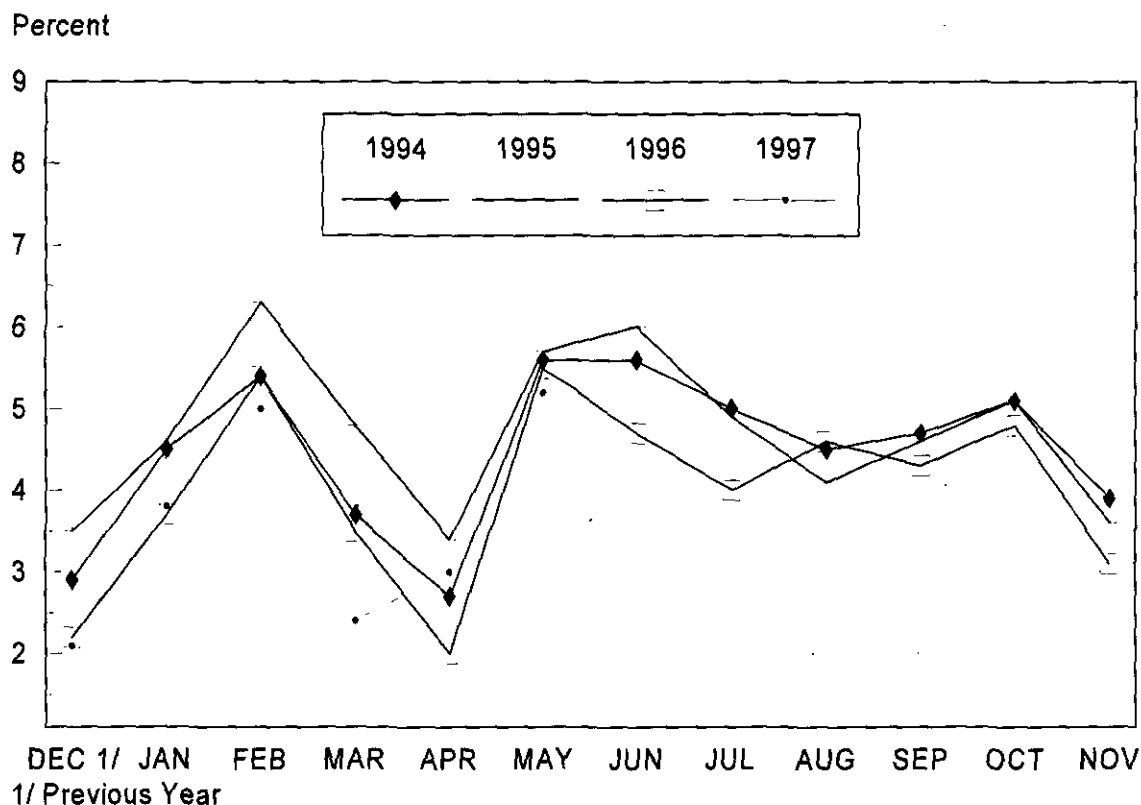
USDA
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April Egg Production Up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 6.34 billion during April 1997, up 1 percent from the 6.24 billion produced in 1996. Production included 5.34 billion table eggs and 998 million hatching eggs, of which 939 million were broiler-type and 59.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 1997 averaged 303 million, up 2 percent from the average number of layers during April 1996. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,093 eggs, compared with 2,105 in April 1996.

ALL LAYERS Percent Being Molted, 1994-1997 FIRST OF MONTH



All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 1997, totaled 302 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 302 million layers consisted of 247 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 53.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.69 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 1997, averaged 69.1 eggs per 100 layers, down fractionally from the 69.4 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg production States produced 6.01 billion eggs during April, up 2 percent from April 1996. The average number of layers during April, 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 9 Percent

Egg-type chicks **hatched** during April totaled 38.7 million, up 9 percent from April 1996. **Eggs in incubators** totaled 36.4 million on May 1, 1997, up 8 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks** by leading breeders totaled 316,000 during April 1997, up 25 percent from the 252,000 of April 1996.

Broiler Hatch Up 3 Percent

The April 1997 **hatch** of broiler-type chicks, at 691 million, was up 3 percent from April of the previous year. There were 592 million **eggs in incubators** on May 1, 1997, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.12 million **broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks** during April 1997, down 9 percent from April 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	303,244
Apr	290,073	295,464	296,605	302,689
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	6,600	5,505	5,580	990	1,020
Apr	6,243	6,336	5,284	5,338	959	998
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	32,055	64,572	27,165	11,576	4,890

1/ December preceding year.

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

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996

Layers During Mar (1,000)			
All Layers	298,209	303,244	102
Table Egg Type	244,703	248,821	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	2,176	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	6,600	102
Table Egg Type	5,505	5,580	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	303,035	102
Table Egg Type	244,850	248,298	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 on Apr 1			
Percent Being Molted	1.9	3.1	163
Percent with Molt Completed	22.9	21.8	95

1/ Revised.

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

Item	1996 1/	1997 2/	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Apr (1,000)			
All Layers	296,605	302,689	102
Table Egg Type	243,578	247,486	102
Hatching Egg Type	53,027	55,203	104
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,303	52,541	104
Egg-Type Hatching	2,724	2,662	98
Eggs per 100 Layers During Apr (Number)			
All Layers	2,105	2,093	99
Table Egg Type	2,169	2,157	99
Hatching Egg Type	1,809	1,808	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,781	1,787	100
Egg-Type Hatching	2,313	2,216	96
Eggs Produced During Apr (Million)			
All Layers	6,243	6,336	101
Table Egg Type	5,284	5,338	101
Hatching Egg Type	959	998	104
Broiler-Type Hatching	896	939	105
Egg-Type Hatching	63	59	94
Layers on May 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	295,123	302,296	102
Table Egg Type	242,275	246,654	102
Hatching Egg Type	52,848	55,642	105
Broiler-Type Hatching	50,150	52,955	106
Egg-Type Hatching	2,698	2,687	100
Eggs per 100 Layers on May 1 (Number)			
All Layers	69.4	69.1	100
Table Egg Type	71.3	71.1	100
Hatching Egg Type	60.3	60.4	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	59.5	59.5	100
Egg-Type Hatching	76.3	76.8	101
Forced Molt Layers, May 1			
Percent Being Molted	5.4	5.3	98
Percent with Molt Completed	22.2	19.8	89

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

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

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Mar (1,000)			
All Layers	282,280	287,124	102
Table Egg Type	232,326	236,470	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	2,178	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	6,254	102
Table Egg Type	5,222	5,303	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	286,838	102
Table Egg Type	232,552	235,884	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 on Apr 1			
Percent Being Molted	1.9	3.1	163
Percent with Molt Completed	23.0	21.8	95
Layers Sold During Mar (1,000)	15,395	14,907	97
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, or Composted Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar (1,000)	2,631	3,014	115
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1 (1,000)	69,846	74,546	107
Pullets Added During Mar 3/ (1,000)	17,235	17,427	101

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, April-May, 1996-97 1/

Item	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 as % of 1996
Layers During Apr (1,000)			
All Layers	280,770	286,630	102
Table Egg Type	231,234	235,217	102
Hatching Egg Type	49,536	51,413	104
Broiler-Type Hatching	46,908	48,860	104
Egg-Type Hatching	2,628	2,553	97
Eggs per 100 Layers During Apr (Number)			
All Layers	2,105	2,098	100
Table Egg Type	2,168	2,161	100
Hatching Egg Type	1,809	1,809	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	1,780	1,789	101
Egg-Type Hatching	2,321	2,193	94
Eggs Produced During Apr (Million)			
All Layers	5,910	6,013	102
Table Egg Type	5,014	5,083	101
Hatching Egg Type	896	930	104
Broiler-Type Hatching	835	874	105
Egg-Type Hatching	61	56	92
Layers on May 1 (1,000)			
All Layers	279,297	286,386	103
Table Egg Type	229,896	234,534	102
Hatching Egg Type	49,401	51,852	105
Broiler-Type Hatching	46,799	49,281	105
Egg-Type Hatching	2,602	2,571	99
Eggs per 100 Layers on May 1 (Number)			
All Layers	69.4	69.3	100
Table Egg Type	71.3	71.3	100
Hatching Egg Type	60.5	60.3	100
Broiler-Type Hatching	59.6	59.5	100
Egg-Type Hatching	75.9	76.6	101
Forced Molt Layers, May 1			
Percent Being Molted	5.5	5.2	95
Percent with Molt Completed	22.3	19.9	89
Layers Sold During Apr (1,000)	16,792	16,033	95
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Apr (1,000)	2,570	3,708	144
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, May 1 (1,000)	71,033	74,352	105
Pullets Added During Apr 4/ (1,000)	17,527	18,684	107

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 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	24,902	25,246	25,478	2,242	2,222
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	20,161	18,210	21,093	2,186	2,190
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	231,139	282,280	287,124	2,178	2,178
Oth Sts 3/	11,069	11,274	15,929	16,120	2,178	2,146
US	237,880	242,413	298,209	303,244	2,178	2,176

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 April 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	: 4,254	: 4,115	: 10,826	: 10,847	: 1,921	: 1,936
AR	: 5,345	: 4,507	: 15,497	: 14,710	: 1,839	: 1,829
CA	: 24,061	: 24,853	: 24,600	: 25,474	: 2,146	: 2,100
CO	: 2,625	: 2,553	: 3,228	: 3,139	: 2,076	: 2,103
CT	: 3,338	: 3,332	: 3,479	: 3,477	: 2,213	: 2,186
FL	: 8,240	: 8,119	: 8,915	: 8,823	: 2,120	: 2,097
GA	: 10,721	: 11,023	: 18,709	: 19,945	: 2,036	: 1,980
HI	: 729	: 709	: 767	: 733	: 1,950	: 2,052
IL	: 3,001	: 3,188	: 3,189	: 3,327	: 2,320	: 2,164
IN	: 20,321	: 20,100	: 21,378	: 20,948	: 2,138	: 2,172
IA	: 17,678	: 20,216	: 18,542	: 21,166	: 2,184	: 2,154
ME	: 4,735	: 4,949	: 4,878	: 5,055	: 2,378	: 2,295
MD	: 3,313	: 3,035	: 3,757	: 3,418	: 2,023	: 2,224
MI	: 4,875	: 4,844	: 5,141	: 5,089	: 2,163	: 2,169
MN	: 11,145	: 10,948	: 11,990	: 11,716	: 2,135	: 2,100
MS	: 2,333	: 1,910	: 6,382	: 6,722	: 1,927	: 1,964
MO	: 5,330	: 5,493	: 6,466	: 6,728	: 2,057	: 2,066
NE	: 8,846	: 9,311	: 8,996	: 9,461	: 2,175	: 2,142
NY	: 3,675	: 3,063	: 4,002	: 3,280	: 2,299	: 2,226
NC	: 5,819	: 4,862	: 13,506	: 12,751	: 1,873	: 1,890
OH	: 23,159	: 25,497	: 23,644	: 26,053	: 2,233	: 2,215
OK	: 1,963	: 1,688	: 3,841	: 3,596	: 1,927	: 1,919
OR	: 2,535	: 2,785	: 2,735	: 2,961	: 2,267	: 2,195
PA	: 19,635	: 19,855	: 20,983	: 21,135	: 2,221	: 2,271
SC	: 3,672	: 3,703	: 4,681	: 4,716	: 2,179	: 2,120
SD	: 1,925	: 1,763	: 2,138	: 2,023	: 2,097	: 2,160
TX	: 12,969	: 13,150	: 16,172	: 16,651	: 2,053	: 2,036
VA	: 1,657	: 2,475	: 3,804	: 3,859	: 1,866	: 1,995
WA	: 4,921	: 4,787	: 5,164	: 5,148	: 2,246	: 2,195
WI	: 2,865	: 3,049	: 3,360	: 3,679	: 2,173	: 2,147
30 Sts	: 225,685	: 229,882	: 280,770	: 286,630	: 2,105	: 2,098
Oth Sts 3/	: 11,042	: 11,195	: 15,835	: 16,059	: 2,103	: 2,011
US	: 236,727	: 241,077	: 296,605	: 302,689	: 2,105	: 2,093

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,
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	566				
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	462				
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	6,254	5,222	5,303	925	951
Oth Sts 3/	348	346	283	277	65	69
US	6,495	6,600	5,505	5,580	990	1,020

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,
April 1996-97 1/

State	Total Production		Table Eggs 2/		Hatching Eggs 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Million Eggs					
AL	208	210	91	92	117	118
AR	285	269	106	88	179	181
CA	528	535				
CO	67	66				
CT	77	76				
FL	189	185	176	171	13	14
GA	381	395	228	233	153	162
HI	15	15	15	15	0	0
IL	74	72	73	71	1	1
IN	457	455	448	446	9	9
IA	405	456				
ME	116	116				
MD	76	76	69	70	7	6
MI	111	110				
MN	256	246	245	237	11	9
MS	123	132	49	43	74	89
MO	133	139				
NE	196	203	196	203	0	0
NY	92	73				
NC	253	241	125	108	128	133
OH	528	577				
OK	74	69	46	39	28	30
OR	62	65	60	64	2	1
PA	466	480	449	464	17	16
SC	102	100	85	82	17	18
SD	44	44	44	44	0	0
TX	332	339				
VA	71	77	35	52	36	25
WA	116	113				
WI	73	79				
30 Sts	5,910	6,013	5,014	5,083	896	930
Oth Sts 3/	333	323	270	255	63	68
US	6,243	6,336	5,284	5,338	959	998

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	3.1	22.9	21.8
May	5.4	5.3	22.2	19.8
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, May 1996-97 1/

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
	Percent			
AL	1.5	4.0	7.5	11.0
AR	3.5	5.0	8.5	9.0
CA	11.0	10.0	41.0	35.5
CO	5.0	6.0	24.0	17.0
CT	4.5	3.5	9.5	9.5
FL	6.0	5.0	36.0	27.5
GA	7.5	5.0	21.5	20.5
HI	12.0	15.0	52.5	43.5
IL	4.5	9.5	29.5	17.5
IN	4.0	4.0	26.5	16.5
IA	5.5	3.5	29.5	26.5
ME	.0	.0	.0	2.5
MD	9.5	12.5	32.0	34.5
MI	9.5	4.0	17.5	19.0
MN	6.5	3.5	27.5	31.0
MS	5.0	3.5	13.0	11.5
MO	8.0	13.0	24.5	7.5
NE	4.5	4.0	33.0	25.5
NY	1.5	1.0	1.5	2.0
NC	2.0	3.5	13.0	8.0
OH	3.5	3.0	10.5	12.0
OK	3.5	3.0	12.0	8.5
OR	8.0	9.0	37.0	39.0
PA	6.5	4.0	19.5	16.0
SC	7.0	8.5	30.5	21.5
SD	1.0	1.5	42.5	50.5
TX	4.5	7.5	20.5	21.5
VA	2.0	1.0	13.5	14.5
WA	11.0	5.5	38.5	46.0
WI	8.5	9.0	21.0	24.5
30 Sts	5.5	5.2	22.3	19.9
Oth Sts 2/	3.9	6.2	20.2	18.9
US	5.4	5.3	22.2	19.8

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, April-May 1996-97

Item	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on May 1	33,706	36,426	108
Chicks Hatched During Apr	35,628	38,746	109
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Apr	139,252	145,043	104
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	252	316	125
7-18 Month Earlier 1/	2,920	2,946	101
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on May 1	570,660	591,820	104
Chicks Hatched During Apr	668,378	690,790	103
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Apr	2,696,249	2,738,890	102
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended:			
Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	6,746	6,122	91
7-15 Months Earlier 2/	55,053	55,892	102

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

2/ 1997 includes pullet chicks hatched Jan 1996 through Sep 1996.

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

Geographic Division	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
North Atlantic	4,634	6,186	133
E North Central	9,513	9,903	104
W North Central	6,348	6,613	104
South Atlantic	4,855	4,866	100
South Central	3,315	4,026	121
West	5,041	4,832	96
US	33,706	36,426	108

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,
April 1996-97

State	April			Jan-Apr		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
AR	743	912	123	3,654	3,191	87
FL	1,202	1,391	116	4,170	4,797	115
GA	2,040	2,249	110	8,431	8,539	101
IN	7,768	7,896	102	29,917	29,804	100
IA	3,232	4,100	127	12,455	14,428	116
KS	146	348	238	990	1,144	116
MN	2,196	1,840	84	8,474	8,223	97
MO	414	415	100	1,210	1,514	125
PA	3,798	4,979	131	14,988	19,605	131
Oth Sts 1/	14,089	14,616	104	54,963	53,798	98
US	35,628	38,746	109	139,252	145,043	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	32,374	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	38,746	109	136,214	139,252	145,043	104
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	316	125	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	2,863
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.

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

Geographic Division	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
		1,000	
North Atlantic	11,886	12,464	105
E North Central	8,634	8,187	95
W North Central	22,798	22,793	100
South Atlantic	222,994	229,324	103
South Central	280,739	295,627	105
West	23,609	23,425	99
US	570,660	591,820	104

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

State	April			Jan-Apr		
	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996	1996	1997	1997 as % of 1996
	----- 1,000 -----		Percent	----- 1,000 -----		Percent
AL	86,000	90,180	105	347,233	359,060	103
AR	101,413	105,295	104	419,966	422,425	101
DE	15,313	16,268	106	64,383	64,282	100
FL	9,875	8,947	91	40,863	38,535	94
GA	100,159	103,199	103	406,241	413,311	102
MD	30,698	30,768	100	123,140	121,532	99
MS	56,207	62,728	112	221,179	244,381	110
NC	62,702	60,912	97	251,364	241,566	96
PA	11,291	12,758	113	44,524	49,888	112
SC	14,854	14,867	100	60,692	60,442	100
TX	40,128	43,392	108	163,001	168,905	104
VA	23,001	23,831	104	93,647	93,453	100
CA TN & WV	34,003	34,365	101	135,373	137,388	101
15 Sts 1/	585,644	607,510	104	2,371,606	2,415,168	102
OR & WA	6,130	6,013	98	22,292	23,713	106
Oth Sts 2/	76,604	77,267	101	302,351	300,009	99
US	668,378	690,790	103	2,696,249	2,738,890	102

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	700,467	102	662,467	689,994	700,467	102
Feb	600,095	645,590	631,259	98	1,262,562	1,335,584	1,331,726	100
Mar	679,066	692,287	716,374	103	1,941,628	2,027,871	2,048,100	101
Apr	664,121	668,378	690,790	103	2,605,749	2,696,249	2,738,890	102
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	6,122	91	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	56,219
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	7,453	94			
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.

2/ For Apr 1997, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Jan 1996 through Sep 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 June 24, 1997.

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