

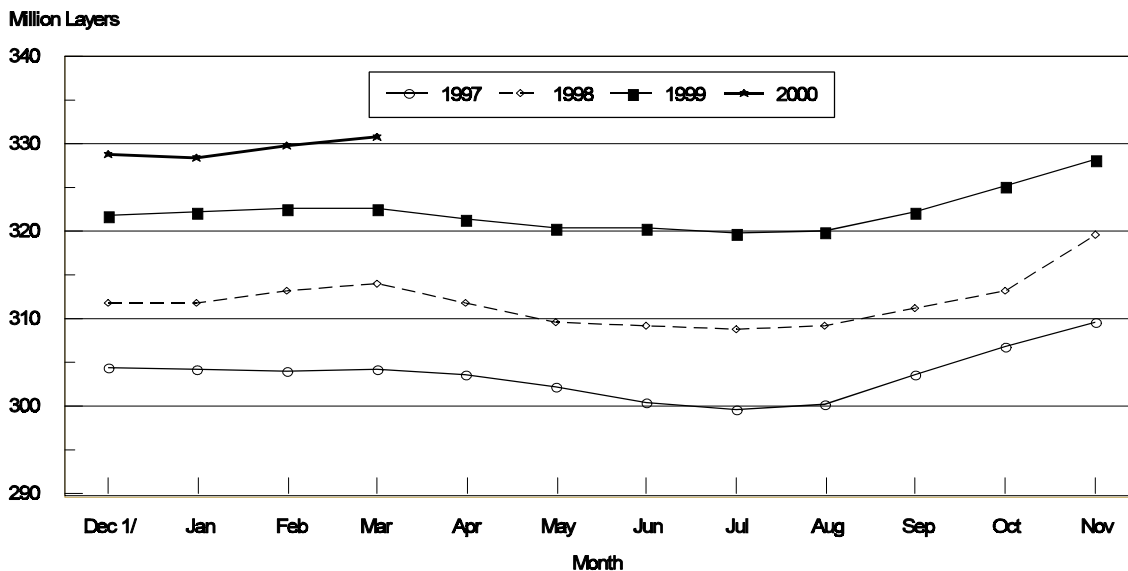
Released April 24, 2000, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on Chickens and Eggs call Tom Kruchten at (202) 690-4870. For information on Hatch call Jody Roberts at (202) 690-8632, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

March Egg Production Up 2 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.22 billion during March 2000, up 2 percent from the 7.05 billion produced in 1999. Production included 6.10 billion table eggs and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2000 averaged 331 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during March 1999. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,182 eggs, down slightly from 2,185 eggs in March 1999.

March 2000 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays, equal to March 1999.

Average Number of All Layers United States, 1997 - 2000



1/ Previous Year

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2000 totaled 331 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 331 million layers consisted of 271 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.84 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2000, averaged 70.9 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 71.0 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.79 billion eggs during March, up 2 percent from March 1999. The average number of layers during March, at 311 million, was up 2 percent from a 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 94 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 "**Chickens and Eggs Summary**" report.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Down 4 Percent

Egg-type chicks **hatched** during March totaled 39.6 million, down 4 percent from March 1999. **Eggs in incubators** totaled 33.2 million on April 1, 2000, down 11 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks** by leading breeders totaled 286,000 during March 2000, up 11 percent from March 1999.

Broiler Hatch Up Slightly

The March 2000 **hatch** of broiler-type chicks, at 756 million, was up slightly from March of the previous year. There were 633 million **eggs in incubators** on April 1, 2000, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.31 million **broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks** during March 2000, up slightly from March 1999.

**All Layers: Average Number on Hand During the Month,
United States, 1997-00**

Month	1997	1998	1999	2000
	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>
Dec ¹	304,463	311,898	321,960	328,824
Jan	304,289	311,906	322,326	328,557
Feb	304,000	313,285	322,797	329,824
Mar	304,285	314,141	322,758	330,826
Apr	303,618	311,957	321,515	
May	302,241	309,655	320,498	
Jun	300,537	309,206	320,441	
Jul	299,605	308,967	319,811	
Aug	300,211	309,291	320,173	
Sep	303,661	311,358	322,394	
Oct	306,807	315,222	325,272	
Nov	309,670	319,625	328,253	

¹ December preceding year.

**Eggs: Production During the Month by Type,
United States, 1999-00**

Month	Total Eggs		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
Dec ¹	7,051	7,279	5,979	6,198	1,072	1,081
Jan	6,979	7,155	5,898	6,068	1,081	1,087
Feb	6,281	6,659	5,295	5,632	986	1,027
Mar	7,052	7,220	5,943	6,101	1,109	1,119
Apr	6,784		5,708		1,076	
May	6,941		5,824		1,117	
Jun	6,742		5,652		1,090	
Jul	6,903		5,797		1,106	
Aug	6,971		5,876		1,095	
Sep	6,860		5,797		1,063	
Oct	7,131		6,039		1,092	
Nov	7,016		5,967		1,049	
During Year	82,711	28,313	69,775	23,999	12,936	4,314

¹ December preceding year.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, February-March 1999-00**

Item	Unit	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
Layers During Feb	1,000			
All Layers		322,797	329,824	102
Table Egg Type		263,516	270,751	103
Hatching Egg Type		59,281	59,073	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		56,467	56,370	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,814	2,703	96
Eggs per 100 Layers During Feb	Number			
All Layers		1,946	2,019	104
Table Egg Type		2,009	2,080	104
Hatching Egg Type		1,663	1,739	105
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,640	1,714	105
Egg-Type Hatching		2,132	2,233	105
Eggs Produced During Feb	Million			
All Layers		6,281	6,659	106
Table Egg Type		5,295	5,632	106
Hatching Egg Type		986	1,027	104
Broiler-Type Hatching		926	966	104
Egg-Type Hatching		60	60	101
Layers on Mar 1	1,000			
All Layers		323,161	330,879	102
Table Egg Type		263,644	271,426	103
Hatching Egg Type		59,517	59,453	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		56,653	56,742	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,864	2,711	95
Eggs per 100 Layers on Mar 1	Number			
All Layers		69.6	69.8	100
Table Egg Type		71.9	71.9	100
Hatching Egg Type		59.4	60.1	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		58.6	59.2	101
Egg-Type Hatching		75.1	77.9	104
Forced Molt Layers on Mar 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		3.3	3.7	112
Percent with Molt Completed		21.8	22.1	101
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Feb	1,000	14,875	16,544	111
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Feb	1,000	3,249	3,971	122
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Mar 1	1,000	95,279	92,761	97
Pullets Added During Feb ¹	1,000	21,591	21,176	98

¹ Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, March-April 1999-00**

Item	Unit	1999 ¹	2000	2000 as % of 1999
Layers During Mar	1,000			
All Layers		322,758	330,826	102
Table Egg Type		262,848	271,008	103
Hatching Egg Type		59,910	59,818	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		57,005	57,042	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,905	2,776	96
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	Number			
All Layers		2,185	2,182	100
Table Egg Type		2,261	2,251	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,851	1,871	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,823	1,845	101
Egg-Type Hatching		2,410	2,421	100
Eggs Produced During Mar	Million			
All Layers		7,052	7,220	102
Table Egg Type		5,943	6,101	103
Hatching Egg Type		1,109	1,119	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,039	1,052	101
Egg-Type Hatching		70	67	96
Layers on Apr 1	1,000			
All Layers		322,162	330,770	103
Table Egg Type		261,883	270,589	103
Hatching Egg Type		60,279	60,181	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		57,342	57,341	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,937	2,840	97
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	Number			
All Layers		71.0	70.9	100
Table Egg Type		73.6	73.2	99
Hatching Egg Type		59.7	60.7	102
Broiler-Type Hatching		58.7	59.8	102
Egg-Type Hatching		77.8	78.3	101
Forced Molt Layers, Apr 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		2.8	2.1	75
Percent with Molt Completed		21.7	22.4	103
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Mar	1,000	15,831	17,862	113
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	1,000	3,666	3,638	99
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1	1,000	94,952	94,389	99
Pullets Added During Mar ²	1,000	19,416	24,808	128

¹ Revised.

² Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced Molt, 30 Selected States, February-March, 1999-00 ¹

Item	Unit	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
Layers During Feb	1,000			
All Layers		304,733	309,938	102
Table Egg Type		249,894	255,480	102
Hatching Egg Type		54,839	54,458	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		52,145	51,850	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,694	2,608	97
Eggs per 100 Layers During Feb	Number			
All Layers		1,947	2,017	104
Table Egg Type		2,008	2,077	103
Hatching Egg Type		1,669	1,733	104
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,645	1,708	104
Egg-Type Hatching		2,116	2,230	105
Eggs Produced During Feb	Million			
All Layers		5,934	6,251	105
Table Egg Type		5,019	5,307	106
Hatching Egg Type		915	944	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		858	886	103
Egg-Type Hatching		57	58	102
Layers on Mar 1	1,000			
All Layers		305,003	310,706	102
Table Egg Type		250,015	256,012	102
Hatching Egg Type		54,988	54,694	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		52,241	52,077	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,747	2,617	95
Eggs per 100 Layers on Mar 1	Number			
All Layers		69.6	69.7	100
Table Egg Type		71.8	71.8	100
Hatching Egg Type		59.6	59.9	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		58.8	59.0	100
Egg-Type Hatching		75.4	77.8	103
Forced Molt Layers on Mar 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		3.3	3.6	109
Percent with Molt Completed		21.5	22.4	104
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Feb	1,000	14,281	15,535	109
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Feb	1,000	3,112	3,729	120
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Mar 1	1,000	89,819	87,208	97
Pullets Added During Feb ²	1,000	20,852	19,885	95

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

² Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced
Molt, 30 Selected States, March-April, 1999-00 ¹**

Item	Unit	1999 ²	2000	2000 as % of 1999
Layers During Mar	1,000			
All Layers		304,337	310,580	102
Table Egg Type		248,985	255,552	103
Hatching Egg Type		55,352	55,028	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		52,566	52,369	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,786	2,659	95
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	1,000			
All Layers		2,184	2,185	100
Table Egg Type		2,258	2,254	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,854	1,866	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,824	1,838	101
Egg-Type Hatching		2,405	2,421	101
Eggs Produced During Mar	Million			
All Layers		6,648	6,787	102
Table Egg Type		5,622	5,760	102
Hatching Egg Type		1,026	1,027	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		959	963	100
Egg-Type Hatching		67	64	96
Layers on Apr 1	1,000			
All Layers		303,488	310,451	102
Table Egg Type		247,790	255,090	103
Hatching Egg Type		55,698	55,361	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		52,880	52,660	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,818	2,701	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	Number			
All Layers		71.2	71.2	100
Table Egg Type		73.8	73.5	100
Hatching Egg Type		59.7	60.4	101
Broiler-Type Hatching		58.8	59.5	101
Egg-Type Hatching		77.9	78.4	101
Forced Molt Layers, Apr 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		2.9	2.1	72
Percent with Molt Completed		21.6	22.5	104
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Mar	1,000	15,190	17,075	112
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	1,000	3,515	3,415	97
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1	1,000	89,798	88,889	99
Pullets Added During Mar ³	1,000	18,702	23,905	128

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

² Revised.

³ 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 1999-00**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	3,669	3,313	10,612	10,580	1,772	1,786
AR	4,732	5,008	15,275	15,483	1,709	1,847
CA	25,508	23,644	26,238	24,343	1,963	2,054
CO	2,999	3,344	3,536	3,822	1,867	2,119
CT	2,927	3,009	3,105	3,143	2,061	2,164
FL	10,226	9,878	10,973	10,560	2,096	2,008
GA	12,143	11,963	21,687	21,139	1,872	1,954
HI	600	567	629	596	1,876	1,946
IL	2,527	3,348	2,783	3,607	2,048	2,079
IN	21,364	22,063	22,095	22,755	2,010	2,114
IA	23,769	26,678	24,696	27,485	2,017	2,132
ME	4,739	4,128	4,860	4,236	2,222	2,219
MD	3,176	3,012	3,580	3,415	2,151	2,138
MI	5,613	5,992	5,898	6,271	1,952	2,011
MN	11,493	12,000	12,216	12,713	1,940	2,084
MS	1,853	1,796	6,991	6,725	1,831	1,859
MO	5,155	4,721	6,558	6,123	1,998	2,090
NE	10,694	11,698	10,844	11,848	1,964	1,916
NY	3,472	3,690	3,722	3,874	2,149	2,220
NC	3,634	3,593	11,440	11,487	1,766	1,785
OH	29,919	31,483	30,627	32,158	1,907	2,009
OK	1,987	1,964	3,990	4,079	1,754	1,814
OR	2,807	2,856	2,973	3,035	2,082	2,208
PA	21,376	21,780	22,790	23,250	2,089	2,103
SC	3,872	3,693	4,917	4,624	1,851	1,925
SD	1,928	1,900	2,168	2,160	2,076	2,037
TX	13,357	13,609	17,384	17,756	1,910	1,949
VA	1,531	1,541	3,691	3,598	1,761	1,779
WA	4,805	4,612	4,925	4,732	2,099	2,206
WI	3,026	3,717	3,530	4,354	2,096	2,205
30 Sts	244,901	250,595	304,733	309,938	1,947	2,017
Oth Sts ²	12,577	14,245	18,064	19,893	1,921	2,061
US	257,478	264,836	322,797	329,824	1,946	2,019

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During March 1999-00**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	3,699	3,230	10,661	10,636	1,979	1,937
AR	4,721	4,957	15,281	15,684	1,924	1,957
CA	25,036	23,645	25,710	24,243	2,217	2,252
CO	2,944	3,425	3,485	3,936	2,123	2,236
CT	2,949	2,956	3,128	3,090	2,293	2,362
FL	10,108	9,940	10,840	10,630	2,255	2,239
GA	11,580	12,070	21,226	21,370	2,129	2,143
HI	612	586	641	615	2,075	2,081
IL	2,790	3,356	3,081	3,622	2,272	2,347
IN	21,384	22,213	22,148	22,901	2,230	2,279
IA	23,713	26,822	24,665	27,631	2,287	2,276
ME	4,693	4,127	4,814	4,238	2,486	2,383
MD	3,111	3,027	3,468	3,416	2,364	2,225
MI	5,640	6,201	5,923	6,484	2,181	2,209
MN	11,483	11,935	12,208	12,663	2,146	2,219
MS	1,751	1,839	6,941	6,859	2,046	2,027
MO	5,189	4,879	6,612	6,260	2,238	2,236
NE	10,744	11,638	10,894	11,788	2,185	2,146
NY	3,457	3,799	3,724	4,001	2,390	2,374
NC	3,742	3,402	11,633	11,302	1,951	1,902
OH	30,094	30,840	30,805	31,503	2,204	2,162
OK	1,956	1,959	4,104	4,097	1,974	1,977
OR	2,779	2,868	2,950	3,047	2,271	2,265
PA	21,376	22,046	22,790	23,530	2,326	2,303
SC	3,832	3,938	4,866	4,879	2,076	2,050
SD	1,913	1,926	2,153	2,186	2,276	2,150
TX	13,422	13,158	17,483	17,278	2,162	2,153
VA	1,474	1,432	3,680	3,476	1,984	2,043
WA	4,695	4,664	4,815	4,784	2,334	2,349
WI	3,123	3,795	3,608	4,445	2,273	2,385
30 Sts	244,010	250,667	304,337	310,580	2,184	2,185
Oth Sts ²	12,819	14,428	18,421	20,252	2,193	2,197
US	256,829	265,092	322,758	330,826	2,185	2,182

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
February 1999-00**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	188	189	76	66	112	123
AR	261	286	93	109	168	177
CA	515	500				
CO	66	81				
CT	64	68				
FL	230	212	217	200	13	12
GA	406	413	241	245	165	168
HI	11.8	11.6	11.8	11.6	0	0
IL	57	75	53	71	4	4
IN	444	481	433	469	11	12
IA	498	586				
ME	108	94				
MD	77	73	71	67	6	6
MI	115	126				
MN	237	265	227	256	10	9
MS	128	125	41	39	87	86
MO	131	128				
NE	213	227	213	227	0	0
NY	80	86				
NC	202	205	78	82	124	123
OH	584	646				
OK	70	74	41	43	29	31
OR	62	67	61	65	1	2
PA	476	489	460	472	16	17
SC	91	89	76	73	15	16
SD	45	44	45	44	0	0
TX	332	346				
VA	65	64	32	31	33	33
WA	103	104				
WI	74	96				
30 Sts	5,934	6,251	5,019	5,307	915	944
Oth Sts ²	347	410	276	327	71	83
US	6,281	6,659	5,295	5,632	986	1,027

¹ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
March 1999-00**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	211	206	86	71	125	135
AR	294	307	105	111	189	196
CA	570	546				
CO	74	88				
CT	72	73				
FL	244	238	231	226	13	12
GA	452	458	268	276	184	182
HI	13.3	12.8	13.3	12.8	0	0
IL	70	85	66	81	4	4
IN	494	522	482	508	12	14
IA	564	629				
ME	120	101				
MD	82	76	77	70	5	6
MI	129	143				
MN	262	281	251	271	11	10
MS	142	139	44	45	98	94
MO	148	140				
NE	238	253	238	253	0	0
NY	89	95				
NC	227	215	88	83	139	132
OH	679	681				
OK	81	81	46	46	35	35
OR	67	69	66	67	1	2
PA	530	542	513	524	17	18
SC	101	100	83	83	18	17
SD	49	47	49	47	0	0
TX	378	372				
VA	73	71	36	34	37	37
WA	112	112				
WI	82	106				
30 Sts	6,648	6,787	5,622	5,760	1,026	1,027
Oth Sts ²	404	445	321	351	83	94
US	7,052	7,220	5,943	6,101	1,109	1,119

¹ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

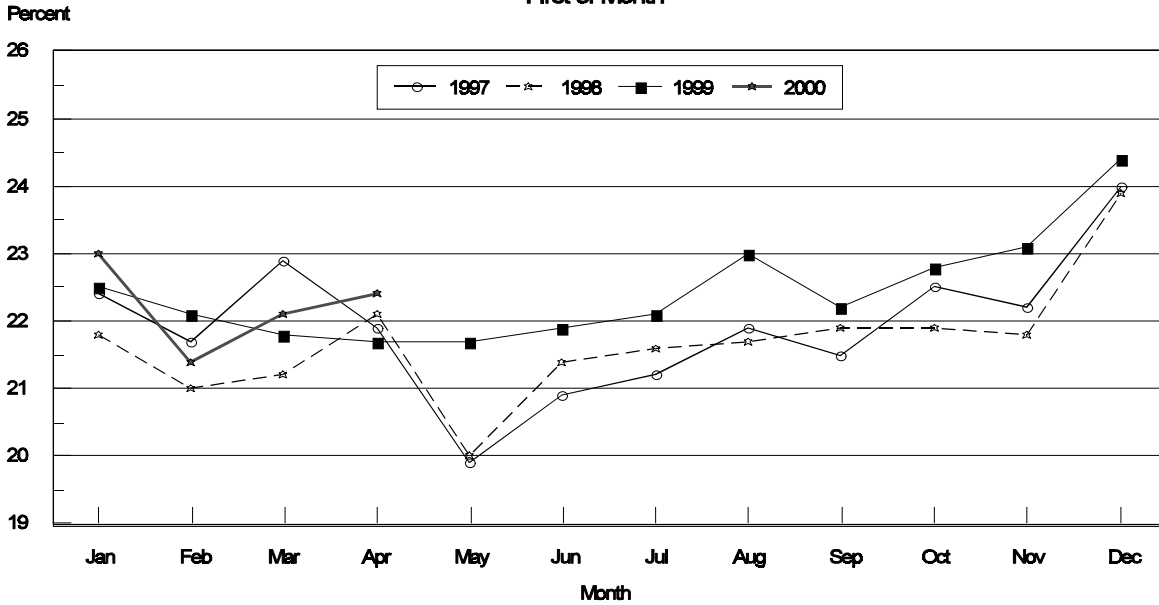
² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month,
United States, 1999-00 ¹**

Month	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	4.1	2.9	22.5	22.9
Feb	4.9	5.0	22.1	21.4
Mar	3.3	3.7	21.8	22.1
Apr	2.8	2.1	21.7	22.4
May	5.6		21.7	
Jun	5.2		21.9	
Jul	5.5		22.1	
Aug	4.6		23.0	
Sep	4.3		22.2	
Oct	4.2		22.8	
Nov	3.6		23.1	
Dec	2.0		24.4	

¹ As of first of month.

**All Layers: United States
Percent Molt Completed, 1997 - 2000
First of Month**



**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State
and United States, April 1999-00 ¹**

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	0.5	1.5	13.0	11.0
AR	2.5	2.5	9.5	5.0
CA	5.0	3.0	37.5	40.0
CO	4.5	0.0	34.0	20.0
CT	0.0	0.0	9.5	14.5
FL	8.5	0.5	34.0	28.0
GA	2.5	1.0	17.0	16.0
HI	3.5	7.5	39.0	43.0
IL	3.5	0.5	22.5	25.0
IN	2.5	1.5	31.0	34.0
IA	4.5	3.5	27.5	30.5
ME	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0
MD	0.0	0.0	36.0	38.5
MI	0.5	2.0	22.0	25.5
MN	2.0	3.5	34.5	31.5
MS	4.0	0.5	6.0	10.0
MO	0.0	3.0	19.5	23.0
NE	6.0	3.5	18.0	27.0
NY	0.0	0.5	4.5	5.5
NC	0.5	1.0	8.5	8.0
OH	1.5	2.0	15.0	11.5
OK	1.0	2.5	6.5	9.5
OR	7.5	5.5	42.0	35.5
PA	4.0	2.5	17.5	22.0
SC	2.5	1.5	19.0	33.0
SD	3.5	3.5	27.5	26.0
TX	0.5	1.0	17.5	21.5
VA	5.0	0.0	1.5	18.5
WA	4.0	6.0	47.0	42.0
WI	6.0	1.0	30.5	25.0
30 Sts	2.9	2.1	21.6	22.5
Oth Sts ²	1.3	3.4	23.8	19.6
US	2.8	2.1	21.7	22.4

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 1999-00**

Item	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	37,250	33,172	89
Chicks Hatched During Mar	41,172	39,560	96
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	112,781	109,176	97
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	257	286	111
7-18 Month Earlier ¹	3,020	3,078	102
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Apr 1	628,727	632,782	101
Chicks Hatched During Mar	755,804	756,351	100
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Mar	2,154,176	2,206,693	102
Pullets Hatched During Mar for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	7,284	7,310	100
7-15 Months Earlier ²	60,699	64,697	107

¹ 2000 includes pullet chicks hatched Sep 1998 through Aug 1999.

² 2000 includes pullet chicks hatched Dec 1998 through Aug 1999.

**Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States,
April 1, 1999-00**

Geographic Division	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	6,949	5,957	86
E North Central	9,088	7,163	79
W North Central	7,373	7,647	104
South Atlantic	4,724	3,122	66
South Central	3,705	4,435	120
West	5,411	4,848	90
US	37,250	33,172	89

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 1999-00**

State	March			Jan-Mar		
	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	749	833	111	2,308	1,957	85
FL	1,067	1,014	95	3,275	3,092	94
GA	1,821	2,079	114	5,999	6,122	102
IN	7,403	5,417	73	20,730	18,854	91
IA	5,542	6,253	113	14,354	15,364	107
KS	166	202	122	887	714	80
MN	2,213	2,012	91	6,046	5,437	90
MO	381	381	100	1,012	1,012	100
PA	6,110	6,300	103	16,703	15,852	95
Oth Sts ¹	15,720	15,069	96	41,467	40,772	98
US	41,172	39,560	96	112,781	109,176	97

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

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 1998-00

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	1998	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1998	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	37,168	35,242	34,125	97	37,168	35,242	34,125	97
Feb	34,597	36,367	35,491	98	71,765	71,609	69,616	97
Mar	40,604	41,172	39,560	96	112,369	112,781	109,176	97
Apr	39,057	41,950			151,426	154,731		
May	39,206	40,726			190,632	195,457		
Jun	39,323	41,474			229,955	236,931		
Jul	35,576	34,275			265,531	271,206		
Aug	33,398	35,454			298,929	306,660		
Sep	37,959	39,287			336,888	345,947		
Oct	34,667	39,044			371,555	384,991		
Nov	31,217	32,892			402,772	417,883		
Dec	35,501	33,045			438,273	450,928		

**Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply
Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 1998-00¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			2000 as % of 1999	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier ²		
	1998	1999	2000		1998	1999	2000
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Jan	189	166	212	128	2,823	3,029	3,012
Feb	250	267	251	94	2,764	3,120	2,945
Mar	225	257	286	111	2,863	3,020	3,078
Apr	333	287			3,034	2,942	2,981
May	192	283			3,057	3,044	2,900
Jun	354	187			2,976	3,132	2,945
Jul	298	231			2,968	3,108	2,937
Aug	185	318			2,949	3,085	2,983
Sep	324	227			2,977	3,102	2,967
Oct	358	277			2,993	3,134	2,996
Nov	217	262			3,010	3,088	
Dec	183	175			2,929	3,179	
Total	3,108	2,937					

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 March 2000, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Sep 1998 through Aug 1999. 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, 1999-00**

Geographic Division	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	12,005	11,681	97
E North Central	8,134	7,829	96
W North Central	22,367	21,008	94
South Atlantic	240,300	238,953	99
South Central	320,552	327,409	102
West	25,369	25,902	102
US	628,727	632,782	101

**Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State
and United States, March 1999-00**

State	March			Jan-Mar		
	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	97,138	104,698	108	281,852	304,292	108
AR	112,380	109,874	98	318,233	324,416	102
DE	16,908	16,003	95	46,143	46,082	100
FL	10,587	9,758	92	29,221	28,182	96
GA	114,245	112,302	98	326,887	329,763	101
MD	31,915	30,759	96	90,879	89,677	99
MS	65,866	65,358	99	189,870	191,440	101
NC	64,375	64,262	100	183,645	184,845	101
PA	13,525	12,787	95	38,268	38,098	100
SC	16,617	17,401	105	47,425	50,262	106
TX	49,605	53,439	108	141,307	153,597	109
VA	24,826	24,206	98	70,225	69,725	99
CA TN & WV	41,831	40,441	97	116,069	117,680	101
15 Sts ¹	659,818	661,288	100	1,880,024	1,928,059	103
Oth Sts ²	95,986	95,063	99	274,152	278,634	102
US	755,804	756,351	100	2,154,176	2,206,693	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, 1998-00

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	1998	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1998	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	711,373	735,768	749,375	102	711,373	735,768	749,375	102
Feb	645,180	662,604	700,967	106	1,356,553	1,398,372	1,450,342	104
Mar	730,316	755,804	756,351	100	2,086,869	2,154,176	2,206,693	102
Apr	708,260	734,734			2,795,129	2,888,910		
May	739,319	766,422			3,534,448	3,655,332		
Jun	717,967	744,372			4,252,415	4,399,704		
Jul	722,715	751,627			4,975,130	5,151,331		
Aug	715,650	741,716			5,690,780	5,893,047		
Sep	695,281	700,016			6,386,061	6,593,063		
Oct	693,204	697,434			7,079,265	7,290,497		
Nov	674,851	676,769			7,754,116	7,967,266		
Dec	737,822	748,438			8,491,938	8,715,704		

**Intended Placements: Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery
Supply Flocks by Month and Total, 1998-00 ¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			2000 as % of 1999	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier ²		
	1998	1999	2000		1998	1999	2000
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
US Place- ments							
Jan	6,765	7,059	6,861	97	56,552	59,403	64,139
Feb	6,328	6,882	7,001	102	57,494	59,937	64,344
Mar	6,776	7,284	7,310	100	57,677	60,699	64,697
Apr	6,687	7,038			58,228	61,775	64,663
May	7,062	7,736			58,085	61,893	64,725
Jun	6,932	7,041			58,516	62,877	64,827
Jul	6,788	7,088			58,325	63,005	64,536
Aug	7,109	7,665			59,054	63,377	64,359
Sep	7,328	6,870			58,320	63,197	63,624
Oct	6,883	7,121			59,088	63,549	63,893
Nov	7,312	6,984			58,608	63,799	
Dec	6,904	6,993			58,973	64,426	
Annual Total	82,874	85,761					
Total Place- ments ³							
Jan	8,613	8,679	8,069	93			
Feb	8,273	8,473	8,302	98			
Mar	8,760	8,863	8,798	99			
Apr	8,300	8,572					
May	8,957	9,463					
Jun	8,757	8,333					
Jul	8,423	8,342					
Aug	8,686	8,983					
Sep	8,985	8,044					
Oct	8,756	8,223					
Nov	9,412	8,220					
Dec	8,830	8,299					
Annual Total	104,752	102,494					

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 Mar 2000, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Dec 1998 through Aug 1999.

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 330, 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 "**Chickens and Eggs Summary**" 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 p.m. ET on May 22, 2000.

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