



Chickens and Eggs

ISSN: 1948-9064

Released February 28, 2011, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

January Egg Production Up 1 Percent

United States egg production totaled 7.83 billion during January 2011, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.75 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 70 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2011 averaged 342 million, up slightly from last year. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,289 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2010.

All layers in the United States on February 1, 2011 totaled 340 million, up slightly from last year. The 340 million layers consisted of 283 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.4 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.99 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on February 1, 2011, averaged 73.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from February 1, 2010.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 7 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during January 2011 totaled 41.4 million, up 7 percent from January 2010. Eggs in incubators totaled 39.7 million on February 1, 2011, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 220 thousand during January 2011, down 3 percent from January 2010.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 1 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during January 2011 totaled 781 million, up 1 percent from January 2010. Eggs in incubators totaled 634 million on February 1, 2011, up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.99 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during January 2011, down 3 percent from January 2010.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	2010		2011	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		340,936		342,661
January		340,596		342,017
February		340,486		
March		342,098		
April		341,318		
May		339,344		
June		339,750		
July		339,929		
August		340,084		
September		338,739		
October		336,804		
November		339,447		

¹December preceding year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2010-2011

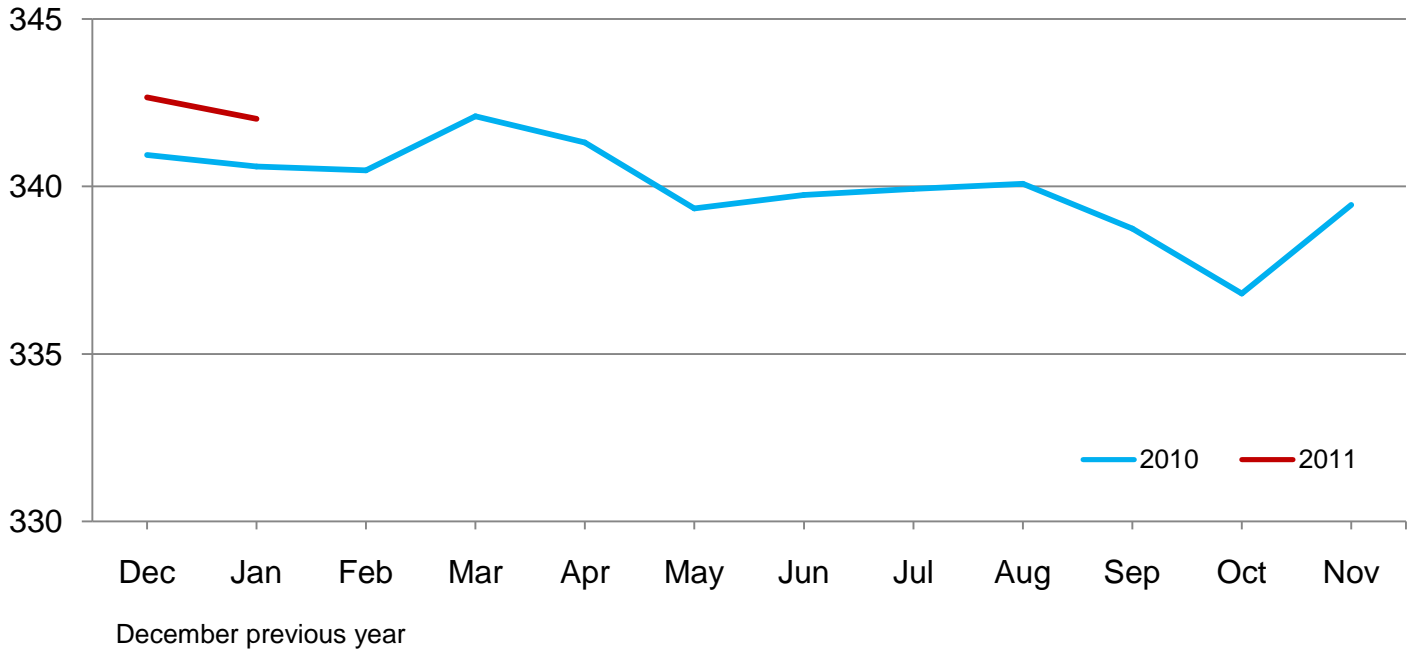
[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun. Totals may not add due to rounding]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	7,853	7,920	6,779	6,850	1,074	1,070
January	7,724	7,828	6,637	6,745	1,087	1,084
February	6,935		5,950		985	
March	7,839		6,740		1,098	
April	7,578		6,503		1,075	
May	7,716		6,607		1,109	
June	7,484		6,415		1,069	
July	7,719		6,610		1,109	
August	7,765		6,669		1,096	
September	7,514		6,464		1,050	
October	7,698		6,618		1,080	
November	7,573		6,538		1,036	
During year	91,398		78,530		12,868	

¹December preceding year.

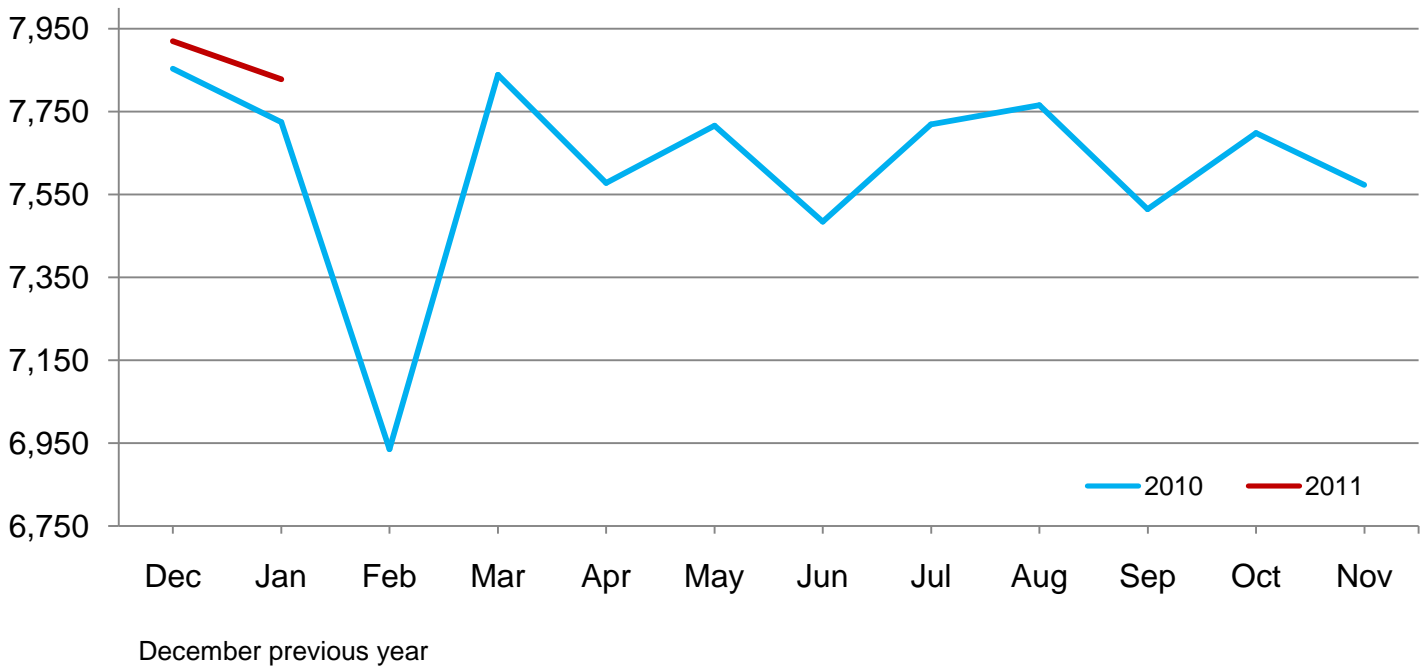
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Forced Molt – United States:
December-January 2009-2011**

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2009	2010	2010 as percent of 2009
Layers during December			
All layers 1,000	340,936	342,661	101
Table egg type 1,000	284,218	285,580	100
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,718	57,081	101
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,812	54,291	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,906	2,790	96
Eggs per 100 layers during December			
All layers number	2,303	2,311	100
Table egg type number	2,385	2,399	101
Hatching egg type number	1,894	1,875	99
Broiler-type hatching number	1,862	1,851	99
Egg-type hatching number	2,478	2,330	94
Eggs produced during December			
All layers million	7,853	7,920	101
Table egg type million	6,779	6,850	101
Hatching egg type million	1,074	1,070	100
Broiler-type hatching million	1,002	1,005	100
Egg-type hatching million	72	65	90
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
Layers on January 1			
All layers 1,000	341,411	343,745	101
Table egg type 1,000	284,347	286,047	101
Hatching egg type 1,000	57,064	57,698	101
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	54,151	54,855	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,913	2,843	98
Eggs per 100 layers on January 1			
All layers number	73.8	74.1	100
Table egg type number	76.3	76.9	101
Hatching egg type number	61.2	60.5	99
Broiler-type hatching number	60.2	59.7	99
Egg-type hatching number	80.6	77.0	96
Forced molt layers on January 1			
Percent being molted percent	2.7	2.8	104
Percent with molt completed percent	20.8	21.3	102
Layers sold for slaughter during December 1,000	12,942	13,497	104
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, Composted or disappeared for any Reason during December 1,000	7,384	7,385	100
Pullets on January 1 1,000	104,138	104,270	100
Pullets added during December ¹ 1,000	24,070	23,722	99

¹Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Forced Molt – United States: January-February 2010 and 2011

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
Layers during January			
All layers 1,000	340,596	342,017	100
Table egg type 1,000	283,154	284,455	100
Hatching egg type 1,000	57,442	57,562	100
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	54,501	54,643	100
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,941	2,919	99
Eggs per 100 layers during January			
All layers number	2,268	2,289	101
Table egg type number	2,344	2,371	101
Hatching egg type number	1,892	1,883	100
Broiler-type hatching number	1,859	1,856	100
Egg-type hatching number	2,516	2,398	95
Eggs produced during January			
All layers million	7,724	7,828	101
Table egg type million	6,637	6,745	102
Hatching egg type million	1,087	1,084	100
Broiler-type hatching million	1,013	1,014	100
Egg-type hatching million	74	70	95
Layers on February 1			
All layers 1,000	339,747	340,261	100
Table egg type 1,000	281,946	282,853	100
Hatching egg type 1,000	57,801	57,408	99
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	54,839	54,420	99
Egg-type hatching 1,000	2,962	2,988	101
Eggs per 100 layers on February 1			
All layers number	72.5	73.4	101
Table egg type number	74.8	76.0	102
Hatching egg type number	60.8	60.7	100
Broiler-type hatching number	59.7	59.8	100
Egg-type hatching number	81.8	78.0	95
Forced molt layers on February 1			
Being molted percent	3.6	3.6	100
Molt completed percent	20.3	20.4	100
Layers sold for slaughter during January 1,000	14,086	14,268	101
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during January 1,000	7,735	7,625	99
Pullets on February 1 1,000	103,227	105,973	103
Pullets added during January ¹ 1,000	20,551	21,578	105

¹Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During December 2009 and 2010

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Alabama	1,277	1,365	9,475	9,529	1,931	1,952
Arkansas	3,225	3,423	12,234	12,327	2,027	2,028
California	19,163	19,511	19,462	19,818	2,353	2,316
Colorado	3,189	3,243	3,701	3,619	2,513	2,459
Connecticut	2,564	2,342	2,632	2,405	2,318	2,328
Florida	9,784	9,407	10,127	9,794	2,400	2,430
Georgia	9,225	8,601	17,760	17,222	2,196	2,236
Hawaii ¹	270	(NA)	305	(NA)	1,770	(NA)
Illinois	4,560	4,390	4,782	4,600	2,363	2,391
Indiana	22,869	22,898	23,539	23,596	2,362	2,348
Iowa	53,612	52,526	54,475	53,363	2,296	2,299
Maine	3,561	3,559	3,652	3,614	2,355	2,407
Maryland	2,212	2,122	2,342	2,254	2,220	2,351
Michigan	10,082	10,119	10,232	10,269	2,404	2,454
Minnesota	9,825	9,990	10,331	10,449	2,362	2,412
Mississippi	1,513	1,451	6,115	6,002	2,028	2,033
Missouri	5,782	6,092	7,029	7,445	2,333	2,270
Nebraska	9,455	9,321	9,505	9,371	2,441	2,476
New York	3,750	4,108	3,976	4,335	2,465	2,514
North Carolina	6,050	5,776	13,186	13,252	2,139	2,083
Ohio	27,298	28,050	27,777	28,525	2,340	2,380
Oregon	2,181	2,212	2,316	2,350	2,591	2,468
Pennsylvania	22,547	24,023	23,667	25,158	2,480	2,488
South Carolina	3,195	3,030	4,483	4,270	2,164	2,272
South Dakota	2,396	2,346	2,436	2,386	2,504	2,473
Texas	13,706	14,244	17,998	18,622	2,328	2,331
Utah	3,310	3,366	3,340	3,396	2,365	2,385
Virginia	1,197	1,191	2,844	2,926	2,180	2,119
Washington	6,058	6,378	6,173	6,493	2,414	2,418
Wisconsin	4,306	4,198	4,861	4,720	2,469	2,394
Other States ²	11,574	11,788	20,181	20,551	2,180	2,180
United States	279,736	281,070	340,936	342,661	2,303	2,311

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2010.

² Includes data for states not listed in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During January 2010 and 2011

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Alabama	1,232	1,304	9,539	9,630	1,908	1,900
Arkansas	3,197	3,432	12,299	12,194	1,976	2,017
California	19,031	19,451	19,332	19,756	2,317	2,273
Colorado	3,044	3,221	3,589	3,604	2,508	2,442
Connecticut	2,518	2,256	2,585	2,318	2,321	2,330
Florida	9,581	9,165	9,903	9,534	2,292	2,444
Georgia	9,020	8,504	17,654	17,290	2,169	2,180
Hawaii ¹	254	(NA)	299	(NA)	1,839	(NA)
Illinois	4,430	4,437	4,650	4,649	2,387	2,474
Indiana	22,995	23,091	23,712	23,788	2,324	2,333
Iowa	53,688	52,510	54,558	53,349	2,256	2,315
Maine	3,529	3,578	3,602	3,633	2,388	2,367
Maryland	2,215	1,997	2,323	2,115	2,282	2,364
Michigan	10,067	10,021	10,225	10,182	2,367	2,416
Minnesota	9,811	9,923	10,295	10,397	2,351	2,318
Mississippi	1,450	1,452	6,162	6,019	1,980	1,994
Missouri	5,749	6,029	7,053	7,456	2,311	2,293
Nebraska	9,473	9,266	9,523	9,316	2,426	2,480
New York	3,715	4,063	3,941	4,290	2,487	2,471
North Carolina	6,067	5,766	13,183	13,289	2,101	2,047
Ohio	26,838	28,072	27,329	28,557	2,294	2,318
Oregon	2,187	2,123	2,309	2,276	2,555	2,504
Pennsylvania	22,605	24,066	23,714	25,246	2,471	2,464
South Carolina	3,221	3,056	4,477	4,312	2,100	2,226
South Dakota	2,346	2,351	2,386	2,391	2,473	2,384
Texas	13,680	14,153	18,204	18,568	2,263	2,278
Utah	3,358	3,337	3,388	3,367	2,273	2,228
Virginia	1,140	1,098	2,841	2,793	2,042	2,112
Washington	6,259	6,315	6,374	6,431	2,306	2,457
Wisconsin	4,166	4,080	4,721	4,612	2,394	2,407
Other States ²	11,796	11,828	20,426	20,655	2,183	2,179
United States	278,662	279,945	340,596	342,017	2,268	2,289

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2011.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: December 2009 and 2010

[Totals may not add due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	183	186	30	34	153	152
Arkansas	248	250	81	86	167	164
California	458	459	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	93	89	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	61	56	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	243	238	237	232	6	6
Georgia	390	385	223	217	167	168
Hawaii ¹	5.4	(NA)	5.4	(D)	-	(D)
Illinois	113	110	110	107	3	3
Indiana	556	554	544	542	12	12
Iowa	1,251	1,227	1,238	1,215	13	12
Maine	86	87	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	52	53	51	52	1	1
Michigan	246	252	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	244	252	235	244	9	8
Mississippi	124	122	38	37	86	85
Missouri	164	169	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	232	232	232	232	-	-
New York	98	109	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	282	276	149	143	133	133
Ohio	650	679	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	60	58	58	56	2	2
Pennsylvania	587	626	567	607	20	19
South Carolina	97	97	75	75	22	22
South Dakota	61	59	61	59	-	-
Texas	419	434	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	79	81	79	81	-	-
Virginia	62	62	31	30	31	32
Washington	149	157	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	120	113	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	440	448	308	311	132	137
United States	7,853	7,920	6,779	6,850	1,074	1,070

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2010.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: January 2010 and 2011

[Totals may not add due to rounding. Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	182	183	27	30	155	153
Arkansas	243	246	78	83	165	163
California	448	449	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	90	88	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	60	54	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	227	233	222	227	5	6
Georgia	383	377	215	208	168	169
Hawaii ¹	5.5	(NA)	5.5	(NA)	-	(NA)
Illinois	111	115	108	112	3	3
Indiana	551	555	538	542	13	13
Iowa	1,231	1,235	1,217	1,223	14	12
Maine	86	86	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Maryland	53	50	52	49	1	1
Michigan	242	246	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	242	241	233	233	9	8
Mississippi	122	120	35	35	87	85
Missouri	163	171	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	231	231	231	231	-	-
New York	98	106	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	277	272	144	138	133	134
Ohio	627	662	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	59	57	57	55	2	2
Pennsylvania	586	622	565	601	21	21
South Carolina	94	96	72	74	22	22
South Dakota	59	57	59	57	-	-
Texas	412	423	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	77	75	77	75	-	-
Virginia	58	59	27	27	31	32
Washington	147	158	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	113	111	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	446	450	309	312	137	139
United States	7,724	7,828	6,637	6,745	1,087	1,084

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2011.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2010-2011

[As of the first of the month. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2010 (percent)	2011 (percent)	2010 (percent)	2011 (percent)
January	2.7	2.8	20.8	21.3
February	3.6	3.6	20.3	20.4
March	3.2		21.2	
April	2.8		21.3	
May	4.2		21.5	
June	3.3		22.7	
July	3.3		22.5	
August	3.4		22.6	
September	2.6		23.0	
October	4.4		21.7	
November	2.7		22.5	
December	1.8		22.5	

Forced Molt as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: February 1, 2010 and 2011

[As of the first of the month]

State	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2010 (percent)	2011 (percent)	2010 (percent)	2011 (percent)
Alabama	0.5	2.0	7.0	5.0
Arkansas	1.0	1.0	10.5	12.0
California	7.0	7.5	27.5	27.0
Colorado	1.5	-	17.0	26.0
Connecticut	3.5	-	9.5	7.5
Florida	8.0	3.5	33.5	34.5
Georgia	1.0	2.5	16.5	17.5
Hawaii ¹	9.5	(NA)	48.5	(NA)
Illinois	5.0	1.5	23.0	28.5
Indiana	4.0	6.0	32.0	21.0
Iowa	4.0	3.5	30.5	34.5
Maine	-	-	-	-
Maryland	15.5	7.5	7.0	27.5
Michigan	4.0	1.0	22.5	20.5
Minnesota	2.5	5.0	23.5	22.5
Mississippi	3.5	3.5	7.5	8.0
Missouri	4.0	5.0	20.0	17.5
Nebraska	1.0	1.0	2.5	2.5
New York	2.0	1.0	8.0	13.0
North Carolina	2.0	3.0	8.5	15.0
Ohio	5.0	6.0	16.5	17.0
Oregon	4.5	4.0	28.5	25.0
Pennsylvania	2.0	1.0	12.0	10.5
South Carolina	-	-	18.0	19.5
South Dakota	2.5	6.5	21.0	33.0
Texas	3.5	3.5	18.0	17.5
Utah	11.0	8.0	34.0	32.0
Virginia	3.0	-	17.5	20.5
Washington	6.0	5.0	29.0	32.0
Wisconsin	5.0	9.5	36.0	23.5
Other States ²	3.2	2.2	15.5	14.7
United States	3.6	3.6	20.3	20.4

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2011.

² Includes data for States not listed in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2010 and 2011

Item	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on February 1	39,338	39,701	101
Chicks hatched during January	38,794	41,366	107
Pullets hatched during January for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	227	220	97
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	3,198	3,292	103
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on February 1	627,804	634,192	101
Chicks hatched during January	775,615	781,123	101
Pullets hatched during January for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	7,219	6,989	97
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	62,833	63,658	101

¹2011 includes pullet chicks hatched July 2009 through June 2010.

²2011 includes pullet chicks hatched October 2009 through June 2010.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators – Regions and United States: February 1, 2010 and 2011

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
North Atlantic	4,945	5,141	104
East North Central	7,687	8,007	104
West North Central	8,657	8,340	96
South Atlantic	4,876	4,413	91
South Central	5,957	5,362	90
West	7,216	8,438	117
United States	39,338	39,701	101

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	38,794	41,366	107	38,794	41,366	107
February	40,120			78,914		
March	45,151			124,065		
April	47,503			171,568		
May	43,075			214,643		
June	42,623			257,266		
July	38,053			295,319		
August	37,023			332,342		
September	40,307			372,649		
October	41,263			413,912		
November	38,947			452,859		
December	37,845			490,704		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2010	2011		2010	2011
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)
January	227	220	97	3,198	3,292
February	296			3,296	3,168
March	260			3,308	3,142
April	232			3,318	3,173
May	230			3,322	3,066
June	318			3,295	3,039
July	218			3,405	2,993
August	265			3,392	2,986
September	251			3,432	
October	170			3,415	
November	263			3,340	
December	263			3,295	
Total	2,993				

¹For January 2011, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched July 2009 through June 2010. 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 – Regions and United States: February 1, 2010 and 2011

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
North Atlantic	11,485	12,885	112
East North Central	12,570	11,863	94
West North Central	27,783	27,856	100
South Atlantic	230,539	236,620	103
South Central	323,696	322,933	100
West	21,731	22,035	101
United States	627,804	634,192	101

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: January 2010 and 2011

State	During January			January-January		
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Alabama	109,127	110,220	101	109,127	110,220	101
Arkansas	89,402	86,467	97	89,402	86,467	97
Delaware	12,250	15,165	124	12,250	15,165	124
Florida	4,647	4,707	101	4,647	4,707	101
Georgia	114,428	121,577	106	114,428	121,577	106
Kentucky	29,106	26,127	90	29,106	26,127	90
Louisiana	12,444	12,370	99	12,444	12,370	99
Maryland	32,923	27,561	84	32,923	27,561	84
Mississippi	69,750	70,294	101	69,750	70,294	101
North Carolina	68,897	72,310	105	68,897	72,310	105
Oklahoma	25,422	25,122	99	25,422	25,122	99
Pennsylvania	13,975	14,506	104	13,975	14,506	104
South Carolina	20,172	19,920	99	20,172	19,920	99
Texas	56,554	58,140	103	56,554	58,140	103
Virginia	22,468	21,529	96	22,468	21,529	96
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	68,414	70,532	103	68,414	70,532	103
19 States ¹	749,979	756,547	101	749,979	756,547	101
Other States ²	25,636	24,576	96	25,636	24,576	96
United States	775,615	781,123	101	775,615	781,123	101

¹States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

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

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010	2010	2011	2011 as percent of 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	775,615	781,123	101	775,615	781,123	101
February	699,776			1,475,391		
March	786,954			2,262,345		
April	767,225			3,029,570		
May	797,833			3,827,403		
June	786,707			4,614,110		
July	800,860			5,414,970		
August	798,529			6,213,499		
September	761,473			6,974,972		
October	766,978			7,741,950		
November	740,661			8,482,611		
December	785,649			9,268,260		

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2010	2011		2010	2011
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)
United States placements					
January	7,219	6,989	97	62,833	63,658
February	6,994			62,005	63,945
March	6,610			62,142	63,912
April	6,538			62,672	64,413
May	8,351			61,918	64,070
June	7,585			62,049	64,542
July	6,675			61,903	64,703
August	7,313			62,882	65,154
September	7,128			62,218	
October	6,876			61,671	
November	7,466			61,995	
December	6,771			63,183	
Annual total	85,526				
Total placements ²					
January	8,626	8,548	99		
February	8,972				
March	8,910				
April	8,031				
May	10,338				
June	9,666				
July	8,520				
August	9,009				
September	9,087				
October	8,553				
November	9,157				
December	8,596				
Annual total	107,465				

¹For January 2011, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched October 2009 through June 2010.

²United States production of intended placements worldwide.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: 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 at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, or pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 650 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. All known hatcheries, approximately 300, are contacted for information on a weekly and/or monthly basis.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State, regional, and United States totals.

For chicken hatcheries, chicks hatched consist of all chicks of domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. Eggs set are eggs in incubators for the purpose of hatching. The relationship of egg-type chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings are 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. Broiler chicks placed are specifically placed on feed for meat production. 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 supply layer flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the laying flocks. "Hatchery Supply Flocks" include all generations of layers which could lay eggs to supply a hatchery. This includes the generations of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, pedigree, etc. Also included are research flocks, vaccine flocks, and specific pathogen-free flocks. The broiler cumulative potential placements are a moving total of the intended placements 7-15 months earlier. The egg-type cumulative potential placements of 7-18 months earlier represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

Revision Policy: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual reports of *Chickens and Eggs Summary* and *Hatchery Production Summary*. Estimates will also be reviewed for chickens and eggs after data from the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Estimates are based on a census of all known contractors and independent producers who have at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets, or operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for all layers over the past 24 months is 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 342 million layers by more than 0.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.6 percent.

Reliability of Layer and Egg Estimates

[Based on data for the past twenty-four months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
All layers	(percent) 0.4	(percent) 0.6	(1,000) 1,140	(1,000) 534	(1,000) 2,021	(number) 24	(number) 0
Eggs	0.3	0.6	(million) 25	(million) 14	(million) 45	24	0

Regional Listing

- North Atlantic:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.
- East North Central:** Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.
- West North Central:** Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.
- South Atlantic:** Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.
- South Central:** Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas.
- West:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Terms and Definitions of Chickens and Eggs Estimates

All Layers includes both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

Intended Placements are 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 case of 30 dozen eggs.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

- Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch (202) 720-3570
- Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section (202) 720-4447
- Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised (202) 720-3106
- David Colwell – Cold Storage (202) 720-8784
- Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production,
Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink (202) 720-0585
- Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs (202) 690-8632
- Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey (202) 720-3244

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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