



Chickens and Eggs

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August Egg Production Down 9 Percent

United States egg production totaled 7.69 billion during August 2015, down 9 percent from last year. Production included 6.55 billion table eggs, and 1.15 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 82 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during August 2015 averaged 330 million, down 9 percent from last year. August egg production per 100 layers was 2,329 eggs, down 1 percent from August 2014.

All layers in the United States on September 1, 2015 totaled 331 million, down 9 percent from last year. The 331 million layers consisted of 273 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.17 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 2015, averaged 75.1 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from September 1, 2014.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 18 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during August 2015 totaled 46.9 million, up 18 percent from August 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 47.2 million on September 1, 2015, up 13 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 228 thousand during August 2015, down 9 percent from August 2014.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 1 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during August 2015 totaled 798 million, up 1 percent from August 2014. Eggs in incubators totaled 635 million on September 1, 2015, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 7.91 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during August 2015, up 6 percent from August 2014.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	2014		2015	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		360,673		365,691
January		359,556		363,732
February		358,967		362,338
March		359,955		362,501
April		360,826		358,416
May		360,383		341,647
June		359,729		328,656
July		360,787		328,993
August		361,731		330,123
September		361,813		
October		362,034		
November		364,017		

¹ December preceding year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2014-2015

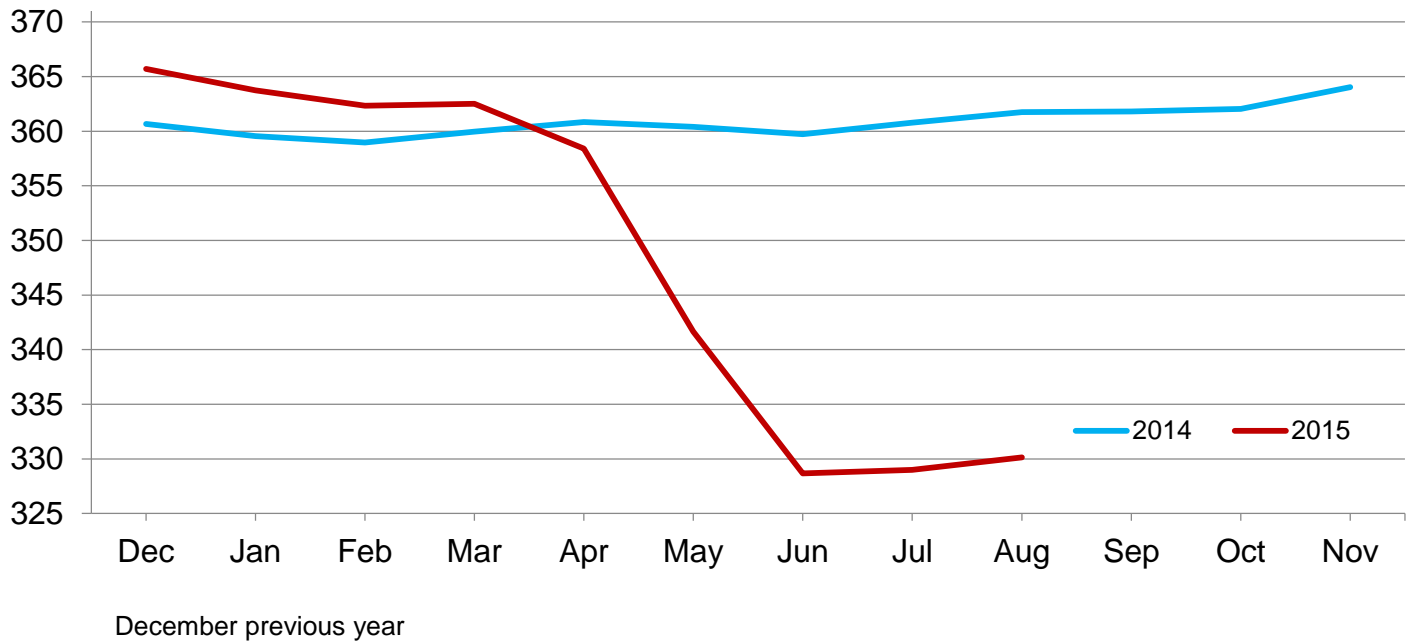
[Totals may not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	8,489	8,731	7,422	7,633	1,068	1,098
January	8,397	8,540	7,321	7,428	1,077	1,112
February	7,551	7,620	6,579	6,615	972	1,006
March	8,430	8,548	7,354	7,429	1,077	1,119
April	8,205	8,209	7,160	7,113	1,045	1,096
May	8,428	7,993	7,336	6,851	1,094	1,142
June	8,151	7,416	7,091	6,307	1,060	1,109
July	8,503	7,674	7,404	6,527	1,100	1,147
August	8,491	7,690	7,394	6,545	1,098	1,145
September	8,186		7,126		1,060	
October	8,526		7,433		1,094	
November	8,411		7,353		1,058	
During year	99,768		86,971		12,803	

¹ December preceding year.

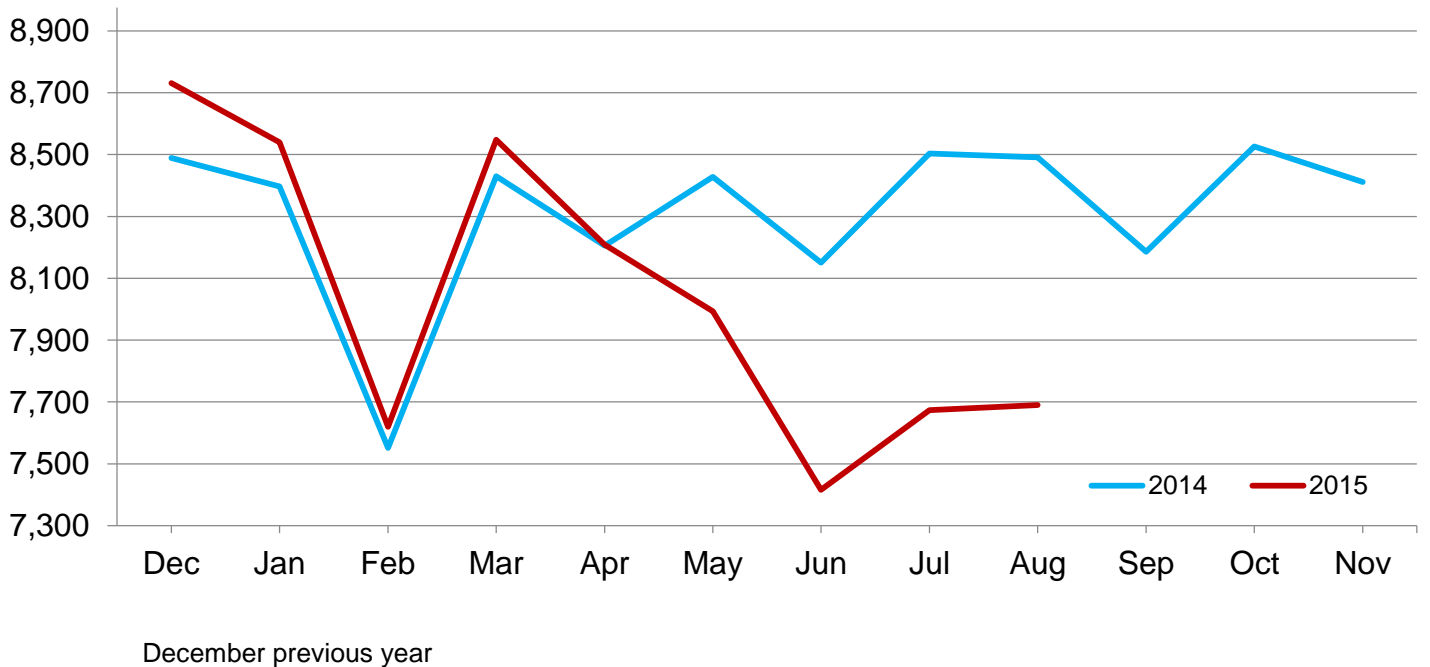
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: July-August 2014 and 2015

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during July			
All layers1,000	360,787	328,993	91
Table egg type1,000	304,161	270,908	89
Hatching egg type1,000	56,626	58,085	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,441	54,796	103
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,185	3,289	103
Eggs per 100 layers during July			
All layers number	2,357	2,333	99
Table egg type number	2,434	2,409	99
Hatching egg type number	1,943	1,975	102
Broiler-type hatching number	1,911	1,942	102
Egg-type hatching number	2,480	2,524	102
Eggs produced during July			
All layers million	8,503	7,674	90
Table egg type million	7,404	6,527	88
Hatching egg type million	1,100	1,147	104
Broiler-type hatching million	1,021	1,064	104
Egg-type hatching million	79	83	105
Layers on August 1			
All layers1,000	361,873	329,580	91
Table egg type1,000	305,218	271,454	89
Hatching egg type1,000	56,655	58,126	103
Broiler-type hatching1,000	53,501	54,830	102
Egg-type hatching1,000	3,154	3,296	105
Eggs per 100 layers on August 1			
All layers number	75.9	75.0	99
Table egg type number	78.4	77.5	99
Hatching egg type number	62.3	63.6	102
Broiler-type hatching number	61.3	62.4	102
Egg-type hatching number	79.4	82.1	103
Molted layers on August 1			
Being molted percent	3.3	2.7	82
Molt completed percent	18.0	19.5	108
Layers sold for slaughter during July1,000	14,071	14,968	106
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during July1,000	8,284	5,955	72
Pullets on August 11,000	109,322	107,234	98
Pullets added during July ¹1,000	25,601	26,085	102

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

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: August-September 2014 and 2015

[Totals may not add due to rounding]

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
Layers during August			
All layers 1,000	361,731	330,123	91
Table egg type 1,000	305,415	272,175	89
Hatching egg type 1,000	56,316	57,948	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	53,130	54,714	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,186	3,234	102
Eggs per 100 layers during August			
All layers number	2,347	2,329	99
Table egg type number	2,421	2,405	99
Hatching egg type number	1,950	1,976	101
Broiler-type hatching number	1,918	1,943	101
Egg-type hatching number	2,480	2,536	102
Eggs produced during August			
All layers million	8,491	7,690	91
Table egg type million	7,394	6,545	89
Hatching egg type million	1,098	1,145	104
Broiler-type hatching million	1,019	1,063	104
Egg-type hatching million	79	82	104
Layers on September 1			
All layers 1,000	361,560	330,639	91
Table egg type 1,000	305,597	272,883	89
Hatching egg type 1,000	55,963	57,756	103
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	52,750	54,589	103
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,213	3,167	99
Eggs per 100 layers on September 1			
All layers number	75.5	75.1	99
Table egg type number	77.8	77.5	100
Hatching egg type number	63.0	63.6	101
Broiler-type hatching number	62.0	62.5	101
Egg-type hatching number	78.8	82.4	105
Molted layers on September 1			
Being molted percent	2.9	3.2	110
Molt completed percent	18.9	20.0	106
Layers sold for slaughter during August 1,000	16,393	13,454	82
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during August 1,000	7,271	6,782	93
Pullets on September 1 1,000	109,413	108,201	99
Pullets added during August ¹ 1,000	25,047	23,787	95

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

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During July 2014 and 2015

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,529	1,512	9,309	9,549	2,009	1,990
Arkansas	3,584	3,697	12,271	13,026	2,086	2,073
California	15,585	13,042	15,997	13,545	2,400	2,289
Colorado	4,628	4,093	5,001	4,576	2,500	2,601
Connecticut ¹	2,311	(NA)	2,404	(NA)	2,454	(NA)
Florida	8,170	8,533	8,583	8,926	2,319	2,319
Georgia	9,407	9,593	18,159	18,454	2,159	2,184
Illinois	4,268	4,215	4,761	4,689	2,520	2,261
Indiana	26,486	25,924	27,467	26,884	2,403	2,425
Iowa	57,584	32,448	58,787	33,593	2,375	2,307
Maine ¹	3,422	(NA)	3,477	(NA)	2,358	(NA)
Maryland	2,603	2,539	2,774	2,703	2,451	2,516
Michigan	12,865	12,834	13,082	13,051	2,523	2,437
Minnesota	10,632	7,854	11,088	8,314	2,444	2,418
Mississippi	1,318	1,536	5,501	5,801	2,036	2,103
Missouri	6,481	6,059	8,725	8,252	2,338	2,315
Nebraska	9,468	5,769	9,576	5,877	2,600	2,569
New York	4,737	4,567	5,094	4,927	2,493	2,578
North Carolina	6,009	6,831	13,728	14,745	2,120	2,089
Ohio	30,268	30,926	31,145	31,778	2,459	2,410
Oregon	2,239	2,306	2,378	2,445	2,691	2,618
Pennsylvania	23,329	23,729	25,146	25,683	2,513	2,507
South Carolina	2,966	3,066	4,201	4,306	2,166	2,346
South Dakota	2,409	1,408	2,551	1,550	2,430	2,516
Texas	14,827	15,360	18,901	19,424	2,312	2,265
Utah	4,160	4,192	4,198	4,230	2,382	2,506
Virginia	1,300	1,113	3,073	2,836	2,180	2,080
Washington	6,686	7,162	6,852	7,327	2,481	2,470
Wisconsin	4,116	3,527	4,892	4,307	2,433	2,484
Other States ²	12,771	18,992	21,666	28,195	2,229	2,302
United States	296,158	262,827	360,787	328,993	2,357	2,333

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During August 2014 and 2015

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,508	1,518	9,199	9,620	1,978	2,006
Arkansas	3,620	3,761	12,367	13,252	2,102	2,053
California	15,429	12,924	15,837	13,435	2,349	2,337
Colorado	4,537	4,191	4,910	4,644	2,525	2,562
Connecticut ¹	2,280	(NA)	2,374	(NA)	2,527	(NA)
Florida	8,185	8,484	8,608	8,884	2,323	2,330
Georgia	9,453	9,681	18,118	18,458	2,175	2,183
Illinois	4,424	4,275	4,914	4,753	2,503	2,293
Indiana	26,532	25,977	27,524	26,949	2,347	2,386
Iowa	58,024	32,601	59,189	33,752	2,369	2,278
Maine ¹	3,445	(NA)	3,500	(NA)	2,286	(NA)
Maryland	2,595	2,527	2,765	2,688	2,459	2,530
Michigan	12,757	12,775	12,974	12,991	2,551	2,502
Minnesota	10,838	8,232	11,295	8,690	2,408	2,348
Mississippi	1,397	1,526	5,521	5,667	2,011	2,082
Missouri	6,712	6,371	8,951	8,565	2,402	2,265
Nebraska	9,422	5,754	9,530	5,862	2,581	2,559
New York	4,721	4,795	5,079	5,147	2,500	2,526
North Carolina	6,073	6,839	13,709	14,690	2,108	2,103
Ohio	30,030	30,825	30,903	31,677	2,433	2,424
Oregon	2,238	2,345	2,377	2,484	2,692	2,657
Pennsylvania	23,489	23,750	25,293	25,634	2,515	2,520
South Carolina	2,913	2,810	4,136	4,046	2,103	2,373
South Dakota	2,519	1,397	2,661	1,539	2,443	2,534
Texas	14,668	15,614	18,696	19,696	2,321	2,269
Utah	4,303	4,055	4,341	4,093	2,465	2,516
Virginia	1,292	1,123	3,105	2,839	2,158	2,078
Washington	6,882	7,093	7,047	7,259	2,427	2,466
Wisconsin	4,250	3,821	5,028	4,599	2,387	2,435
Other States ²	12,876	19,030	21,780	28,210	2,231	2,297
United States	297,412	264,094	361,731	330,123	2,347	2,329

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: July 2014 and 2015

[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	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	187	190	41	40	146	150
Arkansas	256	270	88	90	168	180
California	384	310	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	125	119	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut ¹	59	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Florida	199	207	194	202	5	5
Georgia	392	403	223	228	169	175
Illinois	120	106	115	101	5	5
Indiana	660	652	641	632	19	20
Iowa	1,396	775	1,378	758	18	17
Maine ¹	82	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Maryland	68	68	66	66	2	2
Michigan	330	318	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	271	201	264	194	7	7
Mississippi	112	122	33	39	79	83
Missouri	204	191	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	249	151	249	151	-	-
New York	127	127	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	291	308	151	158	140	150
Ohio	766	766	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	64	64	64	64	-	-
Pennsylvania	632	644	607	616	25	28
South Carolina	91	101	69	78	22	23
South Dakota	62	39	62	39	-	-
Texas	437	440	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	100	106	100	106	-	-
Virginia	67	59	35	27	32	32
Washington	170	181	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	119	107	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	483	649	349	508	135	141
United States	8,503	7,674	7,404	6,527	1,100	1,147

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: August 2014 and 2015

[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	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	182	193	38	41	144	152
Arkansas	260	272	91	90	169	182
California	372	314	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	124	119	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut ¹	60	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Florida	200	207	194	202	6	5
Georgia	394	403	224	229	170	174
Illinois	123	109	118	104	5	5
Indiana	646	643	627	623	19	20
Iowa	1,402	769	1,386	752	16	17
Maine ¹	80	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)	(NA)
Maryland	68	68	66	66	2	2
Michigan	331	325	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	272	204	265	197	7	7
Mississippi	111	118	34	37	77	81
Missouri	215	194	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	246	150	246	150	-	-
New York	127	130	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	289	309	150	160	139	149
Ohio	752	768	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	64	66	64	66	-	-
Pennsylvania	636	646	612	619	24	27
South Carolina	87	96	66	73	21	23
South Dakota	65	39	65	39	-	-
Texas	434	447	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	107	103	107	103	-	-
Virginia	67	59	35	27	32	32
Washington	171	179	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	120	112	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ²	486	648	350	507	137	141
United States	8,491	7,690	7,394	6,545	1,098	1,145

- Represents zero.

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

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Molted as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	2.7	2.1	18.2	18.1
February	2.8	3.3	18.0	17.9
March	2.4	1.9	18.0	18.9
April	1.9	2.0	17.9	18.0
May	2.8	3.1	17.7	17.7
June	3.0	2.4	17.2	17.5
July	2.6	2.9	18.0	18.4
August	3.3	2.7	18.0	19.5
September	2.9	3.2	18.9	20.0
October	3.3		19.3	
November	2.0		19.9	
December	1.3		19.3	

Molted as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: September 1, 2014 and 2015

[As of the first of the month]

State	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	2.0	2.0	6.0	8.5
Arkansas	2.0	2.0	11.5	15.5
California	7.0	2.0	30.5	30.5
Colorado	4.5	1.0	24.5	10.0
Connecticut ¹	-	(NA)	10.5	(NA)
Florida	5.5	6.5	33.0	52.0
Georgia	3.0	3.0	17.5	16.5
Illinois	-	1.5	13.0	19.5
Indiana	3.0	6.0	26.0	25.5
Iowa	3.0	5.0	26.0	29.0
Maine ¹	-	(NA)	-	(NA)
Maryland	4.5	-	1.0	-
Michigan	-	-	8.5	12.5
Minnesota	2.5	5.5	18.5	13.0
Mississippi	3.5	2.0	9.5	18.0
Missouri	2.5	5.0	16.0	17.0
Nebraska	-	6.5	1.5	5.5
New York	-	-	9.0	6.0
North Carolina	1.0	3.0	14.5	16.5
Ohio	4.5	2.5	24.5	24.5
Oregon	7.0	-	14.5	14.5
Pennsylvania	-	1.0	5.0	5.0
South Carolina	-	-	9.5	11.0
South Dakota	-	-	13.5	14.0
Texas	6.0	4.5	28.5	41.0
Utah	3.5	7.5	31.0	28.0
Virginia	9.0	-	12.5	21.0
Washington	7.0	5.5	20.5	26.5
Wisconsin	4.0	6.5	34.0	18.0
Other States ²	1.8	1.5	13.4	9.0
United States	2.9	3.2	18.9	20.0

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Included in Other States in 2015.

² Includes data for States not published in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2014 and 2015

Item	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on September 1	41,734	47,242	113
Chicks hatched during August	39,803	46,863	118
Chicks hatched January through August	350,632	370,902	106
Pullets hatched during August for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	251	228	91
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,786	3,074	110
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on September 1	639,323	635,299	99
Chicks hatched during August	789,582	798,399	101
Chicks hatched January through August	6,112,193	6,266,733	103
Pullets hatched during August for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	7,436	7,907	106
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	61,772	63,763	103

¹ 2015 includes pullet chicks hatched February 2014 through January 2015.

² 2015 includes pullet chicks hatched May 2014 through January 2015.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – Regions and United States: 2014-2015

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	August 1		2015 as percent of 2014	September 1		2015 as percent of 2014
	2014	2015		2014	2015	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	5,472	7,401	135	5,868	7,824	133
East North Central	6,616	8,039	122	8,496	8,714	103
West North Central	11,514	12,847	112	11,876	13,417	113
South Atlantic	4,272	5,076	119	4,679	5,068	108
South Central	5,818	5,706	98	5,746	6,455	112
West	6,090	6,217	102	5,069	5,764	114
United States	39,782	45,286	114	41,734	47,242	113

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	44,458	44,174	99	44,458	44,174	99
February	40,986	43,091	105	85,444	87,265	102
March	44,233	50,077	113	129,677	137,342	106
April	45,703	49,595	109	175,380	186,937	107
May	49,146	47,652	97	224,526	234,589	104
June	44,006	46,868	107	268,532	281,457	105
July	42,297	42,582	101	310,829	324,039	104
August	39,803	46,863	118	350,632	370,902	106
September	43,722			394,354		
October	44,468			438,822		
November	36,544			475,366		
December	42,980			518,346		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2014-2016

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2015 as percent of 2014	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2014	2015		2015	2016
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
January	270	270	100	2,947	3,386
February	243	309	127	2,955	3,378
March	235	346	147	2,863	3,355
April	243	219	90	2,987	
May	224	235	105	3,206	
June	172	320	186	3,178	
July	275	267	97	3,074	
August	251	228	91	3,074	
September	394			3,140	
October	369			3,251	
November	150			3,227	
December	248			3,238	
Total	3,074				

¹ For August 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched February 2014 through January 2015. 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 on the First of the Month – Regions and United States: 2014-2015

[See regional listing on page 19]

Region	August 1		2015 as percent of 2014	September 1		2015 as percent of 2014
	2014	2015		2014	2015	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)
North Atlantic	14,209	13,528	95	14,063	14,329	102
East North Central	14,131	13,952	99	14,084	14,318	102
West North Central	30,875	30,937	100	30,653	30,269	99
South Atlantic	249,524	249,432	100	247,529	243,654	98
South Central	311,636	314,790	101	311,683	309,839	99
West	23,164	23,446	101	21,311	22,890	107
United States	643,539	646,085	100	639,323	635,299	99

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: August 2014 and 2015

State	During August			January-August		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
Alabama	106,298	108,927	102	828,175	850,733	103
Arkansas	79,278	80,375	101	606,448	628,062	104
Delaware	15,856	17,583	111	128,640	136,680	106
Florida	4,634	4,542	98	35,418	34,740	98
Georgia	127,579	125,173	98	977,283	980,904	100
Kentucky	29,287	29,305	100	222,472	227,185	102
Louisiana	13,915	14,045	101	111,710	111,744	100
Maryland	28,060	29,282	104	218,771	227,361	104
Mississippi	66,179	65,843	99	510,430	523,269	103
Missouri	31,414	30,938	98	243,465	238,588	98
North Carolina	77,487	78,700	102	592,870	615,333	104
Oklahoma	24,472	24,792	101	191,951	189,370	99
Pennsylvania	16,407	16,487	100	125,797	129,853	103
South Carolina	18,159	19,523	108	139,605	154,554	111
Texas	54,652	54,914	100	423,534	443,730	105
Virginia	24,403	23,778	97	191,464	189,352	99
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	41,785	44,828	107	333,098	351,381	105
19 States ¹	759,865	769,035	101	5,881,131	6,032,839	103
Other States ²	29,717	29,364	99	231,062	233,894	101
United States	789,582	798,399	101	6,112,193	6,266,733	103

¹ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

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

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2014-2015

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014	2014	2015	2015 as percent of 2014
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	772,825	792,176	103	772,825	792,176	103
February	694,277	711,223	102	1,467,102	1,503,399	102
March	771,618	791,109	103	2,238,720	2,294,508	102
April	750,447	772,833	103	2,989,167	3,067,341	103
May	783,136	809,044	103	3,772,303	3,876,385	103
June	764,412	787,193	103	4,536,715	4,663,578	103
July	785,896	804,756	102	5,322,611	5,468,334	103
August	789,582	798,399	101	6,112,193	6,266,733	103
September	757,650			6,869,843		
October	762,311			7,632,154		
November	732,978			8,365,132		
December	795,846			9,160,978		

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2014-2016

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2015 as percent of 2014	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2014 (1,000 chicks)	2015 (1,000 chicks)		2015 (1,000 chicks)	2016 (1,000 chicks)
United States placements					
January	6,470	6,959	108	62,018	65,575
February	7,239	7,921	109	61,999	66,180
March	6,790	7,160	105	62,220	66,496
April	6,710	6,995	104	62,804	
May	7,600	7,541	99	63,157	
June	7,094	7,790	110	63,509	
July	6,212	7,428	120	63,514	
August	7,436	7,907	106	63,763	
September	7,253			64,084	
October	6,823			64,150	
November	7,591			64,933	
December	6,795			65,038	
Annual total	84,013				
Total placements ²					
January	8,077	8,382	104		
February	9,068	9,546	105		
March	8,702	8,875	102		
April	8,122	8,358	103		
May	9,470	9,409	99		
June	9,021	9,785	108		
July	7,916	9,907	125		
August	9,413	10,040	107		
September	9,228				
October	8,288				
November	9,540				
December	8,649				
Annual total	105,494				

¹ For August 2015, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched May 2014 through January 2015.

² United 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 500 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Data for egg-type hatchery estimates are collected monthly from all egg-type hatcheries that hatch at least 50,000 chicks a year.

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 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 1.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 330 million layers by more than 1.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.2 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) 1.9	(percent) 3.2	(1,000) 5,435	(1,000) 37	(1,000) 10,344	(number) 21	(number) 3
Eggs	2.0	3.4	(million) 131	(million) 1	(million) 271	21	3

Egg-Type Regional Listing

North Atlantic: Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania.
East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin.
West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri.
South Atlantic: Florida, Georgia, Virginia.
South Central: Alabama, Mississippi, Texas.
West: California, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon.

Broiler-Type Regional Listing

North Atlantic: New York, Pennsylvania.
East North Central: Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin.
West North Central: Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri.
South Atlantic: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.
South Central: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas.
West: California, Oregon, Washington.

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.

Molted Layers is the same data series as the previously published Forced Molt Layers. Nomenclature changed as of January 2015.

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
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Cold Storage	(202) 720-4751
Heidi Gleich – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-0585
Michael Klamm – Poultry Slaughter	(202) 720-3040
Tom Kruchten – Census of Aquaculture	(202) 690-4870
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Sammy Neal – Catfish Production, Egg Products, Mink, Trout Production, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Joshua O’Rear – Honey	(202) 690-3676

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