



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 208 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 12, 2011. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 12, 2011. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through March 12, 2011 were 1.68 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	February 5, 2011	February 12, 2011	February 19, 2011	February 26, 2011	March 5, 2011	March 12, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	29,941	30,140	30,978	29,955	29,840	29,936
Arkansas	23,426	22,979	23,419	23,263	23,546	23,810
Delaware	3,980	3,768	4,002	3,899	3,853	3,810
Florida	1,360	1,360	1,360	1,359	1,360	1,360
Georgia	33,628	33,436	33,653	33,090	33,447	33,291
Kentucky	8,097	7,985	8,054	7,850	7,647	7,707
Louisiana	3,395	3,395	3,379	3,409	3,440	3,409
Maryland	7,695	7,703	7,707	7,688	7,716	7,677
Mississippi	18,965	18,376	18,736	19,064	18,623	18,991
North Carolina	19,462	19,637	19,869	19,957	19,537	19,619
Oklahoma	6,974	7,181	7,019	7,148	7,061	7,432
Pennsylvania	3,914	4,001	3,675	3,732	3,861	3,860
South Carolina	5,452	5,579	5,610	5,566	5,566	5,678
Texas	14,336	14,241	15,097	15,351	15,728	15,347
Virginia	5,971	6,081	5,834	6,465	6,571	6,513
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	19,191	18,475	18,684	19,356	19,949	19,565
19 State total	205,787	204,337	207,076	207,152	207,745	208,005
Previous year total	204,076	205,734	206,981	207,365	206,494	205,506
Percent of previous year	101	99	100	100	101	101

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	February 5, 2011	February 12, 2011	February 19, 2011	February 26, 2011	March 5, 2011	March 12, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	20,856	20,903	21,762	21,044	21,177	21,441
Arkansas	20,823	21,034	21,319	22,150	21,633	23,233
Delaware	5,002	4,579	5,336	4,498	5,112	4,624
Florida	1,229	1,202	1,201	1,349	1,225	1,290
Georgia	27,749	27,205	28,083	27,285	28,329	28,724
Kentucky	5,788	6,074	6,402	6,780	5,854	6,636
Louisiana	3,002	3,014	2,991	3,021	3,081	2,997
Maryland	5,885	5,439	5,874	6,758	5,621	6,226
Mississippi	16,293	16,123	15,576	16,401	15,919	16,276
North Carolina	15,446	15,715	15,731	15,202	15,800	16,112
Oklahoma	5,586	5,162	3,814	2,973	3,638	2,559
Pennsylvania	3,302	3,347	3,251	3,203	3,257	3,008
South Carolina	4,455	4,805	3,885	4,852	4,050	4,152
Texas	13,067	12,682	12,033	11,915	11,778	12,343
Virginia	4,971	5,459	4,520	4,352	4,759	4,705
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	14,697	15,210	15,695	17,022	16,443	15,893
19 State total	168,151	167,953	167,473	168,805	167,676	170,219
Previous year total	163,279	164,631	165,886	168,299	169,058	170,165
Percent of previous year	103	102	101	100	99	100

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected from all known chicken hatcheries within the 19 States. The 19 States account for approximately 97 percent of the broilers produced on an annual basis. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All known hatcheries within the 19 States respond via fax. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone.

Estimating Procedures: 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. All hatcheries are accounted for in the estimates. 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 and 19 State totals.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week's data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

Reliability: Hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known 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.

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

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