



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 208 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 26, 2011. This was up 2 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 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 173 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 26, 2011. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through March 26, 2011 were 2.03 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	February 19, 2011	February 26, 2011	March 5, 2011	March 12, 2011	March 19, 2011	March 26, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	30,978	29,551	30,027	29,936	30,414	31,125
Arkansas	23,419	23,339	23,447	23,670	23,384	23,253
Delaware	4,002	3,899	3,853	3,810	3,888	3,882
Florida	1,360	1,359	1,360	1,360	1,360	1,360
Georgia	33,653	33,090	33,447	33,291	33,153	32,819
Kentucky	8,032	7,822	7,788	7,707	7,834	7,861
Louisiana	3,379	3,409	3,440	3,409	3,440	3,471
Maryland	7,707	7,688	7,716	7,677	7,654	7,741
Mississippi	18,873	19,064	18,980	18,991	19,428	18,722
North Carolina	19,828	19,794	19,597	19,632	20,293	20,189
Oklahoma	7,019	7,148	7,061	7,432	7,470	7,268
Pennsylvania	3,675	3,732	3,861	3,984	3,921	3,648
South Carolina	5,610	5,566	5,566	5,660	5,439	5,746
Texas	15,097	15,351	15,728	15,347	15,202	15,012
Virginia	5,834	6,465	6,571	6,513	6,318	6,590
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	18,684	19,356	19,949	19,312	19,656	19,804
19 State total	207,150	206,633	208,391	207,731	208,854	208,491
Previous year total	206,981	207,365	206,494	205,506	207,381	205,353
Percent of previous year	100	100	101	101	101	102

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	February 19, 2011	February 26, 2011	March 5, 2011	March 12, 2011	March 19, 2011	March 26, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	21,762	21,044	21,177	21,441	20,592	21,440
Arkansas	21,319	22,150	21,612	23,147	20,908	21,478
Delaware	5,336	4,498	5,112	4,624	4,626	4,824
Florida	1,201	1,349	1,225	1,290	1,249	1,270
Georgia	28,083	27,285	28,329	28,770	28,305	26,744
Kentucky	6,402	6,780	5,854	6,635	6,416	6,706
Louisiana	2,991	3,021	3,081	2,997	3,036	3,227
Maryland	5,874	6,758	5,621	6,226	6,533	6,041
Mississippi	15,576	16,401	15,919	16,276	16,477	16,528
North Carolina	15,731	15,202	15,799	16,277	15,819	15,782
Oklahoma	3,814	2,973	3,638	2,559	4,131	4,837
Pennsylvania	3,251	3,203	3,257	3,020	3,028	3,153
South Carolina	3,885	4,852	4,050	4,010	4,010	4,916
Texas	12,033	11,915	11,778	12,343	12,989	13,152
Virginia	4,520	4,352	4,759	4,705	4,966	5,402
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	15,695	17,022	16,527	15,978	17,406	17,388
19 State total	167,473	168,805	167,738	170,298	170,491	172,888
Previous year total	165,886	168,299	169,058	170,165	169,930	169,163
Percent of previous year	101	100	99	100	100	102

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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