



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up Slightly

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 208 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 30, 2011. This was up slightly 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 173 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 30, 2011. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through April 30, 2011 were 2.89 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	March 26, 2011	April 2, 2011	April 9, 2011	April 16, 2011	April 23, 2011	April 30, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	31,067	30,239	29,704	31,264	29,960	29,611
Arkansas	23,252	23,580	23,776	23,464	23,681	23,333
Delaware	3,882	3,892	3,858	3,902	3,850	3,811
Florida	1,360	1,360	1,360	1,344	1,221	1,360
Georgia	32,819	33,876	33,408	33,304	33,768	33,304
Kentucky	7,965	7,997	7,745	7,651	7,918	7,687
Louisiana	3,471	3,288	3,440	3,440	3,334	3,288
Maryland	7,741	7,730	7,747	7,749	7,733	7,738
Mississippi	19,549	19,380	19,413	19,520	19,382	19,399
North Carolina	20,276	19,995	20,495	20,584	20,214	20,441
Oklahoma	7,268	7,006	7,310	7,219	7,182	7,033
Pennsylvania	3,697	3,546	3,691	3,461	3,839	3,753
South Carolina	5,746	5,268	5,353	5,496	5,478	5,271
Texas	14,977	15,633	15,528	15,446	15,640	15,489
Virginia	6,590	6,593	6,315	6,040	6,232	6,685
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	19,722	18,625	19,147	19,239	19,292	19,654
19 State total	209,382	208,008	208,290	209,123	208,724	207,857
Previous year total	205,735	204,921	209,257	206,893	207,422	207,319
Percent of previous year	102	102	100	101	101	100

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	March 26, 2011	April 2, 2011	April 9, 2011	April 16, 2011	April 23, 2011	April 30, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	21,440	20,827	21,456	21,978	21,592	20,955
Arkansas	21,478	21,296	20,131	21,847	21,231	22,009
Delaware	4,824	5,245	4,325	4,634	4,614	4,633
Florida	1,270	1,296	1,243	1,243	1,252	1,317
Georgia	27,603	28,221	27,898	27,852	28,182	28,614
Kentucky	6,766	5,746	6,255	6,937	6,771	6,847
Louisiana	3,227	3,028	3,005	3,064	2,921	3,029
Maryland	6,041	5,547	6,226	6,221	6,355	6,403
Mississippi	16,528	16,560	16,967	17,133	16,695	16,666
North Carolina	15,782	15,475	16,753	15,874	16,215	16,769
Oklahoma	4,837	5,206	5,531	4,199	3,740	5,022
Pennsylvania	3,206	3,229	3,117	2,982	2,809	3,013
South Carolina	4,916	4,991	4,375	5,069	4,480	3,957
Texas	13,170	12,976	12,894	12,608	13,294	13,205
Virginia	5,402	5,439	5,316	5,532	5,112	4,906
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	17,362	17,701	17,199	16,704	17,291	15,981
19 State total	173,852	172,783	172,691	173,877	172,554	173,326
Previous year total	169,700	168,989	171,651	169,539	169,643	172,617
Percent of previous year	102	102	101	103	102	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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