



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 3 Percent**

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 200 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 19, 2012. This was down 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 85 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## **Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Down 4 Percent**

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 165 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 19, 2012. Placements were down 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through May 19, 2012 were 3.27 billion, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	April 14, 2012	April 21, 2012	April 28, 2012	May 5, 2012	May 12, 2012	May 19, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	27,904	28,211	28,238	28,120	27,795	28,381
Arkansas .....	21,233	21,168	21,246	21,684	21,793	21,765
Delaware .....	3,550	3,622	3,470	3,620	3,622	3,696
Florida .....	1,352	1,347	1,353	1,352	1,353	1,353
Georgia .....	32,536	32,220	32,356	32,743	32,771	32,619
Kentucky .....	7,668	7,451	7,421	7,659	7,728	7,735
Louisiana .....	3,530	3,530	3,440	3,359	3,470	3,455
Maryland .....	7,393	7,570	7,628	7,449	7,087	7,200
Mississippi .....	17,717	18,068	17,404	17,731	18,185	17,810
Missouri .....	7,686	7,711	7,473	7,481	7,687	7,726
North Carolina .....	20,557	20,434	20,139	20,416	20,389	20,426
Oklahoma .....	6,688	6,849	6,970	6,712	6,926	6,843
Pennsylvania .....	3,934	3,795	3,597	3,610	3,636	3,795
South Carolina .....	5,364	5,771	5,437	5,376	5,481	5,462
Texas .....	14,808	14,782	14,551	14,696	14,627	14,769
Virginia .....	6,166	6,399	6,294	6,290	6,281	6,279
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	11,562	11,267	10,972	10,914	11,021	10,731
19 State total .....	199,648	200,195	197,989	199,212	199,852	200,045
Previous year total .....	208,968	209,132	207,087	207,982	206,342	206,792
Percent of previous year .....	96	96	96	96	97	97

## Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	April 14, 2012	April 21, 2012	April 28, 2012	May 5, 2012	May 12, 2012	May 19, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	20,546	19,877	20,201	20,231	19,775	20,741
Arkansas .....	19,564	20,389	19,093	18,848	20,132	19,908
Delaware .....	4,647	4,733	4,190	4,350	3,956	4,361
Florida .....	1,289	1,202	1,250	1,083	1,328	1,509
Georgia .....	25,950	27,592	27,300	28,245	27,482	26,779
Kentucky .....	6,097	6,222	6,390	6,035	6,666	5,876
Louisiana .....	3,040	3,095	3,084	3,124	3,130	3,075
Maryland .....	5,915	6,244	6,677	6,380	6,860	6,377
Mississippi .....	15,444	15,418	15,353	14,874	15,477	15,047
Missouri .....	5,972	4,894	5,924	5,767	5,113	5,491
North Carolina .....	16,403	16,421	16,189	16,434	16,649	16,278
Oklahoma .....	3,662	4,238	4,887	5,067	4,573	4,237
Pennsylvania .....	2,927	2,892	3,101	3,138	3,151	3,015
South Carolina .....	4,919	4,754	5,350	4,520	4,819	3,779
Texas .....	12,733	12,622	12,424	12,242	12,343	12,106
Virginia .....	4,824	4,457	4,906	4,604	4,935	5,187
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,860	11,158	10,597	11,207	10,591	11,493
19 State total .....	164,792	166,208	166,916	166,149	166,980	165,259
Previous year total .....	173,110	172,008	172,624	172,506	174,014	172,512
Percent of previous year .....	95	97	97	96	96	96

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all chicken hatcheries within the 19 States that hatch at least one million chicks a year. 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 hatcheries within the 19 States that meet the minimum size criteria are given adequate time to respond to the weekly survey. 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. 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:** 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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