



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Up 1 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 186 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 27, 2012. This was up 1 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 Up 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 157 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 27, 2012. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through October 27, 2012 were 6.99 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	27,370	25,744	27,088	25,966	25,458	25,755
Arkansas	20,859	20,196	20,310	17,697	18,329	20,124
Delaware	3,153	3,142	3,161	3,158	3,162	3,240
Florida	1,353	1,351	1,351	1,353	1,088	1,353
Georgia	31,977	30,314	31,333	31,329	28,132	30,168
Kentucky	7,646	7,173	7,669	7,554	6,707	7,229
Louisiana	3,146	3,122	2,977	3,304	3,298	3,183
Maryland	7,119	7,121	6,654	7,471	7,071	6,769
Mississippi	15,601	16,170	16,496	16,543	16,364	16,365
Missouri	7,252	6,914	7,823	7,606	7,210	7,867
North Carolina	19,206	19,454	18,565	17,722	18,305	19,331
Oklahoma	6,717	6,811	6,936	6,287	6,416	6,622
Pennsylvania	3,271	3,608	3,639	3,647	3,279	3,369
South Carolina	5,042	5,300	4,792	4,924	5,654	5,124
Texas	12,806	13,675	13,220	13,014	12,603	13,200
Virginia	6,096	5,490	5,971	6,019	5,543	6,195
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,413	9,812	9,860	9,599	8,538	10,477
19 State total	188,027	185,397	187,845	183,193	177,157	186,371
Previous year total	187,841	181,765	186,317	181,852	183,537	185,172
Percent of previous year	100	102	101	101	97	101

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012	October 27, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,617	19,472	18,901	19,760	18,660	19,380
Arkansas	19,973	17,313	18,701	18,906	18,637	19,258
Delaware	3,907	4,261	4,118	3,509	3,720	4,280
Florida	972	1,215	935	935	1,023	1,291
Georgia	26,323	25,976	27,034	27,814	25,953	26,577
Kentucky	6,249	5,682	5,690	6,718	5,762	5,950
Louisiana	2,897	2,970	2,952	2,845	2,700	2,703
Maryland	5,924	5,262	5,440	6,386	6,331	5,239
Mississippi	14,178	14,363	14,301	13,545	13,616	14,142
Missouri	5,513	5,797	4,874	5,327	4,770	5,543
North Carolina	15,602	14,737	14,664	14,407	15,110	14,998
Oklahoma	4,247	4,893	4,465	4,782	4,854	4,356
Pennsylvania	2,997	2,935	2,778	2,675	3,023	3,059
South Carolina	4,551	4,424	4,601	3,704	4,127	3,850
Texas	10,858	11,266	10,867	10,735	11,668	11,132
Virginia	4,889	4,647	4,228	4,877	4,495	4,494
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,579	9,473	9,462	9,045	9,835	10,640
19 State total	159,276	154,686	154,011	155,970	154,284	156,892
Previous year total	157,901	154,383	148,802	155,108	151,134	153,311
Percent of previous year	101	100	104	101	102	102

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

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