

POULTRY

Poultry (broilers, turkeys, and eggs) continues to be one of Virginia's most valuable commodities, contributing sales of 617 million to the economy in 2002. This was down 22 percent from the 787 million in sales generated in 2001.

Commercial Broilers

The number of Commercial Broilers raised in Virginia decreased in 2002 to 265.5 million, down from 271.5 million in 2001. Production totaled 1.30 billion pounds compared to the 1.33 billion pounds produced in 2001. Total value of broilers in Virginia was \$390 million, down quite a bit from the

\$519 million in 2001. Virginia ranks 9th in the nation in broilers produced.

Turkeys

Turkey production decreased in 2002 to 446 million pounds compared to 530.4 million pounds produced in 2001. The number of turkeys raised also decreased to 20 million. The value of Virginia's turkey production declined 25 percent to \$165 million, down from the \$206.9 million in 2001. Virginia ranks 5th in the nation in turkeys produced.



Eggs

Virginia Egg production totaled 734 million in 2002, down nearly 4 percent from the 766 million eggs produced in 2001. With the decrease in production, the value of eggs also decreased to \$60.4 million, compared to \$61.3 million in 2001. Producers averaged 98.8 cents per dozen eggs, which was up by almost three cents from 2001.

Virginia ranks 30th in the U.S. for egg production.

POULTRY PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME, 1998-2002 ^{1/}

	Unit	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Eggs						
Eggs Produced	millions	860	845	824	766	734
Price Per Dozen ^{2/}	cents	93.3	88.5	96.3	96.1	98.8
Value of Production	thous. dols.	66,865	62,319	66,126	61,344	60,433
Commercial Broilers ^{3/}						
Number Raised	thous. head	263,300	268,700	264,900	271,500	265,500
Pounds Produced	thous. lbs.	1,263,800	1,316,600	1,298,000	1,330,400	1,301,000
Price Per Pound ^{4/}	cents	38.5	36.0	34.0	39.0	30.0
Value of Production ^{5/}	thous. dols.	486,563	473,976	441,320	518,856	390,300
Turkeys						
Number Raised ^{6/}	thous. head	26,000	24,000	25,500	24,000	20,000
Pounds Produced	thous. lbs.	533,000	525,600	553,350	530,400	446,000
Price Per Pound ^{7/}	cents	39.0	42.0	43.0	39.0	37.0
Value of Production ^{5/}	thous. dols.	207,870	220,752	237,941	206,856	165,020
Chickens ^{8/}						
Number Sold	thous. head	2,867	3,182	3,243	2,943	2,765
Pounds Sold	thous. lbs.	17,775	19,728	18,485	20,012	16,867
Price Per Pound	cents	7.0	8.0	6.5	7.5	6.2
Value of Production ^{5/}	thous. dols.	1,244	1,578	1,202	1,501	1,046

^{1/} Annual estimates cover the period from Dec.1 the previous year through Nov. 30.

^{2/} Average of all eggs sold by producers, including hatching eggs.

^{3/} Broiler production including other domestic meat-type breeds.

^{4/} Price per pound—Livewieght equivalent prices, derived from ready-to-cook (RTC) prices using the following formula: RTC price minus processing cost X (dressing percentage)= Livewieght equivalent price.

^{5/} Includes home consumption.

^{6/} Based on turkeys placed Sept. 1, previous year through August 31, current year. Excludes young turkeys lost.

^{7/} Prices are equivalent live weight returns to producers.

^{8/} Estimates cover the 12 month period from Dec. 1, the previous year through Nov. 30 and excludes broilers.