



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 7 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 183 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 15, 2011. This was down 7 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 8 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 156 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 15, 2011. Placements were down 8 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through October 15, 2011 were 6.86 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 10, 2011	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	26,415	25,428	27,057	25,433	26,498	26,673
Arkansas	18,223	19,087	18,961	18,949	19,417	17,686
Delaware	2,908	2,852	2,895	3,045	3,041	3,176
Florida	1,352	1,074	1,351	1,354	1,349	1,349
Georgia	31,151	29,180	31,247	30,766	30,878	29,635
Kentucky	7,416	6,161	7,738	6,893	7,342	7,090
Louisiana	3,258	3,183	3,242	3,258	3,212	3,241
Maryland	6,863	6,852	6,820	7,517	6,839	7,040
Mississippi	17,569	17,813	16,824	16,270	16,535	17,094
North Carolina	17,302	18,211	18,511	18,270	18,331	18,243
Oklahoma	6,228	6,465	6,751	5,962	6,813	6,112
Pennsylvania	3,718	3,438	3,558	3,353	3,734	3,833
South Carolina	4,892	5,522	5,263	4,956	4,866	5,487
Texas	13,792	12,590	14,050	13,269	13,423	13,097
Virginia	5,859	5,363	5,567	5,461	5,773	5,850
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	18,796	16,824	17,818	18,080	18,450	17,891
19 State total	185,742	180,043	187,653	182,836	186,501	183,497
Previous year total	204,833	196,963	205,808	197,354	200,470	196,697
Percent of previous year	91	91	91	93	93	93

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	September 10, 2011	September 17, 2011	September 24, 2011	October 1, 2011	October 8, 2011	October 15, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,616	20,087	18,304	19,468	18,155	19,534
Arkansas	19,575	19,412	18,793	17,501	18,649	19,044
Delaware	4,328	5,154	5,074	3,913	3,882	4,045
Florida	1,251	1,140	1,156	1,156	931	1,160
Georgia	25,851	26,026	27,748	26,814	25,292	27,604
Kentucky	6,198	6,747	5,910	6,192	4,970	5,585
Louisiana	2,928	2,851	2,676	2,909	2,830	2,910
Maryland	6,319	5,397	4,784	6,199	5,560	5,681
Mississippi	15,962	15,314	14,533	15,196	15,253	14,472
North Carolina	14,969	15,445	15,168	13,845	14,605	14,299
Oklahoma	4,317	4,842	3,712	3,527	4,089	3,193
Pennsylvania	2,897	3,045	3,208	3,077	2,839	2,932
South Carolina	4,629	4,932	3,699	3,702	3,460	3,789
Texas	11,528	11,506	11,770	11,380	10,318	11,807
Virginia	4,543	4,439	5,067	4,229	4,436	4,700
California, Missouri, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,022	15,679	16,647	15,772	14,602	15,244
19 State total	160,933	162,016	158,249	154,880	149,871	155,999
Previous year total	170,626	169,940	167,630	169,617	162,438	169,422
Percent of previous year	94	95	94	91	92	92

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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