



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 4 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 177 million eggs in incubators during the week ending October 20, 2012. This was down 4 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 154 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 20, 2012. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through October 20, 2012 were 6.83 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	26,820	27,370	25,744	27,144	25,966	25,458
Arkansas	19,989	20,859	20,196	20,310	17,697	18,329
Delaware	3,155	3,153	3,142	3,161	3,158	3,162
Florida	1,088	1,353	1,351	1,351	1,353	1,088
Georgia	30,475	31,914	30,224	30,771	31,261	28,089
Kentucky	7,007	7,646	7,217	7,550	7,554	6,707
Louisiana	3,272	3,146	3,122	3,287	3,304	3,298
Maryland	7,182	7,119	7,121	6,654	7,471	7,071
Mississippi	16,606	15,600	16,185	16,511	16,558	16,349
Missouri	7,366	7,252	6,914	7,823	7,606	7,210
North Carolina	18,361	19,206	19,454	19,099	17,722	18,305
Oklahoma	6,441	6,717	6,811	6,936	6,287	6,416
Pennsylvania	3,473	3,271	3,608	3,639	3,647	3,279
South Carolina	5,513	5,042	5,300	4,792	4,924	5,654
Texas	12,552	12,806	13,675	13,220	13,014	12,603
Virginia	5,500	6,096	5,490	5,909	6,019	5,543
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,643	9,413	9,812	9,860	9,599	8,538
19 State total	184,443	187,963	185,366	188,017	183,140	177,099
Previous year total	179,528	187,841	181,765	186,317	181,852	183,537
Percent of previous year	103	100	102	101	101	96

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	September 15, 2012	September 22, 2012	September 29, 2012	October 6, 2012	October 13, 2012	October 20, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,801	19,617	19,472	18,901	19,760	18,660
Arkansas	20,760	19,973	17,313	18,701	18,906	18,637
Delaware	4,033	3,907	4,261	4,118	3,509	3,720
Florida	1,300	972	1,215	935	935	1,023
Georgia	27,497	26,306	25,970	26,969	27,779	25,957
Kentucky	5,828	6,249	5,682	5,690	6,718	5,732
Louisiana	2,847	2,897	2,970	2,952	2,845	2,700
Maryland	5,620	5,924	5,262	5,440	6,386	6,331
Mississippi	13,447	14,178	14,363	14,301	13,545	13,616
Missouri	5,032	5,513	5,797	4,874	5,327	4,770
North Carolina	16,165	15,602	14,737	14,664	14,325	15,110
Oklahoma	4,202	4,247	4,893	4,465	4,782	4,854
Pennsylvania	3,140	2,997	2,935	2,778	2,675	3,023
South Carolina	3,871	4,551	4,424	4,601	3,704	4,127
Texas	11,240	10,858	11,266	10,867	10,735	11,668
Virginia	5,424	4,889	4,647	4,228	4,877	4,495
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	10,346	10,579	9,473	9,462	9,045	9,835
19 State total	160,553	159,259	154,680	153,946	155,853	154,258
Previous year total	160,820	157,901	154,383	148,802	155,108	151,134
Percent of previous year	100	101	100	103	100	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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