



ISSN: 1949-1964

Released April 16, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Eggs in Incubators on April 1 Down 2 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2018, in the United States totaled 28.1 million, down 2 percent from April 1, 2017. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the March 1, 2018 total of 28.5 million eggs.

## Poults Hatched During March Down 7 Percent from Last Year

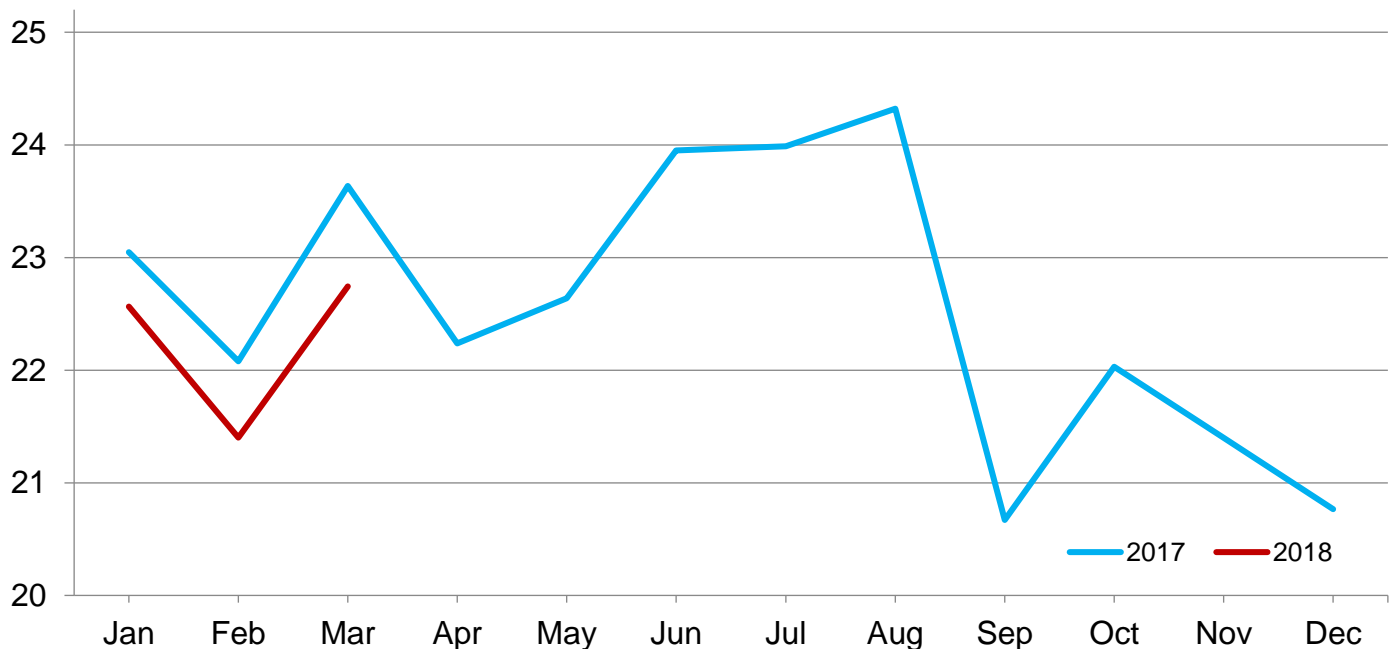
Turkey poults hatched during March 2018, in the United States totaled 24.0 million, down 7 percent from March 2017. Poults hatched were up 6 percent from the February 2018 total of 22.6 million poults.

## Net Poults Placed During March Down 4 Percent from Last Year

The 22.7 million net poults placed during March 2018 in the United States were down 4 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were up 6 percent from the February 2018 total of 21.4 million.

## Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



## Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2016-2018

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2016-2017	2017-2018		2016-2017	2017-2018	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September .....	28,927	28,974	100	23,645	23,530	100
October .....	28,409	28,072	99	23,572	24,393	103
November .....	27,179	28,605	105	22,782	23,246	102
December .....	28,795	27,806	97	25,422	22,375	88
January .....	30,295	28,920	95	25,412	24,293	96
February .....	29,982	28,396	95	23,679	22,647	96
March .....	30,106	28,463	95	25,812	24,000	93
April .....	28,701	28,091	98	23,278		
May .....	28,929			24,169		
June .....	29,559			25,125		
July .....	29,318			24,691		
August .....	29,823			24,868		

## Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2016-2018

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2016-2017	2017-2018		2016-2017	2017-2018	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September .....	21,581	20,670	96	21,581	20,670	96
October .....	21,381	22,030	103	42,962	42,700	99
November .....	21,334	21,399	100	64,296	64,099	100
December .....	22,980	20,766	90	87,276	84,865	97
January .....	23,046	22,564	98	110,322	107,429	97
February .....	22,078	21,401	97	132,400	128,830	97
March .....	23,636	22,743	96	156,036	151,573	97
April .....	22,237			178,273		
May .....	22,639			200,912		
June .....	23,950			224,862		
July .....	23,987			248,849		
August .....	24,321			273,170		

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS regional field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries hatching 15,000 or more poults annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

**Estimating Procedures:** Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. 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 were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS regional 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, regional, and United States totals. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poult Placement data include imported poults and exclude exported poults.

Cumulative net poult placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poults which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report, while annual revisions are published in the *Hatchery Production - Annual Summary* report in April.

**Reliability:** Turkey 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 through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the “Root Mean Square Error” is shown for selected items in the following table. The “Root Mean Square Error” is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The “Root Mean Square Error” for turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.7 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.1 million eggs by more than 1.7 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.9 percent.

### Reliability of April Turkey Hatchery Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators .....	1.7	2.9	323	4	1,359	20	4
Poults hatched .....	1.0	1.8	171	6	815	15	9
Net poult placements .....	1.9	3.2	351	44	810	8	16

## 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)

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section .....	(202) 720-4447
Holly Brenize – Egg Products, Mink.....	(202) 720-0585
Aaron Cosgrove – Catfish Production, Poultry Slaughter, Trout Production, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 690-3237
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses .....	(202) 720-4751
Fatema Haque – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery .....	(202) 720-3244
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-3676
Miste Salmon – Census of Agriculture, Census of Aquaculture .....	(202) 690-8632
Vacant – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies .....	(202) 720-6147

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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**USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 24, 2018**

University of Chicago – Gleacher Center  
450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
312-464-8787

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2018 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website ([https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education\\_and\\_Outreach/Meeting/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php)). Contact Tina Hall (NASS) at 202-720-3896 or [tina.hall@nass.usda.gov](mailto:tina.hall@nass.usda.gov) or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or [patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov](mailto:patricia.snipe@nass.usda.gov) for information.

The Data Users' Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (<http://lmic.info/page/meetings>) or contact James Robb at 303-716-9933.