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Eggs in Incubators on May 1 Down 1 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on May 1, 2018, in the United States totaled 28.7 million, down 1 percent from May 1, 2017. Eggs in incubators were up 2 percent from the April 1, 2018 total of 28.2 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During April Up Slightly from Last Year

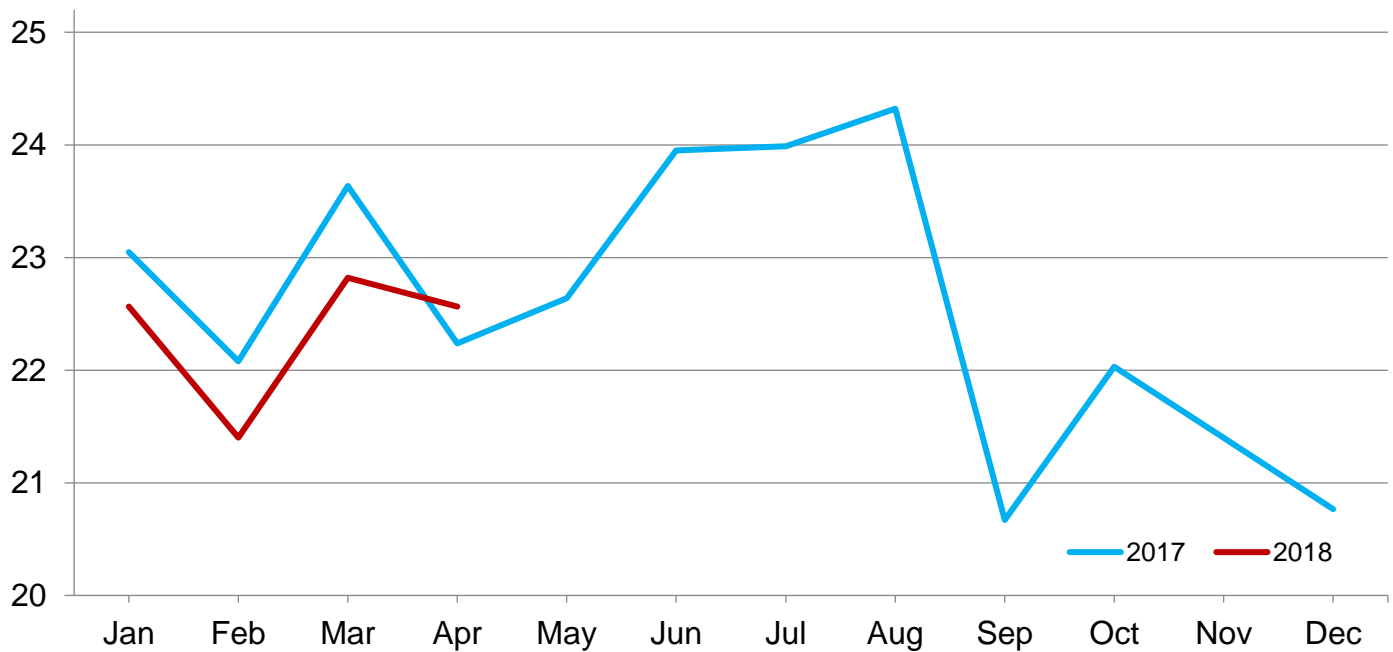
Turkey poults hatched during April 2018, in the United States totaled 23.4 million, up slightly from April 2017. Poults hatched were down 3 percent from the March 2018 total of 24.2 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During April Up 1 Percent from Last Year

The 22.6 million net poults placed during April 2018 in the United States were up 1 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were down 1 percent from the March 2018 total of 22.8 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	24,186	94
April	28,701	28,232	98	23,278	23,389	100
May	28,929	28,737	99	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	22,820	97	156,036	151,650	97
April	22,237	22,563	101	178,273	174,213	98
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 1.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.7 million eggs by more than 1.5 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.5 percent.

Reliability of May 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	1.5	2.5	277	4	1,359	20	4
Poults hatched	0.8	1.4	144	6	577	15	9
Net poult placements	1.8	3.1	331	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

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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.

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