

Poultry Production Summary, 2008

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For more detailed data, see the Census of Agriculture found at www.agcensus.usda.gov

The combined value of Pennsylvania's poultry production from broilers, eggs, and turkeys, plus the value of other chicken sales in 2008, was \$1.07 billion, a 22 percent increase from 2007. Of the combined total, 45.8 percent was from egg production, 41.2 percent from broiler production, 13.0 percent from turkey production, and less than 1 percent was from the sale of other chickens.

Inventory of all chickens, excluding broilers, on December 1, 2008 was 25.8 million. Hens and pullets of laying age numbered 21.8 million, 1 percent lower than the previous year. Pullets not of laying age totaled 3.9 million on December 1, a 14 percent decrease from 2007. Other chickens numbered 103,000. The total value of chicken inventory on December 1, 2008, was \$67.1 million. Pennsylvania ranked 5th in the United States for all chicken inventory on December 1, 2007.

Pennsylvania laying flocks produced 6.18 billion eggs from December 1, 2008, through November 30, 2008, down 3 percent from the 6.39 billion produced the previous year. The total value of egg production, based on an average price received by producers during the year of 94.6 cents per dozen for all egg, was \$487.5 million, up 25 percent from the previous year. An average of 21.5 million hens in Commonwealth flocks laid an average of 287 eggs each during the year. Pennsylvania ranked 4th in egg production in 2008.

Broiler production from December 1, 2007, through November 30, 2008, was valued at \$438.6 million, up 15 percent from the

previous year. A total of 160.9 million broilers were produced during the year. The average live weight of broilers produced was 5.8 pounds per bird, for a total production of 933.2 million pounds. The average price received per pound for live broilers was 47.0 cents. Pennsylvania ranked 14th in number of broilers produced in 2008.

Turkey producers raised 11.5 million poults during 2008, up 5 percent from 2007. Producers received an average of 64.0 cents per pound live weight for turkeys in 2008. Total value of turkey production from December 1, 2007, through November 30, 2008 (based on turkeys placed Sep 1 2007, through Aug 31, 2008) was \$138.4 million, a 34 percent increase from the previous year. Pennsylvania was ranked 9th in the number of turkeys raised in 2008.

Commercial hatcheries hatched nearly 178.7 million broiler-type chicks during 2008, up 4 percent from the previous year. Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 60.6 million for 2008, 12 percent more than in 2007. Pennsylvania ranked 3rd in egg-type chicks hatched.

Data in the following tables result from voluntary responses from Pennsylvania poultry producers and agri-businesses. Primary surveys used for these tables include the Weekly & Monthly Hatchery Reports, Monthly Turkey Hatchery Report, Monthly Chicken & Egg Survey, and Annual Turkeys Raised Inquiry. Additional data are obtained from Quarterly Agriculture Surveys and Acreage & Livestock Surveys conducted throughout 2008.

