



# Broiler Hatchery

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## **Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 5 Percent**

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 197 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 3, 2012. This was down 5 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 3 Percent**

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 163 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 3, 2012. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2012 through March 3, 2012 were 1.45 billion, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	January 28, 2012	February 4, 2012	February 11, 2012	February 18, 2012	February 25, 2012	March 3, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama .....	28,029	26,946	27,085	27,638	28,000	27,580
Arkansas .....	20,235	19,931	20,091	19,499	20,142	20,493
Delaware .....	3,258	3,265	3,188	3,191	3,190	3,191
Florida .....	1,352	1,352	1,352	1,243	1,353	1,350
Georgia .....	31,630	31,616	31,983	32,222	32,143	32,150
Kentucky .....	7,582	7,478	7,720	7,546	6,483	7,855
Louisiana .....	3,424	3,440	3,470	3,424	3,379	3,470
Maryland .....	7,216	6,874	7,484	7,067	7,204	7,212
Mississippi .....	17,662	17,623	17,832	17,663	17,814	17,799
Missouri .....	7,668	7,784	7,817	7,807	7,672	7,840
North Carolina .....	19,741	20,207	20,310	20,143	20,325	20,397
Oklahoma .....	6,609	6,841	6,923	6,768	6,688	6,930
Pennsylvania .....	3,831	3,649	3,539	3,497	3,714	3,719
South Carolina .....	5,156	5,318	5,282	5,404	5,296	5,291
Texas .....	14,345	14,410	15,025	14,904	14,693	14,720
Virginia .....	5,698	5,985	6,199	5,963	6,168	6,118
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	10,488	10,486	10,135	10,387	11,113	11,043
19 State total .....	193,924	193,205	195,435	194,366	195,377	197,158
Previous year total .....	203,933	205,787	204,337	207,150	206,633	208,530
Percent of previous year .....	95	94	96	94	95	95

## Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2012

State	Week ending					
	January 28, 2012	February 4, 2012	February 11, 2012	February 18, 2012	February 25, 2012	March 3, 2012
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama .....	20,298	19,955	19,445	21,845	18,833	18,747
Arkansas .....	19,924	20,438	18,219	19,111	19,144	19,498
Delaware .....	4,431	4,016	4,433	4,404	3,440	4,117
Florida .....	1,136	1,149	1,048	1,062	1,073	1,212
Georgia .....	27,019	26,053	27,384	25,271	27,868	27,441
Kentucky .....	6,646	6,181	6,544	6,008	5,662	6,628
Louisiana .....	3,010	3,023	3,062	3,068	3,092	3,091
Maryland .....	5,518	5,849	6,490	5,959	6,751	5,778
Mississippi .....	14,603	14,721	15,172	15,227	15,317	15,596
Missouri .....	5,034	4,934	5,755	5,674	4,613	5,566
North Carolina .....	15,780	15,699	15,648	15,418	15,820	15,856
Oklahoma .....	3,943	3,220	4,755	4,003	5,026	4,125
Pennsylvania .....	3,065	3,211	3,107	3,159	3,045	2,948
South Carolina .....	4,124	4,956	4,798	4,971	4,197	4,523
Texas .....	11,809	11,568	12,111	11,941	11,963	12,458
Virginia .....	4,785	5,164	4,607	4,096	4,547	5,368
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia .....	9,573	10,632	9,451	10,063	10,176	10,184
19 State total .....	160,698	160,769	162,029	161,280	160,567	163,136
Previous year total .....	168,493	168,151	167,953	167,473	168,805	167,792
Percent of previous year .....	95	96	96	96	95	97

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section .....	(202) 720-4447
Cody Brokmeyer – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 690-3237
David Colwell – Cold Storage .....	(202) 720-8784
Lakeya Jones – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Honey, Egg Products, Mink .....	(202) 720-0585
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery .....	(202) 720-3244

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