



Chickens and Eggs

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March Egg Production Up 1 Percent

United States egg production totaled 9.10 billion during March 2018, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 7.93 billion table eggs, and 1.17 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.08 billion were broiler-type and 83.0 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during March 2018 totaled 386 million, up 3 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,355 eggs, down 2 percent from March 2017.

All layers in the United States on April 1, 2018 totaled 387 million, up 3 percent from last year. The 387 million layers consisted of 324 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 59.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 3.52 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2018, averaged 75.9 eggs per 100 layers, down 2 percent from April 1, 2017.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 4 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2018 totaled 58.1 million, up 4 percent from March 2017. Eggs in incubators totaled 56.2 million on April 1, 2018, up 8 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 181 thousand during March 2018, down 4 percent from March 2017.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up 1 Percent

Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2018 totaled 828 million, up 1 percent from March 2017. Eggs in incubators totaled 683 million on April 1, 2018, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.11 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2018, down 2 percent from March 2017.

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Average Number of All Layers on Hand During the Month – United States: 2017-2018

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

Month	2017		2018	
	(1,000 layers)		(1,000 layers)	
December ¹		377,371		382,301
January		377,198		382,255
February		376,341		384,086
March		376,257		386,368
April		375,748		
May		373,642		
June		372,430		
July		372,632		
August		373,901		
September		375,748		
October		378,028		
November		380,820		

¹ December previous year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2017-2018

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

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(million eggs)					
December ¹	9,099.7	9,104.1	7,953.9	7,963.9	1,145.8	1,140.2
January	9,053.4	8,984.9	7,916.4	7,841.8	1,137.0	1,143.1
February	8,124.2	8,145.4	7,095.8	7,099.8	1,028.4	1,045.6
March	9,006.5	9,097.3	7,861.5	7,930.3	1,145.0	1,167.0
April	8,686.6		7,572.8		1,113.8	
May	8,917.8		7,764.5		1,153.3	
June	8,636.0		7,513.8		1,122.2	
July	8,952.9		7,782.1		1,170.8	
August	8,922.3		7,755.2		1,167.1	
September	8,578.3		7,456.6		1,121.7	
October	8,920.2		7,763.3		1,156.9	
November	8,790.8		7,676.3		1,114.5	

¹ December previous year.

Egg Production During the Month in Dozens by Type – United States: 2017-2018

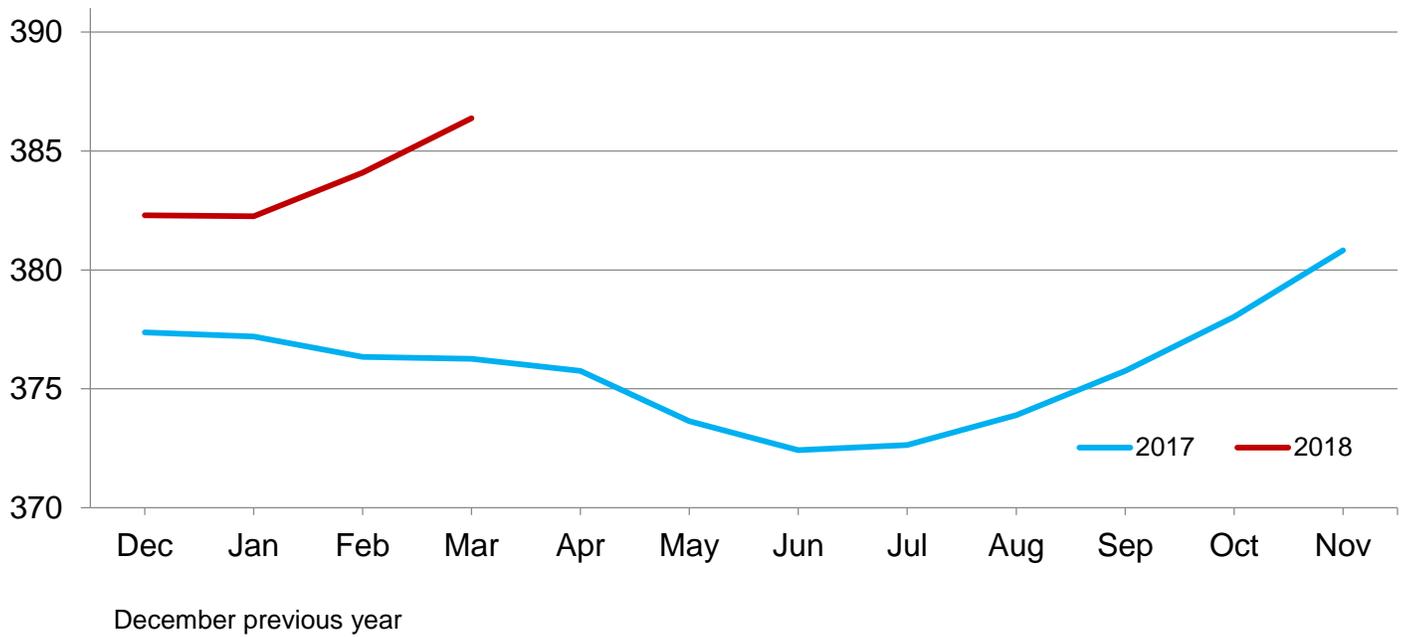
[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 dozen eggs)					
December ¹	758,308.1	758,675.4	662,824.8	663,658.3	95,483.3	95,017.1
January	754,450.2	748,741.7	659,699.8	653,483.3	94,750.4	95,258.4
February	677,016.7	678,784.0	591,316.9	591,650.7	85,699.8	87,133.3
March	750,542.0	758,108.1	655,125.1	660,858.0	95,416.9	97,250.1
April	723,883.8		631,067.0		92,816.8	
May	743,150.1		647,041.4		96,108.7	
June	719,667.1		626,150.1		93,517.0	
July	746,075.8		648,508.7		97,567.1	
August	743,525.7		646,266.9		97,258.8	
September	714,858.2		621,383.2		93,475.0	
October	743,350.7		646,941.9		96,408.8	
November	732,566.8		639,691.9		92,874.9	

¹ December previous year.

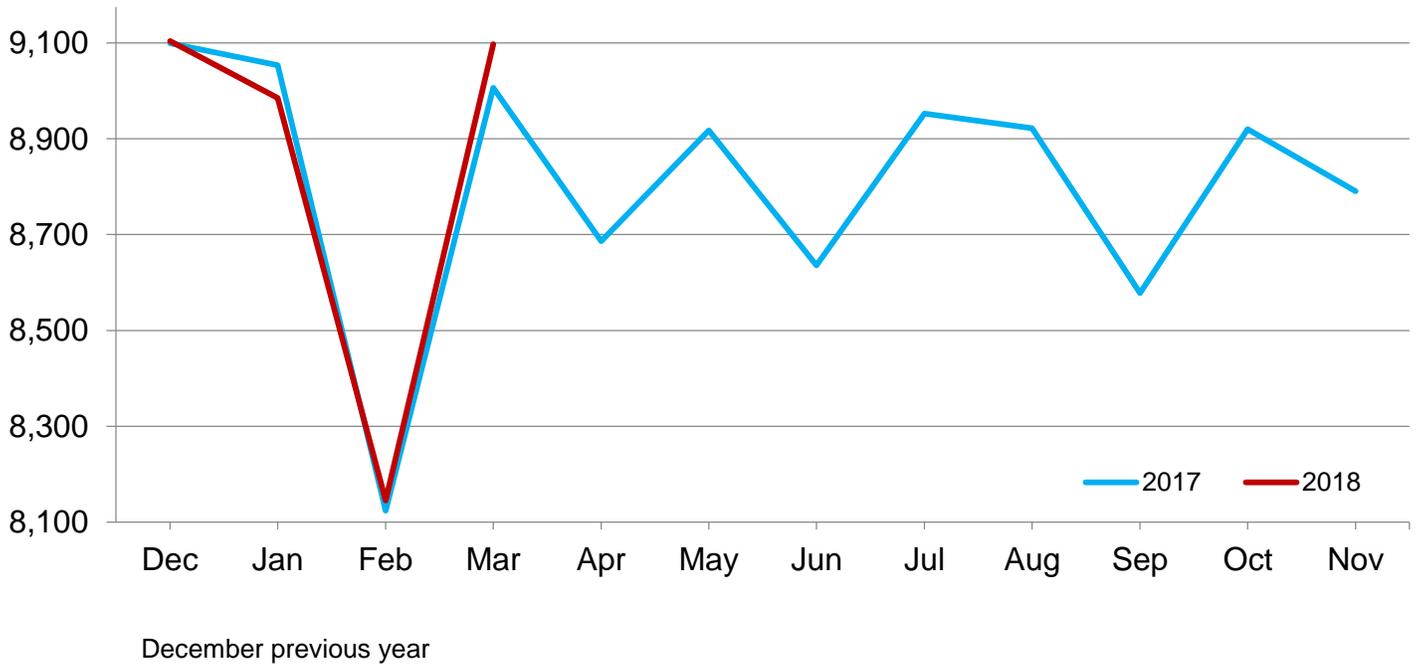
Average Layers During the Month – United States

Million layers



All Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: February-March 2017 and 2018

Item	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
Layers during February			
All layers 1,000	376,341	384,086	102
Table egg type 1,000	317,258	322,690	102
Hatching egg type 1,000	59,083	61,396	104
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	55,720	57,938	104
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,363	3,458	103
Eggs per 100 layers during February			
All layers number	2,159	2,121	98
Table egg type number	2,237	2,200	98
Hatching egg type number	1,741	1,703	98
Broiler-type hatching number	1,713	1,677	98
Egg-type hatching number	2,194	2,131	97
Eggs produced during February			
All layers million	8,124.2	8,145.4	100
Table egg type million	7,095.8	7,099.8	100
Hatching egg type million	1,028.4	1,045.6	102
Broiler-type hatching million	954.6	971.9	102
Egg-type hatching million	73.8	73.7	100
Eggs produced during February			
All layers 1,000 dozen	677,016.7	678,784.0	100
Table egg type 1,000 dozen	591,316.9	591,650.7	100
Hatching egg type 1,000 dozen	85,699.8	87,133.3	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000 dozen	79,550.0	80,991.6	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000 dozen	6,149.8	6,141.7	100
Layers on March 1			
All layers 1,000	375,688	385,963	103
Table egg type 1,000	316,397	324,569	103
Hatching egg type 1,000	59,291	61,394	104
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	55,923	57,905	104
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,368	3,489	104
Eggs per 100 layers on March 1			
All layers number	77.0	75.9	99
Table egg type number	79.9	78.8	99
Hatching egg type number	62.0	60.9	98
Broiler-type hatching number	61.1	60.0	98
Egg-type hatching number	77.4	76.3	99
Molted layers on March 1			
Being molted percent	2.4	1.8	75
Molt completed percent	15.2	15.9	105
Layers sold for slaughter during February 1,000	15,098.8	12,431.0	82
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during February 1,000	9,010.4	10,263.2	114
Pullets on March 1 1,000	116,138	119,182	103
Pullets added during February ¹ 1,000	27,629.3	28,093.6	102

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States: March-April 2017 and 2018

Item	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
Layers during March			
All layers 1,000	376,257	386,368	103
Table egg type 1,000	316,664	324,411	102
Hatching egg type 1,000	59,593	61,957	104
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	56,235	58,449	104
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,358	3,508	104
Eggs per 100 layers during March			
All layers number	2,394	2,355	98
Table egg type number	2,483	2,445	98
Hatching egg type number	1,921	1,884	98
Broiler-type hatching number	1,892	1,855	98
Egg-type hatching number	2,421	2,366	98
Eggs produced during March			
All layers million	9,006.5	9,097.3	101
Table egg type million	7,861.5	7,930.3	101
Hatching egg type million	1,145.0	1,167.0	102
Broiler-type hatching million	1,063.7	1,084.0	102
Egg-type hatching million	81.3	83.0	102
Eggs produced during March			
All layers 1,000 dozen	750,542.0	758,108.1	101
Table egg type 1,000 dozen	655,125.1	660,858.0	101
Hatching egg type 1,000 dozen	95,416.9	97,250.1	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000 dozen	88,641.9	90,333.4	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000 dozen	6,775.0	6,916.7	102
Layers on April 1			
All layers 1,000	376,790	386,744	103
Table egg type 1,000	316,910	324,238	102
Hatching egg type 1,000	59,880	62,506	104
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	56,538	58,982	104
Egg-type hatching 1,000	3,342	3,524	105
Eggs per 100 layers on April 1			
All layers number	77.3	75.9	98
Table egg type number	80.2	78.9	98
Hatching egg type number	61.9	60.6	98
Broiler-type hatching number	60.9	59.6	98
Egg-type hatching number	78.4	76.5	98
Molted layers on April 1			
Being molted percent	1.7	1.7	100
Molt completed percent	15.6	15.2	97
Layers sold for slaughter during March 1,000	16,192.4	13,436.8	83
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during March 1,000	10,530.3	9,770.6	93
Pullets on April 1 1,000	113,963	120,773	106
Pullets added during March ¹ 1,000	27,464.3	27,087.7	99

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During February 2017 and 2018

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,414	1,311	8,919	9,479	1,755	1,707
Arkansas	4,037	4,146	14,291	14,375	1,817	1,810
California	11,720	13,605	12,327	14,257	2,178	2,238
Colorado	4,196	4,164	4,643	4,566	2,395	2,289
Florida	7,716	6,847	8,098	7,243	2,089	2,082
Georgia	9,585	9,346	19,277	19,239	2,008	1,877
Illinois	4,706	4,627	5,158	5,100	2,251	2,253
Indiana	31,397	31,046	32,206	31,847	2,281	2,138
Iowa	54,389	54,624	55,707	56,076	2,220	2,151
Maryland	2,760	2,653	2,915	2,786	2,274	2,258
Michigan	14,068	14,989	14,331	15,240	2,222	2,240
Minnesota	10,474	10,716	10,933	11,275	2,265	2,166
Mississippi	1,439	1,464	5,484	5,782	1,898	1,904
Missouri	7,437	7,419	10,894	11,064	2,240	2,172
Nebraska	8,528	7,273	8,636	7,515	2,433	2,353
New York	5,389	5,149	5,776	5,517	2,303	2,300
North Carolina	7,453	6,917	15,286	15,231	1,981	1,920
Ohio	29,737	31,322	30,618	32,305	2,216	2,187
Oregon	2,267	2,357	2,406	2,496	2,386	2,300
Pennsylvania	25,367	26,101	27,514	28,148	2,256	2,275
South Carolina	2,641	3,025	3,795	4,242	2,090	2,034
South Dakota	2,606	2,555	2,748	2,697	2,191	2,395
Texas	17,297	17,781	21,599	22,140	2,059	2,042
Utah	5,141	5,082	5,179	5,120	2,174	2,205
Virginia	830	787	2,590	2,521	1,942	2,110
Washington	6,915	6,810	7,080	6,975	2,281	2,364
Wisconsin	4,991	5,897	5,662	6,561	2,215	2,198
Other States ¹	23,339	24,927	32,269	34,289	2,069	2,067
United States	307,839	312,940	376,341	384,086	2,159	2,121

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During March 2017 and 2018

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		All layers		Eggs per 100 for all layers	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,353	1,327	8,988	9,733	1,920	1,872
Arkansas	3,882	4,200	14,171	14,351	2,051	2,048
California	11,838	13,896	12,444	14,548	2,394	2,499
Colorado	4,168	4,231	4,610	4,633	2,603	2,577
Florida	7,698	7,042	8,100	7,457	2,290	2,300
Georgia	9,413	9,388	19,157	19,376	2,240	2,079
Illinois	4,675	4,700	5,142	5,173	2,536	2,538
Indiana	31,646	31,189	32,480	31,996	2,484	2,412
Iowa	54,054	55,313	55,361	56,798	2,466	2,377
Maryland	2,737	2,632	2,900	2,772	2,507	2,525
Michigan	14,112	15,242	14,375	15,493	2,544	2,531
Minnesota	10,200	10,697	10,683	11,253	2,523	2,423
Mississippi	1,411	1,450	5,511	5,767	2,103	2,138
Missouri	7,254	7,363	10,755	11,041	2,502	2,469
Nebraska	8,313	7,453	8,421	7,694	2,675	2,571
New York	5,332	4,971	5,711	5,354	2,542	2,574
North Carolina	7,325	7,027	15,312	15,418	2,194	2,151
Ohio	29,718	31,483	30,629	32,486	2,461	2,354
Oregon	2,239	2,306	2,378	2,445	2,645	2,687
Pennsylvania	25,550	26,088	27,690	28,155	2,508	2,525
South Carolina	2,627	2,920	3,799	4,142	2,348	2,219
South Dakota	2,604	2,563	2,746	2,705	2,465	2,628
Texas	17,446	17,779	21,716	22,209	2,268	2,293
Utah	5,146	5,187	5,184	5,225	2,454	2,452
Virginia	952	733	2,696	2,428	2,077	2,319
Washington	6,957	6,496	7,122	6,661	2,603	2,491
Wisconsin	5,087	6,005	5,752	6,683	2,481	2,415
Other States ¹	23,508	24,980	32,424	34,372	2,273	2,291
United States	307,245	314,661	376,257	386,368	2,394	2,355

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: February 2017 and 2018

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	156.5	161.8	31.3	30.4	125.2	131.4
Arkansas	259.7	260.2	94.3	95.3	165.4	164.9
California	268.5	319.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	111.2	104.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	169.2	150.8	165.8	147.1	3.4	3.7
Georgia	387.1	361.1	217.0	196.0	170.1	165.1
Illinois	116.1	114.9	112.2	111.4	3.9	3.5
Indiana	734.7	680.8	721.2	667.7	13.5	13.1
Iowa	1,236.6	1,206.0	1,222.3	1,190.4	14.3	15.6
Maryland	66.3	62.9	65.2	62.3	1.1	0.6
Michigan	318.5	341.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	247.6	244.2	241.7	236.9	5.9	7.3
Mississippi	104.1	110.1	32.9	33.7	71.2	76.4
Missouri	244.0	240.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	210.1	176.8	210.1	173.4	-	3.4
New York	133.0	126.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	302.8	292.5	169.3	152.9	133.5	139.6
Ohio	678.4	706.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	57.4	57.4	57.4	57.4	-	-
Pennsylvania	620.6	640.4	590.5	615.5	30.1	24.9
South Carolina	79.3	86.3	59.7	66.6	19.6	19.7
South Dakota	60.2	64.6	60.2	64.6	-	-
Texas	444.7	452.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	112.6	112.9	112.6	112.9	-	-
Virginia	50.3	53.2	20.9	24.3	29.4	28.9
Washington	161.5	164.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	125.4	144.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	667.8	708.6	547.5	586.1	120.3	122.5
United States	8,124.2	8,145.4	7,095.8	7,099.8	1,028.4	1,045.6

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: March 2017 and 2018

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	172.6	182.2	33.5	32.6	139.1	149.6
Arkansas	290.6	293.9	101.0	111.2	189.6	182.7
California	297.9	363.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	120.0	119.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	185.5	171.5	181.0	166.7	4.5	4.8
Georgia	429.1	402.8	243.2	217.7	185.9	185.1
Illinois	130.4	131.3	125.7	127.1	4.7	4.2
Indiana	806.9	771.7	790.9	757.2	16.0	14.5
Iowa	1,365.1	1,350.3	1,350.0	1,332.6	15.1	17.7
Maryland	72.7	70.0	71.5	69.3	1.2	0.7
Michigan	365.7	392.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	269.5	272.7	262.4	264.6	7.1	8.1
Mississippi	115.9	123.3	36.7	38.4	79.2	84.9
Missouri	269.1	272.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	225.3	197.8	225.3	194.1	-	3.7
New York	145.2	137.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	335.9	331.6	185.8	177.4	150.1	154.2
Ohio	753.9	764.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	62.9	65.7	62.9	65.7	-	-
Pennsylvania	694.6	710.9	661.6	682.7	33.0	28.2
South Carolina	89.2	91.9	67.2	70.1	22.0	21.8
South Dakota	67.7	71.1	67.7	71.1	-	-
Texas	492.6	509.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	127.2	128.1	127.2	128.1	-	-
Virginia	56.0	56.3	23.7	25.5	32.3	30.8
Washington	185.4	165.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	142.7	161.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	736.9	787.3	604.7	651.1	132.2	136.2
United States	9,006.5	9,097.3	7,861.5	7,930.3	1,145.0	1,167.0

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Egg Production in Dozens by Type – States and United States: February 2017 and 2018

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 dozen eggs)					
Alabama	13,041.6	13,483.3	2,608.3	2,533.3	10,433.3	10,950.0
Arkansas	21,641.6	21,683.4	7,858.3	7,941.7	13,783.3	13,741.7
California	22,374.9	26,591.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	9,266.6	8,708.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	14,100.0	12,566.7	13,816.7	12,258.4	283.3	308.3
Georgia	32,258.4	30,091.6	18,083.4	16,333.3	14,175.0	13,758.3
Illinois	9,675.0	9,575.0	9,350.0	9,283.4	325.0	291.6
Indiana	61,225.0	56,733.4	60,100.0	55,641.7	1,125.0	1,091.7
Iowa	103,050.1	100,500.0	101,858.4	99,200.0	1,191.7	1,300.0
Maryland	5,525.0	5,241.7	5,433.3	5,191.7	91.7	50.0
Michigan	26,541.7	28,441.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	20,633.4	20,350.0	20,141.7	19,741.7	491.7	608.3
Mississippi	8,675.0	9,175.0	2,741.7	2,808.3	5,933.3	6,366.7
Missouri	20,333.3	20,025.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	17,508.4	14,733.3	17,508.4	14,450.0	-	283.3
New York	11,083.3	10,575.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	25,233.4	24,375.0	14,108.4	12,741.7	11,125.0	11,633.3
Ohio	56,533.4	58,875.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	4,783.3	4,783.4	4,783.3	4,783.4	-	-
Pennsylvania	51,716.6	53,366.7	49,208.3	51,291.7	2,508.3	2,075.0
South Carolina	6,608.3	7,191.7	4,975.0	5,550.0	1,633.3	1,641.7
South Dakota	5,016.6	5,383.3	5,016.6	5,383.3	-	-
Texas	37,058.4	37,683.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	9,383.4	9,408.4	9,383.4	9,408.4	-	-
Virginia	4,191.6	4,433.4	1,741.6	2,025.0	2,450.0	2,408.4
Washington	13,458.3	13,741.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	10,450.0	12,016.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	55,650.1	59,050.3	45,625.1	48,842.0	10,025.0	10,208.3
United States	677,016.7	678,784.0	591,316.9	591,650.7	85,699.8	87,133.3

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Egg Production in Dozens by Type – States and United States: March 2017 and 2018

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 dozen eggs)					
Alabama	14,383.4	15,183.4	2,791.7	2,716.7	11,591.7	12,466.7
Arkansas	24,216.7	24,491.6	8,416.7	9,266.6	15,800.0	15,225.0
California	24,825.0	30,300.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	10,000.0	9,950.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Florida	15,458.4	14,291.7	15,083.4	13,891.7	375.0	400.0
Georgia	35,758.2	33,566.7	20,266.6	18,141.7	15,491.6	15,425.0
Illinois	10,866.7	10,941.6	10,475.0	10,591.6	391.7	350.0
Indiana	67,241.8	64,308.4	65,908.4	63,100.0	1,333.4	1,208.4
Iowa	113,758.3	112,525.0	112,500.0	111,050.0	1,258.3	1,475.0
Maryland	6,058.4	5,833.3	5,958.4	5,775.0	100.0	58.3
Michigan	30,475.0	32,683.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	22,458.3	22,725.0	21,866.6	22,050.0	591.7	675.0
Mississippi	9,658.4	10,275.0	3,058.4	3,200.0	6,600.0	7,075.0
Missouri	22,425.1	22,716.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	18,775.0	16,483.3	18,775.0	16,175.0	-	308.3
New York	12,100.0	11,483.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	27,991.7	27,633.3	15,483.4	14,783.3	12,508.3	12,850.0
Ohio	62,824.9	63,725.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	5,241.6	5,475.0	5,241.6	5,475.0	-	-
Pennsylvania	57,883.3	59,241.7	55,133.3	56,891.7	2,750.0	2,350.0
South Carolina	7,433.3	7,658.3	5,600.0	5,841.6	1,833.3	1,816.7
South Dakota	5,641.7	5,925.0	5,641.7	5,925.0	-	-
Texas	41,050.0	42,441.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	10,600.0	10,675.0	10,600.0	10,675.0	-	-
Virginia	4,666.7	4,691.7	1,975.0	2,125.0	2,691.7	2,566.7
Washington	15,450.0	13,825.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	11,891.6	13,449.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other States ¹	61,408.5	65,608.2	50,391.6	54,258.2	11,016.9	11,350.0
United States	750,542.0	758,108.1	655,125.1	660,858.0	95,416.9	97,250.1

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Molted as Percent of All Layers by Month – United States: 2017-2018

[As of the first of the month. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	1.7	1.9	15.7	16.3
February	2.2	2.9	15.3	15.8
March	2.4	1.8	15.2	15.9
April	1.7	1.7	15.6	15.2
May	2.7		14.9	
June	2.4		14.9	
July	2.4		15.4	
August	2.5		15.5	
September	3.5		15.4	
October	2.9		16.2	
November	2.0		16.8	
December	1.2		17.1	

Molted as Percent of All Layers – States and United States: March 1 and April 1, 2017-2018

State	Being molted				Molt completed			
	March 1		April 1		March 1		April 1	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	0.5	-	-	1.5	9.5	3.5	9.0	3.5
Arkansas	2.5	-	1.0	-	22.0	8.0	21.5	6.0
California	3.5	0.5	3.0	0.5	16.5	12.0	14.0	11.0
Colorado	1.0	-	-	-	5.0	13.5	5.5	9.5
Florida	10.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	76.0	52.0	82.0	46.5
Georgia	-	1.0	0.5	1.5	6.5	13.5	4.0	14.0
Illinois	-	5.0	-	4.0	13.0	9.5	13.0	10.5
Indiana	0.5	0.5	2.0	0.5	14.0	17.0	13.5	16.5
Iowa	3.5	5.0	2.5	2.5	10.0	24.5	11.5	26.0
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan	-	-	-	1.0	6.0	5.0	5.0	4.0
Minnesota	1.5	1.0	-	1.0	5.0	14.0	6.5	14.5
Mississippi	4.0	1.0	-	1.0	23.5	10.5	25.5	10.5
Missouri	4.0	-	-	0.5	7.0	9.5	9.0	7.0
Nebraska	-	-	-	2.5	4.0	9.5	2.0	9.0
New York	-	-	-	1.0	3.5	5.5	2.5	3.5
North Carolina	0.5	1.5	1.5	1.0	11.5	12.5	11.5	12.0
Ohio	6.0	3.0	3.5	5.0	21.0	26.0	22.0	23.0
Oregon	-	-	1.0	-	14.0	8.5	13.0	8.5
Pennsylvania	-	-	0.5	0.5	5.0	3.5	4.5	2.5
South Carolina	2.5	-	-	-	22.0	12.5	22.5	10.0
South Dakota	-	3.5	-	-	5.0	10.0	2.0	7.0
Texas	3.5	2.0	4.0	3.0	49.5	25.0	50.0	23.5
Utah	4.0	3.5	4.5	1.5	19.5	13.0	22.5	15.0
Virginia	-	-	-	-	7.0	-	3.5	-
Washington	7.0	3.5	1.5	3.5	13.0	14.5	15.5	9.0
Wisconsin	1.0	-	4.5	-	21.0	24.5	20.5	21.5
Other States ¹	2.6	2.5	1.9	1.5	12.4	14.8	13.4	15.0
United States	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	15.2	15.9	15.6	15.2

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes data for States not published in this table.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2017 and 2018

Item	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on April 1	51,969	56,175	108
Chicks hatched during March	55,919	58,147	104
Chicks hatched January through March	149,413	160,608	107
Pullets hatched during March for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	189	181	96
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	3,013	2,792	93
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on April 1	667,436	683,187	102
Chicks hatched during March	818,701	828,200	101
Chicks hatched January through March	2,356,503	2,385,758	101
Pullets hatched during March for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	8,262	8,112	98
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	70,129	69,495	99

¹ 2018 includes pullet chicks hatched September 2016 through August 2017.

² 2018 includes pullet chicks hatched December 2016 through August 2017.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – United States: 2017 and 2018

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

Item	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	40,153	46,750	116
February	47,805	51,216	107
March	51,915	56,120	108
April	51,969	56,175	108
May	48,346		
June	46,550		
July	41,403		
August	40,490		
September	40,655		
October	46,510		
November	45,314		
December	46,780		

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2017-2018

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	45,367	52,313	115	45,367	52,313	115
February	48,127	50,148	104	93,494	102,461	110
March	55,919	58,147	104	149,413	160,608	107
April	52,762			202,175		
May	53,506			255,681		
June	49,722			305,403		
July	41,862			347,265		
August	45,861			393,126		
September	42,725			435,851		
October	51,495			487,346		
November	48,344			535,690		
December	46,080			581,770		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month – United States: 2017-2018

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2018 as percent of 2017	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2017	2018		2017	2018
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
January	222	231	104	2,836	3,012
February	180	153	85	2,855	2,972
March	189	181	96	3,013	2,792
April	245			2,972	2,801
May	298			2,966	2,675
June	334			3,019	2,555
July	246			2,963	2,675
August	144			3,037	2,684
September	190			3,028	2,657
October	198			3,057	2,649
November	150			2,951	
December	279			2,922	
Total	2,675				

¹ For March 2018, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched September 2016 through August 2017. The 7-18 months represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements.

Broiler-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – United States: 2017 and 2018

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

Item	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	659,724	680,502	103
February	659,229	674,490	102
March	667,521	682,716	102
April	667,436	683,187	102
May	667,043		
June	674,786		
July	672,199		
August	680,570		
September	672,108		
October	650,192		
November	651,641		
December	684,691		

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: March 2017 and 2018

State	During March			January-March		
	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
Alabama	108,404	109,562	101	316,688	314,314	99
Arkansas	87,857	88,497	101	245,798	255,626	104
Delaware	17,972	19,056	106	52,425	55,133	105
Florida	3,802	4,272	112	11,430	12,084	106
Georgia	125,974	127,697	101	364,025	368,856	101
Kentucky	27,120	27,725	102	78,571	80,131	102
Louisiana	13,915	12,922	93	37,592	37,746	100
Maryland	29,941	29,599	99	87,020	84,376	97
Mississippi	67,059	68,550	102	192,876	197,846	103
Missouri	31,060	29,185	94	88,429	85,124	96
North Carolina	78,725	82,618	105	228,559	236,392	103
Oklahoma	28,067	27,241	97	81,598	78,855	97
Pennsylvania	17,101	19,619	115	49,220	57,016	116
South Carolina	19,824	20,713	104	57,590	59,637	104
Texas	59,229	57,996	98	171,680	168,884	98
Virginia	24,233	24,258	100	70,084	68,949	98
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	44,871	45,270	101	127,469	128,381	101
Other States ¹	33,547	33,420	100	95,449	96,408	101
United States	818,701	828,200	101	2,356,503	2,385,758	101

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2017-2018

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

Month	By months			Cumulative		
	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as percent of 2017
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	807,491	822,829	102	807,491	822,829	102
February	730,311	734,729	101	1,537,802	1,557,558	101
March	818,701	828,200	101	2,356,503	2,385,758	101
April	793,227			3,149,730		
May	820,621			3,970,351		
June	802,010			4,772,361		
July	826,602			5,598,963		
August	832,983			6,431,946		
September	788,098			7,220,044		
October	793,994			8,014,038		
November	774,598			8,788,636		
December	827,498			9,616,134		

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2017-2018

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

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2018 as percent of 2017	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2017 (1,000 chicks)	2018 (1,000 chicks)		2017 (1,000 chicks)	2018 (1,000 chicks)
United States placements					
January	7,163	7,071	99	68,802	68,873
February	7,832	7,631	97	69,669	69,049
March	8,262	8,112	98	70,129	69,495
April	7,045			70,194	70,200
May	8,159			70,377	70,626
June	8,258			69,989	70,737
July	7,085			69,381	70,069
August	8,156			68,929	70,095
September	8,240			68,678	69,567
October	7,589			68,440	69,421
November	7,943			67,755	
December	7,594			68,224	
Annual total	93,326				
Total placements ²					
January	8,764	8,736	100		
February	9,958	9,540	96		
March	10,047	9,811	98		
April	8,592				
May	9,806				
June	9,903				
July	8,598				
August	9,988				
September	10,042				
October	9,605				
November	9,695				
December	9,278				
Annual total	114,276				

¹ For March 2018, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched December 2016 through August 2017.

² United States production of intended placements worldwide.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Primary data for the *Chickens and Eggs* report are from weekly and/or monthly questionnaires sent to producers. An attempt is made to collect information for layer and egg estimates from each known contractor and independent producer who has at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, or pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 500 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Data for egg-type hatchery estimates are collected monthly from all egg-type hatcheries that hatch at least 50,000 chicks a year.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the 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 are 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.

For chicken hatcheries, chicks hatched consist of all chicks of domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. Eggs set are eggs in incubators for the purpose of hatching. The relationship of egg-type chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings are carefully monitored. The disposition of egg-type chicks hatched prior to placement into the laying flock can vary significantly, which can make comparisons to changes in layer inventory inconsistent over time. Broiler chicks placed are specifically for meat production. Intended placement data reported by leading breeders include pullet chicks expected from eggs sold the preceding month. The breeders in this report account for a large percentage of replacement pullets for hatchery supply flocks. Production of replacement pullets by these breeders indicates the number of pullets available to hatchery supply layer flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the laying flocks. "Hatchery Supply Flocks" include all generations of layers which could lay eggs to supply a hatchery. This includes the generations of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, pedigree, etc. Also included are research flocks, vaccine flocks, and specific pathogen-free flocks. The broiler cumulative potential placements are a moving total of the intended placements 7-15 months earlier. The egg-type cumulative potential placements of 7-18 months earlier represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

Revision Policy: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual reports of *Chickens and Eggs Summary* and *Hatchery Production Summary*. Estimates will also be reviewed for chickens and eggs after data from the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Estimates are based on a census of all known contractors and independent producers who have at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets, or 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 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 all layers over the past 24 months is 1.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 386 million layers by more than 1.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.4 percent.

Reliability of Layer and Egg Estimates

[Based on data for the past twenty-four months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
All layers	(percent) 1.4	(percent) 2.4	(1,000) 4,109	(1,000) 167	(1,000) 9,953	(number) 24	(number) 0
Eggs	1.5	2.5	(million) 101	(million) 2	(million) 289	24	0

Terms and Definitions of Chickens and Eggs Estimates

All Layers includes both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

Intended Placements are reported by leading breeders. Coverage may not be 100 percent. Includes expected pullet chicks from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per case of 30 dozen eggs.

Molted Layers is the same data series as the previously published Forced Molt Layers. Nomenclature changed as of January 2015.

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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Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Holly Brenize – Mink, Poultry Slaughter	(202) 720-0585
Aaron Cosgrove – Catfish Production, Egg Products, 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

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