

1945

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FARM PRODUCTION AND INCOME, CHICKENS, EGGS, AND TURKEYS
UNITED STATES, 1941-42

CHICKENS AND EGGS

Chicken production on farms in 1942 totaled 702,666,000 birds -- the largest number since 1930. The total was 10 percent above production in 1941 and 15 percent above the 10-year (1931-40) average.

In addition 204,060,000 "commercial broilers" were produced, with an average live weight of 2.96 pounds. Production of commercial broilers has doubled since 1939.

Chicken Prices Up 20 Percent: The average price per pound live weight of chickens sold from farms in 1942 was 18.9 cents, compared with 15.8 cents in 1941 and 13.7 cents, the 10-year average. Chicken prices usually increase during the first 4 months of the year and then gradually decline during the remainder of the year. In 1942 the low prices of the year were in January; they gradually increased throughout the year from 17.0 cents per pound in mid-January to 20.5 cents in mid-December.

Farm Sales Up 15 Percent: About 438,241,000 chickens were sold from farms in 1942, an increase of 15 percent above sales in 1941 and 14 percent above the 10-year average. Cash income from these sales was \$346,494,000 -- 41 percent above the 1941 cash income.

Gross income, which is the income from sales plus the value of chickens consumed in households of farm producers, was \$479,071,000 in 1942 -- 35 percent above the 1941 gross income.

Inventories Reach Peak Level: The number of chickens on farms January 1, 1943 was 540,107,000 birds, not including commercial broilers. This is a record high number -- 14 percent up from a year ago and from the former peak number in 1928, and 29 percent above the 10-year (1932-41) average. High egg prices, which were also generally high compared with feed prices, encouraged larger flocks for the production of eggs, especially in the West North Central and South Central States, where the demand for eggs for drying offered a good market at relatively high prices. Chicken numbers increased from a year ago in every State in the country except one, which showed no change.

Largest Egg Production: About 48 billion eggs were produced on farms in 1942 -- 15 percent more than in 1941 and the largest production of all time. Production per layer was 113 eggs per hen and pullet on hand at the beginning of the year, compared with 110 eggs in 1941. Total egg production was above that of 1941 in all parts of the country. The same was true of the rate of lay, except in the Western States where the rate (126 eggs) was the same as in 1941.

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FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

UNITED STATES, 1936-42

CHICKENS

Year	Raised ^{1/}	Lost ^{2/}	Produced ^{3/}	Change in Inventory ^{4/}		Consumed: in farm	Sold
				Increase	Decrease		
				Thousands			
1936	715,034	64,426	650,608	20,475		235,144	394,989
1937	601,147	68,567	532,580		34,297	215,067	351,810
1938	650,685	67,478	583,207	28,967		227,810	326,430
1939	696,655	75,592	621,063	19,697		224,783	376,583
1940	617,005	78,142	538,863		15,379	203,058	351,184
1941	716,830	80,854	635,976	52,001		201,490	382,485
1942	794,787	92,121	702,666	65,197		199,228	438,241

^{1/} Does not include young chickens lost. ^{2/} Loss during the year of chickens on hand Jan. 1. ^{3/} Chickens sold plus consumed in households of farm producers, and the plus or minus change in inventory. ^{4/} Change in inventory numbers during the year.

EGGS

Year	Hens and pullets Jan. 1	Rate of lay		Eggs produced	Eggs used for farm hatching	Eggs consumed in farm household	Eggs sold
		Per layer on hand Jan. 1 ^{1/}	Per layer during year ^{2/}				
	Thousands	Number			Millions		
1936	362,619	95	121	34,534	670	7,416	26,448
1937	379,754	99	130	37,564	518	7,884	29,162
1938	352,964	106	135	37,356	528	8,204	28,624
1939	376,141	103	134	38,843	513	8,238	30,092
1940	392,655	101	134	39,585	423	8,108	31,054
1941	381,372	110	139	41,765	412	7,789	33,564
1942	426,226	113	142	48,213	405	7,629	40,179

^{1/} Number of eggs produced during the year divided by number of hens and pullets on hand Jan. 1. ^{2/} Number of eggs produced during the year divided by the average number of hens and pullets of laying age on hand during the year.

CHICKENS ON FARMS JANUARY 1, AND VALUE, 1937-43

Year	Hens	Pullets	Other chickens	Number	All Chickens	
					Value per head ^{1/}	Total value
	Thousands				Cents	Thous. dol.
1937	130,445	249,309	44,167	423,921	65.6	278,120
1938	137,958	215,006	36,660	389,624	75.6	294,718
1939	134,331	241,810	42,450	418,591	70.0	292,852
1940	139,079	253,576	45,633	438,288	60.5	265,000
1941	141,430	239,942	41,537	422,909	65.4	276,427
1942	149,418	276,808	48,684	474,910	83.2	395,042
1943	169,168	317,921	53,018	540,107	103.7	560,095

^{1/} Average reported annually by crop correspondents.

FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

UNITED STATES, 1936-42

CHICKENS

Year	Produced	Consumed in farm household	Sold	Price per pound	Cash income from sales	Value of chickens consumed	Gross income
	Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds		Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	
1936	2,409,582	797,534	1,535,622	15.8	239,181	134,416	373,597
1937	2,042,009	752,407	1,417,395	15.9	224,826	129,145	353,971
1938	2,185,049	787,496	1,281,535	15.4	195,195	125,088	320,283
1939	2,337,980	779,311	1,481,206	13.5	198,597	110,490	309,087
1940	2,092,831	718,654	1,435,717	13.3	189,640	103,176	292,816
1941	2,477,222	712,650	1,557,364	15.8	245,364	110,241	355,605
1942	2,807,355	708,488	1,829,794	18.9	346,494	132,577	479,071

EGGS

Year	Price per dozen	Cash income from sales	Value of eggs consumed in farm household	Gross income
	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars	
1936	21.8	480,808	129,701	610,509
1937	21.3	517,418	134,164	651,582
1938	20.3	485,092	131,436	616,528
1939	17.4	437,386	113,707	551,093
1940	18.0	464,667	115,490	580,157
1941	23.5	657,966	146,533	804,499
1942	29.9	1,000,960	183,627	1,184,587

COMMERCIAL BROILER PRODUCTION AND INCOME

(Not included in farm production)

Year	Number produced	Pounds produced	Price per pound	Gross income 1/
	Thousands		Cents	Thousand dollars
1936	53,155	152,447	20.7	31,493
1937	67,915	195,916	21.4	41,876
1938	82,420	239,508	19.0	45,609
1939	102,055	296,865	16.9	50,286
1940	131,756	383,288	17.3	66,322
1941	172,490	505,581	18.4	93,102
1942	204,060	604,756	22.8	138,002

1/ Includes consumption in households of producers which is less than 1 percent of total production.

The rate of lay is computed by two methods: the first, often referred to as the "hen-house rate," is the number of eggs produced during the year divided by the number of hens and pullets on hand January 1; the second method is the number of eggs produced during the year divided by the average number of layers on hand during the year. The rate per average layer on hand during the year is about 1/4 higher than the hen-house rate.

Sales of Eggs Up 6.6 Billions: About 40 billion eggs were sold from farms in 1942 compared with 33½ billion in 1941, and 28 billion, the 10-year average. Of the total sales in 1942, the West North Central States accounted for 30 percent, the East North Central 22 percent, the North Atlantic 16 percent, the South Central 15 percent, the West 10 percent, and the South Atlantic 7 percent. Cash income from sales of eggs in 1942 was \$1,000,960,000 -- 52 percent above that of 1941. This is the only year the income from eggs has reached a billion dollars.

Fewer Eggs Used in Farm Households: Eggs consumed in households of farm producers were 7,629 million in 1942 -- 2 percent less than in 1941. With higher egg prices producers eat fewer eggs, even though total egg production is larger. The value of eggs consumed on producers' farms in 1942 was \$183,627,000 -- 25 percent more than in 1941.

Gross income from eggs in 1942 was \$1,184,587,000 -- 47 percent above the gross income in 1941. The combined gross farm income from chickens and eggs in 1942 was \$1,663,658,000 compared with \$1,160,104,000 in 1941, an increase of 43 percent.

Big Increase in Commercial Broiler Production: The term "commercial broiler" as used in this publication includes all young chickens of the heavy breeds, 2 to 4 pounds live weight raised for meat, and from which pullets are sold for broilers as well as cockerels. Commercial broiler production is not included in farm production estimates.

In 1942 about 204,060,000 commercial broilers were produced -- 18 percent increase from 1941. Commercial broiler production has doubled since 1939. The price per pound sold was 22.8 cents compared with 18.4 cents in 1941 and 17.3 cents in 1940. The gross income from commercial broilers in 1942 was \$138,002,000 compared with \$93,102,000 in 1941.

TURKEYS

Production of turkeys in 1942 was 32,691,000 birds, about the same as in 1941 -- 30 percent above the 10-year (1931-40) average, and 12 percent above the 5-year (1936-40) average. Production was up in 29 States, down in 14 States, and showed no change in 5 States.

Texas led all States in the production of turkeys in 1942 with a total of 3,625,000 birds, followed by Minnesota with 3,187,000 and California with 3,113,000. The West North Central States produced 33 percent of the Nation's turkeys in 1942, the West 27 percent, the South Central 17 percent, the East North Central 9 percent, and the South Atlantic and North Atlantic States 7 percent each.

Smaller Consumption by Producers: Producers of turkeys consumed 1,137,000 birds in 1942 -- 3.5 percent of the number produced. Turkey producers usually consume fewer birds when the price is high and a larger number when the price is low. Although about the same number of turkeys were produced in 1942 as in 1941, producers consumed 7 percent fewer birds in 1942 because of a 38 percent higher price.

FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

UNITED STATES, 1936-42

TURKEYS

Year	Raised <u>1/</u>	Lost <u>2/</u>	Produced <u>3/</u>	Change in Inventory <u>4/</u>		Consumed	
				Increase	Decrease	in farm	Sold household
Thousands							
1936	27,981	339	27,642	627		1,485	25,530
1937	25,755	364	25,391		261	1,425	24,227
1938	26,887	340	26,547	395		1,291	24,861
1939	33,587	336	33,201	2,083		1,297	29,821
1940	34,224	449	33,775		1,317	1,296	33,796
1941	33,161	408	32,753	371		1,220	31,162
1942	33,142	451	32,691		955	1,137	32,509

1/ Does not include young turkeys lost.

2/ Loss during the year of turkeys on hand January 1.

3/ Turkeys sold plus consumed in households of farm producers, and the plus or minus change in inventory.

4/ Change in inventory numbers during the year.

Year	Produced	Consumed		Price per pound	Cash income from sales	Value of turkeys consumed	Gross income
		in farm	Sold household				
Thousand pounds		Cents		Thousand dollars			
1936	406,337	21,830	374,360	13.4	61,533	3,437	64,970
1937	375,787	21,090	358,880	17.7	63,406	3,527	66,933
1938	395,550	19,236	370,223	17.9	66,192	3,261	69,453
1939	494,695	19,325	443,806	15.9	70,715	2,909	73,624
1940	508,788	19,570	509,958	15.4	78,376	2,862	81,238
1941	520,703	18,825	494,988	19.8	98,139	3,647	101,786
1942	530,584	17,813	528,551	27.4	144,944	4,749	149,693

NUMBER ON FARMS JANUARY 1, AND VALUE, 1937-43

Year	Breeder hens	All turkeys	Value per head	Total value
1937	3,481	6,358	2.06	13,106
1938	3,222	6,096	2.49	15,154
1939	3,914	6,489	3.56	16,615
1940	4,607	8,569	2.14	18,312
1941	3,891	7,252	2.26	16,411
1942	4,052	7,623	3.08	23,487
1943	4,015	6,668	4.45	29,677

Turkey Sales Larger: About 32,509,000 turkeys were sold from farms in 1942 -- 4 percent more than in 1941. About 3,260,000 birds sold in 1942 were late market birds carried over from 1941 and sold during the first 2 months of the year, while 4,052,000 were breeder hens disposed of after the breeding season. Of the 32,691,000 turkeys produced in 1942, about 2,350,000 late market birds, 4,015,000 breeder hens and 303,000 breeder toms were carried into 1943.

Price Highest of Record: The average price received for turkeys sold alive in 1942 was 27.4 cents per pound -- the highest since records were begun in 1929. The price averaged 19.8 cents in 1941; and 25.7 cents was the previous high in 1929. Turkey prices in 1942 made less than the 5-year average seasonal decline from January to the low point of the year in June. From June to December prices increased 60 percent compared with 36 percent during the same period in 1941 and 13 percent the 8-year (1933-40) average increase for the period. Because of this rapid increase in prices during the last half of 1942, a larger proportion of the crop than usual was sold before the end of the year.

Cash Income Reaches Peak Level: Cash income from sales of turkeys in 1942 was \$144,944,000, the largest of record. Income was 48 percent above the total in 1941 and 164 percent above the 10-year average. California led all States in cash income from turkeys with \$18,964,000 in 1942, followed by Minnesota with \$14,089,000, and Texas with \$12,475,000. These three States -- with a large surplus production -- accounted for 31 percent of the United States income from turkeys last year.

Supplementary reports by States available upon request for 1941-42