



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set in the United States Up 2 Percent

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 235 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 4, 2020, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 80.9 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed in the United States Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 188 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 4, 2020, up slightly from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 4, 2020 through April 4, 2020 for the United States were 2.67 billion. Cumulative placements were up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – Selected States and United States: 2020

State	Week ending					
	February 29, 2020	March 7, 2020	March 14, 2020	March 21, 2020	March 28, 2020	April 4, 2020
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	34,075	34,066	34,216	33,290	34,043	32,903
Arkansas	24,192	23,595	24,202	24,368	23,081	22,997
Delaware	5,430	5,063	5,306	5,319	5,256	5,281
Florida	1,209	1,225	1,207	1,194	1,177	1,131
Georgia	35,334	35,323	34,849	35,080	35,250	34,759
Kentucky	7,873	7,111	7,760	7,749	7,497	7,848
Louisiana	3,744	3,850	3,879	3,865	3,802	3,501
Maryland	8,495	8,503	8,486	8,171	8,198	7,886
Mississippi	18,354	18,130	18,082	18,260	18,260	18,031
Missouri	8,890	9,096	8,809	8,952	9,003	8,683
North Carolina	25,138	24,981	25,258	25,015	24,724	24,596
Oklahoma	7,407	7,882	7,973	7,196	7,820	7,524
Pennsylvania	6,135	6,023	6,084	5,916	6,159	6,127
South Carolina	5,809	5,643	5,751	5,804	5,834	5,647
Texas	17,907	17,084	17,541	17,915	18,014	17,851
Virginia	6,438	6,498	6,392	6,485	6,260	6,210
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	13,173	12,915	12,939	12,760	13,180	12,978
Other States	11,540	11,836	11,887	11,591	12,161	11,351
United States	241,143	238,824	240,621	238,930	239,719	235,304
Percent of previous year	104	103	103	103	103	102

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – Selected States and United States: 2020

State	Week ending					
	February 29, 2020	March 7, 2020	March 14, 2020	March 21, 2020	March 28, 2020	April 4, 2020
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	24,510	24,507	24,988	24,923	25,586	23,746
Arkansas	22,396	21,678	21,417	22,029	22,280	22,187
Delaware	5,574	4,854	4,939	5,318	4,967	5,208
Florida	1,349	1,314	1,235	1,326	1,336	1,307
Georgia	27,625	27,638	27,068	28,120	26,598	25,636
Kentucky	6,435	6,555	6,073	5,913	5,601	5,973
Louisiana	3,281	3,297	3,270	3,234	3,353	3,255
Maryland	4,683	5,761	5,052	5,875	5,421	5,646
Mississippi	15,127	15,421	14,889	15,182	15,191	14,885
Missouri	5,596	5,989	5,938	5,656	6,442	5,772
North Carolina	19,854	20,355	20,003	20,831	20,165	20,361
Oklahoma	4,247	4,071	5,162	4,093	3,499	4,315
Pennsylvania	4,196	4,172	4,469	4,442	4,368	4,401
South Carolina	5,263	4,644	5,265	4,534	4,874	4,915
Texas	14,235	13,203	14,125	14,089	13,930	13,911
Virginia	6,514	6,331	6,583	5,669	6,383	5,649
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,432	11,093	11,540	11,369	11,520	12,121
Other States	8,546	8,615	9,029	9,000	8,799	8,844
United States	190,863	189,498	191,045	191,603	190,313	188,132
Percent of previous year	104	103	103	104	102	100

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Individual NASS regional field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All hatcheries 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. The weekly United States total for chicks placed includes states receiving greater than 500,000 chicks annually for grow-out.

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 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.

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@usda.gov

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