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Eggs in Incubators on October 1 Down 1 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 2017, in the United States totaled 28.1 million, down 1 percent from October 1, 2016. Eggs in incubators were down 3 percent from the September 1, 2017 total of 28.9 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During September Up Slightly from Last Year

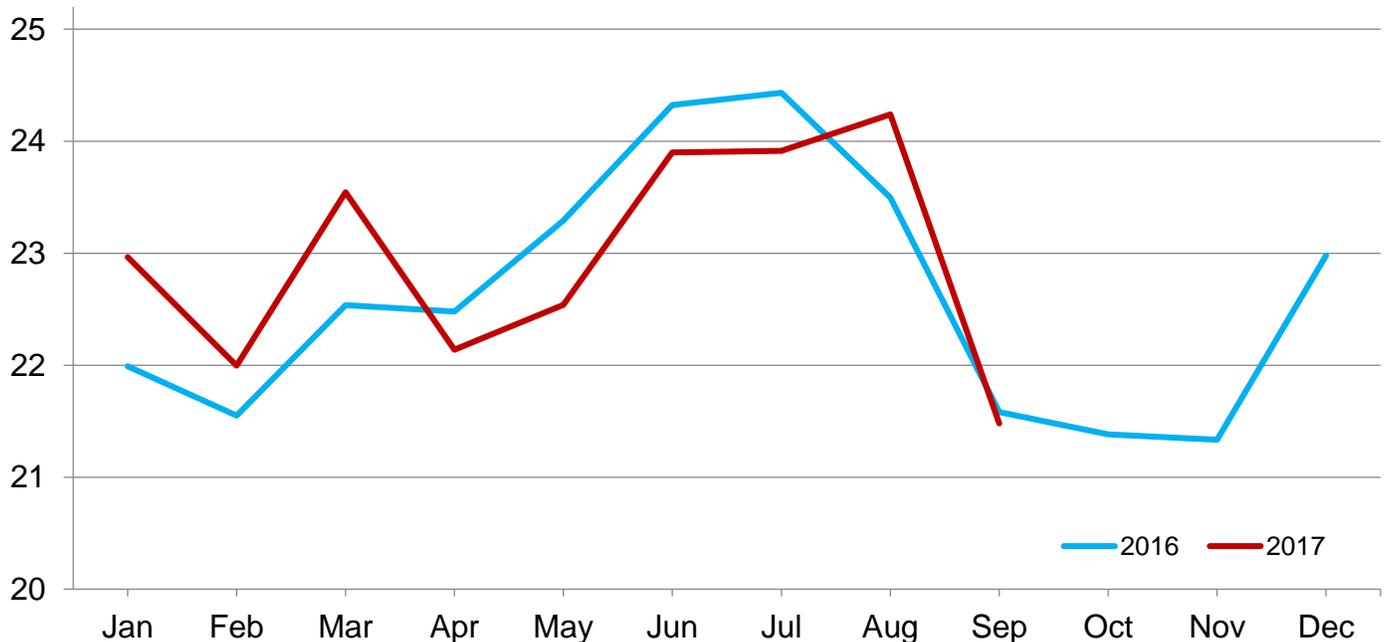
Turkey poults hatched during September 2017, in the United States totaled 23.7 million, up slightly from September 2016. Poults hatched were down 5 percent from the August 2017 total of 24.8 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During September Down Slightly from Last Year

The 21.5 million net poults placed during September 2017 in the United States were down slightly from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 11 percent from the August 2017 total of 24.2 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2016-2018

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

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2016-2017	2017-2018		2016-2017	2017-2018	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	28,927	28,907	100	23,645	23,651	100
October	28,409	28,068	99	23,572		
November	27,179			22,782		
December	28,795			25,422		
January	29,961			25,332		
February	29,906			23,598		
March	30,030			25,719		
April	28,597			23,179		
May	28,825			24,067		
June	29,441			25,075		
July	29,271			24,616		
August	29,725			24,786		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2016-2018

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2016-2017	2017-2018		2016-2017	2017-2018	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	21,581	21,480	100	21,581	21,480	100
October	21,381			42,962		
November	21,334			64,296		
December	22,980			87,276		
January	22,966			110,242		
February	21,995			132,237		
March	23,544			155,781		
April	22,139			177,920		
May	22,538			200,458		
June	23,899			224,357		
July	23,915			248,272		
August	24,239			272,511		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries hatching 15,000 or more poults annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from 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 were 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, regional, and United States totals. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poult Placement data include imported poults and exclude exported poults.

Cumulative net poult placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poults which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report, while annual revisions are published in the *Hatchery Production - Annual Summary* report in April.

Reliability: Turkey hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known 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 through 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 turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.1 million eggs by more than 1.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.1 percent.

Reliability of October Turkey Hatchery Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Eggs in incubators	1.8	3.1	359	21	1,359	18	6
Poults hatched	1.1	1.9	168	0	815	12	11
Net poult placements	1.9	3.2	380	55	745	8	16

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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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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