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Eggs in Incubators on February 1 Down 9 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on February 1, 2021 in the United States totaled 25.8 million, down 9 percent from February 1, 2020. Eggs in incubators were up 5 percent from the January 1, 2021 total of 24.6 million eggs.

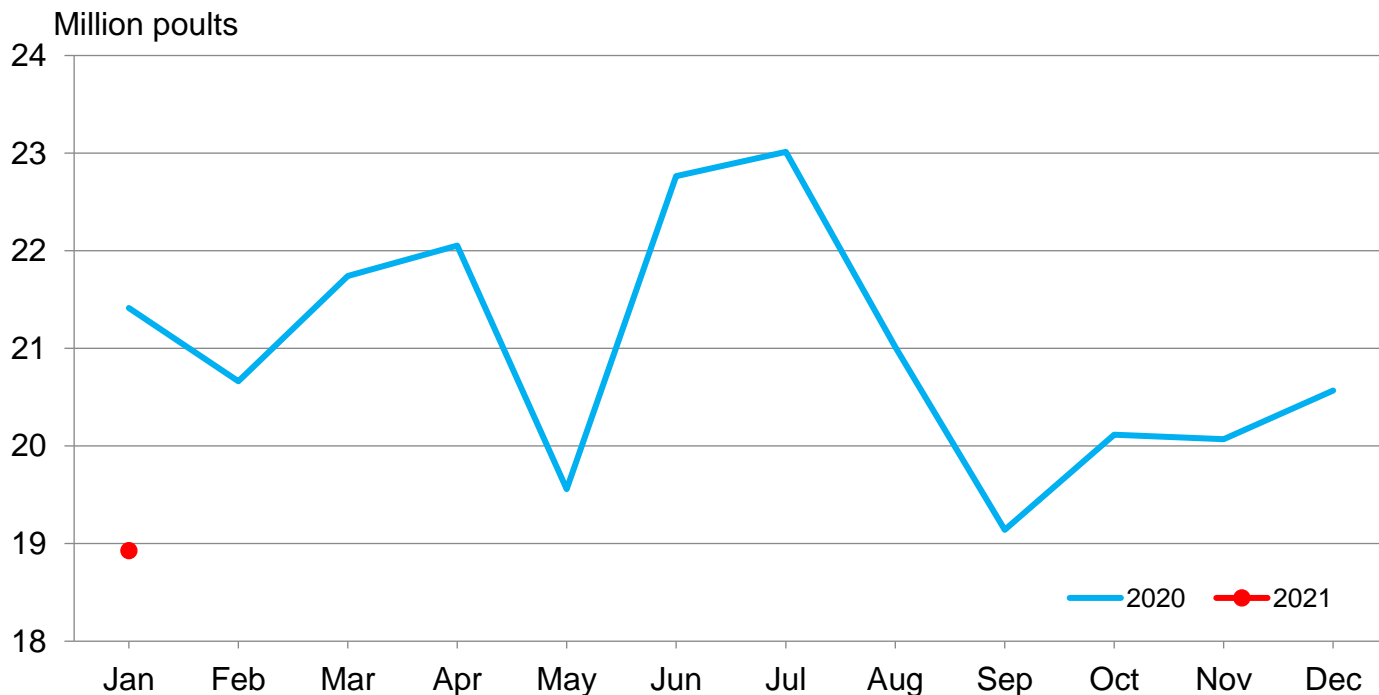
Poults Hatched During January Down 14 Percent from Last Year

Turkey poults hatched during January 2021 in the United States totaled 20.6 million, down 14 percent from January 2020. Poults hatched were down 11 percent from the December 2020 total of 23.1 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During January Down 12 Percent from Last Year

The 18.9 million net poults placed during January 2021 in the United States were down 12 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were down 8 percent from the December 2020 total of 20.6 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2019-2021

[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
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	26,666	25,990	97	22,464	21,840	97
October	29,327	27,293	93	24,905	23,290	94
November	26,958	26,764	99	22,325	22,230	100
December	26,464	26,982	102	22,655	23,090	102
January	28,820	24,635	85	23,879	20,600	86
February	28,209	25,755	91	22,566		
March	27,980			23,729		
April	27,922			23,461		
May	27,274			21,562		
June	28,540			23,940		
July	27,718			23,759		
August	27,158			22,509		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2019-2021

[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
	2019-2020	2020-2021		2019-2020	2020-2021	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,125	19,141	95	20,125	19,141	95
October	21,857	20,114	92	41,982	39,255	94
November	20,199	20,070	99	62,181	59,325	95
December	20,216	20,569	102	82,397	79,894	97
January	21,414	18,929	88	103,811	98,823	95
February	20,663			124,474		
March	21,741			146,215		
April	22,053			168,268		
May	19,559			187,827		
June	22,764			210,591		
July	23,013			233,604		
August	21,014			254,618		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS regional field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 45 hatcheries in 20 states 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. 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 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. 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.

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 2.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 25.8 million eggs by more than 2.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 4.9 percent.

Reliability of February 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	2.9	4.9	501	1	2,201	16	8
Poults hatched	1.8	3.0	211	0	1,913	13	10
Net poult placements	2.3	4.0	314	0	1,884	18	5

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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