



Turkey Hatchery

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Eggs in Incubators on April 1 Down 2 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on April 1, 2020 in the United States totaled 27.6 million, down 2 percent from April 1, 2019. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the March 1, 2020 total of 28.0 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During March Down 2 Percent from Last Year

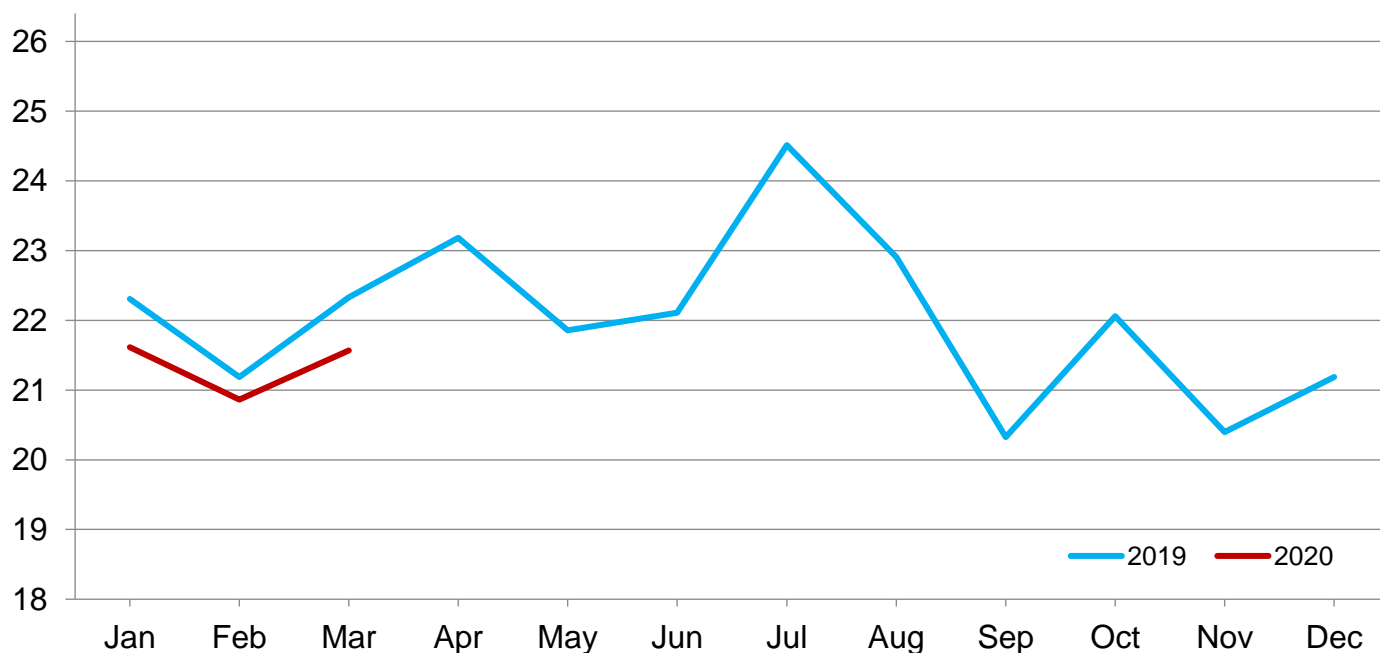
Turkey poults hatched during March 2020 in the United States totaled 23.5 million, down 2 percent from March 2019. Poults hatched were up 4 percent from the February 2020 total of 22.6 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During March Down 3 Percent from Last Year

The 21.4 million net poults placed during March 2020 in the United States were down 3 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were up 3 percent from the February 2020 total of 20.7 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2018-2020

[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
	2018-2019	2019-2020		2018-2019	2019-2020	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	27,532	26,666	97	22,443	22,464	100
October	28,750	29,327	102	24,296	24,905	103
November	30,418	26,958	89	24,405	22,325	91
December	28,492	26,464	93	23,134	22,655	98
January	27,984	28,820	103	24,563	23,879	97
February	27,204	28,209	104	22,495	22,566	100
March	28,048	27,980	100	23,881	23,511	98
April	28,212	27,573	98	24,198		
May	28,189			23,598		
June	27,989			22,845		
July	28,990			25,233		
August	29,345			24,189		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2018-2020

[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
	2018-2019	2019-2020		2018-2019	2019-2020	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,152	20,125	100	20,152	20,125	100
October	22,546	21,857	97	42,698	41,982	98
November	21,150	20,199	96	63,848	62,181	97
December	20,392	20,216	99	84,240	82,397	98
January	22,105	21,414	97	106,345	103,811	98
February	20,987	20,663	98	127,332	124,474	98
March	22,128	21,368	97	149,460	145,842	98
April	22,982			172,442		
May	21,656			194,098		
June	21,909			216,007		
July	24,312			240,319		
August	22,709			263,028		

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 poult 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 poult and exclude exported poult.

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 poult 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 2.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 27.6 million eggs by more than 2.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.6 percent.

Reliability of April 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	2.1	3.6	374	1	2,201	19	5
Poult hatched	1.8	3.1	211	1	1,913	12	12
Net poult placements	2.5	4.3	379	1	1,884	15	9

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

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Tony Dorn, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 690-3223
Holly Brenize – Poultry Slaughter	(202) 720-0585
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses	(202) 720-4751
Liana Cuffman – Catfish and Trout, Mink, Census of Aquaculture	(202) 720-8784
Fatema Haque – Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3244
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs, Egg Products	(202) 690-3676
Adam Peters – Honey, Honey Bee Colonies	(202) 690-4870
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-6147

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

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USDA NASS Data Users' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT**

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold a virtual meeting for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2020 Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php). Contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or vernita.murray@usda.gov or Patricia Snipe (NASS) at 202-720-2248 or patricia.snipe@usda.gov for information.