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

Turkey eggs in incubators on May 1, 2019, in the United States totaled 28.2 million, down 2 percent from May 1, 2018. Eggs in incubators were down slightly from the April 1, 2019 total of 28.2 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During April Up 2 Percent from Last Year

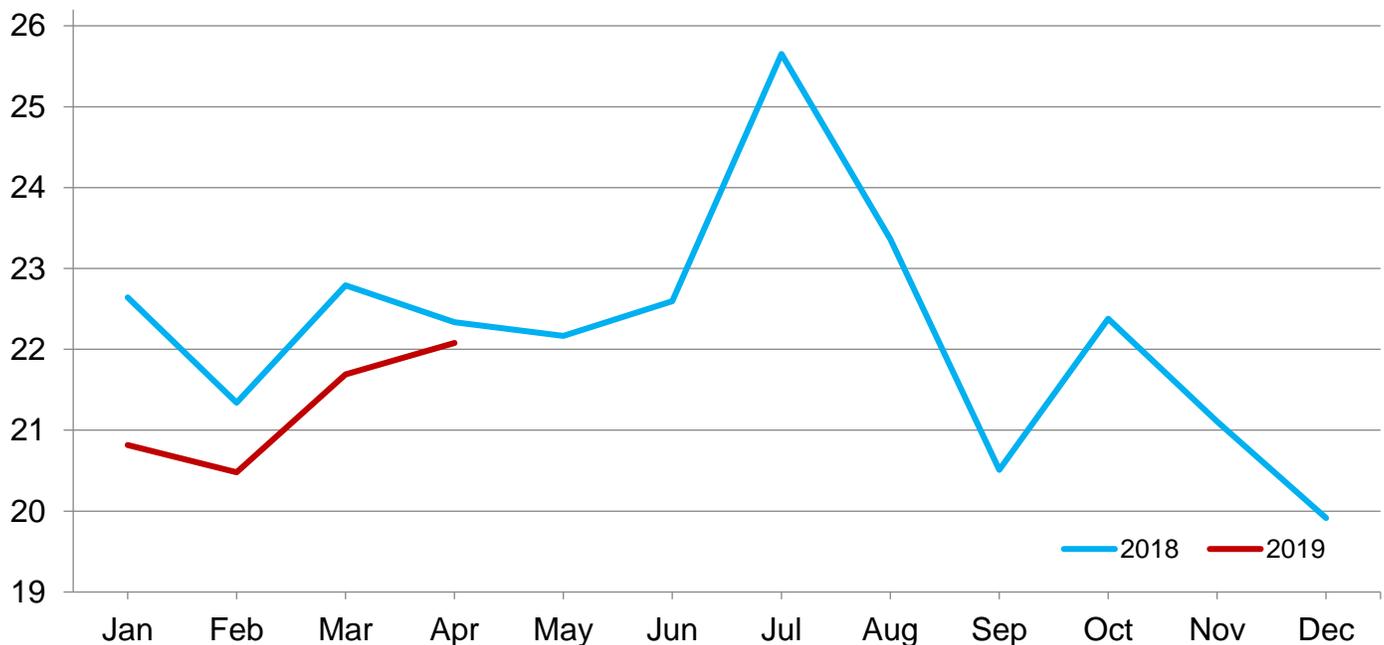
Turkey poults hatched during April 2019, in the United States totaled 23.9 million, up 2 percent from April 2018. Poults hatched were down slightly from the March 2019 total of 23.9 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During April Down 1 Percent from Last Year

The 22.1 million net poults placed during April 2019 in the United States were down 1 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were up 2 percent from the March 2019 total of 21.7 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2017-2019

[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
	2017-2018	2018-2019		2017-2018	2018-2019	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	28,974	27,532	95	23,530	22,443	95
October	28,072	28,750	102	24,393	24,295	100
November	28,605	30,418	106	24,532	29,089	119
December	27,792	28,492	103	22,272	23,176	104
January	28,844	27,831	96	24,406	23,287	95
February	28,486	28,052	98	22,654	22,495	99
March	28,362	28,049	99	24,180	23,884	99
April	28,222	28,218	100	23,482	23,871	102
May	28,815	28,158	98	23,503		
June	28,566			23,337		
July	28,565			25,730		
August	29,090			23,888		

Net Poulst Placements by Month – United States: 2017-2019

[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
	2017-2018	2018-2019		2017-2018	2018-2019	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	20,670	20,512	99	20,670	20,512	99
October	22,030	22,377	102	42,700	42,889	100
November	21,319	21,108	99	64,019	63,605	99
December	20,648	19,915	96	84,667	83,520	99
January	22,642	20,817	92	107,309	104,337	97
February	21,340	20,480	96	128,649	124,817	97
March	22,793	21,691	95	151,442	146,508	97
April	22,335	22,079	99	173,777	168,587	97
May	22,168			195,945		
June	22,597			218,542		
July	25,652			244,194		
August	23,362			267,556		

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 40 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 1.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 28.2 million eggs by more than 1.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.8 percent.

Reliability of May 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	1.1	1.8	228	0	750	17	6
Poult hatched	1.0	1.7	162	0	637	15	8
Net poult placements	1.7	2.9	296	0	810	9	14

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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