



Released February 12, 2026, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Eggs in Incubators on February 1 Down 3 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on February 1, 2026 in the United States totaled 24.3 million, down 3 percent from February 1, 2025. Eggs in incubators were down 5 percent from the January 1, 2026 total of 25.5 million eggs.

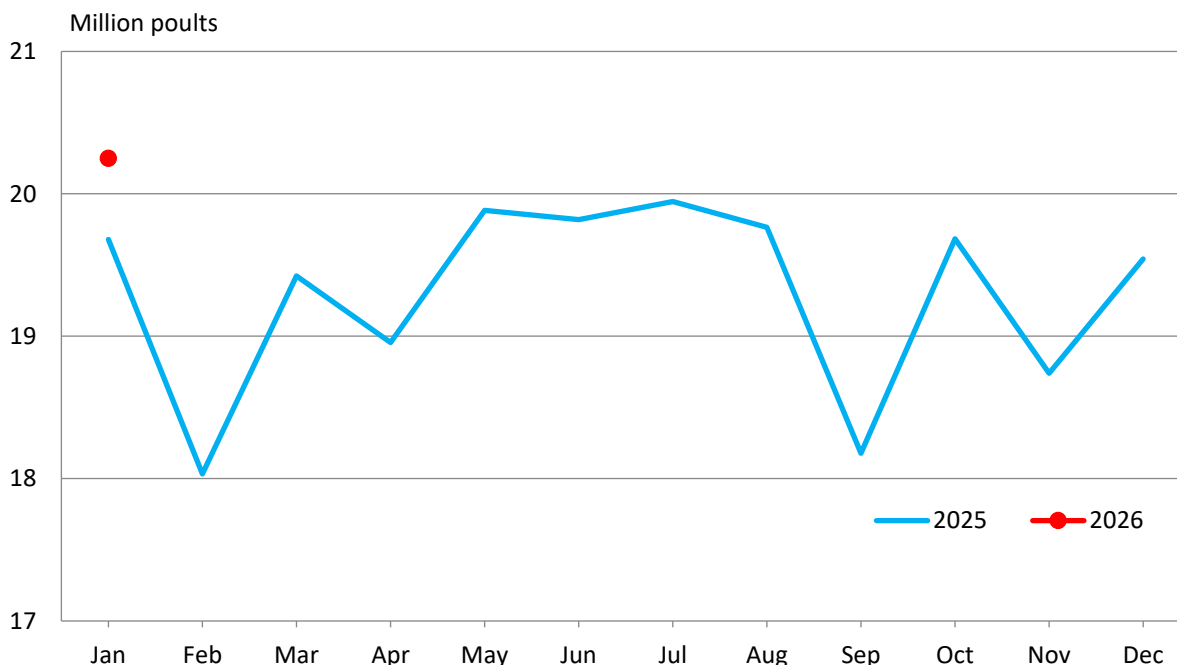
Poults Hatched During January Up 3 Percent from Last Year

Turkey poults hatched during January 2026 in the United States totaled 21.9 million, up 3 percent from January 2025. Poults hatched were up 5 percent from the December 2025 total of 20.9 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During January Up 3 Percent from Last Year

The 20.3 million net poults placed during January 2026 in the United States were up 3 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net poult placements were up 4 percent from the December 2025 total of 19.5 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2024-2026

[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
	2024-2025	2025-2026		2024-2025	2025-2026	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	24,729	24,658	100	20,276	20,522	101
October	25,083	25,461	102	21,059	21,410	102
November	24,822	23,985	97	20,899	20,235	97
December	24,518	24,903	102	20,400	20,900	102
January	24,676	25,523	103	21,315	21,877	103
February	25,058	24,322	97	19,826		
March	24,256			21,060		
April	24,947			20,087		
May	24,718			21,260		
June	24,230			20,637		
July	23,865			20,119		
August	24,891			20,521		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2024-2026

[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
	2024-2025	2025-2026		2024-2025	2025-2026	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	18,030	18,179	101	18,030	18,179	101
October	19,510	19,684	101	37,540	37,863	101
November	19,235	18,740	97	56,775	56,603	100
December	19,086	19,543	102	75,861	76,146	100
January	19,680	20,250	103	95,541	96,396	101
February	18,033			113,574		
March	19,424			132,998		
April	18,956			151,954		
May	19,884			171,838		
June	19,818			191,656		
July	19,946			211,602		
August	19,766			231,368		

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 30 hatcheries in 17 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 2.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 24.3 million eggs by more than 2.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 4.1 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	2.4	4.1	440	12	2,081	10	12
Poults hatched	1.3	2.2	205	1	722	7	15
Net poult placements	1.6	2.8	230	10	774	9	13

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
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

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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@usda.gov.

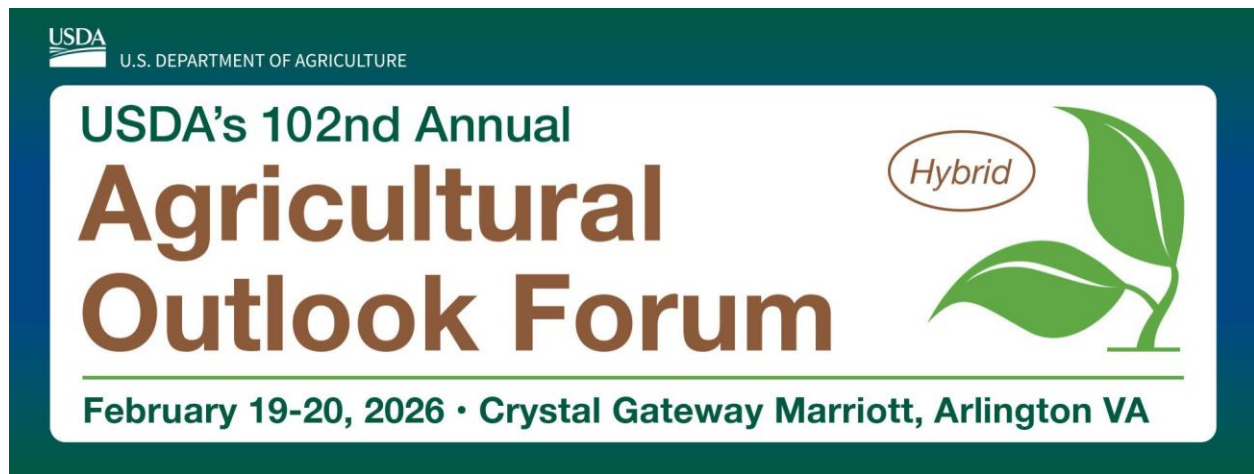
If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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