



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set in the United States Up 2 Percent

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 254 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 21, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 78.8 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three-weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed in the United States Up 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 194 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 21, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through February 21, 2026 for the United States were 1.37 billion. Cumulative placements were up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – Selected States and United States: 2026

State	Week ending					
	January 17, 2026	January 24, 2026	January 31, 2026	February 7, 2026	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	35,274	35,502	35,592	35,696	35,866	35,901
Arkansas	26,332	26,758	26,698	26,677	26,700	26,663
Delaware	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869
Georgia	36,181	36,267	36,033	36,268	35,997	35,487
Kentucky	8,189	8,103	8,085	7,943	8,093	8,012
Maryland	8,383	8,383	8,383	8,485	8,383	8,383
Mississippi	18,228	18,244	18,358	17,703	18,114	18,228
Missouri	9,121	9,123	9,123	9,122	9,123	9,123
North Carolina	26,493	26,515	26,573	26,423	26,327	26,276
Oklahoma	5,812	5,815	5,815	5,832	5,833	5,815
Pennsylvania	9,212	9,258	9,184	8,559	9,324	9,054
South Carolina	6,388	6,204	6,079	6,177	6,177	6,112
Texas	19,786	19,561	19,104	19,809	19,805	19,668
Virginia	5,822	5,114	4,969	5,751	5,795	5,793
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	15,823	15,478	15,767	15,989	16,044	15,948
Other States	17,475	17,228	16,201	17,064	16,936	17,733
United States	254,388	253,422	251,833	253,367	254,386	254,065

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – Selected States and United States: 2026

State	Week ending					
	January 17, 2026	January 24, 2026	January 31, 2026	February 7, 2026	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	22,751	24,500	24,519	23,716	24,237	24,019
Arkansas	23,262	22,026	23,131	21,840	21,725	22,278
Delaware	5,638	5,759	5,631	5,071	6,061	5,750
Georgia	28,641	28,645	28,648	29,038	29,429	28,627
Kentucky	5,904	5,987	5,780	6,184	5,903	6,131
Maryland	6,668	6,859	6,943	7,014	6,338	6,590
Mississippi	14,443	14,129	14,460	14,549	14,484	15,182
Missouri	5,774	5,367	5,541	5,733	6,067	5,521
North Carolina	20,842	20,371	20,598	20,620	20,591	20,622
Oklahoma	3,046	4,555	3,477	3,773	4,143	3,802
Pennsylvania	5,231	5,264	5,268	5,360	5,384	5,412
South Carolina	4,847	4,796	4,688	4,763	4,266	4,590
Texas	15,203	15,133	15,992	15,174	14,793	14,524
Virginia	5,038	5,272	4,891	5,467	4,534	4,554
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	14,927	12,927	13,743	13,834	13,808	13,345
Other States	13,907	13,728	12,343	13,893	13,659	12,758
United States	196,122	195,318	195,653	196,029	195,422	193,705

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Individual NASS regional field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All hatcheries that meet the minimum size criteria are given adequate time to respond to the weekly survey. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone. The weekly United States total for chicks placed includes states receiving greater than 500,000 chicks annually for grow-out.

Estimating Procedures: 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 are 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.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week's data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

Reliability: 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 a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

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
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Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production.....	(202) 720-3278
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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
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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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Spring 2026

USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 22, 2026
1 p.m. CST

Join in-person or virtually

www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users



USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

Join Us Online or in Kansas City

April 22, 2026

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

1 Memorial Drive

Kansas City, MO 64198

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2026 Spring 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/go/data_users).