



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 28, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 78.5 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 28, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through February 28, 2026 for the United States were 1.56 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 24, 2026	January 31, 2026	February 7, 2026	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026	February 28, 2026
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	35,702	35,782	35,896	35,866	35,856	35,827
Arkansas	26,758	26,698	26,977	26,700	26,663	26,744
Delaware	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869
Georgia	36,276	36,092	36,333	36,055	35,565	36,081
Kentucky	8,075	8,066	8,065	8,080	8,018	8,154
Maryland	8,383	8,383	8,485	8,383	8,383	8,485
Mississippi	18,244	18,358	17,703	18,114	18,114	18,071
Missouri	9,123	9,123	9,122	9,123	9,123	9,123
North Carolina	26,717	25,683	26,563	26,183	26,320	26,303
Oklahoma	5,815	5,815	5,832	5,833	5,815	5,812
Pennsylvania	9,252	9,186	8,560	9,324	9,059	9,059
South Carolina	6,210	6,085	6,176	6,186	6,122	6,206
Texas	19,561	19,104	19,809	19,805	19,668	19,686
Virginia	5,114	4,969	5,751	5,795	5,793	5,780
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	15,469	15,731	16,048	16,043	15,931	16,016
Other States	17,274	16,167	17,173	17,004	17,729	17,244
United States	253,842	251,111	254,362	254,363	254,028	254,460

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

State	Week ending					
	January 24, 2026	January 31, 2026	February 7, 2026	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026	February 28, 2026
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	24,500	24,179	23,356	24,137	24,017	24,220
Arkansas	22,026	23,131	21,840	21,725	22,118	22,353
Delaware	5,662	5,457	4,806	5,981	5,023	6,215
Georgia	28,355	28,272	29,208	29,182	27,877	28,410
Kentucky	5,943	5,689	5,989	5,922	5,957	5,924
Maryland	7,098	6,989	7,003	6,216	6,699	6,087
Mississippi	14,129	14,460	14,549	14,484	15,165	13,880
Missouri	5,367	5,541	5,733	6,067	5,521	5,774
North Carolina	20,110	20,399	20,462	20,165	20,289	20,405
Oklahoma	4,555	3,477	3,773	4,143	3,703	3,792
Pennsylvania	5,187	5,239	5,522	5,474	5,446	4,605
South Carolina	5,006	5,284	4,700	4,879	5,309	5,276
Texas	15,133	15,992	15,174	14,793	14,524	14,598
Virginia	5,272	4,891	5,435	4,705	4,803	4,884
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	12,927	13,743	13,830	13,816	13,272	13,989
Other States	13,708	12,343	13,893	13,689	12,722	13,565
United States	194,978	195,086	195,273	195,378	192,445	193,977

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.

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Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
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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).