



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 255 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 21, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 78.9 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 196 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 21, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through March 21, 2026 for the United States were 2.15 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					
	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026	February 28, 2026	March 7, 2026	March 14, 2026	March 21, 2026
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	35,785	35,866	35,764	35,557	35,672	35,709
Arkansas	27,009	27,271	27,015	26,329	26,652	26,912
Delaware	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869
Georgia	36,055	35,765	36,114	36,096	35,840	35,733
Kentucky	8,175	8,019	8,122	8,210	8,234	8,181
Maryland	8,383	8,383	8,485	8,498	8,485	8,485
Mississippi	18,084	18,107	18,071	17,739	17,840	18,109
Missouri	9,123	9,123	9,123	9,123	9,152	9,152
North Carolina	26,243	26,381	26,058	26,050	26,281	26,432
Oklahoma	5,833	5,815	5,928	5,832	5,833	5,931
Pennsylvania	9,324	9,058	9,062	8,953	9,112	9,287
South Carolina	6,186	6,122	6,144	6,061	6,283	6,372
Texas	19,699	19,567	19,671	19,643	19,517	19,494
Virginia	5,795	5,793	5,780	5,983	5,984	5,984
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,013	16,080	16,099	16,022	16,037	16,123
Other States	17,004	17,729	17,244	16,397	16,924	17,409
United States	254,580	254,948	254,549	252,362	253,715	255,182

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

State	Week ending					
	February 14, 2026	February 21, 2026	February 28, 2026	March 7, 2026	March 14, 2026	March 21, 2026
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	24,137	24,017	24,391	23,930	24,398	24,342
Arkansas	21,725	22,218	21,981	22,450	22,734	22,873
Delaware	5,981	5,061	6,215	6,627	6,101	5,965
Georgia	29,182	27,877	28,692	29,049	28,829	29,103
Kentucky	5,922	5,957	5,918	6,035	5,981	5,750
Maryland	6,216	6,684	6,168	5,576	6,278	6,339
Mississippi	14,484	15,165	13,920	14,369	14,331	14,130
Missouri	6,067	5,521	5,751	5,663	5,765	5,322
North Carolina	20,165	20,285	20,427	20,404	20,297	20,324
Oklahoma	4,143	3,702	3,964	3,639	3,415	3,814
Pennsylvania	5,474	5,446	4,525	4,968	5,015	5,129
South Carolina	4,879	5,309	5,312	5,102	4,890	4,644
Texas	14,793	14,524	14,750	14,820	14,800	14,895
Virginia	4,705	4,804	4,704	5,180	5,918	5,238
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	13,816	13,272	13,903	13,763	13,332	14,366
Other States	13,689	12,723	13,560	13,508	14,116	13,640
United States	195,378	192,565	194,181	195,083	196,200	195,874

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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Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
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Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised.....	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Trout.....	(202) 690-3237
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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).