



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 28, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 79.1 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 28, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through March 28, 2026 for the United States were 2.34 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 21, 2026	February 28, 2026	March 7, 2026	March 14, 2026	March 21, 2026	March 28, 2026
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	35,866	35,764	35,524	35,672	35,709	35,639
Arkansas	27,271	27,015	26,855	26,752	26,912	27,587
Delaware	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869
Georgia	35,765	36,008	36,177	35,619	35,945	35,918
Kentucky	8,019	8,122	8,163	8,234	8,181	8,121
Maryland	8,383	8,485	8,498	8,485	8,485	8,485
Mississippi	18,107	18,071	17,821	17,840	18,167	18,348
Missouri	9,123	9,123	9,123	9,152	9,152	8,767
North Carolina	26,381	26,058	26,090	26,251	26,432	26,340
Oklahoma	5,815	5,928	5,885	5,833	5,931	5,882
Pennsylvania	9,058	9,062	8,968	9,112	9,301	8,620
South Carolina	6,122	6,144	6,061	6,283	6,372	6,407
Texas	19,567	19,671	19,594	19,517	19,494	19,476
Virginia	5,793	5,780	5,983	5,984	5,984	5,764
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,080	16,099	16,589	16,017	15,737	16,449
Other States	17,729	17,244	16,397	16,924	17,467	17,106
United States	254,948	254,443	253,597	253,544	255,138	254,778

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

State	Week ending					
	February 21, 2026	February 28, 2026	March 7, 2026	March 14, 2026	March 21, 2026	March 28, 2026
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	24,017	24,041	23,650	24,398	24,319	23,628
Arkansas	22,118	21,641	22,150	22,734	22,826	22,914
Delaware	5,061	6,215	6,627	6,101	5,965	5,107
Georgia	27,877	28,242	28,849	28,808	29,028	29,673
Kentucky	5,957	5,918	6,035	5,981	5,750	6,060
Maryland	6,684	6,168	5,576	6,278	6,339	7,502
Mississippi	15,165	13,920	14,369	14,331	14,113	14,260
Missouri	5,521	5,751	5,663	5,765	5,322	5,085
North Carolina	20,285	20,427	20,204	20,297	20,324	20,261
Oklahoma	3,702	3,964	3,639	3,415	3,814	3,799
Pennsylvania	5,446	4,525	4,968	5,015	5,145	5,173
South Carolina	5,253	5,212	5,102	4,852	4,644	4,881
Texas	14,524	14,750	14,820	14,800	14,905	14,765
Virginia	4,804	4,704	5,180	5,918	4,978	5,229
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	13,272	13,903	13,763	13,332	14,623	14,271
Other States	12,722	13,560	13,508	14,116	13,788	13,183
United States	192,408	192,941	194,103	196,141	195,883	195,791

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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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).