



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set in the United States Up 3 Percent

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 257 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 2, 2026, up 3 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 79.4 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 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 199 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 2, 2026, up 3 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through May 2, 2026 for the United States were 3.33 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					
	March 28, 2026	April 4, 2026	April 11, 2026	April 18, 2026	April 25, 2026	May 2, 2026
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	35,863	35,372	35,760	35,783	35,787	35,828
Arkansas	27,620	27,004	26,909	27,032	27,247	27,100
Delaware	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869	5,869
Georgia	36,128	35,964	36,226	36,048	36,119	36,536
Kentucky	8,359	7,984	7,942	7,985	7,998	8,016
Maryland	8,820	7,953	8,170	8,223	8,308	8,333
Mississippi	18,358	18,648	19,548	19,538	19,475	19,414
Missouri	8,829	9,199	9,185	9,185	9,185	8,901
North Carolina	26,230	24,130	26,040	26,201	26,391	26,406
Oklahoma	6,024	5,927	5,967	5,940	5,931	5,948
Pennsylvania	8,635	9,314	9,392	9,284	9,140	9,181
South Carolina	6,596	6,578	6,556	6,389	6,321	6,282
Texas	19,608	19,817	20,035	19,727	19,581	19,457
Virginia	5,764	5,838	5,845	5,718	5,722	5,868
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	16,724	16,283	16,259	16,318	16,297	16,318
Other States	17,044	17,729	17,124	17,224	17,597	17,301
United States	256,471	253,609	256,827	256,464	256,968	256,758

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

State	Week ending					
	March 28, 2026	April 4, 2026	April 11, 2026	April 18, 2026	April 25, 2026	May 2, 2026
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	23,663	23,624	24,737	25,289	24,660	24,929
Arkansas	22,914	22,304	21,726	23,054	22,641	22,006
Delaware	5,094	5,811	5,757	5,852	4,889	5,019
Georgia	29,509	29,679	27,997	28,141	28,244	29,282
Kentucky	6,180	5,919	6,022	5,948	5,880	6,086
Maryland	7,821	6,922	6,983	6,868	6,488	6,884
Mississippi	14,260	14,420	14,532	14,578	14,775	15,269
Missouri	5,085	5,745	5,952	5,309	5,886	5,768
North Carolina	20,564	20,980	20,358	20,928	19,829	20,961
Oklahoma	3,799	3,810	4,183	3,892	3,369	4,357
Pennsylvania	5,173	5,549	5,508	4,937	5,414	5,351
South Carolina	4,600	4,309	5,323	5,056	4,354	4,830
Texas	14,765	14,881	15,128	15,031	15,141	15,037
Virginia	5,039	4,956	4,989	4,970	5,602	5,598
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	14,115	14,190	13,810	14,563	14,228	13,394
Other States	13,184	13,564	14,280	14,064	14,353	13,813
United States	195,765	196,663	197,285	198,480	195,753	198,584

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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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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