



# 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 256 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 16, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 79.2 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 198 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 16, 2026, up 3 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2026 through May 16, 2026 for the United States were 3.73 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       |                   |                   |                |                |                 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|   | April 11,<br>2026 | April 18,<br>2026 | April 25,<br>2026 | May 2,<br>2026 | May 9,<br>2026 | May 16,<br>2026 |
|   | (1,000 eggs)      | (1,000 eggs)      | (1,000 eggs)      | (1,000 eggs)   | (1,000 eggs)   | (1,000 eggs)    |
| Alabama .....                                     | 35,760            | 35,855            | 35,787            | 35,825         | 35,588         | 35,834          |
| Arkansas .....                                    | 26,909            | 26,683            | 26,688            | 27,100         | 27,086         | 26,837          |
| Delaware .....                                    | 5,869             | 5,869             | 5,869             | 5,869          | 5,869          | 5,869           |
| Georgia .....                                     | 36,226            | 36,223            | 36,119            | 36,536         | 36,226         | 35,579          |
| Kentucky .....                                    | 7,942             | 8,121             | 7,882             | 8,016          | 8,197          | 8,083           |
| Maryland .....                                    | 8,170             | 8,223             | 8,308             | 8,333          | 8,308          | 8,308           |
| Mississippi .....                                 | 19,548            | 19,538            | 19,475            | 19,414         | 19,326         | 19,447          |
| Missouri .....                                    | 9,185             | 9,185             | 9,185             | 8,901          | 9,185          | 9,185           |
| North Carolina .....                              | 26,040            | 26,178            | 26,391            | 26,406         | 26,350         | 26,392          |
| Oklahoma .....                                    | 5,967             | 6,056             | 6,048             | 5,948          | 6,048          | 6,048           |
| Pennsylvania .....                                | 9,392             | 9,375             | 9,140             | 9,133          | 8,819          | 8,841           |
| South Carolina .....                              | 6,556             | 6,389             | 6,321             | 6,282          | 6,291          | 6,354           |
| Texas .....                                       | 20,035            | 19,722            | 19,612            | 19,457         | 19,524         | 19,499          |
| Virginia .....                                    | 5,845             | 5,718             | 5,722             | 5,868          | 5,868          | 5,780           |
| California, Tennessee,<br>and West Virginia ..... | 16,259            | 16,515            | 16,287            | 16,124         | 16,188         | 15,881          |
| Other States .....                                | 17,124            | 17,224            | 17,597            | 17,279         | 17,228         | 17,576          |
| United States .....                               | 256,827           | 256,874           | 256,431           | 256,491        | 256,101        | 255,513         |

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

| State   | Week ending       |                   |                   |                |                |                 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|   | April 11,<br>2026 | April 18,<br>2026 | April 25,<br>2026 | May 2,<br>2026 | May 9,<br>2026 | May 16,<br>2026 |
|   | (1,000 chicks)    | (1,000 chicks)    | (1,000 chicks)    | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks) | (1,000 chicks)  |
| Alabama .....                                     | 24,737            | 25,289            | 24,660            | 24,947         | 24,957         | 24,875          |
| Arkansas .....                                    | 21,726            | 23,054            | 22,641            | 21,987         | 22,583         | 22,083          |
| Delaware .....                                    | 5,757             | 5,852             | 4,889             | 5,019          | 5,386          | 5,636           |
| Georgia .....                                     | 27,997            | 28,141            | 28,244            | 29,282         | 27,983         | 28,715          |
| Kentucky .....                                    | 6,022             | 5,948             | 5,880             | 6,086          | 6,019          | 5,855           |
| Maryland .....                                    | 6,983             | 6,868             | 6,488             | 6,884          | 6,569          | 6,745           |
| Mississippi .....                                 | 14,532            | 14,578            | 14,775            | 15,252         | 15,692         | 15,644          |
| Missouri .....                                    | 5,952             | 5,309             | 5,886             | 5,768          | 6,285          | 5,432           |
| North Carolina .....                              | 20,358            | 20,928            | 19,829            | 20,961         | 20,887         | 21,056          |
| Oklahoma .....                                    | 4,183             | 3,892             | 3,369             | 4,357          | 3,371          | 4,202           |
| Pennsylvania .....                                | 5,508             | 4,937             | 5,414             | 5,351          | 5,451          | 5,329           |
| South Carolina .....                              | 5,323             | 5,056             | 4,354             | 4,825          | 5,276          | 4,335           |
| Texas .....                                       | 15,128            | 15,031            | 15,141            | 15,037         | 14,719         | 14,955          |
| Virginia .....                                    | 4,989             | 4,970             | 5,602             | 5,598          | 5,269          | 5,053           |
| California, Tennessee,<br>and West Virginia ..... | 13,810            | 14,563            | 14,228            | 13,311         | 14,023         | 13,818          |
| Other States .....                                | 14,280            | 14,064            | 14,353            | 14,021         | 14,166         | 14,374          |
| United States .....                               | 197,285           | 198,480           | 195,753           | 198,686        | 198,636        | 198,107         |

## 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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|---|----------------|
| Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch .....   | (202) 692-0069 |
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| Shulonda Blackmon – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....              | (202) 720-3240 |
| Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products .....  | (651) 440-7789 |
| Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....  | (202) 720-3040 |
| Kim DaPra – Milk Production.....  | (202) 720-3278 |
| Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised.....                  | (202) 720-3244 |
| 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 |
| Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs .....   | (202) 690-3676 |
| Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery .....                               | (202) 720-6147 |

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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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist).

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