



Chickens and Eggs

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September Egg Production Up 6 Percent

United States egg production totaled 9.20 billion during September 2026, up 6 percent from last year. Production included 7.93 billion table eggs, and 1.27 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.17 billion were broiler-type and 104 million were egg-type. The average number of layers during September 2026 totaled 385 million, up 5 percent from last year. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,390 eggs, up 1 percent from September 2025.

Total layers in the United States on October 1, 2026 totaled 385 million, up 4 percent from last year. The 385 million layers consisted of 319 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 61.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 4.49 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2026, averaged 79.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from October 1, 2025.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Down 8 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during September 2026 totaled 51.3 million, down 8 percent from September 2025. Eggs in incubators totaled 56.9 million on October 1, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 270 thousand during September 2026, down 1 percent from September 2025.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Up Slightly

Broiler-type chicks hatched during September 2026 totaled 849 million, up slightly from September 2025. Eggs in incubators totaled 740 million on October 1, 2026, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Leading breeders placed 8.81 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2026, up 1 percent from September 2025.

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Average Layers During the Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	2025	2026
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)
December ¹	377,694	373,264
January	369,507	375,661
February	360,746	377,386
March	356,956	376,064
April	358,756	373,210
May	359,620	375,317
June	360,651	376,919
July	363,669	378,982
August	366,028	383,405
September	368,338	385,065
October	369,524	
November	370,049	

¹ December previous year.

Egg Production During the Month by Type – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
December ¹	9,226.7	9,160.1	7,941.9	7,858.6	1,284.8	1,301.5
January	9,005.4	9,204.8	7,709.1	7,891.0	1,296.3	1,313.8
February	7,993.5	8,328.5	6,823.0	7,136.0	1,170.5	1,192.5
March	8,774.2	9,248.7	7,492.6	7,933.2	1,281.6	1,315.5
April	8,492.1	8,916.3	7,253.7	7,645.2	1,238.4	1,271.1
May	8,785.1	9,206.9	7,503.6	7,894.8	1,281.5	1,312.1
June	8,557.4	8,914.4	7,308.4	7,654.7	1,249.0	1,259.7
July	8,933.7	9,312.5	7,633.3	8,008.5	1,300.4	1,304.0
August	8,962.2	9,457.8	7,662.8	8,146.3	1,299.4	1,311.5
September	8,704.1	9,203.0	7,448.6	7,931.6	1,255.5	1,271.4
October	9,041.1		7,749.9		1,291.2	
November	8,771.0		7,523.6		1,247.4	

¹ December previous year.

Egg Production During the Month in Dozens by Type – United States: 2025-2026

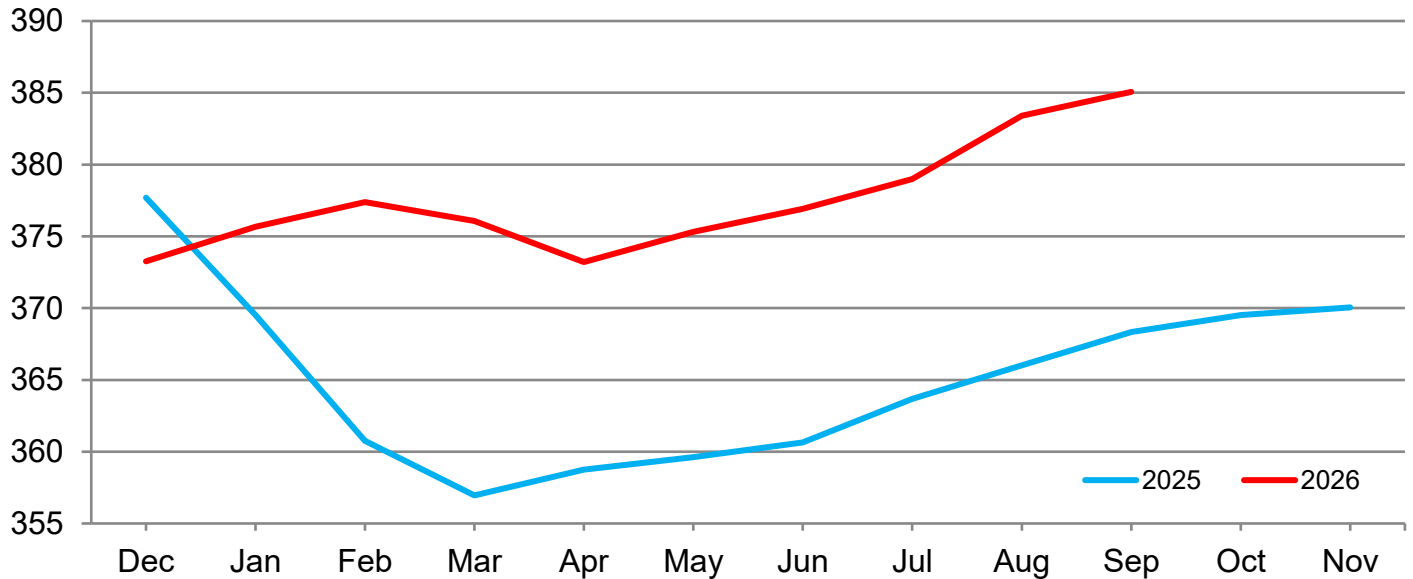
[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total eggs		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)
December ¹	768,891.2	763,341.4	661,824.8	654,883.3	107,066.4	108,458.1
January	750,450.2	767,066.6	642,425.1	657,583.1	108,025.1	109,483.5
February	666,125.3	694,041.9	568,583.8	594,666.8	97,541.5	99,375.1
March	731,183.9	770,724.8	624,383.7	661,099.9	106,800.2	109,624.9
April	707,674.7	743,025.0	604,474.8	637,099.9	103,199.9	105,925.1
May	732,091.7	767,241.6	625,300.2	657,899.9	106,791.5	109,341.7
June	713,116.8	742,867.1	609,033.4	637,892.0	104,083.4	104,975.1
July	744,475.4	776,041.7	636,108.7	667,374.9	108,366.7	108,666.8
August	746,850.2	788,150.0	638,566.8	678,858.3	108,283.4	109,291.7
September	725,341.6	766,916.8	620,716.7	660,966.8	104,624.9	105,950.0
October	753,425.3		645,825.4		107,599.9	
November	730,917.0		626,967.0		103,950.0	

¹ December previous year.

Average Layers During the Month – United States

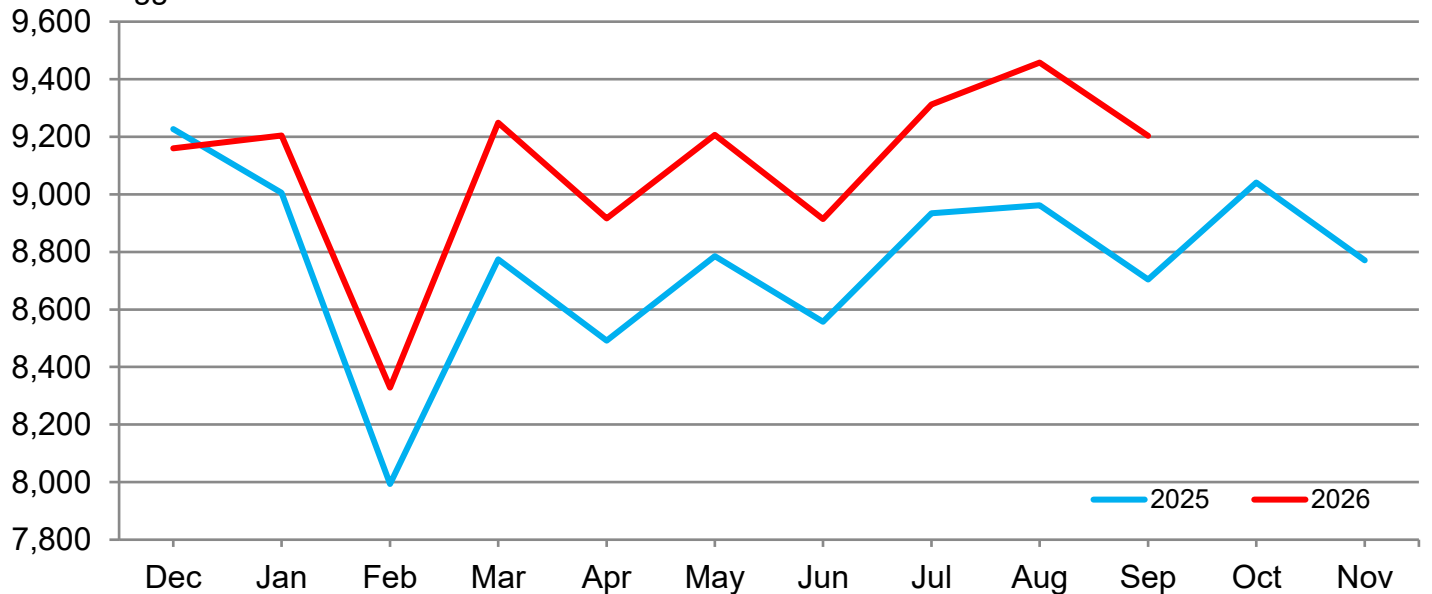
Million layers



December previous year

Total Egg Production During the Month – United States

Million eggs



December previous year

**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States:
August-September 2025 and 2026**

Item	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
Layers during August			
Total layers 1,000	366,028	383,405	105
Table egg type 1,000	301,548	317,933	105
Hatching egg type 1,000	64,480	65,472	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	60,236	61,169	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	4,244	4,303	101
Eggs per 100 layers during August			
Total layers number	2,449	2,467	101
Table egg type number	2,541	2,562	101
Hatching egg type number	2,015	2,003	99
Broiler-type hatching number	1,977	1,974	100
Egg-type hatching number	2,559	2,412	94
Eggs produced during August			
Total layers million	8,962.2	9,457.8	106
Table egg type million	7,662.8	8,146.3	106
Hatching egg type million	1,299.4	1,311.5	101
Broiler-type hatching million	1,190.8	1,207.7	101
Egg-type hatching million	108.6	103.8	96
Eggs produced during August			
Total layers 1,000 dozen	746,850.2	788,150.0	106
Table egg type 1,000 dozen	638,566.8	678,858.3	106
Hatching egg type 1,000 dozen	108,283.4	109,291.7	101
Broiler-type hatching 1,000 dozen	99,233.3	100,641.8	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000 dozen	9,050.1	8,649.9	96
Layers on September 1			
Total layers 1,000	366,941	385,519	105
Table egg type 1,000	302,504	320,007	106
Hatching egg type 1,000	64,437	65,512	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	60,187	61,137	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	4,250	4,375	103
Eggs per 100 layers on September 1			
Total layers number	78.8	79.7	101
Table egg type number	81.8	82.7	101
Hatching egg type number	65.0	64.7	100
Broiler-type hatching number	63.9	63.7	100
Egg-type hatching number	81.4	78.4	96
Molted layers on September 1			
Being molted percent	2.5	1.9	76
Molt completed percent	10.2	7.2	71
Layers sold for slaughter during August 1,000	13,608.8	12,671.9	93
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during August 1,000	9,659.1	9,059.6	94
Pullets on September 1 1,000	142,201	147,694	104
Pullets added during August ¹ 1,000	30,452.5	27,702.4	91

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type and Molt – United States:
September-October 2025 and 2026**

Item	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
Layers during September			
Total layers 1,000	368,338	385,065	105
Table egg type 1,000	304,023	319,536	105
Hatching egg type 1,000	64,315	65,529	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	60,028	61,095	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	4,287	4,434	103
Eggs per 100 layers during September			
Total layers number	2,363	2,390	101
Table egg type number	2,450	2,482	101
Hatching egg type number	1,952	1,940	99
Broiler-type hatching number	1,920	1,910	99
Egg-type hatching number	2,400	2,350	98
Eggs produced during September			
Total layers million	8,704.1	9,203.0	106
Table egg type million	7,448.6	7,931.6	106
Hatching egg type million	1,255.5	1,271.4	101
Broiler-type hatching million	1,152.6	1,167.2	101
Egg-type hatching million	102.9	104.2	101
Eggs produced during September			
Total layers 1,000 dozen	725,341.6	766,916.8	106
Table egg type 1,000 dozen	620,716.7	660,966.8	106
Hatching egg type 1,000 dozen	104,624.9	105,950.0	101
Broiler-type hatching 1,000 dozen	96,049.9	97,266.6	101
Egg-type hatching 1,000 dozen	8,575.0	8,683.4	101
Layers on October 1			
Total layers 1,000	369,710	384,582	104
Table egg type 1,000	305,528	319,051	104
Hatching egg type 1,000	64,182	65,531	102
Broiler-type hatching 1,000	59,861	61,042	102
Egg-type hatching 1,000	4,321	4,489	104
Eggs per 100 layers on October 1			
Total layers number	78.6	79.6	101
Table egg type number	81.5	82.7	101
Hatching egg type number	65.1	64.6	99
Broiler-type hatching number	64.1	63.6	99
Egg-type hatching number	78.7	78.5	100
Molted layers on October 1			
Being molted percent	2.3	1.5	65
Molt completed percent	10.6	7.3	69
Layers sold for slaughter during September 1,000	13,932.7	12,471.1	90
Layers rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason during September 1,000	9,760.0	9,802.8	100
Pullets on October 1 1,000	140,846	148,691	106
Pullets added during September ¹ 1,000	27,473.4	24,738.4	90

¹ Pullet chicks less than 3 days old added to pullet flocks.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During August 2025 and 2026

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		Total layers		Eggs per 100 for total layers	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,160	1,155	11,131	11,823	1,895	1,858
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	15,513	15,226	2,179	2,155
California	5,615	8,565	5,978	8,918	2,384	2,440
Colorado	2,536	1,860	3,024	2,361	2,454	2,618
Georgia	9,627	9,464	19,179	19,062	2,237	2,315
Illinois	6,121	7,037	6,690	7,627	2,578	2,528
Indiana	34,561	39,273	35,503	40,122	2,505	2,574
Iowa	43,654	43,977	45,753	46,107	2,623	2,628
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	5,358	4,932	2,199	2,157
Michigan	12,769	14,042	13,335	14,628	2,613	2,567
Minnesota	7,200	7,468	7,680	7,987	2,633	2,662
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	5,845	6,046	2,171	2,172
Missouri	13,133	12,788	17,342	16,968	2,570	2,488
Nebraska	8,227	7,887	8,915	8,529	2,508	2,513
New York	5,469	5,409	5,987	5,927	2,579	2,619
North Carolina	5,582	4,812	14,122	13,491	2,235	2,233
Ohio	35,715	43,741	37,001	45,027	2,522	2,560
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	1,964	1,996	1,889	1,979
Oregon	1,326	1,430	1,436	1,540	2,556	2,435
Pennsylvania	22,823	23,482	26,201	27,079	2,600	2,574
South Carolina	2,469	2,346	3,833	3,662	2,218	2,310
Texas	(D)	(D)	22,205	21,947	2,344	2,345
Utah	6,898	6,261	6,938	6,301	2,443	2,544
Washington	5,430	4,950	5,532	5,052	2,395	2,389
Wisconsin	7,101	4,539	8,300	5,735	2,484	2,687
Other States ¹	51,048	54,316	31,263	35,312	2,460	2,471
United States	288,464	304,802	366,028	383,405	2,449	2,467

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – States and United States: During September 2025 and 2026

State	Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 and above		Total layers		Eggs per 100 for total layers	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(1,000 layers)	(eggs)	(eggs)
Alabama	1,182	1,156	11,055	11,891	1,825	1,799
Arkansas	(D)	(D)	15,374	15,140	2,100	2,102
California	6,390	8,655	6,753	9,005	2,275	2,390
Colorado	2,524	1,905	3,012	2,416	2,301	2,459
Georgia	9,650	9,511	19,163	18,953	2,201	2,240
Illinois	6,116	7,221	6,695	7,801	2,503	2,463
Indiana	34,994	40,118	35,850	40,975	2,367	2,485
Iowa	43,643	43,263	45,760	45,474	2,531	2,549
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	5,247	4,906	2,127	2,126
Michigan	12,806	13,717	13,372	14,303	2,557	2,452
Minnesota	7,230	7,609	7,719	8,108	2,542	2,604
Mississippi	(D)	(D)	5,948	6,031	2,102	2,119
Missouri	12,761	13,349	16,942	17,520	2,455	2,455
Nebraska	8,306	7,887	8,974	8,541	2,469	2,427
New York	5,437	5,261	5,956	5,784	2,505	2,531
North Carolina	6,094	4,937	14,625	13,696	2,148	2,151
Ohio	36,206	43,543	37,492	44,829	2,452	2,474
Oklahoma	(D)	(D)	2,017	1,867	1,904	1,950
Oregon	1,500	1,350	1,610	1,460	2,528	2,568
Pennsylvania	23,278	24,233	26,748	27,901	2,497	2,489
South Carolina	2,458	2,342	3,835	3,669	2,188	2,319
Texas	(D)	(D)	22,152	22,336	2,238	2,240
Utah	6,792	6,272	6,832	6,312	2,398	2,487
Washington	5,304	4,906	5,406	5,008	2,259	2,358
Wisconsin	6,732	4,473	7,932	5,653	2,520	2,579
Other States ¹	51,536	54,741	31,869	35,486	2,364	2,385
United States	290,939	306,449	368,338	385,065	2,363	2,390

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	210.9	219.7	28.5	30.3	182.4	189.4
Arkansas	338.0	328.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	142.5	217.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	74.2	61.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	429.1	441.2	242.8	245.3	186.3	195.9
Illinois	172.5	192.8	167.9	187.8	4.6	5.0
Indiana	889.4	1,032.6	875.7	1,022.0	13.7	10.6
Iowa	1,200.3	1,211.6	1,171.0	1,182.4	29.3	29.2
Kentucky	117.8	106.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	348.4	375.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	202.2	212.6	194.6	204.0	7.6	8.6
Mississippi	126.9	131.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	445.7	422.2	404.0	382.8	41.7	39.4
Nebraska	223.6	214.3	210.6	201.8	13.0	12.5
New York	154.4	155.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	315.6	301.2	148.8	134.7	166.8	166.5
Ohio	933.0	1,152.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	37.1	39.5	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	36.7	37.5	36.7	37.5	-	-
Pennsylvania	681.3	697.1	630.3	643.0	51.0	54.1
South Carolina	85.0	84.6	60.0	60.8	25.0	23.8
Texas	520.4	514.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	169.5	160.3	169.5	160.3	-	-
Washington	132.5	120.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	206.2	154.1	199.2	147.6	7.0	6.5
Other States ¹	769.0	872.7	3,123.2	3,506.0	571.0	570.0
United States	8,962.2	9,457.8	7,662.8	8,146.3	1,299.4	1,311.5

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg Production by Type – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)	(million eggs)
Alabama	201.7	213.9	27.8	29.1	173.9	184.8
Arkansas	322.8	318.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	153.6	215.2	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	69.3	59.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	421.8	424.6	237.9	238.5	183.9	186.1
Illinois	167.6	192.1	162.9	187.6	4.7	4.5
Indiana	848.4	1,018.1	837.8	1,007.6	10.6	10.5
Iowa	1,158.1	1,159.0	1,130.3	1,128.6	27.8	30.4
Kentucky	111.6	104.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	341.9	350.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	196.2	211.1	188.3	203.2	7.9	7.9
Mississippi	125.0	127.8	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	415.9	430.1	376.1	392.2	39.8	37.9
Nebraska	221.6	207.3	209.3	195.2	12.3	12.1
New York	149.2	146.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	314.2	294.6	152.5	132.9	161.7	161.7
Ohio	919.4	1,109.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	38.4	36.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	40.7	37.5	40.7	37.5	-	-
Pennsylvania	667.9	694.5	617.8	640.4	50.1	54.1
South Carolina	83.9	85.1	59.6	61.8	24.3	23.3
Texas	495.8	500.4	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	163.8	157.0	163.8	157.0	-	-
Washington	122.1	118.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	199.9	145.8	193.3	139.8	6.6	6.0
Other States ¹	753.3	846.2	3,050.5	3,380.2	551.9	552.1
United States	8,704.1	9,203.0	7,448.6	7,931.6	1,255.5	1,271.4

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg Production in Dozens by Type – States and United States: August 2025 and 2026

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)
Alabama	17,575.0	18,308.3	2,375.0	2,525.0	15,200.0	15,783.3
Arkansas	28,166.7	27,341.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	11,875.0	18,133.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	6,183.3	5,150.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	35,758.4	36,766.7	20,233.4	20,441.7	15,525.0	16,325.0
Illinois	14,375.1	16,066.7	13,991.7	15,650.0	383.4	416.7
Indiana	74,116.7	86,049.9	72,975.0	85,166.6	1,141.7	883.3
Iowa	100,025.0	100,966.6	97,583.4	98,533.3	2,441.6	2,433.3
Kentucky	9,816.7	8,866.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	29,033.3	31,291.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	16,850.0	17,716.6	16,216.6	17,000.0	633.4	716.6
Mississippi	10,575.0	10,941.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	37,141.6	35,183.3	33,666.6	31,900.0	3,475.0	3,283.3
Nebraska	18,633.3	17,858.4	17,550.0	16,816.7	1,083.3	1,041.7
New York	12,866.7	12,933.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	26,300.0	25,100.0	12,400.0	11,225.0	13,900.0	13,875.0
Ohio	77,750.0	96,041.6	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	3,091.6	3,291.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	3,058.3	3,125.0	3,058.3	3,125.0	-	-
Pennsylvania	56,775.0	58,091.7	52,525.0	53,583.4	4,250.0	4,508.3
South Carolina	7,083.3	7,049.9	5,000.0	5,066.6	2,083.3	1,983.3
Texas	43,366.7	42,891.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	14,125.0	13,358.3	14,125.0	13,358.3	-	-
Washington	11,041.7	10,058.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	17,183.3	12,841.7	16,600.0	12,300.0	583.3	541.7
Other States ¹	64,083.5	72,725.2	260,266.8	292,166.7	47,583.4	47,500.2
United States	746,850.2	788,150.0	638,566.8	678,858.3	108,283.4	109,291.7

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg Production in Dozens by Type – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026

[Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in United States totals]

State	Total production		Table eggs		Hatching eggs	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)	(1,000 dozen eggs)
Alabama	16,808.3	17,825.0	2,316.6	2,425.0	14,491.7	15,400.0
Arkansas	26,900.0	26,525.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
California	12,799.9	17,933.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	5,775.1	4,950.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	35,150.0	35,383.4	19,825.0	19,875.0	15,325.0	15,508.4
Illinois	13,966.6	16,008.3	13,575.0	15,633.3	391.6	375.0
Indiana	70,700.0	84,841.7	69,816.7	83,966.7	883.3	875.0
Iowa	96,508.4	96,583.3	94,191.7	94,050.0	2,316.7	2,533.3
Kentucky	9,300.1	8,691.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan	28,491.6	29,225.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	16,350.1	17,591.6	15,691.7	16,933.3	658.4	658.3
Mississippi	10,416.7	10,650.0	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Missouri	34,658.4	35,841.7	31,341.7	32,683.4	3,316.7	3,158.3
Nebraska	18,466.7	17,274.9	17,441.7	16,266.6	1,025.0	1,008.3
New York	12,433.3	12,200.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	26,183.3	24,550.0	12,708.3	11,075.0	13,475.0	13,475.0
Ohio	76,616.7	92,425.1	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oklahoma	3,199.9	3,033.3	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Oregon	3,391.6	3,125.0	3,391.6	3,125.0	-	-
Pennsylvania	55,658.3	57,875.1	51,483.3	53,366.7	4,175.0	4,508.4
South Carolina	6,991.7	7,091.7	4,966.7	5,150.0	2,025.0	1,941.7
Texas	41,316.6	41,699.9	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utah	13,650.0	13,083.3	13,650.0	13,083.3	-	-
Washington	10,175.0	9,841.7	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	16,658.3	12,150.0	16,108.3	11,650.0	550.0	500.0
Other States ¹	62,775.0	70,516.7	254,208.4	281,683.5	45,991.5	46,008.3
United States	725,341.6	766,916.8	620,716.7	660,966.8	104,624.9	105,950.0

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Include State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Total Layers Molted First Day of the Month by Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Being molted		Molt completed	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
January	2.2	1.6	10.3	10.7
February	2.2	2.6	10.6	10.6
March	2.0	1.8	10.3	10.5
April	2.3	1.5	10.3	10.0
May	2.5	1.6	10.3	9.4
June	2.4	2.0	9.7	8.9
July	2.0	1.7	10.1	8.5
August	2.5	2.5	10.1	7.5
September	2.5	1.9	10.2	7.2
October	2.3	1.5	10.6	7.3
November	2.1		10.9	
December	1.9		11.1	

Total Layers Molted First Day of the Month – States and United States: September 1 and October 1, 2025-2026

State	Being molted				Molt completed			
	September 1		October 1		September 1		October 1	
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	2.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	4.0	4.5	6.0	4.5
Arkansas	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.0	10.5	9.5	9.5	7.5
California	-	0.5	1.0	0.5	5.0	3.0	4.5	3.0
Colorado	1.5	1.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.5	2.0
Georgia	5.0	0.5	2.0	0.5	5.5	5.5	10.0	3.0
Illinois	5.5	3.0	5.5	3.0	21.5	11.5	17.0	12.0
Indiana	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.5	9.0	4.5	9.5	5.0
Iowa	2.0	3.0	0.5	2.0	12.0	3.0	11.5	4.5
Kentucky	4.0	2.0	7.5	2.0	20.0	16.0	21.0	12.5
Michigan	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.0	2.0
Minnesota	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	1.5	3.5	2.5
Mississippi	2.0	2.5	1.0	3.0	15.5	8.0	15.5	10.0
Missouri	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	11.5	6.5	8.0	6.0
Nebraska	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
New York	2.5	2.0	5.5	1.5	4.0	1.5	4.0	3.5
North Carolina	1.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	5.5	7.0	5.5	7.0
Ohio	1.0	2.0	1.5	0.5	7.0	2.0	6.0	2.5
Oklahoma	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.5	26.0	7.0	25.5	13.5
Oregon	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Pennsylvania	1.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	4.5	9.0	4.5	9.0
South Carolina	4.0	5.5	8.5	2.5	10.0	22.5	9.5	25.0
Texas	7.0	4.0	7.0	4.0	38.0	22.0	41.5	20.0
Utah	6.5	2.5	9.0	2.5	5.5	23.5	12.0	22.0
Washington	2.0	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.5
Wisconsin	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	3.0	1.5	3.5	1.5
Other States ¹	4.0	2.5	4.1	2.8	14.4	15.0	15.5	15.1
United States	2.5	1.9	2.3	1.5	10.2	7.2	10.6	7.3

- Represents zero.

¹ Include State estimates not shown.

Hatchery Production – United States: 2025 and 2026

Item	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
Egg-type			
Eggs in incubators on October 1	55,812	56,879	102
Chicks hatched during September	55,639	51,321	92
Chicks hatched January through September	526,935	504,600	96
Pullets hatched during September for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	272	270	99
Cumulative potential placements 7-18 months earlier ¹	2,739	2,780	101
Broiler-type			
Eggs in incubators on October 1	726,714	739,697	102
Chicks hatched during September	847,190	849,406	100
Chicks hatched January through September	7,696,563	7,835,668	102
Pullets hatched during September for intended placements:			
Hatchery supply flocks	8,760	8,806	101
Cumulative potential placements 7-15 months earlier ²	77,547	76,968	99

¹ 2026 includes pullet chicks hatched March 2025 through February 2026.

² 2026 includes pullet chicks hatched June 2025 through February 2026.

Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	52,411	53,109	101
February	56,032	57,766	103
March	57,939	57,119	99
April	61,895	60,664	98
May	60,738	61,007	100
June	59,828	58,543	98
July	56,016	56,572	101
August	56,077	57,224	102
September	53,397	56,992	107
October	55,812	56,879	102
November	54,910		
December	54,137		

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	56,351	53,450	95	56,351	53,450	95
February	57,191	54,261	95	113,542	107,711	95
March	60,769	58,615	96	174,311	166,326	95
April	61,286	59,249	97	235,597	225,575	96
May	60,389	58,134	96	295,986	283,709	96
June	59,587	58,635	98	355,573	342,344	96
July	58,236	58,409	100	413,809	400,753	97
August	57,487	52,526	91	471,296	453,279	96
September	55,639	51,321	92	526,935	504,600	96
October	57,251			584,186		
November	53,116			637,302		
December	52,845			690,147		

Intended Placements of Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total – United States: 2025-2027

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2026 as percent of 2025	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-18 months earlier ¹	
	2025	2026		2026	2027
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
January	200	205	103	2,721	2,777
February	226	277	123	2,737	2,771
March	197	201	102	2,732	2,752
April	235	228	97	2,728	2,750
May	246	258	105	2,719	
June	227	215	95	2,721	
July	216	210	97	2,724	
August	258	239	93	2,729	
September	272	270	99	2,780	
October	236			2,784	
November	193			2,777	
December	218			2,789	
Annual total	2,724				

¹ For September 2026, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched March 2025 through February 2026. The 7-18 months represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements.

Broiler-Type Eggs in Incubators on the First of the Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(percent)
January	745,122	757,696	102
February	743,724	759,294	102
March	747,248	763,816	102
April	747,638	765,382	102
May	750,444	769,809	103
June	757,387	770,738	102
July	751,792	758,314	101
August	748,411	758,513	101
September	748,295	751,417	100
October	726,714	739,697	102
November	728,219		
December	758,092		

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched – States and United States: September 2025 and 2026

State	During September			January-September		
	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
Alabama	117,761	118,810	101	1,089,183	1,095,859	101
Arkansas	89,296	87,345	98	811,945	828,892	102
Delaware	18,885	18,872	100	173,527	179,971	104
Georgia	117,582	119,523	102	1,062,139	1,093,297	103
Kentucky	26,976	26,826	99	249,707	251,561	101
Maryland	28,145	28,938	103	258,906	261,562	101
Mississippi	62,424	64,113	103	564,431	592,271	105
Missouri	32,679	31,132	95	286,608	286,624	100
North Carolina	86,753	85,613	99	789,569	795,456	101
Oklahoma	19,454	18,776	97	177,579	174,860	98
Pennsylvania	30,706	32,967	107	273,044	290,162	106
South Carolina	19,685	20,113	102	178,776	187,432	105
Texas	66,649	63,814	96	601,890	597,109	99
Virginia	18,964	19,422	102	174,006	178,007	102
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	53,950	53,787	100	486,790	491,563	101
Other States ¹	57,281	59,355	104	518,463	531,042	102
United States	847,190	849,406	100	7,696,563	7,835,668	102

¹ Includes State estimates not shown.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched by Month – United States: 2025-2026

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Monthly			Cumulative		
	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025	2025	2026	2026 as percent of 2025
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)
January	869,126	887,947	102	869,126	887,947	102
February	779,294	797,784	102	1,648,420	1,685,731	102
March	866,665	888,877	103	2,515,085	2,574,608	102
April	842,017	866,689	103	3,357,102	3,441,297	103
May	876,819	899,764	103	4,233,921	4,341,061	103
June	856,858	871,423	102	5,090,779	5,212,484	102
July	880,242	886,704	101	5,971,021	6,099,188	102
August	878,352	887,074	101	6,849,373	6,986,262	102
September	847,190	849,406	100	7,696,563	7,835,668	101
October	852,447			8,549,010		
November	831,817			9,380,827		
December	889,026			10,269,853		

Intended Placements of Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply Flocks by Month and Total: 2025-2027

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Pullet chicks hatched		2026 as percent of 2025	Cumulative potential placements relative to current supply flocks 7-15 months earlier ¹	
	2025	2026		2026	2027
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(percent)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
United States placements					
January	7,774	8,553	110	77,166	78,964
February	8,223	9,056	110	77,408	79,682
March	9,408	9,221	98	77,384	79,867
April	8,873	8,667	98	77,007	79,856
May	8,051	9,514	118	77,021	
June	9,379	9,272	99	76,874	
July	8,300	8,506	102	76,283	
August	8,239	8,261	100	75,963	
September	8,760	8,806	101	76,968	
October	7,788			76,810	
November	8,076			77,177	
December	8,817			78,452	
Annual total	101,688				
Total placements ²					
January	9,698	10,758	111		
February	10,431	11,053	106		
March	11,681	11,883	102		
April	10,805	10,638	98		
May	9,948	11,385	114		
June	11,767	11,249	96		
July	10,149	10,771	106		
August	9,950	10,282	103		
September	11,049	10,892	99		
October	9,619				
November	9,814				
December	10,827				
Annual total	125,738				

¹ For September 2026, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched June 2025 through February 2026.

² United States production of intended placements worldwide.

Terms and Definitions of Chickens and Eggs Estimates

Total Layers includes both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

Intended Placements are reported by leading breeders. Coverage may not be 100 percent. Includes expected pullet chicks from eggs sold during the preceding month at the rate of 125 pullet chicks per case of 30 dozen eggs.

Molted Layers is the same data series as the previously published Forced Molt Layers. Nomenclature changed as of January 2015.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Primary data for the *Chickens and Eggs* report are from weekly and/or monthly questionnaires sent to producers. An attempt is made to collect information for layer and egg estimates from each known contractor and independent producer who has at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, or pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 500 contractors, independent egg producers, and pullet only operations are contacted each month. Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all broiler-type hatcheries that hatch at least one million chicks a year. Data for egg-type hatchery estimates are collected monthly from all egg-type hatcheries that hatch at least 50,000 chicks a year.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the reported data. 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.

For chicken hatcheries, chicks hatched consist of all chicks of domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. Eggs set are eggs in incubators for the purpose of hatching. The relationship of egg-type chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings are carefully monitored. The disposition of egg-type chicks hatched prior to placement into the laying flock can vary significantly, which can make comparisons to changes in layer inventory inconsistent over time. Broiler chicks placed are specifically for meat production. Intended placement data reported by leading breeders include pullet chicks expected from eggs sold the preceding month. The breeders in this report account for a large percentage of replacement pullets for hatchery supply flocks. Production of replacement pullets by these breeders indicates the number of pullets available to hatchery supply layer flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the laying flocks. "Hatchery Supply Flocks" include all generations of layers which could lay eggs to supply a hatchery. This includes the generations of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, pedigree, etc. Also included are research flocks, vaccine flocks, and specific pathogen-free flocks. The broiler cumulative potential placements are a moving total of the intended placements 7-15 months earlier. The egg-type cumulative potential placements of 7-18 months earlier represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

Revision Policy: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual reports of *Chickens and Eggs Summary* and *Hatchery Production Summary*. Estimates will also be reviewed for chickens and eggs after data from the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Estimates are based on a census of all known contractors and independent producers who have at least 30,000 table egg layers, flocks of hatchery supply layers, pullet only operations with at least 500 pullets, or operating hatcheries and therefore, have no sampling error. However, 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.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error" is shown for selected items in the following table. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for total layers over the past 24 months is 1.1 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 385 million layers by more than 1.1 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.9 percent.

Reliability of Layer and Egg Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Total layers	1.1	1.9	3,067	114	8,645	21	3
			(million)	(million)	(million)		
Eggs	1.2	2.0	77	4	232	20	4

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Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Eggs, Hogs and Pigs, Layers, Sheep and Goats

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Cattle, Cattle on Feed, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage

Fleming Gibson, Section Chief (Acting)..... (202) 236-2428

Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Dairy Products, Livestock Slaughter, Poultry Slaughter, Trout, Turkey Hatchery, Turkey Raised

Julie Weber, Section Chief..... (202) 317-0165

Cost of Pollination, Egg Products, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Milk Production

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