

Chickens and Eggs

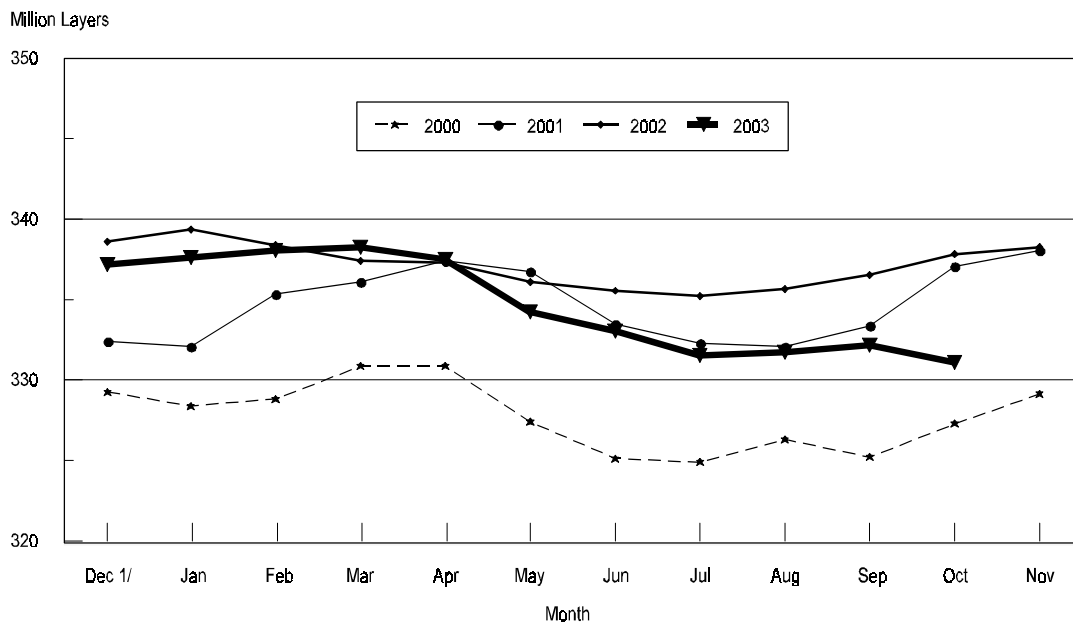
Released October 21, 2003, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "*Chickens and Eggs*" call Tom Kruchten at (202) 690-4870, for "Hatch" call Jody Roberts at (202) 690-8632, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

September Egg Production Down 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.05 billion during September 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.04 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs, of which 961 million were broiler-type and 55.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2003 averaged 332 million, down 2 percent from a year earlier. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,127 eggs, up slightly from September 2002.

September 2003 contained 22 weekdays, one holiday and four Saturdays, compared to September 2002, with 21 weekdays, one holiday and four Saturdays.

All Layers: 1st of Month United States, 2000 - 2003



1/ Previous Year

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2003, totaled 331 million, down 2 percent from a year ago. The 331 million layers consisted of 274 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 54.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.35 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2003, averaged 71.2 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.58 billion eggs during September 2003, down 2 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during September, at 309 million, was down 2 percent from a year ago.

Individual State estimates are available for the 30 major egg producing States. These States are listed on page 8 of this release and account for approximately 94 percent of the total U.S. egg production. Production for the other States are grouped into an "Other States" category and combined with the 30 States published individually to obtain a U.S. estimate.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up Slightly

Egg-type chicks hatched during September totaled 35.8 million, up slightly from September 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.1 million on October 1, 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 269,000 during September 2003, down 3 percent from September 2002.

Broiler Hatch Down Slightly

The September 2003 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 739 million, was down slightly from September of the previous year. There were 600 million eggs in incubators on October 1, 2003, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.7 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2003, down slightly from September 2002.

**All Layers: Average Number on Hand During the Month,
United States, 2000-03**

Month	2000	2001	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>
Dec ¹	328,878	332,283	339,105	337,473
Jan	328,657	333,748	338,966	337,900
Feb	329,941	335,763	337,991	337,881
Mar	330,961	336,822	337,447	337,513
Apr	329,185	337,141	336,776	335,780
May	326,288	335,163	335,865	333,778
Jun	325,057	332,928	335,412	332,417
Jul	325,663	332,244	335,498	331,823
Aug	325,853	332,808	336,159	332,124
Sep	326,337	335,276	337,264	331,659
Oct	328,278	337,593	338,159	
Nov	330,830	338,366	337,808	

¹ December preceding year.

**Eggs: Production During the Month by Type,
United States, 2002-03**

Month	Total Eggs		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
Dec ¹	7,420	7,381	6,343	6,325	1,076	1,055
Jan	7,264	7,329	6,170	6,246	1,093	1,082
Feb	6,581	6,618	5,592	5,629	988	988
Mar	7,417	7,362	6,312	6,255	1,104	1,107
Apr	7,105	7,128	6,016	6,045	1,089	1,083
May	7,297	7,275	6,161	6,148	1,135	1,127
Jun	7,126	7,053	6,037	5,978	1,089	1,075
Jul	7,347	7,345	6,243	6,259	1,104	1,085
Aug	7,356	7,312	6,263	6,242	1,093	1,069
Sep	7,147	7,054	6,100	6,038	1,046	1,016
Oct	7,412		6,345		1,067	
Nov	7,226		6,204		1,020	
During Year	86,698	71,857	73,786	61,165	12,904	10,687

¹ December preceding year.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, August-September 2002-03**

Item	Unit	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Layers During Aug	1,000			
All Layers		336,159	332,124	99
Table Egg Type		277,414	274,347	99
Hatching Egg Type		58,745	57,777	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		56,147	55,236	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,598	2,541	98
Eggs per 100 Layers During Aug	Number			
All Layers		2,188	2,202	101
Table Egg Type		2,258	2,275	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,861	1,850	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,838	1,827	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,348	2,361	101
Eggs Produced During Aug	Million			
All Layers		7,356	7,312	99
Table Egg Type		6,263	6,242	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,093	1,069	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,032	1,009	98
Egg-Type Hatching		61	60	98
Layers on Sep 1	1,000			
All Layers		336,561	332,181	99
Table Egg Type		278,168	274,830	99
Hatching Egg Type		58,393	57,351	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		55,879	54,865	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,514	2,486	99
Eggs per 100 Layers on Sep 1	Number			
All Layers		70.8	70.6	100
Table Egg Type		73.0	72.9	100
Hatching Egg Type		60.1	59.2	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.4	58.4	98
Egg-Type Hatching		76.0	75.8	100
Forced Molt Layers on Sep 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		4.2	3.9	93
Percent with Molt Completed		23.4	22.8	97
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Aug	1,000	14,389	14,322	100
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Aug	1,000	4,387	5,749	131
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Sep 1	1,000	95,363	99,722	105
Pullets Added During Aug ¹	1,000	23,912	23,146	97

¹ Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, September-October 2002-03**

Item	Unit	2002 ¹	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Layers During Sep	1,000			
All Layers		337,264	331,659	98
Table Egg Type		279,351	274,388	98
Hatching Egg Type		57,913	57,271	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		55,427	54,852	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,486	2,419	97
Eggs per 100 Layers During Sep	Number			
All Layers		2,119	2,127	100
Table Egg Type		2,184	2,201	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,806	1,774	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,786	1,752	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,253	2,274	101
Eggs Produced During Sep	Million			
All Layers		7,147	7,054	99
Table Egg Type		6,100	6,038	99
Hatching Egg Type		1,046	1,016	97
Broiler-Type Hatching		990	961	97
Egg-Type Hatching		56	55	98
Layers on Oct 1	1,000			
All Layers		337,923	331,093	98
Table Egg Type		280,514	273,922	98
Hatching Egg Type		57,409	57,171	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,960	54,826	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,449	2,345	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Oct 1	Number			
All Layers		70.2	71.2	101
Table Egg Type		72.3	73.7	102
Hatching Egg Type		60.0	59.1	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.3	58.4	98
Egg-Type Hatching		74.3	75.6	102
Forced Molt Layers, Oct 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		4.6	5.1	111
Percent with Molt Completed		23.7	23.1	97
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Sep	1,000	15,771	13,648	87
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed. Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Sep	1,000	3,988	5,405	136
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Oct 1	1,000	92,954	100,071	108
Pullets Added During Sep ²	1,000	22,428	20,808	93

¹ Revised.

² Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced
Molt, 30 Selected States, August-September, 2002-03 ¹**

Item	Unit	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Layers During Aug	1,000			
All Layers		314,748	309,736	98
Table Egg Type		260,714	256,734	98
Hatching Egg Type		54,034	53,002	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		51,521	50,550	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,513	2,452	98
Eggs per 100 Layers During Aug	Number			
All Layers		2,190	2,203	101
Table Egg Type		2,258	2,277	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,864	1,847	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,840	1,822	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,348	2,365	101
Eggs Produced During Aug	Million			
All Layers		6,893	6,825	99
Table Egg Type		5,886	5,846	99
Hatching Egg Type		1,007	979	97
Broiler-Type Hatching		948	921	97
Egg-Type Hatching		59	58	98
Layers on Sep 1	1,000			
All Layers		315,248	309,828	98
Table Egg Type		261,549	257,225	98
Hatching Egg Type		53,699	52,603	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		51,278	50,206	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,421	2,397	99
Eggs per 100 Layers on Sep 1	Number			
All Layers		70.8	70.6	100
Table Egg Type		73.0	72.9	100
Hatching Egg Type		60.1	59.1	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.4	58.3	98
Egg-Type Hatching		75.9	75.9	100
Forced Molt Layers on Sep 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		4.2	3.9	93
Percent with Molt Completed		23.3	22.5	97
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Aug	1,000	13,022	12,928	99
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Aug	1,000	4,111	5,467	133
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Sep 1	1,000	89,252	93,013	104
Pullets Added During Aug ²	1,000	22,557	21,283	94

¹ The 30 States are listed in the table on page 8.

² Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, and Forced
Molt, 30 Selected States, September-October, 2002-03 ¹**

Item	Unit	2002 ²	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Layers During Sep	1,000			
All Layers		315,926	309,381	98
Table Egg Type		262,678	256,757	98
Hatching Egg Type		53,248	52,624	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		50,855	50,287	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,393	2,337	98
Eggs per 100 Layers During Sep	1,000			
All Layers		2,117	2,128	101
Table Egg Type		2,181	2,200	101
Hatching Egg Type		1,803	1,775	98
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,782	1,752	98
Egg-Type Hatching		2,257	2,268	100
Eggs Produced During Sep	Million			
All Layers		6,689	6,583	98
Table Egg Type		5,728	5,649	99
Hatching Egg Type		960	934	97
Broiler-Type Hatching		906	881	97
Egg-Type Hatching		54	53	98
Layers on Oct 1	1,000			
All Layers		316,569	308,899	98
Table Egg Type		263,793	256,272	97
Hatching Egg Type		52,776	52,627	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		50,419	50,356	100
Egg-Type Hatching		2,357	2,271	96
Eggs per 100 Layers on Oct 1	Number			
All Layers		70.2	71.2	101
Table Egg Type		72.3	73.7	102
Hatching Egg Type		59.9	59.2	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.2	58.5	99
Egg-Type Hatching		74.1	75.8	102
Forced Molt Layers, Oct 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		4.7	5.2	111
Percent with Molt Completed		23.5	22.7	97
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Sep	1,000	14,262	12,572	88
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Sep	1,000	3,776	5,165	137
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Oct 1	1,000	87,082	93,127	107
Pullets Added During Sep ³	1,000	21,079	19,289	92

¹ The 30 States are listed in the table on page 8.

² Revised.

³ Pullet chicks one day old added to pullet flocks.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During August 2002-03**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	2,282	2,176	10,023	9,727	1,886	1,902
AR	4,315	4,392	14,396	14,824	1,945	1,916
CA	22,687	19,072	23,269	19,509	2,205	2,225
CO	3,456	3,276	3,933	3,753	2,339	2,371
CT	3,030	2,829	3,090	2,891	2,233	2,352
FL	9,789	10,280	10,508	10,812	2,170	2,229
GA	10,604	10,958	20,005	20,230	2,039	2,101
HI	488	469	538	505	1,784	1,980
IL	2,957	3,424	3,196	3,650	2,222	2,384
IN	21,789	21,709	22,468	22,328	2,288	2,244
IA	36,840	38,129	37,657	38,918	2,292	2,233
ME	4,164	4,172	4,221	4,224	2,180	2,344
MD	2,913	2,556	3,098	2,720	2,421	2,132
MI	6,542	6,387	6,793	6,638	2,296	2,245
MN	10,653	10,463	11,396	11,061	2,264	2,251
MS	1,746	1,843	6,900	6,823	2,014	1,949
MO	5,558	5,550	7,002	6,953	2,314	2,330
NE	11,537	11,708	11,637	11,808	2,243	2,304
NY	3,694	3,444	3,916	3,684	2,349	2,443
NC	3,390	3,372	11,001	10,500	1,927	1,990
OH	30,349	28,376	30,861	28,873	2,236	2,265
OK	2,024	1,936	4,206	4,081	1,915	1,887
OR	2,523	2,719	2,713	2,906	2,322	2,374
PA	22,377	22,219	23,717	23,583	2,319	2,345
SC	4,326	4,136	5,359	5,225	2,109	2,258
SD	2,131	3,043	2,331	3,243	1,973	2,313
TX	13,913	13,960	18,276	18,196	2,172	2,171
VA	1,225	1,100	2,881	3,022	1,975	1,952
WA	5,122	4,764	5,195	4,835	2,214	2,378
WI	3,560	3,702	4,162	4,214	2,307	2,278
30 Sts	255,984	252,164	314,748	309,736	2,190	2,203
Oth Sts ²	15,528	16,474	21,411	22,388	2,162	2,175
US	271,512	268,638	336,159	332,124	2,188	2,202

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During September 2002-03**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	2,373	2,112	9,989	9,568	1,872	1,871
AR	4,435	4,229	14,394	14,628	1,841	1,846
CA	23,013	19,039	23,649	19,524	2,136	2,146
CO	3,406	3,351	3,898	3,856	2,258	2,256
CT	3,011	2,744	3,068	2,806	2,151	2,210
FL	9,958	10,337	10,654	10,852	2,121	2,129
GA	10,880	10,589	20,237	19,735	2,016	2,037
HI	488	463	537	499	1,695	1,944
IL	3,086	3,470	3,325	3,689	2,105	2,169
IN	22,141	21,938	22,839	22,613	2,272	2,162
IA	36,771	38,162	37,562	38,925	2,194	2,194
ME	4,272	4,135	4,328	4,181	1,987	2,344
MD	2,919	2,651	3,147	2,804	2,288	2,247
MI	6,405	6,241	6,656	6,492	2,194	2,234
MN	10,765	10,423	11,500	11,016	2,191	2,151
MS	1,779	1,855	6,831	6,795	1,918	1,898
MO	5,651	5,448	7,075	6,872	2,219	2,270
NE	11,553	11,747	11,653	11,847	2,188	2,212
NY	3,788	3,566	4,020	3,811	2,239	2,335
NC	3,337	3,387	10,692	10,442	1,899	1,925
OH	30,377	28,205	30,864	28,699	2,142	2,150
OK	2,024	1,935	4,124	4,066	1,879	1,820
OR	2,620	2,785	2,799	2,971	2,251	2,255
PA	22,429	22,313	23,709	23,619	2,244	2,252
SC	4,294	4,223	5,319	5,322	2,124	2,180
SD	2,132	3,158	2,332	3,358	1,973	2,233
TX	14,082	14,044	18,484	18,304	2,099	2,087
VA	1,270	1,142	2,882	3,022	1,943	1,853
WA	5,116	4,804	5,187	4,874	2,024	2,195
WI	3,574	3,683	4,172	4,191	2,133	2,243
30 Sts	257,949	252,179	315,926	309,381	2,117	2,128
Oth Sts ²	15,501	16,491	21,338	22,278	2,146	2,114
US	273,450	268,670	337,264	331,659	2,119	2,127

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
August 2002-03**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	189	185	48	49	141	136
AR	280	284	97	101	183	183
CA	513	434				
CO	92	89				
CT	69	68				
FL	228	241	215	231	13	10
GA	408	425	230	252	178	173
HI	9.6	10.0	9.6	10.0	0	0
IL	71	87	67	83	4	4
IN	514	501	502	490	12	11
IA	863	869				
ME	92	99				
MD	75	58	72	55	3	3
MI	156	149				
MN	258	249	248	240	10	9
MS	139	133	42	41	97	92
MO	162	162				
NE	261	272	261	272	0	0
NY	92	90				
NC	212	209	81	83	131	126
OH	690	654				
OK	81	77	47	44	34	33
OR	63	69	61	67	2	2
PA	550	553	534	537	16	16
SC	113	118	95	99	18	19
SD	46	75	46	75	0	0
TX	397	395				
VA	58	59	29	26	29	33
WA	115	115				
WI	96	96				
30 Sts	6,893	6,825	5,886	5,846	1,007	979
Oth Sts ²	463	487	377	396	86	90
US	7,356	7,312	6,263	6,242	1,093	1,069

¹ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
September 2002-03**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>	<i>Million Eggs</i>
AL	187	179	50	48	137	131
AR	265	270	94	94	171	176
CA	505	419				
CO	88	87				
CT	66	62				
FL	226	231	213	223	13	8
GA	408	402	237	236	171	166
HI	9.1	9.7	9.1	9.7	0	0
IL	70	80	67	77	3	3
IN	519	489	507	477	12	12
IA	824	854				
ME	86	98				
MD	72	63	69	61	3	2
MI	146	145				
MN	252	237	243	229	9	8
MS	131	129	40	41	91	88
MO	157	156				
NE	255	262	255	262	0	0
NY	90	89				
NC	203	201	77	80	126	121
OH	661	617				
OK	77	74	45	43	32	31
OR	63	67	61	65	2	2
PA	532	532	518	518	14	14
SC	113	116	95	97	18	19
SD	46	75	46	75	0	0
TX	388	382				
VA	56	56	29	26	27	30
WA	105	107				
WI	89	94				
30 Sts	6,689	6,583	5,728	5,649	960	934
Oth Sts ²	458	471	372	389	86	82
US	7,147	7,054	6,100	6,038	1,046	1,016

¹ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

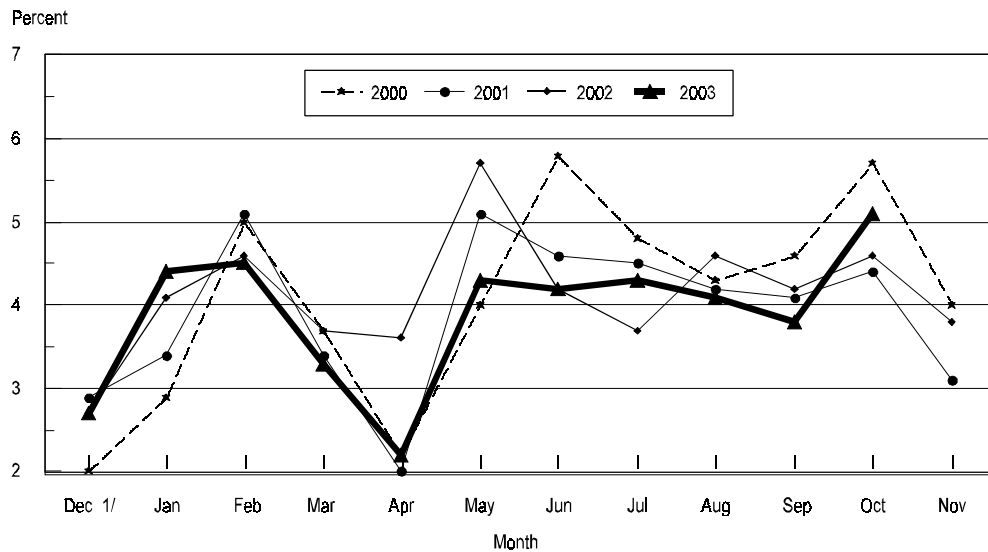
² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month,
United States, 2002-03 ¹**

Month	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	4.1	4.4	22.7	23.7
Feb	4.6	4.5	22.0	23.9
Mar	3.7	3.3	22.2	23.6
Apr	3.6	2.2	22.2	24.5
May	5.7	4.3	21.5	23.5
Jun	4.2	4.2	22.2	23.4
Jul	3.7	4.3	22.8	23.8
Aug	4.6	4.1	21.9	23.4
Sep	4.2	3.9	23.4	22.8
Oct	4.6	5.1	23.7	23.1
Nov	3.8		23.5	
Dec	2.7		23.7	

¹ As of first of month.

All Layers : United States
Percent Being Molted, 2000 - 2003
 First of Month



1/ Previous Year

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State
and United States, October 2002-03 ¹**

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	7.0	2.0	14.0	3.0
AR	3.5	2.5	10.0	10.5
CA	5.0	7.5	27.0	34.0
CO	3.0	4.5	24.5	24.5
CT	3.0	7.0	3.5	11.0
FL	9.0	4.5	32.5	28.5
GA	4.5	3.5	17.0	17.5
HI	6.0	5.0	49.5	51.5
IL	5.0	8.0	43.5	28.5
IN	2.0	6.0	29.5	33.0
IA	5.5	8.0	30.5	30.0
ME	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
MD	0.0	6.0	53.0	23.0
MI	7.0	5.0	28.0	27.0
MN	4.0	3.5	26.5	25.0
MS	2.0	2.0	12.0	12.0
MO	2.5	3.5	19.5	11.5
NE	9.5	9.5	25.0	21.5
NY	3.5	0.0	9.0	5.5
NC	1.5	0.5	10.5	12.0
OH	7.0	6.5	21.5	24.0
OK	1.5	0.0	6.5	8.5
OR	0.0	7.0	30.5	34.5
PA	5.0	5.0	18.0	20.5
SC	2.0	4.0	35.5	20.0
SD	4.5	2.0	31.0	21.0
TX	3.5	4.0	27.0	22.5
VA	3.0	0.5	17.0	17.5
WA	7.5	11.5	43.0	41.5
WI	10.0	7.0	37.0	28.5
30 Sts	4.7	5.2	23.5	22.7
Oth Sts ²	3.0	5.1	26.3	28.4
US	4.6	5.1	23.7	23.1

¹ As of first of month.

² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Hatchery Production: Eggs in Incubators, Chicks Hatched,
and Placements by Type, United States, September-October 2002-03**

Item	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Oct 1	29,881	30,105	101
Chicks Hatched During Sep	35,734	35,777	100
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Sep	326,052	316,843	97
Pullets Hatched During Sep for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	277	269	97
7-18 Month Earlier ¹	3,073	2,871	93
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on Oct 1	590,122	600,490	102
Chicks Hatched During Sep	740,396	739,191	100
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Sep	6,914,509	6,856,636	99
Pullets Hatched During Sep for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	6,676	6,654	100
7-15 Months Earlier ²	61,370	60,539	99

¹ 2003 includes pullet chicks hatched Mar 2002 through Feb 2003.

² 2003 includes pullet chicks hatched Jun 2002 through Feb 2003.

**Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States,
October 1, 2002-03**

Geographic Division	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	4,553	5,398	119
E North Central	5,500	5,899	107
W North Central	6,299	6,791	108
South Atlantic	3,739	2,406	64
South Central	5,241	4,760	91
West	4,549	4,851	107
US	29,881	30,105	101

Regional Listing:

North Atlantic = CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

E North Central = IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

W North Central = IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

South Atlantic = DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.

South Central = AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.

West = AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.

**Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By State and United States,
September 2002-03**

State	September			Jan-Sep		
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	794	836	105	7,255	7,527	104
FL	550	596	108	5,134	6,013	117
GA	2,248	2,371	105	19,830	21,620	109
IN	4,843	5,247	108	45,014	44,375	99
IA	5,302	6,365	120	48,474	53,587	111
MN	1,662	1,108	67	13,277	11,715	88
PA	4,381	5,308	121	39,844	39,816	100
Oth Sts ¹	15,954	13,946	87	147,224	132,190	90
US	35,734	35,777	100	326,052	316,843	97

¹ Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 2001-03

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	2001	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2001	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	36,728	35,647	33,499	94	36,728	35,647	33,499	94
Feb	37,836	34,465	29,988	87	74,564	70,112	63,487	91
Mar	41,015	36,977	36,726	99	115,579	107,089	100,213	94
Apr	42,789	38,088	37,531	99	158,368	145,177	137,744	95
May	42,655	38,751	38,206	99	201,023	183,928	175,950	96
Jun	40,822	35,136	36,344	103	241,845	219,064	212,294	97
Jul	38,651	35,573	35,593	100	280,496	254,637	247,887	97
Aug	34,987	35,681	33,179	93	315,483	290,318	281,066	97
Sep	37,140	35,734	35,777	100	352,623	326,052	316,843	97
Oct	35,825	32,149			388,448	358,201		
Nov	32,355	31,146			420,803	389,347		
Dec	31,870	31,973			452,673	421,320		

**Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply
Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 2001-03 ¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			2003 as % of 2002	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier ²		
	2001	2002	2003		2002	2003	2004
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Jan	236	228	198	87	3,158	2,974	2,974
Feb	214	247	221	89	3,205	2,916	2,918
Mar	284	237	315	133	3,239	2,886	2,881
Apr	311	295	276	94	3,225	2,944	2,873
May	315	319	279	87	3,134	2,980	
Jun	261	221	305	138	3,087	2,946	
Jul	340	282	226	80	3,048	2,927	
Aug	251	221	184	83	3,040	2,897	
Sep	219	277	269	97	3,073	2,871	
Oct	150	186			3,026	2,949	
Nov	261	227			3,010	2,930	
Dec	206	187			3,014	2,890	
Total	3,048	2,927					

¹ 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 30 dozen case of eggs.

² For September 2003, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Mar 2002 through Feb 2003. 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: By Region
and United States, October 1, 2002-03**

Geographic Division	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	10,885	11,329	104
E North Central	7,549	8,105	107
W North Central	17,708	20,763	117
South Atlantic	218,782	218,252	100
South Central	314,577	322,240	102
West	20,621	19,801	96
US	590,122	600,490	102

**Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State
and United States, September 2002-03**

State	September			Jan-Sep		
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	102,721	103,395	101	949,086	928,256	98
AR	104,631	107,587	103	978,678	986,068	101
DE	12,110	13,431	111	113,628	117,720	104
FL	7,827	4,801	61	75,077	47,561	63
GA	110,622	113,179	102	1,018,962	1,028,080	101
KY	23,318	24,135	104	212,910	216,552	102
LA	13,260	13,212	100	121,887	122,769	101
MD	34,012	32,131	94	312,550	306,910	98
MS	66,572	67,410	101	618,108	626,934	101
NC	63,156	59,203	94	607,295	586,746	97
OK	23,513	21,767	93	209,479	207,935	99
PA	12,717	12,322	97	117,260	113,474	97
SC	17,008	15,584	92	148,422	148,482	100
TX	51,600	51,636	100	494,313	478,792	97
VA	22,262	22,309	100	209,439	212,345	101
CA, MO, TN, & WV	55,534	56,434	102	531,452	533,883	100
19 Sts ¹	720,863	718,536	100	6,718,546	6,662,507	99
Oth Sts ²	19,533	20,655	106	195,963	194,129	99
US	740,396	739,191	100	6,914,509	6,856,636	99

¹ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

² Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 2001-03

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	2001	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2001	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	745,939	776,961	759,773	98	745,939	776,961	759,773	98
Feb	683,255	703,323	694,590	99	1,429,194	1,480,284	1,454,363	98
Mar	778,760	791,093	774,836	98	2,207,954	2,271,377	2,229,199	98
Apr	755,455	765,415	761,145	99	2,963,409	3,036,792	2,990,344	98
May	785,704	799,262	791,905	99	3,749,113	3,836,054	3,782,249	99
Jun	766,534	776,332	774,680	100	4,515,647	4,612,386	4,556,929	99
Jul	769,448	781,707	777,341	99	5,285,095	5,394,093	5,334,270	99
Aug	771,550	780,020	783,175	100	6,056,645	6,174,113	6,117,445	99
Sep	738,379	740,396	739,191	100	6,795,024	6,914,509	6,856,636	99
Oct	748,274	720,564			7,543,298	7,635,073		
Nov	703,365	690,052			8,246,663	8,325,125		
Dec	774,453	753,875			9,021,116	9,079,000		

**Intended Placements: Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery
Supply Flocks by Month and Total, 2001-03 ¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			2003 as % of 2002	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier ²		
	2001	2002	2003		2002	2003	2004
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
US Place- ments							
Jan	6,685	6,264	6,269	100	60,750	62,473	60,015
Feb	6,748	7,275	6,659	92	60,382	62,371	60,821
Mar	6,752	6,775	6,329	93	60,771	62,559	61,284
Apr	6,398	6,814	6,720	99	60,989	62,658	61,463
May	7,117	7,597	7,612	100	61,008	62,659	
Jun	6,822	7,206	6,748	94	61,521	62,322	
Jul	6,326	6,602	7,071	107	61,346	62,022	
Aug	7,494	7,449	7,401	99	61,212	61,477	
Sep	6,647	6,676	6,654	100	61,370	60,539	
Oct	6,704	6,265			61,323	59,662	
Nov	7,261	6,938			61,811	59,780	
Dec	6,577	6,475			61,914	59,943	
Annual Total	81,531	82,336					
Total Place- ments ³							
Jan	7,615	7,415	7,388	100			
Feb	8,275	8,491	8,094	95			
Mar	8,325	7,997	7,391	92			
Apr	7,915	8,119	8,000	99			
May	8,647	8,982	8,920	99			
Jun	8,220	8,802	8,341	95			
Jul	7,687	8,083	8,555	106			
Aug	9,133	8,913	8,756	98			
Sep	8,047	8,002	8,338	104			
Oct	7,848	7,438					
Nov	9,017	8,202					
Dec	8,119	8,016					
Annual Total	98,848	98,460					

¹ 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 30 dozen case of eggs.

² For Sep 2003, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Jun 2002 through Feb 2003.

³ U.S. production of intended placements worldwide.

Procedures and Reliability

Data Sources: 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 over 30,000 table egg layers. Coverage for operations with less than 30,000 table egg layers are estimated each month based on data reported in December. Approximately 900 contractors, independent egg producers, and started pullet operations are contacted each month. All known hatcheries, approximately 330, are contacted for information on a weekly and/or monthly basis.

Revisions: The previous month's estimates are subject to revision if late reports or corrected data indicates a different level. Additionally, revisions needed after the monthly report will be made at the end of the marketing year and published in the annual summaries of "**Chickens and Eggs Summary**" and "**Hatchery Production**".

Procedures and Reliability: Operations are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond are phoned. Great care is exercised to ensure that all operations are accounted for during each survey period. However, there are usually missing reports that must be accounted for in the estimates.

Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive estimates from the reported data. All data are checked for unusual values. All operations' data are compared to their own past operating profiles and also to trends from other operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. Survey data are subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by reviewing all data for consistency and reasonableness.

Egg-type chicks hatched are comprised of all chicks of egg-type domesticated breeds including males and chicks destined for hatchery supply flocks and research purposes. The relationship of chicks hatched to chicken inventory and poultry marketings is 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.

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 flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the 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 represent the first laying cycle. Molting and additional laying cycles will increase the cumulative potential placements of egg-type hatching flocks.

The next "*Chickens and Eggs*" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on November 21, 2003.

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