

Chickens and Eggs



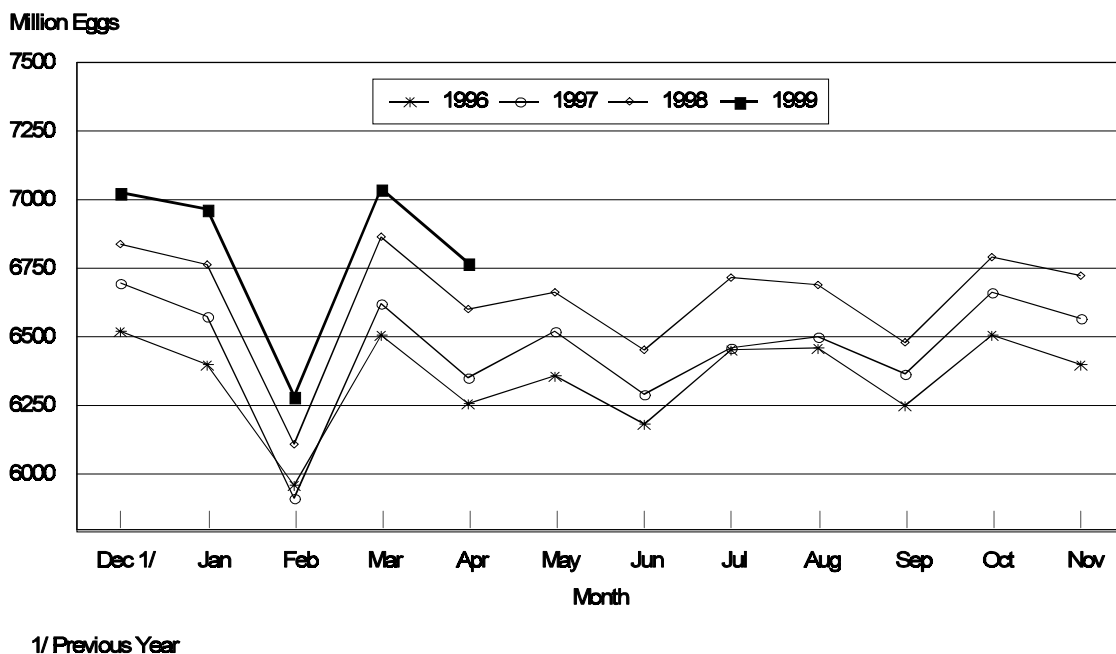
USDA
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April Egg Production Up 3 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 6.77 billion during April 1999, up 3 percent from the 6.60 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.69 billion table eggs and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 1999 averaged 321 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during April 1998. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,109 eggs, down fractionally from 2,117 eggs in April 1998.

All Egg Production By Months United States, 1996 - 1999



All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 1999, totaled 320 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 320 million layers consisted of 261 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.77 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 1999, averaged 69.5 eggs per 100 layers, down fractionally from the 69.6 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.40 billion eggs during April, up 2 percent from April 1998. The average number of layers during April, at 303 million, was up 3 percent from a year earlier.

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 95 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. Individual State estimates' for "Other States" are available annually in the "**Layers and Egg Production**" report.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 8 Percent

Egg-type chicks **hatched** during April totaled 42.0 million, up 8 percent from April 1998. **Eggs in incubators** totaled 35.4 million on May 1, 1999, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of **egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks** by leading breeders totaled 287,000 during April 1999, down 14 percent from April 1998.

Broiler Hatch Up 4 Percent

The April 1999 **hatch** of broiler-type chicks, at 734 million, was up 4 percent from April of the previous year. There were 635 million **eggs in incubators** on May 1, 1999, up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.04 million **broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks** during April 1999, up 5 percent from April 1998.

**All Layers: Average Number on Hand During the Month,
United States, 1996-99**

Month	1996	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>	<i>1,000 Layers</i>
Dec ¹	299,345	304,463	311,888	321,193
Jan	299,230	304,289	311,876	322,136
Feb	298,904	304,000	313,245	322,754
Mar	298,853	304,285	314,101	322,516
Apr	297,493	303,618	311,917	320,942
May	295,516	302,241	309,615	
Jun	294,837	300,537	309,166	
Jul	296,290	299,605	308,927	
Aug	297,804	300,211	309,251	
Sep	298,582	303,661	311,278	
Oct	300,052	306,807	314,847	
Nov	302,386	309,670	318,797	

¹ December preceding year.

**Eggs: Production During the Month by Type,
United States, 1998-99**

Month	Total Eggs		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<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	6,841	7,029	5,802	5,957	1,039	1,072
Jan	6,766	6,971	5,720	5,890	1,046	1,081
Feb	6,109	6,282	5,150	5,296	959	986
Mar	6,869	7,043	5,797	5,934	1,072	1,109
Apr	6,603	6,770	5,556	5,694	1,047	1,076
May	6,665		5,584		1,081	
Jun	6,456		5,433		1,023	
Jul	6,720		5,674		1,046	
Aug	6,694		5,655		1,039	
Sep	6,480		5,480		1,000	
Oct	6,791		5,746		1,045	
Nov	6,723		5,695		1,028	
During Year	79,717	34,095	67,292	28,771	12,425	5,324

¹ December preceding year.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type,
and Forced Molt, United States, March-April 1998-99 ¹**

Item	Unit	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
Layers During Mar	1,000			
All Layers		314,101	322,516	103
Table Egg Type		256,570	262,606	102
Hatching Egg Type		57,531	59,910	104
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,854	57,005	104
Egg-Type Hatching		2,677	2,905	109
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	Number			
All Layers		2,187	2,184	100
Table Egg Type		2,259	2,260	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,863	1,851	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,836	1,823	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,428	2,410	99
Eggs Produced During Mar	Million			
All Layers		6,869	7,043	103
Table Egg Type		5,797	5,934	102
Hatching Egg Type		1,072	1,109	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,007	1,039	103
Egg-Type Hatching		65	70	108
Layers on Apr 1	1,000			
All Layers		313,833	321,632	102
Table Egg Type		256,185	261,353	102
Hatching Egg Type		57,648	60,279	105
Broiler-Type Hatching		54,987	57,342	104
Egg-Type Hatching		2,661	2,937	110
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	Number			
All Layers		71.3	71.1	100
Table Egg Type		73.8	73.7	100
Hatching Egg Type		60.0	59.7	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.2	58.7	99
Egg-Type Hatching		78.0	77.8	100
Forced Molt Layers on Apr 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molting		2.2	2.8	127
Percent with Molt Completed		22.1	21.7	98
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Mar	1,000	16,652	15,898	95
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	1,000	3,310	3,663	111
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1	1,000	88,552	94,468	107
Pullets Added During Mar ²	1,000	20,788	19,418	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, United States, April-May 1998-99**

Item	Unit	1998 ¹	1999	1999 as % of 1998
Layers During Apr	1,000			
All Layers		311,917	320,942	103
Table Egg Type		254,002	261,015	103
Hatching Egg Type		57,915	59,927	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		55,258	57,068	103
Egg-Type Hatching		2,657	2,859	108
Eggs per 100 Layers During Apr	Number			
All Layers		2,117	2,109	100
Table Egg Type		2,187	2,181	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,808	1,796	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,781	1,768	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,371	2,343	99
Eggs Produced During Apr	Million			
All Layers		6,603	6,770	103
Table Egg Type		5,556	5,694	102
Hatching Egg Type		1,047	1,076	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		984	1,009	103
Egg-Type Hatching		63	67	106
Layers on May 1	1,000			
All Layers		309,945	320,202	103
Table Egg Type		251,793	260,648	104
Hatching Egg Type		58,152	59,554	102
Broiler-Type Hatching		55,514	56,783	102
Egg-Type Hatching		2,638	2,771	105
Eggs per 100 Layers on May 1	Number			
All Layers		69.6	69.5	100
Table Egg Type		71.8	71.7	100
Hatching Egg Type		60.0	59.9	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.1	59.0	100
Egg-Type Hatching		79.4	78.3	99
Forced Molt Layers, May 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molting		5.5	5.6	102
Percent with Molt Completed		20.0	21.8	109
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Apr	1,000	18,150	18,231	100
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed. Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Apr	1,000	4,341	4,070	94
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, May 1	1,000	91,037	97,265	107
Pullets Added During Apr ²	1,000	21,917	24,203	110

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, March-April, 30 Selected States, 1998-99^{1 2}**

Item	Unit	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
Layers During Mar	1,000			
All Layers		296,894	304,620	103
Table Egg Type		243,673	249,268	102
Hatching Egg Type		53,221	55,352	104
Broiler-Type Hatching		50,659	52,566	104
Egg-Type Hatching		2,562	2,786	109
Eggs per 100 Layers During Mar	Number			
All Layers		2,189	2,184	100
Table Egg Type		2,260	2,257	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,866	1,854	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,838	1,824	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,420	2,405	99
Eggs Produced During Mar	Million			
All Layers		6,499	6,652	102
Table Egg Type		5,506	5,626	102
Hatching Egg Type		993	1,026	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		931	959	103
Egg-Type Hatching		62	67	108
Layers on Apr 1	1,000			
All Layers		296,804	303,522	102
Table Egg Type		243,481	247,824	102
Hatching Egg Type		53,323	55,698	104
Broiler-Type Hatching		50,776	52,880	104
Egg-Type Hatching		2,547	2,818	111
Eggs per 100 Layers on Apr 1	Number			
All Layers		71.4	71.2	100
Table Egg Type		73.8	73.7	100
Hatching Egg Type		60.2	59.7	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.3	58.8	99
Egg-Type Hatching		78.4	77.9	99
Forced Molt Layers on Apr 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		2.3	2.9	126
Percent with Molt Completed		22.1	21.6	98
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Mar	1,000	15,598	15,256	98
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Mar	1,000	3,175	3,515	111
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, Apr 1	1,000	83,235	89,314	107
Pullets Added During Mar ³	1,000	19,782	18,704	95

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 Type, and Forced
Molt, 30 Selected States, April-May, 1998-99 ¹**

Item	Unit	1998 ²	1999	1999 as % of 1998
Layers During Apr	1,000			
All Layers		294,694	303,094	103
Table Egg Type		241,172	247,716	103
Hatching Egg Type		53,522	55,378	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		50,980	52,637	103
Egg-Type Hatching		2,542	2,741	108
Eggs per 100 Layers During Apr	1,000			
All Layers		2,119	2,112	100
Table Egg Type		2,188	2,182	100
Hatching Egg Type		1,807	1,797	99
Broiler-Type Hatching		1,779	1,769	99
Egg-Type Hatching		2,360	2,335	99
Eggs Produced During Apr	Million			
All Layers		6,244	6,400	102
Table Egg Type		5,277	5,405	102
Hatching Egg Type		967	995	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		907	931	103
Egg-Type Hatching		60	64	107
Layers on May 1	1,000			
All Layers		292,538	302,629	103
Table Egg Type		238,844	247,590	104
Hatching Egg Type		53,694	55,039	103
Broiler-Type Hatching		51,172	52,384	102
Egg-Type Hatching		2,522	2,655	105
Eggs per 100 Layers on May 1	Number			
All Layers		69.7	69.6	100
Table Egg Type		72.0	71.7	100
Hatching Egg Type		59.9	60.0	100
Broiler-Type Hatching		59.0	59.1	100
Egg-Type Hatching		79.4	78.4	99
Forced Molt Layers, May 1	Percent			
Percent Being Molted		5.5	5.5	100
Percent with Molt Completed		20.1	21.8	108
Layers Sold for Slaughter During Apr	1,000	17,497	17,199	98
Layers Rendered, Died, Destroyed, Composted or Disappeared For Any Reason During Apr	1,000	4,155	3,919	94
Pullets Less Than 20 Weeks of Age, May 1	1,000	85,806	91,930	107
Pullets Added During Apr ³	1,000	20,953	23,287	111

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 March 1998-99**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	1998	1999 ²	1998	1999 ²	1998	1999 ²
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	4,184	3,824	10,939	10,786	1,975	1,975
AR	4,631	4,721	15,084	15,281	1,903	1,924
CA	24,589	25,036	25,280	25,710	2,215	2,217
CO	3,164	2,944	3,769	3,485	2,149	2,123
CT	3,234	2,918	3,400	3,097	2,324	2,293
FL	9,359	10,267	9,990	10,999	2,142	2,255
GA	11,808	11,580	21,199	21,226	2,142	2,129
HI	616	612	642	641	2,025	2,075
IL	3,009	2,790	3,292	3,081	2,339	2,272
IN	21,092	21,384	21,800	22,148	2,239	2,230
IA	22,177	23,713	23,038	24,665	2,192	2,287
ME	4,589	4,706	4,717	4,827	2,438	2,486
MD	2,932	3,128	3,330	3,485	2,372	2,324
MI	5,009	5,640	5,282	5,923	2,276	2,181
MN	11,220	11,483	11,995	12,208	2,276	2,146
MS	1,723	1,751	6,790	6,941	2,003	2,046
MO	5,294	5,189	6,688	6,612	2,243	2,238
NE	10,325	10,744	10,475	10,894	2,186	2,185
NY	3,297	3,457	3,529	3,724	2,380	2,390
NC	3,946	3,742	11,210	11,633	1,945	1,951
OH	27,497	30,094	28,135	30,805	2,278	2,204
OK	2,108	1,956	3,977	4,104	1,936	1,974
OR	2,809	2,779	2,985	2,950	2,412	2,271
PA	20,898	21,376	22,248	22,790	2,319	2,326
SC	3,707	3,832	4,752	4,866	2,189	2,076
SD	2,053	1,913	2,251	2,153	2,355	2,276
TX	13,432	13,422	17,374	17,483	2,187	2,162
VA	1,609	1,474	3,663	3,680	1,966	1,984
WA	4,949	4,695	5,072	4,815	2,317	2,334
WI	3,373	3,123	3,988	3,608	2,207	2,273
30 Sts	238,633	244,293	296,894	304,620	2,189	2,184
Oth Sts ³	11,758	12,281	17,207	17,896	2,150	2,185
US	250,391	256,574	314,101	322,516	2,187	2,184

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

² Revised.

³ Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State
and United States, During April 1998-99**

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
AL	4,241	3,707	10,980	10,676	1,903	1,911
AR	4,403	4,473	14,772	15,069	1,848	1,891
CA	24,475	24,433	25,160	25,129	2,134	2,089
CO	3,145	2,919	3,749	3,458	2,134	2,140
CT	2,929	2,952	3,093	3,134	2,199	2,170
FL	9,430	10,008	10,070	10,719	2,066	2,090
GA	11,684	11,201	21,183	20,913	2,068	2,018
HI	613	613	638	643	2,010	2,037
IL	3,110	3,049	3,404	3,337	2,124	2,158
IN	20,760	21,198	21,443	21,934	2,197	2,156
IA	22,082	24,470	22,937	25,398	2,162	2,205
ME	4,582	4,577	4,704	4,694	2,317	2,407
MD	2,862	3,073	3,263	3,458	2,237	2,227
MI	4,948	5,385	5,202	5,656	2,121	2,161
MN	11,208	11,590	11,981	12,303	2,203	2,073
MS	1,723	1,475	6,746	6,628	1,957	1,946
MO	5,066	5,296	6,506	6,713	2,121	2,145
NE	10,364	10,902	10,514	11,052	2,145	2,081
NY	3,252	3,373	3,483	3,655	2,326	2,298
NC	3,829	3,588	11,286	11,504	1,861	1,878
OH	27,139	30,119	27,770	30,829	2,197	2,271
OK	2,100	1,980	4,062	4,151	1,920	1,927
OR	2,755	2,713	2,927	2,878	2,221	2,154
PA	20,582	21,159	21,944	22,590	2,260	2,249
SC	3,617	3,901	4,696	4,967	2,129	2,033
SD	2,103	1,930	2,306	2,174	2,238	2,254
TX	13,278	13,446	17,154	17,477	2,104	2,031
VA	1,521	1,404	3,630	3,559	1,928	1,911
WA	5,003	4,619	5,123	4,739	2,233	2,224
WI	3,334	3,177	3,968	3,657	2,193	2,215
30 Sts	236,138	242,730	294,694	303,094	2,119	2,112
Oth Sts ²	11,694	12,242	17,223	17,848	2,084	2,073
US	247,832	254,972	311,917	320,942	2,117	2,109

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,
March 1998-99**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	1998	1999 ²	1998	1999 ²	1998	1999 ²
	<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	216	213	96	88	120	125
AR	287	294	101	105	186	189
CA	560	570				
CO	81	74				
CT	79	71				
FL	214	248	202	235	12	13
GA	454	452	273	268	181	184
HI	13.0	13.3	13.0	13.3	0	0
IL	77	70	73	66	4	4
IN	488	494	476	482	12	12
IA	505	564				
ME	115	120				
MD	79	81	72	76	7	5
MI	120	129				
MN	273	262	261	251	12	11
MS	136	142	41	44	95	98
MO	150	148				
NE	229	238	229	238	0	0
NY	84	89				
NC	218	227	89	88	129	139
OH	641	679				
OK	77	81	47	46	30	35
OR	72	67	70	66	2	1
PA	516	530	500	513	16	17
SC	104	101	86	83	18	18
SD	53	49	53	49	0	0
TX	380	378				
VA	72	73	35	36	37	37
WA	118	112				
WI	88	82				
30 Sts	6,499	6,652	5,506	5,626	993	1,026
Oth Sts ³	370	391	291	308	79	83
US	6,869	7,043	5,797	5,934	1,072	1,109

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

² Revised.

³ Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Egg Production: By Type, State, and United States,
April 1998-99**

State	Total Production		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<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	209	204	93	83	116	121
AR	273	285	94	99	179	186
CA	537	525				
CO	80	74				
CT	68	68				
FL	208	224	196	212	12	12
GA	438	422	261	244	177	178
HI	13.0	13.1	13.0	13.1	0	0
IL	73	72	69	68	4	4
IN	471	473	460	461	11	12
IA	496	560				
ME	110	113				
MD	73	77	67	72	6	5
MI	110	122				
MN	263	255	252	245	11	10
MS	133	129	41	36	92	93
MO	138	144				
NE	226	230	226	230	0	0
NY	81	84				
NC	210	216	83	82	127	134
OH	610	700				
OK	78	80	47	45	31	35
OR	65	62	64	61	1	1
PA	496	508	480	491	16	17
SC	100	101	82	83	18	18
SD	52	49	52	49	0	0
TX	361	355				
VA	70	68	33	32	37	36
WA	114	105				
WI	87	81				
30 Sts	6,244	6,400	5,277	5,405	967	995
Oth Sts ²	359	370	279	289	80	81
US	6,603	6,770	5,556	5,694	1,047	1,076

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

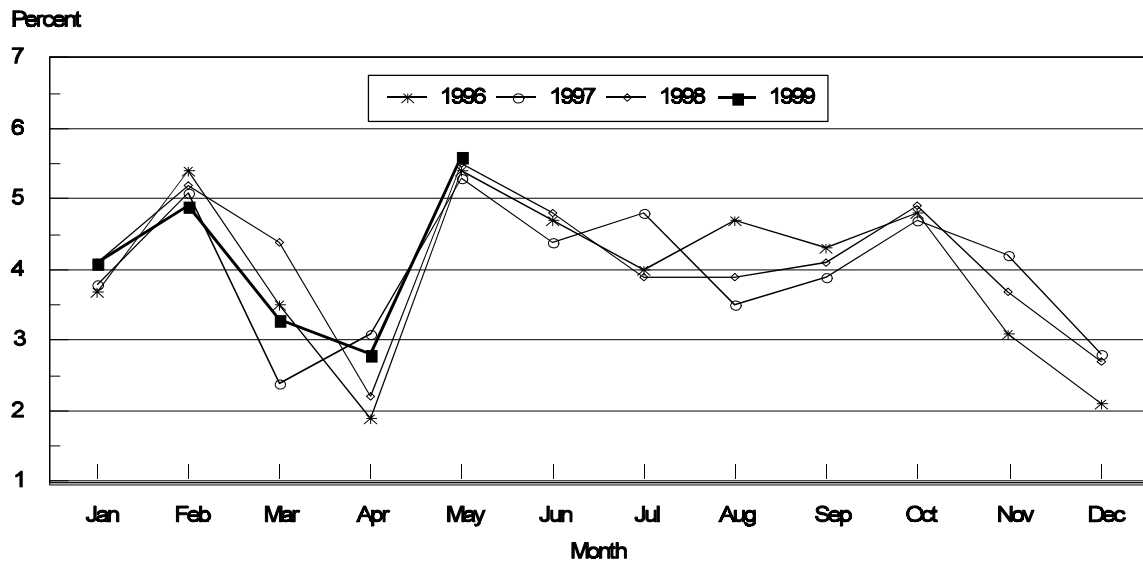
² Estimates for individual States are not available.

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by Month,
United States, 1998-99 ¹**

Month	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Jan	4.1	4.1	21.8	22.5
Feb	5.2	4.9	21.0	22.1
Mar	4.4	3.3	21.2	21.8
Apr	2.2	2.8	22.1	21.7
May	5.5	5.6	20.0	21.8
Jun	4.8		21.4	
Jul	3.9		21.6	
Aug	3.9		21.7	
Sep	4.1		21.9	
Oct	4.9		21.9	
Nov	3.7		21.8	
Dec	2.7		23.9	

¹ As of first of month.

**All Layers : United States
Percent Being Molted, 1996 - 1999
First of Month**



1/ Previous Year

**Forced Molt: Percent of All Layers by State
and United States, May 1998-99 ¹**

State	Percent Being Molted		Percent with Molt Completed	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	3.0	1.5	12.0	11.0
AR	3.0	2.5	8.0	9.0
CA	9.5	11.0	32.0	37.5
CO	9.0	2.5	15.0	28.5
CT	3.5	3.5	9.5	5.0
FL	10.5	13.5	37.5	35.0
GA	6.0	5.5	13.5	17.5
HI	8.0	10.0	44.5	38.5
IL	11.5	10.0	15.0	28.0
IN	5.0	4.0	23.0	30.0
IA	6.0	5.5	33.5	31.5
ME	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
MD	8.5	3.0	36.0	30.0
MI	10.0	10.0	15.5	18.0
MN	5.5	5.0	30.0	33.0
MS	2.0	6.0	9.0	9.5
MO	2.0	2.5	15.5	23.5
NE	7.0	6.0	26.0	22.0
NY	1.5	1.0	3.5	4.5
NC	3.0	2.5	9.0	7.5
OH	4.0	3.0	13.5	12.5
OK	2.5	1.0	12.0	6.5
OR	7.5	3.0	41.0	36.5
PA	4.5	6.0	16.5	17.0
SC	5.5	13.5	29.0	18.0
SD	2.2	4.5	23.6	26.5
TX	7.0	6.5	16.0	21.0
VA	2.0	8.5	15.0	8.5
WA	7.0	8.0	29.0	45.0
WI	6.0	0.0	24.0	35.5
30 Sts	5.5	5.5	20.1	21.8
Oth Sts ²	5.6	6.9	19.3	21.4
US	5.5	5.6	20.0	21.8

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, April-May 1998-99**

Item	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Egg-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on May 1	35,807	35,395	99
Chicks Hatched During Apr	39,043	42,043	108
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Apr	151,385	154,669	102
Pullets Hatched During Apr for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	333	287	86
7-18 Month Earlier ¹	3,034	2,942	97
Broiler-Type			
Eggs in Incubators on May 1	610,567	634,573	104
Chicks Hatched During Apr	708,260	734,340	104
Chicks Hatched Jan thru Apr	2,795,129	2,886,606	103
Pullets Hatched During Apr for Intended Placements in Hatchery Supply Flocks	6,687	7,038	105
7-15 Months Earlier ²	58,228	61,775	106

¹ 1999 includes pullet chicks hatched Oct 1997 through Sep 1998.

² 1999 includes pullet chicks hatched Jan 1998 through Sep 1998.

**Egg-Type Eggs in Incubators: By Region and United States,
May 1, 1998-99**

Geographic Division	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	6,211	5,688	92
E North Central	8,900	8,922	100
W North Central	6,647	7,126	107
South Atlantic	5,241	4,746	91
South Central	3,421	3,815	112
West	5,387	5,098	95
US	35,807	35,395	99

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,
April 1998-99**

State	April			Jan-Apr		
	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	846	764	90	3,598	3,072	85
FL	1,231	1,236	100	4,509	4,580	102
GA	2,213	2,033	92	8,425	8,032	95
IN	7,487	8,260	110	28,351	29,118	103
IA	4,662	5,254	113	17,536	19,608	112
KS	393	463	118	1,022	1,350	132
MN	1,870	2,012	108	7,130	8,058	113
MO	387	388	100	1,399	1,400	100
PA	5,570	6,527	117	21,435	23,230	108
Oth Sts ¹	14,384	15,106	105	57,980	56,221	97
US	39,043	42,043	108	151,385	154,669	102

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

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 1997-99

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	1997	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1997	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<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	33,752	37,159	35,653	96	33,752	37,159	35,653	96
Feb	35,655	34,593	35,648	103	69,407	71,752	71,301	99
Mar	37,347	40,590	41,325	102	106,754	112,342	112,626	100
Apr	38,842	39,043	42,043	108	145,596	151,385	154,669	102
May	39,020	39,192			184,616	190,577		
Jun	36,796	39,302			221,412	229,879		
Jul	33,772	35,558			255,184	265,437		
Aug	33,061	33,380			288,245	298,817		
Sep	37,118	37,943			325,363	336,760		
Oct	35,262	34,649			360,625	371,409		
Nov	28,122	31,251			388,747	402,660		
Dec	35,796	35,733			424,543	438,393		

**Intended Placements: Egg-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery Supply
Flocks by Month and Total, United States, 1997-99 ¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			1999 as % of 1998	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-18 Months Earlier ²		
	1997	1998	1999		1997	1998	1999
	<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	208	189	166	88	2,953	2,823	3,029
Feb	222	250	267	107	2,984	2,764	3,120
Mar	209	225	257	114	3,007	2,863	3,020
Apr	316	333	287	86	2,946	3,034	2,942
May	273	192			2,870	3,057	3,044
Jun	254	354			2,956	2,976	3,132
Jul	207	298			2,940	2,968	3,108
Aug	285	185			2,929	2,949	3,085
Sep	402	324			2,913	2,977	3,102
Oct	256	358			2,805	2,993	3,134
Nov	129	217			2,869	3,010	3,088
Dec	207	183			2,851	2,929	
Total	2,968	3,108					

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 April 1999, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Oct 1997 through Sep 1998. 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, May 1, 1998-99**

Geographic Division	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North Atlantic	12,546	11,548	92
E North Central	8,918	8,230	92
W North Central	24,151	23,772	98
South Atlantic	232,982	239,753	103
South Central	307,975	324,887	105
West	23,995	26,383	110
US	610,567	634,573	104

**Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched: By State
and United States, April 1998-99**

State	April			Jan-Apr		
	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	91,882	95,221	104	358,308	377,038	105
AR	104,470	105,621	101	415,666	423,836	102
DE	16,184	16,288	101	63,050	62,431	99
FL	9,776	10,224	105	38,238	39,445	103
GA	105,855	110,313	104	417,732	437,200	105
MD	30,854	30,996	100	121,634	121,875	100
MS	63,460	64,211	101	248,501	254,081	102
NC	61,740	63,137	102	240,117	246,782	103
PA	12,407	12,782	103	50,148	51,050	102
SC	14,493	16,232	112	57,594	63,505	110
TX	43,746	48,901	112	177,823	190,204	107
VA	23,737	23,845	100	92,620	94,070	102
CA TN & WV	38,751	40,265	104	150,280	156,334	104
15 Sts ¹	617,355	638,036	103	2,431,711	2,517,851	104
Oth Sts ²	90,905	96,304	106	363,418	368,755	101
US	708,260	734,340	104	2,795,129	2,886,606	103

¹ States in the weekly hatchery production estimating program.

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

Broiler Chicks Hatched: By Month, United States, 1997-99

Month	By Months				Cumulative			
	1997	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1997	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	<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	699,952	711,373	735,348	103	699,952	711,373	735,348	103
Feb	634,142	645,180	661,739	103	1,334,094	1,356,553	1,397,087	103
Mar	718,413	730,316	755,179	103	2,052,507	2,086,869	2,152,266	103
Apr	693,717	708,260	734,340	104	2,746,224	2,795,129	2,886,606	103
May	724,679	739,319			3,470,903	3,534,448		
Jun	704,247	717,967			4,175,150	4,252,415		
Jul	710,622	722,715			4,885,772	4,975,130		
Aug	708,572	715,650			5,594,344	5,690,780		
Sep	684,156	695,281			6,278,500	6,386,061		
Oct	683,185	693,189			6,961,685	7,079,250		
Nov	648,141	678,003			7,609,826	7,757,253		
Dec	711,808	737,840			8,321,634	8,495,093		

**Intended Placements: Broiler-Type Pullet Chicks for Hatchery
Supply Flocks by Month and Total, 1997-99 ¹**

Month	Pullet Chicks Hatched			1999 as % of 1998	Cumulative Potential Placements Relative to Current Supply Flocks 7-15 Months Earlier ²		
	1997	1998	1999		1997	1998	1999
	<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	6,397	6,765	7,059	104	56,101	56,552	59,403
Feb	5,916	6,328	6,882	109	56,122	57,494	59,937
Mar	6,443	6,776	7,195	106	55,981	57,677	60,699
Apr	6,036	6,687	7,038	105	55,933	58,228	61,775
May	7,062	7,062			56,667	58,085	61,893
Jun	6,008	6,932			57,264	58,516	62,877
Jul	7,167	6,788			57,115	58,325	63,005
Aug	6,697	7,109			56,761	59,054	63,377
Sep	6,502	7,328			55,897	58,320	63,197
Oct	6,254	6,883			56,165	59,088	63,460
Nov	6,347	7,312			56,167	58,608	63,710
Dec	6,252	6,904			56,714	58,973	
Annual Total	77,081	82,874					
Total Place- ments ³							
Jan	7,547	8,613	8,679	101			
Feb	7,122	8,273	8,473	102			
Mar	7,894	8,760	8,863	101			
Apr	7,238	8,300	8,572	103			
May	8,505	8,957					
Jun	7,381	8,757					
Jul	8,460	8,423					
Aug	8,132	8,686					
Sep	8,092	8,985					
Oct	8,142	8,756					
Nov	7,973	9,412					
Dec	8,237	8,830					
Annual Total	94,723	104,752					

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 Apr 1999, includes breeder pullet chicks hatched Jan 1998 through Sep 1998.

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 360, 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 "**Layers and Egg Production**" 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 egg supply flocks several months before the pullets will actually move into the flocks. Beginning with the January 1996 publication the broiler-type cumulative potential placements went from 7-14 months earlier to 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 June 22, 1999.

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