



ISSN: 1949-1964

Released March 17, 2016, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Eggs in Incubators on March 1 Down 2 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on March 1, 2016, in the United States totaled 27.6 million, down 2 percent from March 1, 2015. Eggs in incubators were up 2 percent from the February 1, 2016 total of 27.1 million eggs.

Poults Hatched During February Up 1 Percent from Last Year

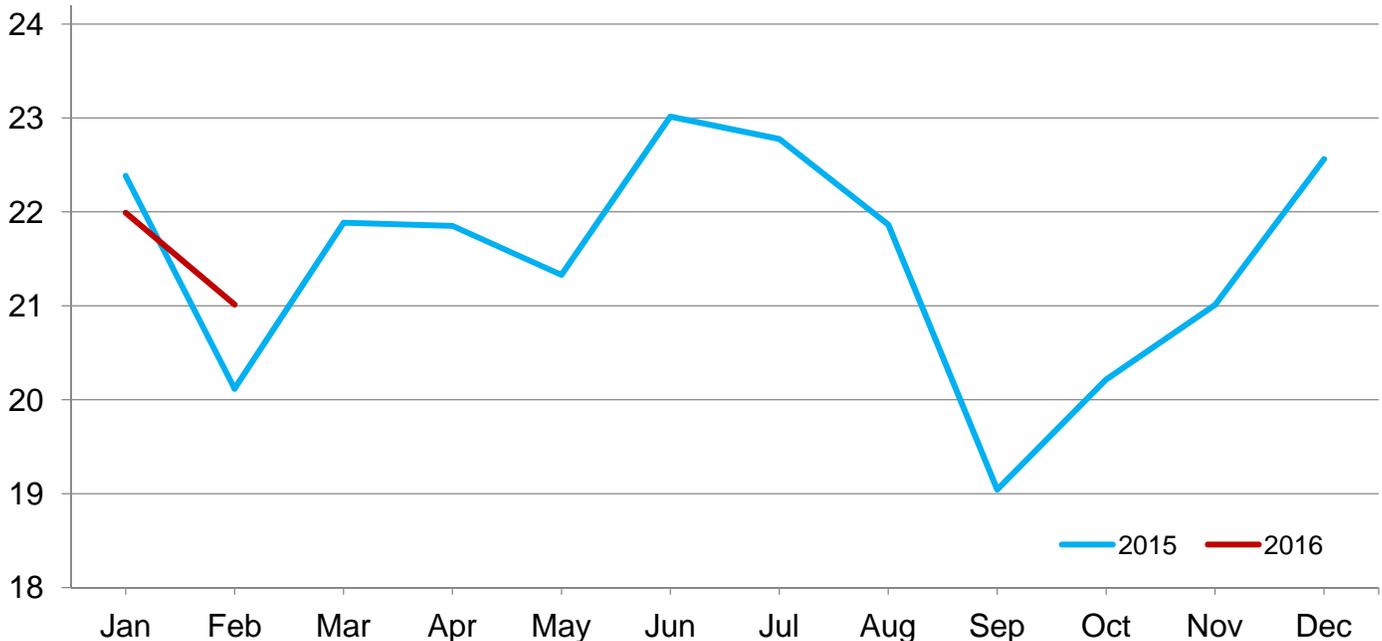
Turkey poults hatched during February 2016, in the United States totaled 22.0 million, up 1 percent from February 2015. Poults hatched were down 4 percent from the January 2016 total of 22.8 million poults.

Net Poults Placed During February Up 4 Percent from Last Year

The 21.0 million net poults placed during February 2016 in the United States were up 4 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 4 percent from the January 2016 total of 22.0 million.

Net Poult Placements – United States

Million poults



Eggs in Incubators and Poults Hatched by Month – United States: 2014-2016

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

Month	Eggs in incubators first of month		Percent of previous year	Poults hatched entire month		Percent of previous year
	2014-2015	2015-2016		2014-2015	2015-2016	
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	27,388	23,796	87	22,844	19,530	85
October	27,842	24,214	87	23,744	20,623	87
November	28,004	25,128	90	21,936	21,061	96
December	28,964	25,707	89	24,660	22,642	92
January	29,281	27,473	94	24,023	22,783	95
February	27,144	27,057	100	21,721	21,954	101
March	28,250	27,622	98	24,179		
April	28,799			23,261		
May	26,845			22,161		
June	27,232			23,129		
July	27,357			22,966		
August	27,046			22,008		

Net Poultry Placements by Month – United States: 2014-2016

[Includes imports and excludes exports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	Total all breeds		Percent of previous year	Cumulative total		Percent of previous year
	2014-2015	2015-2016		2014-2015	2015-2016	
	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)	(1,000 poults)	(1,000 poults)	(percent)
September	21,169	19,042	90	21,169	19,042	90
October	21,695	20,214	93	42,864	39,256	92
November	20,379	21,010	103	63,243	60,266	95
December	22,516	22,562	100	85,759	82,828	97
January	22,383	21,991	98	108,142	104,819	97
February	20,119	21,013	104	128,261	125,832	98
March	21,885			150,146		
April	21,851			171,997		
May	21,329			193,326		
June	23,014			216,340		
July	22,776			239,116		
August	21,864			260,980		

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey hatchery estimates are collected from all known turkey hatcheries. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey hatcheries and use known sources of hatcheries to update their lists. Approximately 40 hatcheries are contacted each month. All known turkey hatcheries hatching 15,000 or more poults annually are mailed a questionnaire as close to the first of the month as possible. Adequate time is given to respond via mail, fax, or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond are contacted by phone. Care is exercised to ensure that all hatcheries are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimating Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from 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 were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS 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. Individual hatchery data are summed to State, regional, and United States totals. Only United States level estimates are published due to the limited number of hatcheries involved. The Net Poult Placement data include imported poults and exclude exported poults.

Cumulative net poult placements beginning on September 1 and ending on August 31 are shown in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report. This time period corresponds with the placements of poults which will reach maturity and be available for slaughter during the calendar year.

States reporting turkey hatcheries are: Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions to the previous month are published in the monthly *Turkey Hatchery* report, while annual revisions are published in the *Hatchery Production - Annual Summary* report in April.

Reliability: Turkey hatchery estimates are based on a census of all known 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 through 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 turkey eggs in incubators on the first day of the month over the past 24 months is 1.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 27.6 million eggs by more than 1.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.3 percent.

Reliability of March Turkey Hatchery 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)
Eggs in incubators	1.4	2.3	239	5	1,221	16	8
Poults hatched	0.4	0.8	73	0	211	7	16
Net poult placements	1.4	2.4	252	11	659	8	16

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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