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## Eggs in Incubators on December 1 Down 12 Percent from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on December 1, 2015, in the United States totaled 25.6 million, down 12 percent from December 1, 2014. Eggs in incubators were up 2 percent from the November 1, 2015 total of 25.1 million eggs.

## Poults Hatched During November Down 4 Percent from Last Year

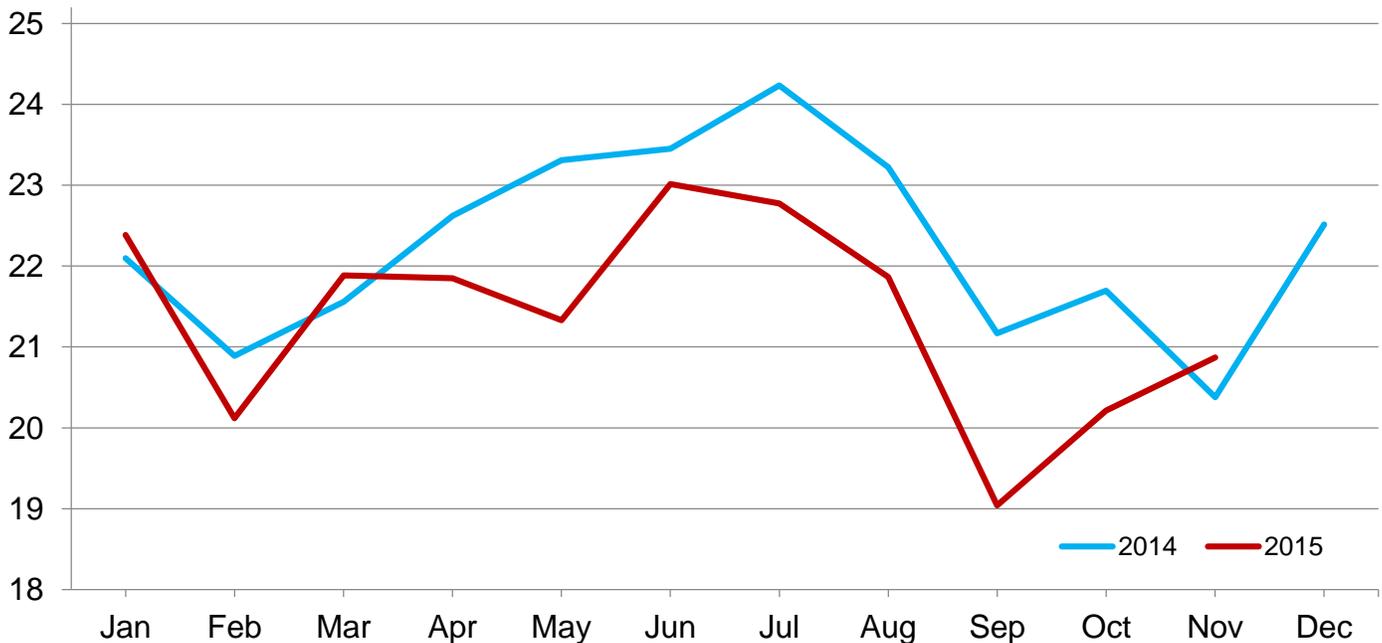
Turkey poults hatched during November 2015, in the United States totaled 21.1 million, down 4 percent from November 2014. Poults hatched were up 2 percent from the October 2015 total of 20.6 million poults.

## Net Poults Placed During November Up 2 Percent from Last Year

The 20.9 million net poults placed during November 2015 in the United States were up 2 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were up 3 percent from the October 2015 total of 20.2 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	21,067	96
December .....	28,964	25,612	88	24,660		
January .....	29,281			24,023		
February .....	27,144			21,721		
March .....	28,250			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 Poulst 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	20,872	102	63,243	60,128	95
December .....	22,516			85,759		
January .....	22,383			108,142		
February .....	20,119			128,261		
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 1.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 25.6 million eggs by more than 1.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.3 percent.

### Reliability of December 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 .....	1.3	2.3	233	5	1,221	16	8
Poults hatched .....	0.5	0.8	81	0	211	9	14
Net poult placements .....	1.5	2.5	264	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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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