

## CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1940

TABLE 1.—HISTORY OF ENUMERATION OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS—FACSIMILE COPIES OF PORTIONS OF SCHEDULES DEVOTED TO THESE ITEMS IN CENSUSES OF 1840 TO 1940

(Figures in italics are United States totals)

1940 CENSUS	
Notes.—If this farm has chickens on hand but raised none or produced no eggs in 1939, <b>EXPLAIN.</b>	
Number on hand over 4 months old on April 1, 1940	Number raised in 1939
Chickens ..... 337,849,145	660,565,663
Turkeys ..... 4,361,752	27,933,756
Ducks ..... 2,460,087	12,198,920
Other (specify) .....	For kinds and totals see table 2
Report separately geese, guineas, pigeons, quail, pheasants, etc.	
Total chickens sold (including broilers and fryers) alive or dressed in 1939 ..... Number	300,498,016
Chicken eggs produced in 1939 ..... Dozens	2,391,091,510
Value of all poultry, eggs, baby chicks, poult, etc., sold or traded in 1939. (Omit cents) .....	\$ 555,411,698

1935 CENSUS	
Chickens over 5 months old on this farm, Jan. 1, 1935 .....	Number 371,603,136
Chicken eggs produced in 1934, whether sold, used, incubated, or otherwise disposed of .....	Dozens 2,160,906,310
Chickens raised on this farm in 1934, whether sold, consumed, or on hand (include baby chicks bought and raised, but none that were sold as baby chicks) .....	Number 598,867,134
Turkeys over 5 months old on this farm, Jan. 1, 1935 .....	Number 5,381,912

1930 CENSUS	
<b>Chickens and chicken eggs on this farm:</b>	
Chickens over 5 months old, April 1, 1930 .....	Number 378,878,281
Chicken eggs produced in 1929 whether sold, used, incubated, or otherwise disposed of .....	Dozens 2,689,719,158
Chicken eggs sold in 1929 .....	Dozens 1,955,459,439
Daily production of chicken eggs on this farm at present time .....	Number 182,315,129 (Not dozens)
Chickens raised in 1929, whether sold, consumed, or on hand (include baby chicks bought and raised, but none that were sold as baby chicks) .....	Number 673,092,052
Chickens sold alive or dressed in 1929 (omit any sold as baby chicks) .....	Number 284,625,901
Baby chicks bought in 1929 .....	Number 272,403,982
<b>Other poultry raised on this farm in 1929:</b>	
Geese raised .....	Number 3,989,831
Ducks raised .....	Number 11,337,487
Turkeys raised .....	Number 16,794,485

1925 CENSUS	
<b>Poultry on this farm Jan. 1, 1925:</b>	
Chickens .....	Number 409,290,849
Turkeys .....	Number Not available
<b>Poultry products in 1924:</b>	
Chicken eggs produced in 1924 .....	Dozens 1,913,245,129
Include all chicken eggs produced, whether sold, used, incubated, or otherwise disposed of.	
Chickens raised in 1924 .....	Number 545,848,035
Include all chickens raised, whether sold, consumed, or on hand; except "baby chicks" hatched and sold. Include baby chicks purchased and raised.	

1920 CENSUS		
<b>Poultry, January 1, 1920:</b>		
Chickens .....	Number 359,537,127	Total Value \$ 349,508,867
Turkeys .....	3,627,028	12,304,989
Ducks .....	2,817,624	3,273,966
Geese .....	2,938,203	5,428,806
Guinea fowls .....	2,410,421	1,582,313
Pigeons .....	1,493,630	527,576
<b>Eggs and chickens:</b>		
Eggs produced in 1919 (include only chicken eggs produced, whether sold, used, incubated, or otherwise disposed of) .....	Quantity Doz. 1,654,044,932	Total Value x x x
Eggs sold in 1919 produced on this farm .....	Doz. 1,010,813,258	\$ 404,562,912
Chickens raised in 1919 (include all chickens raised, whether sold, consumed, or on hand) .....	No. 473,200,699	x x x
Chickens sold in 1919 (include those raised on this farm sold alive or dressed) .....	No. 140,811,045	\$ 119,722,603

1910 CENSUS					
<b>Fowls over three months old on farm April 15, 1910:</b>					
KIND.	Number.	Value.	KIND.	Number.	Value.
Chickens	280,340,959	\$ 140,193,129	Geese	4,431,980	\$ 3,194,507
Turkeys	3,688,708	6,605,818	Guinea fowls	1,765,031	613,282
Ducks	2,906,525	1,567,164	Pigeons	2,730,994	762,374
<b>Fowls and eggs produced in 1909:</b>					
Fowls of all kinds raised in 1909, whether sold, consumed, or on hand... Number 482,468,354 Value \$ 202,506,272					
Fowls sold in 1909... Number 153,600,169 Amount received 75,473,524					
Eggs produced in 1909... Number of dozens 1,591,911,371 Value 306,688,960					
Eggs sold in 1909... Number of dozens 926,465,787 Amount received 180,768,249					

1900 CENSUS				
<b>Poultry and eggs: Number of fowls over 3 months old on the farm June 1, 1900. (Report guinea fowl with chickens.)</b>				
Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	
283,566,021	6,594,695	5,676,788	4,785,850	
Value of poultry of all kinds and of all ages on hand June 1, 1900. \$ 85,807,818				
Value of the poultry of all kinds and all ages raised in 1899, whether sold, consumed, or on hand June 1, 1900 \$ 136,830,152				
Dozens of eggs produced in 1899 1,293,662,433				
Total value of all eggs produced in 1899 \$ 144,240,541				

SPECIAL POULTRY REPORT

TABLE 1.—HISTORY OF ENUMERATION OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS—FACSIMILE COPIES OF PORTIONS OF SCHEDULES DEVOTED TO THESE ITEMS IN CENSUSES OF 1840 TO 1940.—Continued

(Figures in italics are United States totals)

1890 CENSUS								1880 CENSUS			1870 CENSUS
POULTRY.								POULTRY ON HAND JUNE 1, 1880, EXCLUSIVE OF SPRING HATCHING.			No inquiries.
On hand June 1, 1890.				Value of all poultry sold in 1889.	Eggs produced in 1889.	Eggs sold in 1889.	Value of eggs sold in 1889.	Bartyard.	Other.	Eggs produced in 1879.	1860 CENSUS
Chickens.	Turkeys.	Geese.	Ducks.								No.
No.	No.	No.	No.	Dolls.	No.	No.	Dolls.	No.	No.	Doz.	1850 CENSUS
258,871,125	10,754,060	8,440,175	7,544,080	<i>Not available</i>	819,722,916	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Not available</i>	102,272,125	23,235,187	456,910,916	No inquiries.
											1840 CENSUS
											Value of poultry of all kinds. \$ 9,344,410

included in the enumeration. In most cases the unit value is shown in the tables with the total value in order that the reader may take into consideration the fluctuations in price levels when comparing values.

On the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule, for the first time, individual questions were used to obtain the value of sales of each of nine separate classes of farm production, with nine questions used for the value of farm products sold or traded, and one for the value of farm products used by farm households. By means of these questions the information was obtained directly from the farm operator and the replies were used to classify the farms according to the largest or major source of income.

Tables 3, 4, 15, and 16 present data on income from farm products sold, traded, and used by farm households. In these tables income figures have been analyzed to show the relative importance of poultry in comparison with other farm enterprises and also, for poultry farms, the principal sources of income other than from poultry. Table 15 gives a comparison of the income on poultry farms with the income on all farms, presented by States, and table 16 shows for each State the relative importance of additional sources of income on poultry farms.

EXPLANATION OF COUNTY TABLES

**County Table 1.**—In this table are shown, by counties, data from the last three censuses for chickens on hand, eggs produced, chickens raised, and chickens sold. In order that the information may be more valuable, the tabulations were made in such manner as to show the information for each county in several groups based roughly on size of enterprise. Farms were classified according to the number of chickens on hand on the date of enumeration, and the information for all farms falling within the limits of each group was included in one group of totals. Thus, all farms having less than 25 chickens on hand were included in one group, those with 25 to 49 chickens on hand in the next group, and so on to the largest, which included farms reporting 3,200 or more on hand. By this means of presentation the degree of specialization in different areas becomes more apparent. It is recognized, however, that as of any particular date, the number of chickens on hand that are over 4 months old is not necessarily an accurate measure, in individual cases, of the size or extent of the poultry enterprise, particularly in the case of a farm following the practice of raising chickens for market as meat. On such farms the number of chickens on hand that were over the age specified in each census year usually would be small, and on many of the larger and more highly specialized establishments would be none. As a consequence in many counties, especially in the broiler areas, the average number of chickens raised per farm is larger in the groups of farms having few or no chickens on hand than in the higher groups.

A similar situation exists, although to a lesser degree, in the relation of egg production to the number of chickens on hand. While on most farms in the United States the number of chickens on hand over 4 months old is highest in the fall and declines through the winter and spring, reaching the lowest point in the succeeding summer, the specialized egg producer is varying this cycle usually in one of two ways. He may reduce to a minimum the number of birds in his laying flock in the period of low egg prices in early spring or late winter,

or he may follow the practice of keeping his laying houses as full as possible throughout the year by starting chicks at two or more periods. Since these two procedures tend to offset each other the net effect depends on the practices most common in any given area. Examination of many county figures, particularly where relatively large flocks are found, will show a higher ratio of egg production to chickens on hand in small-sized groups than in medium-sized groups, indicating that some relatively large operations had been included with small operations because of the low inventory of chickens on the date of enumeration.

The increasing concentration of large egg-producing flocks in the northeast States is indicated in these tables. The large egg-producing States in this section had well over twice as many large flocks in 1940 as they had in 1930. A similar tendency to large chicken-raising establishments may be seen in some States in the increased number of birds raised per farm.

**County Table 2.**—In this table is presented, for the first time in any census, a classification of the farms in each county that reported chickens raised and turkeys raised based on the number raised. In this table under "Chickens raised" the total number of farms is divided into groups. The first group includes farms that raised less than 25 chickens in 1939; the second group, those that raised from 25 to 49 chickens; the succeeding groups, 50 to 99; 100 to 199; 200 to 399; 400 to 799; 800 to 1,599; 1,600 to 3,199; and the last group, those that raised 3,200 or more. In some counties where the number of farms reporting in the highest group were so few as to reveal data concerning individual operations, the reports were combined with those of the next highest group.

While a census taken as of the date of this publication would show considerable change in numbers of chickens raised, certain significant items are shown in County table 2 and United States table 9 which in all probability still hold true. Most of the chickens raised in the United States are in comparatively small groups as indicated by the fact that the largest number of farms reporting in any one group was 1,137,442, raising from 50 to 99 chickens each. The number reporting in the next higher group was 1,020,956 farms. Beyond this group the number of farms rapidly decreased. Only 8,879 farms, or 0.2 percent of the total farms reporting, raised more than 3,200 chickens. United States table 10 shows the percent distribution by States of the farms reporting chickens raised and turkeys raised by number raised.

California has the largest number of farms raising 3,200 or more chickens, but Delaware leads in the proportion of farms in this group, with 13 percent. Sussex County, Delaware, is the outstanding county in the United States in this respect, with 24 percent of its farms reporting raising 3,200 or more.

Farms reporting turkeys raised were distributed in much the same groups as the farms reporting chickens raised. In all tables the smallest groups included farms raising less than 50 turkeys in 1939; in the county table the highest group is that for 200 and over. United States table 10 shows the percent distribution by States of these farms in groups up to "1,600 and over" turkeys raised. Utah has the largest proportion of farms raising 1,600 turkeys or more with 13.6 percent; followed by Oregon, California, and Iowa in the order named ranging from 5.8 to 5.0 percent.