

FACTS ABOUT VIRGINIA'S MEAT CHICKEN INDUSTRY

- ✓ Approximately 22% of Virginia's cash farm income was from meat chickens in 2016.
- ✓ Virginia ranked 11th among the states in the pounds of broilers, or meat chickens, produced in 2017, with 1.61 billion pounds. In total, the U.S. produced 55.5 billion pounds of broilers in 2017.
- ✓ Virginia produced 277.4 million broilers in 2017. Virginia ranked 10th among the states in the number of broilers produced. In total, the U.S. produced 8.9 billion broilers in 2017.
- ✓ The average live weight of a Virginia-produced broiler in 2017 was 5.8 pounds. The U.S. average was 6.2 pounds.
- ✓ In 2017, Virginia broiler production value (gross income received by the agricultural sector for producing meat chickens) was \$875.2 million. Virginia ranked 11th among the states in value of broiler production. In total, U.S. broiler production value was \$30.2 billion in 2017.

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Accomack County, Virginia ranked 64th among America's counties in meat chicken production. Accomack County, on the Eastern Shore, produced about 10% of Virginia's meat chickens and ranked 2nd in the Commonwealth in meat chicken production.

Much of the grain grown on the Eastern Shore of Virginia is used for chicken feed. In 2017, Delmarva's chicken industry purchased \$984 million in chicken feed ingredients.

Chicken companies with growers or facilities on the Delmarva Peninsula and their national ranking in 2017 based upon average weekly ready-to-cook production, by weight, as published in the **WATT Poultry USA** March 2018 edition, are:

Allen Harim Foods LLC #20
(Headquarters in Seaford, DE)

Amick Farms #12
(Headquarters in Batesburg, S.C.)

Mountaire Farms Inc. #6
(Headquarters in Millsboro, DE)

Perdue Farms Inc. #4
(Headquarters in Salisbury, MD)

Tyson Foods, Inc. #1
(Headquarters in Springdale, AR)

