

USDA Egg Markets Overview

A weekly publication of the USDA AMS Livestock and Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

March 14, 2025

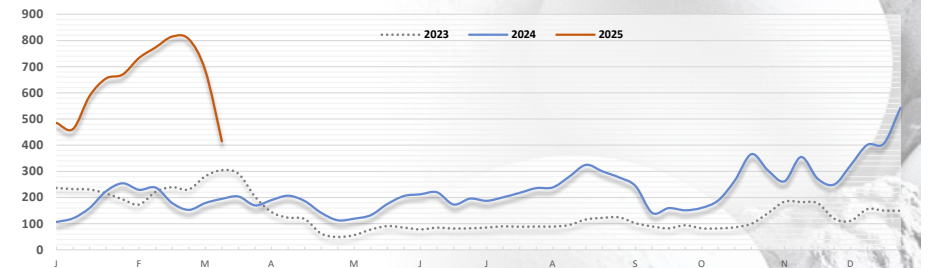
Negotiated wholesale prices for graded loose eggs continued on a sharp downward trajectory as no significant outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) have been reported in March to date and the supply situation is rapidly improving. Offerings are becoming more available with light demand for mostly moderate supplies and trading. Wholesale prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, White Large shell eggs declined \$2.70 to \$4.15 per dozen with a sharply lower undertone. The wholesale price on the New York market for formula trading of Large carton shell eggs delivered to retailers declined \$2.40 to \$4.78 per dozen with a sharply lower undertone. In the major Midwest production region, wholesale prices for Large, white, shell eggs delivered to warehouses decreased \$0.95 to \$7.47 per dozen with a lower undertone while prices paid to producers for Large carton shell eggs were down \$0.95 to \$7.29 per dozen. The California benchmark for Large shell eggs declined \$0.87 to \$9.48 per dozen with a lower undertone. Delivered prices on the California-compliant wholesale loose egg market declined \$2.54 to \$5.04 per dozen with a sharply lower undertone.

Demand for shell eggs declined sharply over the past week as resistance to current shell egg prices grows across all sectors. Slowing HPAI outbreaks are leading to improved supply availability and wholesale market prices have responded with sharp declines over the past week. However, these declines have yet to be reflected at store shelves and, until they are, demand is expected to remain dampened. Grocers have made progress in recent days in maintaining a more consistent stock of shell eggs but some of this is due to many offering little in the way of price incentives which helped to reduce or eliminate altogether much of the panic and opportunity buying seen in some markets in February. As shell eggs are becoming more available, the sense of urgency to cover supply needs has eased and many marketers are finding prices for spot market offerings are adjusting rapidly downward in their favor. The calendar is nearing the start of the Easter demand season and it remains to be seen if price levels will be able to find a level supportive of holiday demand. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, in February, the Consumer Price Index for eggs increased 10.4%, 159% over the year ago level, with an average price of \$5.90 per dozen, up \$0.94 per dozen from last month. Demand from egg products manufacturers was mostly light over the past week as many relied on owned-production and stocks to increase production above prior year levels for the first time in several weeks. Spot market offerings are expected to increase as near-term demand for carton stock is expected to remain limited ahead of the Easter run-up.

Feature activity for all shell eggs remains very limited with a few ads in the Northwest for regular pastured and pastured and free-range organic shell eggs. Grocery retailers do not want to jeopardize what progress they have made in stocking their dairycases by incentivizing purchasing at this time – especially at current price levels.

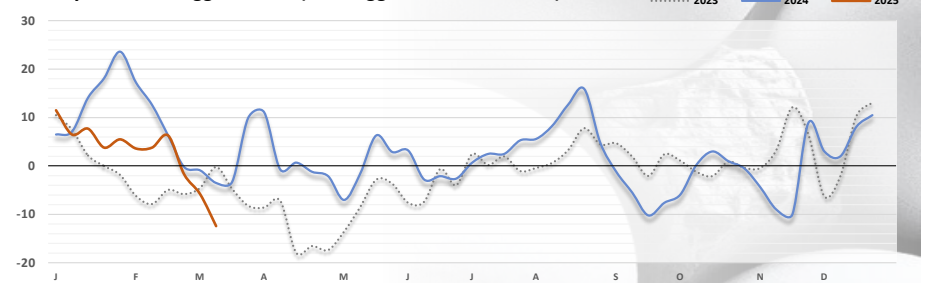
The overall shell egg inventory increased just over 5% while the national inventory of Large class shell eggs increased 8.5%. Stocks of Large shell eggs in the key Midwest region posted a 10% increase as stocks continue to rise at production points as movement

Weekly Loose Shell Egg, Large, White, National Index (f.o.b. dock, cents per dozen)



Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

Weekly U.S. Table Egg Demand (Shell Egg Demand Indicator)



Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

This Week's Retail Large Shell Egg Feature Summary

Advertised Prices to Consumers at Major Retail Supermarkets

	White-Shell		Brown-Shell			
	Activity	Price	Activity	Price		
Caged					caged, conventional	0%
conventional	--	--	--	--	caged, ne	0%
nutritionally-enhanced	--	--	--	--	CF, barn/aviary	0%
Cage-Free - Non-Organic					CF, free-range	0%
barn/aviary	--	--	--	--	CF, pasture	33%
free-range	--	--	--	--	organic	0%
pastured	--	--	15	7.99	organic, free-range	33%
USDA Organic					organic, pasture	33%
organic	--	--	--	--		
free-range	--	--	15	6.29		
pastured	--	--	15	9.69		

includes 12 and 18 packs combined; prices weighted by store count.

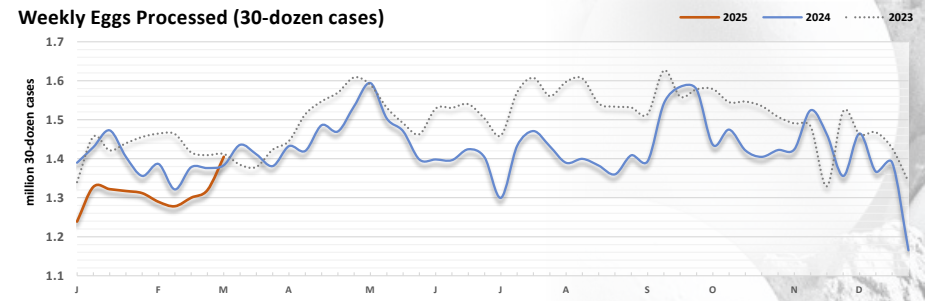
into marketing channels slows. The inventory share of Large class shell eggs increased 1.5% to a 50% share of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week. Stocks of cage-free eggs were up about 2.5% while stocks of nutritionally-enhanced eggs swelled by nearly 16%. Stocks of organic shell eggs were down slightly while those for breaking stock gained 3%. Total estimated table egg production is unchanged from last week and up slightly from last year to a year-to-year deficit the equivalent of 11.0 million cases in total. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, in February, the Producer Price Index (a measure of average prices received by producers of domestically produced goods and services), for Large shell eggs increased 23.9% to a level 229.8% over the level a year ago.

The average national wholesale price for breaking stock declined \$1.85 to \$2.83 per dozen with a sharply lower undertone. Demand is mostly light for light to moderate offerings. Supplies are moderate and trading is slow to moderate. Breaking schedules are full-time. The volume of eggs processed last week increased 6.5% to its highest level in 3 months and the share of weekly table egg production increased 2% to 31%. Cage-free stock accounted for 32% of eggs processed last week, down just over 2.5%. Production of whole egg was up 4.5% while production of whites rose just under one percent and yolk production was about unchanged. Dried egg production declined sharply, down 29.5% and production of inedible egg increased nearly one percent. Breaking yields without inedible declined nearly 1.5 pounds to 41.18 pounds per case broken.

Wholesale prices for certified liquid whole eggs are too few to report with a weak undertone. Demand is light as buyers assess current market conditions. Offerings are light and trading is mostly slow. Wholesale prices on whole frozen eggs are \$0.45 lower from the last quote to \$4.86. Frozen whites are down \$0.14 to \$3.56 per pound. The undertone is weak with light demand and offerings. Supplies are light to moderate with slow trading. Prices for whole dried eggs remain too few to report and last quoted at the end of November 2024. The price for whole dried egg was last quoted at \$9.60 per pound and for dried yolk at \$7.40 per pound. The undertone is steady with moderate to good demand. Offerings and supplies are light to very light and trading is moderate to active.

According to NASS, the January monthly volume of frozen eggs in storage declined 5% from December, 41% below the January 2024 level. This is the lowest level of egg products stocks recorded in at least the last 10 years. Stocks of whole frozen egg decreased 15%, 39% below last year and the share of whole egg stocks declined 5% to a 40% share of total frozen stocks. Stocks of frozen yolk increased 47% but were 39% under last year's level while stocks of frozen egg whites were down 14%, 51% below year ago levels. Stocks of unclassified eggs gained 4% from last month but were down 40% from last year. The share of unclassified frozen stocks increased 4% to a 49% share of total frozen stocks.

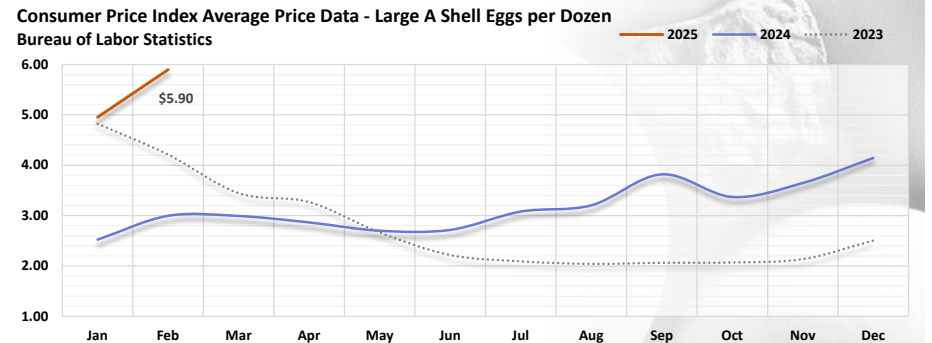
As of February 1, 2025, the estimated U.S. non-organic commercial cage-free table egg flock stood at 102.2 million, 35% of the current U.S. table egg flock. This represents a 3% decline in the number of non-organic, cage-free table egg layers from February 2024 but an 0.8% increase in their share of the total U.S. table egg flock.



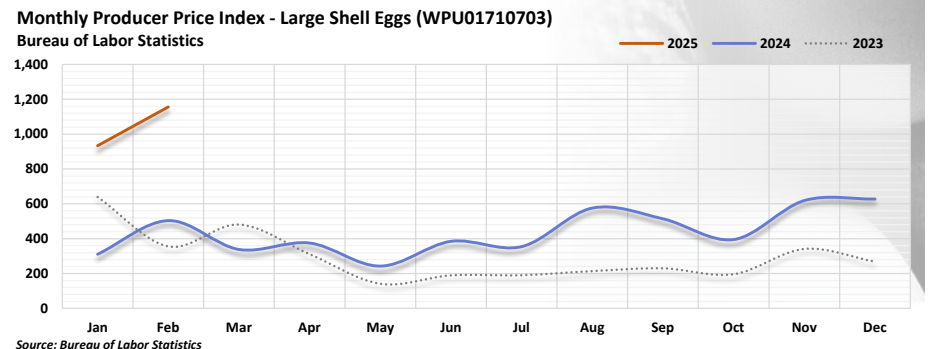
Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

Eggs Processed - Week-to-Week Change							
total	share	case yield*	whole	whites	yolks	dried	inedible
6.5%	1.8%	-1.43	4.5%	0.9%	-0.2%	-29.5%	0.9%

* case yield w/ inedible in pounds per case.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

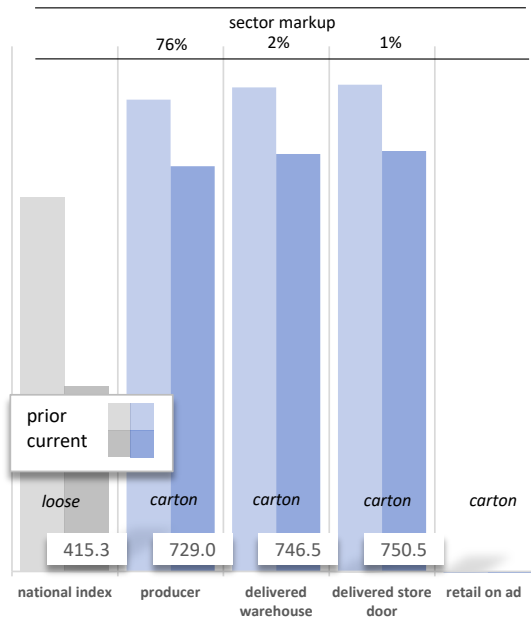


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Shell Eggs Market Price Comparisons

(as of March 14, 2025)

(National Index on a loose-egg basis, all other prices for cartoned eggs; LG White avg prices in cents per dozen)



Producer, warehouse, & store door = MW; retail no sale NY market; retail on sale Nat'l Retail Feature; loose eggs include minimal material costs.

Key Egg Markets Overview

	Recent History						
	14-Mar	% Change	7-Mar	28-Feb	21-Feb	14-Feb	7-Feb
SHELL EGGS (Large, White, conventional in cents per dozen)							
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	415.27	-39%	685.46	805.48	815.22	774.06	733.82
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	503.50	-33%	757.00	952.78	985.56	868.24	865.00
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvr'd to warehouse)	746.50	-11%	841.50	829.50	804.50	776.50	742.50
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	478.00	-33%	718.00	853.00	847.00	823.00	795.00
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	948.00	-8%	1035.00	1007.00	922.00	917.00	911.00
National Retail Shell Egg (avg. ad price in dollars per dozen)							
Conventional Caged, Large, White	n/a		n/a	2.47	3.99	n/a	n/a
UEP Cage-Free, Large, Brown	n/a		n/a	4.99	7.99	n/a	n/a
EGG PRODUCTS (f.o.b. shipper dock prices)							
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	282.75	-39%	467.25	604.75	632.50	633.25	584.50
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	4.86	-8%	5.31	5.31	4.97	4.44	3.11
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Processed Share of Weekly Shell Egg Production	31.0%	1.8%	29.2%	28.8%	28.2%	28.4%	28.7%
SHELL EGG DEMAND INDICATOR (no units)							
	-12.4	-6.6	-5.8	-1.7	6.3	3.8	3.6

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News; "n/a" = not available.

Key Shell Egg Markets Snapshot - 2025

(Large, White, Conventional Shell Eggs in cents per dozen)	14-Mar	Change	07-Mar	2025 High	2025 Low		
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	415.3	▼ -39%	685.5	816.8	415.3	03-Mar	14-Mar
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	503.5	▼ -33%	757.0	996.2	503.5	26-Feb	14-Mar
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvr'd to warehouse)	746.5	▼ -11%	841.5	841.5	575.0	28-Feb	02-Jan
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	478.0	▼ -33%	718.0	853.0	478.0	25-Feb	14-Mar
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	948.0	▼ -8%	1035.0	1035.0	897.0	28-Feb	02-Jan
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	282.8	▼ -39%	467.3	633.8	282.8	18-Feb	14-Mar
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	4.86	▼ -8%	5.31	5.31	2.69	28-Feb	03-Jan
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	n/a	■ 0%	n/a				
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - Conventional caged	n/a	■ 0%	n/a	3.99	1.87	21-Feb	03-Jan
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - UEP Cage-free ²	n/a	■ 0%	n/a	7.99	2.50	21-Feb	17-Jan
Shell Egg Demand Indicator	-12.4	▼ -6.6	-5.8	11.5	-12.4	02-Jan	12-Mar

¹ mostly high; ² non-organic

2025 Commercial Table Egg Flock HPAI Losses as of March 14, 2025

(no new outbreaks confirmed this week)

Outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in commercial table egg layer flocks in 2025 to date have resulted in the depopulation of 30.3 million birds. To date, USDA APHIS has confirmed 40 outbreaks in layer flocks in 9 states (AZ, CA, IA, IN, MO, NC, OH, PA, and WA). The 30.3 million birds lost included 22.4 million (74%) in conventional caged systems, 7.9 million (26%) in cage-free systems, and 26,000 organic (0.1%). These losses represent 12.3% of the conventional caged layer flock, 7.8% of the non-organic cage-free flock, and 0.1% of the organic flock on January 1, 2025.

Compared to January 1, the caged flock on February 1 was down 7.3% while the cage-free flock increased 1.2% and the organic flock 0.6%. As of the end of February, nearly three-fourths of layer losses have occurred in caged systems. To date, Ohio has borne the brunt of 2025 outbreaks with 13.3 million (44%) of losses occurring in Ohio flocks – 32% of the Ohio flock on hand during January.

The impact of these losses in the marketplace continues to be influenced by the timing of the losses relative to demand patterns, the type of production systems affected, legislated restraints in certain states, and the intended use of the production either for in-shell or egg products use with most impact currently in the retail cartoned sector.

2025 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System

System	Loss	Share
Conventional Caged....	22,381,620	74%
Cage-Free.....	7,865,080	26%
Organic.....	26,100	0.1%
Total	30,272,800	

2025 Table Egg Layer Losses

(layers lost to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI))

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
AZ	316,600												316,600
CA	75,200												75,200
IA		241,600											241,600
IN	3,013,300	3,591,400	187,200										6,791,900
MO	3,910,300												3,910,300
NC	3,314,900												3,314,900
OH	7,845,300	5,408,800											13,254,100
PA		2,060,400											2,060,400
WA	307,800												307,800
													-
													-
Total:	18,783,400	11,302,200	187,200										30,272,800

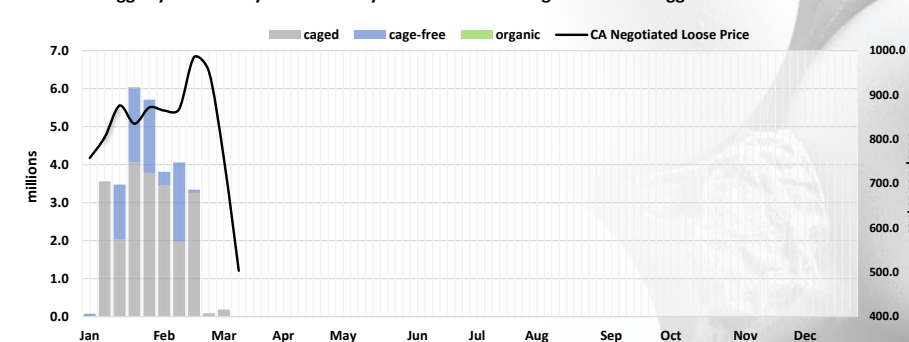
Source: USDA AMS Livestock & Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

Commercial Table Egg Layer HPAI Losses v. Negotiated Loose Shell Egg Wkly Avg Price - 2023-2025



Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

2025 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System v. California Cage-Free Loose Egg Price



Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

Share by State of Total 2025 Commercial Table Egg Layer Losses

