

USDA Egg Markets Overview

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

May 16, 2025

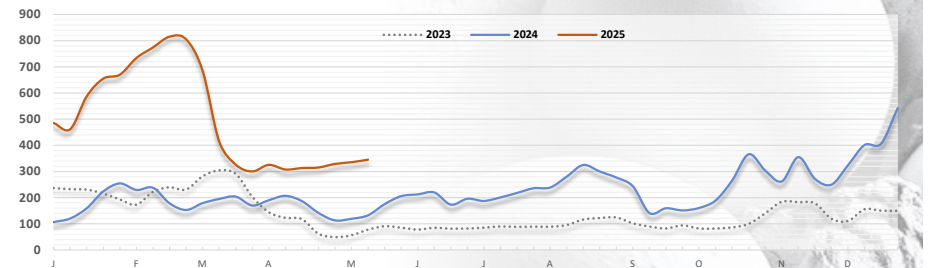
Negotiated wholesale prices for graded loose caged eggs weakened at the end of the trading period but finished the week slightly higher. Demand is light to moderate for light to moderate offerings and moderate supplies on moderate trading. Wholesale prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, White Large shell eggs increased \$0.10 to \$3.45 per dozen with a steady undertone. The wholesale price on the New York market for formula trading of Large cartoned shell eggs delivered to retailers increased \$0.01 to \$3.75 per dozen early in the week then held steady with a steady undertone. In the major Midwest production region, wholesale prices for Large, white, shell eggs delivered to warehouses gained \$0.01 to \$3.62 per dozen with a steady undertone as did prices paid to producers for Large cartoned shell eggs at \$3.44 per dozen. The California benchmark for Large shell eggs declined \$0.11 to \$4.82 per dozen with a steady undertone. Delivered prices on the California-compliant wholesale loose egg market declined \$0.32 to \$4.44 per dozen with a weak undertone. Interest is light to moderate for light offerings and moderate supplies.

Shell egg demand leveled off over the past week as marketers now have the supply situation in hand and the uncertainty that pervaded the marketplace earlier in the year has passed. Grocery retailers are becoming more confident as well as they are increasingly featuring shell eggs in their weekly circulars. However, retail prices, even on sale, remain at relatively prohibitive levels not supportive of consumer buying beyond week-to-week needs. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, in April, the Consumer Price Index for eggs decreased 12.7%, 49.3% over the year ago level, with an average price of \$5.12 per dozen, down \$1.11 per dozen from last month. The best demand for shell eggs over the past week continues to come from the egg products sector even as their weekly production begins to slow. However, even as production eased, many looked to the spot market to replenish their stocks as slow carton business increased offerings at fully steady price levels.

Feature activity for Large class shell eggs continues to increase this cycle but with a shift from conventional caged to cage-free types. The average ad price for conventional white caged eggs regained all of last week's decline of \$0.69 to return to \$3.99 per dozen. UEP-certified cage-free shell eggs enjoyed their best feature rate in many weeks with an average ad price significantly lower than the last test in February. Nutritionally-enhance eggs, only sporadically featured over the past few months are enjoying a return to store circulars. A limited smattering of ads for other specialty shell eggs is noted again this week. Grocery retailers are becoming more confident in their ability to maintain a consistent supply to the consumer and are growing less hesitant to incentivize through sale pricing.

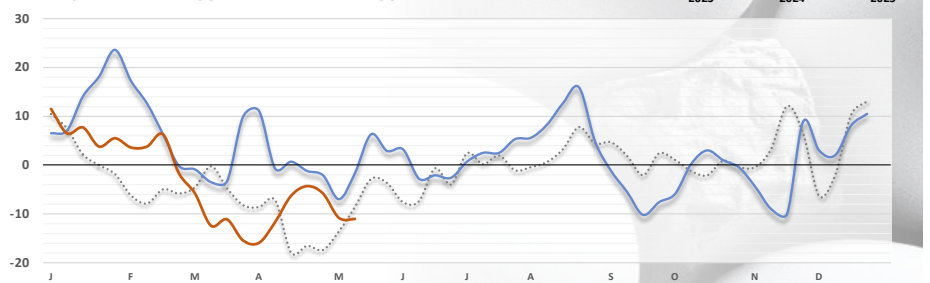
The overall shell egg inventory increased 1.5%, driven by increases in stocks of lighter-weight shell eggs as the national inventory of Large class shell eggs was down just under 2.5% and the stocks of Large shell eggs in the key Midwest production region were down just over 11.5%. The inventory share of Large class shell eggs decreased 2% to a 52% share

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)

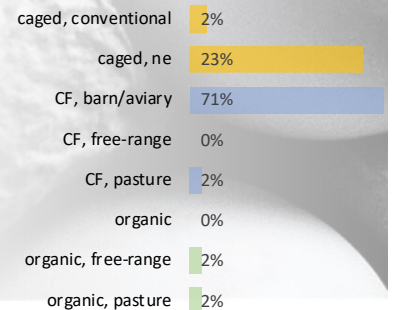


Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

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				
conventional	21	3.99	--	--
nutritionally-enhanced	213	3.85	--	--
Cage-Free - Non-Organic				
barn/aviary	667	4.13	--	--
free-range	--	--	--	--
pastured	--	--	15	7.99
USDA Organic				
organic	--	--	--	--
free-range	--	--	15	6.49
pastured	--	--	15	9.69



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

of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week. Stocks of cage-free eggs gained nearly 4% percent while stocks of nutritionally-enhanced eggs increased just over 8.5%. Inventory of organic shell eggs rose 5% while breaking stock inventory drew down just under 1.5% as egg products manufacturers continue to draw down stocks, now at their lowest level since the end of February. Total estimated table egg production was unchanged from last week but up slightly from last year to a year-to-year deficit the equivalent of 10.5 million cases in total. Production has been running below year ago levels in a trend that started one year ago in May 2024. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, in April, the Producer Price Index (a measure of average prices received by producers of domestically produced goods and services), for Large shell eggs decreased 38.9% to a level 47% over a year ago.

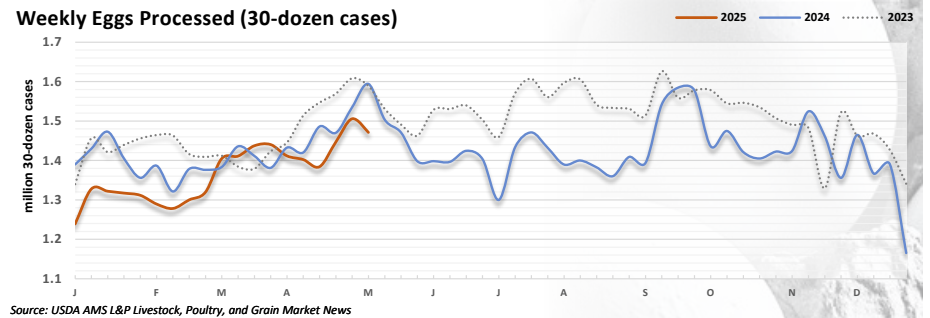
The average national wholesale price for breaking stock was about unchanged at \$2.68 per dozen with a steady to weak undertone. Demand is moderate for light to moderate offerings and supplies. Schedules vary and trading is moderate. The volume of eggs processed last week decreased just over 2% and the share of weekly table egg production was down one percent to 33%. Cage-free stock accounted for 35% of eggs processed last week, unchanged in share. Production of whole egg decreased 3% while production of egg components also declined - whites by nearly 7% and yolks by 8%. Dried egg production increased 20% and the production of inedible egg was up one percent. Breaking yields without inedible were down slightly to 42.16 pounds per case broken.

Wholesale prices for certified liquid whole eggs are tested this week with a weak undertone. Demand is very good as buyers work to cover their needs ahead of the approaching Memorial Day. Offerings are light and trading is moderate to active. Wholesale prices for whole frozen eggs are steady at \$3.20 per pound while prices for frozen whites declined \$0.10 to \$2.65 per pound. The undertone is mostly steady with a full range of demand. Offerings are light to, at times, moderate. Supplies are light to moderate and trading is moderate. Prices for dried eggs are tested this week for the first time since last December. The price of dried whole egg is at \$25.00 per pound and dried yolk at \$21.00 per pound. Prices for dried albumen are down \$1.00 from the last test at \$30.00 per pound. The undertone is weak with a full range of demand. Offerings are mostly light and supplies are light to moderate. Trading is moderate.

According to NASS, the March monthly volume of frozen eggs in storage was unchanged from February but was 52% below the prior year. This is the lowest level of egg products stocks recorded in at least the last 10 years. Stocks of whole frozen egg increased 2%, 57% below last year and the share of whole egg stocks gained one percent to a 37% share of total frozen stocks. Stocks of frozen yolk decreased 2% and were 45% under last year's level. This is the lowest level of yolk stocks ever recorded. Frozen egg whites declined 4% to a level 59% below last year. Stocks of unclassified eggs declined one percent from last month and were down 47% from last year. The share of unclassified frozen stocks remained at a 52% share of total frozen stocks.

As of April 1, 2025, the estimated U.S. non-organic commercial cage-free table egg flock was about unchanged at 105.3 million, 37% of the current U.S. table egg flock. This represents a 6% increase from the number of non-organic, cage-free table egg layers in April 2024 when 3.5 million non-organic, cage-free layers were lost to HPAI. The current flock number represents a 5% increase in share of the total commercial table egg flock compared to April 2024.

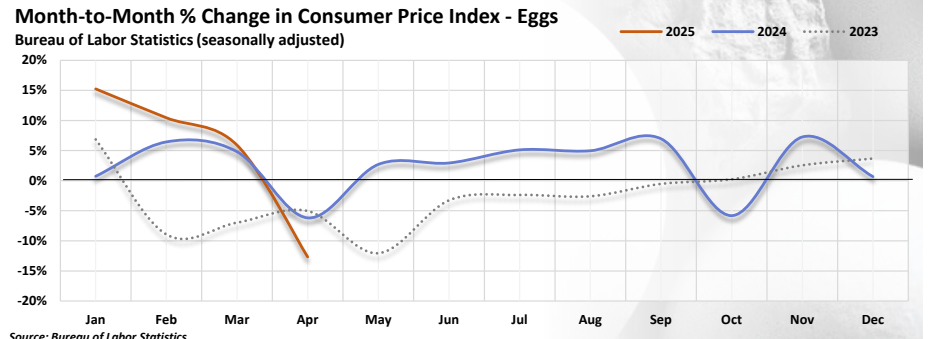
Source: USDA AMS Livestock & Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division



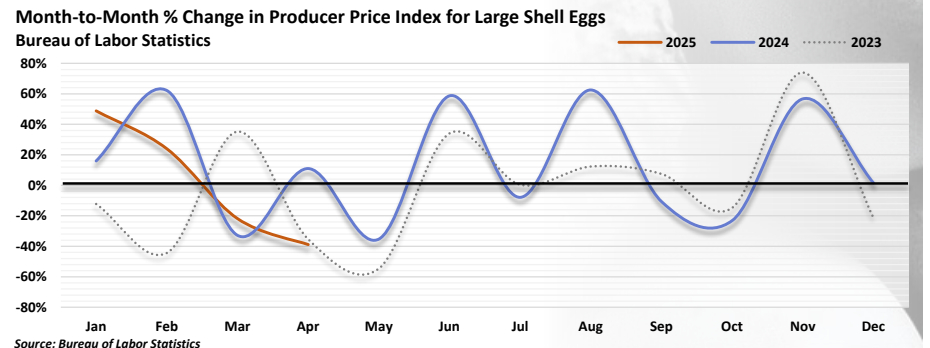
Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

Eggs Processed - Week-to-Week Change							
total	share	case yield*	whole	whites	yolks	dried	inedible
-2.3%	-0.7%	-0.16	-3.2%	-6.8%	-8.1%	19.9%	1.2%

* case yield w/ inedible in pounds per case.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

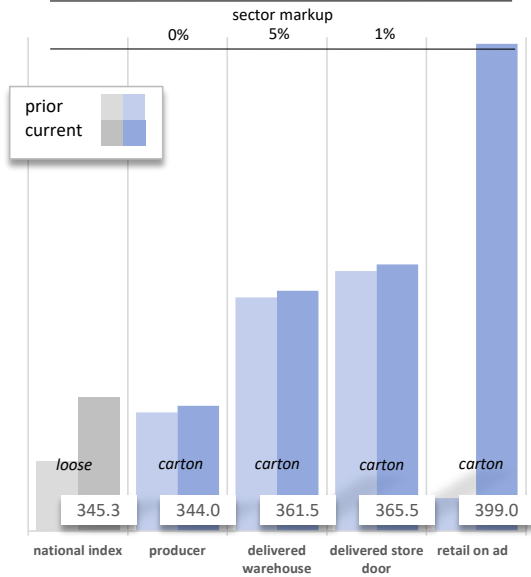


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Shell Eggs Market Price Comparisons

(as of May 16, 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						
	16-May	% Change	9-May	2-May	25-Apr	18-Apr	11-Apr
SHELL EGGS (Large, White, conventional in cents per dozen)							
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	345.32	3%	335.55	328.99	315.35	313.27	307.77
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	444.14	-7%	475.85	438.21	468.15	465.06	497.70
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvr'd to warehouse)	361.50	0%	360.50	360.50	360.50	360.50	370.50
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	375.00	0%	374.00	372.00	372.00	372.00	372.00
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	482.00	-2%	493.00	510.00	528.00	549.00	585.00
National Retail Shell Egg (avg. ad price in dollars per dozen)							
Conventional Caged, Large, White	3.99	21%	3.30	3.99	3.99	3.93	4.28
UEP Cage-Free, Large, Brown	4.13		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
EGG PRODUCTS (f.o.b. shipper dock prices)							
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	267.25	0%	267.50	270.75	254.00	249.50	242.75
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	3.20	0%	3.20	3.10	2.78	n/a	2.78
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	25.00		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Processed Share of Weekly Shell Egg Production	33.3%	-0.7%	34.1%	32.7%	31.2%	31.5%	31.6%
SHELL EGG DEMAND INDICATOR (no units)							
	-11.0	-0.2	-10.8	-5.8	-4.3	-6.3	-11.7

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)	16-May	Change	09-May	2025 High	2025 Low
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	345.3	▲ 3%	335.6	816.8	292.3
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	444.1	▼ -7%	475.9	996.2	438.2
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvr'd to warehouse)	361.5	▲ 0%	360.5	841.5	360.5
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	375.0	▲ 0%	374.0	853.0	372.0
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	482.0	▼ -2%	493.0	1035.0	482.0
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	267.3	▼ 0%	267.5	633.8	238.8
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	3.20	■ 0%	3.20	5.31	2.69
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	25.00	■ 0%	n/a	25.00	25.00
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - Conventional caged	3.99	▲ 21%	3.30	4.28	1.87
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - UEP Cage-free ²	4.13	■ 0%	n/a	7.99	2.50
Shell Egg Demand Indicator	-11.0	▼ -0.2	-10.8	11.5	-15.9

¹ mostly high; ² non-organic

2025 Commercial Table Egg Flock HPAI Losses as of May 16, 2025

(no new outbreaks reported this week)

An outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was reported this week in a commercial caged table egg flock in Aurora County, South Dakota. In 2025 to date, HPAI in commercial table egg layer flocks have resulted in the depopulation of 31.2 million birds. To date, USDA APHIS has confirmed 42 outbreaks in layer flocks in 10 states (AZ, CA, IA, IN, MO, NC, OH, PA, SD, and WA). The 31.2 million birds lost included 20.2 million (65%) in conventional caged systems, 11.0 million (35%) in cage-free systems, and 26,000 organic (0.1%). These losses represent 11.1% of the conventional caged layer flock, 10.8% 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 April 1 was down 11.7% while the cage-free and organic flocks increased – by 4.3% and 0.3%, respectively. As of the end of April, nearly two-thirds of layer losses have occurred in caged systems (65%). To date, Ohio has borne the brunt of 2025 outbreaks with 13.5 million (43%) of losses occurring in Ohio flocks.

2025 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System

System	Loss	Share
Conventional Caged....	20,218,420	65%
Cage-Free.....	10,955,480	35%
Organic.....	26,100	0.1%
Total	31,200,000	

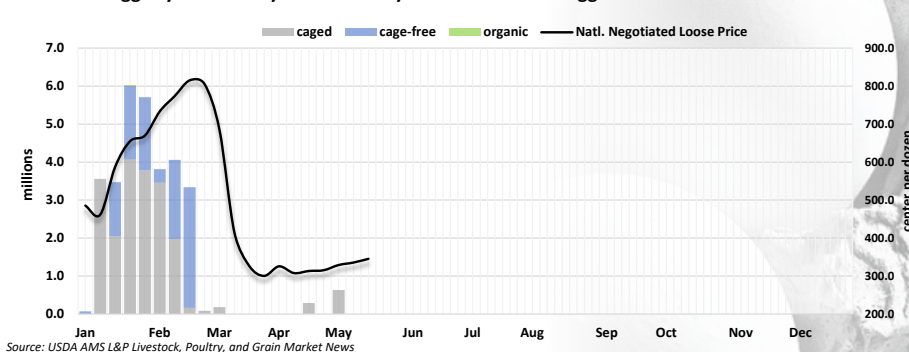
2025 Table Egg Layer Losses

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

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals	Share
AZ	316,600												316,600	1%
CA	75,200												75,200	0%
IA		241,600											241,600	1%
IN	3,013,300	3,591,400	187,200										6,791,900	22%
MO	3,910,300												3,910,300	13%
NC	3,314,900												3,314,900	11%
OH	7,845,300	5,408,800		293,300									13,547,400	43%
PA		2,060,400											2,060,400	7%
WA	307,800												307,800	1%
SD				633,900									633,900	2%
													-	0%
													-	0%
													-	0%
Total	18,783,400	11,302,200	187,200	927,200									31,200,000	

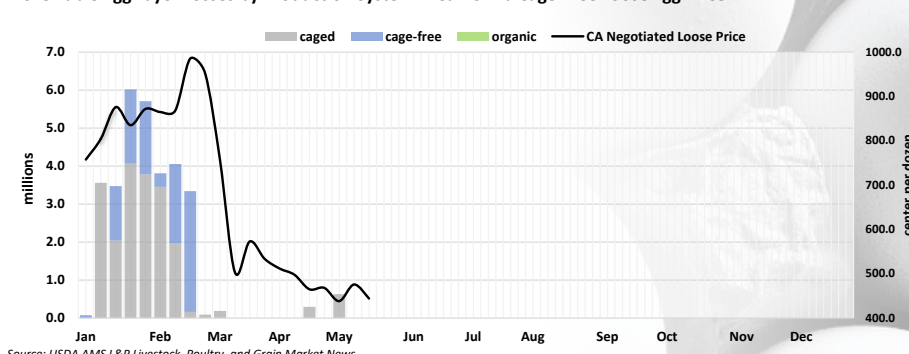
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2025 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System v. Natl Loose Egg Price



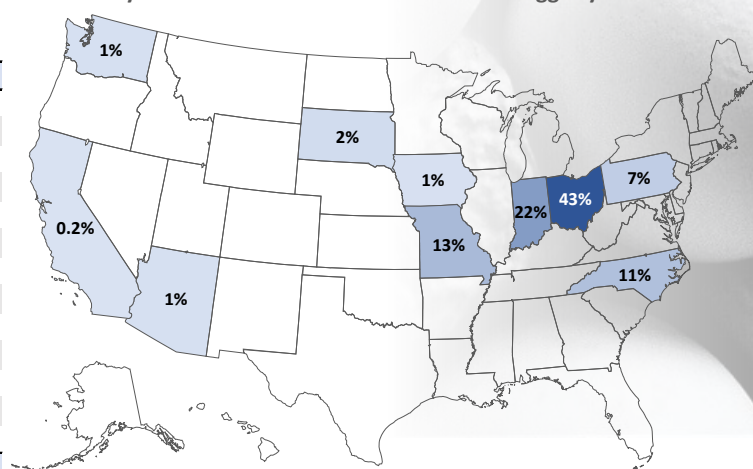
Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

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



Egg Markets Overview