# Egg Markets Overview

A weekly publication of the USDA AMS Livestock and Poultry Program, Agricultural Analytics Division December 07, 2018

Wholesale prices for shell eggs opened the week under downward pressure which halted by midweek and began to firm as demand rose to meet retail promotional needs with the onset of Hanukkah and the Christmas cookie season. Offerings are light to moderate while supplies vary in a full range depending on market position. The pace of trading rises to a moderate rate. Prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, White Large shell eggs were unchanged at $0.815 per dozen) and continues to lag below last year's level. The wholesale price on the bellwether New York market for Large shell eggs delivered to retailers declined 2% (from $1.32 to $1.30 per dozen). The undertone is steady. The Midwest wholesale price for Large, white, shell eggs delivered to retailers declined one percent (from ($1.21 to $120.00 per dozen) while the California benchmark for Large shell eggs was unchanged at $1.84 per dozen. The undertone for both markets is firm into next week. Demand for shell eggs declined ahead of increased retail activity as the holiday baking season is underway with an emphasis on conventional types and on volume purchasing to satisfy baking needs. Marketers have begun rolling out features with visions of consumers buying multiple dozens for their baking needs.

Supermarket feature activity for conventional shell eggs increases quickly as retailer shell egg ads begin to break across the country with the arrival of the holiday demand season. The average ad price moves lower, down 7% (from $1.34 to $1.25 per dozen). Featuring of specialty shell eggs doubles from the previous week, accounting for 75% of shell eggs advertised with cage-free outpacing all types. Offerings of UEP-defined cage-free shell eggs quadruple and the average ad price drops 3% (from $2.40 to $2.32 per dozen). The spread between the average ad price for 12-packs of Large conventional shell eggs and those for their cage-free counterparts widens by one percent ($0.01).

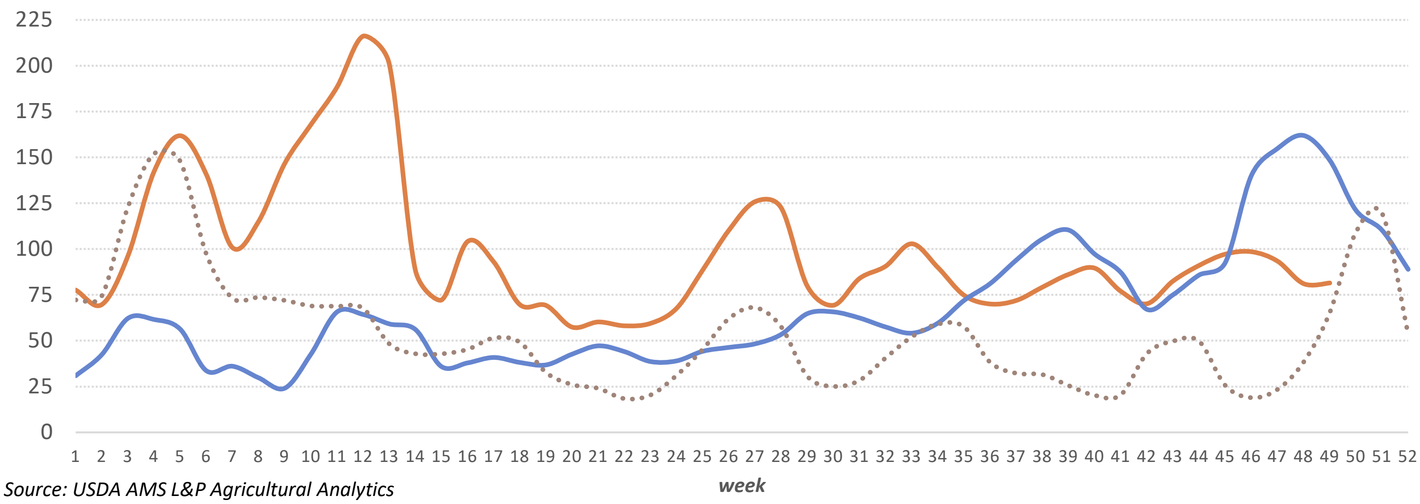
The overall inventory of shell eggs increases 4% and the nation-wide inventory of Large eggs rose 5%. The inventory of Large eggs in the key Midwest production region rose 9%. The inventory share of Large caged eggs was about unchanged at 48% of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week. The share of stocks of ungraded eggs rose 2% as demand for carton eggs to feed retail promotions was just getting underway as the week opened. Breaking stock inventories declined 2% as breakers took advantage of increased supply availability to rebuild their stocks. Total table egg production for the week declined slightly from last week and grew closer to the level from a year ago by 2% (3 million dozen).

The wholesale price for breaking stock in the Central State was down 4% early in the week but managed to resist further downward pressure by the week's end, declining 4% ($0.74 to $0.71 per dozen). The market undertone is weak to lower. Breaker demand was light to moderate Initial offerings were moderate to heavy but eased by the end of the trading period. Supplies were moderate for full to extended schedules. The volume of eggs processed during the prior jumped 14% as production moved past the recent holiday-disruptions, representing 32% of weekly table egg production. Production of whole egg rose 17% while production of whites was up 15%. Yolk production was up 5% for the week.

Wholesale prices for certified liquid whole eggs were untested this week. Price levels are about steady on moderate to heavy offerings and moderate demand. Wholesale prices for frozen whole egg products were down one percent (from $0.82 to $0.81 per pound) while those for frozen whites were unchanged at $0.80 per pound. Demand is fair to good on moderate offerings and light to moderate supplies. The pace of trading is moderate to active. Wholesale prices for dried eggs are lower this week with whole dried egg prices down 3% (from $3.25 to $3.15 per pound). Prices for dried yolk were down 3% (from $3.20 to $3.10 per pound) while those for dried albumen declined 3% (from $5.45 to $5.30 per pound). Demand is moderate to good while offerings are moderate. Supplies are light to moderate and trading is moderate to active.

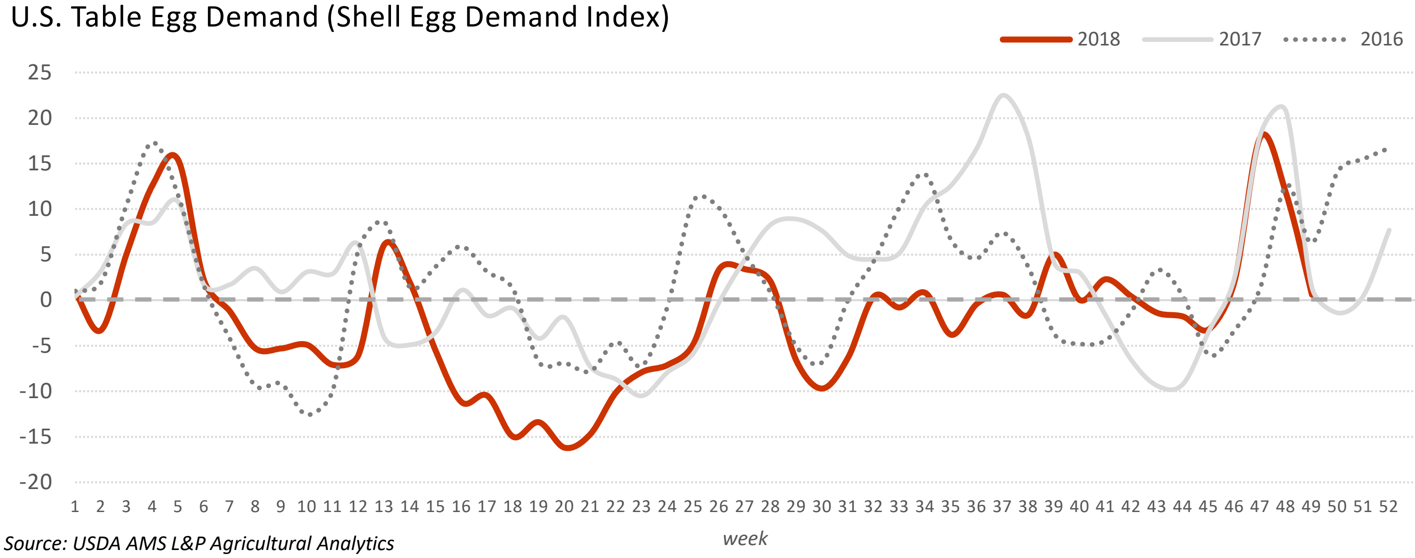
The monthly inventory of total dried egg products in October increased 3 percent from September but remains 34 percent below October 2017. Stocks of whole dried eggs decreased 3 percent during the month while stocks of whites increased 10 percent. Stocks of dried yolk increased 3 percent while those for blends were down one percent. According to NASS, the October monthly volume of frozen eggs in storage rose 4 percent during the month, 8 percent below October 2017 levels. At 45 percent, stocks of whole frozen egg comprised the largest share of classed stocks, up 6 percent from September. Frozen yolk stocks declined sharply, down 39 percent but 5 percent over stocks from a year ago. Frozen white volume in storage declined 8 percent while stocks of unclassed eggs were down 3 percent and accounted for 45 percent of inventory.

## Shell Eggs, Large, White, National Index *(f.o.b. dock, cents per dozen)*




*Source: USDA AMS L&P Agricultural Analytics*

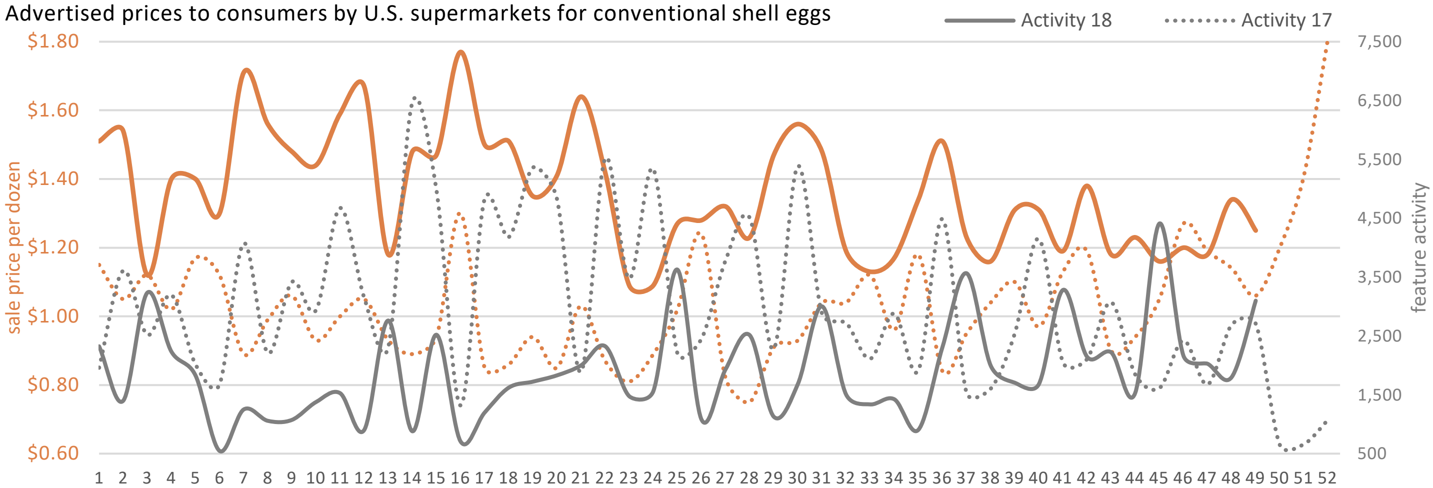
## U.S. Table Egg Demand (Shell Egg Demand Index)




*Source: USDA AMS L&P Agricultural Analytics*

## Supermarket Shell Egg Featuring - LG W Shell Egg Ad Price vs. Feature Rate

Advertised prices to consumers by U.S. supermarkets for conventional shell eggs




*Source: USDA AMS L&P Agricultural Analytics*

**2018 Monthly - U.S. Table Egg Exports**

*All Numbers in Dozen Shell Egg Equivelents*

| | Total | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shell Eggs | 89,457,493 | 7,860,963 | 6,168,759 | 6,763,450 | 9,049,415 | 9,638,145 | 7,805,940 | 7,724,207 | 10,119,709 | 10,638,051 | 13,688,854 | | |
| Yolk, dried | 13,427,847 | 1,629,225 | 2,447,888 | 1,782,425 | 1,274,949 | 1,078,662 | 1,075,347 | 933,932 | 1,127,642 | 1,275,318 | 802,459 | | |
| Yolk, frsh/frz | 14,133,016 | 1,362,765 | 1,951,327 | 1,349,373 | 1,501,536 | 1,359,250 | 638,278 | 1,385,531 | 1,869,973 | 1,453,493 | 1,261,491 | | |
| Whole, dried | 27,414,726 | 2,780,436 | 3,290,489 | 2,971,567 | 3,354,568 | 2,951,681 | 2,996,978 | 2,751,342 | 2,360,240 | 2,047,211 | 1,910,214 | | |
| Whole, frsh/frz | 6,298,750 | 1,094,598 | 724,822 | 602,958 | 533,991 | 469,209 | 421,167 | 458,998 | 471,887 | 649,828 | 871,292 | | |
| Egg albumen, dried | 35,502,309 | 4,417,784 | 3,642,123 | 4,140,301 | 4,777,866 | 4,231,935 | 4,504,255 | 2,613,501 | 2,141,135 | 2,643,185 | 2,390,224 | | |
| Egg albumen, other than dried | 328,095 | 17,911 | 45,866 | 53,399 | 20,757 | 9,374 | 37,162 | 57,417 | 29,294 | 45,699 | 11,215 | | |
| Total dozens | 186,562,235 | 19,163,681 | 18,271,274 | 17,663,474 | 20,513,082 | 19,738,255 | 17,479,127 | 15,924,927 | 18,119,879 | 18,752,785 | 20,935,750 | 0 | 0 |

*note: all egg products converted from metric tons to shell egg equivalent.*

**2018 Monthly - U.S. Table Egg Imports**

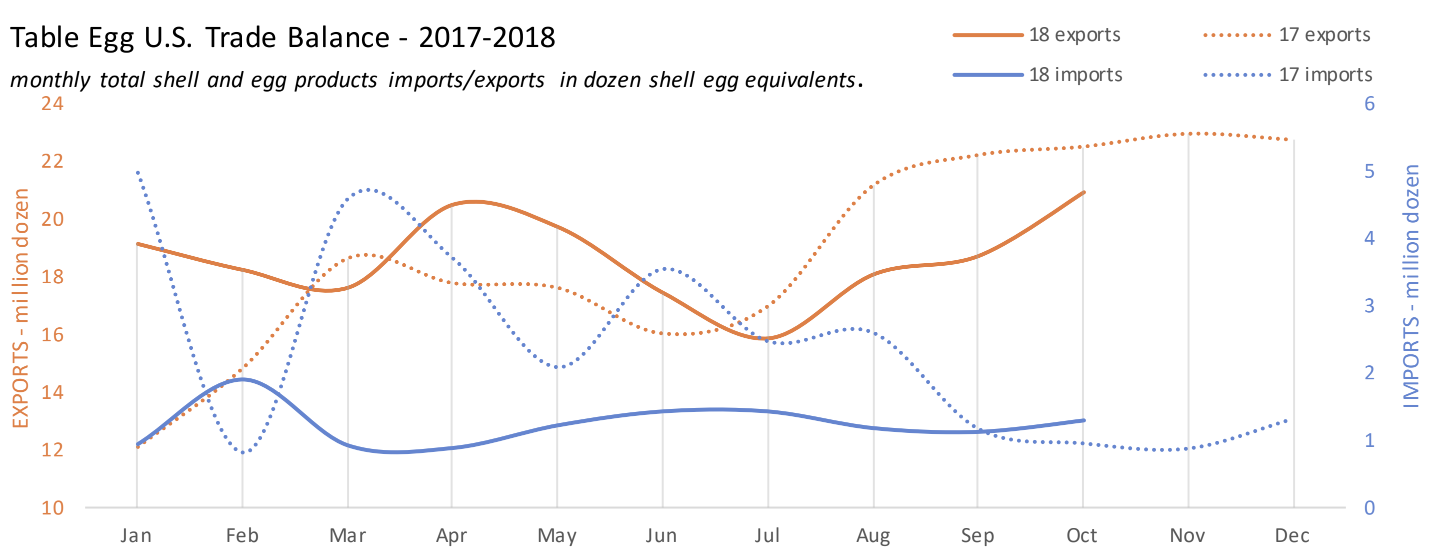
*All Numbers in Dozen Shell Egg Equivelents*

| | Total | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicken Eggs, frsh | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table Eggs, frsh | 41,084 | 0 | 1,151 | 3,850 | 0 | 5,717 | 19,200 | 4,500 | | 666 | 6,000 | | |
| Yolk, dried | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Yolk, frsh/frz | 3,166,616 | 504,529 | 327,258 | 236,864 | 159,528 | 372,789 | 301,479 | 279,550 | 326,086 | 312,862 | 345,671 | | |
| Whole, dried | 41,246 | 368 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40,878 | 0 | | |
| Whole, frsh/frz | 5,949,228 | 391,035 | 538,845 | 458,496 | 591,408 | 623,715 | 727,165 | 858,738 | 658,533 | 445,439 | 655,855 | | |
| Egg albumen, dried | 2,381,189 | 0 | 864,714 | 165,199 | 109,702 | 172,943 | 366,535 | 274,902 | 166,490 | 110,993 | 149,712 | | |
| Egg albumen, other than dried | 797,806 | 47,540 | 182,796 | 59,091 | 25,611 | 52,060 | 21,427 | 16,237 | 32,475 | 218,116 | 142,453 | | |
| Total dozens | **12,377,170** | 943,473 | 1,914,764 | 923,500 | 886,249 | 1,227,224 | 1,435,806 | 1,433,927 | 1,183,583 | 1,128,288 | 1,299,691 | | |

*note: all egg products converted from metric tons to shell egg equivalent.*

In October, the overall volume of shell and egg products exports (in shell egg equivalents) increased 12% from September, down 7% from 2017. The value of all egg exports rose 14% from September, 12 percent below September 2017. The volume of table shell egg exports increased 19% from September and was 31% above last year. Canada continues to be the primary export market for shell eggs with Hong Kong a close second. Overall exports of fresh/frozen liquid egg products were unchanged from September, 38% below 2017. Liquid yolk remains the most exported liquid egg product but volume continues to decline, down 13% for the month. Exports of liquid albumen dropped off after staging a brief rally in September, down 75%. Combined exports of dried egg products in October fell 14% for the month but is 41% below 2017. Dried albumen led all other types in export volume for the month but volume declined 10%. Whole dried egg exports declined 7% for the month, 59% behind last year's rate.

The overall volume of shell and egg products (in shell egg equivalents) imported during October rose 35% from the prior month and from 2017. The cost of all egg imports increased 19% percent during the month on the increased trade volume. Limited amounts of table shell eggs were imported during the month following a pattern of limited shell egg imports in 2018 and Taiwan remains the sole source of all table shell eggs imported in 2018. The volume of egg product imports increased 15% from September, mostly from increased imports of whole liquid egg, primarily from Canada which was up 83%. Imports of dried egg products continue to be limited to dried albumen and volumes were down one percent. Most of the volume of egg product imports (88 percent) were in the form of liquid egg products.



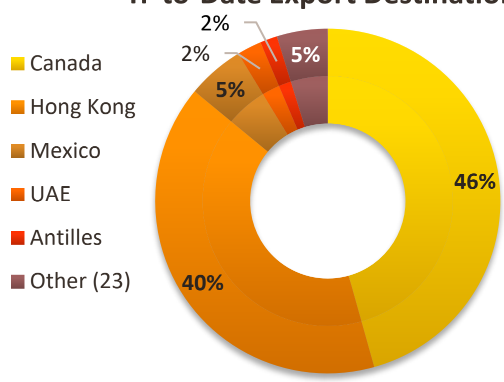

*Source: USDA AMS L&P Agricultural Analytics, FAS GATS*

## U.S. Shell Egg and Egg Products Trade Data - as of October 2018

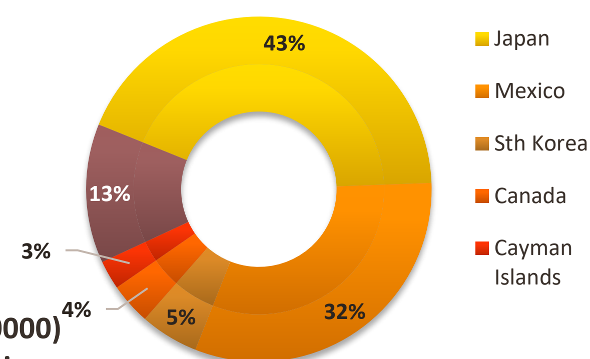
*(does not include hatching eggs)*

| EXPORTS | Volume | | | | | Value | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep 18 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 2018 as a % of Sep 18 | Oct 2018 as a % of Oct 17 | Sep 18 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 2018 as a % of Sep 18 | Oct 2018 as a % of Oct 17 |
| | | *(dozens)* | | *(percent)* | | | *($US)* | | *(percent)* | |
| **Shell Eggs**........................ | 10,638,051 | 13,688,854 | 10,470,402 | 129 | 131 | 9,533,000 | 12,378,000 | 10,648,000 | 130 | 116 |
| year-to-date | 75,768,639 | 89,457,493 | 67,751,162 | 118 | 132 | 81,775,000 | 94,153,000 | 69,306,000 | 115 | 136 |
| | | *(metric tons)* | | *(percent)* | | | *($US)* | | *(percent)* | |
| **Egg Products**.................... | | | | | | | | | | |
| yolk, dried..................... | 346.3 | 217.9 | 385.5 | 63 | 57 | 1,963,000 | 1,296,000 | 1,796,000 | 66 | 72 |
| year-to-date | 3,428.3 | 3,646.2 | 5,080.3 | 106 | 72 | 19,062,000 | 20,358,000 | 20,365,000 | 107 | 100 |
| yolk, frsh/frz.................. | 868.3 | 753.6 | 1,204.4 | 87 | 63 | 2,405,000 | 2,119,000 | 3,091,000 | 88 | 69 |
| year-to-date | 7,689.3 | 8,442.9 | 12,230.5 | 110 | 69 | 23,262,000 | 25,381,000 | 28,230,000 | 109 | 90 |
| whole, dried................. | 555.9 | 518.7 | 1,278.3 | 93 | 41 | 1,571,000 | 1,916,000 | 4,294,000 | 122 | 45 |
| year-to-date | 6,925.5 | 7,444.2 | 7,725.7 | 107 | 96 | 24,971,000 | 26,887,000 | 25,276,000 | 108 | 106 |
| whole, frsh/frz........... | 388.2 | 520.5 | 738.4 | 134 | 70 | 800,000 | 1,015,000 | 1,280,000 | 127 | 79 |
| year-to-date | 3,242.3 | 3,762.8 | 8,512.3 | 116 | 44 | 7,053,000 | 8,068,000 | 13,470,000 | 114 | 60 |
| albumen, dried............ | 204.8 | 185.2 | 191.5 | 90 | 97 | 609,000 | 672,000 | 891,000 | 110 | 75 |
| year-to-date | 2,565.6 | 2,750.8 | 2,255.2 | 107 | 122 | 9,787,000 | 10,459,000 | 8,492,000 | 107 | 123 |
| albumen, other........... | 27.3 | 6.7 | 118.4 | 25 | 6 | 93,000 | 18,000 | 143,000 | 19 | 13 |
| year-to-date | 189.3 | 196.0 | 877.6 | 104 | 22 | 1,718,000 | 1,736,000 | 1,122,000 | 101 | 155 |
| total egg products........ | 2,390.8 | 2,202.6 | 3,916.5 | 92 | 56 | 7,441,000 | 7,036,000 | 11,495,000 | 95 | 61 |
| year-to-date | 24,040.3 | 26,242.9 | 36,681.6 | 109 | 72 | 85,853,000 | 92,889,000 | 96,955,000 | 108 | 96 |

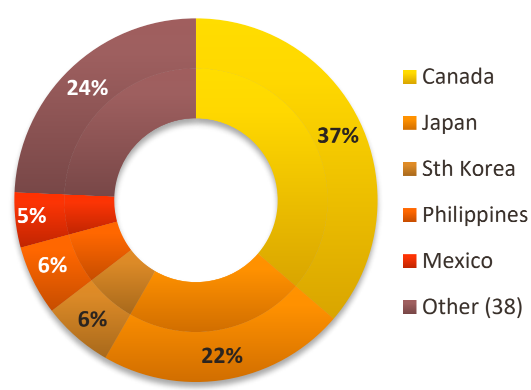
**Shell Eggs (0407210000)**
**Yr-to-Date Export Destinations**




**Egg Yolk frsh/frzn (0408190000)**
**Yr-to-Date Export Destinations**




**Whole Dried Egg (0408910000)**
**Yr-to-Date Export Destinations**



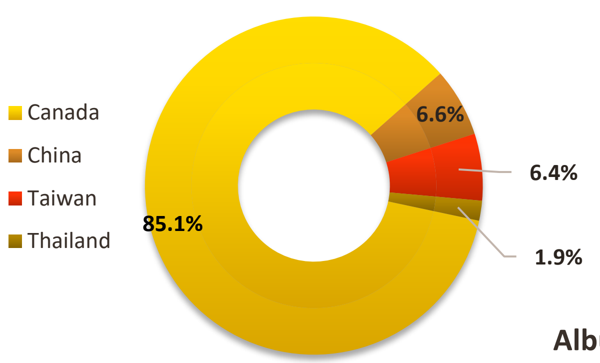

*Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)*

## U.S. Shell Egg and Egg Products Trade Data - as of October 2018

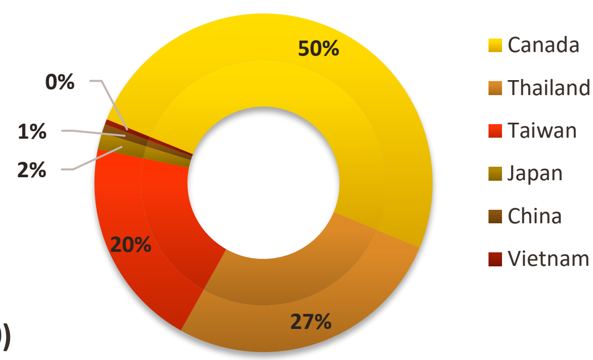
*(does not include hatching eggs)*

| IMPORTS | Volume | | | | | Value | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep 18 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 2018 as a % of Sep 18 | Oct 2018 as a % of Oct 17 | Sep 18 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 2018 as a % of Sep 18 | Oct 2018 as a % of Oct 17 |
| | | *(dozens)* | | *(percent)* | | | *($US)* | | *(percent)* | |
| **Shell Eggs**........................ | 666 | 6,000 | 6,600 | 901 | | 2,000 | 24,000 | 25,000 | 1,200 | 96 |
| year-to-date | 35,084 | 41,084 | 47,047 | 117 | 87 | 110,000 | 134,000 | 152,000 | 122 | 88 |
| | | *(metric tons)* | | *(percent)* | | | *($US)* | | *(percent)* | |
| **Egg Products**..................... | | | | | | | | | | |
| yolk, dried.................... | | | | | | | | | | |
| year-to-date | | | 95.4 | | | | | 661,000 | | |
| yolk, frsh/frz.................. | 186.9 | 206.5 | 119.3 | 110 | 173 | 679,000 | 628,000 | 338,000 | 92 | 186 |
| year-to-date | 1,685.2 | 1,891.7 | 2,073.4 | 112 | 91 | 4,571,000 | 5,199,000 | 4,745,000 | 114 | 110 |
| whole, dried................ | 11.1 | | | | | 29,000 | | | | |
| year-to-date | 11.2 | 11.2 | 223.2 | 100 | 5 | 31,000 | 31,000 | 665,925 | 100 | 4.7 |
| whole, frsh/frz........... | 266.1 | 391.8 | 342.9 | 147 | 114 | 709,000 | 1,011,000 | 788,000 | 143 | 128 |
| year-to-date | 3,162.2 | 3,554.0 | 3,460.6 | 112 | 103 | 8,207,000 | 9,218,000 | 8,736,000 | 112 | 106 |
| albumen, dried............ | 8.6 | 11.6 | 13.4 | 135 | 87 | 26,000 | 106,000 | 40,000 | 408 | 265 |
| year-to-date | 172.9 | 184.5 | 1,247.9 | 107 | 15 | 571,000 | 677,000 | 3,772,000 | 119 | 18 |
| albumen, other........... | 130.3 | 85.1 | 6.2 | 65 | 1,373 | 124,000 | 104,000 | 8,000 | 84 | 1,300 |
| year-to-date | 391.5 | 476.6 | 239.9 | 122 | 199 | 415,000 | 519,000 | 293,000 | 125 | 177 |
| total egg products........ | 603.0 | 695.0 | 481.8 | 115 | 144 | 1,567,000 | 1,849,000 | 1,174,000 | 118 | 157 |
| year-to-date | 5,423.0 | 6,118.0 | 7,340.4 | 113 | 83 | 13,795,000 | 15,644,000 | 18,872,925 | 113 | 83 |

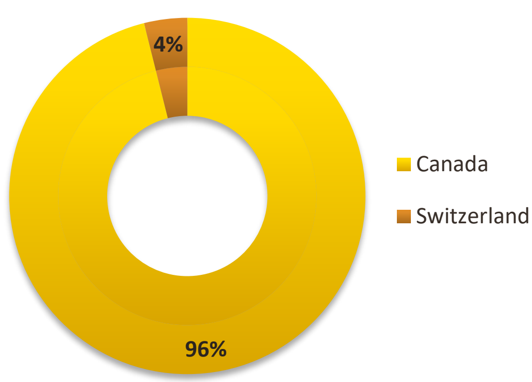
**Yolk frsh/frzn (0408190000)**
**Yr-to-Date Import Sources**




**Whole Egg frsh/frzn (0408990000)**
**Yr-to-Date Import Sources**




**Albumin (3502190000)**
**Yr-to-Date Import Sources**




*Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)*