

## EGGS

### Production

Table egg production in December was up 3 percent from November at 716 million dozen, 4 percent above last December. Broiler-type hatching egg production was 1.12 billion pounds produced, up 3.5 percent monthly and up 2.9 percent from 2018. In December 88.6 million egg-type hatching eggs were produced, 1.5 percent more than in 2018. Shell eggs broken totaled 207 billion dozen, up 0.7 percent from December a year ago, and up 7 percent from November 2019. The number of table-egg layers in the national flock on January 1, 2020 increased to 341 million birds, rising slightly from December and 3 percent from January 2019. Hatching egg layers for the table egg flock held at 3.5 million birds, 2 percent over last January, and the broiler-type hatching egg flock rose to 59.9 million birds, up 1.5 percent from December 2019 and 2.7 percent more than the flock in January 2019. The number of pullets added during December for all types of egg production was 25.5 million, down 4 percent December 2018.

### Price

In January, prices for a dozen Large Grade A eggs in the New York wholesale market fell 34 cents to an average of 91 cents/dozen, 27 percent below the December price and 21 percent below the January 2019 level. Breaking stock prices fell 22 cents to 28 cents per dozen, 45 percent below the December price and 32 percent below its January 2019 level.

### International Trade

U.S. table shell egg exports in December totaled 10.5 million dozen, up 9 percent from November and down slightly from December 2018. The export value was \$11.2 million, 16 percent higher monthly but down 3 percent yearly. At 3.4 thousand metric tons, the volume of egg products exported was down 16 percent from November but 12 percent above December 2018. Egg product exports in December were valued at \$11.5 million, down 9 percent from November and 1 percent below last year. Compared to 2018, cumulative yearly exports of table eggs were up 18 percent in volume but down 11 percent in value. Total 2019 egg product exports were up 2 percent in volume and down 3 percent in value. Top export destinations Mexico, Canada and Hong Kong respectively comprised 31, 17, and 8 percent of all egg and egg product exports in the last month of 2019.

## TURKEY

### Production

The U.S. produced 443 million pounds of turkey on a ready-to-cook basis in December, down 5 percent monthly and 0.6 percent yearly. Total yearly turkey production was down 1.2 percent from 2018. Turkey eggs in incubators on the first of January were up 6 percent monthly and 2 percent yearly at 28.3 million eggs. December poult placements rose slightly on a monthly basis, and were up 1 percent year-over-year, at 20 million.

Turkey in cold storage rose 5 percent in December relative to November but was down 23 percent from the 2018 end-of-December levels. Total stocks of whole frozen birds, hens, and toms were down 42, 54 and 30 percent, respectively, from last year. Breast meat stocks were 18 percent lower year-over-year, while leg meat stocks were down 44 percent.

### Price

For January 2020, the average price of whole frozen hens was 95 cents/lb, down 2 cents, and 2 percent from the December 2019 price, and 14 cents, or 18 percent above the January 2019 level. The whole frozen toms price was 95 cents/lb., down slightly from December and up 18 percent from the January 2019 price. For individual cuts, the fresh tom boneless/skinless breast price was 191 cents/lb., down 2 cents, or 1 percent, on a monthly basis, and down 17 cents (8 percent) yearly. Fresh tom boneless/skinless thigh meat remained steady for the sixth consecutive month at 156 cents/lb., 25 percent higher than January 2019. Fresh tom drumsticks regained the penny lost in December to end at 74 cents/lb., 1 percent higher monthly and 6 percent higher yearly.

### International Trade

In December, the U.S. exported 20.8 thousand metric tons of turkey products with a value of \$52 million. This volume was 24 percent lower than November and the value was down 22 percent. Compared with December 2018, exports were 6 percent lower in volume but 5 percent higher in value. Total 2019 turkey exports were higher by 6 percent in volume and 9 percent in value. Mexico, Japan and Canada were the top export markets for U.S. turkey meat in December 2019, with Mexico taking 63 percent of U.S. exports.

**Production**

Production volume of young chicken in December 2019 added 6 percent monthly and 13 percent yearly for a total of 3.6 billion pounds on a ready-to-cook basis. The total 2019 yearly production of young chicken meat was up 3 percent over 2018. For the weeks ending February 1, 2020 eggs set were 16 percent lower than 2019, and chicks placed were up 5 percent compared with the same period last year.

Total stocks of chicken in cold storage at the end of December were 962 million pounds, down 2 percent from the end of November 2019 but up 9 percent from December 2018. Stocks of whole broilers were down 11 percent from the previous month but up 15 percent from the year before. Bone-in thighs in cold storage were down 6 percent from both November 2019 and December 2018. Drumstick stocks were down 8 percent monthly but up 8 percent yearly. Stocks of b/s breasts in freezers were 5 percent higher than in November and 15 percent higher than last December. Cold storage of wings were down 12 percent for the month and 35 percent from last year's levels. Leg quarters were down 17 percent monthly and up 33 percent yearly.

**Price**

Compared to December 2019, whole broiler prices were up 7 percent, closing January 2020 at 91 cents/lb., 8 percent below the January 2019 average price. Boneless/skinless (B/S) breast prices lost 5 cents (6 percent) to 93 cents/lb., 8 percent lower yearly. Wing prices added 10 cents, or 6 percent, to 184 cents per pound, 7 percent higher yearly. Bulk leg quarter prices rose 1 cent to 38 cents/lb., higher by 2 percent monthly and 28 percent yearly. Boneless/skinless thigh meat prices lost 2 cents to 109 cents/lb., down 2 percent from December and 6 percent from the January 2019 value. Bone-in thighs held steady at 65 cents/lb., 1 percent lower than last January. Drumsticks gained 4 cents for an average of 41 cents/lb., 12 percent higher monthly and 17 percent higher yearly.

**International Trade**

December exports of chicken and chicken products totaled 266 thousand metric tons valued at \$254 million. This is a drop in volume and value of 9 percent and 6 percent, respectively, compared to November. Year-over-year, this represents a 1 percent increase in volume and an 11 percent increase in value. Total yearly exports of chicken were up 1 percent in volume and 2 percent in value compared to 2018. Mexico, Canada and Cuba were the largest importers of U.S. broiler meat with 19, 9 and 6 percent of U.S. exports, respectively.

**Production**

December 2019 beef production was 7 percent higher than 2018 and down 1 percent from the prior month at 2.27 billion pounds. Cattle slaughter was 2.75 million head, up 7 percent year-over-year and down 1 percent monthly. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from last year and down 2 pounds from November at 1,373 pounds. Beef production for was 1 percent higher than 2018. Veal production in December 2019 was 6.5 million pounds, up 1 percent year-over-year, and 7 percent higher monthly. Calf slaughter was 49,800 head, down 7 percent yearly and down 7 percent from November. The average live weight was up 1 pound from November at 228 pounds, and up 18 pounds yearly. Total veal production for 2019 was down 2 percent from last year.

Total beef in cold storage at the end of December was down 3 percent compared with the end of December 2018, but up 1 percent compared with November. Stocks of boneless beef were up 1 percent monthly but down 2 percent yearly, while beef cuts were down 8 percent month-over-month and down 10 percent year-over-year. Veal stocks in freezers gained 13 percent relative to November and were down 25 percent yearly.

**Price**

Live cattle prices (FOB, steers and heifers) in January 2020 added nearly \$5 to \$120 per cwt, 4 percent above December 2019 and 2 percent above the January 2019 price. The monthly average beef cutout value lost \$18 per cwt., to \$218 per cwt., 7 below December and 2 percent higher than last January. The 90 percent lean boneless beef monthly average price rose 2 percent from the month before, averaging \$241 per cwt., 24 higher year-over-year. The 50 percent lean trim price lost \$21 to \$63 per cwt, 24 percent below December but up 4 percent from last year. The average prices for hide-off veal carcasses held steady at \$305 per cwt, down 1 percent both monthly and yearly.

**International Trade**

Compared to 2018, December 2019 beef and veal exports (including variety meats) were down 1 percent at 111 thousand MT while the export value was down 3 percent at \$682 million. The export volume and value were up 2 and 4 percent from November, respectively. Total exports for 2019 were 3 percent lower in volume and 2 percent lower in value compared to 2018. In December, South Korea, Japan and Mexico were our largest export markets. Year-over-year beef import volumes for December were up 8 percent at 82 thousand MT and were 20 percent higher in value at \$502 million. On a monthly basis volume fell 5 percent and value lost 6 percent. Total beef imports for 2019 were 3 percent higher relative to 2018, with value up 8 percent. Australia, Canada and Mexico were the largest importers of beef to the U.S. in December 2019.

## Production

Pork production in December totaled 2.44 billion pounds, up 1 percent monthly and 9 percent from 2018, for a record high production volume for the month of December. The number of hogs slaughtered was 11.4 million head, up 9 percent from December 2018 but up less than 1 percent from November 2019. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from last year and equal to last month at 288. Total pork production in 2019 rose 5 percent from 2018.

Total stocks of pork in cold storage at the end of December were up 1 percent from November and 15 percent higher than last year. Ham inventories declined 23 percent month-over-month but were up 17 percent year-over-year, with stocks of bone-in hams down 44 percent monthly but up 39 percent yearly, and boneless hams down 12 percent and up 10 percent, respectively. Belly inventories added 25 percent monthly and 61 percent from last year. Total loin stocks gained 2 percent for the month and 46 percent yearly. Pork rib stocks increased 10 percent monthly but fell 2 percent yearly. Pork trimmings in freezers were 24 percent higher than November and up 6 percent from last year.

## Price

The monthly average negotiated carcass price for barrows and gilts in January 2020 added \$1 per/lb. to \$46 per cwt., up 4 percent monthly but down 2 percent from last year. The pork cutout value fell \$2 in January to a monthly average of \$80 per cwt., down 4 percent from December but up 11 percent from January 2019. The monthly average price for trimmed, bone-in hams, 23-27 pounds lost \$8 to \$78 per cwt., up 57 percent from last year. Prices for picnic meat combos, cushion out, lost \$2 to \$94 per cwt., 51 percent above 2018. 72 percent lean pork trimmings prices increased \$8 per cwt. averaging \$63 per cwt, up 32 percent from last January. Pork belly primal values dropped \$20 per cwt. to \$96 per cwt., down 22 percent yearly.

## International Trade

Pork exports (including variety meats) in December 2019 were up 9 percent from the previous month at 276 thousand metric tons, and up 7 percent in value at \$728 million. Compared to last year, exports were 35 percent higher in volume and up 47 percent value. The total 2019 pork export volume was up 10 percent and the value up 9 percent. China, Mexico and Japan were our largest export markets. Compared to last year, December pork imports were 15 percent lower in volume at 31 thousand MT, and 7 percent lower in value at \$117 million. Import volume and value were down from November by 9 and 10 percent, respectively. Total imports for all of 2019 were down 6 percent in volume and 5 percent in value. Canada, Italy and Poland were the top importers of pork to the U.S.

## Production

December lamb and mutton production, at 12.1 million pounds, was up 8 percent from December 2018 and down slightly from November 2019. Sheep slaughter totaled 196,500 head, down 9 percent from November and down 3 percent from last year. The average live weight was 123 pounds, down 2 pounds monthly and down 8 pounds yearly. Total 2019 lamb and mutton production fell 4 percent from 2018. Lamb stocks in cold storage were 5 percent lower than 2018 but up 2 percent from the previous month.

## Price

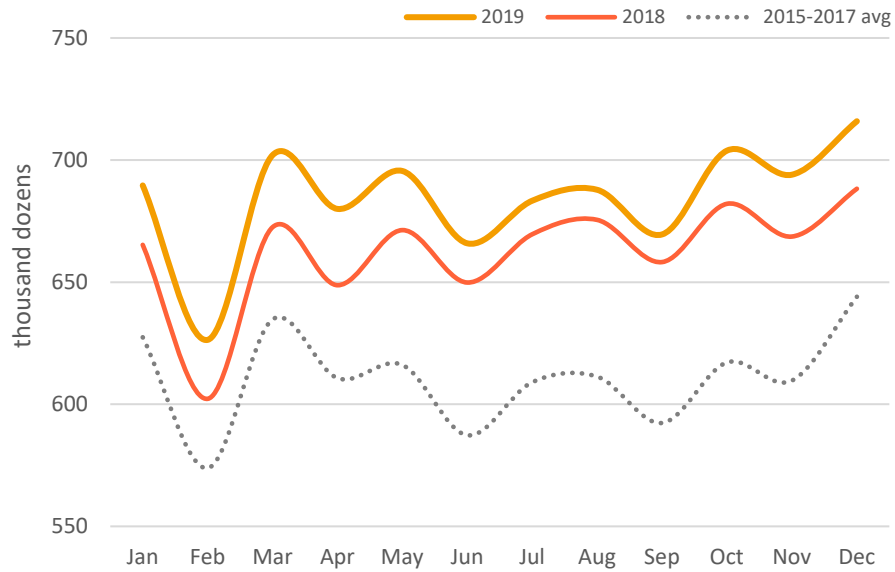
The January negotiated live slaughter lamb price held steady on a monthly basis at \$152 per cwt., up 15 percent from 2019. The average lamb cutout value lost \$1 for a monthly average of \$398 per cwt, 4 percent above last January. The monthly average price for leg of lamb, trotter-off fell \$11 to \$370 per cwt., 3 percent below the January 2019 average. The average price for lamb shoulder (IMPS 207) in January slipped \$5, or 1 percent monthly to \$327 per cwt., but added 14 percent compared to January 2019. Trimmed 4x4 loins increased \$12 to \$533 per cwt., up 2 percent monthly, but down 2 percent yearly. Legs, trotter-off added \$11 to close January at \$370 per cwt. up 2 percent from 2019.

## International Trade

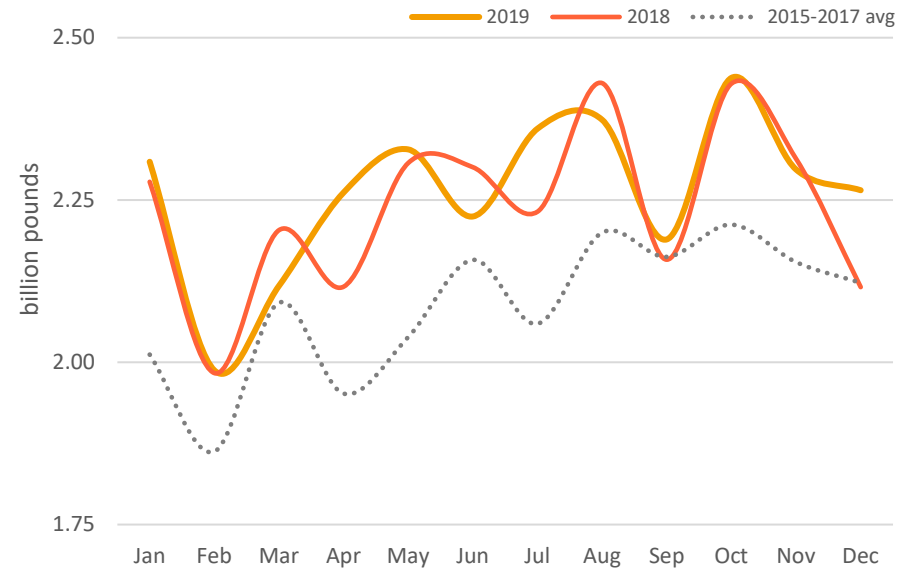
The U.S. lamb export volume more than doubled, to 135 percent in December relative to November, for a total of 340 metric tons valued at \$1.32 million (up 30 percent). On a yearly basis, the export volume was 146 percent higher and value rose 29 percent. The total 2019 export volume fell 2 percent, though the value was 3 percent higher. Mexico, El Salvador and Trinidad/Tobago were the top destinations for U.S. lamb and mutton. Imports of lamb to the U.S. were up 32 percent in December compared to November at 11.1 thousand metric tons, and the value of imports rose 30 percent to \$94 million. Year-over-year imports were up 30 percent in volume and 12 percent lower in value. Cumulative imports for the year were up 2 percent with the value up 12 percent. Australia, New Zealand and Mexico are the top three importing countries to the U.S.

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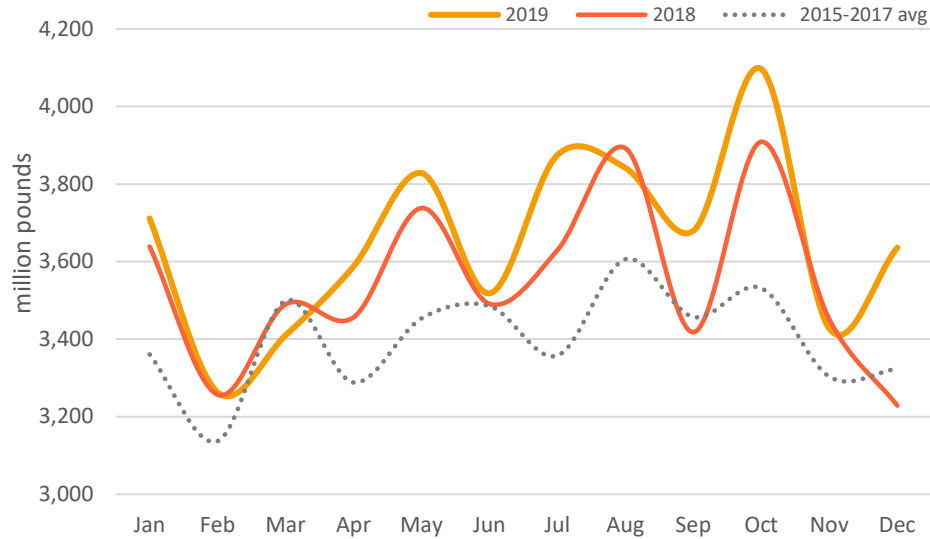
### Monthly Table Egg Production



### Monthly Commercial Beef Production



### Ready-to-Cook Young Chicken Production



### Monthly Commercial Pork Production

