

USDA Egg Markets Overview

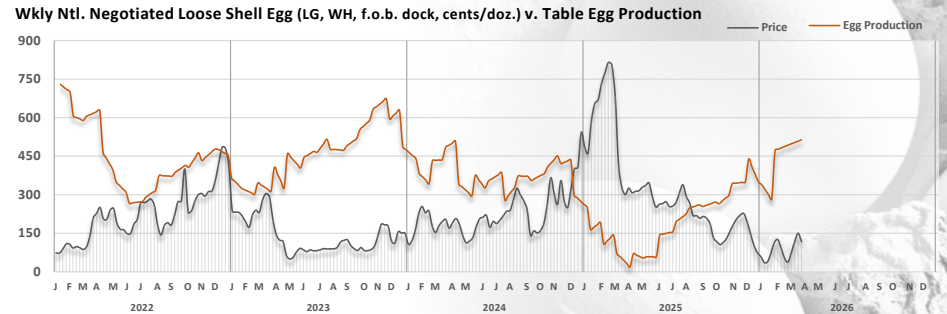
A weekly publication of the USDA AMS Livestock and Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

March 27, 2026

Negotiated wholesale prices for graded loose caged eggs are in full decline as Easter/Passover demand is met and is not subsiding. Offerings are moderate to available with a full range of supplies. Trading is moderate. Wholesale prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, white Large shell eggs decreased \$0.34 to \$1.17 per dozen with a lower undertone. The wholesale price on the New York market for formula trading of Large cartoned shell eggs delivered to retailers decreased \$0.52 to \$1.42 per dozen with a lower undertone. In the major Midwest production region, wholesale prices for Large, white shell eggs delivered to warehouses entered the week \$0.24 higher at \$1.85 per dozen with a steady undertone while the price to producers for Large cartoned shell eggs rose to \$1.67 per dozen. The California benchmark for Large shell eggs increased \$0.20 to \$2.02 per dozen with a steady undertone. Delivered prices on the California-compliant wholesale loose egg market decreased \$0.98 to \$0.90 per dozen with a lower undertone. Demand is light to moderate for moderate to available offerings and moderate supplies. Trading is slow.

The overall pace of grocery store feature activity increases to its most active level to-date with the culmination of the Easter/Passover marketing season. Promotions on white-shelled types for dying are prominent this cycle with a healthy dose of brown-shelled to cover baking needs. Featuring of conventional caged eggs increases sharply and the average ad price declines \$0.52 to \$1.28 per dozen with 18-packs dominating the category. Featuring of [UEP-certified](#) cage-free shell eggs is steady to slightly more active this cycle with a focus on white-shelled types. The average ad price decreased \$1.41 to \$1.80 per dozen – its lowest price point in 2026 to-date. Featuring of free-range shell eggs, both non-organic and organic, is very active this week with non-organic free-range eggs a better value on ad. Featuring of nutritionally-enhanced, white-shelled eggs increases this week in a continuation of the marketing focus on eggs for dying. White shelled types, perfect for dying. Non-organic pastured shell eggs enjoy some exposure this week and the average ad price declines. Passover begins next week and Easter Sunday follows on April 5 so expect shell egg sales to be hopping this weekend.

The inventory of shell eggs available for marketing at the start of the week was about unchanged while the National inventory of Large class shell eggs drew down 3%. The inventory of Large shell eggs in the Midwest declined 12.5% as eggs moved into marketing channels to support rising demand for the Easter/Passover season. The inventory share of Large class shell eggs was down 2% to a 50% share of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week. Stocks of cage-free eggs gained one percent and those of nutritionally-enhanced eggs gained 8% as retail feature activity rises into the week. Stocks of organic eggs were down one percent and the inventory of breaking stock was about unchanged as breakers turned to increasing spot market availability to find sufficient

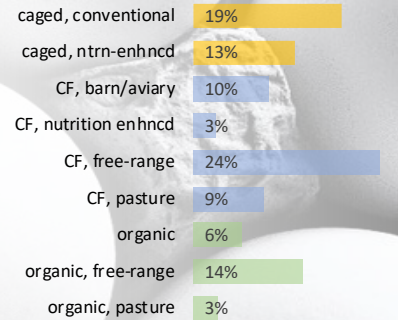


Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

This Week's Supermarket Large Shell Egg Feature Summary

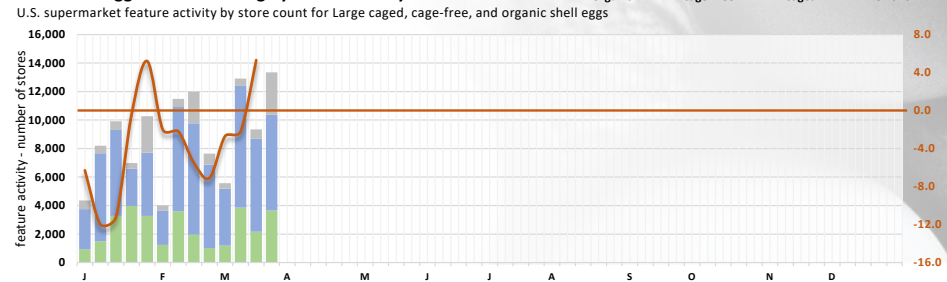
Advertised Prices to Consumers at Major Grocery Retailers

	White-Shell		Brown-Shell	
	Activity	Price	Activity	Price
Caged				
conventional	2,965	1.28	--	--
nutritionally-enhanced	2,039	3.06	--	--
Cage-Free - Non-Organic				
barn/aviary	1,323	1.67	212	2.65
nutritionally-enhanced	--	--	456	3.47
free-range	--	--	3,762	4.20
pastured	--	--	1,434	6.18
USDA Organic				
organic	--	--	975	4.85
free-range	--	--	2,196	7.17
pastured	--	--	481	6.80



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

2026 Shell Egg Retail Featuring by Production System



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

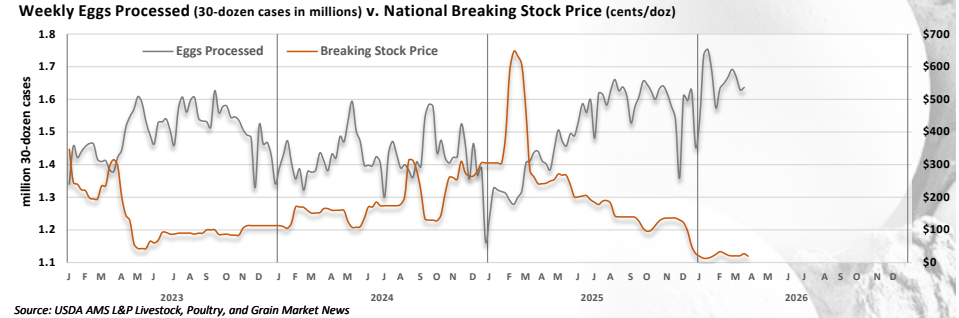
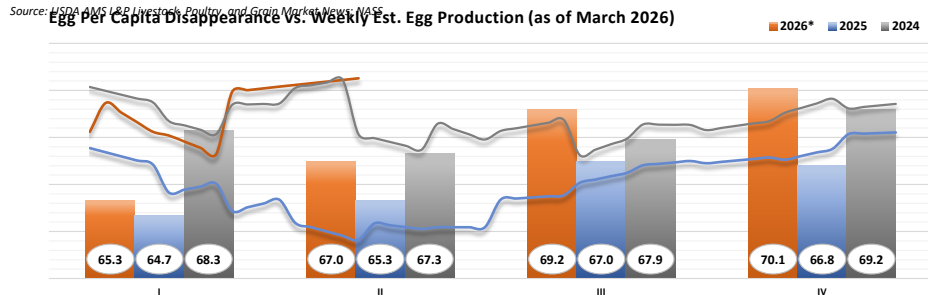
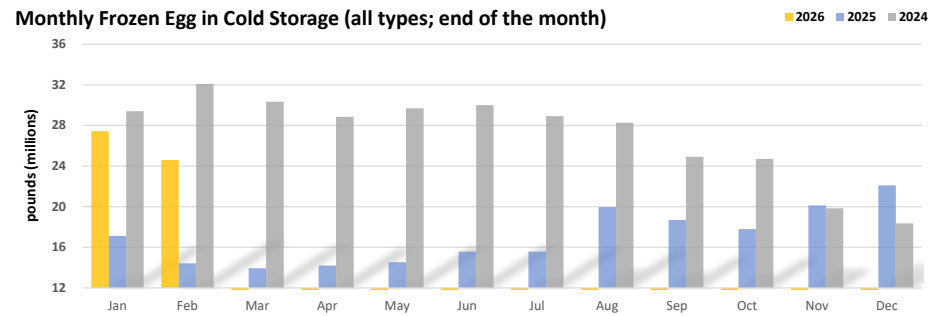
stocks to meet their immediate needs.

The average national wholesale price for breaking stock decreased \$0.08 to \$0.19 per dozen with a weak undertone. Demand remains very light for light offerings and moderate supplies. Processing schedules vary, mostly full time and trading is slow. The volume of eggs processed over the past week increased a half percent and the share of weekly table egg production was unchanged at 33%. Cage-free stock accounted for 49% of eggs processed last week, a one percent decrease in share.

Compared to Prior Week							
total	share*	case yield**	whole	whites	yolks	dried	inedible
0.4%	0.1%	-0.08	0.1%	2.3%	0.2%	6.6%	-5.1%

* share of table egg production; **case yield w/ inedible in pounds per case.

Wholesale prices for certified liquid whole eggs are unquoted this week with a mostly steady undertone on limited demand for light offerings. Supplies are moderate and trading is slow. Wholesale prices for frozen whole eggs are not tested this week and last quoted at \$0.63 per pound as are prices for frozen whites last quoted at \$0.74 per pound. The undertone is steady on light to very light demand for mostly light offerings and moderate supplies. Trading is slow. Prices for dried whole eggs are not tested this week and last quoted at \$5.87 per pound as are prices for dried yolk last quoted at \$5.92 per pound. Dried albumen remains untested. The undertone is steady to weak with light demand for light to moderate offerings and supplies. Trading is slow.



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

Key Egg Markets Overview

	Recent History						
	27-Mar	% Change	20-Mar	13-Mar	6-Mar	27-Feb	20-Feb
SHELL EGGS (Large, White, conventional in cents per dozen)							
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	116.70	-22%	150.20	117.92	74.32	37.44	52.30
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	90.00	-52%	188.00	144.92	98.50	36.13	40.23
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to warehouse)	184.50	15%	160.50	99.50	62.50	88.00	118.50
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	142.00	-27%	195.00	186.00	128.00	81.00	98.00
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	202.00	11%	182.00	125.00	90.00	103.00	143.00
National Shell Egg Grocery Store Features (avg. ad price in dollars per dozen)							
Conventional Caged, Large, White	1.28	-29%	1.80	1.27	1.65	1.42	1.83
UEP Cage-Free, Large, Brown	1.80	-44%	3.21	2.29	2.93	2.07	2.29
EGG PRODUCTS (f.o.b. shipper dock prices)							
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	19.50	-28%	27.00	20.50	20.50	20.25	22.50
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	0.63	0%	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63	0.63
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	5.87	0%	5.87	5.87	5.87	5.87	5.87
Processed Share of Weekly Shell Egg Production	33.0%	0.1%	32.9%	33.8%	34.2%	35.3%	34.8%
SHELL EGG DEMAND INDICATOR (no units)							
	5.3	7.5	-2.2	-2.7	-7.1	-5.5	-2.2

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

Key Shell Egg Markets Snapshot - 2026

(Large, White, Conventional Shell Eggs in cents per dozen)	27-Mar	Change	20-Mar	2026 High	2026 Low
National, loose (negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)	116.7	-22%	150.2	154.2	23-Jan
California-compliant, loose, (negotiated delivered)	90.0	-52%	188.0	191.0	23-Mar
Midwest, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to warehouse)	184.5	15%	160.5	184.5	20-Mar
New York, cartoned (formula sales; dlvd to store)	142.0	-27%	195.0	17-Mar	
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	202.0	11%	182.0	202.0	19-Mar
Breaking Stock (negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)	19.5	-28%	27.0	33.3	05-Feb
Whole Frozen Egg (dollars per pound)	0.63	0%	0.63	1.25	02-Jan
Whole Dried Eggs (dollars per pound)	5.87	0%	5.87	8.64	02-Jan
Natl Avg Grocery Store Ad Price - Conventional caged	1.28	-29%	1.80	2.86	02-Jan
Natl Avg Grocery Store Ad Price - UEP Cage-free ²	1.80	-44%	3.21	3.22	02-Jan
Shell Egg Demand Indicator	5.3	7.5	-2.2	5.3	25-Mar

¹ mostly high; ² non-organic

2026 Commercial Table Egg Flock HPAI Losses as of March 27, 2026

One outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was reported late last week in a networked commercial table egg layer flock in Indiana resulting in the loss of about 26,000 layers. In 2026 to date, based on the latest data from APHIS, HPAI in commercial table egg layer flocks has resulted in the depopulation of 15.2 million birds in 23 confirmed outbreaks in 5 states (CO, IN, NC, PA, and WI).

The 15.2 million birds lost included 13.0 million (85%) in conventional caged systems and 2.2 million (15%) in cage-free systems. These losses represent 7.8% of the conventional caged layer flock and 1.8% of the non-organic cage-free flock on January 1, 2026.

2026 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System

System	Loss	Share
Conventional Caged....	12,947,967	85%
Cage-Free.....	2,207,633	15%
Organic.....	0	0.0%
Total	15,155,600	

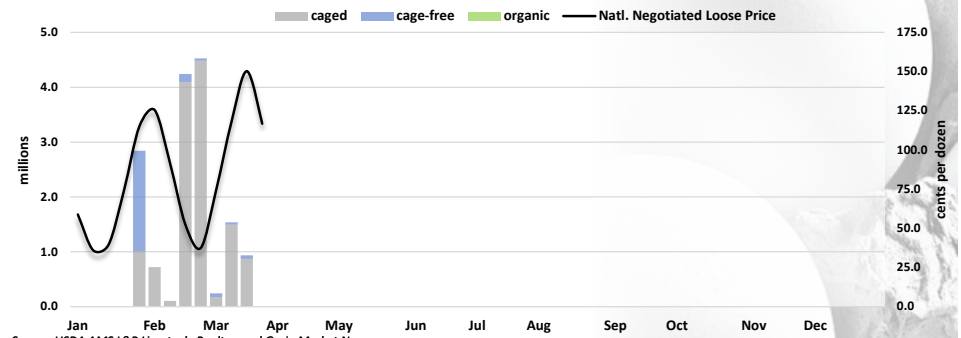
2026 Table Egg Layer Losses

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

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
CO	1,332,700												1,332,700
PA	1,509,700	5,069,500	1,045,000										7,624,200
WI		1,220,000	1,493,600										2,713,600
IN		43,600	178,400										222,000
NC		3,263,100											3,263,100
Total	2,842,400	9,596,200	2,717,000										15,155,600

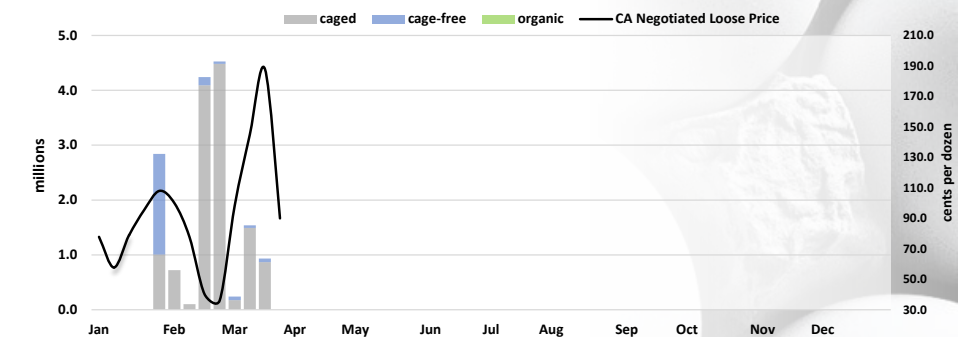
Source: USDA AMS Livestock & Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

2026 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System v. Natl Loose Large Egg Price



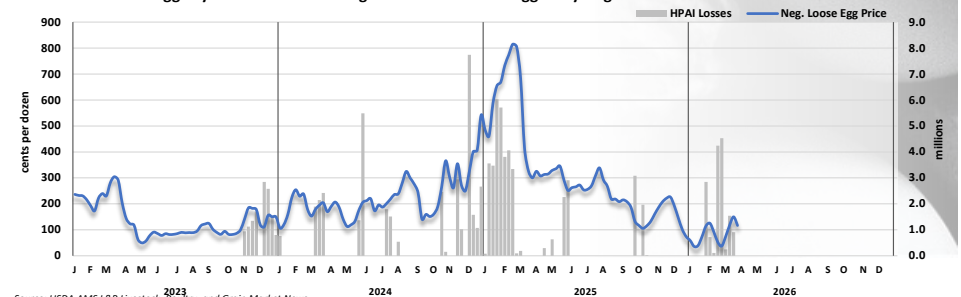
Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

2026 Table Egg Layer Losses by Production System v. California Cage-Free Loose Large Egg Price



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

Commercial Table Egg Layer HPAI Losses v. Negotiated Loose Shell Egg Wkly Avg Price - 2023-2026



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

U.S. Table Egg Layer Flock Estimates

As of March 2026	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total U.S. Caged¹ Flock:	53.6%	54.2%	61.3%	61.5%	66.6%	66.4%	72.0%	76.6%	82.2%	84.0%	86.6%	87.3%	89.5%	90.3%	90.4%
Layers (millions)	169.4	166.0	190.7	197.7	211.7	219.4	235.5	261.0	276.1	275.1	276.1	256.1	281.6	276.4	265.5
Total U.S. Cage-Free Flock:	46.4%	45.8%	38.7%	38.5%	33.4%	33.6%	28.0%	23.4%	17.8%	16.0%	13.4%	12.7%	10.5%	9.7%	9.6%
Layers (millions)	146.4	140.5	120.2	123.9	106.0	111.1	91.7	79.7	59.9	52.4	42.9	37.3	33.2	29.6	28.3
NON-ORGANIC Cage-Free:	39.7%	39.0%	32.1%	32.8%	27.7%	28.1%	21.4%	17.7%	12.8%	11.1%	9.1%	8.9%	7.8%	7.0%	6.7%
Layers (millions)	125.4	119.6	99.9	105.4	88.0	92.9	69.9	60.3	42.9	36.4	29.0	26.0	24.5	21.4	19.8
▪ Barn/Aviary	32.8%	32.6%	27.2%	30.2%	26.5%	26.9%	19.9%	15.9%	11.6%	10.0%	7.9%	7.7%	6.7%	6.0%	5.7%
Layers (millions)	103.7	100.1	84.5	97.1	84.1	89.0	65.1	54.1	39.0	32.9	25.3	22.5	21.0	18.5	16.9
▪ Free-Range	3.0%	2.6%	2.5%	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Layers (millions)	9.5	7.9	7.8	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.9	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.6
▪ Pastured	3.9%	3.8%	2.4%	1.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	1.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
Layers (millions)	12.2	11.6	7.6	5.2	1.5	1.5	2.1	3.3	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.3	1.3
USDA ORGANIC Cage-Free:	6.7%	6.8%	6.5%	5.7%	5.7%	5.5%	6.7%	5.7%	5.1%	4.9%	4.4%	3.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.9%
Layers (millions)	21.0	20.9	20.3	18.5	18.0	18.2	21.8	19.4	17.0	16.0	13.9	11.4	8.7	8.2	8.5
▪ Organic	3.8%	3.9%	4.0%	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%	4.6%	4.4%	3.9%	3.7%	3.4%	3.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.5%
Layers (millions)	11.9	12.0	12.5	11.9	11.4	11.7	15.1	14.9	13.1	12.3	11.0	9.0	7.0	6.7	7.3
▪ Organic Free-Range	1.4%	1.6%	1.4%	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
Layers (millions)	4.5	4.8	4.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.0
▪ Organic Pastured	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Layers (millions)	4.6	4.1	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.7	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.3

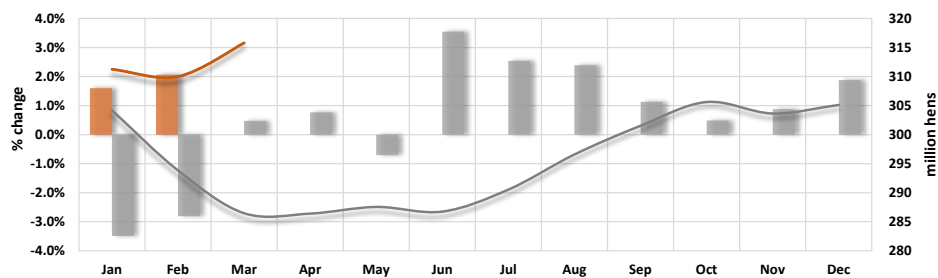
Note: percentage of U.S. table egg layer flock as reported by NASS; past year annual numbers reflect flock as of the end of each year.

1 - battery and enriched systems

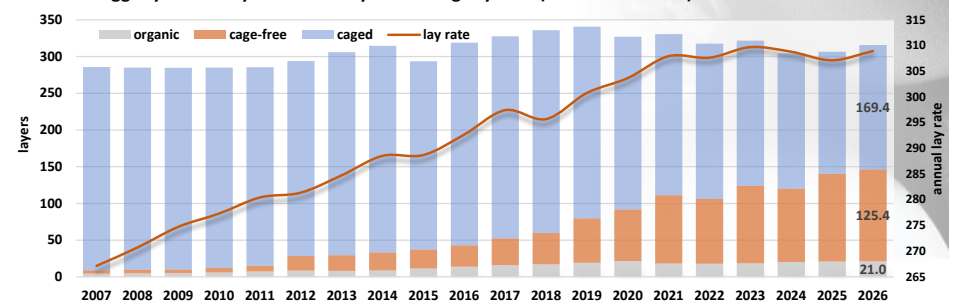
Source: USDA Livestock and Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

Table Egg Layer Replacement - Net Flock Change

((hens disposed - pullets added)/table egg layer flock at first of the month)



U.S. Table Egg Layer Flock by Production System v. Avg Lay Rate (as of March 2026)



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