Egg Markets Overview

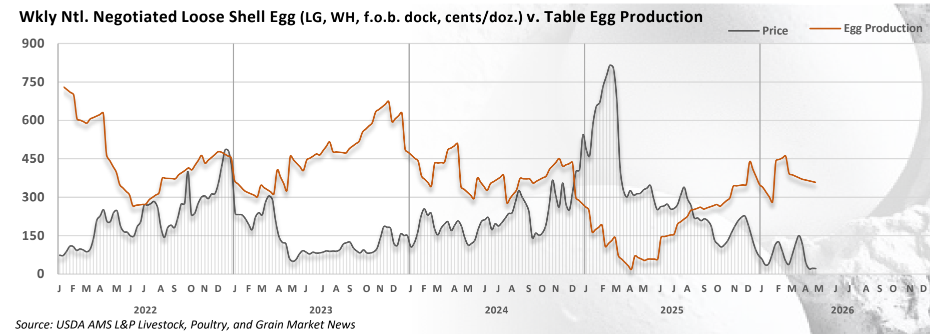
A weekly publication of the USDA AMS Livestock and Poultry Program, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division

April 24, 2026

Negotiated wholesale prices for graded loose caged eggs moved sideways through the week on light to moderate retail interest and light loose egg interest. Offerings are moderate to available and supplies moderate to heavy. Trading is mostly slow. Wholesale prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, white Large shell eggs decreased $0.01 to $0.22 per dozen with a weak steady undertone. The wholesale price on the New York market for formula trading of Large cartoned shell eggs delivered to retailers held steady at $0.65 again this week. In the major Midwest production region, wholesale prices for Large, white shell eggs delivered to warehouses entered the week unchanged at $0.53 per dozen with a steady undertone while the price to producers for Large cartoned shell eggs held at $0.35 per dozen. The California benchmark for Large shell eggs decreased $0.04 to $0.93 per dozen with a steady undertone. Delivered prices on the California-compliant wholesale loose egg market were unchanged at $0.30 per dozen with a barely steady undertone. Demand is light for moderate to available offerings and moderate to heavy supplies. Trading is slow.

Feature activity for shell eggs at retail grocery stores is very active this week as grocers take advantage of recent low wholesale price levels. Non-organic, cage-free types continue to dominate features while promotions for conventional caged eggs nearly doubled but remain limited. The average ad price for conventional caged eggs decreases $0.25 to $1.43 per dozen. Featuring of UEP-certified barn/aviary cage-free shell eggs once again dominates the category and the average ad price is down $0.32 to $2.60 per dozen. Non-organic free-range and pastured shell eggs continue to ride the feature wave and remain retail favorites. Promotions of nutritionally-enhanced caged shell eggs increase in number and at more attractive ad pricing then was seen last cycle. Organic shell eggs are seeing increased activity for all types this week but average ad pricing increases.

The inventory of shell eggs available for marketing at the start of the week drew down nearly 4.5% and the National inventory of Large class shell eggs by 8,5%. The inventory of Large shell eggs in the Midwest declined by about 21.5% as eggs moved into retail marketing channels to support breaking grocery feature campaigns. The inventory share of Large class shell eggs decreased 2.5% to a 49.5% share of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week. Stocks of cage-free eggs were down nearly 10.5% to supply continued active retail promotions. Stocks of nutritionally-enhanced eggs gained 9% to support increased retail featuring and the inventory of organic shell eggs was about unchanged. The inventory of breaking stock was about unchanged as breakers used owned-production to support full to extended processing levels.

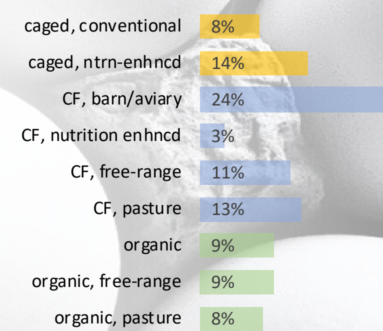


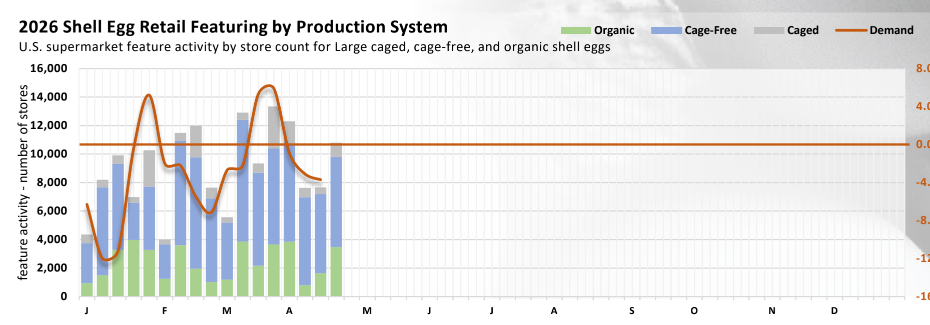
This Week's Supermarket Large Shell Egg Feature Summary

Advertised Prices to Consumers at Major Grocery Retailers

	White-Shell		Brown-Shell	
Caged	**Acitvity**	**Price**	**Acitvity**	**Price**
conventional	993	1.43	--	--
nutritionally-enhanced	1,766	3.64	--	--
Cage-Free - Non-Organic				
barn/aviary	638	2.16	2,521	2.71
nutritionally-enhanced	--	--	414	3.80
free-range	--	--	1,486	4.23
pastured	--	--	1,686	6.37
USDA Organic				
organic	--	--	1,218	5.26
free-range	--	--	1,214	5.76
pastured	--	--	1,044	8.89

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





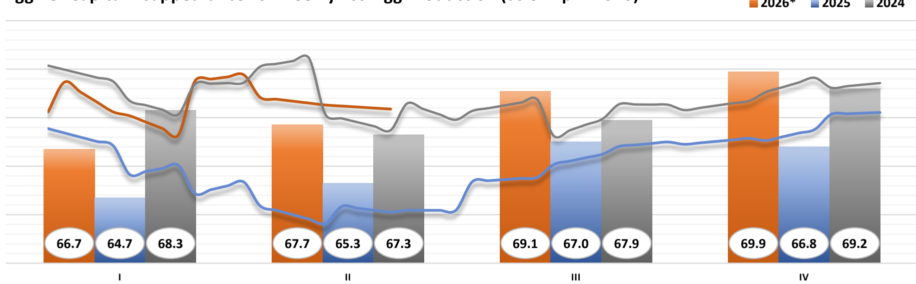
The average national wholesale price for breaking stock declined $0.01 to $0.080 per dozen with a weak undertone. Demand is light to very light for moderate to available offerings and mostly moderate to heavy supplies. Processing schedules are full-time to extended and trading is slow to moderate. The volume of eggs processed over the past week increased about 3.5% and the share of weekly table egg production rose 1.5% to 35.5%. Cage-free stock accounted for 37% of eggs processed last week, a 2% increase.

Compared to Prior Week							
total	share*	case yield**	whole	whites	yolks	dried	inedible
3.6%	1.3%	0.18	2.7%	6.0%	3.9%	9.3%	8.1%

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

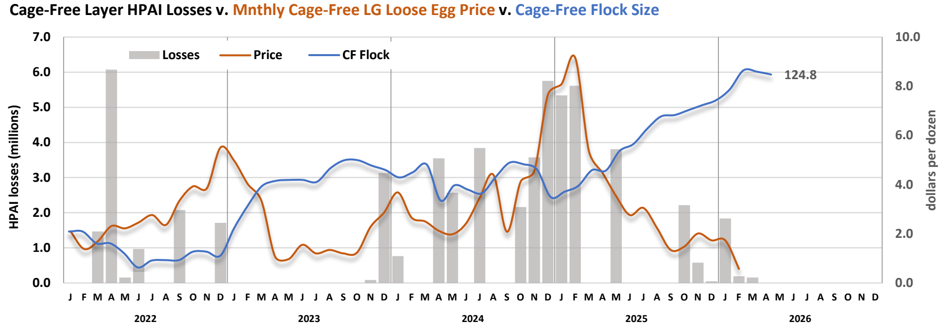
Wholesale prices for certified liquid whole eggs are too few to publish with a steady undertone on moderate to good demand for light to available offerings and moderate supplies. Trading is moderate. Wholesale prices for frozen egg products remain untested. The undertone is steady on light to very light demand for light to moderate offerings and moderate supplies. Trading is slow. Prices for dried eggs remain untested. The undertone is steady with a full range of demand for light to moderate offerings and a full range of supplies. Trading is slow.

Egg Per Capita Disappearance vs. Weekly Est. Egg Production (as of April 2026)



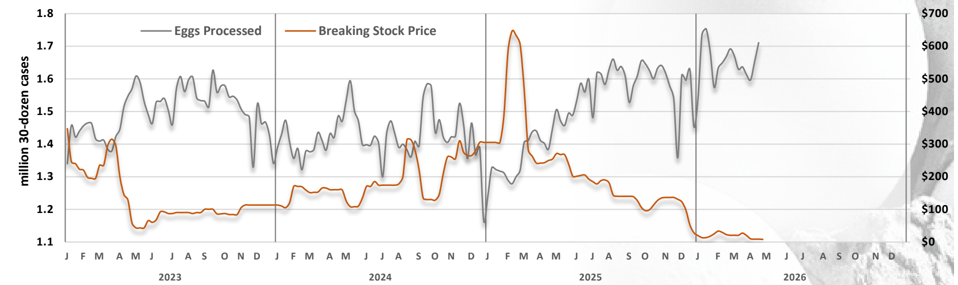
Source: USDA ERS; AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News; 2026 estimated

Cage-Free Layer HPAI Losses v. Mnthly Cage-Free LG Loose Egg Price v. Cage-Free Flock Size



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

Weekly Eggs Processed (30-dozen cases in millions) **v. National Breaking Stock Price** (cents/doz)



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

Key Egg Markets Overview

	24-Apr	% Change	Recent History 17-Apr	10-Apr	3-Apr	27-Mar	20-Mar
SHELL EGGS *(Large, White, conventional in cents per dozen)*							
National, loose *(negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)*	21.39	-4%	22.35	20.67	45.81	116.70	150.20
California-compliant, loose, *(negotiated delivered)*	30.58	1%	30.30	31.86	70.00	90.00	188.00
Midwest, cartoned *(formula sales; dlvrd to warehouse)*	52.50	0%	52.50	79.50	145.50	184.50	160.50
New York, cartoned *(formula sales; dlvd to store)*	65.00	0%	65.00	65.00	80.00	142.00	195.00
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	93.00	-4%	97.00	122.00	174.00	202.00	182.00
National Shell Egg *Grocery Store Features* *(avg. ad price in dollars per dozen)*							
Conventional Caged, Large, White	1.43	-15%	1.68	1.70	1.61	1.28	1.80
UEP Cage-Free, Large, Brown	2.60	-11%	2.92	3.05	2.65	1.80	3.21
EGG PRODUCTS *(f.o.b. shipper dock prices)*							
Breaking Stock *(negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)*	7.75	-9%	8.50	8.50	9.50	19.50	27.00
Whole Frozen Egg *(dollars per pound)*	n/a		n/a	n/a	0.63	0.63	0.63
Whole Dried Eggs *(dollars per pound)*	n/a		n/a	n/a	5.87	5.87	5.87
Processed Share of Weekly Shell Egg Production	35.4%	1.2%	34.2%	33.0%	33.3%	33.2%	33.1%
SHELL EGG DEMAND INDICATOR *(no units)*	-3.7	-0.6	-3.1	-0.9	5.9	5.3	-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)	24-Apr	Change	17-Apr	2026 High		2026 Low	
National, loose *(negotiated; f.o.b. dock prices)*	21.4	-4%	22.4	154.2	23-Mar	20.7	10-Apr
California-compliant, loose, *(negotiated delivered)*	30.6	1%	30.3	191.0	23-Mar	29.4	21-Apr
Midwest, cartoned *(formula sales; dlvrd to warehouse)*	52.5	0%	52.5	184.5	20-Mar	52.5	10-Apr
New York, cartoned *(formula sales; dlvd to store)*	65.0	0%	65.0	195.0	17-Mar	65.0	08-Apr
California-compliant, cartoned, benchmark	93.0	-4%	97.0	202.0	19-Mar	90.0	26-Feb
Breaking Stock *(negotiated; dlvd prices cents per doz)*	7.8	-9%	8.5	33.3	05-Feb	7.8	24-Apr
Whole Frozen Egg *(dollars per pound)*	n/a	0%	n/a	1.25	02-Jan	0.63	20-Feb
Whole Dried Eggs *(dollars per pound)*	n/a	0%	n/a	8.64	02-Jan	5.87	20-Feb
Natl Avg Grocery Store Ad Price - Conventional caged	1.43	-15%	1.68	2.86	02-Jan	1.05	Fenb 6
Natl Avg Grocery Store Ad Price - UEP Cage-free[2]	2.60	-11%	2.92	3.22	02-Jan	1.80	27-Mar
Shell Egg Demand Indicator	-3.7	-0.6	-3.1	5.9	01-Apr	-12.0	14-Jan

[1] *mostly high;* [2] *non-organic*

2026 Commercial Table Egg Flock HPAI Losses as of April 24, 2026

No new outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) were reported this week, marking 5 weeks since the last significant outbreak. 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 24 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

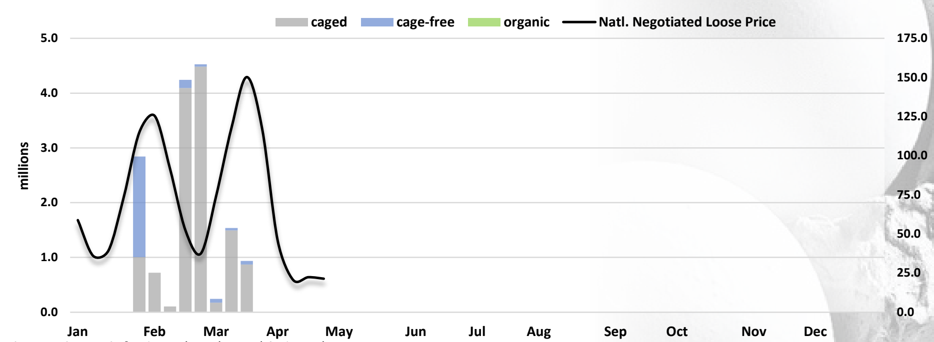
System	Loss	Share
Conventional Caged....	12,947,967	85%
Cage-Free.....................	2,227,133	15%
Organic..........................	0	0.0%
Total	**15,175,100**	

2026 Table Egg Layer Losses

(layers lost to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

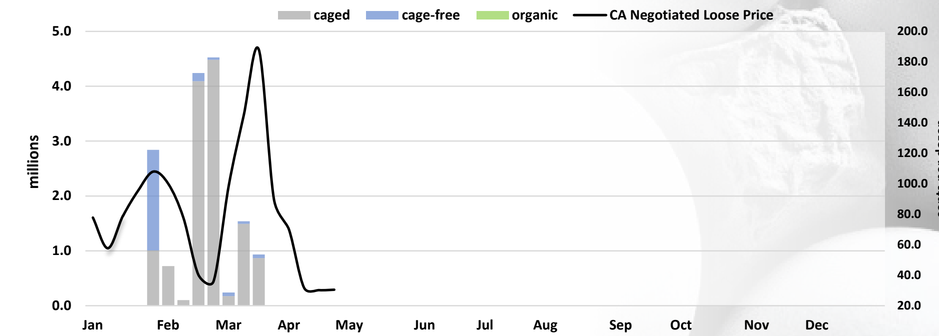
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals	Share
CO	1,332,700												1,332,700	9%
PA	1,509,700	5,069,500	1,045,000										7,624,200	50%
WI		1,220,000	1,493,600										2,713,600	18%
IN		43,600	178,400	19,500									241,500	2%
NC		3,263,100											3,263,100	22%
Total	2,842,400	9,596,200	2,717,000	19,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**15,175,100**	

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



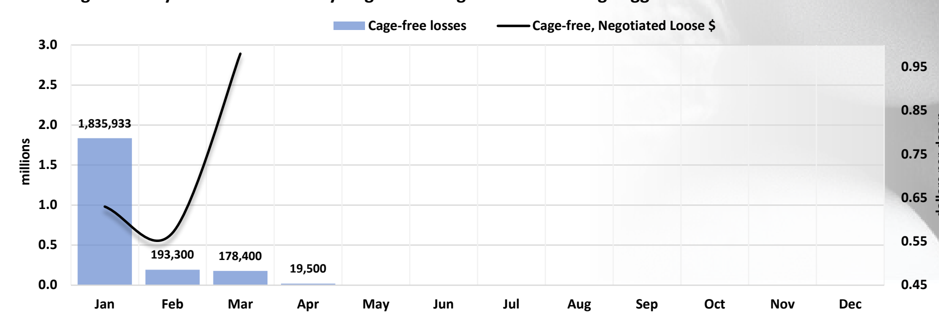
Source: USDA AMS L&P Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

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

2026 Cage-Free Layer Losses v. Monthly Negotiated Cage-Free Loose Large Egg Price



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

U.S. Table Egg Layer Flock Estimates

As of April 2026	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total U.S. Caged[1] Flock:	**52.3%**	**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)	160.7	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:	**47.7%**	**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)	146.6	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:	**40.6%**	**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)	124.8	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	33.4%	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)	102.7	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	3.3%	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)	10.0	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	4.0%	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:	**7.1%**	**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)	21.7	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	3.7%	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)	11.3	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	1.8%	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)	5.6	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	1.6%	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)	4.8	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

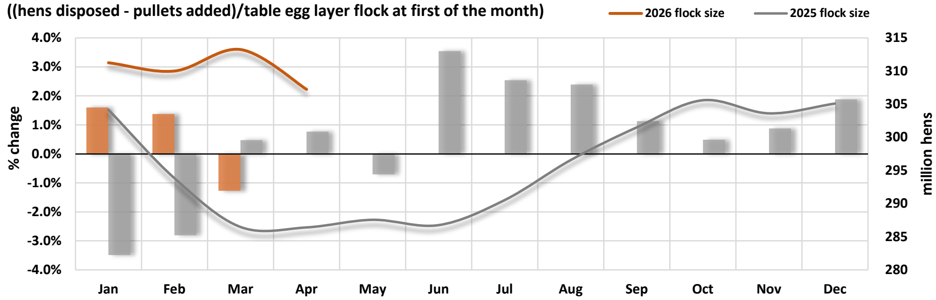
Note: percentage of U.S. table egg layer flock as reported by NASS; past year annual numbers reflect flock as of the end of each year.

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 April 2026)