



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 27, 2011  
VOL. 58 NO. 103

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News and Analysis

## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Regional prices are higher on Extra Large and Large sizes, unchanged to higher on Medium. New York prices are steady on all sizes. Retail demand is moderate to good while light in the Northeast region. Distributive demand is mixed. Supplies are light to moderate for immediate trade needs. Market activity is moderate to active. Breaking stock offerings are light to instances moderate; demand ranges light to occasionally heavy. Spent hen offerings are more than adequate; demand is light to moderate.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL** Midwest delivered asking prices are 8 cents higher for extra large and large, and steady for medium. Daily producer prices are steady. The undertone is steady. Retail demand is moderate to fairly good, while food service demand is light to moderate. Offerings and supplies are light. Market activity is moderate. Breaking stock prices are steady. Trade sentiment is steady to barely steady. Offerings are mostly light on light demand. Supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is slow to inactive.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
EXTRA LARGE	145-154	148-151
LARGE	144-153	146-149
MEDIUM	98-107	100-103
Prices delivered to store door:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
EXTRA LARGE	152-160	153-155
LARGE	150-158	151-153
MEDIUM	104-112	105-107

### IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN EGGS

Prices paid to producers, cents per dozen:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
LARGE	126-136	130
MEDIUM	80-84	82
SMALL	65-71	
MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, Western NY, and Western PA		

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices are 5 cents higher on Extra Large, 8 cents higher on Large and 2 cents more on Medium. The undertone is mostly steady. Supplies are light to moderate for needs. Retail demand is light. Distributive demand is moderate to good. Market activity is moderate. Eastern region breaking stock offerings are moderate to heavy for reduced holiday schedules. Light type hen demand is seasonally light to moderate; offerings are sufficient.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
EXTRA LARGE	145-159	148-152
LARGE	142-156	147-151
MEDIUM	101-114	106-108
NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT		

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices are higher on Extra Large and Large sizes, steady to higher on Medium. Retail demand is at times good to good. Distributive demand is light to moderate. Supplies are light to instances moderate for present trade needs. Market activity is moderate to mostly active. Eastern region breaking stock offerings are usually moderate to heavy; demand is light to moderate. Light type fowl offerings are more than adequate with demand light to moderate.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
EXTRA LARGE	152.5-162	156-159
LARGE	148.5-160	154-157
MEDIUM	104.5-112	105-109
SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA		

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL** Prices are 8 cents higher for extra large and large, 2 cents higher for medium. The undertone is steady. Retail demand is moderate to good. Food service demand is moderate to fairly good. Offerings are light. Supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is moderate to active. Breaking stock prices are steady with steady to barely steady undertone. Demand is light with offerings mostly light. Supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is slow to inactive.

Prices delivered to warehouse:	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
EXTRA LARGE	157.5-166	159-162
LARGE	157.5-166	159-162
MEDIUM	107.5-116	109-112
SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX		

**NEW YORK EGGS** Prices are steady on all sizes. Present supplies are light to moderate for needs. Demand into all channels is light to fairly good. Market activity is moderate.

Prices delivered store door:	<b>RANGE</b>
EXTRA LARGE	156-160
LARGE	154-158
MEDIUM	113-117

**WESTERN REGIONAL** Prices are 12 cents higher for jumbo, 8 cents higher for extra large and large and unchanged for medium and small. Trade sentiment is steady. Offerings are moderate and reported as more available than last week. Retail demand is moderate to good with after holiday refill noted as good. Supplies are moderate. Market activity is active.

**CALIFORNIA EGGS** Benchmark prices are 12 cents higher for jumbo, 8 cents higher for extra large and large and unchanged on medium and small. The trade sentiment is steady. Offerings are moderate and more available than the previous week while potential buyers purchase in a hand to mouth fashion. Demand is moderate to good as after holiday refill business is reported as good. Supplies are moderate. Market activity is moderate to active. Small benchmark price \$1.18.

### CALIFORNIA

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	<b>RANGE</b>
JUMBO	186
EXTRA LARGE	193
LARGE	191
MEDIUM	138

**Weekly Shell Egg Inventory:** Stocks on Hand Available for Marketing (30-dozen cases in thousand) <sup>1/</sup> (Includes Conventional and Specialty)

		Northeast	Southeast	Midwest	South Central	Southwest	Northwest	6-Area Total
<b>Jumbo</b>	This Week	6.7	10.5	16.9	8.0	12.6	4.2	58.9
	% Change	-34.3%	-5.1%	0.7%	15.6%	-20.7%	7.2%	-9.1%
<b>Extra Large</b>	This Week	24.2	17.4	30.7	13.7	25.8	4.5	116.3
	% Change	-4.6%	-7.3%	0.6%	33.6%	-17.5%	1.8%	-3.6%
<b>Large</b>	This Week	45.4	91.3	89.2	61.8	67.6	41.4	396.7
	% Change	-1.6%	-9.9%	0.3%	16.7%	2.2%	22.7%	1.9%
<b>Medium</b>	This Week	15.7	16.6	54.7	21.0	24.1	9.0	141.0
	% Change	7.5%	-3.0%	15.4%	7.0%	-24.7%	-4.5%	0.7%
<b>Small</b>	This Week	3.2	4.4	12.3	4.8	1.7	3.8	30.1
	% Change	-45.0%	-1.4%	63.0%	18.4%	48.7%	71.3%	20.0%
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	This Week	3.3	12.9	28.1	11.3	6.2	2.8	64.5
	% Change	67.5%	9.3%	-26.0%	-12.5%	14.5%	27.8%	-10.6%
<b>Ungraded</b>	This Week	3.2	7.7	50.2	29.8	7.0	10.8	108.8
	% Change	-47.4%	5.2%	19.6%	-12.3%	-5.4%	4.5%	1.5%
<b>Total Shell Egg</b>	This Week	101.6	160.8	282.0	150.4	145.0	76.5	916.2
	% Change	-7.7%	-6.4%	4.1%	6.8%	-9.0%	15.5%	-0.3%

Totals	Cases	Percent Change
Shell Egg	916.2	-0.3%
Breaking Stock	264.3	10.7%
<b>Total Shell Egg</b>	<b>1,180.5</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

**Specialty Shell Egg Inventory <sup>1/2</sup>**

Stocks on Hand to be Marketed as Specialty (30-dozen cases in thousands)

		Northeast	Southeast	Midwest	South Central	Southwest	Northwest	6-Area Total
<b>Large</b>	This Week	4.7	8.5	3.8	2.1	5.0	1.7	25.8
	% Change	-4.3%	27.8%	14.6%	-53.6%	16.6%	2.4%	1.7%
<b>Ungraded</b>	This Week	0.0	0.0	10.7	8.4	0.0	1.3	20.4
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	-15.8%	5.5%	0.0%	-0.8%	-7.2%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	This Week	4.7	8.5	14.5	10.5	5.0	3.0	46.1
	% Change	-4.3%	27.8%	-9.5%	-16.0%	16.6%	1.0%	-2.4%

**Percentage of Specialty Shell Egg Inventory Comprised of USDA Certified Organic:**

<b>Large:</b>	<b>34.3%</b>
<b>Ungraded:</b>	<b>28.3%</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31.7%</b>

1/ Cooperators normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and must report in both the current and previous week. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

2/ Specialty eggs include certified organic, nutritionally enhanced, cage-free, and vegetarian-fed types.

Regional Definitions: **Northeast** = CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, and VT; **Southeast** = AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV; **Midwest** = IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, and WI; **South Central** = AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX, and UT; **Southwest** = CA and NV; **Northwest** = ID, MT, OR, WA, and WY.

**NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES**

Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 30, 2011 will decrease by 2 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 23, 2011 were 219,516 cases which was 6 percent above the prior week and 5 percent above estimates.

**CARTONED LOOSE TOTAL**

Cases purchased present week:  
197,381 22,135 219,516

% change from the prior week:

+8 -9 +6

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK**

Prices are steady. Trade sentiment is steady to barely steady. Offerings are mostly light on light demand. Supplies are light to usually moderate. Market activity is slow to inactive.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
Breaking Stock	65-67	
Checks & Undergrades	49-58	49-53

Central States Area: AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, NM, ND, NE, OH, OK, SD, TX, & WI

**CANADIAN EGGS** Week of Dec. 12, 2011

Quebec/Montreal: Wholesale prices-graded in cartons (Canadian Dollars) as reported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section.

Grade A	Ex Lrg	Lrg	Med	Small
	2.39	2.37	2.15	1.58

Minimum prices for producers' f.o.b. farm for the week of Dec. 26, 2011 as set by Ontario Egg Producers.

Grade A	Ex Lrg	Lrg	Med	Small
	1.90	1.90	1.74	1.26

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** – Daily weighted average prices (cents/dozen) National Trading for December 23, 2011

CURRENT LOADS								24.00	FUTURE LOADS								4.00	TOTAL LOADS								28.00
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW						
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS									
GL W J	--	--	--	--	108.50	--	3.00	GL W J	112.00	--	--	--	--	--	123.25	4.00										
GL W XL	--	--	--	128.00	103.00	--	6.75	GL W XL	--	124.00	--	--	--	--	108.00	3.75										
GL W LG	--	--	--	123.00	105.00	--	2.25	GL W LG	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00										
GL W MD	--	85.00	77.50	78.67	77.00	84.00	9.50	GL W MD	76.50	89.00	--	91.00	--	90.00	7.50											
GL W SM	--	72.00	71.50	75.00	64.00	--	2.00	NRBS - 50	78.00	--	--	--	--	85.00	2.00											

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** Weekly weighted average prices (cents/dozen) National Trading for Dec 19, 2011 – Dec 23, 2011

CURRENT LOADS								98.25	FUTURE LOADS								88.25	TOTAL LOADS								186.50
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW						
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS									
GNR W 1	118.00	134.53	120.67	126.00	109.00	127.83	99.00	GNR W 1	--	138.04	--	--	--	--	--	--	40.00									
GNR W 2	--	117.50	--	127.00	--	--	10.00	GNR W 2	--	132.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.00									
GNR BR 1	--	127.00	--	--	--	--	1.00	GL W J	117.00	124.25	--	135.00	--	126.33	10.25											
GL W J	--	--	133.00	135.00	110.28	131.25	10.25	GL W XL	125.00	128.21	--	--	--	119.47	10.50											
GL W XL	--	133.75	131.63	132.80	109.96	120.00	24.50	GL W LG	108.25	141.12	--	120.25	144.00	127.71	37.50											
GL W LG	--	--	130.63	131.97	114.57	111.00	46.75	GL W MD	76.50	89.54	--	91.00	--	90.00	12.75											
GL W MD	82.00	87.35	81.06	83.33	77.13	84.00	27.25	GL BR J	--	--	--	--	--	143.00	.25											
GL W SM	77.00	72.00	73.83	76.67	64.00	--	6.00	NRBS - 50	78.00	--	--	--	--	85.00	2.00											
GL BR J	163.00	--	--	165.00	124.00	--	.50																			
NRBS - 48	--	--	66.00	--	--	--	4.00																			
NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	51.00	54.00	1.00																			

Weighted average prices are listed for various classes priced by origin and/or destination for 6 regions. The loads column reflects total loads reported and includes loads with prices to be determined later. NRBS categories represent net weight – material may or may not be included.

Load movement represents total movement within 6 regions.

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT – FROZEN EGGS**

(In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/19/11	12/12/11	12/20/10
PACIFIC COAST	94	82	52
LOS ANGELES	0	0	0

**NORTH CAROLINA EGGS** December 23, 2011

\*\*\*Due to the Christmas Holiday this report will not be released again until Wednesday, December 28, 2011.\*\*\*

The market is steady on all sizes. Supplies are light. Retail demand is good.

Prices weighted average, in small lots, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, nearby retail outlet, cents per dozen.

**MOSTLY**

EXTRA LARGE	166.90
LARGE	166.60
MEDIUM	122.86
SMALL	107.00

**CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS**

(Wholesale) (price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	255 – 316	275 - 310
1/2 doz.	173 – 198	173 - 188
Large doz.	230 – 310	265 - 300
1/2 doz.	160 – 189	160 - 178

**NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS****LIVE SPENT HEAVY FOWL**

Prices are trending steady at best when compared to the previous week. Supplies are moderate to heavy for the seasonally light to moderate demand. Processing schedules are mostly normal. Retail feature activity is moderate to mostly good. Finished product supplies are moderate to heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

**Final Prices at Farm Buyer Loading: Price Range Wtd Avg**

Prices in cents per pound. 8.0 - 16.0 13.14

(Southeast Region broiler breeder hens generally for processing, 7 lbs. and up; under 7 lbs. subject to discount.)

**LIVE SPENT LIGHT FOWL**

Prices are trending steady. Demand is seasonally light to moderate for the more than sufficient offerings of light type hens. Processing schedules are normal. Market activity is slow to moderate. The majority price for removal costs continues to be unchanged at 0-7 cents per head.

(live hens are predominately egg-layers averaging about 3.5 lbs. live weight per bird.) Eastern region = AL, CT, DE, GA, KY, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, and WV; North Central = IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI; South Central = AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX.