

**Documentation of statistics for
Eggs Production 2019**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics on egg production is to describe the quantity and value of eggs produced in Denmark. The statistics are used for market monitoring and follow up of agricultural policy as well as for forecasting the future production of hens and slaughter poultry. The statistics provide data for the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA) that serves as input to the National Accounts. The statistics on eggs have a long history and date back to the 20th century. Since 1955, the statistics have been compiled on the same basis as is used today. From 1996 and onwards, the production of consumer eggs in mill. kg is divided into production forms: i.e. eggs from caged hens, barn eggs, free-range eggs and organic eggs. In addition, figures are published on the amount of hatching eggs.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics for eggs production are a quarterly and yearly measurement of the total production of eggs for human consumption and hatching eggs in Denmark. The production of hatching eggs is provided in millions. kg and the the production of eggs for consumption is stated as amount in millions kg, total value in million DKK and sales prices in 1/100 DKK per kg. The total production of eggs to authorized egg packaging centers is subdivided into the following production types: Eggs from caged hens, barn eggs, free-range eggs, and organic produced eggs. In addition, ungraded eggs sold (barn door sales) and used on agricultural holdings are estimated. . The statistics are published in statbank and occasionally figures are provided to the newsletter Nyt from statistics Denmark (in Danish only).

2.1 Data description

The statistics give information on total production of eggs for consumption as well as hatching in Denmark.

The production of eggs for consumption is provided for the following categories: Consumption eggs received by egg packing centers based on quarterly reports and an estimated values ungraded eggs sold and used on agricultural holdings. by the producer. chickens and organic eggs. The total production of eggs to authorized egg packaging centers is divided into the following production types: Eggs from caged hens, barn eggs, free-range eggs, and organic produced eggs. There is information on quantities and values as well as associated prices and quotations. For eggs for consumption the statistics are compiled as quantizes in kilo. Sales prices are calculated for the total amount of eggs for consumption as well as and separately for barn eggs and organic eggs.

In addition, information about the production of hatching eggs from hubs is given. Hatching eggs are the basis for future production of hens and slaughter poultry.

2.2 Classification system

The egg production is divided into hatching eggs and eggs for human consumption. In the [Combined Nomenclature \(CN\)](#) equal to:

Eggs for hatching includes: - I: 0407 11: Fertilised eggs for incubation, of domestic fowls
- I: 0407 19: Fertilised birds' eggs for incubation (excl. of domestic fowls)

Eggs for consumption include: - I 0407 21: Fresh eggs of domestic fowls, in shell (excl. fertilised for incubation)

The production off eggs for human consumption is subdivided into:

- Received by packing centres - Ungraded eggs sold and used on agricultural holdings

The eggs for human consumption sold to egg packing centers is subdivided according to following four production form:

- Eggs from caged hens
- Barn eggs
- Free-range eggs
- Organic eggs

2.3 Sector coverage

Agricultural sector. In addition please also consult [DB07](#), which is the National version of EU's nomenclature (NACE)], where the statistics falls under NACE 01.47 Raising of poultry.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Eggs for Human Consumption: Eggs used for human consumption. This include: eggs from caged hens, free-range eggs, barn eggs and organic eggs

Eggs from caged hens: These are eggs from chickens that go in enriched cages with at least 750 cm² of cage area per hen and with no cage having a total area that is less than 2000 cm². A cage must not exceed 10 hens. The cage must have a nest, adequate perches and litter allowing pecking and scratching.

Barn Eggs: Eggs from barn hens. Eggs from hens that go indoors in flocks of 3,000 to 10,000 pieces. The stocking density must not exceed nine laying hens per m² usable area. In the stable there are nests and adequate perches, without sharp edges and at least 1/3 of the floor area must be covered with litter enabling the hens to satisfy their ethological needs.

Free-range eggs: Free-range eggs are eggs produced from birds permitted access to outdoor areas but otherwise with the same minimum requirements as described for barn eggs. In the stable, the stocking density must not exceed nine laying hens per m² usable area. In the stable there are nests and adequate perches, without sharp edges and at least 1/3 of the floor area must be covered with litter enabling the hens to satisfy their ethological needs. The hens must have continuous daytime access to open-air runs. The maximum stocking density of open-air runs must not be greater than 2 500 hens per hectare of ground available to the hens or one hen per 4 m² at all times. The free-range hens live in flocks of 3000 to 10000 individuals.

Organic Eggs: Organic eggs is produced through organic means. The poultry are fed organic feed. In the stable, the stocking density must not exceed six laying hens per m² usable area. In the stable there are nests and adequate perches, without sharp edges and at least 1/3 of the floor area must be covered with litter enabling the hens to satisfy their ethological needs. The hens must have continuous daytime access to open-air runs. The maximum stocking density of open-air runs must not be greater than 2 500 hens per hectare of ground available to the hens or one hen per 4 m² at all times. There must be more than one open-air run provided. The organic hens live in flocks up to 3000 individuals.

Hatching Eggs: Eggs used to production of chicken.

2.5 Statistical unit

Egg packing centers and hatcheries. In addition farmers own consumption of eggs as well as eggs sold by the producer to the final consumer are estimated.

2.6 Statistical population

The production of eggs for consumption and eggs for hatching.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics cover the period from 1996 onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for this statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

The production is measured in million kg eggs, the prices in DKK øre per kilogram of eggs and the value of the production in million DKK kr.

2.11 Reference period

Quarter and calendar year.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Quarterly and yearly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Law on Statistics Denmark §8 secures the legal ground for collecting the data.

The statistics for hatching eggs fall within the scope of [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No. 617/2008](#) of 27 June 2008 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 as regards marketing standards for hatching eggs and chickens of poultry.

The statistics of Eggs for consumption is not based on an EU directive. The Survey is based on the [ESS Agreement on statistics on eggs for consumption](#), which means that the individual member states alone decide if they want to provide data.

The statistic falls under EU Council Regulation 2782/75/EEC and the Directive on Gross Domestic Production.

2.14 Cost and burden

There statistics are based on administrative data. There is thus no direct response burden, in relation to the compilation of these statistics.

2.15 Comment

Further information can be found at the [Subject page](#) for these statistics, or by contacting Statistics Denmark directly.

3 Statistical processing

Quarterly data is collected from the egg packing center by type of eggs and monthly data are collected about hatching eggs. Data comes from administrative records. The data received is checked for completeness and consistency, as well as consistency with previous periods.

3.1 Source data

Data on eggs weighed in on egg packets centers comes from administrative register on egg conversion in the parcels from The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (is part of the Ministry of Environment and Food). All egg parcels are obliged to report, see [Egg conversion - Report for egg packing applications](#). The purpose is for all registered parcels to pay a fee that is used for the financing of controls, including supervision, authorization, registration, approval, notification, certification and examination of the eggs.

Data on hatching eggs are from the [Poultry Tax Fund](#) where the hatcheries are required to report data. The purpose is for all registered hatcheries to pay a fee that is used to fund control, including supervision, authorization, registration, approval, etc.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data on the number of eggs delivered to the egg packing centers are collected quarterly and hatched eggs on hatcheries every month. Prices of eggs are collected quarterly, but they are confidential data.

3.3 Data collection

Data from registers is sent to Statistic Denmark.

3.4 Data validation

Material is subjected to a check for errors, by collecting data with earlier periods.

3.5 Data compilation

Data is checked, summarized and compiled into tables to the statistics bank. Sales directly from egg producers to consumers and own consumption are estimated at 8 million. kg per year since 2009. The price of these eggs is calculated as an average price for all eggs, irrespective of the type of production.

3.6 Adjustment

No correction of data is made except what has already been described during data validation and data processing. There is no seasonal adjustment.

4 Relevance

It is of great interest to agricultural organizations, the Ministry of Environment and Food and the EU. The figures is used intern in Statistics Denmark to estimate quantity and price index, and the Account for Agriculture, which is included in the National Accounts.

4.1 User Needs

It is of great interest to agricultural organizations, the Ministry of Environment and Food and the EU. The figures is used intern in Statistics Denmark to estimate quantity and price index, and the Account for Agriculture.

4.2 User Satisfaction

The eggs data is discussed at meetings in user board on agricultural statistics. The main impression is that most users are satisfied with the statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

The statistics comply with the requirements laid down in the regulations.

5 Accuracy and reliability

Data on the eggs weighed in the packing centers has a high quality, as it is mandatory for egg producers to report this data. The same applies to the number of hatching eggs, as this information is statutory to register and report to Food Enforcement.

The estimation of eggs for own consumption and sales directly to consumers is estimated. This consumption is set at 8 million. The estimate may be too high, 10 precept of total production is considered to be high consumption and sales directly to consumers.

5.1 Overall accuracy

Data on the eggs weighed in the packing centers has a high quality both regarding the type of egg and the amount of these, as it is mandatory for egg producers to report this data. The same applies to the number of hatching eggs, as this information is statutory to register and report to Food Enforcement.

The estimation of eggs for own consumption and sales directly to consumers is estimated - and there is some uncertainty as the average number of hens and thus eggs is unknown. This consumption is set at 8 million. and are listed in the table so that users can choose to use the numbers without this estimate. The estimate may be too high, as 10 per cent. of the total production is considered to be high.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for this statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

There is uncertainty in estimating the consumption of eggs from the producers and the sale of eggs directly to consumers, as we do not know this uncertainty, the figure is entered in the statistics bank.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The inventory of eggs weighed in on the egg packing centers is good, as well as the price and value of the different egg types. The largest uncertainty is the estimated consumption of egg producers and, in particular, sales directly to consumers. This uncertainty transfers something to the calculation of the total production of eggs both quantity and value, so data is shown both without and with own consumption and direct sales to consumers.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

No comment.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The figures for quarters are usually published approx. 2 months after the end of the quarter. In recent years there has been trouble publishing both numbers to the pre-announced time, since data has first been available approx. 2 months after the end of the quarter.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

Figures for the quarter are published approx. 2 month after the end of the quarter.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are normally published without delay in relation to the advertised, but there have been delays in recent years due to problems with data.

7 Comparability

The statistics have been compiled since the 20th century but are in their present form comparable from 1997 onwards. Most European countries compile statistics on egg production and the statistics are therefore comparable to statistics from other countries within the EU. Data enter into [the Economic Accounts for Agriculture](#), which also enter into the National Account.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Most European countries have independent statistics on egg production. In Eurostat data are published [Egg production](#). Prices for eggs are included in the price statistics and the value of total egg production is included in the national agricultural accounts included in the national accounts of all European countries. In Eurostat data are published [Activity on hatcheries] <https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics about eggs have a long history, and since the 1900s it has been possible to compare time series over the production of eggs. There has been an improvement in the statistics in 1932, where total production was divided into sales for egg packers and producer consumption and sales directly to consumers. Since 1955 the statistics have been prepared on the same basis as now. In 1997, the production of eggs was divided into production: Free-range eggs, Organic Eggs, Barn Egg, Scrapper Egg,

Long time series are possible. Older data can be found in the Publications [Agriculture](#) and [Agricultural Statistics](<https://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/Publikationer/VisPub?cid=19733>)

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

Some statistics are published by [Danish Agriculture & Food Council](#)

7.4 Coherence - internal

No comment.

8 Accessibility and clarity

- StatBank Denmark: [Production of eggs and types of production by unit \(quarters\)](#)
- StatBank Denmark: [Production of eggs and types of production by unit \(year\)](#)

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

There is no independent New from Denmark Statistics for this statistic, but it is mentioned under Animal production.

8.5 Publications

The production of eggs see the subject page: [Animalsk produktion](#).

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subjects in the following tables:

- [AN18](#): Production of eggs and types of production by unit and time
- [AN181](#): Production of eggs and types of production by unit and time

8.7 Micro-data access

There is no micro-data access.

8.8 Other

Not relevant for this statistics.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

In the compilation of the data, the confidentiality policy of Statistics Denmark is followed. [Datafortrolighedspolitik](#).

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

We ensure that no companies and manufacturers can be identified. The discretionary reason has meant that from 2018 it was no longer possible to publish the prices of eggs.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

There are no separate method descriptions for this statistic.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of this statistics is in the division of Food Industries. The person responsible is Mona Larsen, tel. + 45 3917 3399, e-mail: mla@dst.dk

9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

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