

**Documentation of statistics for  
Eggs Production 2017**

## **1 Introduction**

The purpose of the egg production statistics is to illuminate the size and value of Danish egg production. The statistics about eggs have a long history, and since the 1900s it has been possible to compare time series. There has been an improvement in the statistics in 1932, and since 1955 the statistics have been prepared on the same basis as now. Since 1997, the production of eggs has been divided into production: battery eggs, free-range eggs, eggs from hens living in a stable and organic eggs.

## **2 Statistical presentation**

The statistics give information on total production of eggs (battery eggs, free-range eggs, eggs from hens living in a stable and organic eggs) in Denmark, sales to egg packing stations, sales to private consumers and domestic consumption, both as eggs by the kilo and value. The production of hatching eggs in million kg.

### **2.1 Data description**

The statistics give information on total production of eggs in Denmark, sales to egg packing stations, sales to private consumers and domestic consumption, both as eggs by the kilo and value. Furthermore, production is analyzed by hatching eggs. There is information about quantities and values as the related prices and quoted prices. For example, selling prices ex producer of eggs for human consumption, eggs from deep litter 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 total production of eggs is divided into battery eggs, free-range eggs, eggs from hens living in a stable and organic eggs. In addition, the production of hatching eggs is disclosed.

### **2.3 Sector coverage**

Agricultural sector.

## **2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions**

Eggs from caged layers: These are eggs from chickens that go in enriched cages. Which, in other words, means that a hen must have a minimum area of 750 cm<sup>2</sup> and the cage must be at least 2,000 cm<sup>2</sup>. A cage must not exceed 10 hens. The cage must have a nest, a dust / straw / sand bath and a sewing needle.

Free-range eggs: Free-range eggs are produced by free-range hens. The hens go to stables, which are decorated in the same way as for the production of scratch eggs. In the stable there must be no more than 9 hens per m<sup>2</sup>. There must be red and stools and bedding of at least 1/3 of the floor area. The hens must have access to the open air on an outdoor area (chicken farm) and at least 4 m<sup>2</sup> per hen. The free-range hens live in flocks of 3000 to 10000 pieces.

Eggs for Human Consumption: Eggs used for human consumption. It is the sum of cucumber, egg yolk, freestanding eggs and organic eggs.

Hatching Eggs: Eggs used to production of chicken.

Barn Eggs: Eggs from barn hens. Eggs from hens that go indoors in flocks of 3,000 to 10,000 pieces. There must be no more than 9 hens per. m<sup>2</sup>. In the stable there are sheds and stools and at least 1/3 of the floor area must be covered with straw, shavings, sand or peat.

Organic Eggs: Eggs from organic hens. The hens are given organic feed. The hens go to stables, where the maximum must be 6 hens per m<sup>2</sup>. There must be red and stools and bedding of at least 1/3 of the floor area. The hens shall have access to the open air to an outdoor area (chicken farm) and there must be at least 4 m<sup>2</sup> per hen. There must be more than one hens farm. The organic hens live in flocks up to 3000.

## **2.5 Statistical unit**

Egg packing stations and hatcheries.

## **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 1995 onwards. However, statistics can be found at the beginning of the 20th century, where it has been possible to compare time series.

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for this statistics.

## 2.10 Unit of measure

The production is measured in million kg eggs and the prices in DDK øre per kilogram of eggs.

## 2.11 Reference period

01-10-2017 - 31-12-2017

## 2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Quarterly.

## 2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

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

See [subject pages](#) Further information by contacting Statistics Denmark directly.

## 3 Statistical processing

Data is collected quarterly on consumer eggs and monthly 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 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 is collected quarterly and hatched eggs on hatcheries every month. Prices of eggs are collected each month.

### **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. The price of these eggs is an average price for all the other eggs.

### **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 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 a lot.

### **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 a lot.

### **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 stations is good, as well as the price and value of the different egg types. There is minimal uncertainty about the figures, as these are published as quarterly and in million. kg. 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. 1½ month 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. 1½ 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

Long time series can be compiled. Egg production can be found back to the 20th century. 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: Battery Egg, Fresh Egg, Scraper Egg, Organic Egg.

### 7.1 Comparability - geographical

Most European countries have independent statistics on egg production. Organic statistics on egg products in the European region are not published, but 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.

## 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 / Publications / 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

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

## 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](mailto:mla@dst.dk)

### 9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

### 9.2 Contact organisation unit

Food Industry, Business Statistics

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