Egg Markets Overview

A weekly publication of the USDA AMS Livestock and Poultry Program, Agricultural Analytics Division

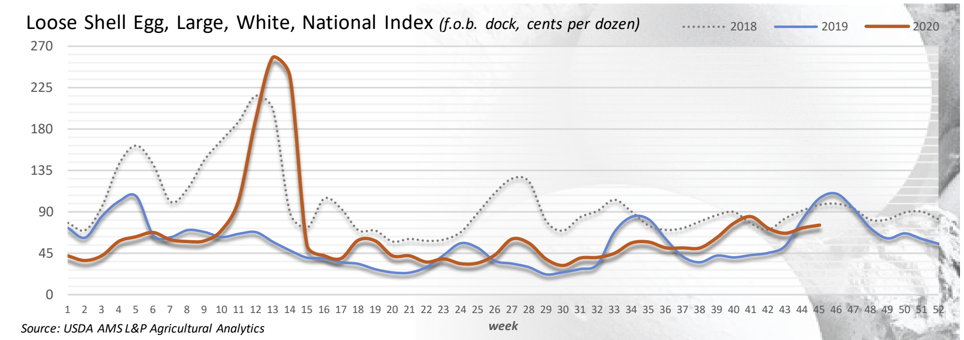
November 06, 2020

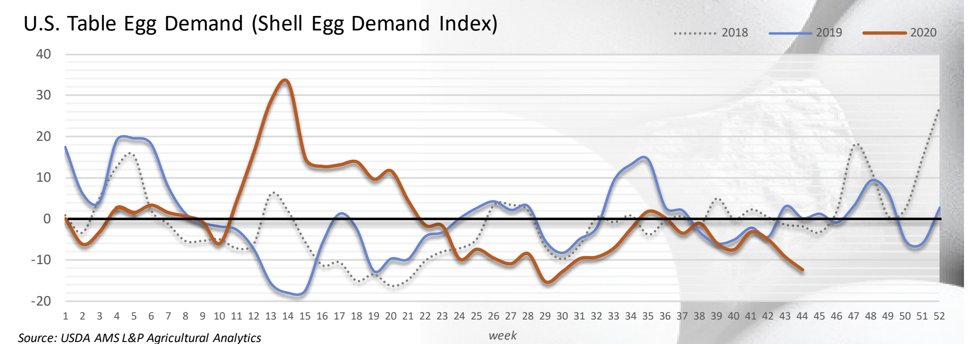
Wholesale prices for cartoned shell eggs held steady through the week as supplies became largely sufficient to meet current needs and demand eases. Offerings are light to moderate. Trading is moderate. The market for loose eggs saw increasing prices for all heavy sizes this week as traders worked to build their stocks with some measure of success as supplies outpaced current need in some cases. Prices began to soften by the end of the trading period. Offerings remain light to moderate and trading moved at a moderate pace. Prices for national trading of trucklot quantities of graded, loose, White Large shell eggs increased 4% (from $0.729 to $0.760 per dozen) with a soft undertone. The wholesale price on the New York market for Large cartoned shell eggs delivered to retailers was unchanged at $1.18 per dozen with a steady undertone. The Midwest wholesale price for Large, white, shell eggs delivered to warehouses declined one percent (from $1.03 to $1.02 per dozen) with a steady undertone into next week. Prices paid to producers in the Midwest for Large shell eggs held steady at $0.83 per dozen. The California benchmark for Large shell eggs was down one percent (from $1.77 to $1.76 per dozen) and trade sentiment is steady into next week. Delivered prices on the California wholesale loose egg market declined one percent (from $1.179 to $1.171 per dozen) with a weak undertone.

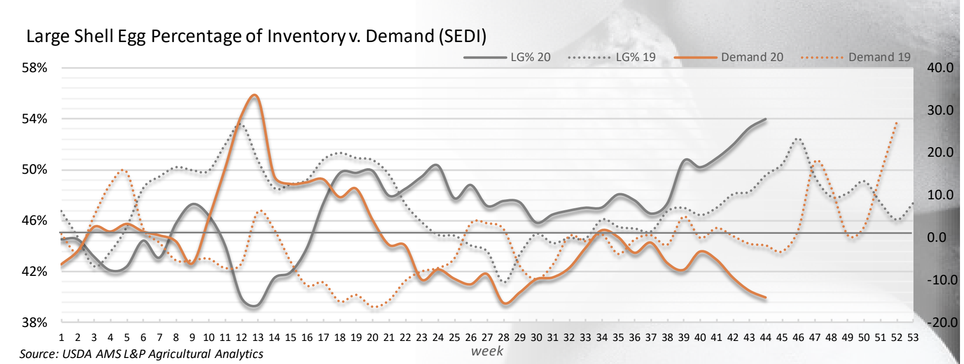
Consumer demand for cartoned shell eggs declined over the past week as lackluster retail promotional activity ahead of the Autumn demand season provided little incentive. However, this is expected to change over the next two weeks as stocks have moved into supply chains signaling increasing feature activity in supermarkets in anticipation of increased demand for Thanksgiving. Smaller holiday family gatherings are expected to be the norm this year, increasing demand for shell eggs per household, and with a more home-based consumer focus in light of COVID-19 and traditional flu season concerns. This is expected to drive more traditional, in-home activities with holiday baking being a likely beneficiary.

Supermarket feature activity for conventional shell eggs rises as the November holiday demand season gets underway. The average ad price drops sharply as attractive offers fill circulars, down 41% (from $1.25 to $0.74 per dozen). Featuring of specialty types slows from last week and the share of all shell eggs ads declines to 78%. Cage-free shell egg features lead all types with a resurgence in nutritionally-enhance types coming late in the ad cycle. Feature activity for [UEP-defined cage-free](#) shell eggs is on par with last week's active levels and accounts for 37% of all shell egg types on feature. The average ad price rebounds 21% (from $2.12 to $2.55 per dozen), and the caged/cage-free price spread for 12-packs of Large widens to $1.81 per dozen ($0.94 or 109%).

The overall inventory of shell eggs increased over 3% and the nation-wide inventory of Large eggs was up 5%. Stocks of Large eggs in the key Midwest production region began







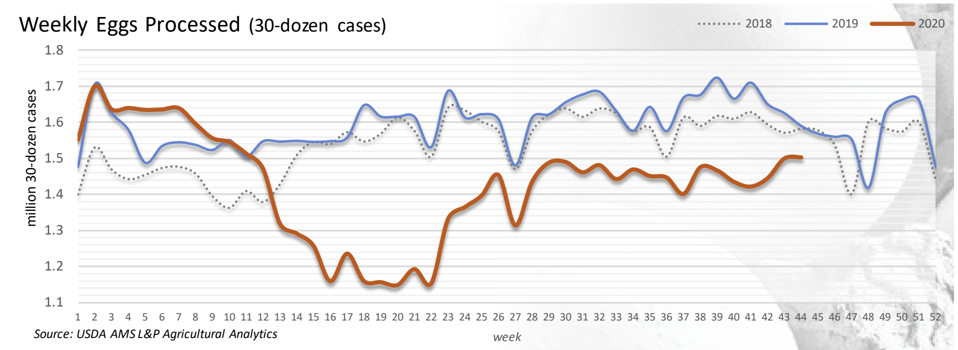
to rise, gaining 9% as shell eggs moved into marketing channels over the past week to satisfy the expected rise in seasonal demand during the traditional Thanksgiving baking season. The inventory share of Large class shell eggs increased a percentage point to 54% share of all shell egg stocks on inventory at the start of the week, its highest share for at least the past 5 years. Stocks of cage-free eggs shrank slightly as eggs were being staged to support ongoing and breaking retail promotional activity. Breaking stock inventories rose 6% as breakers slowed their breaking schedules and took advantage of limited offerings on the spot market to augment their stocks. Total table egg production for the week was unchanged from last week but declined by 2% relative to last year to a level 4% under last year's weekly production or about 2.6 million fewer dozen eggs.

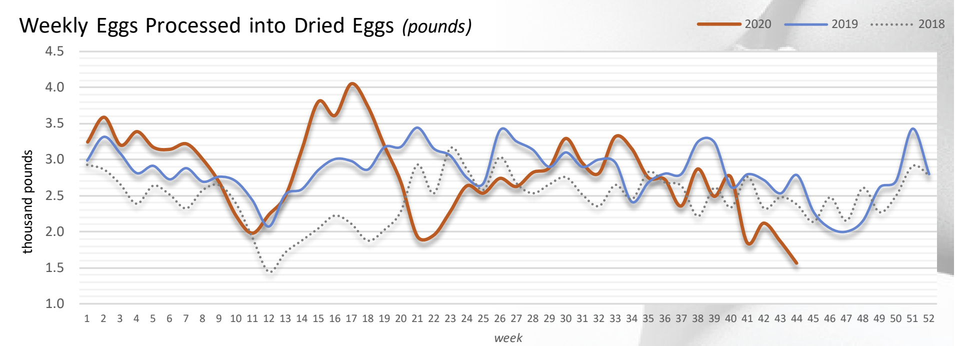
The wholesale price for breaking stock in the Central States was fully steady through the week at $0.72 per dozen despite limited offerings and good demand to keep shrinking stocks sufficient to support slowing breaking schedules. Despite the limited offerings, trading was described as moderate to active. The volume of eggs processed over the past week increased 4% to a nearly 30% of weekly table egg production. This boost brought current week production within 8% of levels for the same week last year. Production of whole liquid eggs increased 2% as production shifted back whites and yolks, both up 10% over the past production week. Dried egg production decreased 12% while production of inedible egg was up 5%.

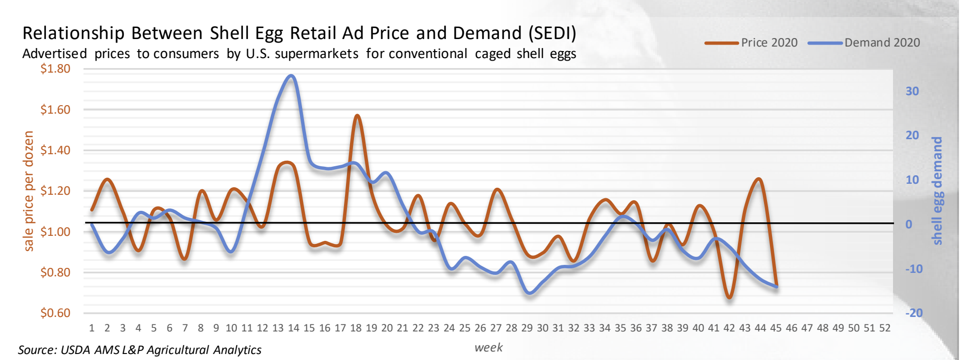
Wholesale prices for whole certified liquid whole eggs are too few to report with a firm undertone. Offerings are light for good demand and active trading. The wholesale price for frozen whole egg products is firm at $0.92 per pound while the price for liquid whites declined 2% (from $0.82 to $0.80 per pound). The undertone is fully steady on light to moderate offerings and supplies. Trading is moderate to active on moderate to good demand. Wholesale prices for dried eggs are unchanged with whole dried egg at $3.00 per pound; dried yolk prices at $2.30 per pound; and prices from dried albumen at $4.80 per pound. The undertone is steady on light to moderate offerings and supplies. Demand is moderate to good and trading is moderate to active.

According to NASS, the September monthly volume of frozen eggs in storage declined 3% from August, 4% over 2019. Stocks of whole frozen egg decreased 5% from last month and were 2% under year ago levels. The share of whole egg stocks declined slightly to 47% of total frozen stocks. Stocks of frozen yolk declined one percent but were 24% more than the level of a year ago. Stocks of frozen egg whites declined 4%, 31% over the level of September 2019. Stocks of ungraded eggs decreased one percent but were up 7% over 2019. Ungraded stocks now account for 43% of all egg stocks in cold storage, a percentage point increase for the month.

Cage-free commitments as of October 23 were unchanged, requiring 63.5 billion cage-free eggs per year to meet 100% of needs from an approximate cage-free flock of 212 million hens (66% of the U.S. non-organic flock), indicating a shortage of 142 million hens from the current non-organic cage-free flock of 70.0 million hens. The lay rate for non-organic cage-free production is currently estimated at 82.2%.



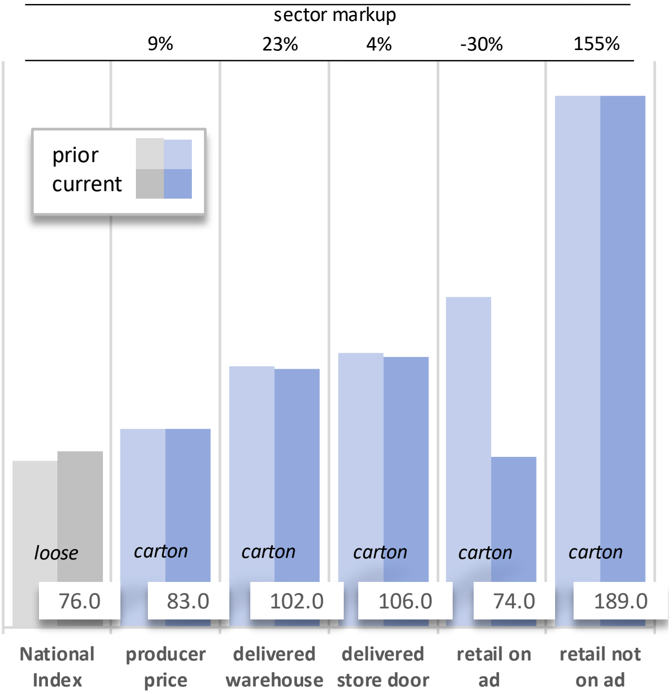




Shell Eggs Market Sector Price Comparisons

(as of November 06, 2020)

(National Index on a loose-egg basis, all other prices for cartoned eggs; LG White avg prices in cents per dozen)



Producer, warehouse, & store door = MW; retail no sale NY market; retail on sale Nat'l Retail Feature; loose eggs include minimal material costs.

Key Egg Markets Overview

	6-Nov	% Change	Recent History: 30-Oct	23-Oct	16-Oct	9-Oct	2-Oct
SHELL EGGS *(cents per dozen)*							
National, Large, White *(f.o.b. dock prices)*	76.00	4%	72.86	67.16	72.44	85.15	78.24
New York, Large, White, *(price to retailers)*	118.00	0%	118.00	119.00	121.00	121.00	116.00
Midwest, Large, White *(price dlvrd to warehouse)*	102.00	-1%	103.00	105.00	105.00	98.00	86.00
California, Large, benchmark	176.00	-1%	177.00	179.00	177.00	162.00	147.00
National Retail Shell Egg *(dollars per dozen)*							
Conventional, Large, White	0.74	-41%	1.25	1.12	0.68	1.00	1.13
Cage-Free, Large, Brown/White	2.55	20%	2.12	2.80	2.51	2.56	2.58
EGG PRODUCTS *(f.o.b. dock prices; dollars per pound)*							
Central States Breaking Stock *(delivered prices)*	72.00	0%	72.00	70.00	74.00	76.00	76.00
Whole Frozen Eggs	92.00	0%	92.00	92.00	92.00	90.00	87.00
Whole Dried Eggs	3.00	0%	3.00	2.70	2.70	2.35	2.30
Processed Share of Weekly Egg Production	29.5%	-0.1%	29.6%	28.6%	28.3%	28.7%	30.0%
SHELL EGG DEMAND INDICATOR *(no units)*	-14.0	-1.6	-12.4	-9.3	-5.1	-3.2	-7.5

Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics

Key Shell Egg Markets Snapshot - 2020

(Large, White, Conventional Shell Eggs in cents per dozen)

	6-Nov	Change	30-Oct	2020 High		2020 Low	
National, Large, White *(f.o.b. dock prices)*	76.0	4%	72.9	258.5	01-Apr	32.1	21-Apr
Daily New York Eggs *(delivered store door)*	118.0	0%	118.0	309.0	25-Mar	78.0	09-Jan
Midwest Regional *(delivered warehouse)*[1]	102.0	-1%	103.0	293.0	30-Mar	62.0	13-Jan
California Benchmark	176.0	-1%	177.0	377.0	30-Mar	132.0	15-Jun
Central States Breaking Stock *(delivered prices)*[1]	72.0	0%	90.0	76.0	01-Oct	20.0	22-Apr
Whole Frozen Egg Products *(f.o.b. dock prices)*	92.0	0%	92.0	92.0	16-Oct	40.0	24-Apr
Whole Dried Egg Products *(f.o.b. dock prices)*	3.00	0%	3.00	3.00	30-Oct	2.00	04-Sep
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - Conventional	0.74	-41%	1.25	1.57	01-May	0.68	16-Oct
Natl Average Retail Ad Price - Cage-free[2]	2.55	20%	2.12	3.61	24-Apr	2.06	22-May
Shell Egg Demand Indicator	-14.0	-1.6	-12.4	33.0	01-Apr	-15.3	15-Jul

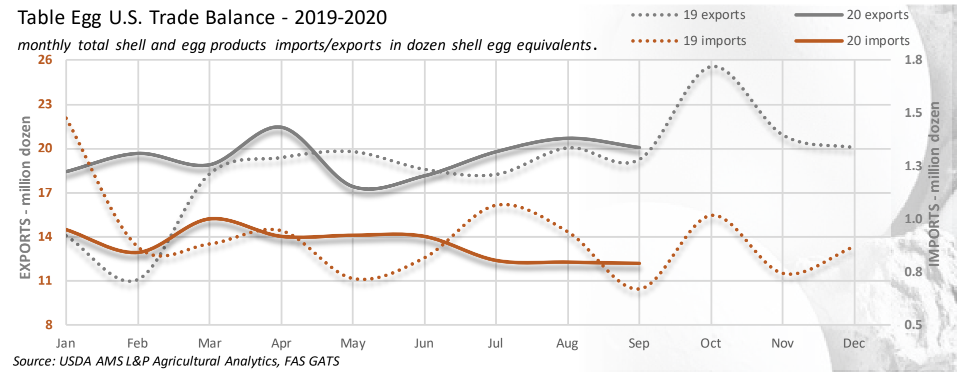
[1] *mostly high;* [2] *non-organic*

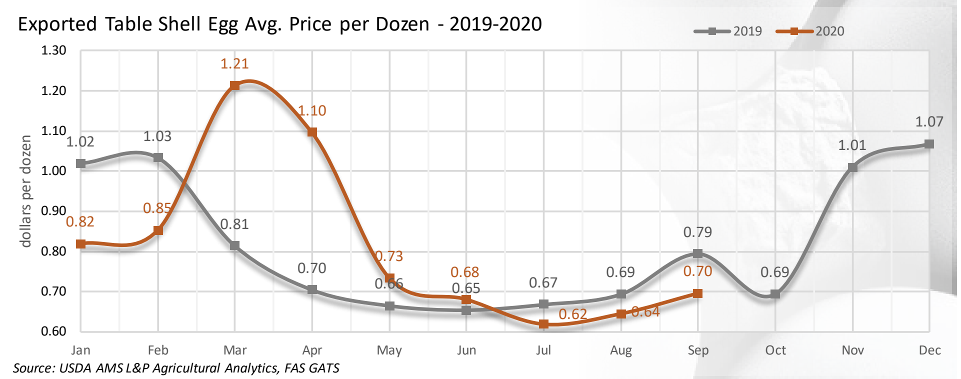
The overall export volume of shell egg and egg products (in shell egg equivalents) decreased 3 percent in September, 4 percent over the year ago level. Exports of table shell eggs declined 3 percent; 12 percent higher than year ago levels. Canada returned to the top export destination for table shell eggs in September but Hong Kong remains the top destination for the year, accounting for 36 percent of shell egg exports in 2020 to date compared to 32 percent for Mexico, the second largest destination. The value of table shell egg exports decreased 2 percent and the average price per dozen rose 8 percent (from $0.64 to $0.70 per dozen) from August.

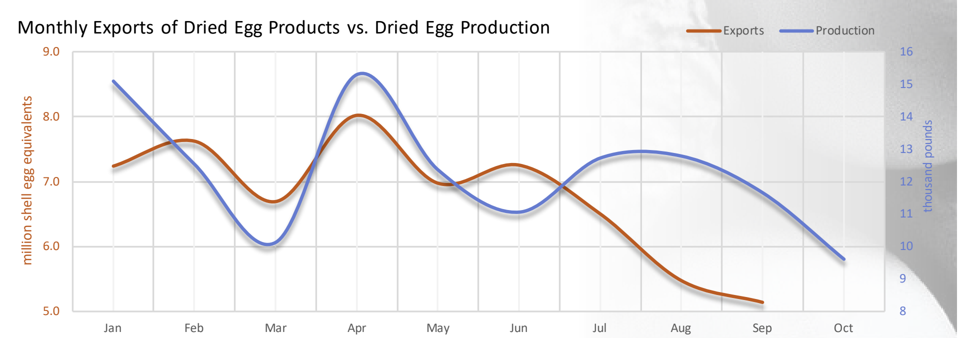
The volume of exports of egg products in September declined 2 percent led by a 4 percent drop in total exports of dried egg products. Exports of liquid eggs increased 14 percent led by a 45 percent increase in whole liquid egg exports to Canada and, to a lesser extent, Hong Kong. Liquid yolk exports were up 9 percent led by the return of Canada to the market after sitting out in August. Export volumes of liquid albumen decreased 29 percent as Canada dropped their shipments by nearly half from August. The value of liquid egg exports in September rose 5 percent led by a 28 percent increase in the value of liquid whole egg exports.

Export volume of dried egg products declined 6 percent in September with a 34 percent decline in shipments of dried yolk offsetting an 8 percent uptick in dried whole eggs and a 16 percent rise in dried albumen. The rise in dried whole egg exports was driven by a combination of increased buying primarily by Canada and Belgium while Mexico dropped their buying by nearly half from August. Exports of dried albumen increased 16 percent led almost singlehandedly by a return to the market by Japan which remains the primary export destination for this product for the year. The total value of all dried egg product exports decreased 21 percent for the month with an 8 percent rise in the value of dried whole egg being offset by a 47 percent drop in the value of dried yolk and a 39 percent drop in the value of dried albumen exports. The decline in dried egg exports correlates with a declining level of domestic production.

Import volumes of table shell egg and egg products in September (in shell egg equivalents) decreased a percentage point from August but was up 18 percent from September 2019. The U.S. continues to draw exclusively from its domestic table shell egg supply with no imports reported for the month or year to date so all the change in import volume was attributed to egg products. Overall, liquid egg import volume was down one percent for the month despite a doubling of imports of liquid albumen offset by a 33 percent drop in imports of liquid yolk. Imports of liquid whole egg from Canada led the rise in that product while imports of liquid yolk from Taiwan dropped to near zero. Imports of dried egg products were exclusively of dried albumen and volumes were unchanged from August. The total value of shell and egg product imports declined 6 percent led by the decreased imports of liquid yolk.





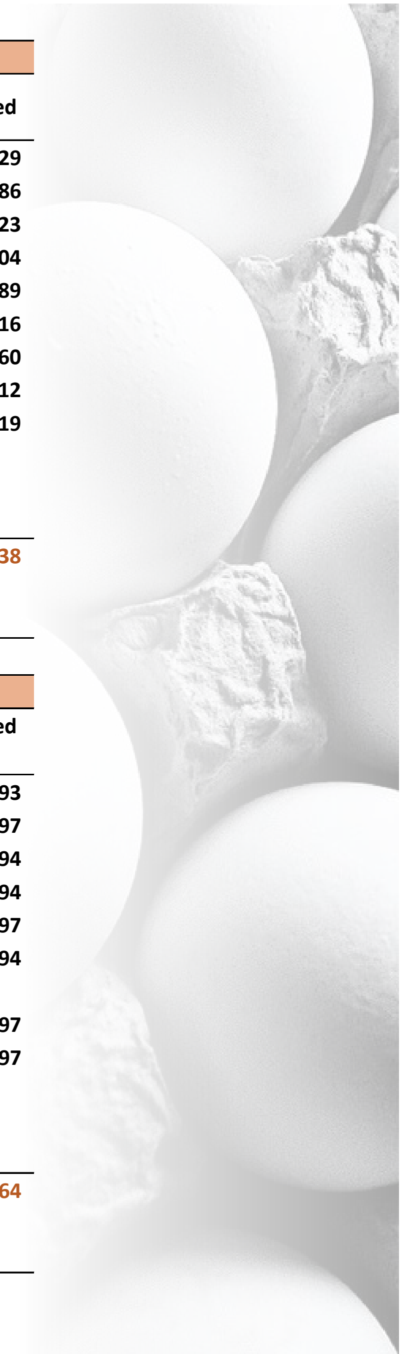


2020 Monthly - U.S. Table Egg Exports *(all numbers in dozen shell egg equivelents)*

		Shell Eggs	Liquid				Dried			
2020	Total Dozens	*(dozens)* 0407210000	Whole 0408990000	Yolk 0408190000	Albumen 3502190000	Total Liquid	Whole 0408910000	Yolk 0408110000	Albumen 3502110000	Total Dried
Jan	**18,436,876**	8,654,383	953,827	1,543,901	38,836	**2,536,564**	3,480,548	2,648,987	1,116,394	**7,245,929**
Feb	**19,673,873**	8,473,685	2,105,015	1,445,304	19,083	**3,569,402**	4,028,906	2,902,359	699,521	**7,630,786**
Mar	**18,900,779**	9,260,058	1,248,445	1,534,024	159,529	**2,941,999**	1,966,578	2,727,798	2,004,347	**6,698,723**
Apr	**21,455,020**	9,847,410	1,868,148	1,473,092	236,866	**3,578,107**	3,409,839	2,452,698	2,166,967	**8,029,504**
May	**17,426,532**	8,693,640	478,922	1,147,170	124,711	**1,750,803**	3,595,081	2,107,994	1,279,014	**6,982,089**
Jun	**18,149,178**	8,828,747	947,968	1,025,640	85,707	**2,059,315**	4,339,728	1,737,880	1,183,507	**7,261,116**
Jul	**19,785,300**	10,273,541	1,641,493	1,241,247	120,358	**3,003,099**	4,048,056	2,185,700	274,904	**6,508,660**
Aug	**20,701,326**	13,878,552	395,893	756,968	191,000	**1,343,861**	3,004,739	1,959,212	514,961	**5,478,912**
Sep	**20,072,928**	13,394,715	575,845	823,592	135,257	**1,534,694**	3,248,904	1,299,635	594,980	**5,143,519**
Oct	-					-				-
Nov	-					-				-
Dec	-					-				-
Total Shell	91,304,731		10,215,557	10,990,939	1,111,347	22,317,843	31,122,379	20,022,264	9,834,595	60,979,238
Total Products	83,297,081									
Total All	154,528,884									

2020 Monthly - U.S. Table Egg Imports *(all numbers in dozen shell egg equivelents)*

		Shell Eggs	Liquid				Dried			
2020	Total Dozens	*(dozens)* 407210090	Whole 0408990000	Yolk 0408190000	Albumen 3502190000	Total Liquid	Whole 0408910000	Yolk 0408110000	Albumen 3502110000	Total Dried
Jan	**951,652**	-	650,331	151,828	38,501	**840,659**	-	-	110,993	**110,993**
Feb	**843,601**	-	494,490	259,967	33,647	**788,104**	-	-	55,497	**55,497**
Mar	**1,002,884**	-	679,296	190,498	22,096	**891,890**	-	-	110,994	**110,994**
Apr	**920,023**	-	468,209	315,376	25,444	**809,029**	-	-	110,994	**110,994**
May	**924,956**	-	637,280	217,783	14,396	**869,459**	-	-	55,497	**55,497**
Jun	**919,855**	-	499,010	286,416	23,436	**808,861**	-	-	110,994	**110,994**
Jul	**805,848**	-	581,704	116,006	108,138	**805,848**	-	-	-	-
Aug	**797,567**	-	514,745	191,669	35,656	**742,070**	-	-	55,497	**55,497**
Sep	**791,708**	-	528,974	128,226	79,011	**736,211**			55,497	**55,497**
Oct	-					-				-
Nov	-					-				-
Dec	-					-				-
Total Shell	-		5,054,038	1,857,768	380,325	7,292,132	-	-	665,964	665,964
Total Products	7,958,095									
Total All	7,958,095									



U.S. Egg Products Export Destinations

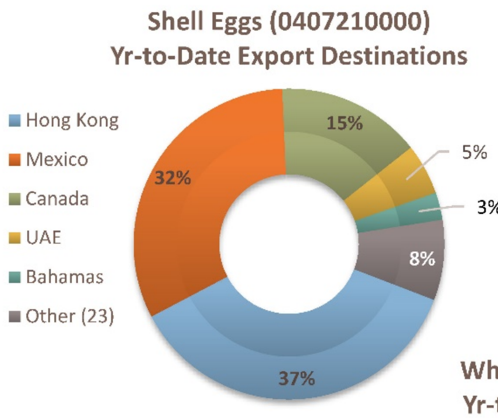
Jan-Sep 2020 (metric tons)

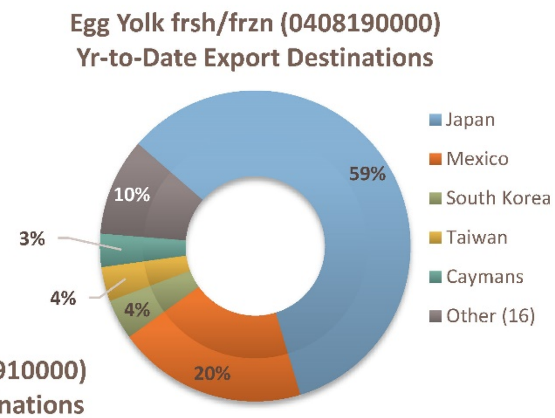
Export Destination	Total	LIQUID EGG			DRIED EGG		
		Whole	Yolk	Albumen	Whole	Yolk	Albumen
TOTALS:	27,982.0	6,102.3	6,565.8	663.8	8,451.0	5,436.8	762.3
Mexico	8,316.9	3,881.6	1,296.6		1,089.6	1,852.0	197.1
Japan	6,594.6		3,869.3		825.8	1,692.2	207.3
Canada	5,260.6	463.0	156.8	479.2	4,042.7	25.1	93.8
Korea, South	1,253.5	11.2	275.5		721.4	235.9	9.5
Denmark	856.5				498.0	358.5	
Philippines	538.7	198.9			310.8	29.0	
Hong Kong	509.7	335.9	119.9	53.5	0.4		
Taiwan	365.0	18.3	233.9			91.7	21.1
Costa Rica	348.8	321.4			23.9		3.5
Chile	320.4	1.8	48.2	15.9	43.5	211.0	
Trinidad and Tobago	300.7	0.9			4.6	294.6	0.6
Germany	277.6				98.7	153.2	25.7
Bahamas, The	265.2	244.5	3.1		5.4	12.2	
Cayman Islands	251.7	4.4	227.1		20.2		
Australia	202.9			0.2	202.7		
Vietnam	181.8		170.6		1.0	1.0	9.2
Belgium-Luxembourg	176.2			43.2	133.0		
Saudi Arabia	168.6	78.5			80.1	10.0	
China	126.5	26.0	7.7	4.5	36.2		52.1
Sweden	115.7				18.4	97.3	
Qatar	114.4	105.4				9.0	
Colombia	103.6			4.1	8.8	90.7	
United Arab Emirates	91.4	91.4					
Dominican Republic	89.9	60.1			7.9	21.9	
Italy	83.5		3.9		41.8	37.8	
Malaysia	79.3				17.7	61.6	
Panama	73.8	33.0			9.3		31.5
Netherlands	72.7	2.9	3.9	1.1	64.8		
Thailand	67.9			1.0	66.9		
Austria	64.1	1.2		20.0		42.9	
Singapore	62.4		23.2			39.2	
Kuwait	58.0		4.9			53.1	
Israel	48.5						48.5
Netherlands Antilles	43.0	35.9			7.1		
New Zealand	41.9				31.2	6.3	4.4
India	39.6			39.6			
Ecuador	38.9		19.8		19.1		
Egypt	38.1		38.1				
Honduras	36.2	36.2					
Barbados	34.2	34.2					
Jamaica	33.2	33.2					
Russia	30.9		30.9				
United Kingdom	27.7	18.8					8.9
Ireland	26.7			1.5			25.2
Guatemala	20.0	6.6			8.7		4.7
Peru	19.3	4.3	15.0				
Haiti	18.4	18.4					
Macau	16.9	16.9					
Suriname	11.3				11.3		
Bermuda	10.2	10.2					
Turkey	9.9					9.9	
Indonesia	8.8		8.8				
Kazakhstan	8.6		8.6				
El Salvador	8.2						8.2
Equatorial Guinea	6.1	6.1					
France	5.9						5.9
Brazil	2.6						2.6
Leeward-Windward Islands	2.5						2.5
Turks and Caicos Islands	1.4	0.7				0.7	
Bangladesh	0.4	0.4					

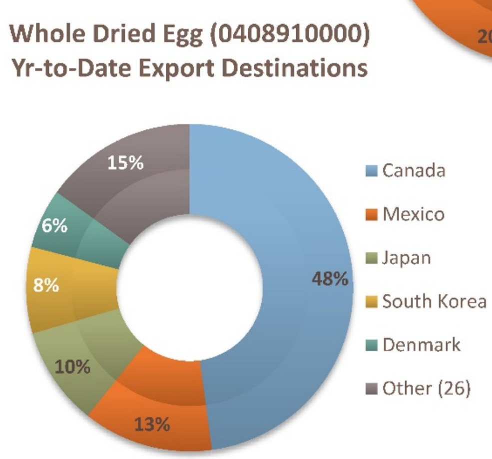
U.S. Shell Egg and Egg Products Trade Data - as of September 2020

(does not include hatching eggs)

EXPORTS	Volume					Value				
	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Sep 2020 as a % of Aug 20	Sep 2020 as a % of Sep 19	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Sep 2020 as a % of Aug 20	Sep 2020 as a % of Sep 19
	(dozens)			*(percent)*		*($US)*			*(percent)*	
Shell Eggs........................	13,878,552	13,394,715	11,934,313	97	112	8,950,000	9,323,000	9,476,000	104	98
year-to-date	77,910,016	91,304,731	91,581,246	117	100	64,052,000	73,375,000	69,186,000	115	106
	(metric tons)			*(percent)*		*($US)*			*(percent)*	
Egg Products..................										
yolk, dried....................	532.0	352.9	636.9	66	55	1,982,000	1,049,000	2,195,000	53	48
year-to-date	5,083.9	5,436.8	5,247.2	107	104	18,200,000	19,249,000	20,854,000	106	92
yolk, frsh/frz.................	452.2	492.0	660.3	109	75	1,250,000	1,267,000	1,817,000	101	70
year-to-date	6,073.8	6,565.8	7,047.6	108	93	16,236,000	17,503,000	19,247,000	108	91
whole, dried................	815.9	882.2	611.1	108	144	2,033,000	2,197,000	1,915,000	108	115
year-to-date	7,568.7	8,450.9	5,562.1	112	152	21,814,000	24,011,000	16,827,000	110	143
whole, frsh/frz...........	236.5	344.0	394.3	145	87	511,000	652,000	647,000	128	101
year-to-date	5,758.6	6,102.6	3,700.4	106	165	8,108,000	8,760,000	7,020,000	108	125
albumen, dried............	39.9	46.1	69.0	116	67	442,000	269,000	276,000	61	97
year-to-date	715.9	762.0	686.5	106	111	3,310,000	3,579,000	2,571,000	108	139
albumen, other...........	114.1	80.8	43.9	71	184	1,469,000	1,480,000	63,000	101	2,349
year-to-date	583.1	663.9	260.6	114	255	2,118,000	3,598,000	4,320,000	170	83
total egg products........	2,190.6	2,198.0	2,415.5	100	91	7,687,000	6,914,000	6,913,000	90	100
year-to-date	25,784.0	27,982.0	22,504.4	109	124	69,786,000	76,700,000	70,839,000	110	108





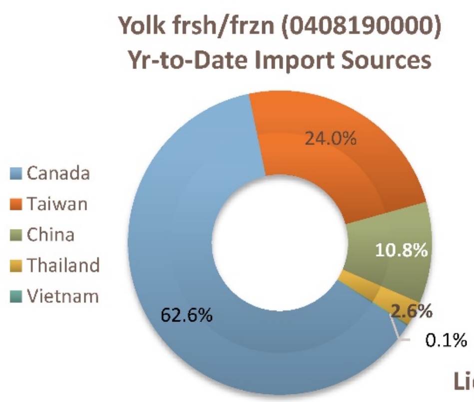


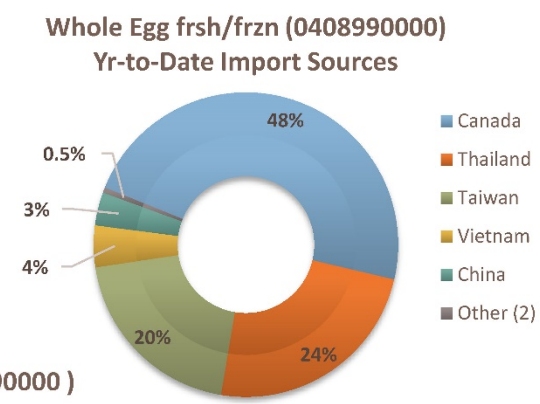
Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)

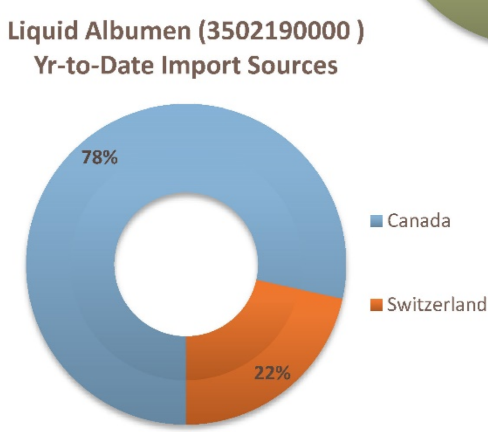
U.S. Shell Egg and Egg Products Trade Data - as of September 2020

(does not include hatching eggs)

IMPORTS	Volume					Value				
	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Sep 2020 as a % of Aug 20	Sep 2020 as a % of Sep 19	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Sep 2020 as a % of Aug 20	Sep 2020 as a % of Sep 19
	(dozens)			*(percent)*		*($US)*			*(percent)*	
Shell Eggs........................										
year-to-date			30,737					46,000		
	(metric tons)			*(percent)*					*(percent)*	
Egg Products.....................										
yolk, dried...................										
year-to-date								14,000		
yolk, frsh/frz.................	114.5	76.6	70.6	67	108	367,000	230,000	153,000	63	150
year-to-date	1,033.2	1,109.8	1,065.5	107	104	2,504,000	2,734,000	2,815,000	109	97
whole, dried...............										
year-to-date			1.2					3,000		
whole, frsh/frz...........	307.5	316.0	231.5	103	137	781,000	829,000	520,000	106	159
year-to-date	2,703.2	3,019.2	2,864.4	112	105	6,990,000	7,819,000	7,072,000	112	111
albumen, dried............	4.3	4.3	11.1	100	39	13,000	13,000	77,000	100	17
year-to-date	47.3	51.6	108.9	109	47	157,000	170,000	447,000	108	38
albumen, other...........	21.3	47.2	13.2	222	358	27,000	48,000	27,000	178	178
year-to-date	180.0	227.2	214.1	126	106	289,000	337,000	363,000	117	93
total egg products........	447.6	444.1	326.4	99	136	1,188,000	1,120,000	777,000	94	144
year-to-date	3,963.7	4,407.8	4,254.1	111	104	9,940,000	11,060,000	10,714,000	111	103







Source: USDA AMS Agricultural Analytics; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)