



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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## WEST VIRGINIA 2018 CHICKEN AND EGG PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - Layer numbers** during 2018 averaged 1.28 million, up 3 percent from the 2017 average of 1.24 million. The average annual production per layer was 230 eggs, up 9 eggs per layer from the 2017 total of 221 eggs per layer. Pullets for 2018 totaled 632,000, down 18 percent from the 2017 total of 770,000. Other chickens totaled 93,000 in 2018, down 6 percent from the 2017 total of 99,000.

**Egg production** during the year ending November 30, 2018 totaled 295.9 million eggs. This was 8 percent above the 2017 production of 274.7 million eggs.

**The total number of chickens** on hand on December 1, 2018 (excluding commercial broilers) was 1.93 million head, down 9 percent from the 2017 total of 2.12 million.

**The total value of all chickens** on December 1, 2018 was \$15.3 million, down 4 percent from the December 1, 2017 value of \$15.9 million. The average value of \$7.90 per bird on December 1, 2018 was up \$0.40 per bird from the 2017 value.

**United States - Layer numbers** during 2018 averaged 391 million, up 3 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2018 was 279 eggs, down 1 percent from 2017.

**Egg production** during the year ending November 30, 2018 totaled 109 billion eggs, up 2 percent from 2017. Table egg production, at 95.3 billion eggs, was up 3 percent from the previous year. Hatching egg production, at 13.9 billion eggs, was up 2 percent from 2017.

**The total number of chickens** on hand on December 1, 2018 (excluding commercial broilers) was 528 million birds, up 3 percent from last year.

**The total value of all chickens** on December 1, 2018 was \$2.28 billion, up 7 percent from December 1, 2017. The average value increased from \$4.16 per bird on December 1, 2017, to \$4.33 per bird on December 1, 2018.