

TENNESSEE AGRI-INDUSTRY BRIEF: POULTRY FACT SHEET

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BACKGROUND

Poultry is raised in practically all 95 counties in Tennessee. Broilers represent the largest segment of the poultry industry in Tennessee, followed by the egg industry. According to the 2022 Census of Agriculture, broilers were raised in 89 of the 95 Tennessee counties and layers in 94 (see Figures 1 and 2).



Poultry Broiler Inventory, Tennessee, 2022

- No Data
- None
- < 10,000
- 10,001 - 500,000
- 500,000 - 1,000,000
- 1,000,000 - 2,500,000
- > 2,500,000

Figure 1 Location of Broilers in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2024



Poultry Layer Inventory, Tennessee, 2022

- No Data
- None
- < 10,000
- 10,001 - 100,000
- 100,000 - 200,000
- > 200,000

Figure 2 Location of Layers in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2024

ECONOMICS

CASH RECEIPTS

For Tennessee’s agricultural producers, 2022 cash receipts for broilers at \$972.6 million ranked second behind soybeans (\$1,094.7 million). Eggs ranked 12th at \$75.8 million. Compared to other states for 2022, Tennessee ranked 16th in cash receipts from broiler production and 37th for eggs (USDA/ERS, 2023).

MULTIPLIER EFFECTS

Accounting for all poultry and egg production for the state, and including multiplier effects, the industry in 2022 contributed an estimated \$1.7 billion in economic activity and comprised an estimated 6,214 individuals working part- or full-time in industries that support

poultry and egg farming with a labor income of \$204.9 million.¹ The 2022 economic activity and employment multipliers were 1.61 and 1.56, respectively. If poultry and egg production increased total industry output by \$1 million, the state’s economy would increase by an estimated \$0.61 million overall, and for each job supported in the same industry, an estimated 0.56 jobs would be supported in other industries. Poultry processing contributed an estimated \$5.6 billion in economic activity and was comprised of approximately 18,567 employees with a labor income of \$1.1 billion (IMPLAN Group, LLC, 2022).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

International trade for Tennessee’s poultry meats and products in 2022 totaled \$156.1 million, with 31.7 percent of this export value going to Angola (Table 1). International trade for Tennessee’s eggs and products totaled \$4.0 million, with sales to Brazil and France and representing 85.0 percent of the purchases (USDA/FAS, 2023).²

Table 1. Top 10 Destination Trade Countries from Tennessee’s Poultry Meats and Products, 2022

Partner	2022 Value	%
Angola	\$49,434,000	31.7%
Philippines	\$20,044,000	12.8%
Canada	\$14,794,000	9.5%
Mexico	\$11,268,000	7.2%
Taiwan	\$10,793,000	6.9%
Gambia, The	\$7,448,000	4.8%
Congo (Brazzaville)	\$6,622,000	4.2%
South Africa	\$4,894,000	3.1%
Guinea	\$4,421,000	2.8%
China	\$2,899,000	1.9%
Other Countries	\$23,489,000	15.0%
World	\$83,802,000	100.0%

Source: USDA/FAS, 2023

¹Calculations based on IMPLAN’s 2022 direct value of production for poultry and eggs of \$1,080.6 million, which includes on-farm consumption and is net of inventory changes. IMPLAN’s poultry and egg production corresponds to NAICS code 1123—establishments primarily engaged in breeding, hatching and raising poultry for meat or egg production (US Census Bureau, 2023).

²USDA/FAS state export data limitations for agricultural shipments: 1) origin of movement is not necessarily the transportation origin (inland state intermediaries shipping agricultural commodities down the Mississippi River to the port in New Orleans may report Louisiana as the state of origin of movement; thus, resulting in understating exports from agricultural states and overstating exports for others); and 2) consolidated shipments will reflect the state of origin where consolidated (USDA/FAS, 2023).

BROILERS INVENTORY/PRODUCTION

Tennessee's inventory of broilers and production numbers from 2012 through 2022 are displayed in Figures 3 and 4. The average inventory of broilers was 181.0 million for that time frame, with average production of 978.9 million pounds. The average value of production for that time frame was \$545.8 million. For 2021, Georgia had the largest inventory of broilers at 1.3 billion, with North Carolina having the largest production and value of production at 8.1 billion pounds and \$4.3 billion, respectively. Tennessee's broiler inventory, production, and value of production were ranked 15th (USDA/NASS, 2023b).

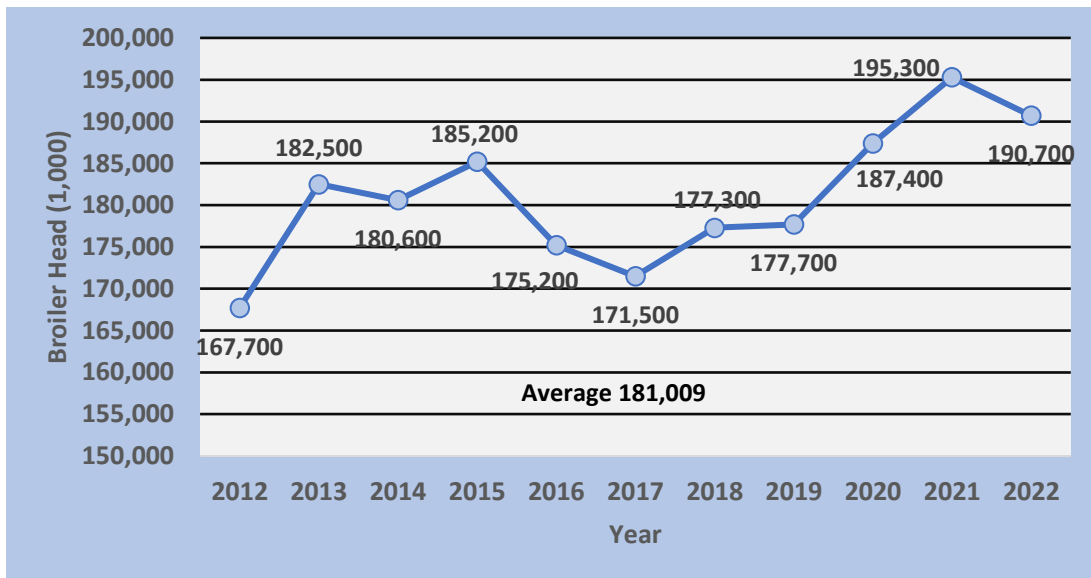


Figure 3. Tennessee Broiler Inventory, 2012-2022

(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)

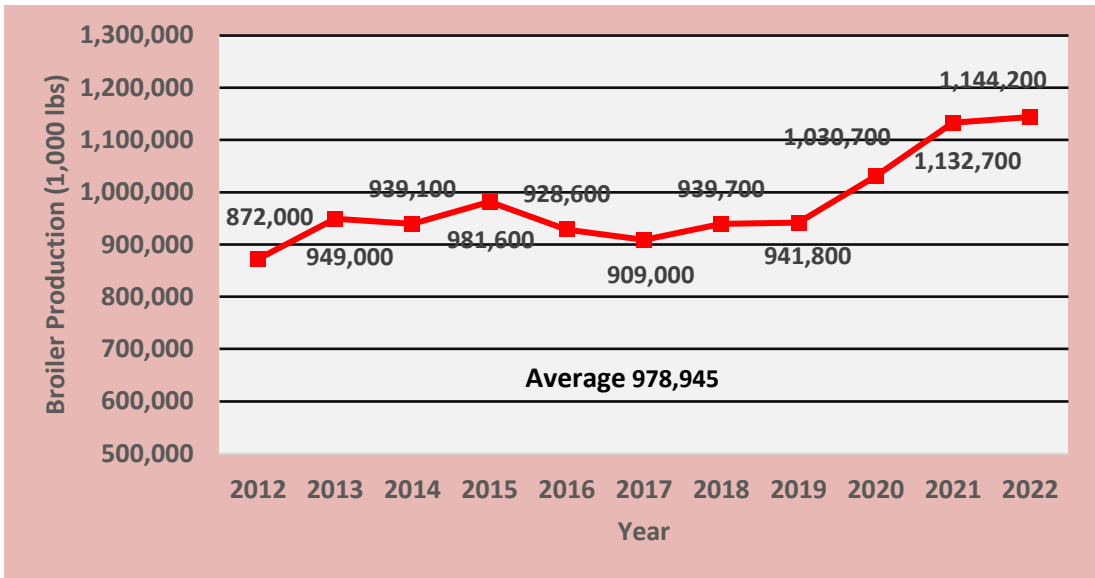


Figure 4. Tennessee Broiler Production, 2012-2022
 (Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)

LAYERS INVENTORY/PRODUCTION

Tennessee’s number of eggs produced and average number of layers from 2012 through 2022 are displayed in Figures 5 and 6. The average number of eggs was 357.9 million for that time frame, with an average of 1.6 million layers. The average value of production for that time frame was \$67.0 million. Iowa had the largest average inventory of layers and total egg production at 48.9 million and close to 15.0 billion eggs. Vermont has the largest eggs per layer at 337. Tennessee was ranked 30th for both average inventory of layers and total egg production and was ranked 34th for eggs per layer at 224 (USDA/NASS, 2023a).

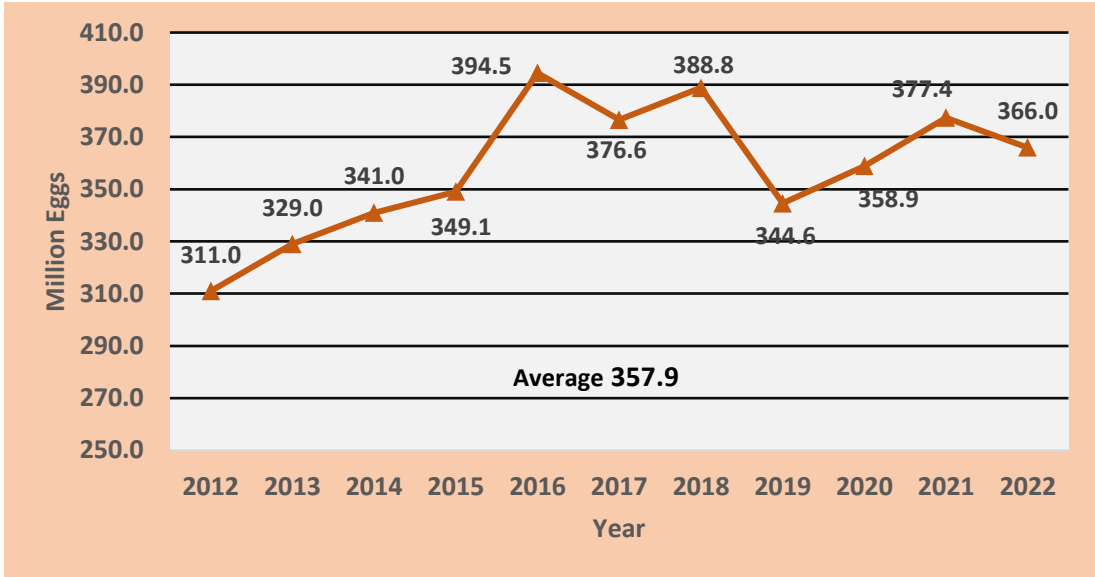


Figure 5. Tennessee Egg Production, 2012-2022
 (Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a)

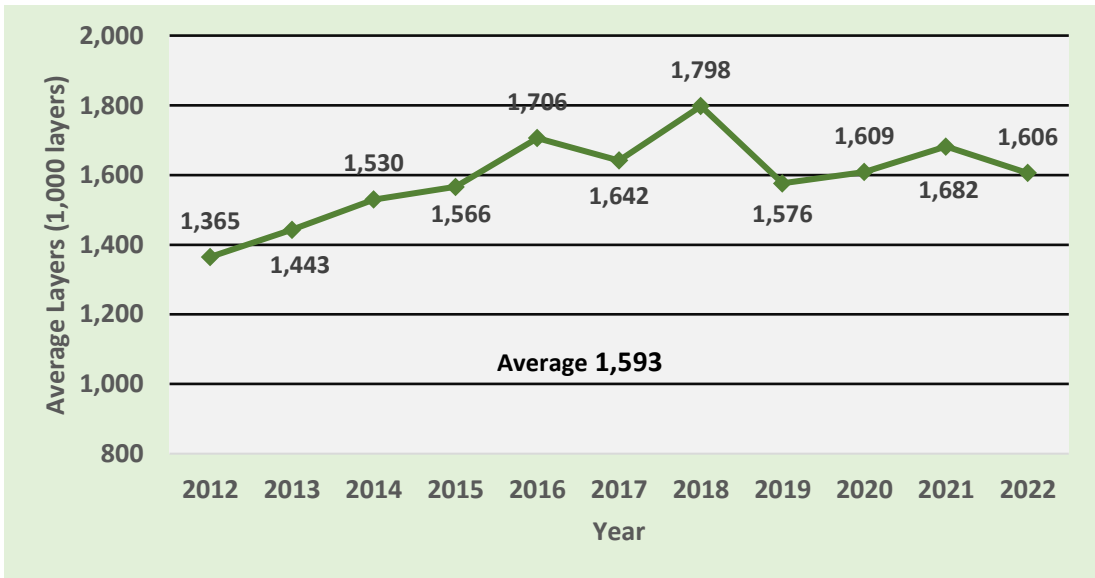


Figure 6. Tennessee Average Layer Inventory, 2012-2022
 (Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a)

POULTRY ISSUES SUGGESTED READING

POULTRY LITTER WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Hawkins, S., and F. Walker. "Litter Land Application Management." W 796. Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science, University of Tennessee Extension. Available at [extension.tennessee.edu/publications/ Documents/W796.pdf](https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/W796.pdf).

POULTRY GROWER:

Tabler, T. "The Poultry Site." Relevant poultry information by Dr. Tabler at thepoultrysite.com/contributors/tom-tabler. Note: Dr. Tabler is now employed by University of Tennessee Extension. He has over 40 years of experience as a broiler service technician, commercial broiler grower, university researcher, and an Extension poultry specialist.

REFERENCES

IMPLAN Group LLC, IMPLAN System (2022 data and Cloud Platform V. 7.0 software), 16905 Northcross Dr., Suite 120, Huntersville, NC 28078. Available at implan.com.

U.S. Census Bureau, North American Industry Classification System. 2023. Available at census.gov/naics.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service (ERS). 2023. Data Files: U.S. and State-Level Farm Income and Wealth Statistics. "Annual Cash Receipts by Commodity, US and States, 2008-2023F." Available at ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics/data-files-u-s-and-state-level-farm-income-and-wealth-statistics.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service. 2023. Global Agricultural Trade System. Available at apps.fas.usda.gov/gats/ExpressQuery1.aspx.

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U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS). 2023b. Poultry Production and Value. Available at usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/m039k491c.

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