

# World poultry production to top 128 million tons in 2019

Poultry meat forecast to see slight increase in metric tonnage compared with overall drop in meat production

ALYSSA CONWAY









**P**oultry meat production reached nearly 125 million metric tons in 2018 and is forecast to increase nearly 3% in 2019, according to projections from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (Table 1). FAO attributes the overall slowdown in meat production to animal disease and the increases to better technology, improving productivity.

On trend, developing countries captured the majority of poultry meat production and consumption and imports in 2018, and are predicted to do so in 2019 as well, with changing diets and growing economies. (Figure 1).

During the past 15 years from 2004-19, poultry production rose nearly 44 million metric tons compared to 46 million metric tons in the period 2003-18, according to FAO reports (Figure 2).

TABLE 1: **World balance for meats by type**

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	Million metric tons			% change 2019 over 2018
	2017	2018*	2019**	
<b>Total production</b>	<b>332.4</b>	<b>337.3</b>	<b>336.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
 Bovine meat	69.6	71.2	71.6	0.7
 Poultry meat	122.3	124.8	128.4	2.8
 Pig meat	119.8	120.5	115.6	-4.0
 Ovine meat	15.2	15.2	15.3	0.4
<b>Total trade</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>
 Bovine meat	10.2	10.9	11.3	4.0
 Poultry meat	13.1	13.3	13.8	3.7
 Pig meat	8.2	8.4	9.1	8.4
 Ovine meat	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
<b>Supply and demand indicators</b>				
World per capita food consumption (kg/year)	43.9	44	43.4	-1.3
<b>FAO meat price index (2002-2004=100)</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019 (Jan-June)</b>	<b>% change: Jan-June 2019 over Jan-June 2018</b>
	170	166	164	-3.4

\*Estimate \*\*Forecast  
Source: FAO Food Outlook July 2019

In comparing individual countries, U.S., China and Brazil remain the leaders in poultry meat production,

with 2019 production in those countries forecast by FAO at 22.6 million metric tons, 20.4 million metric

tons and 14.2 million metric tons, respectively. Countries like South Africa, however, will not be able to produce as much as they consume (Figure 3).

### Developing countries boost consumption

Changing economic and dietary factors in developing regions have resulted in a world poultry meat consumption

average of about 14 kilograms per person per year over the average base period 2016-18, which will continue to grow slowly to a projected 14.8 kilograms per capita by 2028 (Figure 4).

Developing regions like Latin America and the Caribbean will account for much consumption growth, forecast at more than double world poultry consumption rates to 33.9 kilograms per capita by 2028.

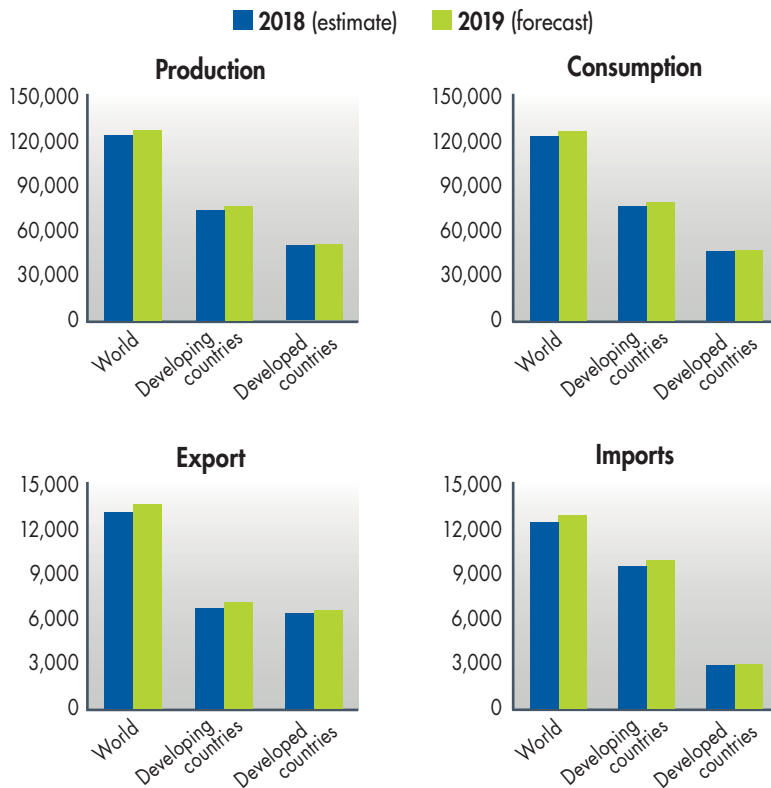
Toward the beginning of the outlook period, FAO projects a slow increase in the poultry flock, coupled with rising feed costs, will bring a moderate increase in poultry prices (Figure 5).

### US broiler, turkey situation

U.S. broiler production will remain relatively flat again from 2019-20 compared with 2018-19, while U.S. turkey producers are forecast to see their production decrease by -0.2% in 2018-19 with only

FIGURE 1: World poultry meat market statistics 2018-19 (x 1,000 metric tons, cwe)

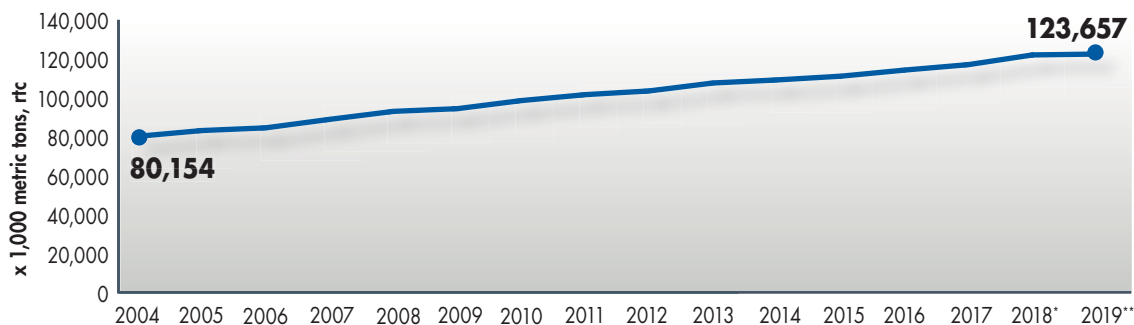
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Source: FAO Food Outlook May 2019

FIGURE 2: World poultry meat production trend 2004-19

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\*Estimate \*\*Projection

Source: Adapted from OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook publications

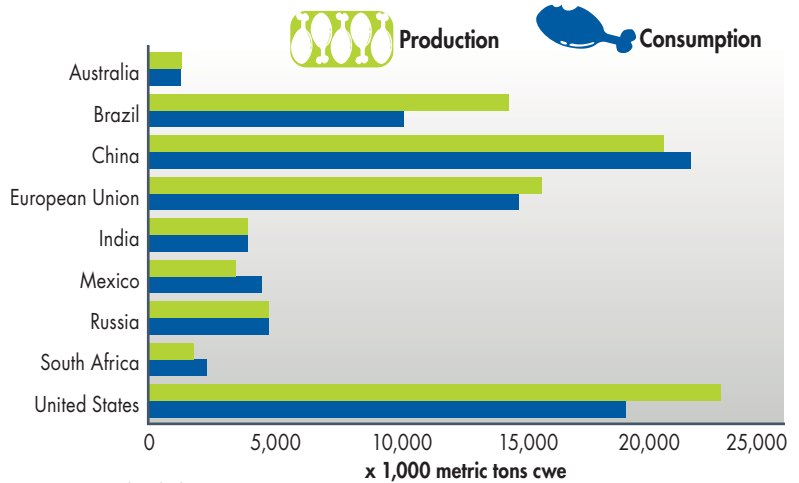
# STATUS

a slight increase from 2019-20 (Figure 6).

World poultry meat exports are projected by FAO to expand 3.7% globally in 2019, reaching a total just shy of 14 million metric tons. Strong growth in demand is fueling optimism, notably from China, Japan, the Philippines, Mexico and Ghana, among other developing, largely importing countries (Figure 7).

FIGURE 3: Poultry meat production and consumption estimates in select countries 2019

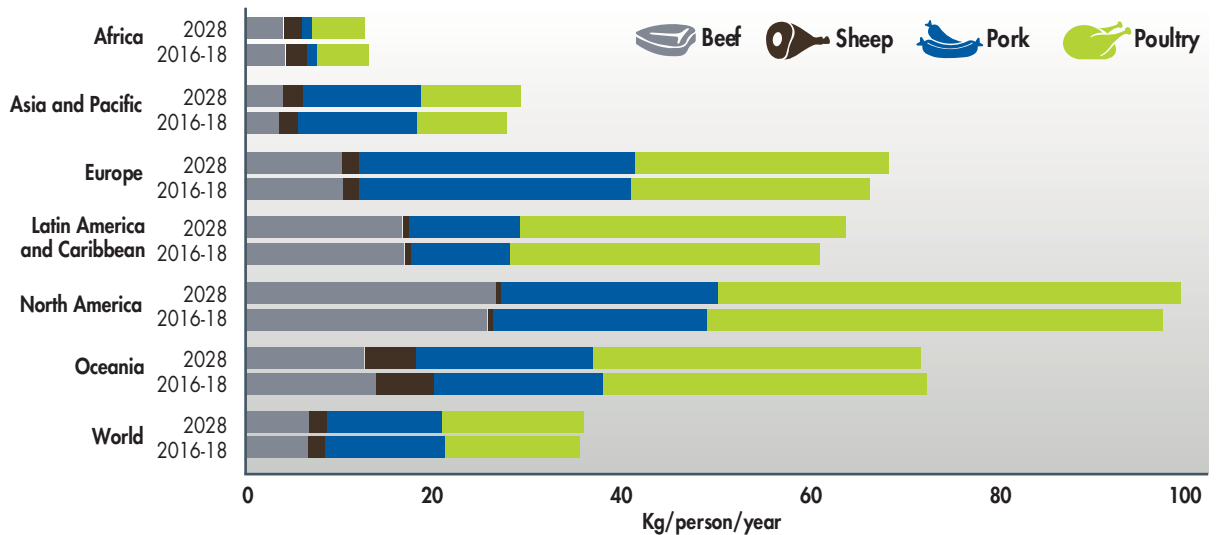
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Source: FAO Food Outlook May 2019

FIGURE 4: Per capita meat consumption worldwide by type 2028 vs. base period 2016-18

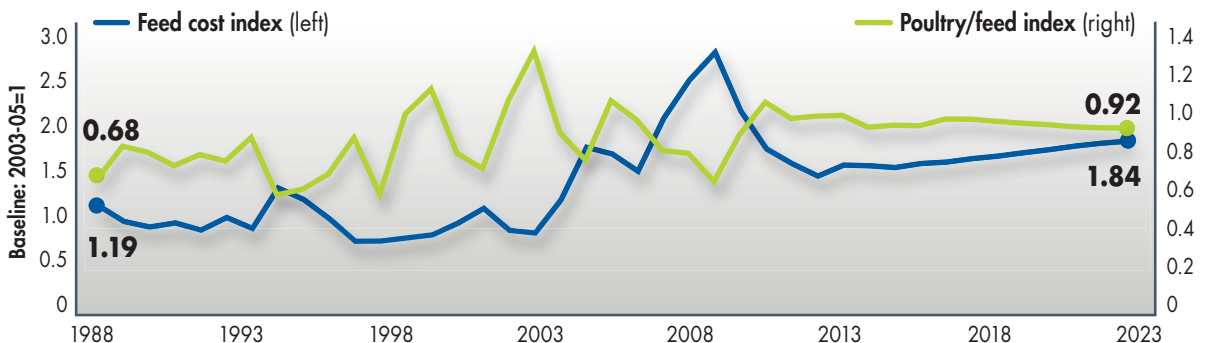
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Source: OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2019-28

FIGURE 5: Feed cost index and poultry-to-feed price ratio

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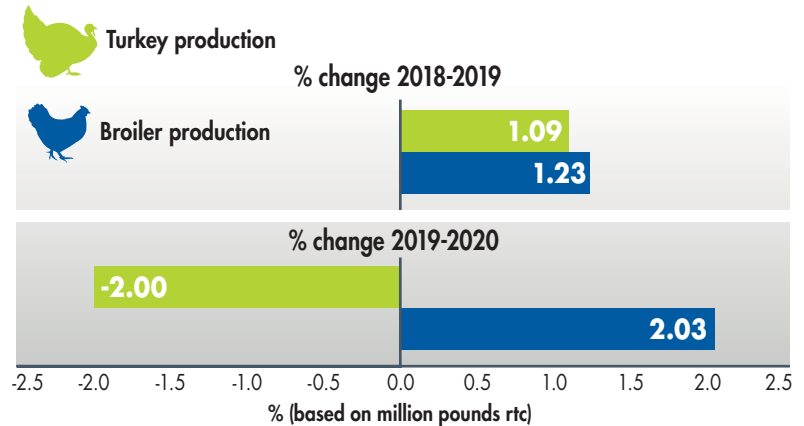


Source: OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2019-28

**WORLD POULTRY MEAT EXPORTS** are projected by FAO to expand **3.7% globally** in **2019**

FIGURE 6: Percent change in US broiler and turkey production 2018-20

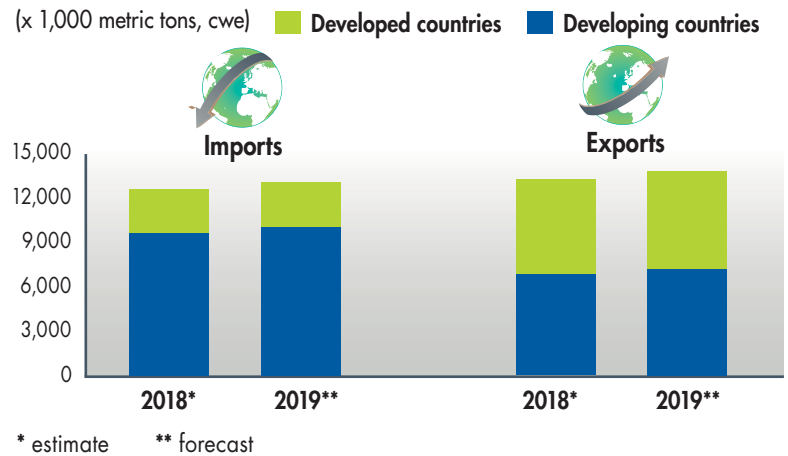
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Source: Adapted from USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, September 2019

FIGURE 7: Poultry meat trade in developing and developed countries 2018-19

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Source: FAO Food Outlook May 2019

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- Feed cost index and poultry-to-feed price ratio 1988-2028
- Per capita meat consumption worldwide by type 2016-18 vs. 2028
- Percent change in US broiler and turkey production 2018-20
- Poultry meat production and consumption estimates in select countries 2019
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- World balance for meats by type 2017-19
- World poultry meat market statistics 2018-19
- World poultry meat production trend 2004-19