

Outlook for the U.S. Livestock and Poultry Sectors in 2024

Presented By
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World Agricultural Outlook Board, USDA

USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum
February 16, 2024



Total Meat Production Fractionally Higher

Billion pounds	2022	2023	2024F	2023-24 % Change
Beef	28.291	26.963	26.185	-2.9
Pork	26.996	27.301	27.880	2.1
Broiler Meat	46.206	46.383	46.775	0.8
Turkey	5.222	5.455	5.395	-1.1
Total Red Meat & Poultry	107.469	106.858	106.986	0.1



Trade Dependent on Competitiveness

Billion pounds	2022	2023	2024F	2023-24 % Change
Exports				
Beef	3.544	3.038	2.785	-8.3
Pork	6.345	6.818	7.080	3.8
Broiler Meat	7.290	7.265	7.215	-0.7
Imports				
Beef	3.390	3.727	4.125	10.7
Pork	1.344	1.143	1.195	4.6



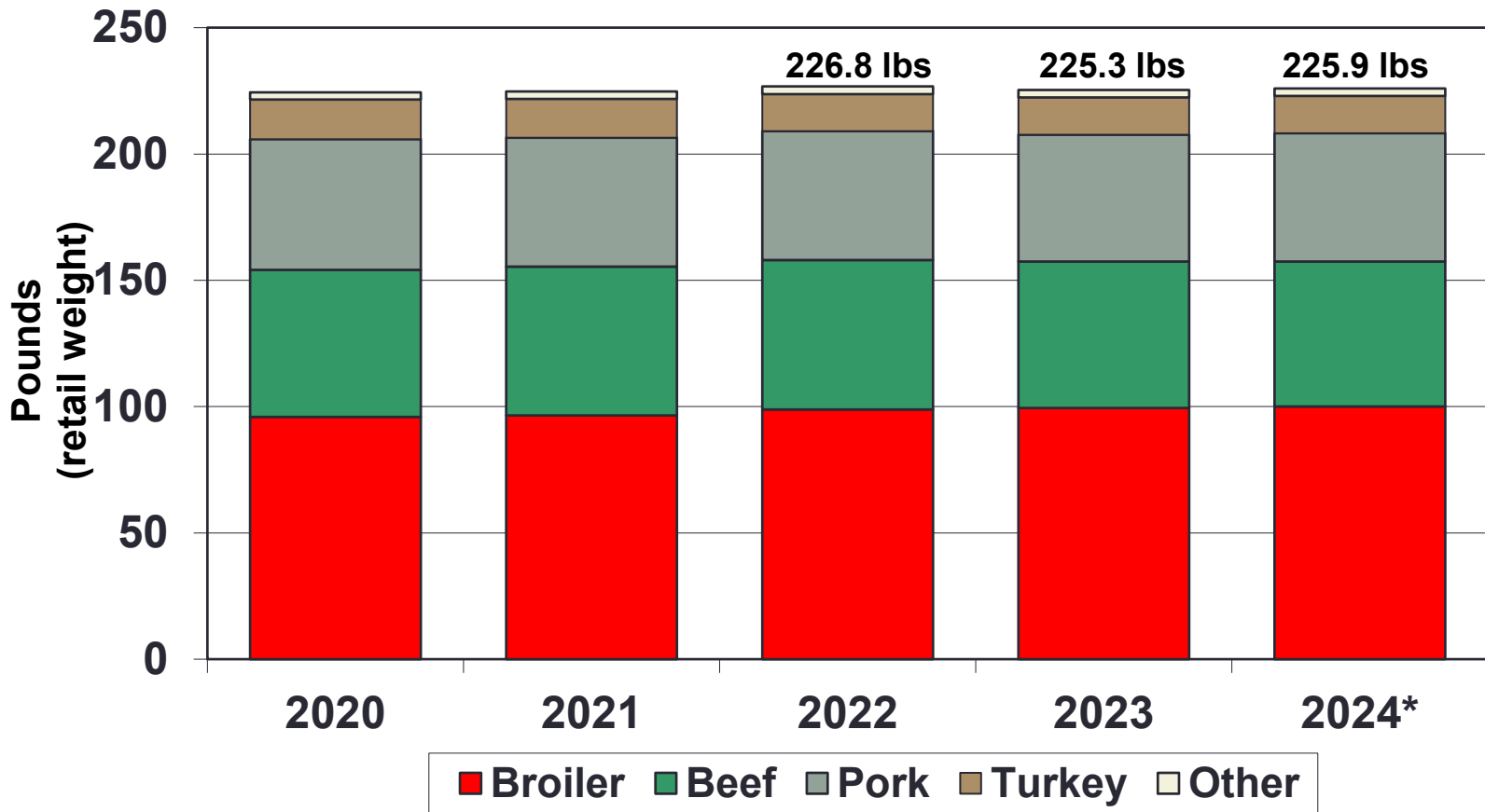
Source: USDA: WAOB

Livestock & Poultry Prices Mixed

	2022	2023	2024F	2023-24 % Change
Cattle, \$/cwt	\$144.40	\$175.54	\$180.0	2.5
Hogs, \$/cwt (live equiv.)	\$71.21	\$58.59	\$60.0	2.4
National Composite Broiler, \$/lb	\$1.41	\$1.24	\$1.27	2.1
Turkey, \$/lb	\$1.55	\$1.40	1.07	-23.6



Per Capita Domestic Disappearance Recovers Slightly



* Forecast



Situation Facing Livestock and Poultry Producers

Moderating Feed Prices

- Corn: \$4.80/bu in 2023/24
\$4.40/bu in 2024/25
- Soybean meal: \$380/ton in 2023/24
\$320/ton in 2024/25

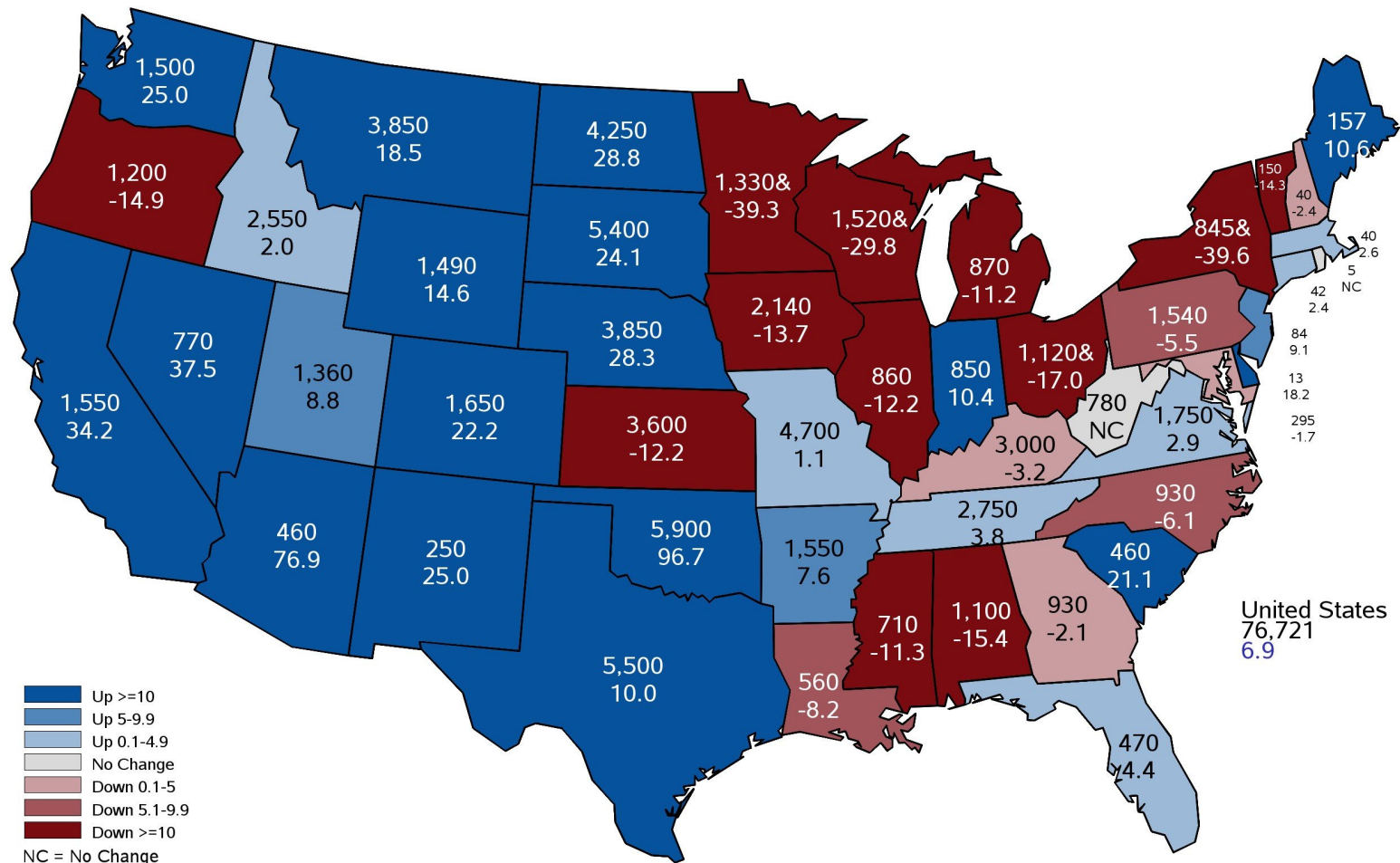
Forage Supplies Improving

- “Other” hay prices in second-half 2023 below 2022
- Dec 1 hay stocks 7 percent higher
- Drought area diminishing



December 2023 Hay Stocks

1,000 Tons and Percent Change from 2022



- Up >=10
- Up 5-9.9
- Up 0.1-4.9
- No Change
- Down 0.1-5
- Down 5.1-9.9
- Down >=10

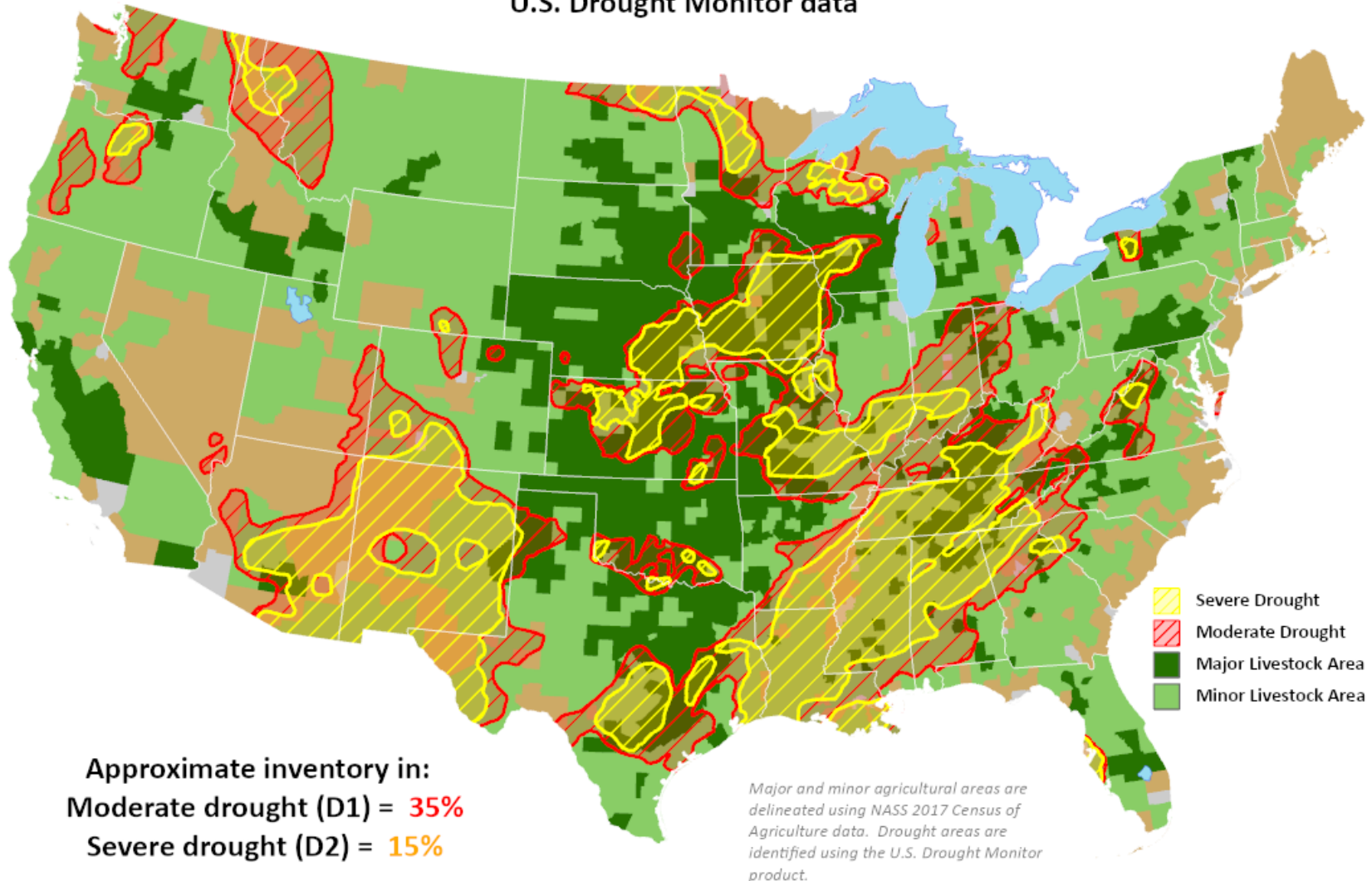
NC = No Change
 # = Record High
 & = Record Low



Source: US Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service

Cattle Areas in Drought

Reflects **January 2, 2024**
U.S. Drought Monitor data

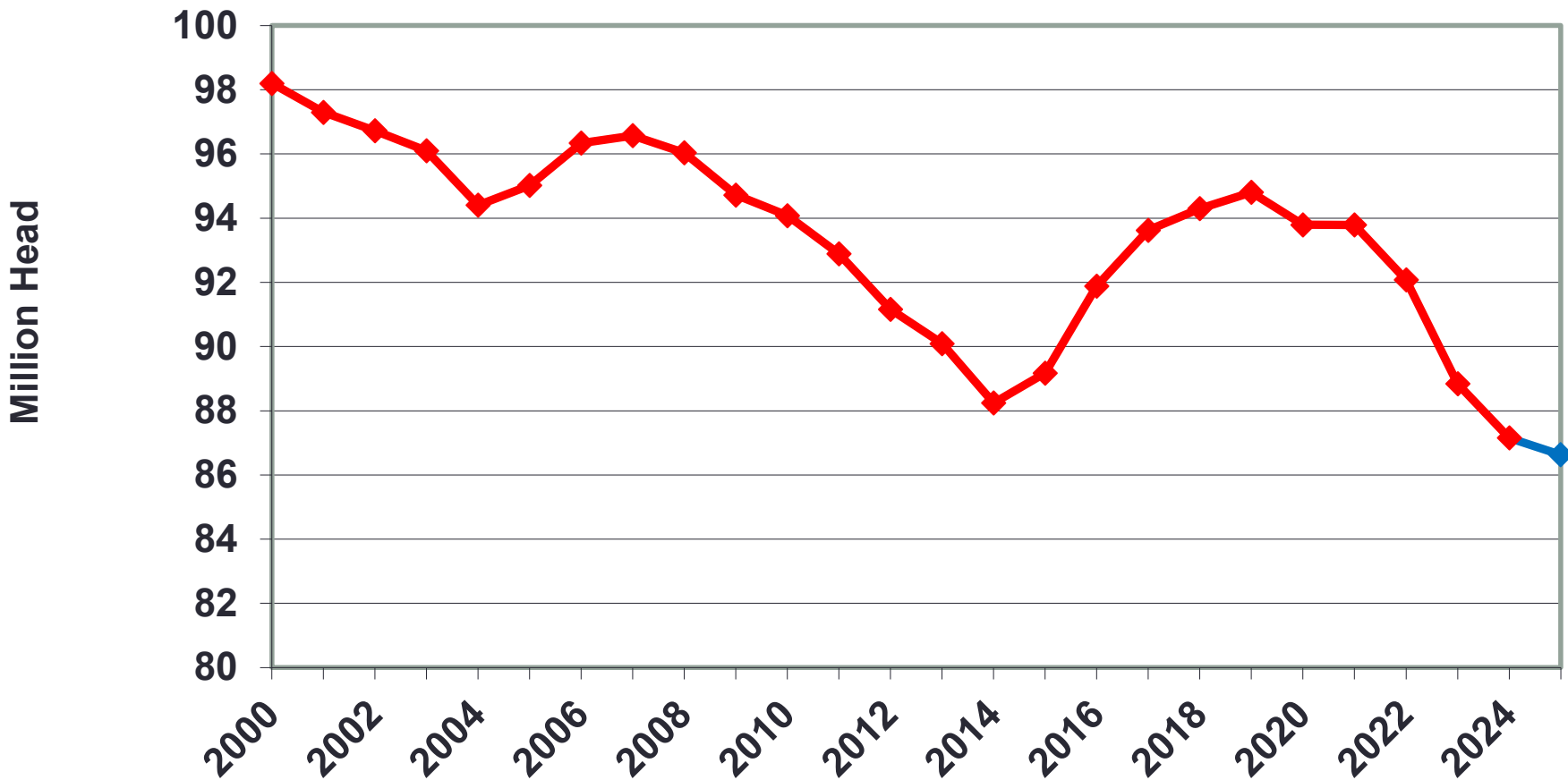


Factors Driving the U.S. Forecasts:

- Cattle –Herd Contraction Continues
 - January 1 cattle inventory down 2 percent
 - Beef cow numbers down 2 percent
 - Heifers for beef cow replacement 1 percent lower

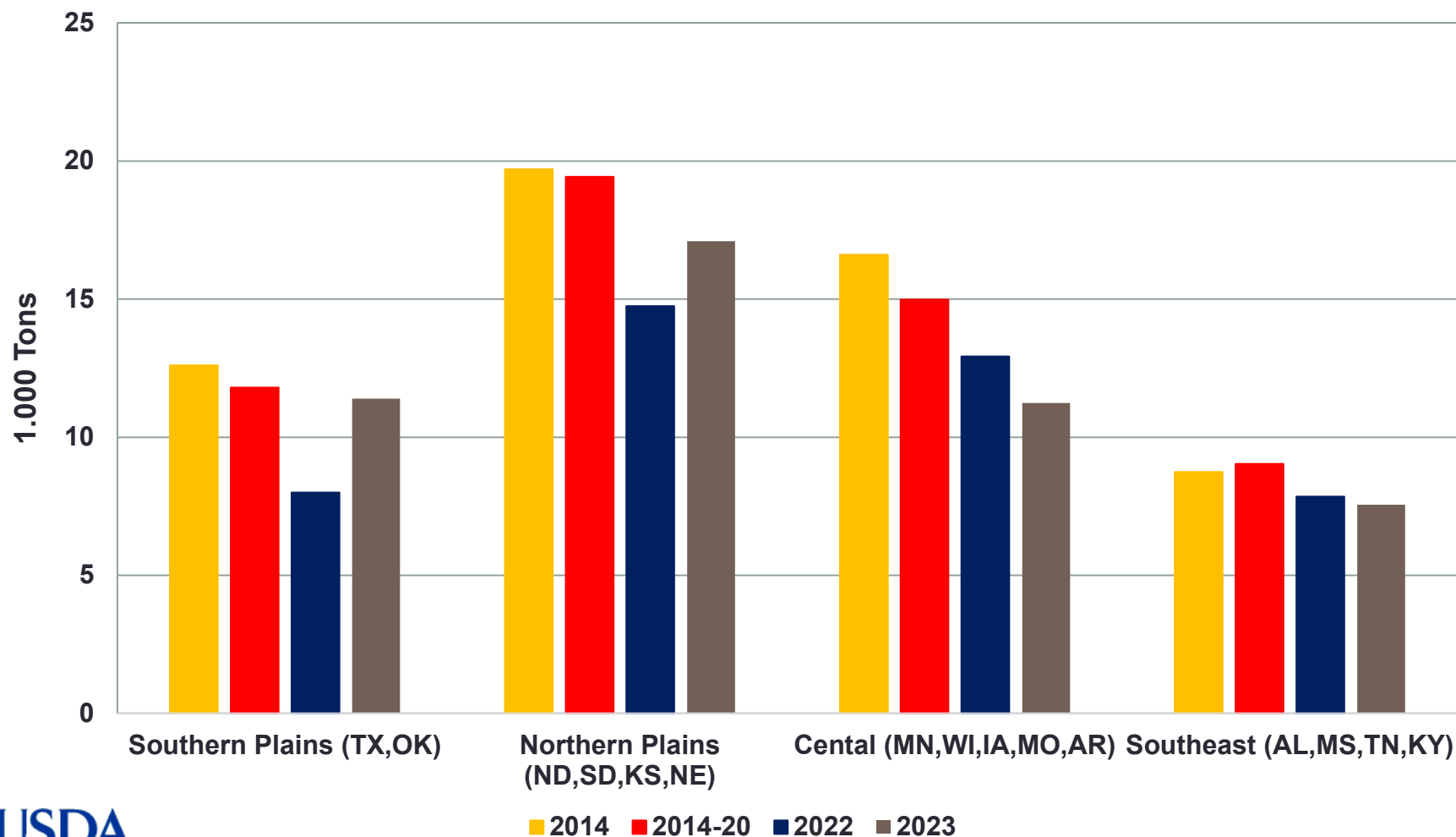


Cattle Herd at 87.2 Million on Jan 1, 2024 Further Decline Likely



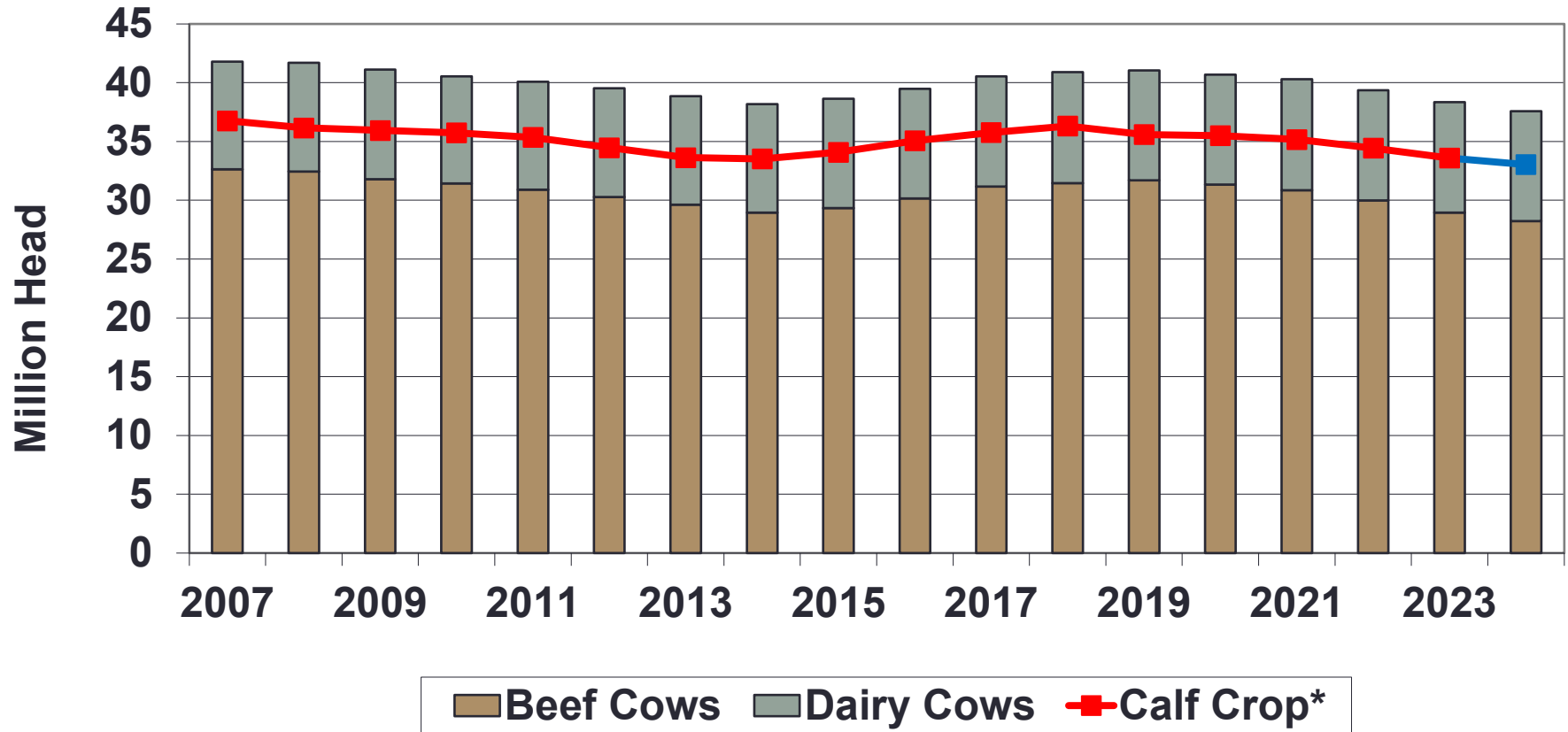
Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB

December 1 Hay Stocks Remain Below Historical Averages



Source: USDA: NASS

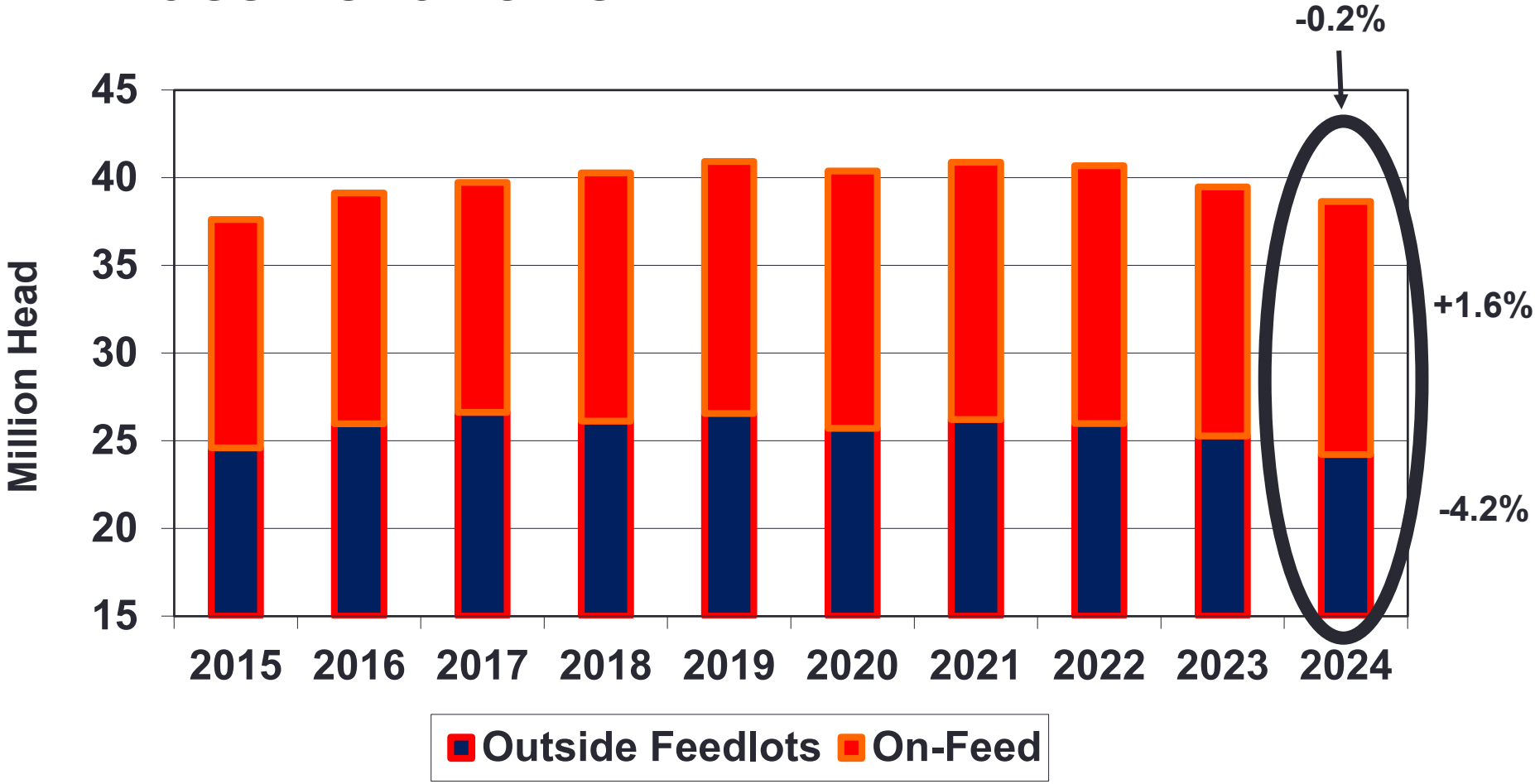
Beef Cow Herd, Calf Crop Smaller



* 2024 Calf Crop Forecast

Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB

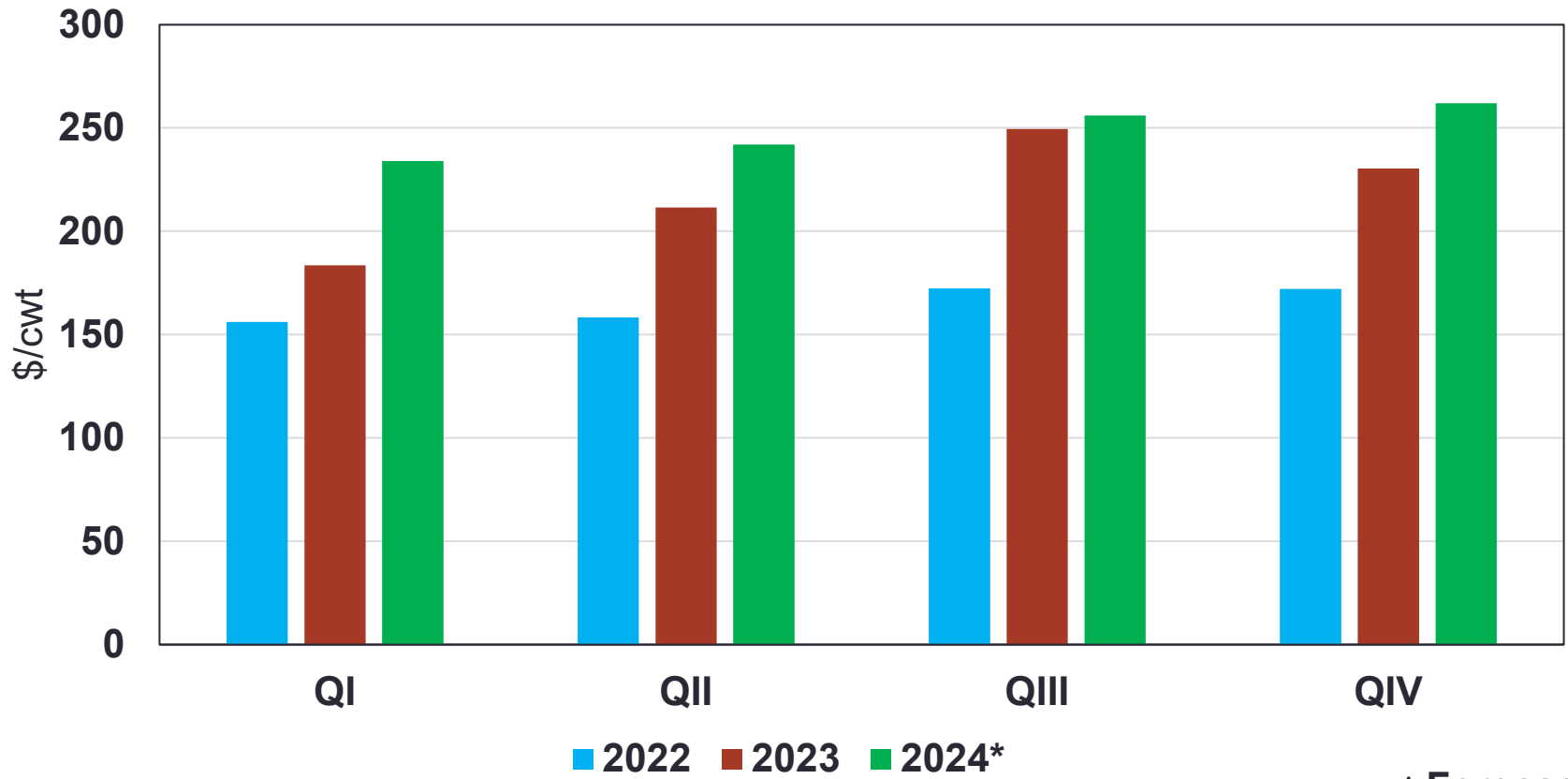
Cattle on Feed Higher, Available for Placement Lower



Source: USDA: NASS

Feeder Calf Prices Will Be Record High in 2024

750-800 lb Feeder Steers, Oklahoma City



* Forecast



Source: USDA: AMS, WAOB

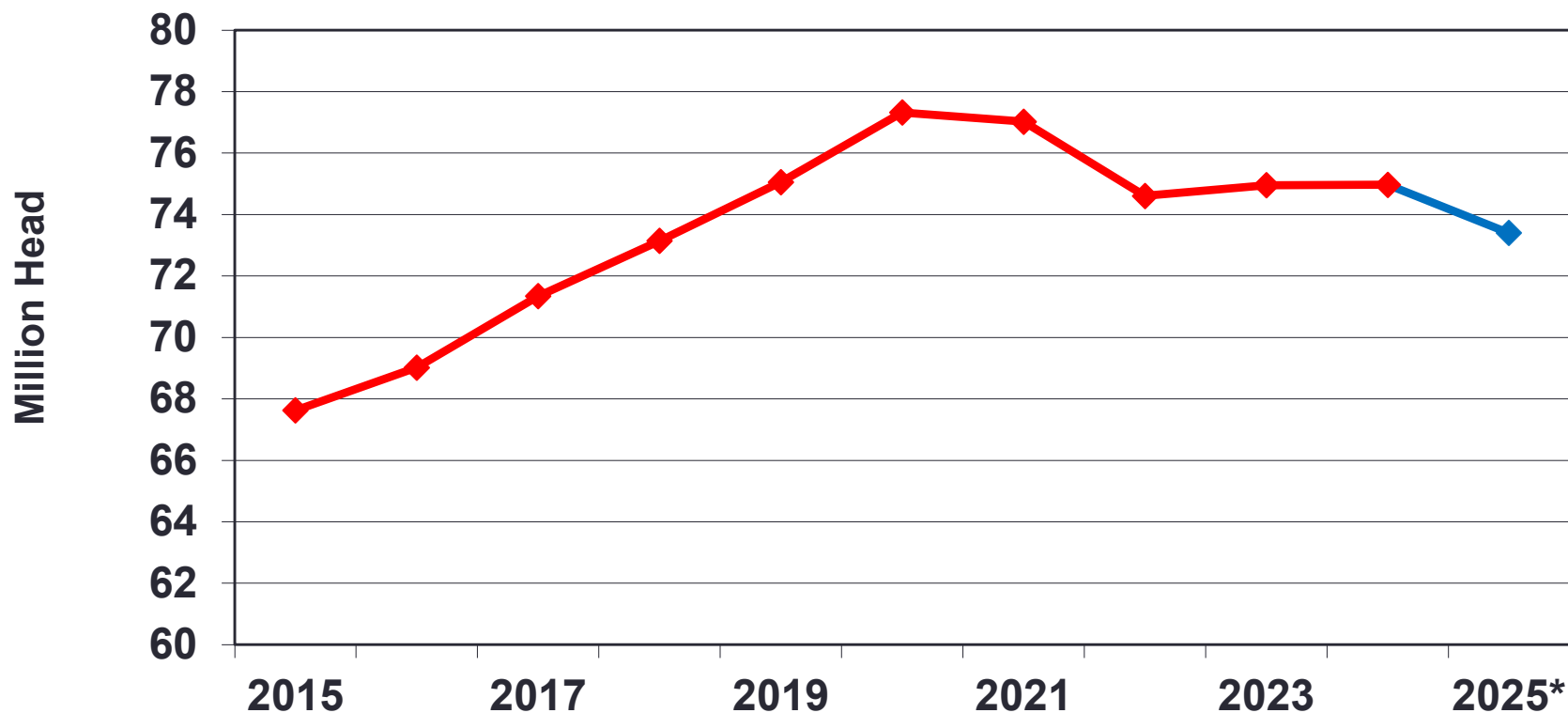
Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Hogs – Inventory Smaller
 - **Producers Retrenching**



Hog Inventory Rose to 75.0 Million Head on December 1, 2023

Inventory on December 1, Preceding Year

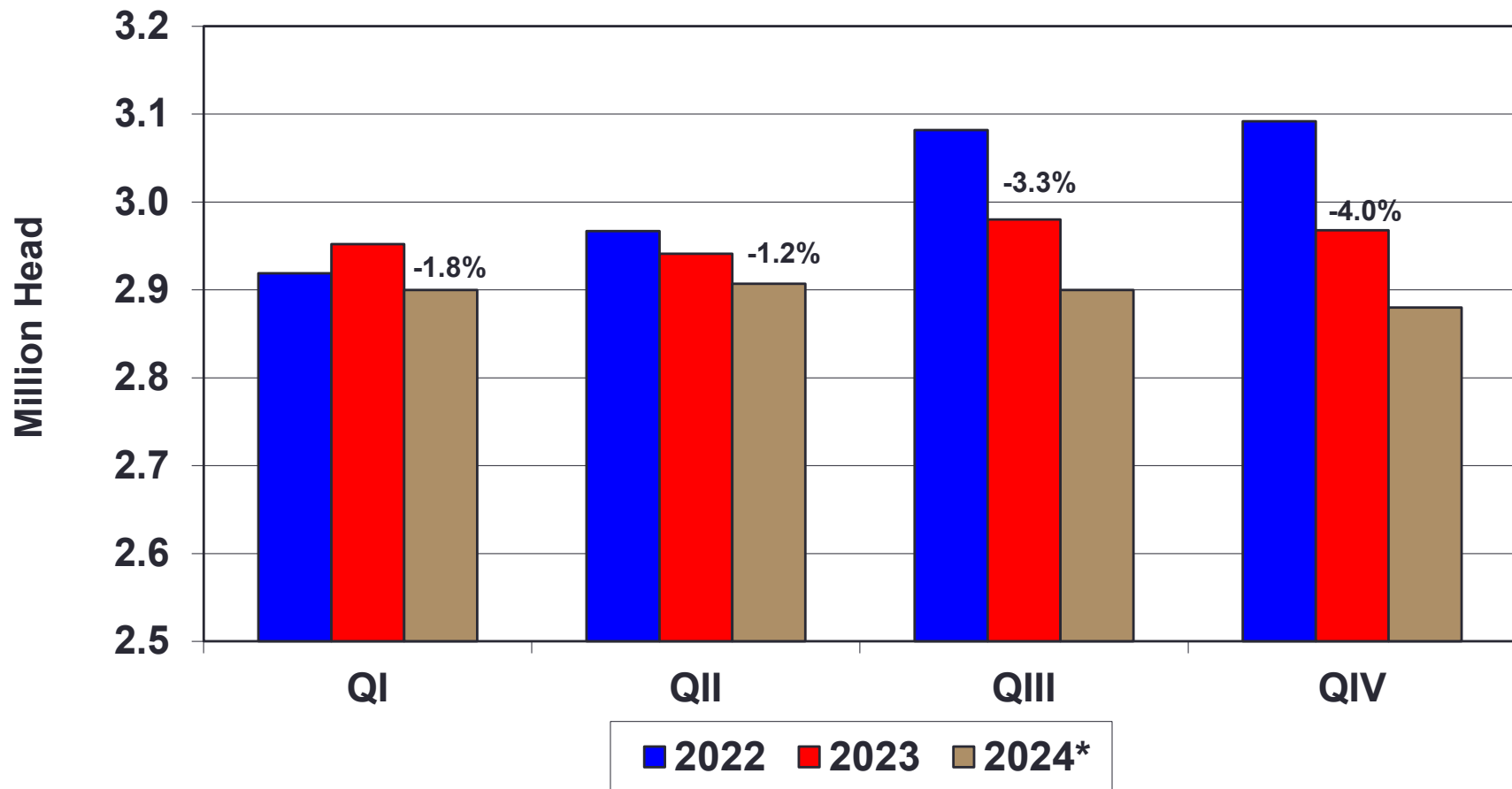


* Forecast

Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB



2023-24 Stated Farrowing Cuts Reflect Weak Returns



*QI & QII Reported Intentions
QIII & QIV Forecast

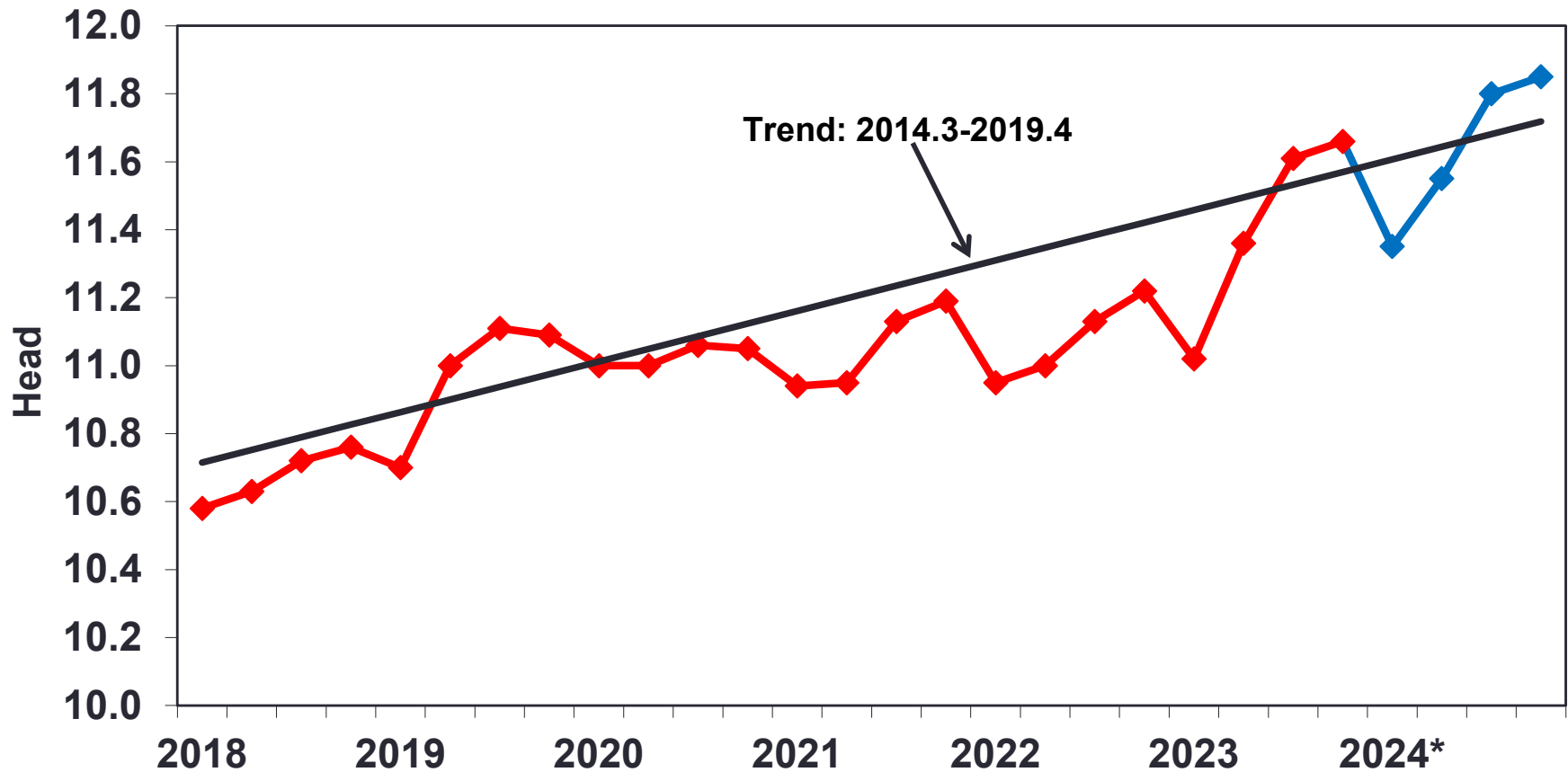
Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB



Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Hogs – Inventory Smaller
 - Producers Retrenching
 - **But Growth in Pigs per Litter Higher**

Pigs per Litter Back to Pre-Covid Trend



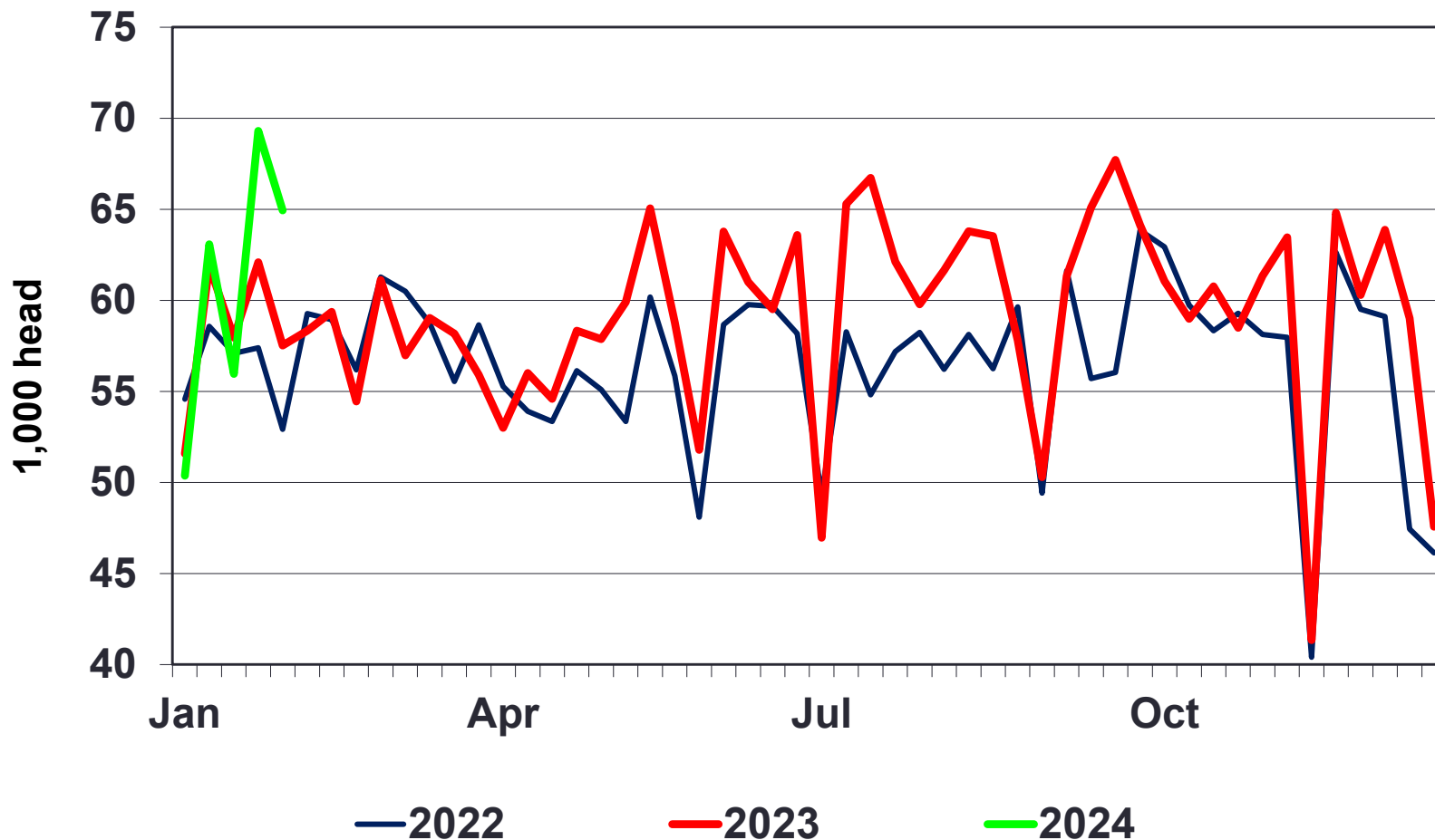
* Forecast



Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB

Right-Sizing the Breeding Herd?

Weekly Sow and Boar Slaughter Less Imports from Canada

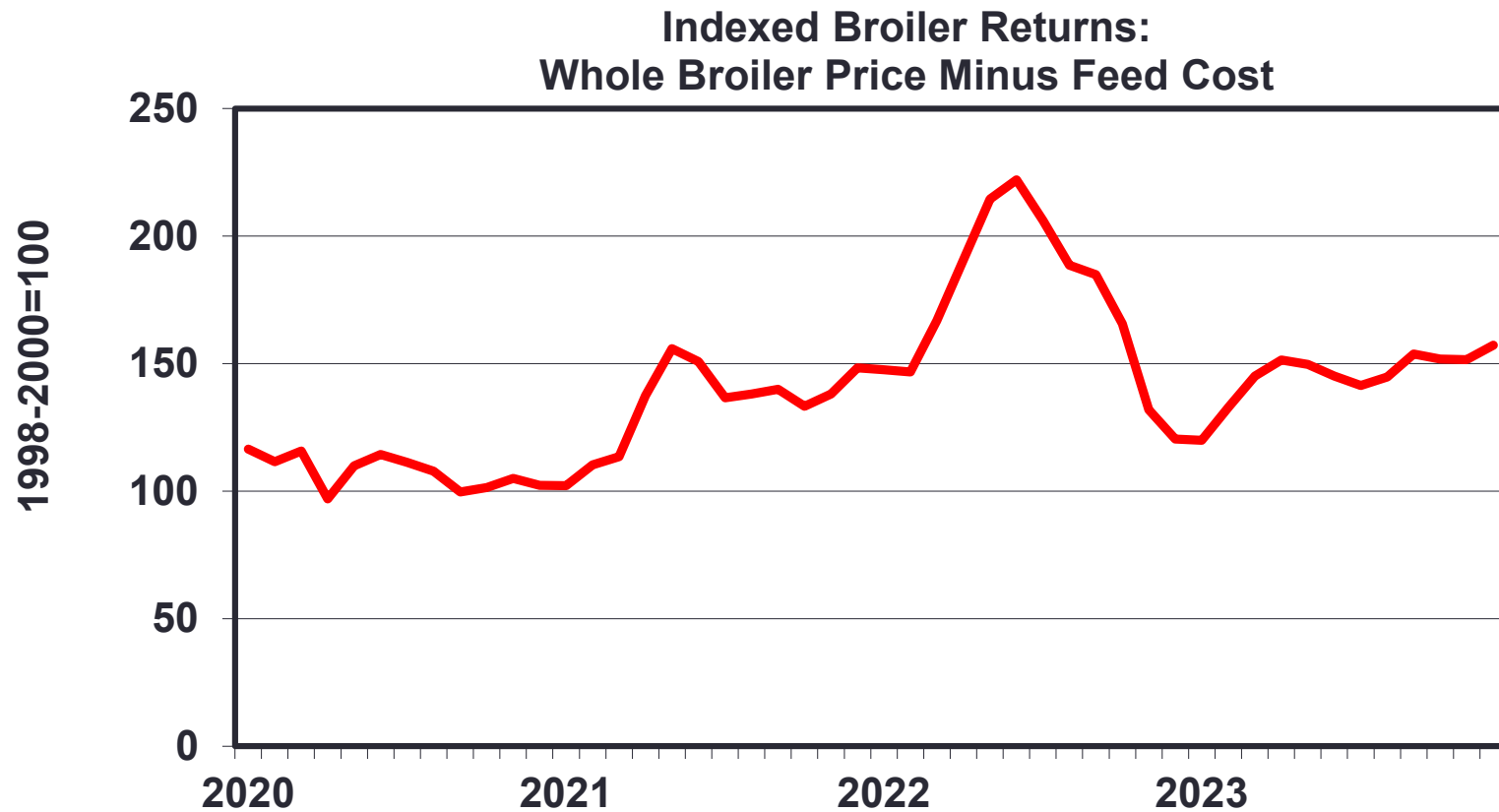


Source: USDA: Agricultural Marketing Service

Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- **Broilers – Sector Slowly Expanding**

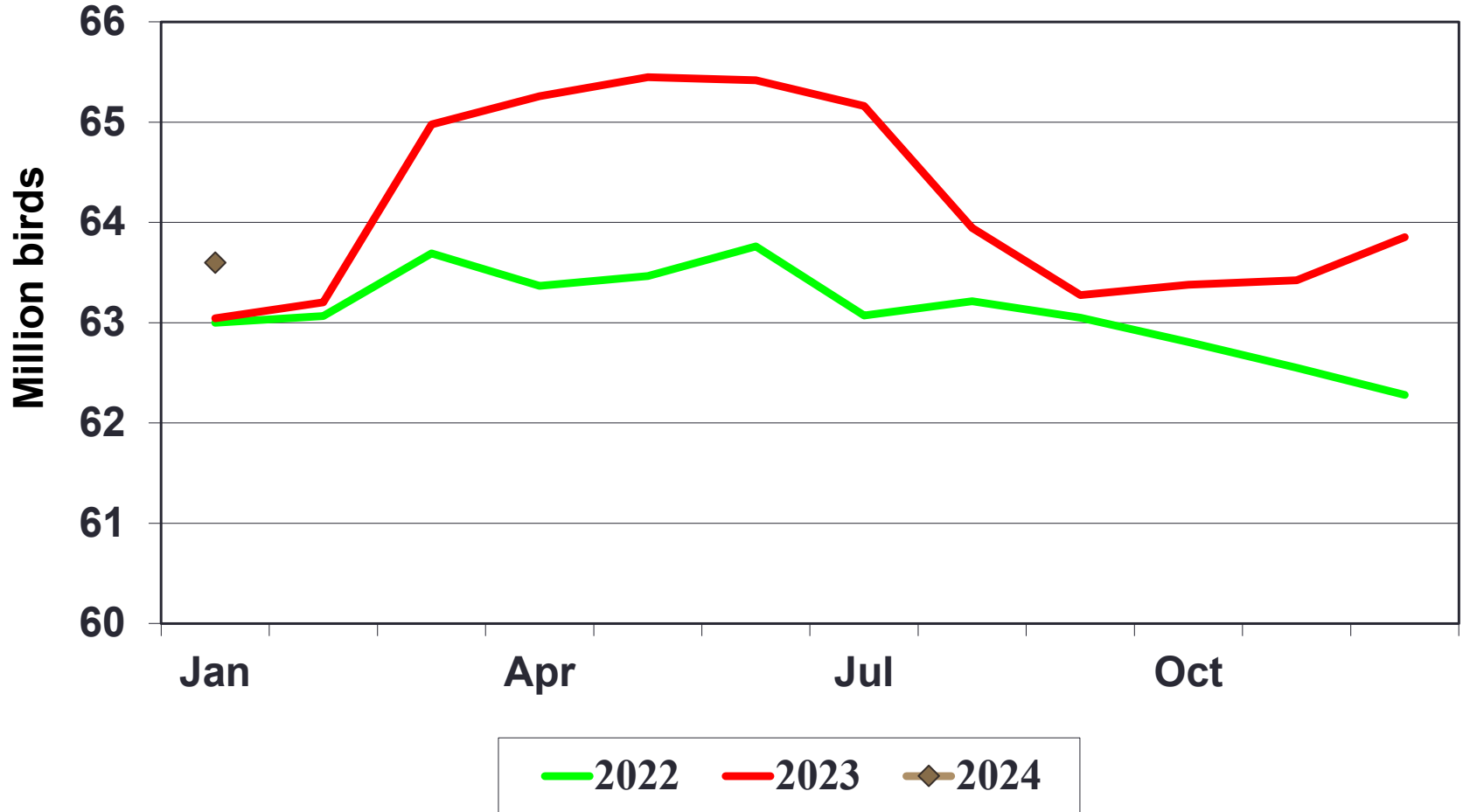
Broiler Returns Improving



Source: USDA: Economic Research Service

Broiler Laying Flock Gradually Rebuilding

Broiler-Type Layers, First of Month

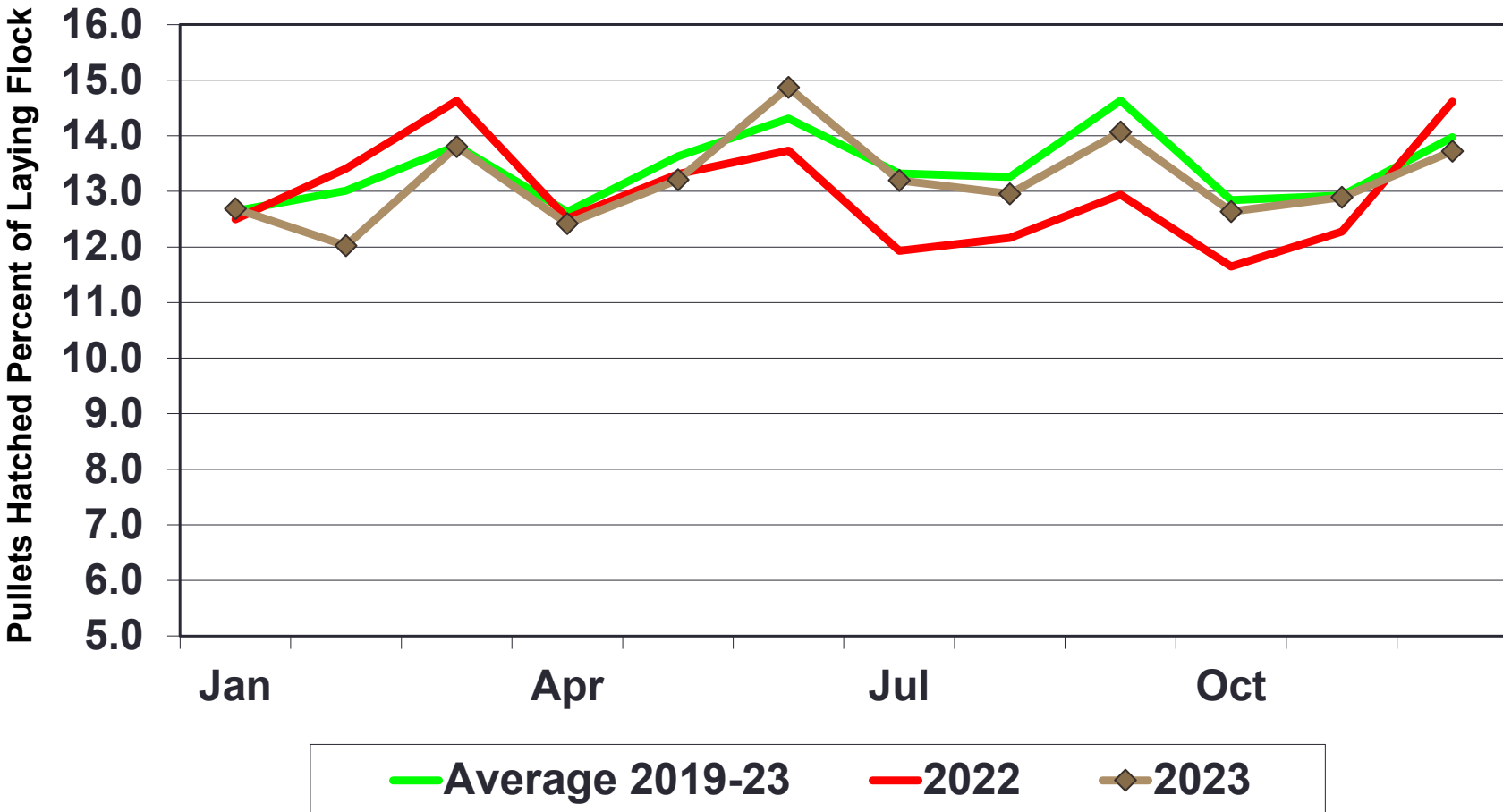


Source: USDA: NASS

Factors Driving the Forecasts:

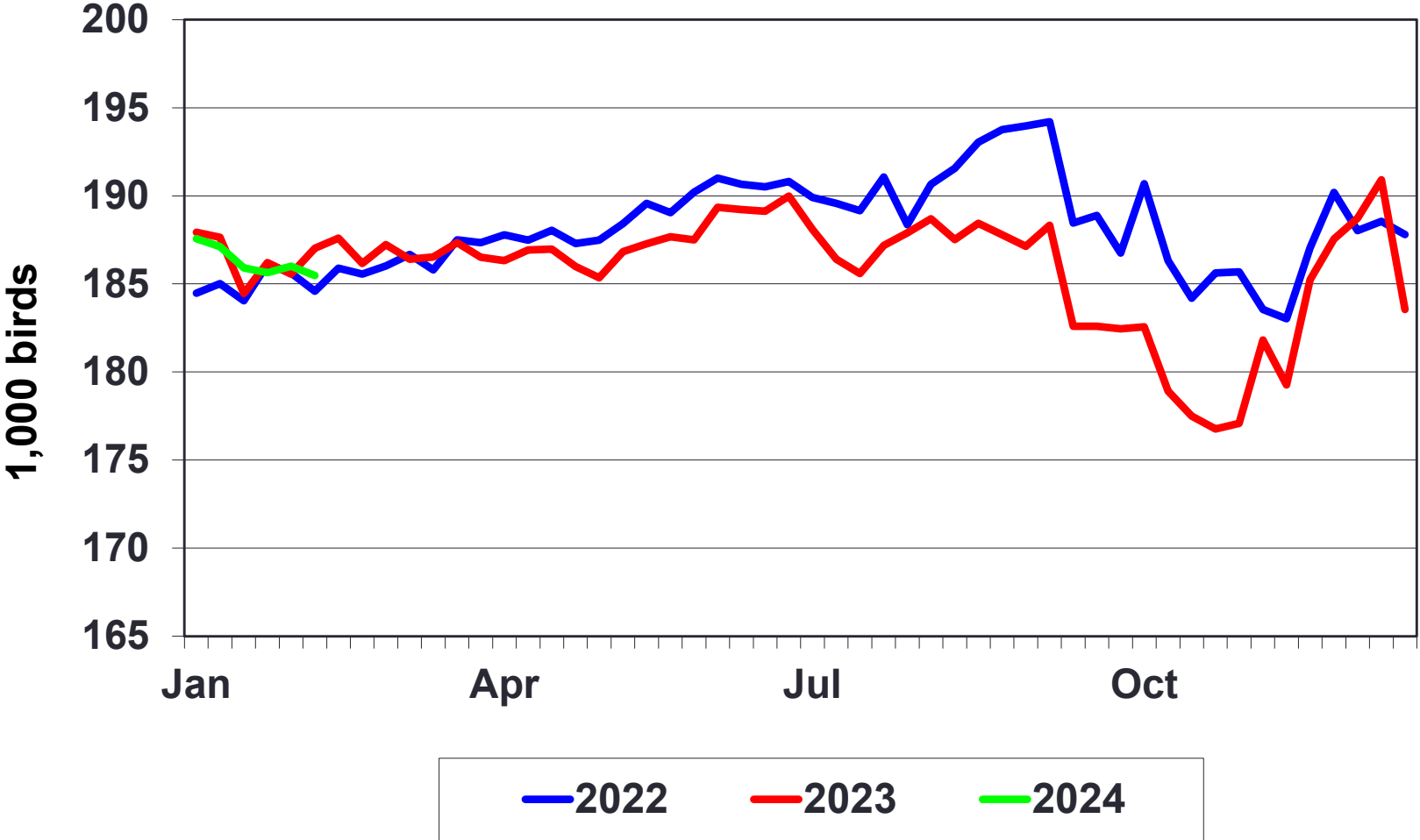
- Broilers – Sector Slowly Expanding
- **Current Expansion Limited**

Broiler Pullets Hatched as Proportion of Layers Close to Historical Levels



Source: USDA: NASS

Early-Year Chick Placements Close to Prior Years

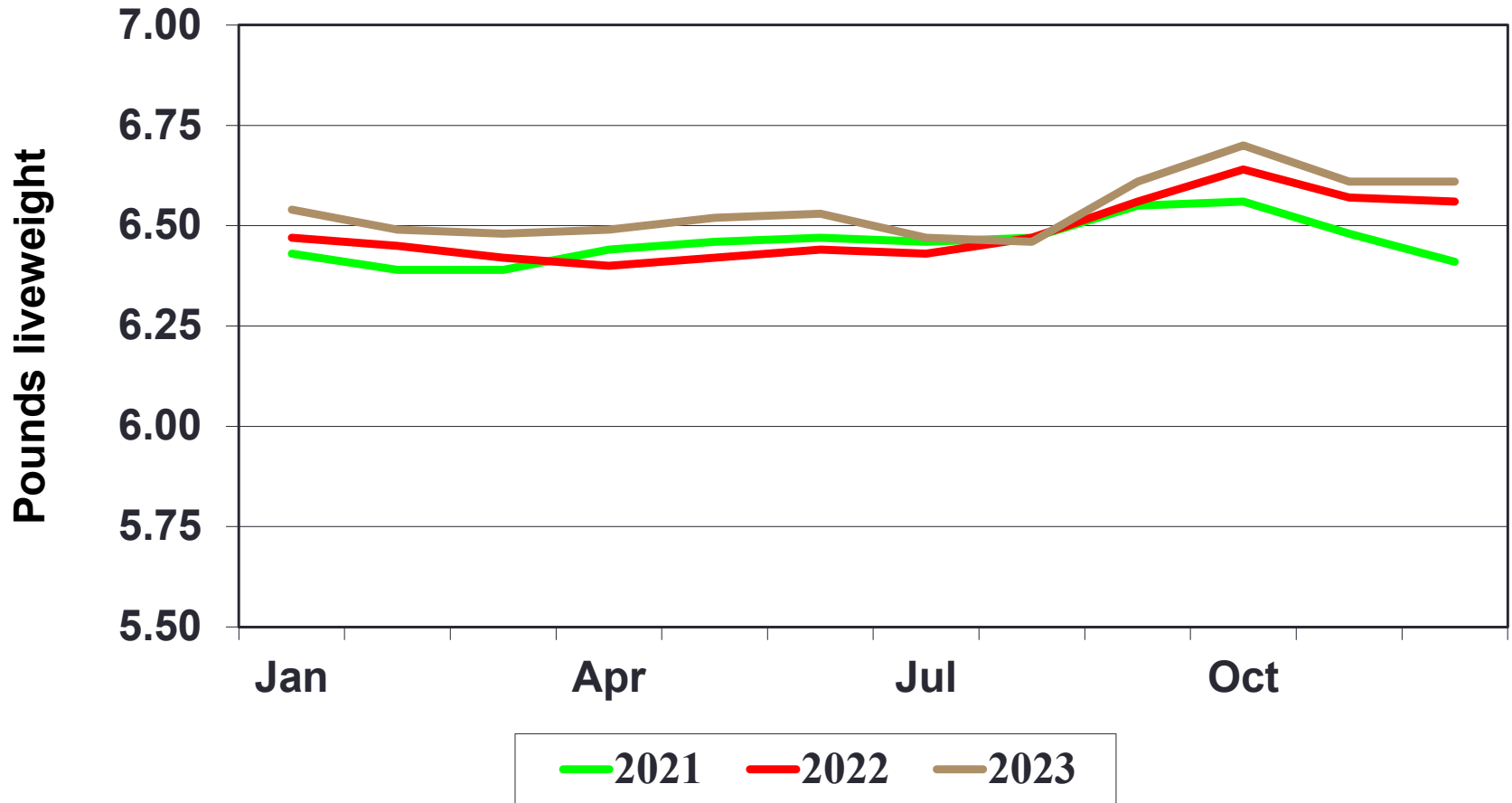


Source: USDA: NASS

Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Broilers – Sector Slowly Expanding
- Current Expansion Limited
- **Bird Weights Increasing Gradually**

Broiler Weight Growth Slowed

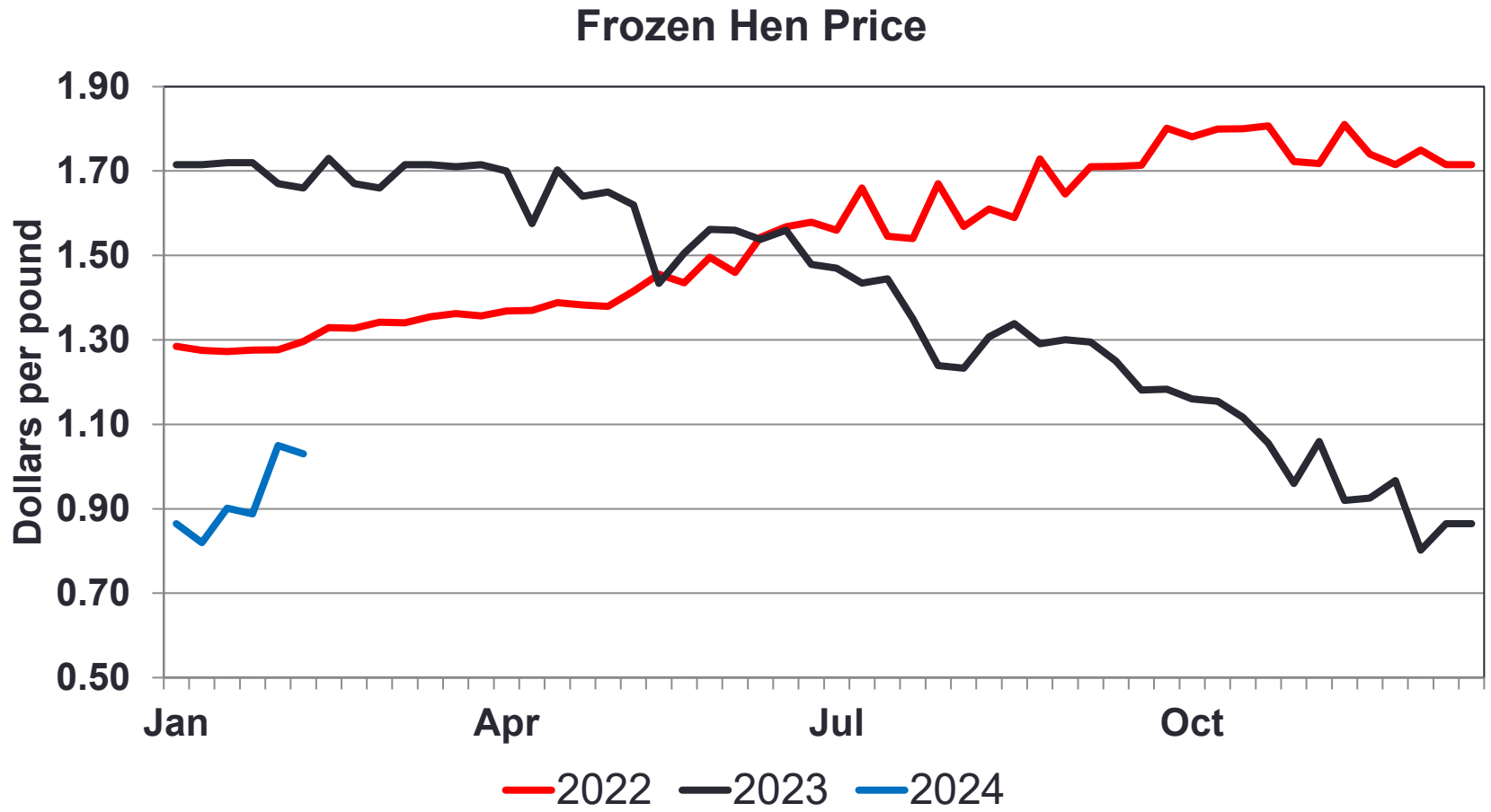


Source: USDA: NASS

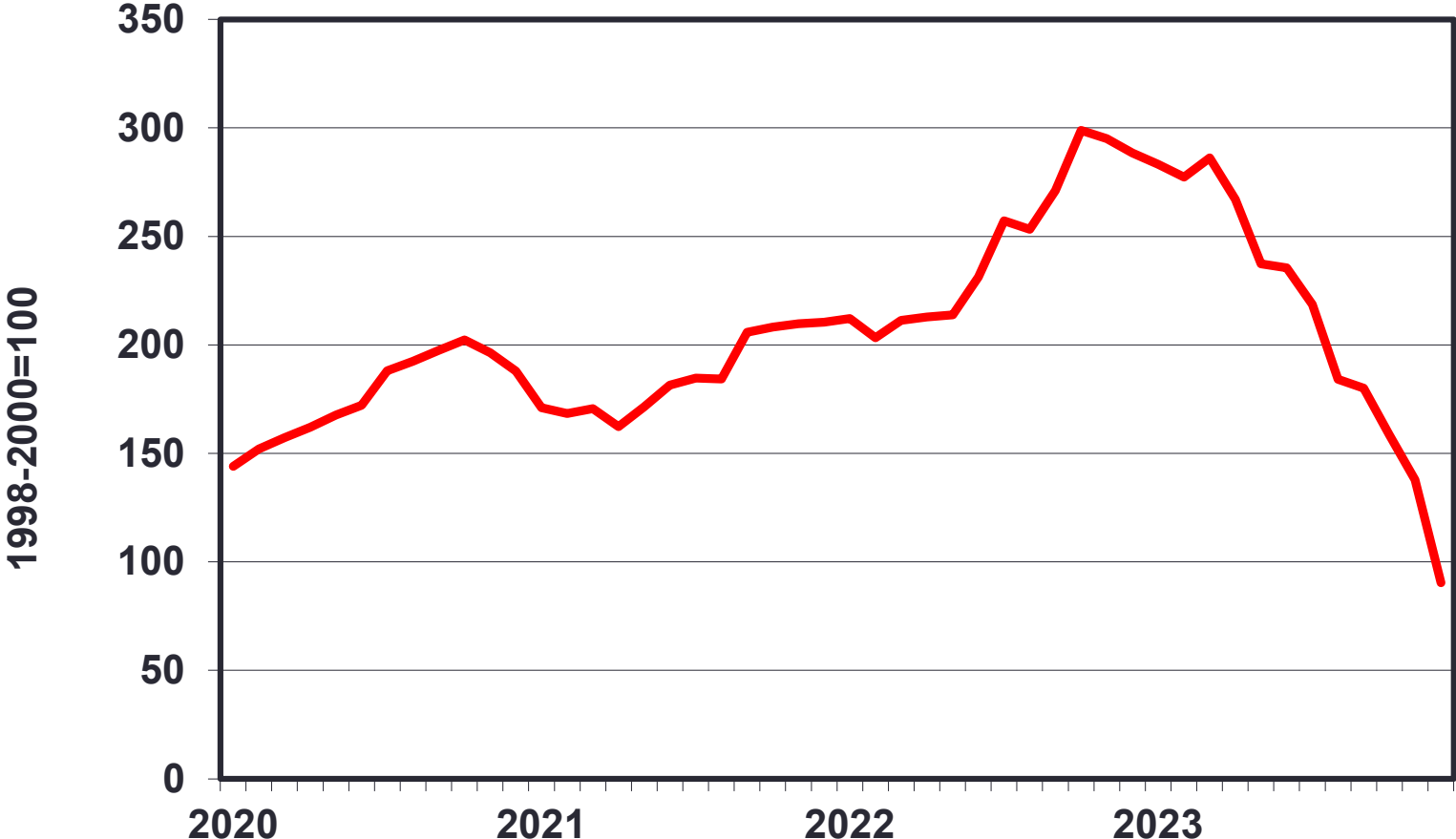
Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Turkey – Market is Facing Residual Impacts of HPAI Discoveries and Weak Demand
 - **Prices Are Weak; Outweighing Lower Feed Prices**

Turkey Prices Moved Counter-seasonally Lower in 2023



Indexed Turkey Returns: Frozen Hen Price Minus Feed Cost



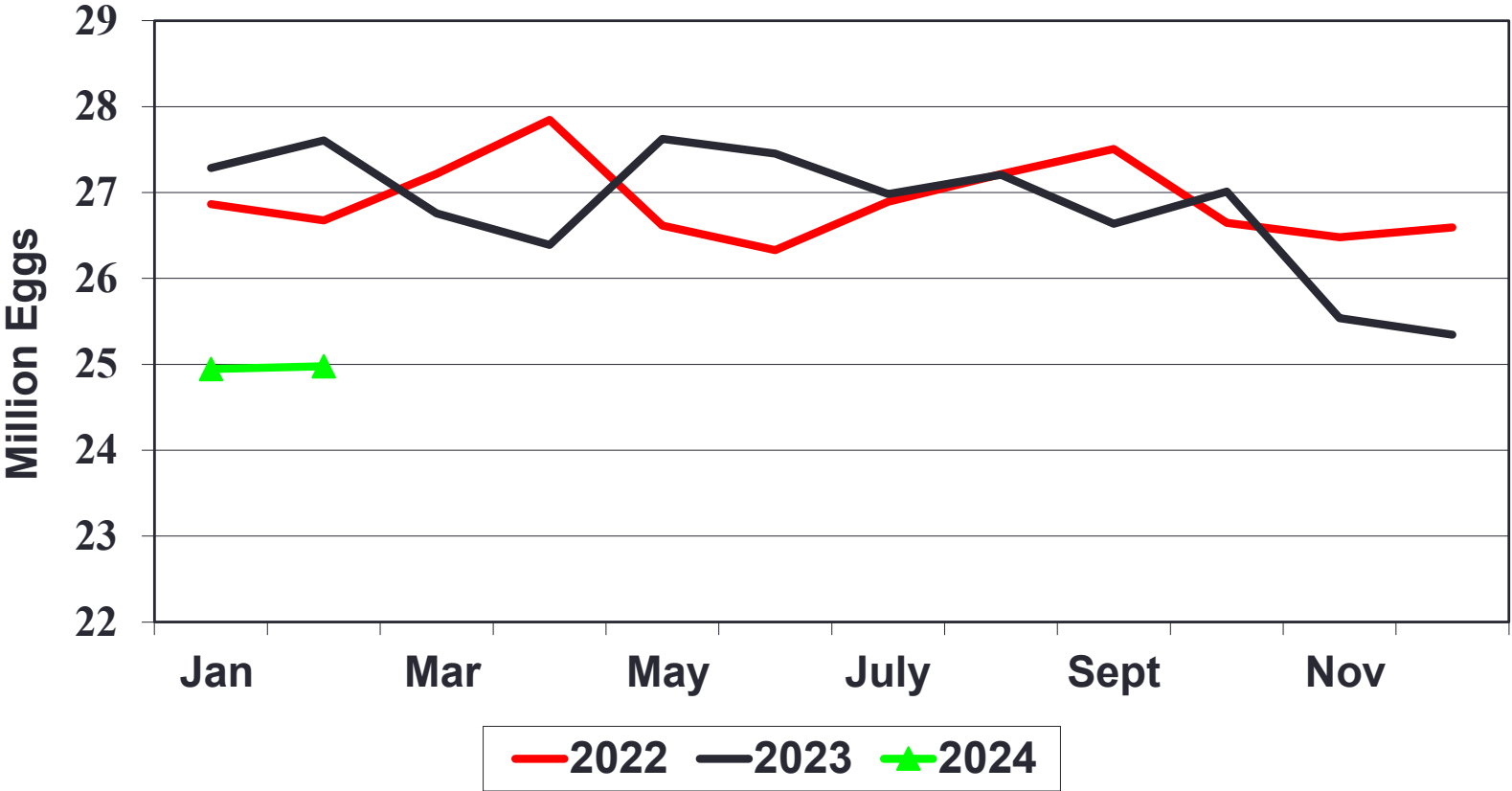
Source: USDA: Economic Research Service

Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Turkey – Market is Facing Weak Demand
 - Prices Are Weak; Outweighing Lower Feed Prices
 - **Bird Numbers Lower at Start of Year**

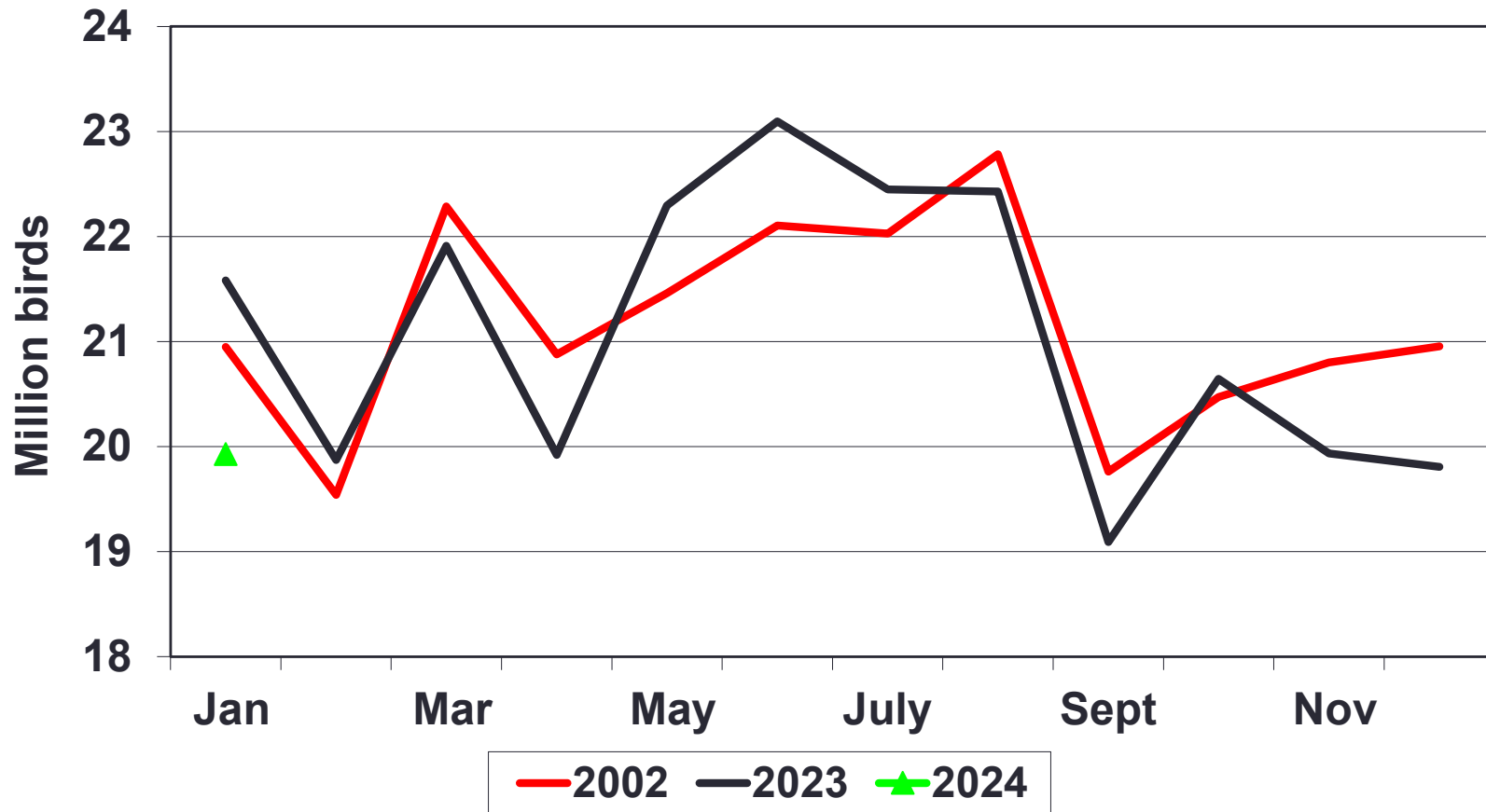
HPAI and Response to Weak Demand Reflected in Reduced Bird Numbers

Eggs in Incubators, First of Month



Source: USDA: NASS

Smaller Poult Placements Followed



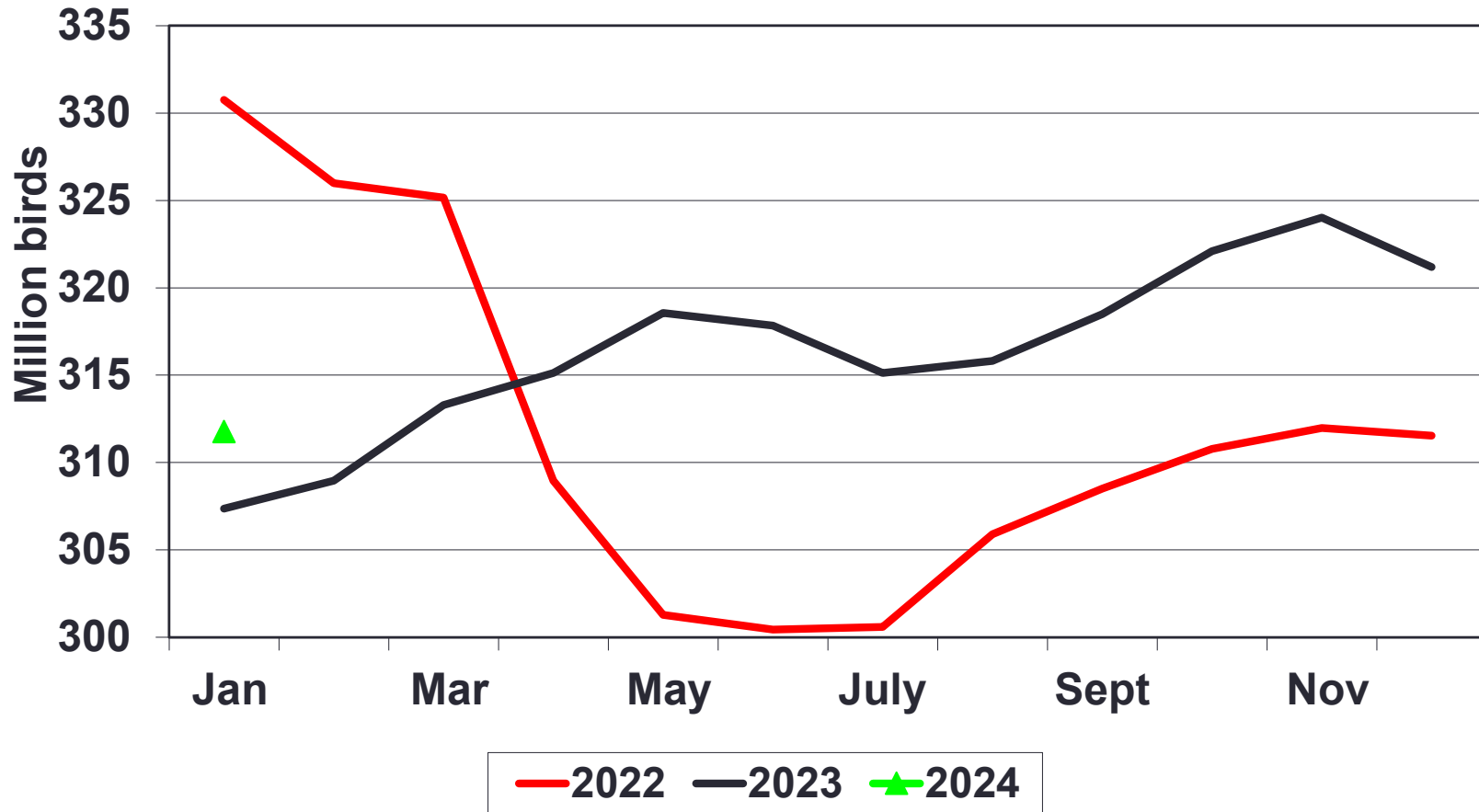
Source: USDA: NASS

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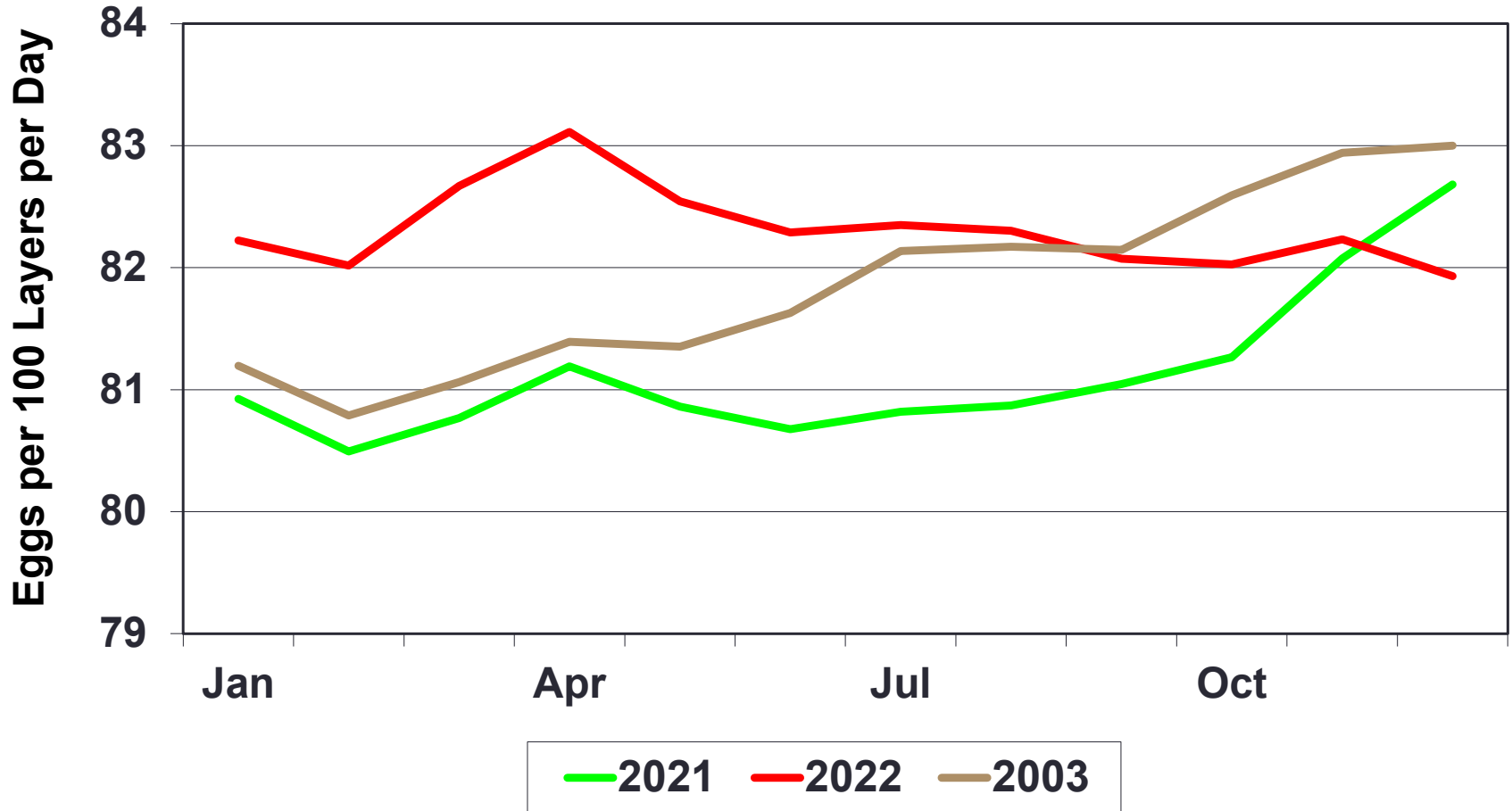
- Eggs – Impacted by HPIA in 2023
 - **Laying Flock Impacted and Pullets Lost to HPAI**

Egg Laying Flock Higher at Start of 2024

Table Egg Layers, First of Month

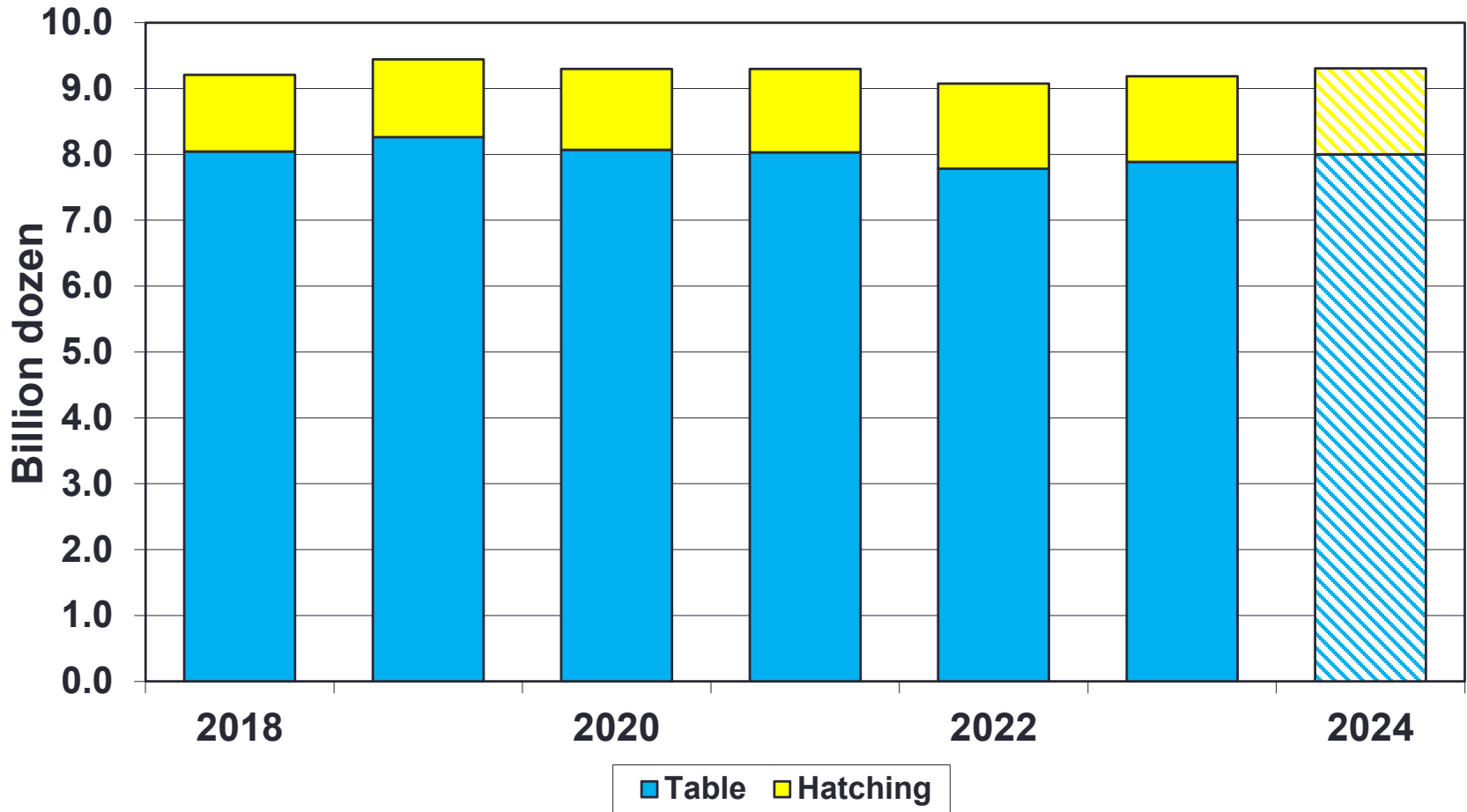


Egg per Layer Gains Helping Boost Supplies



Source: USDA: NASS

Egg Production Will Increase Slightly



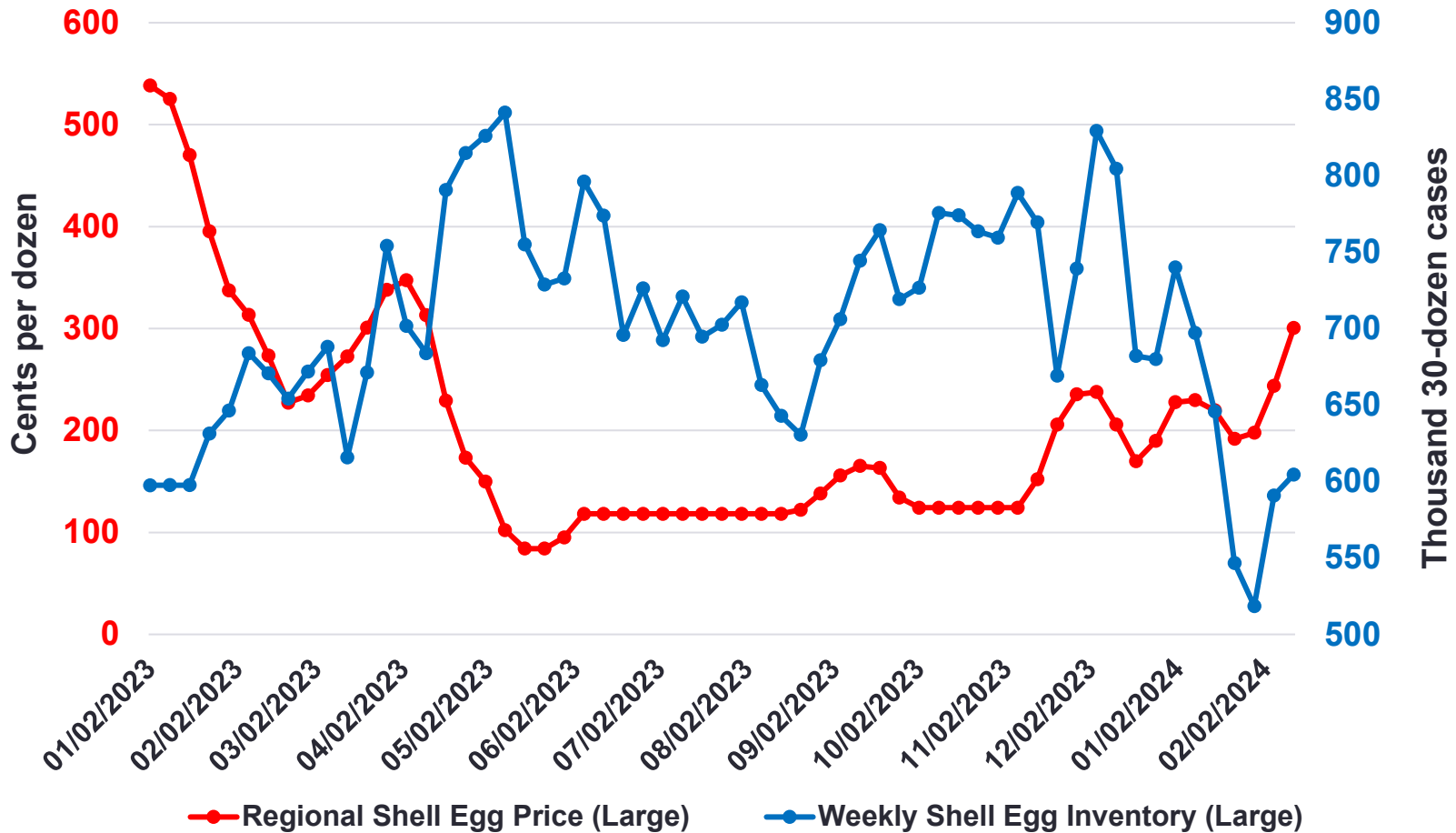
*Forecast

Source: USDA: NASS, WAOB

Factors Driving the Forecasts:

- Eggs – Impacted by HPAI in 2023
 - Laying Flock Impacted and Pullets Lost to HPAI
 - **Egg Prices Have Been Volatile**

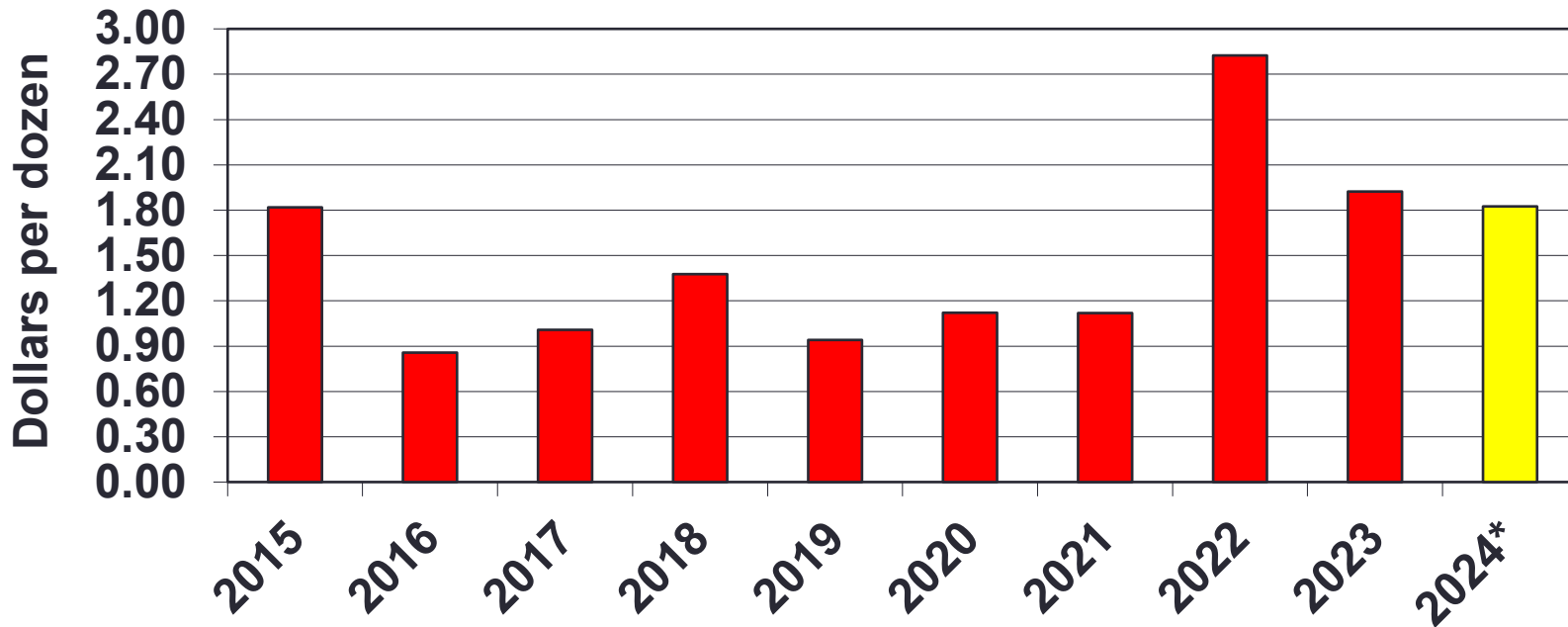
Weekly Egg Prices Reflected Supply Tightness, Especially at Holiday Periods



Source: USDA: AMS

Egg Prices Will Average \$1.83 per Dozen in 2024

N.Y. Wholesale Price - Large Eggs



* Forecast



Source: USDA: AMS, WAOB

Additional information about the USDA outlook is available at the following websites:

- World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB)
World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates
[World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates](#)
- Economic Research Service (ERS)
Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Situation and Outlook
[Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Situation and Outlook](#)
- Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade
[Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade](#)

