

The logo features a green circle containing a white egg shape with a black line graph showing an upward trend.

Egg Track 2023 Report



© iStockphoto

COMPASSION
in world farming



Food Business

EGGTRACK BACKGROUND

Awareness of food and its origins has become increasingly important to consumers over the last decade due to concerns about animal welfare, human health and the environment. As the demand for higher welfare and more sustainable food choices has increased, the humane treatment of farmed animals is something that companies are increasingly investing in, and we have witnessed a rise in companies both committing to and transitioning towards cage-free egg production.

Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) launched EggTrack seven years ago to monitor the progress companies are making towards their cage-free egg commitments, encouraging transparency and market transition.

Making a cage-free commitment is the first and important step, but the real impact for laying hens comes when companies progress the transition and meet their commitments. By tracking company progress year on year, EggTrack

identifies leaders and laggards, encourages and reinforces transparency, and serves as a platform for deeper engagement with Compassion's Food Business team.

Initially the scope of recording cage-free commitments was confined to the USA and Europe, but in 2022, we also included commitments and subsequent reporting in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. We will consider further geographic expansion as companies make and report on additional commitments.



© Compassion in World Farming

EGGTRACK 2023

This year, the format of the EggTrack report has been updated to provide a more concise summary of company trends across regions and sectors. The summary outlines key statistics from this year's progress reporting, however, interested parties can view a more in-depth analysis at www.eggtrack.com

Additionally, we hosted a webinar detailing the outcomes of EggTrack 2023, and you can also watch the recording of this at www.eggtrack.com



EggTrack 2023 monitors the progress of 715 cage-free commitments across 444 companies. There are 511 (71%) commitments reporting on progress, and overall, there is a 75% transition to cage free.



715

COMMITMENTS
across 444 companies
recorded in EggTrack
2023



511

COMMITMENTS
REPORTING
on progress



75%

AVERAGE
TRANSITION
to cage free

“*The voluntary commitments and continued progress highlighted throughout this report clearly demonstrate that food companies are focused on providing a cage-free future for egg-laying hens.*”

Cages are also unwanted by consumers, 1.4 million of whom signed the ‘End the Cage Age’ European Citizens’ Initiative, which was submitted in 2020, resulting in the European Commission committing to ban cages for all farmed animals by 2027.

Europe holds a unique opportunity to lead the way on animal welfare. By responding to its citizens with a ban on cages and supporting businesses in their transition, the European Commission can create a level playing field across industry and send a strong message to the rest of the world that cages should be consigned to the history books for good.”

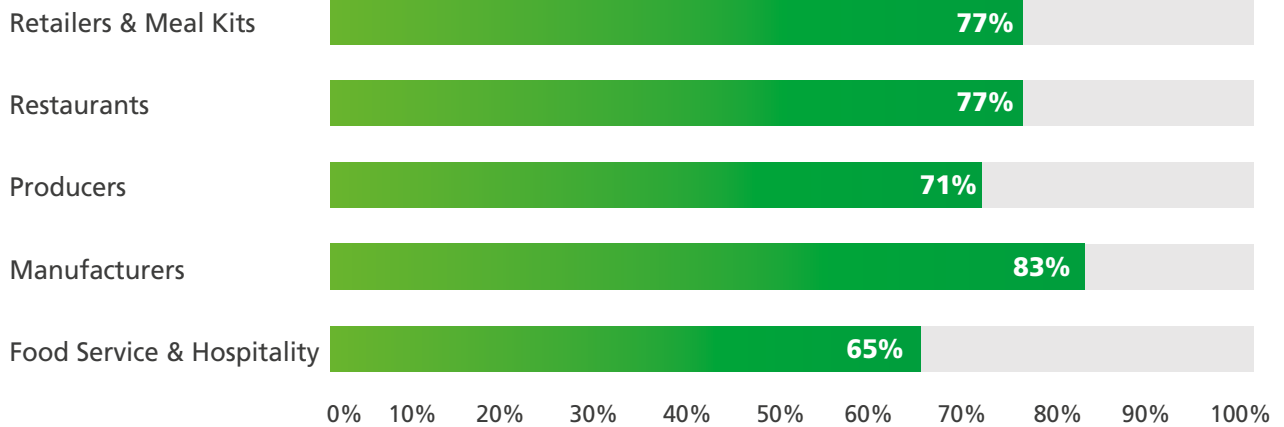
Dr Tracey Jones
Global Director of Food Business, Compassion in World Farming



PROGRESS BY SECTOR

Of the 444 companies included in EggTrack 2023, the majority are from the Retailers & Meal Kit (195) and Restaurant (111) sectors; 74 are from Food Service & Hospitality, 51 are Manufacturers and only 13 are Producers. Most progress has been made by Manufacturers and least by Food Service & Hospitality.

Average transition by sector



Percentage of commitments being reported on

Sector	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Retailers & Meal Kits	327	72%
Restaurants	172	58%
Producers	18	78%
Manufacturers	70	84%
Food Service & Hospitality	128	81%



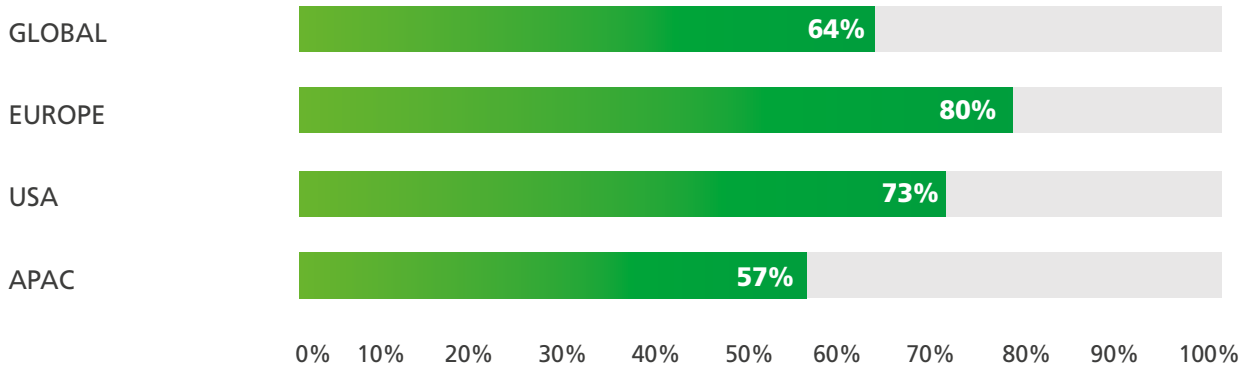
PROGRESS BY REGION

Of the companies included in EggTrack 2023, 79 companies operate globally, 134 operate in the USA, 274 operate in Europe (including the UK) and 23 operate in APAC¹. Most progress towards cage free has been achieved in Europe, followed by the USA.

¹ The number of companies added by region (510) exceeds the total number of companies included in EggTrack 2023 (444) due to some companies having commitments across multiple regions.

Average transition by region

Only a certain number of countries are included for Europe (34) and APAC (5)



Percentage of commitments being reported on

Region	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Global	88	56%
Europe	440	75%
USA	147	74%
APAC	40	60%



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS



64%
AVERAGE
TRANSITION
to cage free



56%
of commitments
REPORTING
on progress

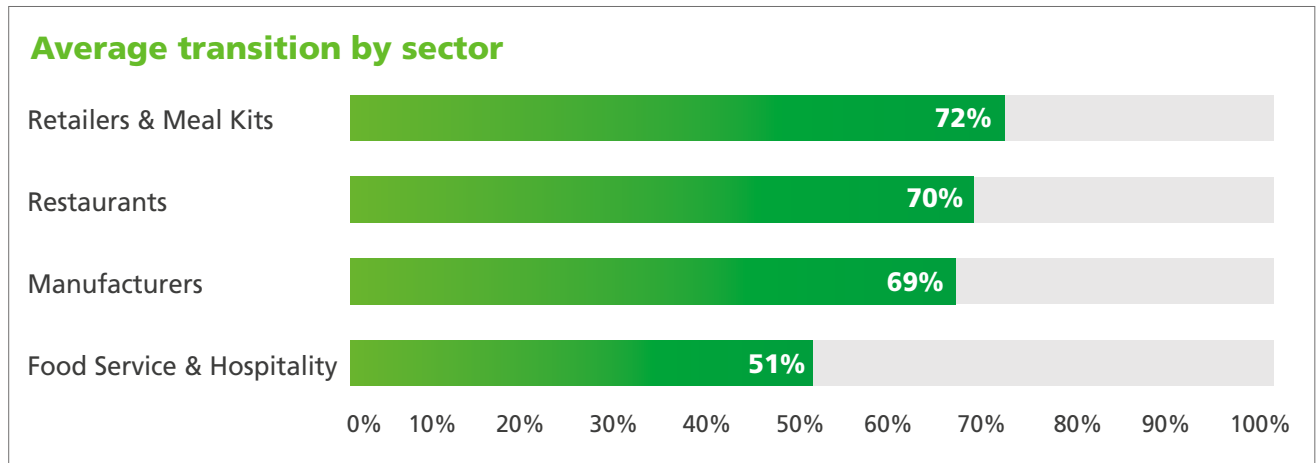


This year, 9 companies made new global cage-free commitments:

- Associated British Foods plc
- Bakkavor Group plc
- Brinker International Inc
- CKE Restaurants Holdings Inc
- Dairy Queen
- Delaware North
- McCormick & Company
- Norwegian Cruise Line
- The JM Smucker Company

We are delighted to report that The Hershey Company has reached its goal of becoming 100% cage free since our last report.

Of the 79 companies with global commitments included in EggTrack 2023, 34 are from the Restaurant sector, 21 are Manufacturers, 19 are Food Service & Hospitality companies and 5 are Retailers & Meal Kit providers. There are no Producers included in EggTrack 2023 at a global level. Progress towards cage free is generally good across the sectors, however, Food Service & Hospitality are lagging behind.



Of the **88** global commitments across **79** companies, **56%** are reporting on progress towards their commitment.

Percentage of commitments being reported on

Sector	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Retailers & Meal Kits	6	67%
Restaurants	39	28%
Manufacturers	22	86%
Food Service & Hospitality	21	71%

To enable progress at a global scale, the expansion of commitments beyond just national or regional policies is strongly encouraged, and we urge all companies with global operations to make global cage-free commitments.

EggTrack 2023 shows that 36 companies with global operations do not have a global cage-free commitment:

- Ahold Delhaize
- Andros
- Auchan
- Bid Corporation Ltd
- Caesars Entertainment
- California Pizza Kitchen
- Charoen Pokphand Group Co.
- Conagra Brands Inc
- Denny's
- Dine Brands Global
- Domino's Pizza Inc
- Groupe Casino
- HelloFresh
- Hilton Food Group
- HMSHost International
- Krispy Kreme
- Lotte Group
- Mars Inc
- McDonald's
- Minor International
- Nisshin Seifun Group
- Nissin Foods
- Ruby Tuesday Inc
- Schiever Distribution
- Schwarz Gruppe
- Seven and i Holdings Co Ltd
- Spar International
- Subway
- Sysco Corporation
- Système U
- GBfoods
- The Walt Disney Company
- Walgreens
- Walmart
- Wendy's
- Whole Foods Market



EUROPE HIGHLIGHTS



80%
AVERAGE
TRANSITION
to cage free



75%
of commitments
REPORTING
on progress



Reporting
across
34
COUNTRIES

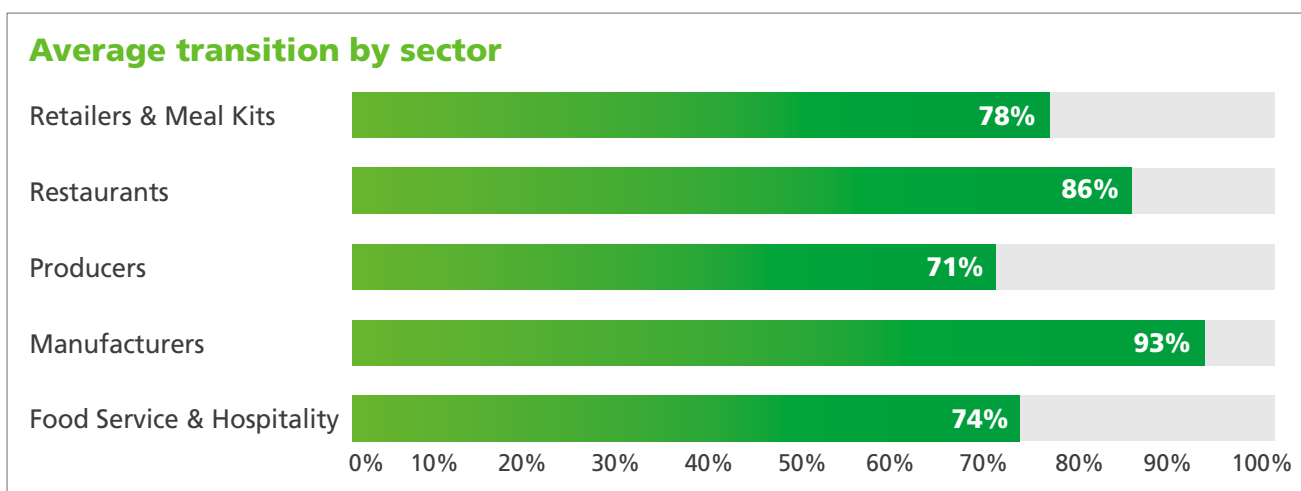


This year 1 company, Bakkavor Group plc, made a new European cage-free commitment.

We are delighted to report that LJ Fairburn & Son Ltd¹ (UK), Gruppo Eurovo (Italy) and KFC (Europe) reached their goal of being 100% cage free.

Of the 274 companies with European commitments included in EggTrack 2023, 144 are from the Retailers & Meal Kit sector, 50 are Restaurants, 40 are Food Service & Hospitality companies, whilst 29 are Manufacturers and 11 are Producers.

Most progress has been achieved by the Manufacturing sector, with Food Service & Hospitality and Producers lagging behind.



Of the **440** European commitments across **274** companies, **75%** are reporting on progress towards their commitment.

Percentage of commitments being reported on

Sector	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Retailers & Meal Kits	259	73%
Restaurants	70	66%
Producers	16	81%
Manufacturers	32	84%
Food Service & Hospitality	63	84%

These 5 companies only have cage-free commitments at a national level despite having business operations across Europe:

- Andros
- Bidfood
- Gruppo Cremonini
- Kvickly
- Sysco Corporation

The expansion of commitments beyond national policies to enable progress at a European level is strongly encouraged, and we urge all companies with European operations to expand their commitments.

¹ L J Fairburn & Son was incorrectly reported as 100% cage-free this year, its actual transition is 88.8%.

USA HIGHLIGHTS



73%
AVERAGE
TRANSITION
to cage free



74%
of commitments
REPORTING
on progress



This year, 3 companies have been included in EggTrack for the first time:

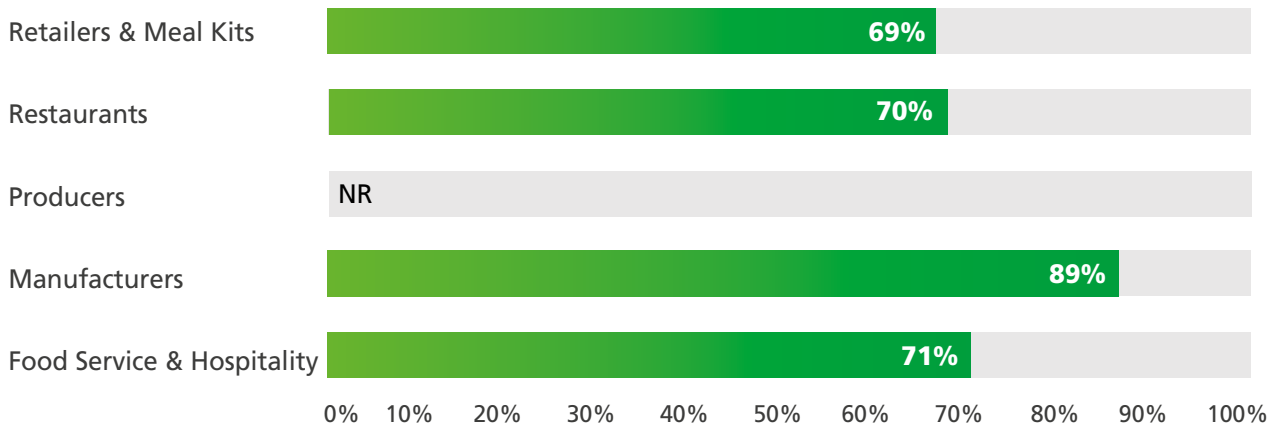
- Giant Eagle Inc
- Red Robin Gourmet Burgers Inc
- Southwest Foodservice Excellence

We are delighted to report that The Kraft Heinz Company, CVS and Walgreens reached their goal of being 100% cage free.

Of the 134 companies with USA commitments included in EggTrack 2023, 48 are from the Restaurant sector, 45 are Retailers & Meal Kit providers, 27 are Food Service & Hospitality companies, whilst 13 are Manufacturers and there is 1 Producer.

Most progress to cage free in the USA has been achieved by the Manufacturing sector.

Average transition by sector



NR = Not Reporting



Of the **147** commitments across **134** companies, **74%** are reporting on progress towards their commitment.

Percentage of commitments being reported on

Sector	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Retailers & Meal Kits	49	63%
Restaurants	53	72%
Producers	1	0%
Manufacturers	12	100%
Food Service & Hospitality	32	88%

APAC HIGHLIGHTS



57%
AVERAGE
TRANSITION
to cage free



60%
of commitments
REPORTING
on progress



Reporting
across
5
COUNTRIES



This year, 3 companies have extended their commitments to the APAC region:

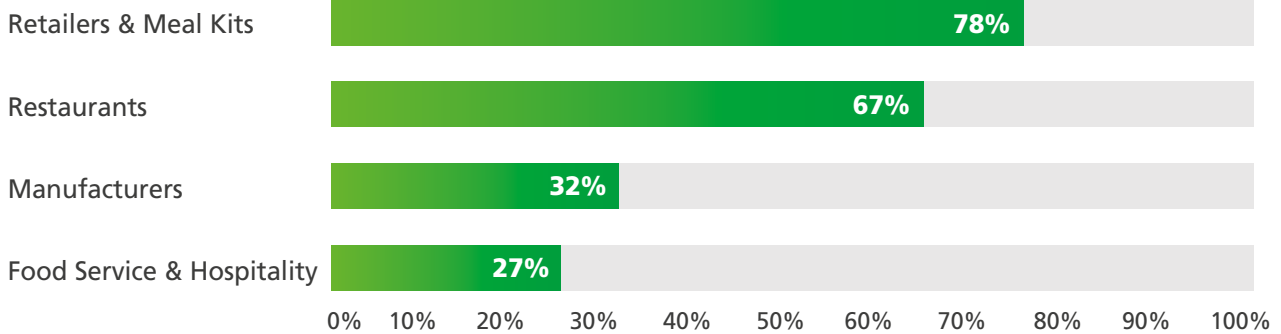
- Hilton Hotels & Resorts
- Hyatt Hotels and Resorts
- Starbucks

We are delighted to report that Burger King (Australia and New Zealand) reached its goal of being 100% cage free.

Of the 23 companies with APAC commitments included in EggTrack 2023, 8 are from Food Service & Hospitality, 6 are from the Restaurant sector, 5 are Retailers and Meal Kit providers and 4 are Manufacturers. There are no Producers tracked across APAC.

Most progress towards cage free in the APAC region has been achieved by the Retailers & Meal Kit providers followed closely by Restaurants, with Manufacturers and Food Service & Hospitality lagging behind.

Average transition by sector



Of the **40** APAC commitments across **23** companies, **60%** are reporting on progress towards their commitment.

Percentage of commitments being reported on

Sector	Number of Commitments	% of Commitments Reporting
Retailers & Meal Kits	13	69%
Restaurants	10	50%
Manufacturers	5	40%
Food Service & Hospitality	12	67%

Two companies only have cage-free commitments at a national level despite having business operations across the APAC region:

- Domino's Pizza Enterprises Ltd
- Nisshin Seifun Group

While it is encouraging to see that companies across China, Indonesia and Thailand have made cage-free commitments, we are yet to see significant progress in these countries. We encourage all companies in the APAC region to start publicly reporting progress on their cage-free egg commitments which can be highlighted in future iterations of EggTrack.

2022-2023 YEAR-ON-YEAR PROGRESS

There are 617 company commitments across 422 companies included in both the 2022 and 2023 iterations of EggTrack, allowing for a year-on-year comparison of progress. Overall, there was a 2.5% reduction in cage-free transition from 2022 to 2023, broken down by region and sector as follows:

Global transition
increased by
6.9%

APAC transition
increased by
7.4%

European
transition fell by
3.6%

USA transition
fell by
2.7%

This is largely because some companies in Europe and the USA expanded the scope of their Egg Product and Egg Ingredient categories, and multiple companies are not reporting this year.

Food Service & Hospitality transition **increased by 4.8%**

There was **no further progress** made by the Manufacturer sector

This is largely as a result of avian influenza affecting supply in both Europe and the USA.

Retailers & Meal Kits' transition **decreased by 3.8%**

This is largely because some companies in Europe and the USA expanded the scope of their Egg Product and Egg Ingredient categories.

Producers' transition **decreased by 7.8%**

This is largely because a major European Producer extended its commitment and reported across multiple countries, and several other Producers are not reporting progress this year.

Restaurants' transition **decreased by 9.3%**

This is largely because some companies are expanding their geographic reporting and others have not reported on progress this year.





© Compassion in World Farming

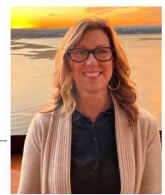
RESOURCES

Read our case study on Delaware North at www.eggtrack.com

Delaware North has been working with Compassion in World Farming since 2022, when the company recognised that there was more it might do to progress its cage-free commitment. Following EggTrack 2022, Delaware North made a global commitment to source 100% cage-free eggs by 2025.

“Product availability and supply chain disruptions can present a real challenge to meeting our animal welfare commitments. Through consistent communication and feedback, we have benefitted greatly from CIWF’s knowledge and expertise as we transition to 100% cage-free eggs by 2025.”

Debbie Friedel, Director of Sustainability at Delaware North



CASE STUDIES

Also available at www.eggtrack.com is more information on the challenges when transitioning to cage-free production in markets such as Poland, Spain, China and Canada – and some solutions to potential barriers.

FAQs

Compassion understands that progress reporting on company cage-free egg commitments can be complex. We have developed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section at www.eggtrack.com which addresses common queries.





© iStockphoto

LOOKING FORWARD

EggTrack 2023 has seen an increase in cage-free commitments across the globe, including 9 new global commitments. Eight companies fulfilled their cage-free commitments in 2023 and it's encouraging to see companies expanding their commitments and reporting to include egg ingredients, which are just as important as shell or processed eggs but often forgotten when it comes to commitments and reporting. All this progress should be applauded given the challenging external landscape with the ongoing impacts of inflation, avian influenza and geo-political factors.

Hundreds of food companies across the globe have listened to their customers and have made these voluntary commitments to support a cage-free future, despite a lack of legislation. Compassion is working hard to urge policy makers to underpin and support this industry's progress by adopting cage-free legislation and creating a level playing field for all companies on their cage-free journey.

In our 2024 iteration of EggTrack, we aim to extend the reporting scope to include new geographies and expand the reporting for egg ingredients. We also expect to see significant progress for those companies with 2025 commitment deadlines.



© Compassion in World Farming

COMPASSION
in world farming  **Food Business**

Food Business Team
tel +44 (0)1483 521950
email foodbusiness@ciwf.org
www.compassioninfoodbusiness.com

Compassion in World Farming International
River Court
Mill Lane
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1EZ

Compassion in World Farming International is a registered charity in England and Wales, registered charity number 1095050; and a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales, registered company number 4590804.

Published January 2024.