

Required Report: Required - Public Distribution

Date: September 25, 2026

Report Number: KS2026-0040

Report Name: Poultry and Products Annual

Country: Korea - Republic of

Post: Seoul

Report Category: Poultry and Products

Prepared By: Sunyoung Choi

Approved By: Zachary Bachtell

Report Highlights:

Korea's chicken production is expected to decrease by one percent in 2027 to 930,000 metric tons (MT) amid domestic supply pressures and the absence of major international sporting events. Consumption is forecast to hold steady at 1.14 million MT, as a slight decline in demand for domestic chicken is offset by continued growth in imported chicken. Imports are expected to grow by 3.8 percent to 270,000 MT, driven by sustained food price inflation pushing processors and foodservice businesses toward cheaper imported chicken. Brazil should remain the top supplier, though U.S. imports are poised for modest gains following some easing of inspection requirements. Exports are projected to remain steady at 60,000 MT, with growth in European demand for processed chicken products helping to offset softening Vietnamese demand for frozen layer hens.

Contents

Executive Summary 3

Production 4

 Chicken Production and Supply..... 4

 Korea’s Chicken Inventory 6

 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Outbreak..... 7

Consumption 8

 2026 Farm Price Trends 9

Trade 10

 Imports 10

 Exports 12

Supplementary Data Tables 14

 Production 14

 Consumption 15

 Prices 16

 Trade 20

Executive Summary

Korea's chicken production in marketing year 2027 (January – December) is forecast to decrease by about one percent to 930,000 metric tons (MT), down from 940,000 MT in 2026. Rising domestic supply from increased volumes in the second half of 2026 is expected to pressure market prices and integrated chicken company profitability, leading to reduced broiler chick placements in early 2027. The absence of major international sporting events like the World Cup in 2027, combined with continued growth in demand for cheaper imported chicken amid rising domestic food production costs, will further weigh on domestic chicken output.

Korea's chicken consumption in 2027 is forecast to hold steady at about 1.14 million MT, matching the 2026 level. A partial decline in domestic chicken demand is expected to be offset by continued growth in imported chicken consumption, keeping overall consumption stable. Chicken remains a relatively affordable protein compared to beef and pork, with consistent demand supported by product diversification including home meal replacements (HMRs) and meal kit offerings tied to single-person household growth.

Chicken imports are forecast to rise by about 3.8 percent to 270,000 MT in 2027, driven by sustained domestic food price increases that continue to pressure production costs for processors, caterers, and franchise fried chicken chains. Imported chicken, still 50 to 60 percent cheaper than domestic products, will see continued, expanded use across these industry segments. Brazil is expected to remain the dominant supplier, while a modest increase in U.S. chicken imports is anticipated following Korea's move to ease inspection requirements on U.S. raw chicken intended for processing and re-export.

Korea's chicken exports are expected to remain at 60,000 MT in 2027, matching the previous year's level, with frozen layer hens continuing to account for over 90 percent of export volume. Softening demand from Vietnam, driven by efforts to reduce reliance on Korean frozen chicken layer hen imports, is expected to be offset by burgeoning demand for Korean processed chicken products in Europe—particularly the United Kingdom and the Netherlands—fueled by rising interest in Korean culture and K-food, with exports diversifying beyond traditional “samgyetang” soup into HMR and meal kit products like frozen “dakgangjeong” (sweet and spicy crispy chicken).

Table 1
PSD table for Korea's Chicken

Meat, Chicken Market Year Begins Korea, Republic of	2025		2026		2027	
	Jan 2025		Jan 2026		Jan 2027	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production (1000 MT)	927	930	920	940	0	930
Total Imports (1000 MT)	245	245	260	260	0	270
Total Supply (1000 MT)	1172	1175	1180	1200	0	1200
Total Exports (1000 MT)	61	61	60	60	0	60
Human Consumption (1000 MT)	1111	1114	1120	1140	0	1140
Other Use, Losses (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	1111	1114	1120	1140	0	1140
Total Use (1000 MT)	1172	1175	1180	1200	0	1200
Ending Stocks (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	1172	1175	1180	1200	0	1200
(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

Source: Not Official USDA Statistics

Production

Chicken Production and Supply

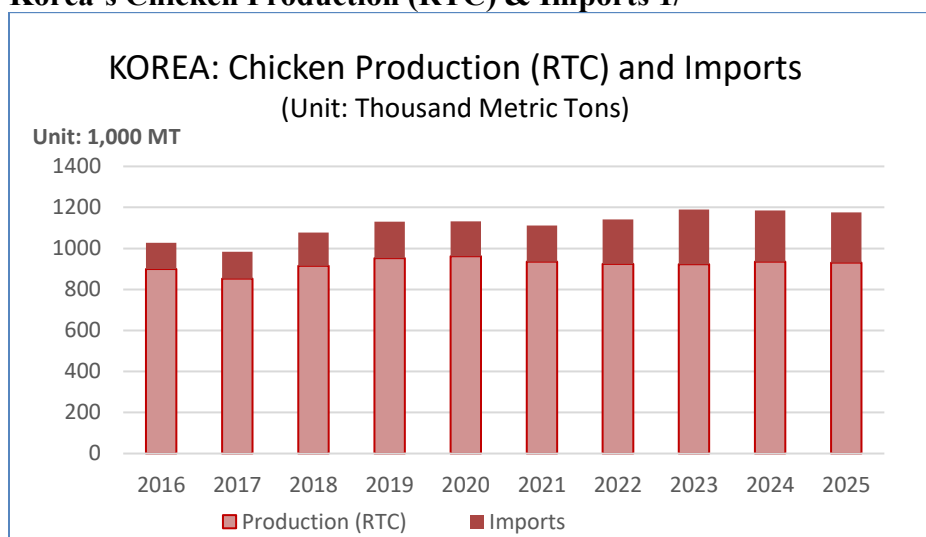
Korea's chicken production in 2027 is forecast to decrease by about one percent to 930,000 MT, down from 940,000 MT in 2026, reflecting the combined effect of several factors. An increase in the number of chickens slaughtered during the second half of 2026 is expected to boost domestic chicken supply, raising the likelihood of falling market prices and deteriorating profitability for vertically integrated chicken companies; as a result, broiler chick placements in the first half of 2027 are also projected to decline. In addition, no major international sporting events like the World Cup or Olympics are scheduled for 2027 to drive additional consumer demand, and this is likely to further weigh on production. Amid the ongoing rise in domestic food prices, sharp increases in production costs, including feed costs, have further added downward pressure on profit margins for the processing and food service industries. As a result, the industry is increasingly substituting more price-competitive imported chicken for domestic chicken.

Korea's chicken production in 2026 is forecast to increase by about one percent to 940,000 MT, up from 930,000 MT in 2025. This increase in production is directly attributable to a 1.6 percent year-on-year rise in the number of domestic chickens slaughtered during the first half of the year, particularly from January through July, resulting from an imbalance in parental stock (PS) broiler supply caused by the

highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak during the 2025-2026 winter & spring season, and the subsequent expansion of PS broiler placements by integrated chicken companies to address this imbalance.

Specifically, the HPAI outbreak during the 2025-2026 season resulted in the depopulation of a total of 12.2 million chickens nationwide, of which about 406,000 were breeding stock for broilers (PS broilers), raising concerns over a breeding stock supply imbalance and a chick shortage. In response, domestic vertically integrated chicken companies significantly expanded new breeding stock placements during the February–May 2026 period to stabilize the supply chain. Combined with intensified competition to secure breeding stock and extended slaughter timing for existing adult PS stock, cumulative PS broiler placements for the first half of 2026 reached 3.83 million birds, an increase of approximately 10.3 percent from 3.48 million birds in the same period the previous year. As these increased PS broiler placements move into the adult PS broiler population and begin full-scale chick production in the second half of the year, domestic chicken supply is expected to increase further, with this trend projected to continue through the beginning of 2027.

Graph 1
Korea’s Chicken Production (RTC) & Imports 1/



Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC (TDM) & PS&D data

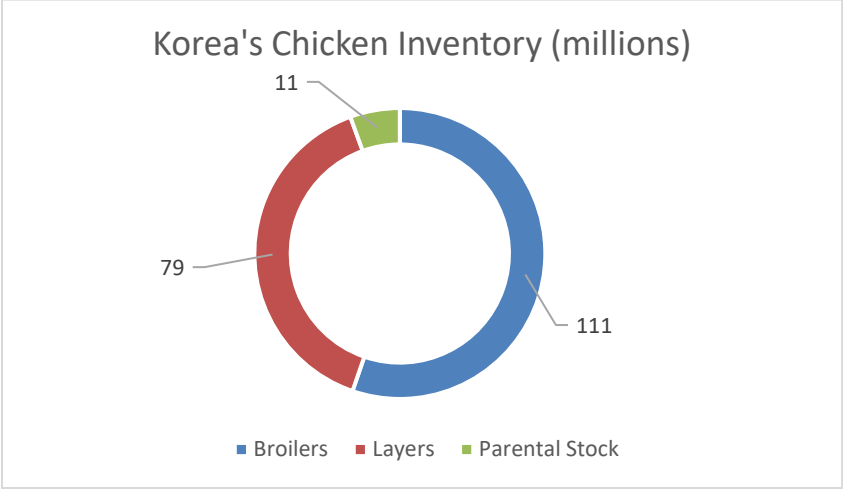
1/ “RTC” is Ready-to-Cook

Korea’s domestic chicken meat is dominated by two main breeds of chicken – a broiler chicken and a hybrid chicken – which together account for 94 percent of total production. Broiler chickens average 1.6 kilograms in live weight and accounted for 76 percent (776 million) of the total slaughtered chickens in 2025. A hybrid chicken called “samgye” is a cross between a broiler and a layer that was specially bred for producing chicken used in a ginseng soup (called “samgyetang”) and is primarily consumed during the hottest days of the summer season (July through August). Samgye birds average 850 grams live weight and accounted for 18 percent (183 million) of Korea’s total chicken slaughter. Finally, indigenous chickens (averaging 2 kilograms of live weight) and spent layer hens accounted for 6 percent of the total number of slaughtered chickens in 2025.

Korea’s Chicken Inventory

In June 2026, Korea’s total chicken inventory (including broilers, layers, and PS chickens) increased by 1.2 percent to 201 million chickens, mainly driven by the increase in broiler placement (up 1 percent to 111 million birds). Of total chicken inventory, broiler category chickens (including samgye & indigenous chickens) accounted for 55.1 percent (111 million), followed by layer chickens at 39.2 percent (79 million), and PS chickens at 5.7 percent (11 million).

Graph 2
Korea’s Chicken Inventory by Type (as of June 2026)



Source: Korea Statistical Information Service (KOSIS)

Table 2
Korea’s Chicken Inventory by Province

PROVINCE	Chickens (1,000 birds)	Share (%)
Gyeonggi-do	33,002	16.4
Chungcheongbuk-do	14,484	7.2
Chungcheongnam-do	31,744	15.8
Jeollabuk-do	40,084	19.9
Jeollanam-do	27,089	13.5
Gyeongsangbuk-do	27,227	13.5
Gyeongsangnam-do	12,123	6.0
Gangwon-do	7,840	3.9
Others	7,679	3.8
Total	201,272	100.0

Source: Statistics Korea

Picture 1
Map of the South Korea



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Outbreak

During the 2025-2026 winter & spring season, a total of 58 cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) were confirmed at domestic chicken and duck farms. The damage was concentrated particularly heavily on domestic egg-laying (layer) farms, which suffered a severe blow as approximately 11.3 million layer chickens—13.6 percent of the total layer inventory—were depopulated. In addition, parental stock (PS) broilers, the foundation of the chicken meat industry, sustained losses greater than initially estimated; roughly 400,000 birds were depopulated, representing about five percent of the total PS broiler inventory, which triggered significant alarm within the industry.

As a result, the massive loss of the adult PS broiler population led to difficulties in chick placements, increasing the instability of domestic broiler chicken supply through the peak summer demand season. To overcome the massive culling of PS broilers, a total of 17 million hatching eggs were imported from European countries such as Belgium and Spain in two rounds (first and second shipments) through August, including the first half of the year. As a result, domestic integrators have been competitively restocking PS broilers. Meanwhile, the sharp decline in daily egg production caused by the layer shortage drove consumer table egg prices sharply higher, delivering a serious domino effect across overall domestic livestock product prices. In response, the MAFRA announced plans to import about 200 million table eggs from countries including the United States and Thailand to stabilize domestic egg prices.

Table 3
Impact of 2025-26 HPAI Outbreak

<i>Category</i>	<i>Depopulated Poultry</i>	<i>Number of Farms with Positive Cases</i>
<i>Chicken, Total</i>	12,240,000	40
<i>Broilers</i>	399,000	0*
<i>Layers</i>	11,314,000	31
<i>Parental Stock</i>	448,000	8
<i>Native Chickens</i>	79,000	1
<i>Ducks, Total</i>	1,146,000	18
<i>Poultry Total</i>	13,386,000	58

* There were no confirmed HPAI infections at broiler farms, but animals located within the radius of the outbreak farms were culled.

Consumption

Korea's chicken consumption in 2027 is forecast to remain at about 1.14 million MT, the same level as 2026. As production costs continue to rise, food processing and food service businesses are expected to increasingly favor price-competitive imported chicken over domestic supply, allowing overall chicken consumption to remain stable. Chicken continues to be perceived in Korea as a relatively affordable source of animal protein compared to other meats such as beef and pork, and a stable consumption base is expected to persist, supported by consumers' steady preference for chicken across a variety of menu options. This outlook for 2027 builds on the consumption growth trend seen in 2026. In 2026, strong prices for red meats such as beef and pork boosted demand for the relatively cheaper chicken, while major international sporting events—including the World Cup, the World Baseball Classic, and the Asian Games—generated additional demand centered on fried chicken, driving consumption up by 2.3 percent year-on-year.

Against this background, Korea's chicken market is undergoing significant changes, particularly within the processed meat product category as consumers' preferences have expanded beyond fried chicken and samgyetang. Driven by the increase in single-person households and the "Healthy Pleasure (Guilt-Free Indulgence)" trend, convenience food products combining various sauces and cooking methods have gained strong popularity as diet-friendly meal options. Premium meal kits that reduce the hassle of food preparation are also being steadily consumed, particularly for home dinners and camping demand. Meanwhile, as air fryer ownership rates rise, consumer purchasing patterns are shifting away from buying whole chickens toward selectively purchasing preferred cuts, with a clear preference emerging for tender leg meat. These evolving consumption patterns are also reflected in the structure of Korea's chicken consumption channels. According to industry surveys by the Korea Institute for Animal Products Quality Evaluation, consumption channels for chicken produced and imported in Korea can be broadly divided into four categories. The foodservice and fried chicken franchise industry accounts for the largest share, at approximately 40 to 45 percent of total consumption. Food processing companies

producing HMR products and meal kits account for approximately 20 to 25 percent, establishing themselves as the fastest-growing channel in recent years. This is followed by the institutional catering and food service market—covering large-volume consumption at schools, military units, and corporate cafeterias—at approximately 15 to 20 percent, while direct household purchases through large discount marts, and traditional markets account for approximately 10 to 15 percent.

2026 Farm Price Trends

As a result of the PS broiler supply imbalance caused by the aforementioned HPAI outbreak during the 2025-2026 season, along with outbreak-related livestock movement restrictions, domestic broiler prices in the first half of 2026 (January-June) rose broadly compared to the same period the previous year, with farm prices up 11 percent, wholesale prices up 9.1 percent, retail prices up 11.5 percent, and domestic chicken cut prices (see Table 4 below) up about 6.3 percent (up from an average price of KRW 7,926 across all chicken cuts). However, as slaughter volumes increased in the third quarter, and with expanding supply due to increased placements, this upward price trend began to stabilize. In July 2026, average broiler farm prices and wholesale prices fell by about six percent and three percent, respectively, compared to the same month the previous year. This downward price trend, combined with rising chicken import volumes, is expected to continue throughout the remainder of the year.

Import unit prices rose in tandem with domestic chicken prices during the first half of 2026, driven by unfavorable exchange rate movements—specifically, the depreciation of the Korean won against the U.S. dollar. Among major imported chicken products, prices have risen notably across the board. Chicken leg prices increased 27% for Brazilian product (up from KRW 2,860) and 11% for Thai product (up from KRW 3,865). Chicken wing prices also rose, climbing 9.3% for Danish product (up from KRW 3,539) and 10.6% for Thai product (up from KRW 4,544). Despite these increases in import unit prices, imported chicken still remains 50 to 60 percent cheaper than domestic fresh chicken, and demand for imported chicken among Korea's food processing industry is expected to continue increasing going forward.

Table 4
Price Comparison (Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram) & Market Share (%)

Cuts	Domestic 1/	Imports 2/			
		U.S.	Brazil 3/	Denmark	Thailand
Leg	7,631	2,250 (4%)	3,633 (87%)	3,599 (0%)	4,290 (8.7%)
Wing	9,008	-	3,335 (10.4%)	3,869 (21%)	5,026 (58.6%)
Breast	8,658	-	3,883 (26.7%)	-	3,993 (73.4%)

1/ Chilled products, average retail price for January 1 – June 30, 2026 period

2/ Average import prices between January 1 through June 30, 2026

3/ Frozen, Trimmed, Bone-less products mostly

Source: Korea Broiler Council (KBC) & TDM

Trade

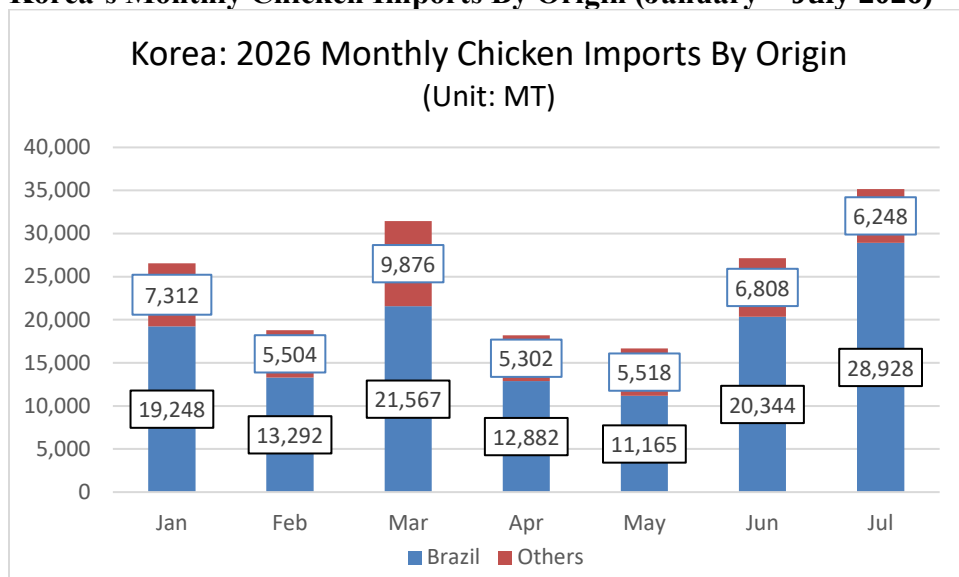
Imports

In 2027, Korea's chicken imports are forecast to increase by about 3.8 percent to 270,000 MT, up from 260,000 MT the previous year. The fundamental driver behind this growth is the sustained rise in domestic food prices in recent years, which has steadily increased production cost burdens for chicken processed products, catering companies, and franchise fried chicken businesses. As a result, domestic food processing companies, franchise fried chicken chains, group catering companies (excluding school meal programs), and foodservice businesses have continued to expand their use of imported chicken, which offers greater price competitiveness than domestic fresh chicken. The lower price of imports helps to ease pressure on production costs for their products and menu items. With imported chicken prices remaining about 50 to 60 percent cheaper than domestic chicken, and consumer resistance to imported chicken products having largely diminished compared to a decade ago, these industries are expected to continue gradually expanding their share of imported chicken going forward.

Brazil is expected to continue leading Korea's imported chicken market, as they are the major supplier of boneless chicken legs that reflect demand from domestic food processing companies. This pattern was already evident during the first seven months of 2026 (January-July), when Brazil maintained its position as the largest supplier, accounting for 127,500 MT, or 73 percent of total imports, followed by Thailand (18 percent), China (2.7 percent), and the United States (2.6 percent). Frozen leg meat—the cut most preferred by Korean consumers—accounted for an overwhelming 79 percent of imports, followed by processed chicken products at 11.3 percent, and which also reflects domestic food processing companies' continued use of cheaper imported chicken as a raw material input for processed products.

In addition, imports of U.S. chicken are expected to see a slight increase going forward, as Ministry of Food and Drug Safety is moving to exempt U.S. raw chicken meat intended for processing and re-export to generate foreign currency earnings from close inspection requirements. This trend was already visible in the first seven months of 2026, when U.S. chicken imports surged 595 percent year-on-year to 4,482 MT, up from 645 MT in the same period the previous year. This sharp increase reflects the fact that while Brazilian import unit prices rose 21 percent year-on-year, U.S. prices fell 4.4 percent, making U.S. chicken about 37 percent cheaper per MT in absolute price terms. Even after accounting for additional domestic deboning cost, U.S. chicken still had a higher profit margin, and so more than 4,000 MT were imported despite ongoing non-tariff barrier issues.

Graph 3
Korea's Monthly Chicken Imports By Origin (January – July 2026)



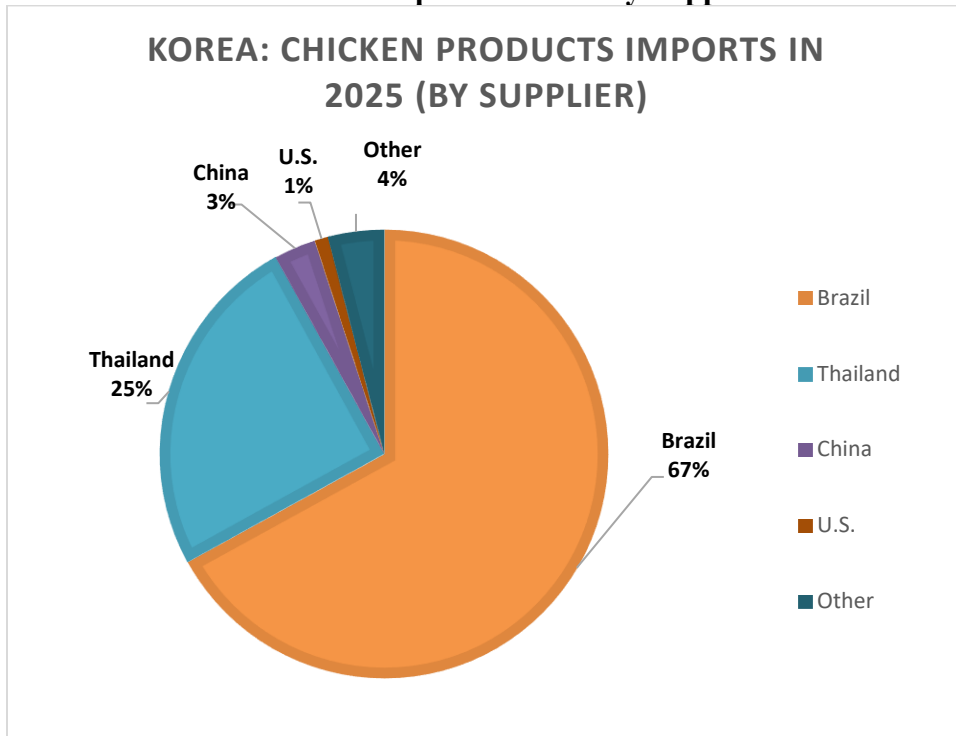
Source: TDM

The 2026 import market, which serves as the baseline for this 2027 outlook, expanded significantly amid concerns over domestic broiler supply shortages stemming from the previously discussed HPAI outbreak at the beginning of the year. To stabilize prices, the Korean government implemented a 30,000 MT tariff-rate quota (TRQ) for chicken during the May-July period, and this growth in overall import volume was further accelerated as local beef and pork importers also entered the imported chicken market in anticipation of rising chicken demand. As a result, Korea's total chicken imports over the first seven months of 2026 (January-July) reached 174,000 MT, an increase of approximately 23 percent from 142,000 MT in the same period the previous year—a result of the combined effects of the three aforementioned factors: concerns over reduced domestic production due to the HPAI outbreak early in the year, additional demand driven by international sporting events, and the implementation of the TRQ.

However, this surge seen in the first seven months of the year is expected to moderate in the remainder of the year. With no major international sporting events scheduled to drive additional demand aside from the Asian Games in September and October in Japan, the TRQ already having ended, and domestic supply prices for imported chicken showing a declining trend, the overall increase in imports for the second half of the year is expected to slow down compared to the first half of 2026. Accordingly, Korea's total chicken imports for 2026 are forecast to reach approximately 260,000 MT, an increase of about six percent from the previous year.

Graph 4

Korea's Chicken Products Imports In 2025 By Supplier



Source: TDM

Exports

Korea's chicken exports in 2027 are forecast to remain at 60,000 MT, the same level as the previous year. Frozen layer hens are expected to continue accounting for more than 90 percent of total export volume as raw meat, with the remaining share of less than 10 percent consisting of processed chicken products. This stagnation in export volume is primarily attributable to the fact that demand from Vietnam—the main importer of Korean frozen layer hens—is expected to decline slightly, reflecting a trend of reducing reliance on Korean layer hen imports. Meanwhile, this softening demand is expected to be partially offset by new demand for Korean processed chicken products in Europe, allowing overall export volume to hold steady at the previous year's level.

Growth in the European market stood out particularly during the first half of 2026 (the first seven months). During this period, Korea's chicken product exports to Europe (including the United Kingdom and the Netherlands) reached 714 MT, an explosive increase of 781 percent from 81 MT in the same period the previous year. This rapid growth is driven by rising interest in Korean culture and K-food across Europe. Chicken product exports, which initially centered on shelf-stable, “retort” packaged samgyetang, have recently diversified into a broader range of HMR and meal kit products, including frozen dakgangjeong (sweet, crispy fried chicken). As a result, demand is expanding beyond Korea's traditional export markets of North America, Japan, and Hong Kong into new countries, a trend expected to drive growth in Korea's chicken exports going forward.

Graph 5

Korea’s Chicken Exports by Year



Source: TDM

Supplementary Data Tables

Production

Table 5

Korea's Broiler Inventories 1/

(Unit: 1,000 birds)

Year	Farms	Birds
2017	1,933	104,205
2018	2,027	112,681
2019	2,111	121,588
2020	1,888	110,842
2021	1,886	109,720
2022	1,833	106,254
2023	1,824	110,869
2024	1,832	112,231
2025	1,798	109,763
2026	1,800	110,898

1/ June Inventories

Source: KOSIS

Table 6

Korea's Production Costs of Broilers

(Korean Won per Kilogram in Live Weight)

Year	Operating Cost	Production Cost	Farm Price
2017	1,179	1,237	1,649
2018	1,204	1,262	1,481
2019	1,160	1,217	1,268
2020	1,162	1,216	1,121
2021	1,257	1,312	1,421
2022	1,374	1,431	1,843
2023	1,501	1,561	2,062
2024	1,408	1,464	1,566
2025	1,360	1,413	1,903

Source: KOSIS

Table 7
Korea's Broiler Production Cost
(Korean Won per Kilogram in Live Weight)

Item	CY 2024		CY 2025	
	Average Cost	Component Ratio (%)	Average Cost	Component Ratio (%)
Feed	812	55	788	56
Chicks	332	23	324	23
Family Labor	50	3	49	3
Vet & Medicine	32	2	29	2
Water, Power, etc.	55	4	55	4
Other	183	13	168	12
Total	1,464	100	1,413	100
By Product	0	0	0	0
Cost Total	1,464	100	1,413	100

Source: KOSIS

Consumption

Table 8
Korea's Per Capita Consumption of Livestock Products
(Unit: Kilogram, boneless basis)

Year	Total Meat	Beef	Pork	Chicken	Egg
2016	49.5	11.6	24.1	13.8	13.7
2017	49.1	11.3	24.5	13.3	11.4
2018	53.8	12.7	27	14.1	12.6
2019	54.6	13.0	26.8	14.8	12.8
2020	52.5	12.9	27.1	12.5	14.0
2021	56.1	13.9	27.6	14.6	13.2
2022	59.8	14.9	30.1	14.8	13.8
2023	60.5	14.7	29.6	16.2	15.2
2024	61.4	15.0	30.9	15.5	15.2
2025 1/	60.0	15.2	29.2	15.6	15.4

1/ Preliminary forecast by the Korea Rural Economic Institute (KREI)

Source: MAFRA

Prices

Table 9
Year Average Broiler Prices
(Korean Won/Kg, boneless basis)

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 1/	2026 1/
Farm Price	1,843	2,062	1,566	1,903	2,052	2,277
Wholesale Price	3,415	3,687	3,122	3,547	3,661	3,995
Consumer Price	5,622	6,096	5,761	5,747	5,667	6,320

1/ Average price, January through June 2025 & 2026
Source: National Agricultural Cooperative Federation

Table 10
Farm Price for Chicken Meat

Chicken Meat, Farm Price Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram				
Month	2024	2025	2026	% Change comparing to previous year
Jan.	1,408	1,927	1,791	-7.1
Feb.	1,732	1,870	2,103	12.5
Mar.	1,758	1,953	2,550	30.6
Apr.	1,806	2,265	2,677	18.2
May	1,533	2,403	2,522	5.0
Jun.	1,460	1,892	2,019	6.7
Jul.	1,563	1,954	1,841	-5.8
Aug.	1,739	1,889	-	8.6
Sep.	1,735	1,627	-	-6.2
Oct.	1,353	1,470	-	8.6
Nov.	1,136	1,617	-	42.3
Dec.	1,563	1,967	-	25.8
Average	1,566	1,903	2,215	-

Sources: National Agricultural Cooperative Federation; and Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 11
Wholesale Price for Chicken Meat

Chicken Meat, Wholesale Price Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram				
Month	2024	2025	2026	% Change comparing to previous year
Jan.	2,900	3,531	3,528	-0.1
Feb.	3,294	3,450	3,846	11.5
Mar.	3,325	3,597	4,254	18.3
Apr.	3,421	3,892	4,370	12.3
May	3,076	3,958	4,206	6.3
Jun.	3,009	3,539	3,768	6.5
Jul.	3,229	3,709	3,597	-3.0
Aug.	3,317	3,598	-	8.5
Sep.	3,297	3,274	-	-0.7
Oct.	2,807	3,095	-	10.3
Nov.	2,574	3,236	-	25.7
Dec.	3,213	3,683	-	14.6
Average	3,122	3,547	3,938	-

Sources: National Agricultural Cooperative Federation; Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 12
Consumer Price for Chicken Meat

Chicken Meat, Consumer Price Unit: Korean Won per Kilogram				
Month	2024	2025	2026	% Change comparing to previous year
Jan.	5,683	5,624	5,926	5.4
Feb.	5,724	5,682	5,938	4.5
Mar.	5,868	5,753	6,376	10.8
Apr.	5,903	5,718	6,582	15.1
May	5,868	5,657	6,518	15.2
Jun.	5,902	5,568	6,579	18.2
Jul.	5,984	5,984	6,189	3.4
Aug.	6,025	6,104	-	1.3
Sep.	5,895	5,912	-	0.3
Oct.	5,774	5,687	-	-1.5
Nov.	5,154	5,468	-	6.1
Dec.	5,340	5,609	-	5.0
Average	5,761	5,747	6,301	-

Sources: National Agricultural Cooperative Federation; Agricultural & Fishery Marketing Corporation

Table 13
Korea's Monthly Average Foreign Exchange Rate
 (Unit: Korean Won / 1U\$)

Month	2024	2025	2026
Jan.	1323.57	1455.79	1456.51
Feb.	1331.74	1445.56	1449.32
Mar.	1330.70	1456.95	1486.64
Apr.	1367.83	1444.31	1487.39
May	1365.39	1394.49	1490.11
Jun.	1380.13	1366.95	1527.30
Jul.	1383.38	1375.22	1497.43
Aug.	1354.15	1389.66	1406.30
Sep.	1334.82	1391.83	-
Oct.	1361.00	1423.36	-
Nov.	1393.38	1457.77	-
Dec.	1434.42	1467.40	-

Source: Industrial Bank of Korea

Trade

Table 14
Countries with Poultry Market Access to Korea (As of June 2026)

Approved Suppliers	Items
The United States, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Poland, France, Netherland, Hungary, Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, New Zealand and Brazil (only day-old chicks & hatching eggs are permitted).	Poultry birds (include pet or wild bird), hatching eggs, day old chicks.
New Zealand, Thailand, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Poland, France, Netherland, Hungary, Belgium, Germany, United Kingdom, Brazil and the United States.	Table eggs.
Chile, Brazil, Thailand, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, France, Netherland, Hungary, Belgium, United Kingdom and the United States.	Fresh, chilled, or frozen poultry meat
Australia, United Kingdom, France, Chile, Denmark, Sweden, Japan, Brazil, Thailand, Hungary, China, Poland, the United States, Netherland, Finland, Lithuania, Belgium, Argentina, Vietnam and Canada.	Heat-treated poultry meat

Source: MAFRA

Table 15
Processed Chicken Imports by Country

Country	CY 2025		CY 2026 (January- June)	
	Volume (MT)	Value (US\$1,000)	Volume (MT)	Value (US\$1,000)
Processed Chicken				
China	7,080	25,416	4,247	14,533
Thailand	21,538	105,398	11,289	55,410
United States	549	2,564	202	1,009
Other	22	158	9	45
Total	29,189	133,536	15,747	70,997

Source: TDM

Table 16
Frozen Chicken Cut Imports by Country

Country	CY 2025		CY 2026 (January- June)	
	Volume (MT)	Value (US\$1,000)	Volume (MT)	Value (US\$1,000)
Leg				
U.S.	2,449	4,083	4,404	6,684
Brazil	159,957	343,539	94,955	232,284
Denmark	175	346	38	91
Thailand	29,926	84,623	9,463	27,414
Other	334	649	335	681
Sub Total	192,841	433,240	109,195	267,154
Wing				
U.S.	0	0	0	0
Brazil	984	2,220	745	1,686
Denmark	2,472	6,196	1,509	3,928
Thailand	9,088	29,608	4,201	14,196
Other	1,293	3,329	716	1,646
Sub Total	13,837	41,353	7,171	21,456
Breast				
U.S.	0	0	0	0
Brazil	73	195	250	648
Thailand	1,200	2,921	686	1,853
Other	0	0	0	0
Sub Total	1,273	3,116	935	2,501
Total by Country				
U.S.	2,449	4,083	4,404	6,684
Brazil	161,014	345,954	95,950	234,618
Denmark	2,647	6,542	1,547	4,019
Thailand	40,214	117,152	14,350	43,463
Others	1,626	3,978	1,050	2,327
Total	207,950	477,709	117,301	291,111

Source: TDM

Table 17**Korea's Import Matrix for Chicken Meat 1/**

Import Trade Matrix								
Country: Korea								
Commodity: Chicken Meat				Unit: MT & U\$1,000, RTC Basis				
Imports for	CY 2024		CY 2025		January-July 2025		January-July 2026	
Country	Vol	Val	Vol	Val	Vol	Val	Vol	Val
U.S.	2,552	4,700	2,449	4,085	645	1,036	4,482	6,881
Others								
Thailand	52,571	194,864	62,226	223,758	29,118	107,626	31,226	117,775
P.R.C.	7,641	28,834	7,080	25,416	3,757	13,941	4,715	16,058
Sweden	2,276	3,111	2,972	4,643	1,495	2,294	1,884	2,982
Denmark	4,166	9,330	5,031	11,588	3,154	7,220	3,293	7,542
France	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finland	1,337	1,984	572	990	443	745	428	808
Chile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	1	4	20	150	0	3	0	0
Brazil	178,957	354,182	163,829	349,521	102,836	206,081	127,427	310,205
Australia	98	133	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	152	289	897	2226	506	1,070	540	1,307
Total for Others	247,199	592,732	242,627	618,292	141,309	338,980	169,513	456,677
Grand Total	249,751	597,432	245,076	622,377	141,954	340,016	173,995	463,558

1/ HS 0207.1X.XXXX plus HS 1602.32.XXXX

Source: TDM

Table 18**Korea's Export Matrix for Chicken Meat 1/**

Export Trade Matrix								
Country: Korea								
Commodity: Chicken Meat				Unit: MT & U\$1,000, RTC Basis				
Exports for	CY 2024		CY 2025		January-July 2025		January-July 2026	
Country	Vol	Val	Vol	Val	Vol	Val	Vol	Val
U.S.	1,038	6,944	923	6,301	594	4,075	666	4,566
Others								
Hong Kong	413	2,007	281	1,360	134	626	159	776
Japan	1,042	4,316	820	3,329	353	1,473	474	1,783
P.R.C.	0	1	0	0	0	0	15	57
Taiwan	347	1,455	327	1,316	123	515	102	396
Thailand	5	23	6	19	3	13	5	18
Vietnam	57,132	72,884	57,078	74,819	31,489	41,369	30,469	39,071
Iraq	1	8	1	13	1	7	0	2
Canada	190	1,145	191	1,170	87	521	113	710
Australia	50	273	59	330	33	173	33	195
United Kingdom	13	74	117	813	27	196	382	2,616
Netherland	14	86	173	1,228	54	406	332	2,249
Other	726	3,093	1,432	4,841	731	2,645	643	2,137
Total for Others	59,933	85,365	60,485	89,238	33,035	47,944	32,727	50,010
Grand Total	60,971	92,309	61,408	95,539	33,629	52,019	33,393	54,576

1/ HS 0207.1X.XXXX plus HS 1602.32.XXXX

Source: TDM

Attachments:

No Attachments