



OWA CAGE-FREE EGG FULFILLMENT REPORT 2023

INTRODUCTION

To date, almost 2,500 major food corporations have announced cage-free egg commitments.

What is the Open Wing Alliance?

The **Open Wing Alliance (OWA)** is a global coalition of organizations working to free hens from cages. Since our coalition emerged in 2016, we have become a formidable force fighting for the protection of these animals. We now number 90+ organizations spread across 6 continents and 67 countries.

The aim of the OWA is to bring together organizations from around the world working towards a cage-free future, to share knowledge with one another, and to partner with the world's biggest corporations on their goals to move away from cages.

As a result of our collective work, the global cage-free movement is rapidly gaining momentum.

Why Cage-Free?

We chose this mission because, of the almost five billion hens farmed industrially, over four billion (84%) are currently confined in cramped cages. Caged systems are extremely restrictive and painful for hens, preventing them from properly performing normal behaviors, causing extreme mental frustration, and raising the likelihood of injury from close confinement.

Moving egg supply to cage-free systems is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to improve laying hen welfare, benefitting the consumers and the company as well as the animals themselves. This welfare improvement establishes companies as a higher-welfare brand, and the process of reporting on (and fulfilling) a cage-free egg commitment helps to build consumer trust and loyalty.

Companies Transitioning to Cage-Free at Astonishing Rates

To date, almost 2,500 major food corporations have announced cage-free egg commitments. According to last year's Fulfillment Report, as of April 2022, 88% of cage-free egg commitments with deadlines of 2021 or earlier had been fulfilled. Last year's report found an increase of 3% in the fulfillment of cage-free egg commitments, and this year's report found a further increase, showing that the number of companies completing their cage-free transitions is increasing year over year. As of April 2023, 89% of cage-free egg commitments with deadlines of 2022 or earlier have been fulfilled.

The 2025 Deadline

This report shows the current progress of cage-free egg commitments fulfilled, reporting, and not reporting up to the end of 2022, broken down by industry, deadline year, and country. We also look ahead to 2025, the deadline for the vast majority of cage-free egg commitments. Companies need to be working towards fulfilling their commitments now, and reporting on progress, in order to meet the deadlines they publicly promised.

OVERALL



Number of commitments in each reporting status

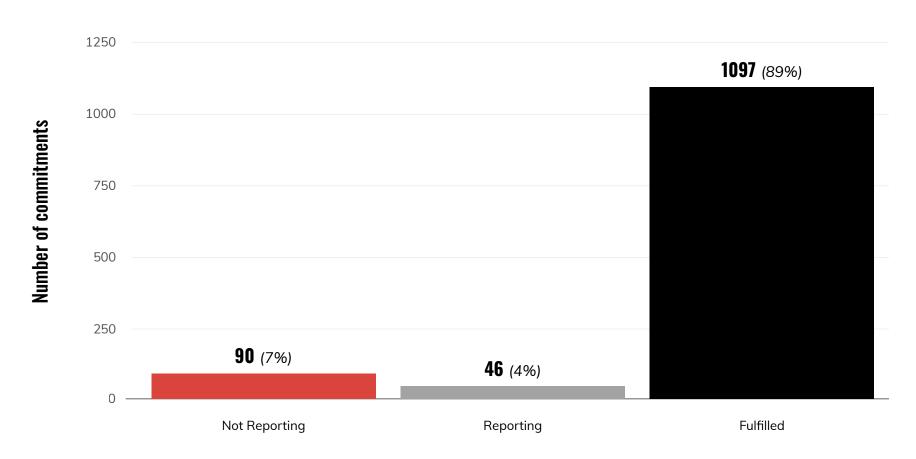


FIGURE 1

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS IN EACH REPORTING STATUS

This graph gives an overall look at the fulfillment progress of cage-free egg commitments with a commitment deadline of 2022 or earlier. The bars show the number and percent of commitments that are either completely fulfilled ("Fulfilled"), partially fulfilled ("Reporting"), or still lacking a public report on the fulfillment status ("Not Reporting"). Percentages may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding. Supporting data is available at **chickenwatch.org.**

INDUSTRY



Number of commitments in each reporting status, by industry

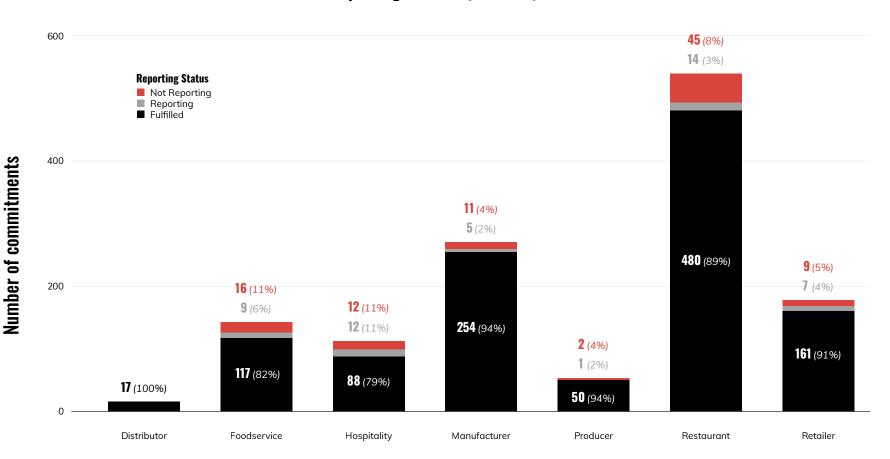


FIGURE 2

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS IN EACH REPORTING STATUS, BY INDUSTRY

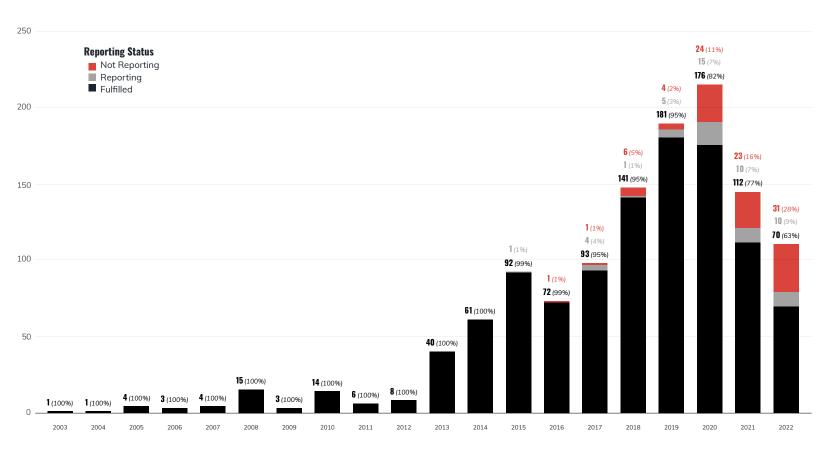
This graph shows industry fulfillment progress of corporate cage-free egg commitments with deadlines of 2022 or earlier. The bars denote the industry of the company making the commitment, and the colors on each segment indicate fulfillment status. The labels on each segment indicate the number and percent of commitments that are either completely fulfilled ("Fulfilled"), partially fulfilled ("Reporting"), or still lacking a public report on the fulfillment status ("Not Reporting"). Percentage may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding. Some commitments apply to multiple industries, so the total commitments in this figure is greater than the total individual commitments. Supporting data is available at chickenwatch.org.

DEADLINE



Number of commitments in each reporting status, by commitment deadline





Deadline year

FIGURE 3

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS IN EACH REPORTING STATUS, BY COMMITMENT DEADLINE

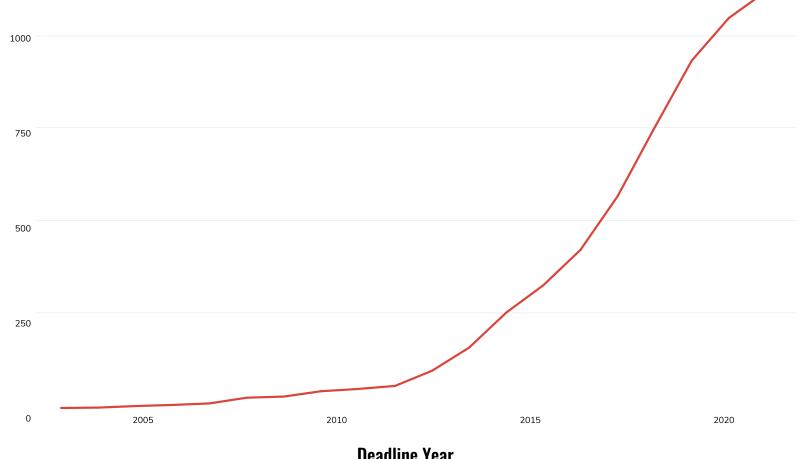
The graph shows fulfillment progress of corporate cage-free egg commitments with deadlines of 2022 or earlier. The bars denote the published deadline year, and the colors on each segment indicate fulfillment status. The labels on each segment indicate the number and percent of commitments that are either completely fulfilled ("Fulfilled"), partially fulfilled ("Reporting"), or still lacking a public report on the fulfillment status ("Not Reporting"). Percentages may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding. Supporting data is available at **chickenwatch.org.**

FULFILLMENT



Companies reporting fulfillment over time





Deadline Year

FIGURE 4

COMPANIES REPORTING FULFILLMENT BY DEADLINE YEAR

This graph shows the number of companies reporting fulfillment of their cage-free egg commitments, for commitments with deadlines of 2022 or earlier. The line represents the cumulative number of cage-free egg commitments fulfilled by year, up to 2022. Supporting data is available at chickenwatch.org.

CONCLUSION

The statistics represented in this report illustrate that the cage-free egg fulfillment rate has increased again since last year, showing that cage-free eggs are becoming ever more popular worldwide. This past year we have seen a myriad of successes, including groundbreaking commitments in Asia and the Middle East, as well as huge global corporations fulfilling cage-free egg commitments years ahead of schedule. Not only are cage-free eggs becoming ubiquitous and standard across the industry, companies are finding it easier to source them and fulfill their promises to consumers.

Cage-free egg commitments are being fulfilled across all food industries, and across the world. Consumers are both aware of and concerned about cages and subsequently look for cage-free eggs. These statistics show that the number of companies using cage-free eggs or transitioning to cage-free supplies is continuously increasing, and the majority of companies are honoring their commitments and making the switch to cage-free eggs.

Looking ahead to 2025, we anticipate a significant rise in global cage-free progress. The number of companies that have cage-free egg commitments with a deadline of 2025 is almost double the number of companies that have cage-free egg commitments with deadlines prior to 2022. In recent years, the OWA has sought corporate accountability from companies with commitments to go cage-free by 2025, and we are already seeing an increase in companies that are reporting progress towards this goal—as well as companies reporting fulfillment years in advance.

The Open Wing Alliance will continue advocating for cage-free progress, and we will hold all companies accountable to their commitments to protect hens from the cruelest forms of confinement.