

See how the chicken industry is working for Delmarva.



In 2018, the Delmarva chicken industry kept production consistent at **605 million birds** a year and generated **\$3.4 billion** in value, a **1 percent** gain over last year. Thanks to improvements in bird health and processing efficiency, the total weight of chickens processed annually rose by **1 percent**. The pace of new Delmarva chicken house construction slowed in 2018, with the number of chicken houses in operation rising just **1 percent**. In the past 10 years, the number of Delmarva chicken houses in operation grew by just **3 percent**. Contract payments to chicken growers rose **5 percent** in 2018, and the wages of chicken company employees were up **4 percent** compared to last year.

In 2018, the Delmarva chicken industry:

	1-year change	10-year change	20-year change
Raised 605 million chickens .	0%	+6%	+0.5%
Processed 4.3 billion pounds of chickens.	+1%	+23%	+36%
Growers owned 5,166 chicken houses .	+1%	+3%	-9%
The houses had a capacity of 150 million chickens .	+9%	+21%	+15%
There were 1,302 chicken growers .	-10%	-26%	-51%
They earned \$268 million in contract income .	+5%	+25%*	+10%*
There were 20,425 chicken company employees .	+10%	+41%	+46%
They earned \$784 million in wages , excluding benefits.	+4%	+59%*	+43%*
Feed ingredients for chickens were purchased for \$1.01 billion .	+3%	-8%*	+6%*
The wholesale value of chicken produced was \$3.4 billion .	+1%	+31%*	+34%*

*inflation-adjusted



Chicken growers and companies planted **7,521 trees and grasses** in 2018 as part of Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.'s vegetative environmental buffers program.



Chicken companies purchased **93 million bushels of corn, 41 million bushels of soybeans, and 266,800 bushels of wheat** for chicken feed in 2018.



Chicken companies purchased **\$260 million** in packaging and processing supplies in 2018.



Delmarva's chicken companies invested **\$137 million** in capital improvements in 2018, including investments in wastewater treatment and processing plants.



Here's what DPI achieved in 2018.



We heard community concerns about air quality and acted, investing in new air monitoring stations.

DPI, The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment, and the state of Maryland are partnering on a first-of-its-kind project to monitor ambient air quality, including levels of ammonia and particulate matter. DPI and the Campbell Foundation have jointly committed more than \$500,000 to this effort. "We in the chicken community have a shared interest with all Marylanders in better understanding what air quality is truly like on the Eastern Shore," said Holly Porter, DPI's executive director. "Because we will never neglect our commitment to environmental responsibility, we believe gathering more data about air quality here helps everyone."

Our members saved money with a new electric buying group.

By negotiating on behalf of farmers and small businesses, DPI secured a low electricity supply rate for members of its electric buying group. The new rate will save each buying group member an average of more than \$1,000 a year.

We added new leadership and a member relations manager.

In December, longtime executive director Bill Satterfield retired from DPI. Assuming the executive director position is Holly Porter, who joined DPI in 2017 as assistant executive director. Porter previously worked on policy for the Delaware Department of Agriculture and held a marketing position at MidAtlantic Farm Credit.

Also in 2018, we hired Maureen Duffy as our first member relations manager. Duffy has extensive experience in marketing and sales, having worked in the corporate and non-profit sectors.

