



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was generally weak in the Northeast, mostly steady elsewhere to instances barely steady in the Midwest. Retail demand was at best fair, but food service was better with fast food specials and catering for holiday functions increasing movement. Supplies were adequate to ample with extreme discounting unsuccessful in moving product. In the parts structure, trading was irregular, mostly light and selective, best for wings, livers, and gizzards. Supplies were adequate to ample with breast items more available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 58.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 65.75 cents last year on the 9th of December, 1998.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
BREASTS - B/S	138.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	70.00
LEG QUARTERS	20.50
WINGS	77.00

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

### CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE		
WEEK ENDING 12/04/99	1999	1998	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	179,368	175,890	+02
CHICKS PLACED	142,324	142,295	0

### Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 179 million eggs during the week ending December 4, 1999. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

### Broiler Chicks Placed Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 142 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 4, 1999. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through December 4, 1999, were 6.83 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 15-Jan-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.1 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 144.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 147.4 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 157.5 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 59.68 CENTS PER POUND.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The market tone was about steady. Offerings ample. Retailer demand just fair. Floor stocks adequate. Parts steady.

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was steady at best. Retail demand was unaggressive with few features. Food service was better with holiday festivities and business generated from holiday shoppers aiding movement. Supplies were more than sufficient and often hard to place. In the parts structure, trading was slow for breast items, fair to moderate for dark meat, and moderate to good for wings. Availability was balanced, longest for breast cuts. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady to instances barely steady. Offerings of additional whole birds were adequate to fully adequate with fill in trading in Chicago on WOG's reported at 37 cents. Retail demand was seasonally light to fair at best. Food service movement was mixed, light to good, best demand into fast food features and catering for holiday parties. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with sizes generally desirable to instances heavier than desired. Parts trading was irregular with buyers cautious and selective. Supplies mostly adequate to ample with livers and gizzards in the tightest position and breast items in the longest position. Features noted in Chicago on boneless/skinless breast at \$1.79. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady on wings, steady on dark meat items and barely steady to weak on breast items.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally slow. Offerings were at least sufficient for limited needs. Smaller sizes continued to be the most available and sold at levels below current market values. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was light. The market tone was generally weak. In the parts market, offerings remained more than adequate. The market tone was no better than steady.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was slow. Seller offerings remained readily available with spot sales noted as low as 40 to 41 cents in an effort stimulate activity. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy, mostly desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 55 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly weak. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate for the seasonally light and unaggressive buying interest.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	41-75
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.03
NO. OF BOXES	9,045

\*6 of 8 plants reporting.

DECEMBER 07, 1999

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

DECEMBER 08, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS		WTD	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	540	120.00-183.00	125-135	133.32
TENDERLOINS	91	125.00-175.00	130	142.14
BREAST - LINE RUN	94	66.00-71.00	-	66.43
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	86	24.00-34.00	24-26	24.70
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	382	15.00-19.00	15-16	15.86
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,221	17.00-21.00	19-20	19.74
WINGS (WHOLE)	367	71.00-75.00	72-75	73.83
WINGS (CUT)	344	80.00-90.00	84-85	84.85
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS		WTD	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	530	120.00-185.00	125-135	148.66
TENDERLOINS	60	125.00-175.00	130-135	146.67
BREAST - LINE RUN	94	66.00-71.00	67-69	66.43
FRONT HALVES	150	58.00-62.00	-	59.47
LEGS	86	24.00-34.00	24-25	24.70
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	542	15.00-19.00	15-16	16.33
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,061	17.50-21.00	19-21	19.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	139	64.00-75.00	70-72	72.12
WINGS (CUT)	426	80.00-90.00	85-86	85.35
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	21	20.00-34.00	-	27.33
B/S THIGHS	84	62.00-70.00	-	63.77

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR DECEMBER 07, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR DECEMBER 08, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
34.00 - 41.50	37.18

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
36.50 - 40.50	37.90	38.10

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** Trucklot buying activity showed little to no improvement and remained slow. All items were more than adequate for current needs. Movement into retail and distributive channels was very light and out front optimism was at a minimum. The market tone was steady at best. **\*CORRECTION REPORT OF DECEMBER 1, 1999 SHOULD HAVE READ AS FOLLOWS:**

**BREAST - WITH RIBS** CURRENT NEG. 60-61 WTD AVG "70.77" VOLUME/LBS "168,040"  
**BREAST - LINE RUN** CURRENT NEG. 60 WTD AVG "63.83" VOLUME/LBS "181,280"

\*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	130	134.44	423,360	
TENDERLOINS	130	133.51	102,480	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	70.06	251,840	
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	64.60	117,800	
LEGS	26-27	29.87	222,480	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.07	488,433	
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	30.64	164,710	
THIGHS	19-20	26.21	130,880	
B/S THIGHS	70-71	74.03	42,010	
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.52	247,880	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	63,400	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	38.70	59,495	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	63.79	82,030	

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	130	136.52	371,160	
TENDERLOINS	130	133.99	88,160	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	71.34	219,760	
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	65.31	70,400	
LEGS	26-27	30.19	167,400	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.79	420,434	
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	31.37	117,490	
THIGHS	19-20	27.30	143,800	
B/S THIGHS	70-71	73.65	48,840	
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.77	282,080	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.02	64,400	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	39.50	56,680	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.58	80,840	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

\* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	12/08	12/07	12/06	12/03	12/06	12/03	12/01	11/29
ALA	3,839	3,884	3,898	4,027	5.20	4.99	3,815	5.17
ARK	4,960	4,926	5,224	5,575	4.89	4.56	5,079	4.96
DELMARVA	2,321	2,268	2,473	2,319	5.27	5.11	2,206	5.10
KY-LA-TN	1,857	1,618	1,806	2,194	4.55	4.34	1,813	4.56
MISS	2,726	2,629	2,781	3,032	5.07	4.96	2,727	5.22
NC	2,139	2,622	2,542	3,133	5.98	5.68	2,615	5.98
TEXAS	1,964	2,224	2,096	2,346	4.83	4.66	2,116	4.92
TOTAL	19,806	20,171	20,384	22,626	5.11	4.89	20,371	5.14
MON-WED	60,515(A)				61,074(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 08-Dec 99 is estimated to be 29,632,000 down 3.07 percent from a week ago and up 0.4 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,569,000; last year 29,507,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	78-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104
	ICE PACK	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-162

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING DEC -11

CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
	CURRENT WEEK 12/11/99 (1)	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/04/99
BRO-FRY	152,367 (2)	153,842
LT HENS	2,146	2,054
HVY HENS	1,468	1,533
CHECK TOTAL	155,981	157,429

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 11-Dec-99 is 144.1 million head compared to 150.3 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.2 million head or 10.1 million more than estimated available. For week of 18-Dec-99 the estimated available is 139.5 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS**

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 06-Dec-99	67,769		76,132	
AM 1-Nov-99	161,851		82,865	
CHG	-94,082		-6,733	
PCT CHG	-58		-8	

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	12/6/99	11/29/99	12/7/98	12/6/99	11/29/99	12/7/98
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	7,601	7,784	14,252	13,519	13,761	4,875
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	175	225	1,155	4,280	4,578	431

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

FOR 12/07/99

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	.80	.58	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.25	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.50	1.75
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.00	2.00
ROOSTERS lb.	.50	1.15	.77	ROOSTERS ea.	.50	4.25
GEESE lb.	-	.55	-	GEESE ea.	9.50	16.00
TURKEYS lb.	-	.10	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	4.00
DUCKS lb.	.30	1.15	.68	DUCKS ea.	-	4.50
RABBITS lb.	.25	1.25	.80	RABBITS ea.	.15	.25
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	3.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea	9.00	10.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	4.00
SILKIES ea.	-	1.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 130

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 6 , 1999.

		RANGE
<b>HENS</b>	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	60-63
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	66

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending December 3, 1999

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	52.69	114.96	67.06	19.16	4.79	50.29
High	55.08	124.54	76.64	23.95	5.75	50.29
Mostly	54.13	119.75	71.85	19.16	5.75	50.29
<b>SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	53.65	100.59	64.66	19.16	4.79	43.11
High	55.56	119.75	76.64	28.74	8.62	43.11
Mostly	55.56	110.17	67.06	21.56	5.75	43.11
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	52.69	105.38	67.06	19.16	4.79	47.90
High	54.61	119.75	71.85	23.95	5.75	47.90
Mostly	53.65	119.75	71.85	19.16	5.75	47.90
<b>BECERRA</b>						
Low	51.73	105.38	71.85	19.16	4.79	45.50
High	55.56	119.75	81.43	35.92	8.62	45.50
Mostly	53.65	114.96	71.85	26.34	7.18	45.50

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