



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged to higher in New York and generally unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady and activity was mostly light heading into the weekend. Demand was light to fair, usually fair. Supplies were sufficient in meeting current trade requirements. In the parts structure, offerings were at least adequate in meeting the moderate to occasionally good demand. In production areas, live supplies were light to moderate as many plants curtailed production. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/17-04/22/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Chicago	42.00-46.00	41.00-60.00	46.18	22
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	53.00-56.00	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	56.00-58.00	44.00-59.50	57.04	83

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
569	52.25-59.00	57.10

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	139.00	3,559
BREASTS - WHOLE	76.00	1,575
THIGH MEAT - B/S	98.50	333
LEG QUARTERS	19.00	7,127
WINGS	53.50	2,387

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

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was generally steady, however activity was beginning to slow as Easter week approached. Demand was light to moderate with best movement into food service channels. Supplies were sufficient to handle current trade needs. In the parts complex, offerings were at least adequate for the limited demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Reported trading for next week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices on whole birds and unchanged to higher on WOGs. Offerings easily adequate for full trade needs. Buying activity fair. Retail demand fair for whole birds and fairly good for parts. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Ad noted in independent and/or major chains [small and/or max packs]: N. CA - whole body 69-79, whole legs 89-109, drumsticks 89-99, thighs 89-119, boneless thigh 199 and boneless breasts 399; S. CA - whole body 58-79, whole legs 129, wings 89-129, thighs 59-129, drumsticks 59-129, bone on breasts 87-169 and boneless 188-549, boneless thigh 119-149, boneless leg 98 and cornish hens 98.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged from last Monday's final. Trade sentiment on whole broiler/fryers steady. Offerings of wogs and whole fryers balanced for trade needs. Demand into all channels in a full range, mostly slow to light into retail and fairly good into fast food accounts. Floor stocks adequate to occasionally ample, sizes desirable to instances lighter than desired. In the parts complex, trading was slow to fair overall. Fair to fairly good trading noted on split breasts and wings in the St. Louis area as features and promotions stimulated demand. Supplies becoming more available on whole breasts and thighs. Leg quarters supplies in balance with wings, drums and boneless/skinless breasts fully adequate, some discounting noted. Trade sentiment was at unsettled on whole breasts, about steady on the remainder of items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was no better than fair entering the weekend. Offerings varied by size and volume but were more than sufficient for trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts market, bone-in breast were available. All other items were at least adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was about moderate entering the weekend, however, buying interest had generally slowed. Offerings varied in both size and volume, but were fully sufficient for current inquiry. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were curtailed at several points and were light in total. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate for the light and selective 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	53-68	
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.37	
NO. OF BOXES	8,246	
CUMULATIVE		
	04/10/00-04/14/00	58.65
	04/12/99-04/16/99	49.50
NO. OF BOXES	04/10/00-04/14/00	41,554
	04/12/99-04/16/99	32,710

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

APR 13, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 14, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD AVG	POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	663	125.00-190.00	125-135	132.27	582	128.00-190.00	130-135	133.49	3,821	134.47	
TENDERLOINS	157	128.00-195.00	-	137.94	160	130.00-200.00	-	173.07	796	156.21	
BREAST - LINE RUN	195	73.00-76.00	73-75	74.23	236	65.00-75.50	-	72.00	799	73.27	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				75	61.00-66.00	-	63.33	325	65.26	
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				232	27.79	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	101	15.00-18.00	15-17	16.42	280	15.00-16.00	-	15.86	1,639	15.88	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,233	18.00-20.00	18-19	18.66	890	18.00-19.50	18-19	18.56	5,199	18.46	
WINGS (WHOLE)	107	52.00-56.00	52-54	54.50	102	49.00-56.00	49-51	51.69	466	52.67	
WINGS (CUT)	425	61.00-70.00	63-65	62.21	470	60.00-73.00	62-64	63.28	2,707	63.78	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				26	34.00	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				34	34.00	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				13	95.77	

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

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TRADING FOR APR 13, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK. **TODAY'S**

RANGE	AVERAGE
40.75 - 42.25	41.46

TRADING FOR APR 14, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK. **TODAY'S** **5-DAY**

RANGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
38.00 - 41.00	39.60	40.86

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 interest was noted as generally light and unaggressive entering the weekend. Offerings of leg items were adequate. Bone-in breast were more than sufficient and increasing in availability. The balance was at least adequate. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was cautiously steady. 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 AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS			TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS			WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135-140	138.91	418,720	135-140	141.79	475,040	139.41	2,145,205				
TENDERLOINS	125-130	132.17	100,080	125-130	134.24	115,840	131.45	485,680				
BREAST - WITH RIBS	69-70	76.89	167,160	69-70	76.71	201,040	76.30	806,360				
BREAST - LINE RUN	69	73.60	195,960	69	72.07	154,120	73.01	841,900				
LEGS	29-30	33.52	157,520	29-30	32.94	227,160	32.53	894,520				
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	21.39	296,737	18-19	20.22	495,803	20.49	1,878,855				
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.27	108,630	34-35	34.19	122,990	33.95	551,310				
THIGHS	28-29	32.47	73,560	28-29	33.38	81,330	32.65	358,960				
B/S THIGHS	86-87	91.64	37,560	86-87	92.11	38,040	92.73	229,300				
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	57.30	222,080	48-49	59.80	237,420	58.54	983,500				
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.08	57,240	10-12	12.05	56,240	12.00	262,360				
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.60	40,320	30-35	34.06	54,810	34.16	228,650				
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.79	64,560	40-45	44.96	80,880	44.59	349,150				

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.
 ** WTD AVG 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	
	04/14	04/13	04/12	04/11	04/12	04/11	04/07	04/05
ALA	3,961	3,967	3,504	3,897	4.94	5.05	4,054	5.02
ARK	5,226	5,299	5,076	5,056	4.91	5.00	5,166	4.89
DELMARVA	1,990	2,363	2,360	2,346	5.07	5.15	2,226	5.07
KY-LA-TN	2,385	2,027	1,692	2,007	4.22	4.45	2,154	4.38
MISS	3,019	2,800	2,767	2,569	5.05	5.14	2,823	5.09
NC	2,273	2,376	2,370	2,414	5.78	6.01	2,279	5.76
TEXAS	1,914	2,263	2,249	2,144	4.88	4.84	2,410	4.88
TOTAL	20,768	21,095	20,018	20,433	5.00	5.06	21,112	5.02
MON-FRI	103,986(A)				104,016(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.
 Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Apr & 15-Apr-00 is estimated to be 31,071,000 down 1.93 percent from a week ago and up 1.8 percent from a year ago.
 (Last week 31,681,000; last year 30,513,000)
 Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 15-Apr-00 is estimated to be 155,555,000 head up 1.3 percent from a week ago, and up 2.4 percent from a year ago
 (Last week 153,585,000 Last year 151,880,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104-108
	ICE PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	95
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Apr 1, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning

Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	30,629	33,997	40,399
Avg Weight	3.75	4.66	6.07
% of total /1	29%	32%	38%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	35,074	40,542	34,114
Avg Weight	3.69	4.80	6.11
% of total /1	32%	37%	31%
Same week, yr ago /2	30,272	19,149	39,959
Avg Weight	3.83	4.88	5.91
% of total /1	34%	21%	45%
To date/2000	439,398	410,309	512,120
To date/1999	432,067	373,364	551,686

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 08-Apr-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	153,585 (A)	2,009	1,345	3,354	507
AVG WT	5.03	3.38	8.03	5.24	6.74
LAST WEEK	156,244	1,911	1,314	3,225	433
YR AGO	147,925	2,098	1,318	3,416	451
AVG WT	4.97	3.39	7.99	5.17	6.10
TO-DATE/2000	2,151,923	28,301	19,114	47,415	6,394
TO-DATE/1999	2,093,418	30,103	18,616	48,719	6,432

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 150.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 155.5 million head or 5.0 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: APR 11, 2000

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.60 - .68	Geese 9 - 14 .30 - .54
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.62 - .72	Pigeons 2.50 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.50 - .78	White Pigeons 2.75 - 3.25ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.50 - .94	Rabbits 4 - 6 1.10 - 1.58
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .92	Rabbits 7 - 11 1.00 - 1.34
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - 1.06	Bunnies 2.00 - 12.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - 1.02	Guinea Pigs 2.00 - 5.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.00 - 1.65	Goats 40.00 - 65.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 6.00ea.	Kid Goats 20.00 - 38.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 4.00ea.	Doves 2.50 - 5.00ea.
Leghorn Hens	.18 - .34	Chukars 3.00ea.
Silkie	2.00 - 2.75ea.	Pullets 4 - 6 .60 - .84

Total Coops Sold 1,146

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FEDERAL-STATE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 10, 2000

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143-143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-57	54-55
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	71-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fair to at times good. Schedules were full-time and sizes were in the desirable range. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 10-APR-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
MARCH	4	156.8	153.3	102
	11	157.0	153.8	102
	18	150.2	153.3	98
	25	157.1	153.4	102
APRIL	1	158.1	152.9	103
	8	155.5	150.5	103
YEAR TO DATE	2178.2	2122.0	103	
APRIL	15	149.4		
	22	149.9		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 25-Mar-00

IN THOUSANDS
Broilers 3,928 HD, 18,579 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 694 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	04/15/00	04/08/00	% CHG	04/17/99	% CHG
Broilers	155,555	*153,585	+01	*151,880	+02
Cattle	666	667	0	*658	+01
Hogs	1,826	1,824	0	*1,980	-08

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were unchanged on light canners and unchanged to slightly lower on heavies. Demand was fair for offerings that ranged from in close balance to fully adequate. The undertone was steady on lights and about steady to steady on heavy canners.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 25-26.25 MAJORITY	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 32.5-36 MAJORITY 35.5-36
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 26-28 MAJORITY 26-27	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 33-38.5 MAJORITY 37.5-38.5

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair for offerings that were adequate to ample for schedules that ranged from normal to less than normal. Undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Undertone was steady to about steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY	RANGE	MAJORITY
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy f.o.b. plant	TFEWR (2)	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading		

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant schedules moderate. Offerings continued to increased.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for the light to moderate demand. Offerings have steadily increased as the Easter holiday approaches. Trade sentiment about steady.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter (Chief)
	Fax	(202)720-2403	
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(404)562-5875	
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(601)965-4661	
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(323)269-5926	
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	