



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was generally steady; however, caution was reported in the Midwest and improvement noted in parts of the Northeast. Retail movement was light to moderate and increased in some locations, but remained below expectations in the Northeast. Food service demand was fair to good, best into fast food outlets. Supplies were adequate to ample. In the parts structure, supplies were more than sufficient for the light demand with breast items better balanced due to inquiries for Mother's Day weekend. In production areas, live supplies were usually moderate. Weights varied, but were 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 05/08-05/13/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		WTD	COMPOSITE
	MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	LOADS
Chicago	42.00-46.00	37.00-60.00	46.13	24
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	53.00-56.00	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	57.00-59.00	55.00-60.00	57.00	86

**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.

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
589	52.17-59.25	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	135.50	3,910
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.50	1,750
THIGH MEAT - B/S	97.50	601
LEG QUARTERS	18.50	7,700
WINGS	49.50	2,638

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

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was light to moderate and showed signs of improvement for the weekend. Supplies were usually adequate to cover trade needs. In the parts structure, supplies were more than sufficient for the light demand with breast items moving into a better position. In production areas, live supplies were usually moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trading for next week's deliveries on regular commitments at generally unchanged prices with additional purchases at unchanged to lower prices. Offerings ample. Retail demand was moderate to good, best where featured. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was generally steady on parts. Ads noted: N. CA - wholebody 89, drumsticks 169, thighs 169, bone-in breasts 149-179 and boneless breasts 199-399; S. CA - wholebody 57-89, leg quarters 29-39, thighs 67-139, drumsticks 49-139, bone-in breasts 97-139, boneless breasts 187-399, boneless thigh meat 129, boneless leg meat 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. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was cautiously steady. Additional product offerings fully sufficient for trade needs. Movement into retail outlets irregular, mostly light to moderate, best for features. Food service demand fair to fairly good, mainly into fast food outlets. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate, sizes desirable to heavy. Parts trading moderate on leg quarters and tenders, balance of items slow with fair with quite a bit of inquiry on breast items for Mothers Day weekend. Supplies at least adequate on all items. Trade sentiment steady on tenderloins and leg quarters, about steady on the remainder of items.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to good entering the weekend. Offerings were fully adequate for immediate delivery. Weights varied in a full range and were mostly desirable. Retail and distributive movement increased at some points and was good, but was just fair and somewhat disappointing elsewhere. Floor stocks were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. In the parts complex, supplies were less readily available but were at least adequate. Increased activity was noted in HRI channels as dealers prepared for the rapidly approaching Mothers Day.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair and continued to improve as the weekend approached. Offerings were mixed but generally more than adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights were light to mostly desirable. Processing schedules were light to usually moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was steady and improving. In the parts complex, offerings were adequate to fully adequate. Breast items, particularly bone-in breasts were becoming less available than previously reported this week. Leg quarters continued to receive additional 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	55-70
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.17
NO. OF BOXES	7,705
CUMULATIVE	59.26
	05/01/00-05/05/00
	05/03/99-05/07/99
NO. OF BOXES	37,507
	05/01/00-05/05/00
	05/03/99-05/07/99
	35,283

\*6 of 8 plants reporting.

MAY 04, 2000

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

MAY 05, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD	POUNDS				WTD	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	587	120.00-169.00	130-135	132.14	657	125.00-170.00	125-130	135.84	3,055	132.15		
TENDERLOINS	194	140.00-205.00	140-145	148.40	342	145.00-205.00	-	161.73	1,000	162.04		
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				206	59.00-74.00	-	64.83	534	67.10		
FRONT HALVES	70	49.00-51.00	-	50.00	70	49.00-51.00	-	50.00	384	50.17		
LEGS	86	27.00-34.00	27-29	27.49	88	27.00-34.00	-	27.64	352	27.64		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	819	15.00-18.00	15-17	16.10	381	15.00-18.00	17	16.88	3,615	16.07		
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	921	17.50-20.00	19-20	19.23	2,243	17.00-20.00	19-20	19.31	7,534	19.37		
WINGS (WHOLE)	250	39.00-56.00	45-47	47.74	204	39.00-52.00	-	47.38	1,317	45.36		
WINGS (CUT)	552	48.00-69.00	52-55	53.78	579	49.00-72.00	51-53	56.07	2,485	55.09		
DRUMSTICKS	10	22.00-34.00	-	29.20	TOO FEW TO REPORT				164	25.91		
THIGHS	13	19.00-34.00	-	29.38	TOO FEW TO REPORT				116	24.03		
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				128	78.57		

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAY 04, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

**TODAY'S AVERAGE**

TRADING FOR MAY 05, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

**TODAY'S AVERAGE**

**5-DAY AVERAGE**

32.00 - 34.50

33.05

32.00 - 34.50

33.44

33.21

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 increased entering the weekend and was moderate to good. Boneless skinless and bone-in breasts were noted as not as readily available as last several days, but were at least adequate for immediate inquiry. Leg items and wings were fully adequate. Movement in retail and distributive channels continued to improve and most dealers noted floor stocks as adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Trade sentiment was steadier.

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

MAY 04, 2000

**CURRENT NEG TRADING\***

**WTD AVG\*\* VOL/LBS**

**CURRENT NEG TRADING\***

**WTD AVG\*\***

**VOL/LBS WTD AVG**

MAY 05, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	133.57	426,920	130	132.54	637,280	132.94	2,167,240
TENDERLOINS	135	148.12	62,520	135	149.94	99,280	149.50	309,960
BREAST - WITH RIBS	53-54	63.18	235,160	53-54	63.38	279,160	63.33	1,019,320
BREAST - LINE RUN	53	56.96	149,800	53	56.53	95,400	56.23	557,140
LEGS	29-30	32.57	197,260	29-30	33.33	227,560	32.83	862,620
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	20.69	519,759	18-19	20.45	477,576	20.53	2,013,617
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.62	122,450	34-35	34.93	148,390	34.75	568,410
THIGHS	28-29	32.62	76,200	28-29	32.96	119,200	32.65	408,760
B/S THIGHS	86-87	93.38	37,320	86-87	94.67	49,960	93.54	210,700
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	58.87	227,000	50-51	59.69	271,640	59.47	1,013,880
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	58,200	10-12	12.02	74,640	12.02	258,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.50	53,720	30-35	34.59	68,720	34.32	243,400
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.86	71,360	40-45	44.74	94,840	44.31	343,830

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		ACTUAL WTS	
	05/05	05/04	05/03	05/02	05/03	05/02	04/28	04/26
ALA	3,910	3,976	3,817	3,975	5.03	5.05	4,076	5.11
ARK	5,100	5,106	4,999	5,193	4.89	4.89	5,461	4.92
DELMARVA	2,133	2,409	2,357	2,357	5.11	5.19	2,306	5.06
KY-LA-TN	1,985	2,075	2,093	2,105	4.45	4.46	2,058	4.43
MISS	2,741	2,838	2,300	2,743	5.18	5.10	2,663	5.05
NC	2,543	2,595	2,559	2,584	5.74	6.01	2,703	5.92
TEXAS	2,344	2,327	2,310	2,356	4.87	4.92	2,259	4.77
TOTAL	20,756	21,326	20,435	21,313	5.03	5.05	21,526	5.05
MON-FRI	105,791 (A)				102,840 (A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 05 & 06-May-00 is estimated to be 31,053,000 down 0.38 percent from a week ago and down 6.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 33,272,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 06-May-00 is estimated to be 157,853,000 head up 3.7 percent from a week ago, and up 2.2 percent from a year ago (Last week 152,156,000 Last year 154,413,000)

**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**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 102-104
	ICE PACK 92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 107-111
	DRY PACK 119
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 98
	ICE PACK 95
DUCKS	152-166

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Apr 22, 2000 (Preliminary),

	<b>(A) Fast food/ Food service</b>	<b>(B) Retail</b>	<b>(C) Deboning</b>
	<b>4.20 Lbs &amp; down</b>	<b>4.21-5.25 Lbs</b>	<b>5.26 Lbs &amp; Up</b>
	-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	26,005	32,289	40,617
Avg Weight	3.71	4.72	6.02
% of total /1	26%	33%	41%
<b>COMPARISONS</b>			
Last week	30,201	26,507	43,818
Avg Weight	3.80	4.73	5.98
% of total /1	30%	26%	44%
Same week, yr ago /2	32,773	27,330	47,133
Avg Weight	3.86	4.82	5.97
% of total /1	31%	25%	44%
To date/2000	528,128	507,309	641,436
To date/1999	525,851	450,473	686,465

/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 29-Apr-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	<b>YOUNG CHICKENS</b>	<b>LIGHT HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY HENS</b>	<b>TOTAL HENS</b>	<b>DUCKS</b>
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	152,156 (A)	2,036	1,424	3,460	486
AVG WT	5.04	3.38	7.74	5.18	6.44
LAST WEEK	146,562	2,030	1,433	3,463	391
YR AGO	153,704	2,147	1,405	3,552	454
AVG WT	4.90	3.37	8.17	5.27	6.64
TO-DATE/2000	2,605,489	34,626	23,306	57,932	7,709
TO-DATE/1999	2,551,327	37,092	22,795	59,887	7,702

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 153.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.0 million head or 0.5 million head more than or 100 percent of estimated fryers available.

**EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAY 02, 2000**

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>RANGE</b>
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.64 - .76	Silkies 2.60 - 3.85ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.70 - 1.10	Geese 9-14 .30 - .42
Pekin Ducks	.50 - .76	Pigeons 2.50 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.50 - .62	White Pigeons 2.90 - 3.25ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .84	Rabbits 4-6 1.00 - 1.32
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.60 - .92	Rabbits 7-11 1.00 - 1.20
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.50 - 1.10	Bunnies 1.00 - 4.50ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - 1.16	Guinea Pigs 2.00 - 6.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.10 - 1.65	Goats 40.00 - 62.00ea.
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 8.00ea.	Kid Goats 25.00 - 40.00ea.
Banty Hens	3.00 - 4.50ea.	Doves 4.50 - 6.00ea.
Leghorn Hens	.12 - .22	Pullets 4-6 .60 - .84
Leghorn Roosters	.60 - 1.10	

Total Coops Sold 794

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY for THE WEEK OF MAY 01, 2000

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

<b>ORIGIN</b>	<b>FROZEN</b>	<b>FRESH</b>
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	137	143

MIDWEST MOSTLY	121-125 121-123	122-126 122-124
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**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-57	54-55
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	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 moderate to at times good. Sizes were desirable and slaughter schedules were full-time. 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 01-MAY-2000

<b>ORIGIN</b>	<b>FROZEN</b>	<b>FRESH</b>
MIDWEST AND OTHERS MOSTLY	117-119	118

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

		<b>MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED</b>	<b>MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>AVG WT</b>
WEEK ENDING					
MARCH	25	157.1	153.4	102	5.08
APRIL	1	158.1	152.9	103	4.97
	8	155.5	150.5	103	5.03
	15	156.7	149.4	105	5.05
	22	148.3	149.9	99	5.05
	29	154.0	153.5	100	5.04
YEAR TO DATE		2637.2	2574.8	102	
MAY	6	156.1			
	13	157.2			

**CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** W/E 29-Apr-00

IN THOUSANDS  
Broilers 4,251 HD, 22,190 lbs., Light Hens 201 HD, 691 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
<b>W/E</b>	<b>05/06/00</b>	<b>04/29/00</b>	<b>% CHG</b>	<b>05/08/99</b>	<b>% CHG</b>
Broilers	157,853	*152,156	+04	*154,413	+02
Cattle	702	694	+01	*701	0
Hogs	1,795	1,711	+05	*1,796	0

Under Federal Inspection

\* ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Prices were irregular on both light and heavy canners, however values usually trended lower on delivered heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was only fair and usually unaggressive for offerings that ranged from in balance to available. The undertone was still unsettled and barely steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
24-26 MAJORITY 25-26	31.5-36.25 MAJORITY 34-36

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
25-28.5 MAJORITY 25-26.75	31-36.75 MAJORITY 35-36.75

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged. Demand was at best fair for offerings that were mostly ample for needs. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Finished product was clearing at slightly lower levels. Undertone was steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Trading was light. Demand was light. Offerings were heavy. Finished sales were slow. Trade sentiment was weak.

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged. Offerings ample to burdensome for the light to moderate demand. Schedules full-time to over-time. Some producers were encountering difficulties placing spent birds. Trade sentiment about steady.

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plants worked full schedules. Offerings ample.

**LIVE HENS**

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
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

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HENS** Sales were too few to report prices. Buyers were cautious and unaggressive as offerings remain fully adequate to ample for processing needs. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Finished product was adequate to available. Market conditions were barely steady to steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of heavy hens. Finished sales were slow. Trade sentiment was barely steady.

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