



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady to firm. Demand overall was moderate to good with best interest into fast food, features, and for anticipated Memorial Day needs. Supplies were mostly sufficient, but short in the South with some premiums were being paid. In the parts structure, breast items were tight to balanced and held with confidence. Leg quarters received increased interest, and the remaining items were usually adequate. Trading was fair to good with numerous ads reported. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights varied, but were mostly desirable.

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 cent to 58.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 60.50 cents last year on the 26th May, 1999.

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	153.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	79.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	97.00
LEG QUARTERS	20.00
WINGS	52.50

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 05/20/00	2000	1999	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	186,013	183,489	+01
CHICKS PLACED	149,742	146,675	+02

### BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 186 million eggs during the week ending May 20, 2000. This was up 1 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 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 150 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 20, 2000. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through May 20, 2000, were 2.93 billion, up 1 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 1-Jul-00 IS ESTIMATED AT 154.7 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 155.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 154.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 161.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 59.94 CENTS PER POUND.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fairly good. Offerings were adequate for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was mostly good. The market tone was steady at least. In the parts complex, breast items continued tight and all other items were generally sufficient.

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Demand was moderate to good aided by features and Memorial Day needs. Supplies were close balanced to tight for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were well cleared to short of an active call. The remaining items were usually sufficient and moving. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, but mostly desirable.

**MIDWEST** Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment steady to fully steady, instances firm. Offerings adequate or available on wogs with whole birds limited for the mostly light buyer interest. Demand into all outlets fair to fairly good, best movement into catering concerns, fast food outlets and scattered features. Retail features noted in Chicago on split breasts at 99 cents and boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.79. In Ohio drums and thighs featured at \$1.49, leg quarters at 29 and 59 cents, split breasts at 97 and 99 cents and boneless/skinless breasts at \$1.99 and \$2.49. Floor stocks balanced to short of needs, weights mostly desirable. Parts trading moderate to active on bone-in breasts and leg quarters, light to fair on boneless/skinless breasts, slow to light trading on the balance. Supplies of whole breasts barely adequate, boneless/skinless breasts available and all other items at least adequate. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm on bone-in breasts, steady with firm undertone on boneless/skinless breasts and steady on remainder.

**WESTERN** The market tone was steady on regular commitments and fully steady for new negotiations. Offerings easily adequate but confidently held. Retail demand moderate for whole body and fairly good for parts. Floor stocks adequate. Bone-on breasts and leg quarters firm with balance of parts generally steady. Ads noted: S. CA. - whole body 79-89, leg quarters 28-39, drumsticks 59-99, thighs 59-99, wings 99, bone-in breasts 139, boneless breasts 179-499, boneless thigh meat 119, boneless leg meat 98 and ducks 199; N. CA. - whole body 69-79, whole legs 99, wings 99, boneless breasts 299-399 and cornish hens 129 each.

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to good as buyers looked to insure adequate supplies through the holiday extended weekend. Offerings varied, but were generally noted as adequate. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, inquiry was both cautious and on the fairly active side. Breast and leg items were generally well balanced to tight.

\*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	53-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.51
NO. OF BOXES	10,593

\*6 of 8 plants reporting.

MAY 23, 2000

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

MAY 24, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		WTD	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	531	135.00-178.00	135-140	142.26
TENDERLOINS	180	145.00-210.00	145-150	156.50
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	72.00-74.00	-	73.87
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	46	27.00-34.00	-	27.91
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	711	16.00-19.00	17-18	17.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	842	19.00-21.00	19-21	19.75
WINGS (WHOLE)	79	46.00-49.00	-	47.33
WINGS (CUT)	367	52.00-72.00	55-56	55.98
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR MAY 23, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
33.00 - 37.00	34.75

ITEM	POUNDS		WTD	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	528	135.00-178.00	140-145	142.85
TENDERLOINS	185	145.00-210.00	145-150	158.78
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	86	27.00-34.00	27-29	27.49
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	791	16.00-19.00	16-18	17.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	932	19.00-21.00	19-21	19.75
19.94WINGS (WHOLE)	318	40.00-56.00	49-51	49.94
WINGS (CUT)	332	51.00-72.00	54-56	55.40
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR MAY 24, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
33.50 - 37.50	35.25	34.07

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 was very brisk today in anticipation of good weekend business and holiday closings. Offerings of breast items were mostly tight and the balance of parts was about adequate to adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was fairly good. The market tone was firm on breast items and steady to fully steady on the remainder of items.

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

MAY 23, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	145	148.12	570,240
TENDERLOINS	140	149.71	83,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	79.18	318,000
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	75.60	181,500
LEGS	31-32	35.56	272,000
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	21-22	22.21	568,983
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	37.83	151,880
THIGHS	28-29	35.40	155,320
B/S THIGHS	86-87	92.66	41,580
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	59.58	335,069
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.05	73,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.23	73,450
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.75	99,015

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.

MAY 24, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	
BREAST - B/S	150-155	152.08	518,220
TENDERLOINS	140	149.91	75,840
BREAST - WITH RIBS	72-73	79.32	314,050
BREAST - LINE RUN	72	76.34	96,800
LEGS	31-32	36.64	192,880
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	22-23	21.91	508,536
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	36.44	142,200
THIGHS	28-29	36.41	101,670
B/S THIGHS	86-87	91.95	53,360
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	59.38	297,560
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.02	74,720
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.82	66,960
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.88	106,000

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

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	05/24	05/23	05/22	05/19	05/22	05/19	05/17	05/15
ALA	3,947	3,984	3,824	3,921	4.99	4.89	3,819	5.07
ARK	5,098	5,288	5,060	5,093	4.92	4.74	5,154	4.84
DELMARVA	2,445	2,397	2,414	3,348	5.16	5.09	2,296	5.05
KY-LA-TN	1,995	1,985	1,998	2,043	4.41	4.33	2,081	4.44
MISS	2,775	2,781	2,769	2,698	5.08	5.00	2,801	5.11
NC	2,641	2,671	2,539	2,921	5.96	6.01	2,492	5.87
TEXAS	2,319	2,309	2,324	2,578	4.98	4.72	2,329	4.84
TOTAL	21,220	21,415	20,928	22,602	5.07	4.93	20,972	5.03
MON-WED	63,741(A)						62,443(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 24-May 00 is estimated to be 31,747,000 up 1.84 percent from a week ago and up 3.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,590,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	77-81
ROASTERS 4# & UP	75-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	74-79
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

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

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 27-00

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	05/27/00 (1)	05/20/00
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	163,446 (2)	159,386
LT HENS	2,048	2,058
HVY HENS	1,613	1,671
CHECK TOTAL	167,107	163,115

(1)ESTIMATED  
 (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-May-00 is 156.0 million head compared to 158.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 163.8 million head or 7.8 million more than estimated available. For week of 03-Jun-00 the estimated available is 156.4 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS**

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS  
 (INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	LBS		LBS			LBS
AM 22-May-00	135,753		92,074			
AM 1-May-00	127,404		90,183			
CHG	8,349		1,891			
PCT CHG	7		2			

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	05/22/00	05/15/00	05/24/99	05/22/00	05/15/00	05/24/99
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	18,100	18,017	34,073	14,505	14,587	18,491
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	293	264	1,364	5,065	5,304	9,893

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 05/23/00**

	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.251	.15	.71	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.15	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.401	.70	1.09	MIXED FOWL ea.	-1.70	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-2.50	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.151	.50
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	1.002	1.50
ROOSTERS lb.	1.401	1.50	1.43	ROOSTERS ea.	1.506	2.00
GEESE lb.	-	.10	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.25	.30	.26	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.851	.10	.93	DUCKS ea.	5.757	7.50
RABBITS lb.	.601	.30	.86	RABBITS ea.	1.003	1.50
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.504	2.00
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.50	10.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.001	1.75
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	2.00	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	.501	.50	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-			

TOTAL COOPS 120

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF MAY 22, 2000

	RANGE
<b>HENS</b> ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	56-60
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	62-64

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending May 19, 2000

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs W/Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/Gizzards	Hens
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	76.89	141.52	84.91	28.30	5.66	58.96
High	79.25	150.95	94.34	33.02	7.08	58.96
Mostly	77.83	141.52	94.34	33.02	7.08	58.96
<b>SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	76.42	132.08	84.91	30.66	7.08	59.44
High	80.19	155.67	94.34	42.45	10.38	59.44
Mostly	77.83	141.52	89.63	35.38	9.43	59.44
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	76.42	132.08	80.19	23.59	5.66	56.61
High	79.25	141.52	89.63	33.02	7.08	56.61
Mostly	77.36	141.52	89.63	33.02	7.08	56.61
<b>BECERRA</b>						
Low	76.42	146.23	80.19	28.30	9.43	59.44
High	77.83	155.67	94.34	42.45	11.79	59.44
Mostly	77.83	146.23	94.34	37.74	11.79	59.44

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