



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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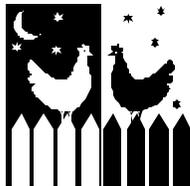
WEDNESDAY
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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was generally steady, barely steady to weak in the Northeast. Retail demand was slow to fair with some increased interest where ads were active. Food service was light to moderate, best into fast food outlets. Supplies were mostly sufficient with heavier weights often in the longest position. In the parts structure, trading was light and selective with purchasing limited to immediate needs. Availability was closest for bone-in breasts, boneless skinless breasts and wings fully sufficient, and the remaining items were usually in balance. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, mostly desirable.

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 61.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.75 cents last year on the 9th of February, 2000.

| ITEM | DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| BREASTS - B/S | 142.00 |
| BREASTS - WHOLE | 74.50 |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 90.50 |
| LEG QUARTERS | 23.00 |
| WINGS | 89.00 |

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

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

| 15 STATES WEEK ENDING 02/03/01 | 2001 | 2000 | PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------------------|
| EGGS SET | 179,061 | 178,533 | 0 |
| CHICKS PLACED | 144,850 | 144,326 | 0 |

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES UP SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 179 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 3, 2001. This was up slightly 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 145 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 3, 2001. Placements up slightly from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through February 3, 2001 were 718 million, down 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 17-Mar-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 149.4 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.1 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 153.8 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 157.0 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 54.38 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings adequate for light weights and heavy weights ample. Buyer's interest was only fair. Demand fairly good where features were in progress, elsewhere light. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate. The market tone was mixed on breasts with balance of parts generally steady.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was mostly slow to fair, best for ads. Food service was light to moderate, best into for fast food. Supplies were usually sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, availability of breast items was mixed with fronts and bone-in short. Wings were at least adequate with trading light to at times moderate for cut wings, and dark meat was tight for thigh meat, more than adequate for the remaining with light interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Additional offerings of Wogs and whole birds were adequate. Retail and food service movement continued mostly light to moderate. The St. Louis area reported instances fairly good demand into fast food outlets with retail features providing increased shopper interest as well. Floor stocks were in a full range with weights desirable. Trading on parts items remained generally light. Supplies of wings and boneless/skinless breasts were readily available, whole breasts and leg quarters were adequate for trade needs. The trade sentiment was steady to barely steady on boneless/skinless breasts and wings, steady on all other items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers remained light and unaggressive during midweek trading. Offerings of the 2.5 to 3 pound birds were usually adequate to available, and the heavier sizes were fully adequate to ample at times. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow. The market tone was no better than steady to instances weak. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were closely balanced to no more than adequate, however, boneless-skinless breasts were at least adequate to fully adequate. Wings were readily available, drums and thighs were usually sufficient.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair and typical of normal mid-week activity. Offerings varied from closely cleared to fully adequate on the 2.5 to 3.0 sizes; fully adequate to ample on the heavier weights. Live supplies were moderate to light; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 52 to 66 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Boneless skinless breasts and wings were available for the light and cautious buyer. Bone-in breasts were adequate. Leg items were in generally good balance.

*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 | 45-65 |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | 54.97 |
| NO. OF BOXES | 9,134 |

*7 of 8 plants reporting.

FEBRUARY 06, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEBRUARY 07, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

| ITEM | POUNDS (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 850 | 120.00-220.00 | 135-140 | 140.68 |
| TENDERLOINS | 165 | 135.00-210.00 | - | 144.09 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| LEGS | 126 | 27.00-40.00 | 27-30 | 28.57 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 389 | 16.50-20.00 | 17-18 | 17.12 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,695 | 18.50-24.00 | 21-23 | 21.88 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 86 | 80.00-88.00 | - | 84.28 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 779 | 94.00-116.00 | 95-97 | 99.39 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | 48 | 32.00-40.00 | - | 33.33 |
| B/S THIGHS | 71 | 92.00-95.00 | - | 93.23 |

| ITEM | POUNDS (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 901 | 125.00-215.00 | 135-145 | 140.97 |
| TENDERLOINS | 164 | 130.00-210.00 | 135-140 | 147.32 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 95 | 72.00-77.00 | 73-75 | 73.44 |
| FRONT HALVES | 123 | 64.50-70.00 | 65-69 | 67.43 |
| LEGS | 126 | 27.00-40.00 | 28-30 | 28.57 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 469 | 16.50-22.00 | 17-18 | 17.95 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,775 | 18.50-24.00 | 22-23 | 22.08 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 265 | 88.00-94.00 | - | 92.96 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 564 | 87.00-116.00 | 97-99 | 100.72 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | 48 | 35.00-40.00 | - | 35.83 |
| B/S THIGHS | 81 | 88.00-94.00 | - | 91.70 |

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

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | 5-DAY AVERAGE |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 39.75 - 44.50 | 42.81 | 40.50-46.00 | 42.69 | 41.77 |

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 mostly light during midweek trading as dealers continued to eye the market with caution and remained unwilling to assume much beyond most immediate needs. Offerings of bone-in breasts were no more than adequate to balanced, but boneless-skinless breasts were available. Drums and thighs were generally sufficient, and wings were fully adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels remained limited. The market tone was steady to fully steady on bone-in breasts, cautiously steady on boneless-skinless breasts, barely steady to weak on wings, about steady on the balance.

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

FEBRUARY 06, 2001

FEBRUARY 07, 2001

| ITEM | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 135 | 136.80 | 569,660 |
| TENDERLOINS | 130-135 | 132.85 | 112,017 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 68-69 | 75.16 | 251,720 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 68 | 71.26 | 190,200 |
| LEGS | 32-33 | 34.83 | 184,760 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 20-21 | 20.25 | 801,671 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 27-28 | 32.71 | 148,670 |
| THIGHS | 29-30 | 31.44 | 155,220 |
| B/S THIGHS | 84-85 | 87.34 | 17,860 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 84-85 | 93.75 | 309,630 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.08 | 47,480 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 31.48 | 23,895 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 39.44 | 48,720 |

| ITEM | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 135 | 136.56 | 514,960 |
| TENDERLOINS | 130-135 | 130.33 | 67,700 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 68-69 | 75.52 | 214,520 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 68 | 71.66 | 208,800 |
| LEGS | 32-33 | 36.04 | 178,240 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 20-21 | 20.06 | 587,980 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 27-28 | 33.18 | 143,370 |
| THIGHS | 29-30 | 34.28 | 65,470 |
| B/S THIGHS | 84-85 | 87.40 | 31,240 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 83-84 | 92.19 | 264,000 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 11.84 | 46,280 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 33.15 | 23,000 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 43.48 | 25,680 |

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 | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| | 02/07 | 02/06 | 02/05 | 02/02 | 02/05 | 02/02 | 01/31 | 01/29 |
| ALA | 3,757 | 3,882 | 3,736 | 3,580 | 4.97 | 4.78 | 3,368 | 5.00 |
| ARK | 5,262 | 5,250 | 5,203 | 5,089 | 4.96 | 4.85 | 5,138 | 5.04 |
| DELMARVA | 2,263 | 2,282 | 2,280 | 2,196 | 5.09 | 4.89 | 2,245 | 5.06 |
| KY-LA-TN | 1,930 | 1,974 | 1,994 | 1,707 | 4.60 | 4.47 | 1,872 | 4.66 |
| MISS | 2,778 | 2,735 | 2,413 | 2,735 | 5.14 | 5.01 | 2,577 | 5.11 |
| NC | 2,577 | 2,495 | 2,572 | 2,520 | 5.91 | 5.73 | 2,505 | 5.78 |
| TEXAS | 2,221 | 2,266 | 2,257 | 2,267 | 4.90 | 4.79 | 2,272 | 5.01 |
| TOTAL | 20,788 | 20,884 | 20,455 | 20,094 | 5.07 | 4.94 | 19,977 | 5.09 |
| MON-WED 62,598 (A) | 61,198(A) | | | | | | | |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 07-Feb 01 and is estimated to be 31,101,000 down 0.23 percent from a week ago and up 2.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,223,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

| DELIVERED TO RETAILERS | RANGE |
|------------------------|-------|
| FRESH FRYERS | 82-85 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | 71-90 |
| HENS UNDER 5# | - |
| HENS OVER 5# | 81 |
| DUCKS | 139 |
| RABBITS-WHOLE | 294 |
| RABBITS-CUT UP | 299 |

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

| DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS | RANGE |
|---|------------------|
| FRESH FRYERS | ICE PACK 93-98 |
| | DRY PACK 108 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | ICE PACK 104-111 |
| | DRY PACK 116 |
| HENS OVER 5# | ICE PACK 93 |
| | DRY PACK 91 |
| DUCKS | 152-172 |

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING FEB-03-01

| CLASS | CURRENT WEEK | PREVIOUS WEEK |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 02/10/01 (1) | 02/03/01 |
| | THOUSAND HEAD | |
| BRO-FRY | 153,308 (2) | 154,056 |
| LT HENS | 1,881 | 1,912 |
| HVY HENS | 1,442 | 2,025 |
| CHECK TOTAL | 156,631 | 157,993 |

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 10-Feb-01 is 149.5 million head compared to 157.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 153.6 million head or 4.1 million more than estimated available. For week of 17-Feb-01 the estimated available is 148.8 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEY | | PROCESSED POULTRY | |
|--------------|------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| | LBS | LBS | LBS | LBS |
| AM 05-Feb-01 | 93,548 | | 74,972 | |
| AM 1-Feb-01 | 68,786 | | 74,663 | |
| CHG | 24,762 | | 309 | |
| PCT CHG | 36 | | 0 | |

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEYS | | | PROCESSED POULTRY | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| | 02/05/01 | 01/29/01 | 02/07/00 | 02/05/01 | 01/29/01 | 02/07/00 |
| PACIFIC COAST | 4,744 | 4,707 | 9,010 | 5,964 | 5,764 | 11,263 |
| LOS ANGELES | 124 | 121 | 133 | 2,208 | 2,074 | 2,984 |

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 02/06/01

| | LOW HIGH AVG | | | LOW HIGH AVG | | |
|------------------|----------------|------|------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| | HEAVY FOWL lb. | .40 | 1.10 | .67 | HEAVY FOWL ea. | - |
| LIGHT FOWL lb. | - | 1.15 | - | LIGHT FOWL ea. | - | - |
| MIXED FOWL lb. | - | .95 | - | MIXED FOWL ea. | - | - |
| BANTAMS lb. | - | - | - | BANTAMS ea. | - | 5.00 |
| BROILERS lb. | - | - | - | BROILERS ea. | - | - |
| ROASTERS lb. | - | - | - | ROASTERS ea. | - | - |
| FRYERS lb. | - | - | - | FRYERS ea. | - | - |
| CHICKS lb. | - | - | - | CHICKS ea. | - | - |
| PULLETS lb. | - | - | - | PULLETS ea. | - | - |
| BUNNIES lb. | - | - | - | BUNNIES ea. | - | - |
| ROOSTERS lb. | - | - | - | ROOSTERS ea. | 4.00 | 5.50 |
| GEESE lb. | - | - | - | GEESE ea. | - | - |
| TURKEYS lb. | .10 | .15 | .12 | TURKEYS ea. | - | - |
| DUCKS lb. | - | - | - | DUCKS ea. | - | - |
| RABBITS lb. | .60 | 1.60 | 1.02 | RABBITS ea. | - | 1.25 |
| PIGEONS lb. | - | - | - | PIGEONS ea. | - | - |
| GUINEA FOWL lb. | - | - | - | GUINEA FOWL ea. | - | 2.50 |
| GUINEA KEETS ea. | - | 5.00 | - | CALL DUCKS ea. | - | - |
| SILKIES ea. | - | - | - | GOSLINGS ea. | - | - |
| GUINEA PIGS ea. | - | - | - | | | |

TOTAL COOPS 34

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 FEBRUARY 07, 2001

| HENS | | RANGE |
|-----------------------------|--|-------|
| ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) | | 53-60 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | | 59-69 |

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending February 2, 2001

| | Whole Chickens | Breasts | Legs w/Thighs | Necks,Backs Wings | Livers/Gizzards | Hens |
|---------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------|
| RAYON | | | | | | |
| Low | 58.11 | 120.87 | 69.74 | 18.60 | 4.65 | 41.84 |
| High | 60.90 | 130.17 | 83.68 | 27.89 | 6.97 | 44.17 |
| Mostly | 59.51 | 120.87 | 74.38 | 23.25 | 6.97 | 41.84 |
| SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 57.65 | 130.17 | 83.68 | 23.25 | 4.65 | 41.84 |
| High | 59.51 | 144.12 | 102.28 | 34.87 | 8.37 | 44.17 |
| Mostly | 59.51 | 134.82 | 88.33 | 27.89 | 5.58 | 41.84 |
| NEW SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 58.11 | 120.87 | 69.74 | 13.95 | 4.65 | 41.84 |
| High | 60.44 | 130.17 | 83.68 | 27.89 | 6.97 | 41.84 |
| Mostly | 59.51 | 120.87 | 69.74 | 23.25 | 4.65 | 41.84 |
| BECERRA | | | | | | |
| Low | 58.11 | 134.82 | 79.03 | 23.25 | 5.58 | 41.84 |
| High | 59.97 | 148.77 | 97.63 | 37.19 | 9.30 | 44.17 |
| Mostly | 59.51 | 139.47 | 88.33 | 32.54 | 6.97 | 41.84 |

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

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| | 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 (Southeast Supervisor) |
| | 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 | |