



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady. Demand into all channels was mostly light to fair, moderate for fast food promotions, but improvements expected as the weekend and first of the month nears. Supplies were sufficient with heavier weights at times fully adequate to ample. In the parts structure, breast items were sufficient to close, wings were irregular, ranging at least adequate in the East, to closer balanced, and dark meat was readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, but 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 .25 to 63.75 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.75 cents last year on May 1, 2002.

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

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	183.50
BREASTS - B/S	158.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	87.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	63.00
LEG QUARTERS	21.00
WINGS	71.00

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

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was light to fair, but as the first of the month nears, along with major holidays and warmer weather, optimism rises. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, demand was moderate at best with all items at least adequate or available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally light to fair at best during midweek trading. Offerings of all sizes were sufficient for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was light. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items ranged balanced to adequate. The balance of cuts were adequate to available.

**MIDWEST** Trade sentiment on broiler/fryers was steady. Offerings were adequate with little buyer interest. Retail and food service demand was mixed, light to moderate with best interest into fast food promotions. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Weights were mostly desirable. Offerings were light to fair as regular commitments satisfy current needs. Supplies available on most items. The market tone was fully steady to firm on white meat items and barely steady on leg items.

**WESTERN** The market tone was steady overall. Offerings were fully adequate with heavy weight WOGs in the longest position. Buyers' interest was moderate. Retail demand was fair to fairly good best for parts, particularly where features in progress. Floor stocks easily adequate to cover needs.

### CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES	WEEK ENDING 04/26/03		PERCENT CHANGE
	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	209,218	210,178	0
CHICKS PLACED	171,781	172,792	-01

### BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN SLIGHTLY

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 26, 2003. This was down slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

### BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 172 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 26, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through April 26, 2003 were 2.83 billion, down 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 7-Jun-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 156.0 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 154.5 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 158.6 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 147.4 MILLION HEAD AND THE COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.74 CENTS PER POUND.

APIRL 29 **SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS** APRIL 30  
 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			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	655	130.00-230.00	136-140	138.83
TENDERLOINS	233	135.00-190.00	135-136	142.80
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	82.00-89.00	83-85	84.72
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	103	22.00-38.00	24-26	26.35
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	598	16.00-19.50	17-18	17.43
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,116	18.00-26.00	19-20	19.37
WINGS (WHOLE)	285	60.00-70.00	-	67.37
WINGS (CUT)	460	73.00-85.00	79-82	80.96
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  
 APRIL 29, 2003 -- FOB DOCK

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,330	134.00-229.00	138-141	138.81
TENDERLOINS	280	135.00-190.00	135-137	141.51
BREAST - LINE RUN	91	84.00-91.00	85-87	87.19
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	93	23.00-38.00	25-27	27.05
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	678	16.00-19.50	17-18	17.26
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,066	18.00-26.00	19-20	19.46
WINGS (WHOLE)	105	60.00-72.00	-	67.05
WINGS (CUT)	543	74.00-85.00	79-81	81.50
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	55	52.00-68.00	-	58.91

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR  
 APRIL30, 2003 -- FOB DOCK

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
43.50 - 47.25	45.22	45.00 - 48.25	45.75	45.88

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 remained light and unaggressive during midweek trading as dealers continued with closely balanced floor stocks. Offerings of breast items were sufficient. Dark meat cuts and wings were at least adequate. Retail and distributive movement was lackluster. The market tone was mostly steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

APR 29	CURRENT NEG	WTD	APR 30
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145-150	147.40	581,210
TENDERLOINS	125-130	129.73	210,130
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	84.01	147,560
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	80.57	95,920
LEGS	32-33	28.56	266,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.93	540,577
DRUMSTICKS	23-24	26.64	173,990
THIGHS	22-23	34.07	64,250
B/S THIGHS	62-63	61.76	126,310
WINGS (WHOLE)	59-60	66.43	191,040
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.08	39,600
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	27.48	17,875
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	43.04	28,770

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	
	04/30	04/29	04/28	04/25	04/28	04/25	04/23	04/21
ALA	3,980	3,933	3,828	4,083	5.28	4.97	3,692	5.09
ARK	5,259	5,288	5,212	4,991	5.10	4.89	4,969	5.04
DELMARVA	2,321	2,311	2,215	2,031	5.46	5.12	2,209	5.33
KY-LA-TN	1,950	1,916	1,872	2,275	4.91	4.95	1,888	4.94
MISS	2,858	2,920	2,938	2,495	5.36	5.27	2,829	5.38
NC	2,417	2,597	2,534	2,659	6.23	5.98	2,393	6.17
TEXAS	2,215	2,442	2,463	3,324	5.12	5.04	2,346	5.15
TOTAL	21,000	21,407	21,062	21,579	5.33	5.12	20,326	5.24
MON-WED	63,734(A)				60,706(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 30-Apr 03 and is estimated to be 31,418,000 up 3.01 percent from a week ago and down 0.4 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,501,000; last year 31,556,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,**

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	87-93
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	63-65
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	
<b>SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY</b>	
<b>DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS</b>	
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 103-104
	ICE PACK 96-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 113
	ICE PACK 104-105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 91-98
	DRY PACK
DUCKS	155-166

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

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 03-MAY-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	05/03/03 (1)		04/26/03	
	THOUSAND HEAD			
BRO-FRY	161,198(2)		156,172	
LT HENS	2,011		2,050	
HVY HENS	1,251		1,285	
TOTAL	164,460		159,507	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 03-May-03 is 158.3 million head compared to 159.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 161.5 million head or 3.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 10-May-03 the estimated available is 159.2 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 04/28/03	189,739		61,729	
AM 04/01/03	189,905		61,778	
CHG	-166		-49	
PCT CHG	0		-0	

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT** (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	4/28/03	4/21/03	4/29/02	4/28/03	4/21/03	4/29/02
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	12,349	9,781	12,978	8,661	8,712	3,906
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	107	114	103	3,575	3,527	2,230

**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 APRIL 28, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE	
		58-64	60-79
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	58-64	60-79

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES**

	FOR 4/29/03			LOW	HIGH	AVG
	LOW	HIGH	AVG			
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.35	1.50	.82	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	.50	1.15	.73	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	1.70	1.70	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	2.25	14.50
BROILERS lb.	.90	1.00	.93	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.20	2.30
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	6.00
ROOSTERS lb.	.60	1.80	1.47	ROOSTERS ea.	2.50	9.00
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	9.00	19.00
DUCKS lb.	1.05	1.60	1.41	DUCKS ea.	6.00	-
RABBITS lb.	.60	1.75	1.54	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.00	6.75
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	7.50	11.50
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	1.25	1.50
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	2.00	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	6.50
SILKIES ea.	-	4.00	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	2.25
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	4.00	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 145

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending April 25, 2003

	Whole		Legs W/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/	
	Chickens	Breasts			Gizzards	Hens
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	61.01	122.03	87.16	21.79	17.43	56.22
High	63.63	139.46	91.52	26.15	21.79	56.22
Mostly	61.89	130.75	87.16	23.97	19.61	56.22
<b>SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	60.14	130.75	91.52	21.79	13.07	56.66
High	63.19	143.82	100.24	26.15	17.43	56.66
Mostly	61.01	139.46	91.52	23.97	15.25	56.66
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	61.01	135.10	91.52	21.79	15.25	54.48
High	63.19	143.82	100.24	30.51	17.43	54.48
Mostly	61.89	135.10	95.88	23.97	15.25	54.48
<b>BECERRA</b>						
Low	61.01	139.46	91.52	21.79	15.25	56.66
High	63.63	143.82	104.60	30.51	19.61	56.66
Mostly	61.89	143.82	95.88	26.15	17.43	56.66

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to no better than fair and about as expected for end of the month activity. Offer were about adequate to tight on 3 pound and lighter sizes; fully adequate to ample on larger sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged 52 to 62 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts compartment boneless skinless breasts were clearing. Bone-in breasts were sufficient. Leg items were available with the exception of thighs which were in 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	50-66	
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	54.64	
NO. OF BOXES	7,836	

\*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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