



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was mixed, but mostly fully steady. Retail demand was light to fair, and food service was light to moderate. In the West and Midwest, supplies of heavy weights were easily adequate and smaller sizes were close to short; however, in the East, availability was just the opposite. In the parts structure, mid-week trading was fair to fairly good. Breast items were in good balance with bone-in breasts and fronts often short and moving at premium levels. Dark meat was in good balance and clearing well, and wings were adequate to fully available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to light, mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cents to 75.25 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.75 cents last year on April 30, 2003.

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	259.50
BREASTS - B/S	230.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	125.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	112.50
LEG QUARTERS	35.00
WINGS	132.00

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mixed, but at least steady. Demand into all channels covered the full range with best movement for retail ads and fast food specials. Supplies of all sizes were in good balance to barely adequate for trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items and dark meat was close to short and moving well, but wings were at least adequate with limited interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to fairly good during midweek trading. Offerings of the 3 pound and heavier birds were in good balance. The 2.5 pound weights were at least adequate to available. Retail and distributive draw was mostly moderate. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on the 3 pound and larger birds and about steady on the balance. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts remained tight and were commanding premiums. Boneless-skinless breasts were in good balance. Dark meat items continued to clear well. Wings were adequate to available.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer market tone continued steady to fully steady. Offerings of Wogs were mixed, with heavy weight birds available and lighter weights in close balance to short. Movement into retail was light to fair with some pick up noted on increased feature activity. Retail features noted on whole fryers at 97 cents; boneless/skinless breasts 2# bag at \$5.99; pick-o-chick at \$1.17; split breast at \$1.29; leg quarters at 49 cents; drum and thigh at 69 and 99 cents; and drums at 39 cents. Food service demand light to moderate. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Weights desirable. Parts supplies were in balance with boneless/skinless breasts clearing well and limited in offerings; leg items were available and providing a mixed call; wings adequate to fully available and trade was best into further processing. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady, undertone firm on breast cuts, steady on dark meat and barely steady to weak on wings.

WESTERN The market tone was fully steady overall. Offerings in fairly good balance on whole body product less than 3 pounds and easily adequate on heavier weights. Retailer demand was moderate to good best to cover first-of-the month and Cinco de Mayo feature activities. Floor stocks in good balance with immediate needs.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 04/24/04	2004	2003	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	213,468	207,999	+03
CHICKS PLACED	173,068	172,080	+01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 24, 2004. This was up 3 percent 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.

CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 173 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 24, 2004. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through April 24 2004 were 2.88 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 05-Jun-04 is estimated at 159.4 million head. This compares to 157.9 million head the previous week and to 159.0 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 157.8 million head and the composite weighted average price was 61.36 cents per pound.

APRIL 27, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 28, 2004

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 AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	
BREAST - B/S	991	209.00-296.00	210-216	214.67
TENDERLOINS	303	230.00-278.00	230-237	236.30
BREAST - LINE RUN	98	115.00-127.00	115-119	118.31
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	77	38.00-56.00	38-40	41.43
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	555	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.77
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	980	32.00-38.00	33-35	34.55
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	121.00-134.00	121-124	124.11
WINGS (CUT)	492	135.00-142.00	137-140	138.63
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD AVG
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	
BREAST - B/S	1,013	210.00-296.00	210-216	214.84
TENDERLOINS	313	230.00-278.00	230-237	236.81
BREAST - LINE RUN	98	116.00-128.00	116-119	118.61
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	78	39.00-56.00	39-41	42.28
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	554	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.76
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	980	32.00-36.00	33-35	34.51
WINGS (WHOLE)	298	116.00-134.00	120-124	123.51
WINGS (CUT)	714	136.00-142.00	137-140	138.67
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

 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
69.50 - 75.00	72.78	69.50 - 75.50	72.97	72.16

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 moderate to fairly good during midweek trading. Offerings of bone-in breasts were tight and commanding premiums and boneless-skinless breasts were in pretty good balance. Dark meat items were clearing well. Wings were adequate for current needs. Retail movement was fair to good with best draw continuing to center around scattered features. Distributive draw was at least moderate. The market tone was firm on bone-in breasts, fully steady to instances firm on boneless-skinless breasts, fully steady on dark meat items and mostly steady on wings.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES. APRIL 27 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*			
BREAST - B/S	220	218.37	699,219	
TENDERLOINS	235	208.49	157,890	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	116-117	121.29	150,600	
BREAST - LINE RUN	116	118.52	87,720	
LEGS	44-45	43.13	369,316	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	32.83	425,418	
DRUMSTICKS	33-34	40.34	173,250	
THIGHS	42-43	46.93	71,140	
B/S THIGHS	110-111	101.74	109,760	
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	125.84	113,520	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	27,920	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	27.57	22,885	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.20	23,830	

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*			
BREAST - B/S	220	217.45	525,069	
TENDERLOINS	235	228.46	100,480	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	118-119	122.53	127,160	
BREAST - LINE RUN	118	120.56	78,120	
LEGS	45-46	43.32	267,440	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.15	309,354	
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	42.41	90,040	
THIGHS	42-43	47.79	61,600	
B/S THIGHS	110-111	104.62	101,740	
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	124.39	138,880	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.72	32,440	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.30	10,680	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.39	25,120	

 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		AVG	
	(1,000)		(1,000)		WTS		WTS	
	04/28	04/27	04/26	04/23	04/26	04/23	04/21	04/19
ALA	3,928	3,946	3,866	4,641	5.31	5.21	3,892	5.33
ARK	5,396	5,402	5,321	5,474	5.11	5.03	5,264	5.06
DELMARVA	2,255	2,203	2,164	2,022	5.52	5.38	2,201	5.46
KY-LA-TN	2,029	2,043	2,052	2,165	5.08	4.79	1,972	5.10
MISS	3,030	3,030	3,009	3,226	5.41	5.39	2,893	5.50
NC	2,364	2,388	2,384	2,570	6.42	6.31	2,389	6.50
TEXAS	2,428	2,354	2,459	2,620	5.19	5.04	2,400	5.17
TOTAL	21,430	21,366	21,255	22,718	5.38	5.27	21,011	5.39
MON-WED 64,123(A)						62,471(A)		

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Apr-04 is estimated to be 32,062,000 head up 1.69 percent from a week ago and up 3.13 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,529,000, last year 31,090,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	95-97
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	71-81
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS		
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105
	DRY PACK	105-114
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	105-107
	DRY PACK	107-109
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	88-93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		162-185

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 01-MAY-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	05/01/04 (1)	04/24/04
	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	162,900 (2)	158,623
LT HENS	1,378	1,505
HVY HENS	1,451	1,327
CHECK TOTAL	165,729	161,455

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 01-May-04 is 161.1 million head compared to 158.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 163.2 million head or 2.1 million less than estimated available. For week of 08-May-04 the estimated available is 161.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 04/26/04	182,085	44,852
AM 04/01/04	183,458	41,759
CHG	-1,373	3,093
PCT CHG	-1	7

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/26/04	04/19/04	04/28/03	04/26/04	04/19/04	04/28/03
PACIFIC COAST	7,437	7,090	12,349	3,412	3,307	8,661
LOS ANGELES	372	374	107	1,927	1,874	3,575

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 26, 2004

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		66-71
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	68-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 04/27/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG			LOW HIGH AVG		
	HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	-	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	.70	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	8.75
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	7.00
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.15	.60
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	.75	3.25
ROOSTERS lb.	-	.85	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	4.00	5.50
RABBITS lb.	.30	1.25	1.02	RABBITS ea.	3.25	5.50
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	3.50	7.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	7.75	8.00
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	49					

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending April 23, 2004

	Whole Chickens		Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Back & Wings	Back Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	56.05	120.11	72.07	8.01	12.01	50.05
High	60.06	128.12	80.07	16.01	16.01	50.05
Mostly	58.05	120.11	72.07	12.01	12.01	50.05
SAN JUAN						
Low	55.25	120.11	72.07	8.01	12.01	48.04
High	59.25	128.12	80.07	16.01	16.01	48.04
Mostly	58.05	120.11	72.07	12.01	12.01	48.04
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	56.05	120.11	72.07	8.01	12.01	48.04
High	59.25	128.12	80.07	16.01	16.01	48.04
Mostly	58.05	120.11	72.07	12.01	12.01	48.04
BECERRA						
Low	56.05	120.11	72.07	8.01	12.01	50.05
High	60.06	128.12	80.07	16.01	16.01	50.05
Mostly	58.05	120.11	72.07	12.01	16.01	50.05

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was moderate. Offerings were more than adequate on the 2.50 pound size; adequate to closely cleared on the 3.00 pound; and no more than adequate on the heavier sizes. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to light. Processer schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher at 77 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts were generally well balanced; bone-in breasts were in short supply. Leg quarters and wings were adequate. ACTUAL SLAUGHTER WEEK ENDING 04/24/2004 WAS 10,847,633 @ 5.42 LBS.

*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	72-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	79.84
NO. OF BOXES	6,091

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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