



# 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 fully steady to firm in mid-week trading. Whole product and wogs were clearing easily. Distributive movement in some locations was reported as slow; however, orders were good as traders replenish floor stocks. Offerings were still short of full needs. Fast food orders were still fairly active. Supplies of 3 pound birds were in close balance to tight with heavier sizes slightly more available. Trucks remain short of needs. In the parts structure, wings were available and competitively priced. Tenderloins and b/s thigh meat were mixed. Other breast items and most leg items were good balance to tight and well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at irregular but usually 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 .75 cents to 77.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 65.00 cents last year on May 21, 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	256.50
BREASTS - B/S	245.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	131.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	121.50
LEG QUARTERS	37.50
WINGS	121.00

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

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on whole product, steady to weak on wings, mixed on tenderloins and b/s thigh meat, balance of items on parts were fully steady to firm. Demand into retail and food service was moderate to good. Supplies were close to short and moving at or above current levels, especially on 3 pound and lighter weights. Trucks remain short of immediate needs. 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 moderate to fairly good. Offerings of the 3 pound birds were in good balance and the 3.5 to 4 pound sizes were sufficient. Retail and distributive draw was at least moderate. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on the 3 pound and lighter birds, mostly steady on the balance. In the parts complex, breast items remained tight. Legs, leg quarters and drumsticks were closely cleared. Wings were generally adequate.

**MIDWEST** Whole broiler/fryer market tone continued steady to firm. Offerings of additional product remained very light; reports of shortages noted on light weight birds. Trade interest was generally limited to current commitments and some out-front searching for anticipated needs on Memorial Day Holiday. Retail and food service mid-month demand was generally light to fair, although some fast food outlets noted fairly good activity. Floor stocks for the most part were adequate, instances short. Weights were mostly desirable. Parts offerings were very light as supplies, other than large wings or clipped tenders remain limited. The market tone was fully steady to firm on whole breast, boneless/skinless breasts and dark meat with wings and tenderloins about steady with a weak undertone.

**WESTERN** The market tone was firm. Offerings were tight to adequate with small sized product in the closest position. Available product offered at premium prices with the probability of finding discounted product practically nil, at the present time. Buyers focused on regular commitments with interest in additional product at a standstill. Retailer demand was moderate to fairly good best to cover feature activities. Floor stocks adequate.

## CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES WEEK ENDING 05/15/04	2004	2003	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	212,861	210,125	+01
CHICKS PLACED	174,269	170,953	+02

## BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 213 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 15, 2004. This was up 1 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 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 174 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 15, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through May 15, 2004 were 3.41 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 26-Jun-04 is estimated at 160.6 million head. This compares to 160.9 million head the previous week and to 160.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 167.3 million head and the composite weighted average price was 61.96 cents per pound.

MAY 18, 2004

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 19, 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				ITEM	POUNDS			
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	929	229.00-315.00	229-232	238.39	BREAST - B/S	849	230.00-315.00	230-235	242.40
TENDERLOINS	188	220.00-278.00	220-228	230.93	TENDERLOINS	168	219.00-278.00	220-228	231.85
BREAST - LINE RUN	82	125.00-131.00	125-128	127.82	BREAST - LINE RUN	92	125.00-133.00	125-128	127.73
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	584	33.00-36.00	35-36	35.67	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	559	33.00-37.00	36	35.93
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	896	36.00-40.00	37-38	37.78	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	936	37.00-40.00	37-38	37.94
WINGS (WHOLE)	235	95.00-107.00	-	105.21	WINGS (WHOLE)	297	94.00-117.00	-	106.21
WINGS (CUT)	683	105.00-121.00	-	114.16	WINGS (CUT)	743	104.00-121.00	107-110	112.96
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	120	110.00-127.00	114-122	117.83	B/S THIGHS	120	112.00-131.00	-	120.17

\*\*\*\*\*  
 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
75.00 - 80.50	78.20	78.00 - 82.00	80.85	77.77

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 remained fair to fairly good. Offerings of breast items were in tight balance and commanding premiums. Legs, leg quarters and drumsticks were clearing very well. Wings were sufficient and tenderloins were generally adequate. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm breast items and dark meat cuts; 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. MAY 18, 2004

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	VOL/LBS	ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	VOL/LBS
	TRADING*	AVG**	AVG**				TRADING*	AVG**	AVG**		
BREAST - B/S	240	237.83	597,940	BREAST - B/S	240-245	236.58	577,892				
TENDERLOINS	225	221.59	75,670	TENDERLOINS	225	224.87	110,970				
BREAST - WITH RIBS	127-128	132.44	139,560	BREAST - WITH RIBS	128-129	133.54	124,760				
BREAST - LINE RUN	127	130.13	149,640	BREAST - LINE RUN	128	130.70	159,680				
LEGS	51-52	47.29	267,843	LEGS	51-52	49.51	279,838				
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	39-40	38.45	344,558	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	39-40	38.84	289,867				
DRUMSTICKS	41-42	47.02	135,280	DRUMSTICKS	41-42	45.11	158,050				
THIGHS	45-46	52.05	76,670	THIGHS	45-46	49.16	98,381				
B/S THIGHS	116-117	117.12	76,920	B/S THIGHS	116-117	116.19	88,400				
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	110.23	130,600	WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	108.52	218,120				
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.97	31,240	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.07	23,000				
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	32.31	14,410	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	34.12	11,000				
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.21	22,540	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.01	27,240				

\*\*\*\*\*  
 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)	(1,000)	(1,000)	WTS	WTS	WTS	WTS
	05/19	05/18	05/17	05/14	05/17	05/14	05/12	05/10
ALA	3,829	3,838	3,532	4,253	5.26	5.13	3,882	5.24
ARK	5,463	5,469	5,477	4,897	5.13	4.89	5,362	5.11
DELMARVA	2,227	2,243	2,356	2,098	5.58	5.40	2,196	5.68
KY-LA-TN	2,060	2,037	2,036	2,203	5.05	4.65	1,992	5.00
MISS	3,029	3,086	2,946	3,668	5.43	5.39	2,944	5.63
NC	2,458	2,446	2,365	2,853	6.43	6.17	2,401	6.39
TEXAS	2,188	2,475	2,509	2,507	5.23	4.98	2,510	5.28
TOTAL	21,254	21,594	21,221	22,479	5.39	5.21	21,287	5.42
MON-WED	64,238 (A)						64,026 (A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 19-May-04 is estimated to be 31,798,000 head down 0.45 percent from a week ago and up 1.60 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,943,000, last year 31,297,000)

**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	107
	DRY PACK	107-115
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	107
	DRY PACK	107-109
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	93
	DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS		162-185

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

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 22-MAY-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	05/22/04 (1)	THOUSAND HEAD	05/15/04	THOUSAND HEAD
BRO-FRY	162,971 (2)		164,139	
LT HENS	1,458		1,513	
HVY HENS	1,439		1,019	
CHECK TOTAL	165,868		166,671	

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 22-May-04 is 162.3 million head compared to 161.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 163.3 million head or 1.0 million more than estimated available. For week of 29-May-04 the estimated available is 162.3 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 05/17/04	181,934		46,799	
AM 05/01/04	183,458		41,759	
CHG	-1,524		5,040	
PCT CHG	-1		12	

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	05/17/04	05/10/04	05/19/03	05/17/04	05/10/04	05/19/03
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	8,380	8,156	11,857	3,680	3,495	7,050
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	367	369	128	2,147	1,999	3,023

**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 17, 2004

HENS	RANGE	
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)
	66-71	68-77

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 05/18/04**

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW HIGH AVG				LOW HIGH AVG		
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.50	.50	.57	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.05	.20	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	2.00	2.25	-
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	1.00	1.15	1.06	RABBITS ea.	3.00	5.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.00	4.75	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	2.25	2.75	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	43						

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City**

Cents per pound for the week ending May 14, 2004

	Whole Chickens		Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Back & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
	Breasts					
<b>RAYON</b>						
Low	51.04	109.94	70.68	7.85	7.85	47.12
High	54.97	117.79	78.53	15.71	15.71	47.12
Mostly	53.01	117.79	70.68	11.78	11.78	47.12
<b>SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	51.04	109.94	70.68	7.85	7.85	47.12
High	54.18	117.79	78.53	15.71	15.71	47.12
Mostly	52.61	109.94	70.68	11.78	11.78	47.12
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>						
Low	50.26	109.94	70.68	11.78	7.85	47.12
High	54.97	117.79	78.53	15.71	15.71	47.12
Mostly	52.61	117.79	70.68	11.78	11.78	47.12
<b>BECERRA</b>						
Low	51.04	117.79	70.68	7.85	11.78	49.08
High	54.97	125.65	78.53	15.71	15.71	49.08
Mostly	53.01	117.79	70.68	11.78	11.78	49.08

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds remained good. Offerings were adequate to instances short of immediate trade requirements. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable. Processor schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher at 83 to 92 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex breast items were firm, dark meat items were fully steady to firm, and wings were mixed.

\*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		78-96
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		85.36
NO. OF BOXES		6,823

\*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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