



# EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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## NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Prices were unchanged at the beginning of the week. During the week prices in New York were sharply lower on all sizes and unchanged elsewhere. The market tone was mostly weak. Demand was in a full range of light to good, best where featured in retail outlets. Supplies were adequate to ample. Breaking stock prices with checks and undergrades were sharply lower. Demand was light to moderate with offerings fully adequate to ample and included increasingly heavier volume of graded shell eggs. Buyers were anticipating lower prices while retail prices struggle to hold at current levels. Sellers were forced to move shell eggs into breaking channels. Schedules were full-time and trade sentiment was weak. Light type fowl prices were unchanged to slightly higher. Offerings adequate with demand light to moderate. Removal prices were generally steady at 7 to 10 cents per head.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL** Producer prices were 3 cents lower for mediums and 2 cents lower for small with the balance of prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to mostly weak. Retail demand was improved in many locations and was reported as poor to good, mostly moderate to good. Food service movement was light to mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample. Central states breaking stock and checks and undergrade prices were sharply lower. Demand was light to moderate with offerings fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	114-123	118-120
LARGE	114-122	116-119
MEDIUM	100-106	103-105

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, Western NY, and Western PA

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices were unchanged, however all sizes were trending sharply lower. The market tone was weak and remained highly cautious. Demand into all outlets ranged light to moderate. Supplies were adequate or available to ample. Breaking stock offerings were irregular for the fair demand. Spent hens were usually sufficient for the fair to moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	120-134	123-126
LARGE	115-129	120-124
MEDIUM	101-114	106-108

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

### COMBINED REGIONAL

Mar 19, 2004

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	124.50	122.00	107.00
SOUTHEAST	125.50	123.50	106.00
MIDWEST	119.00	117.50	104.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	123.50	122.50	106.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	123.11	121.40	105.90

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

**IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN** PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	03-23-04	03-16-04	03-25-03
Large	97-104	97-104	48-52
Medium	83-87	83-87	32-36

## WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-MAR 22, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/  
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	13.1	25.5	9.3	18.0	14.5	80.4
	Change	1.7	4.6	-0.4	1.8	-0.8	10%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	33.1	52.4	14.7	27.0	45.9	173.1
	Change	5.1	10.6	-0.5	0.2	8.6	16%
Large	Curr Wk	92.5	157.7	116.8	141.1	159.9	668.0
	Change	34.8	27.3	19.6	19.6	55.6	31%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.7	42.3	14.5	24.0	44.2	140.7
	Change	-5.5	6.6	-1.9	2.2	11.7	11%
Small	Curr Wk	2.3	7.3	2.3	3.8	5.8	21.5
	Change	-3.2	2.4	0.8	-0.8	1.2	2%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.0	23.7	8.9	11.8	4.9	54.3
	Change	0.4	1.0	1.3	-1.1	-0.7	1%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	20.7	52.1	25.3	39.2	35.1	172.4
	Change	-6.0	6.9	6.1	-2.2	2.5	4%
Total	Curr Wk	182.4	361.0	191.8	264.9	310.3	1310.4
	Percent Change	18%	20%	15%	8%	34%	19%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1,310.4	19%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	223.6	3%	35
Total Shell Egg	1,534.0	16%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

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**Processed Eggs: Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection****WEEK ENDING 20-MAR-04**

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)		(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)			
	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,160,324	28,714	10,452	5,909	1,983	4,002
PW	1,167,965	28,880	10,633	5,989	2,371	4,140
LY	1,103,928	27,637	9,365	5,208	1,917	3,965
% CHG PW	-1	-1	-2	-1	-16	-3
% CHG LY	5	4	12	13	3	1
2004	12,757,012	302,568	122,397	68,644	28,641	44,886
2003	12,287,288	298,065	111,733	61,934	26,894	45,463
% CHG YTD	4	2	10	11	6	-1

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.3	42.5	41.83
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.85	38.96	38.24

**BROILER HATCHERY**

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in 19 Selected States		Broiler Chicks Placed in 19 Selected States	
	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 13	Mar 20
	Thousand			
AL	*30,433	29,537	*21,822	22,282
AR	31,225	31,636	25,228	24,705
DE	3,199	3,611	4,799	5,372
FL	1,334	1,349	*1,791	1,622
GA	32,896	32,201	26,331	26,106
KY	7,099	6,685	*5,957	5,632
LA	3,742	3,742	3,605	3,957
MD	8,826	8,923	5,633	5,099
MS	*19,173	19,113	*16,503	16,208
NC	18,986	19,195	15,067	14,689
OK	6,506	6,657	5,037	5,545
PA	*3,798	3,763	*2,629	2,730
SC	3,836	3,694	3,721	4,097
TX	15,101	15,109	12,354	12,428
VA	6,606	6,665	4,992	5,662
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*17,719	17,793	*15,054	15,362
<b>19 State Total</b>	<b>*210,479</b>	<b>209,673</b>	<b>*170,523</b>	<b>171,496</b>
Previous Year Total	204,958	206,460	167,239	169,125
Pct. of Prev. Year	103	102	102	101

\* Revised

**Broiler/Fryer: Weekly Fryers Available for Marketing** Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 1-May-04 is estimated at 157.4 million head. This compares to 156.3 million head the previous week and to 158.3 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 158.7 million head and the composite weighted average price 58.10 cents per pound.

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/18/04-03/24/04**

	SE	NE	MW	LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	97.25	106.63	99.13	99.43	101.60	—	19.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	79.25	83.00	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	93.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	95.50	—	2.00
GL W XL	—	121.50	110.93	112.14	96.55	—	30.75
GL W LG	—	118.17	108.50	109.67	91.76	114.00	35.75
GL W MD	—	97.00	77.00	88.57	89.47	90.00	12.75
GL W SM	53.50	55.00	59.40	60.90	—	—	3.50
NRBS - 48	—	—	84.50	90.67	—	80.25	13.00
NRBS - 42	—	59.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	56.67	58.92	3.00

**MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 20-Mar-04**

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG PW	LY
ATLANTA	25.0	28.4	-12	18
BOSTON	3.3	3.3	0	-13
CHICAGO	71.4	61.0	17	63
DETROIT	27.1	24.4	11	-13
KANSAS CITY	3.0	12.2	-75	-21
LOS ANGELES	86.7	89.9	-4	5
NEW ORLEANS	8.4	7.5	12	-34
NEW YORK	28.4	29.3	-3	-10
ST. LOUIS	15.7	16.3	-4	-11
SAN FRANCISCO	20.1	20.5	-2	-10
TOTAL	289.1	292.8	-1	7
4 WK MVG AVG	303.1			

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 20-Mar-04**

	YOUNG HENS		YOUNG TOMS		OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
	-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	1,701	2,449	56	2	2	4,208
AVG WT	15.71	36.35	24.01	62.32	27.85	27.85
LAST WEEK	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312	4,312
SAME WK YR AGO	1,777	2,744	43	28	4,592	4,592
AVG WT	15.79	36.29	25.25	28.94	28.21	28.21
TO-DATE/2004	18,544	27,029	479	90	46,142	46,142
TO-DATE/2003	18,966	29,026	663	174	48,829	48,829

**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**

Week ending W/E 20-Mar-04 (Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)							
--YOUNG TURKEYS--			OLD BANDED		TOTAL TURKEYS		
THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT	AVG	
HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	-THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT		
N EAST	806	-7	21.90	(A)	807	21.90	
SATL	700	-5	27.59	(A)	701	27.59	
N CENT	1,883	0	32.90	(A)	1,883	32.90	
S CENT	489	2	21.67	(A)	489	21.67	
WEST	328	-2	23.03	(A)	328	23.03	
U.S. TOTAL	4,206	(B)	-2	27.85	2	4,208	27.85
TO-DATE							
2004	46,052	(B)			90	46,142	
TO-DATE							
2003	48,655	(B)			174	48,829	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 56,000 for the year 479,000; last year to date 663,000.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** W/E 20-Mar-04

(PRELIMINARY)	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	153,006	1,283	1,338	2,621	463
AVG WT	5.15	3.36	8.08	5.77	6.74
LAST WEEK	157,179	1,344	1,165	2,509	487
SAME WK YR AGO	153,022	1,597	1,280	2,877	411
AVG WT	5.09	3.40	7.89	5.27	6.32
TO-DATE/2004	1,689,638	14,020	13,984	28,004	5,031
TO-DATE/2003	1,655,032	18,224	14,924	33,148	4,615

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.9 million head or 3.7 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

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

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Mar-04

CLASS	Current Week	Previous Week
	03/27/04(1)	03/20/04
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
BRO-FRY	156,496(2)	157,909
LT HENS	1,345	1,298
HVY HENS	1,307	1,324
TOTAL	159,148	160,531

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 27-Mar-04 is 158.0 million head compared to 154.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 156.8 million head or 1.2 million less than estimated available. For week of 03-Apr-04 the estimated available is 156.9 million head.

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 14	154.4	158.5	97%	5.16
21	154.1	157.7	98%	5.05
28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH 6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
13	159.1	157.0	101%	5.06
20	154.9	158.6	98%	5.15
YEAR TO DATE	1710.3	1727.1	99%	
MARCH 27		158.0		
APRIL 3		156.9		

**READY-TO-COOK POULTRY BROILER/FRYERS**

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers f.o.b. and Delivered to First Receivers at major market areas week of 3/22/04-03/26/04 (cents per lb.)

	U.S. GRADE A			COMPOSITE	
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	71.00-74.00	73.69	41	75.66	80
Los Angeles	78.00	78.15	59	78.54	159
New York	75.00-77.00	76.39	23	76.49	43

**COMPOSITE WTD AVG PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/FRYERS**

Change from				
	22-Mar-04	15-Mar-04	15-Mar-04	24-Mar-03
	76.52	1.22	75.30	58.01
NUMBER OF LOADS	609			

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS,** FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	LBS (000)
<b>CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/</b>				
8-16 LB HENS				
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-64	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-64	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	62-66	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS				
EASTERN REGION	59-61	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	60-62	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION	60-62	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F.

2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting.

4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting.

5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

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

		FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	03/22/04	3,157	173,026	41,082
AM	03/01/04	3,548	169,441	39,330
CHG		-391	3585	1752
PCT CHG		-11%	2%	4%

**HEN MARKETS**

**HEAVY TYPE** Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 22-Mar-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD. AVG
<b>Southeast (1)</b>	6-10.25 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.25	8.93
<b>Southeast (2)</b>	<b>TFEWR</b>		
<b>South Central(1)</b>	6.25-12 CENTS/LB.	9-9.5	9.16

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

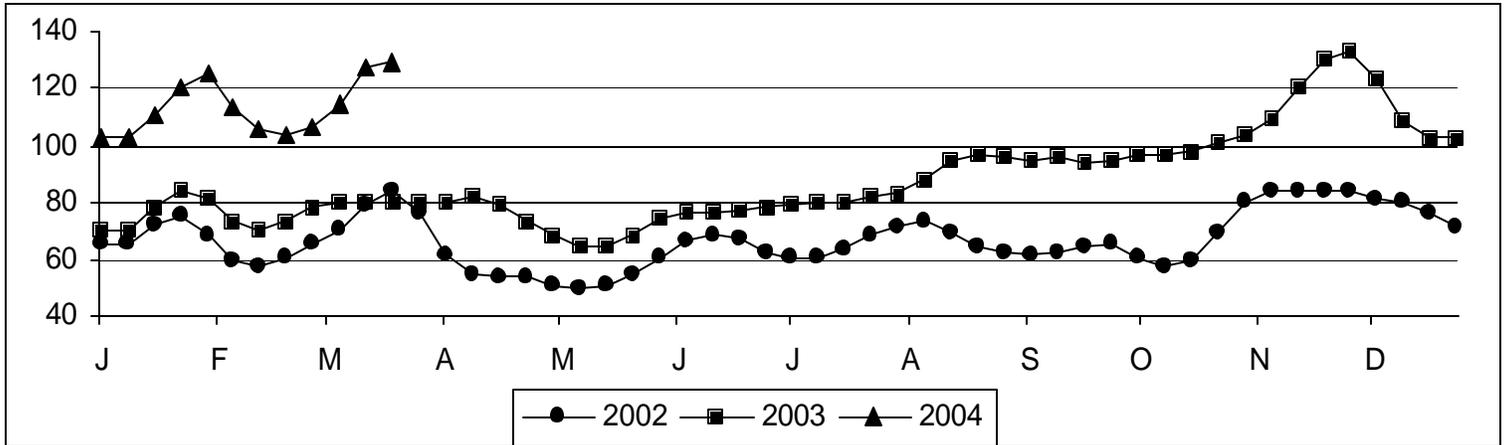
**LIGHT TYPE** 19-Mar-04 Cents per Head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

	REMOVAL COST	
	RANGE	MAJORITY
<b>Eastern</b>	0-12	9-11
<b>So. Central</b>	Too Few To Report	
<b>No. Central</b>	7-10	7-8

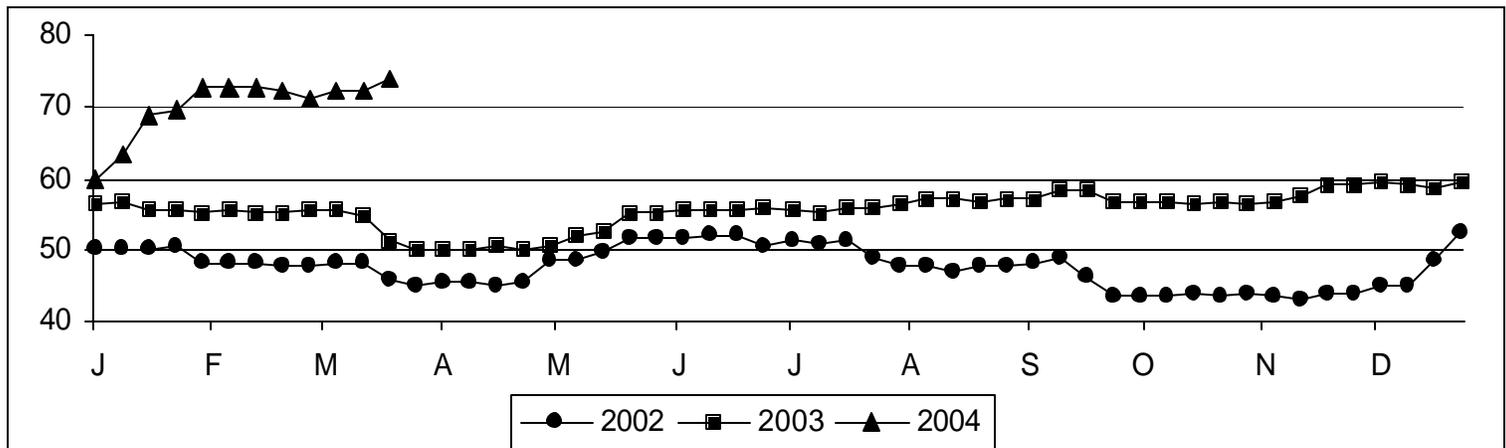
**COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT** W/E 20-Mar-04  
(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	220.3	-3	0
E.N. CENTRAL	585.2	5	6
W.N. CENTRAL	288.2	1	-1
S. ATLANTIC	185.7	1	-2
S. CENTRAL	104.1	4	4
WEST	190.0	3	5
TOTAL	1573.5	2	2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

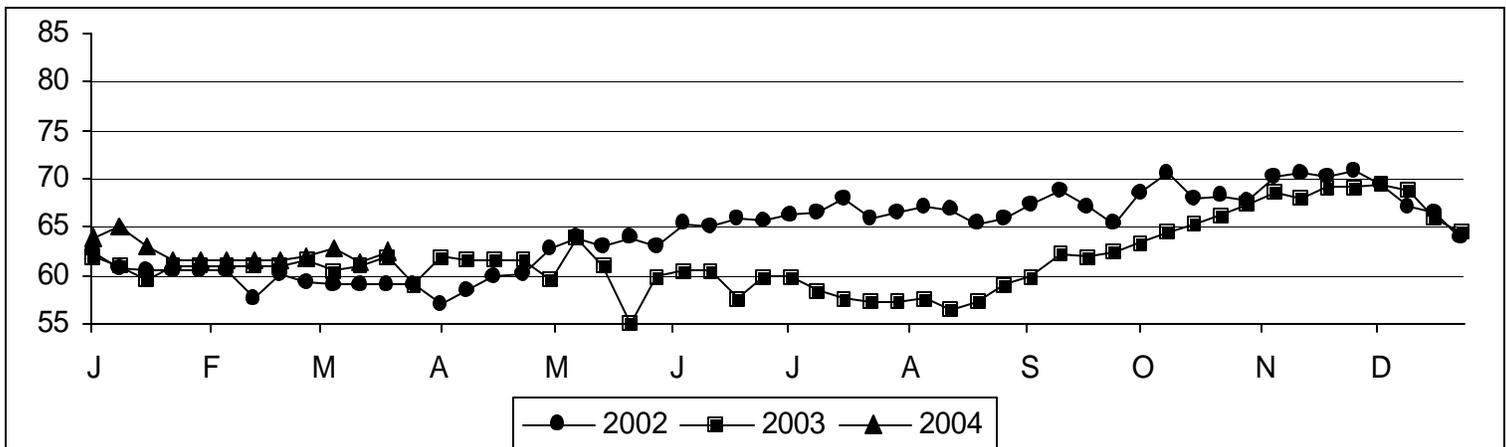
New York Large Weekly Average Price  
Cents per Dozen



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices  
Cents per Pound



Eastern Region Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkeys  
Cents per Pound



Note: Some Weeks' Average Prices are Based on Offers Only

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