



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Poultry Programs Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged to higher on mediums as weekly and previous days values adjustment takes place in the major terminal markets. The market tone was reported as steady on larger sizes, and fully steady on mediums. Demand ranged fair to occasionally good, with limited features noted. Supplies were in balance to available with traders reporting floor stocks as irregular for late week. Breaking stock inventories in the Eastern region were sharply less than a week earlier. Breaking stock offerings in the Central region were fully adequate for the light demand due in part to the holiday breaking schedules. Light type fowl offerings were fully sufficient for only a fair demand.

*****NOTICE*****

PLEASE SEE COMMENT ON PAGE 4 REGARDING EGG PRICE ADJUSTMENTS

NORTH ATLANTIC In Philadelphia, prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher on mediums and unchanged on the heavier weight eggs. In Boston and New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady entering the week. Demand into all channels ranged moderate to instances good. Supplies were usually adequate for full trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were ample for the light demand. Light type hens were at least adequate for the fair demand.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were unchanged. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were up 1 cent for medium and were unchanged for large and small. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand ranged light to very good, usually moderate to fairly good. Food service movement was generally moderate. Supplies were mostly adequate to at times close. Central states nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged to 1 cent lower with checks and undergrades 1 cent lower. Offerings were at least fully adequate for the very light demand. Regular commitments were rated as at least fully adequate for the reduced holiday schedules. Floor stocks in a full range from balanced to ample. Schedules abnormal due the New Year holiday. Trade sentiment cautiously steady.

CHICAGO Medium prices up 1 cent, balance unchanged. Trade sentiment about steady on larger sizes, steady to instances fully steady on mediums. Retail and food service movement demand only moderate with limited feature activity. Supplies generally adequate to available on the larger sizes, mediums adequate to occasionally barely adequate.

SOUTHERN In Florida prices were higher on medium, but unchanged on the balance of prices. The market tone was generally steady entering the week. Demand was light to moderate and was best where features were in progress for this week. Supplies were usually adequate for trade needs. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending December 28, 2001 was 60.98 cents, unchanged from the previous week, but 36.60 cents less than last year. Breaking stock offerings were ample for reduced breaking schedules and light demand. Spent fowl offerings were at least adequate for the slow demand.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was generally steady beginning the week. Demand into all outlets ranged moderate to good, best where wintry weather conditions increased consumer buying. Supplies were usually adequate for trade requirements.

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

	EXTRA	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	100-102	92-94	69-71
New York	69-71	66-69	53-56
Philadelphia	67-69	65-67	51-53
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	57-58	55.5-57	43-44
Jackson (1)	65-66	64-65	52-53
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	62-72	61-71	47-57
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	57-62	56-61	45-50
Detroit (2)	54-57	53-56	40-43
Major Ohio Cities (2)	55-61	54-59	41-47
Major Wisconsin Cities	58-65	56-63	44-51
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	72-75	68-71	54-57
California (Grade AA)(1)(3)	94	88	77
(1) - Prices reported weekly		(2) - Delivered Warehouse	
(3) - Reported Invoice prices			

WESTERN Prices unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 8% higher than last week with California up 15% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 5%. Retailer demand good. Offerings mainly adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The California inventory was 15% higher than last week. Retailer demand good. Offerings adequate. Small invoice price 57. Ads in Northern California: major- extra large dozen 149.

PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	96		
EXTRA LARGE	94		
LARGE	88		
MEDIUM	77		
PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.			
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE
JUMBO	239-289	JUMBO	238-279
EXTRA LARGE	229-269	EXTRA LARGE	209-249
LARGE	199-229	LARGE	185-249
MEDIUM	179-199	MEDIUM	175-199

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending January 04, 2002 will decrease by 20 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 28, 2001 were 334,724 cases which was 14 percent below the prior week and 11 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	303,735	30,989	334,724
% change from the prior week.....	-13	-24	-14

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Nest run prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower with checks and undergrades 1 cent lower. Offerings were at least fully adequate for the very light demand. Regular commitments were rated as at least fully adequate for reduced holiday schedules. Floor stocks in a full range from balanced to ample. Schedules abnormal due to the New Year holiday. Trade sentiment cautiously steady. PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	26-29	27-28
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-15	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Sales of finished product were fair, production schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was at least steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) * FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 31-DEC-01

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-12 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	8.96

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Trading was generally light to fair due in part to reduced holiday schedules. Demand ranged light to moderate for adequate but reduced offerings. Canner supplies were about adequate and clearing. The market tone was at least steady to fully steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 31-DEC-01

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-10.5 CENTS/LB.	8-9	8.65
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM DEC 31, 2001
STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	6.0	14.8	5.9	11.3	14.6 52.6
	Change	0.6	-1.1	-0.9	1.0	-0.8 -2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	24.2	40.5	12.3	25.0	27.0 129.0
	Change	9.3	3.0	-0.4	7.5	3.4 21%
Large	Curr Wk	34.7	102.0	75.1	103.1	87.6 402.5
	Change	6.9	23.1	3.9	38.5	7.0 25%
Medium	Curr Wk	10.4	29.2	17.6	23.7	20.7 101.6
	Change	-1.9	1.8	0.9	4.1	-1.6 3%
Small	Curr Wk	3.3	10.8	5.3	5.5	3.8 28.7
	Change	-1.0	2.1	0.5	0.5	-0.4 6%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.2	23.9	6.6	9.7	7.3 51.7
	Change	-20.0	1.9	0.8	-4.6	0.9 -29%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	10.7	55.8	36.0	32.0	25.4 159.9
	Change	4.4	17.2	9.0	15.9	5.1 48%
Total	Curr Wk	93.5	277.0	158.8	210.3	186.4 926.0
Percent	Change	-2%	21%	10%	43%	8% 17%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	926.0	17%	169
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	302.9	10%	38
Total Shell Egg	1228.9	15%	207

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 169 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.

CANADIAN EGGS
DUE TO HOLIDAY
UNAVAILABLE AT TIME OF PUBLICATION

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 28, 2001

CURRENT LOADS		24.00		FUTURE LOADS		12.50		TOTAL LOADS		36.50				
CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	39.00	—	—	36.33	29.00	—	4.00	GNR W 3	—	34.00	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	56.00	2.25
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	30.00	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	54.00	1.50
GL W XL	—	—	49.25	52.00	46.61	—	9.00	GL W MD	38.60	40.20	—	—	48.15	3.75
GL W LG	—	—	43.80	46.64	44.75	—	5.50	NRBS - 39	15.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W MD	—	—	—	—	38.20	—	1.50							
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	26.83	28.33	1.50							
NRBS - 39	—	—	15.00	17.00	13.92	17.26	9.00							

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/27/01-01/02/02

CURRENT LOADS		51.75		FUTURE LOADS		32.00		TOTAL LOADS		83.75				
CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	39.00	42.14	39.50	38.20	29.00	39.00	18.00	GNR W 1	—	41.00	—	—	—	4.00
GNR W 2	—	36.00	—	34.50	31.33	—	5.00	GNR W 3	—	34.00	—	—	—	1.00
GNR W 3	—	26.00	—	—	26.20	30.00	5.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	56.25	4.50
GNR W 4	—	—	23.25	24.25	—	—	2.00	GL W LG	—	48.50	—	—	50.53	5.00
GL W XL	—	47.75	49.17	52.20	46.45	—	28.25	GL W MD	38.60	39.29	—	—	48.15	4.75
GL W LG	—	47.75	43.80	46.64	43.17	—	15.00	GL W SM	—	—	—	—	31.00	.25
GL W MD	—	36.95	37.36	36.00	38.20	—	8.50	NRBS - 39	15.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W SM	25.50	27.00	—	—	22.00	—	1.25							
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	—	30.00	1.00							
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	26.69	29.17	14.50							
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	21.00	23.00	1.00							
NRBS - 39	—	—	15.00	17.00	13.92	17.56	13.00							

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 12/16/01 - 12/22/01

State	# Cases Shipped To Northern, CA	# Cases Shipped To Central, CA	# Cases Shipped To Southern, CA	Total State
Colorado	0	0	4,254	4,254
Georgia	0	0	840	840
Iowa	3,154	0	24,367	27,521
Michigan	0	0	2,393	2,393
Minnesota	750	810	2,976	4,536
Missouri	0	0	1,536	1,536
Nevada	0	0	360	360
New Hampshire	0	0	750	750
Ohio	0	0	810	810
Oregon	1,629	2,028	0	3,657
Pennsylvania	0	0	790	790
Texas	0	0	1,540	1,540
Utah	865	850	5,472	7,187
Wisconsin	0	0	639	639
TOTAL	6,398	3,688	46,727	56,813
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	6,398	3,688	46,727	56,813

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
120-123	81-84	73-76	50-53	23-26

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
62-65	53-59	51-56	38-43	25-29

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
34-37	23-27	7-10

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/26/01	12/17/01	12/25/00
PACIFIC COAST	237	240	160
LOS ANGELES	190	201	114

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

REPORT NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
72.27	71.27	57.42	44.51

*****NOTICE*****

Effective January 2, 2002, the Prices to Retailers series covering the cartoned eggs delivered into retailer's warehouses or directly to outlets will be adjusted to reflect changes in pricing terms. Previously unidentified changes in some pricing terms were found during a review of current data collection and prices reporting procedures. Market News will continue to monitor this egg price series and change prices as dictated by pricing procedures used by the egg industry. The prices reported do not reflect marketing allowances. As adjustments are made in individual reports comprising the Prices to Retailers series, the applicable report will include prices both with and without the adjustments on the day the adjustments are made. All affected reports will be adjusted by January 7.

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

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter (Chief)
	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 (Southern States Area 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	