

**United States Department Of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Programs, Market News Branch
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March 26, 1999

**Estimated U.S. Live Poultry Slaughter Under Federal Inspection
For Week Ending 27-Mar-99 (Thousand Head)**

| | Current Week 03/27/99 | Previous Week 03/20/99 |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bro-Fry | 149,586 | 152,258 |
| Lt Hens | 2,060 | 2,237 |
| Hvy Hens | 1,549 | 1,523 |

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered In Canada
Weeks Ending 20-Mar-99 (Thousand Head)**

| | Light Hens | Heavy Hens | Total |
|----------------|------------|------------|-------|
| Head | 613 | 28 | 641 |
| Last Week | 456 | 7 | 463 |
| Same Wk Yr Ago | 687 | 9 | 696 |
| To Date 1998 | 5,394 | 110 | 5,504 |
| To Date 1997 | 6,112 | 94 | 6,206 |

® Revised

Source: Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division

Total U.S. Fowl Slaughtered In The U.S. And Canada

| | Light Hens | Heavy Hens | Total |
|----------------|------------|------------|--------|
| Head | 2,738 | 1,409 | 4,147 |
| Last Week | 2,516 | 1,248 | 3,764 |
| Same Wk Yr Ago | 2,510 | 1,170 | 3,680 |
| To Date 1998 | 29,102 | 14,665 | 43,767 |
| To Date 1997 | 27,841 | 13,953 | 41,794 |

**Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection
Week Ending 20-Mar-99 (Thousand Head)**

| | Young Chickens | Light Hens | Heavy Hens | Total Hens |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Head | 148,775 (A) | 2,125 | 1,381 | 3,506 |
| Avg Wt | 5.06 | 3.44 | 7.76 | 5.14 |
| Last Week | 150,397 | 2,060 | 1,241 | 3,301 |
| Same Week Yr Ago | 143,828 | 1,823 | 1,161 | 2,984 |
| Avg Wt | 4.89 | 3.37 | 7.69 | 5.12 |
| To-Date/1999 | 1,652,796 | 23,708 | 14,555 | 38,263 |
| To-Date/1998 | 1,595,855 | 21,729 | 13,859 | 35,588 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 148.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 150.6 million head or 2.1 million head more than or 101 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**Young Chickens Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection,
Classified By Live Weight, Week Ending March 13, 1999**

| | (A) Fast Food/Food Service 4.20 Lbs & Down | (B) Retail 4.21-5.25 Lbs | (C) Deboning 5.26 Lbs & Up |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Head | 33,091 | 30,617 | 37,531 |
| Avg Weight | 3.87 | 4.95 | 6.22 |
| % Of Total /1 | 33% | 30% | 37% |
| Comparisons | | | |
| Last Week | 34,745 | 29,966 | 42,242 |
| Avg Weight | 3.74 | 4.91 | 6.12 |
| % Of Total /1 | 32% | 28% | 39% |
| Same Week, Yr Ago /2 | 28,702 | 28,680 | 22,528 |
| Avg Weight | 3.82 | 4.82 | 6.12 |
| % Of Total /1 | 36% | 36% | 28% |
| To Date/1998 | 335,900 | 312,761 | 426,844 |
| To Date/1997 | 334,366 | 329,782 | 279,353 |
| /1 May Not Total To 100% Due To Rounding | | | |
| /2 Comparable Week | | | |

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**Live Turkeys Slaughtered Week Ending 13-Mar-99
(Thousand Head)**

| | Fryer- Roasters | Young Turkeys | Old Banded | Total |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|--------|
| Head | 0 | 5,294 | 20 | 5,314 |
| Avg Wt | 0.00 | 22.76 | 31.30 | 22.79 |
| Head Sltr Comparisons | | | | |
| Last Week | 0 | 3,875 | 33 | 3,908 |
| Same Week Yr Ago | 0 | 6,035 | 79 | 6,114 |
| Avg Wt | 0.00 | 26.69 (B) | 32.33 | 26.76 |
| To-Date/1998 | 0 | 45,772 (B) | 297 | 46,069 |
| To-Date/1997 | 8 | 51,064 (B) | 418 | 51,490 |

(B) Includes 167,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 194,000 in 1998.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.
For Additional Information, Please Call (404) 562-5850.