

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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December 20, 2002

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | CURRENT WEEK 12/21/02 | PREVIOUS WEEK 12/14/02 |
|----------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRO-FRY | 158,055 | 159,275 |
| LT HENS | 1,942 | 1,991 |
| HVY HENS | 1,491 | 1,388 |

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
 WEEK ENDING 14-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL |
|----------------|------------|------------|--------|
| HEAD | 168 | 0 | 168 |
| LAST WEEK | 300 | 0 | 300 |
| SAME WK YR AGO | 344 | 0 | 344 |
| TO DATE 2002 | 14,840 | 297 | 15,137 |
| TO DATE 2001 | 20,376 | 301 | 20,677 |

® Revised

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

| | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL |
|----------------|------------|------------|---------|
| HEAD | 1,997 | 1,342 | 3,339 |
| LAST WEEK | 2,039 | 1,425 | 3,464 |
| SAME WK YR AGO | 2,289 | 1,403 | 3,692 |
| TO DATE 2002 | 101,531 | 70,992 | 172,523 |
| TO DATE 2001 | 109,412 | 69,542 | 178,954 |

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 14-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | YOUNG CHICKENS | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| HEAD | 154,894 (A) | 1,829 | 1,342 | 3,171 |
| AVG WT | 5.09 | 3.47 | 7.95 | 5.37 |
| LAST WEEK | 151,980 | 1,739 | 1,425 | 3,164 |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 154,764 | 1,945 | 1,403 | 3,348 |
| AVG WT | 5.08 | 3.59 | 7.86 | 5.38 |
| TO-DATE/2002 | 7,725,795 | 86,691 | 70,695 | 157,386 |
| TO-DATE/2001 | 7,674,977 | 89,036 | 69,241 | 158,277 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 146.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 156.8 million head or 10.1 million head more than or 107 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING December 07, 2002**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE (B) RETAIL (C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN 4.21-5.25 LBS 5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| HEAD | 22,187 | 19,492 | 39,713 |
| AVG WEIGHT | 3.81 | 4.71 | 6.14 |
| % OF TOTAL /1 | 27% | 24% | 49% |
| COMPARISONS | | | |
| LAST WEEK | 22,727 | 20,197 | 34,432 |
| AVG WEIGHT | 3.79 | 4.74 | 6.18 |
| % OF TOTAL /1 | 29% | 26% | 45% |
| SAME WEEK, YR AGO /2 | 30,731 | 18,082 | 53,466 |
| AVG WEIGHT | 3.76 | 4.74 | 6.13 |
| % OF TOTAL /1 | 30% | 18% | 52% |
| TO DATE/2002 | 1,251,482 | 1,099,555 | 2,016,239 |
| TO DATE/2001 | 1,508,772 | 1,314,096 | 2,120,926 |

/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 14-Dec-02
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | YOUNG (B) HENS | TOMS | YOUNG BREEDERS | OLD BREEDERS | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|---------|
| HEAD | 2,089 | 2,780 | 51 | 20 | 4,940 |
| AVG WT | 15.35 | 36.90 | 26.02 | 25.63 | 27.63 |
| HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS | | | | | |
| LAST WEEK | 2,053 | 2,863 | 58 | 40 | 5,014 |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 2,062 | 2,687 | 49 | 11 | 4,809 |
| AVG WT | 16.56 | 35.97 | 25.16 | 28.52 | 27.50 |
| TO-DATE/2002 | 93,276 | 138,355 | 2,682 | 660 | 234,973 |
| TO-DATE/2001 | 101,397 | 138,157 | 2,290 | 570 | 242,414 |

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.