

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 20-Dec-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	12/20/03	12/13/03
BRO-FRY	169,762	161,100
LT HENS	1,461	1,501
HVY HENS	1,510	1,337

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
 WEEKS ENDING 13-Dec-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	241	3	244
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	250	4	254
SAME WK YR AGO	168	0	168
TO DATE 2003	10,691	148	10,839
TO DATE 2002	14,959	290	15,249

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,620	1,295	2,915
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	1,649	1,441	3,090
SAME WK YR AGO	1,997	1,342	3,339
TO DATE 2003	81,328	69,950	151,278
TO DATE 2002	101,650	70,985	172,635

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 13-Dec-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	153,501 (A)	1,379	1,292	2,671
AVG WT	5.23	3.40	8.05	5.65
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	154,912	1,399	1,437	2,836
SAME WEEK YR AGO	154,894	1,829	1,342	3,171
AVG WT	5.09	3.47	7.95	5.37
TO-DATE/2003	7,664,771	70,637	69,802	140,439
TO-DATE/2002	7,725,795	86,691	70,695	157,386

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 150.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 155.4 million head or 5.2 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING December 6, 2003**

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----			
HEAD	22,550	30,305	43,864
AVG WEIGHT	3.78	4.77	6.21
% OF TOTAL /1	23%	31%	45%
COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	17,845	17,766	35,324
AVG WEIGHT	3.71	4.69	6.38
% OF TOTAL /1	25%	25%	50%
SAME WEEK, YR AGO /2	22,187	19,492	36,713
AVG WEIGHT	3.81	4.71	6.14
% OF TOTAL /1	27%	24%	49%
TO DATE/2003	1,140,809	1,180,149	2,174,861
TO DATE/2002	1,251,483	1,099,555	2,016,239

/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-Dec-03
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,132	2,805	35	1	4,973
AVG WT	15.44	35.28	24.84	52.33	26.71
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,924	2,841	69	1	4,835
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,089	2,780	51	20	4,940
AVG WT	15.35	36.90	26.02	25.63	27.63
TO-DATE/2003	94,729	137,290	3,125	605	235,749
TO-DATE/2002	93,276	138,355	2,682	660	234,973

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