

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 15-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 03/15/03	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/08/03
BRO-FRY	163,649	149,672
LT HENS	1,698	1,597
HVY HENS	1,403	1,299

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
 WEEK ENDING 08-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	221	0	221
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	347	0	347
SAME WEEK YR AGO	482	0	482
TO-DATE/2003	3,323	50	3,373
TO-DATE/2002	3,735	20	3,755

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,686	1,255	2,941
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK 1/11/03	2,033	1,296	3,329
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,116	1,319	3,435
TO-DATE/2003	19,571	13,465	33,036
TO-DATE/2002	21,629	12,805	34,434

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 08-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	151,538	1,465	1,255	2,720
AVG WT	4.94	3.22	7.89	5.37
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	148,405	1,686	1,296	2,982
SAME WK YR AGO	155,103	1,634	1,319	2,953
AVG WT	5.21	3.82	7.62	5.52
TO-DATE/2003	1,477,466	16,248	13,415	29,663
TO-DATE/2002	1,525,923	17,894	12,785	30,679

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 155.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.4 million head or 1.8 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING March 01, 2003**

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

Head	21,450	18,021	46,347
Avg Weight	3.63	4.46	6.22
% of total /1	25%	21%	54%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	22,373	21,547	47,090
Avg Weight	3.76	4.73	6.22
% of total /1	25%	24%	52%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,040	29,555	50,153
Avg Weight	3.81	4.85	6.22
% of total /1	31%	26%	43%
To date/2003	204,041	184,067	381,544
To date/2002	287,192	207,367	420,025

/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 08-Mar-2003
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,858	2,732	79	5	4,674
AVG WT	15.87	36.33	27.23	32.46	28.03
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,793	2,619	61	29	4,502
SAME WK YR AGO	1,805	2,630	53	14	4,502
AVG WT	16.32	35.98	24.85	26.66	27.94
TO-DATE/2003	16,718	25,512	592	130	42,952
TO-DATE/2002	17,216	26,044	406	89	43,755

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