

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 22-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	CURRENT WEEK 03/22/03	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/15/03
BRO-FRY	151,312	163,649
LT HENS	1,735	1,698
HVY HENS	1,324	1,403

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA
WEEK ENDING 15-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	190	3	193
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	221	0	221
SAME WEEK YR AGO	258	0	258
TO-DATE/2003	3,513	53	3,566
TO-DATE/2002	3,993	20	4,013

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,748	1,359	3,107
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK 1/11/03	1,686	1,255	2,941
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,894	1,363	3,257
TO-DATE/2003	21,319	14,824	36,143
TO-DATE/2002	23,523	14,168	37,691

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 15-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	151,337	1,558	1,356	2,914
AVG WT	5.23	3.49	8.18	5.67
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	151,538	1,465	1,255	2,720
SAME WK YR AGO	153,229	1,636	1,363	2,999
AVG WT	5.00	3.36	8.07	5.50
TO-DATE/2003	1,628,803	17,806	14,771	32,577
TO-DATE/2002	1,679,152	19,530	14,148	33,678

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.2 million head or 3.3 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING March 08, 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	21,171	20,312	47,467
Avg Weight	3.72	4.85	6.47
% of total /1	24%	23%	53%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	21,450	18,021	46,347
Avg Weight	3.63	4.46	6.22
% of total /1	25%	21%	54%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,452	23,580	46,874
Avg Weight	3.84	4.79	6.13
% of total /1	25%	22%	44%
To date/2003	225,212	204,379	429,011
To date/2002	323,644	230,947	466,899

/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 15-Mar-2003
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,736	2,757	46	25	4,564
AVG WT	15.88	36.34	25.63	31.97	28.42
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,858	2,732	79	5	4,674
SAME WK YR AGO	1,772	2,620	53	5	4,450
AVG WT	16.32	35.34	22.84	28.86	27.94
TO-DATE/2003	18,454	28,269	638	155	47,516
TO-DATE/2002	18,988	28,664	459	94	48,205

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