

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
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March 26, 2004

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 03/27/04	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/20/04
BRO-FRY	156,496	157,909
LT HENS	1,345	1,298
HVY HENS	1,307	1,324

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

WEEK ENDING 20-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	202	11	213
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	377	0	377
SAME WEEK YR AGO	139	0	139
TO-DATE/2004	2,573	40	2,613
TO-DATE/2003	3,483	49	3,532

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
 TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,485	1,349	2,834
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	1,721	1,165	2,886
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,736	1,280	3,016
TO-DATE/2004	16,593	14,024	30,617
TO-DATE/2003	21,707	14,973	36,680

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 20-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	153,006	1,283	1,338	2,621
AVG WT	5.15	3.36	8.08	5.77
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	157,179	1,344	1,165	2,509
SAME WK YR AGO	153,022	1,597	1,280	2,877
AVG WT	5.09	3.40	7.89	5.27
TO-DATE/2004	1,689,638	14,020	13,984	28,004
TO-DATE/2003	1,655,032	18,224	14,924	33,148

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.9 million head or 3.7 million head more than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 13-Mar-2004

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

Head	34,478	21,485	47,775
Avg Weight	3.60	4.81	6.22
% of total /1	33%	21%	46%
Last week	25,738	21,046	49,219
Avg Weight	3.80	4.72	6.93
% of total /1	27%	22%	51%
Same week, yr ago /2	26,160	21,941	36,261
Avg Weight	3.71	4.83	6.21
% of total /1	31%	26%	43%
To date/2004	261,771	212,957	430,921
To date/2003	232,130	208,290	426,618

/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 20-Mar-04
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,701	2,449	56	2	4,208
AVG WT	15.71	36.35	24.01	62.32	27.85
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312
SAME WK YR AGO	1,777	2,744	43	28	4,592
AVG WT	15.79	36.29	25.25	28.94	28.21
TO-DATE/2004	18,544	27,029	479	90	46,142
TO-DATE/2003	18,966	29,026	663	174	48,829

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