



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week are trending unchanged in the West, mostly higher elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady in the West, at least steady, mostly fully steady in all other areas. Demand into all channels was mixed, ranging slow to moderate; however, interest slowed in some areas due to typical end of the month business and winter weather in the Midwest. Supplies were balanced to well cleared. In the parts structure, trading was light to fairly good. Breast items were balanced to tight and moving very well. Wings were adequate to close balanced, and dark meat was in good balance to short aided by increased export interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 01/26/04-01/30/04 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	66.00-69.00	65.50-79.00	69.02	25
Los Angeles	75.00			
New York	73.00-76.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	69.50-71.00	57.00-72.00	69.61	79

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 70.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
841	66.00-73.50	69.94

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	207.50	1,262
BREASTS - B/S	180.50	5,200
BREASTS - WHOLE	94.50	1,405
THIGH MEAT - B/S	96.00	931
LEG QUARTERS	33.00	7,394
WINGS	115.00	2,812

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were 1 cent higher from last Tuesday's Majority. The market tone on broiler/fryers remained steady to firm, mostly fully steady. Offerings were light to occasionally moderate for the like trade interest. Demand into retail centers was lackluster, mostly slow to light and as expected for end of the month. Food service demand was slow to moderate, best into casual dining. Extreme cold temperatures and new snow storms limiting consumer traffic. Floor stocks were in close balance to fully adequate. Weights were mostly desirable. Parts trade was spotty and irregular on mostly light offerings. Supplies of wings were more available, but clearing well; breast cuts were in close balance to tight; dark meat was barely adequate and held with confidence. The market tone was fully steady to firm on all parts.

**SOUTHERN BROILER** Trade sentiment was at least steady to firm. Demand into all channels was fair to moderate, best for active retail ads and fast food specials. Supplies were sufficient to short for trade needs. In the parts structure, availability of all items was no more than adequate to tight and clearing well, frequently at premium levels. In production areas, live supplies were fair to moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Friday's levels. Trading reported for next week's deliveries at unchanged to higher prices. Offerings were adequate overall with small weights in the longest position. Buyers continued to focus on what would cover current needed as sellers

continued to ask higher prices on most product. Demand was moderate to good best where features and specials in progress. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances.

**Ads noted** (per pound unless otherwise stated):

**Arizona** - whole body 99-139, whole body 149 (buy one get one free), roasters 99, boneless breast 299, boneless breast tenders 399, split breast 97, leg quarters 97, thighs 89-129, drumstick 89-129;

**Colorado** - whole 129 buy one get one and 149 buy one get one, roaster 99, boneless breast seasoned 399, boneless breast marinated 499 buy one get one, boneless breast 4# bag IQF 897-899, boneless breast tenders 449, boneless thighs meat 199 and 6# bag IQF 1097,

**(deli food service** - fried mixed 8 piece 399, rotisserie chicken 549 each);

**Northern California** - whole body free range 149, whole body buy one get one free, whole body 50% off, whole cut-up 139, boneless breast 369-499, boneless breast fillets 399, split breast 229-249, whole legs 149, drumstick 149, thighs 149, leg quarters 89;

**Southern California** - whole body 69-88, whole cut-up 79, Cornish hen 99, boneless breast 167-399, boneless breast 2.5# bag IQF 799, boneless leg meat 99-199, split breast 97-149, leg quarters 37-59, leg quarters 10# bag 350, wings 158, thighs 79-169, drumsticks 59-169, fajita meat 149, gizzards 149,

**(deli food service** - fried 8 piece mixed 399, 15 piece drumstick and thighs 499 and 8 piece 298, buffalo hot wings 499, whole rotisserie chicken each 399-499).

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was moderate to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were in good balance and clearing under normal premiums. Movement through retail and distributive channels was moderate. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items remained tightly balanced with bone-in breasts in the closest position. Dark meat cuts were adequate to balanced, and increased export demand kept product clearing well. Wings were short of full needs.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was moderate to good entering the weekend. Seller offerings were in good balance to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 74 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were adequate to short with bone-in breasts in the tighter balance. Leg cuts were in good balance to short and where available generally held with confidence. Wings were adequate.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA. **BRANDED U.S.**

RANGE		61-88
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		73.69
NO. OF BOXES		8,564
CUMULATIVE	01/19/04-01/23/04	74.64
	01/20/03-01/24/03	58.22
NO. OF BOXES	01/19/04-01/23/04	32,682
	01/20/03-01/24/03	33,465

\*7 of 7 plants reporting.

JAN 22

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

JAN 23

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	887	160.00-245.00	166-171	175.49	880	162.00-245.00	168-173	177.34	3,515	174.10
TENDERLOINS	178	159.00-218.00	160-163	168.62	178	161.00-218.00	162-165	170.58	752	166.70
BREAST - LINE RUN	121	91.00-99.00	95-97	94.09	122	92.00-100.00	96-98	95.31	454	93.86
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				156	91.75
LEGS	89	41.00-52.00	41-42	42.44	90	42.00-54.00	42-43	43.64	370	42.51
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	563	28.00-30.00	28-30	28.51	559	29.00-32.00	29-31	29.91	2,278	28.99
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,120	32.00-35.00	32-33	32.50	700	33.00-36.00	33-34	33.93	4,016	32.71
WINGS (WHOLE)	305	110.00-120.00	110-114	114.56	305	110.00-120.00	110-114	114.95	1,200	114.53
WINGS (CUT)	362	127.00-138.00	130-135	130.25	347	127.00-138.00	130-135	130.07	1,657	130.91
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				57	55.51
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				113	52.65
B/S THIGHS	90	94.00-101.00	-	95.89	90	95.00-101.00	-	96.67	340	96.03

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR JANUARY 22, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
59.00 - 63.50	60.42	60.00 - 65.00	60.62	60.35

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent the industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying activity ranged moderate to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of breast items were in tight balance with bone-in breasts remaining in the closest position. Dark meat items were clearing well as renewed export interest kept product no more than adequate. Wings were closely balanced. Movement through retail channels was at least moderate with planned features stimulating the best interest. Distributive draw was fair to moderate. The market tone was firm on breast items, fully steady to instances firm on dark meat cuts and fully steady on wings.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB. JAN 23

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	CURRENT NEG			WTD AVG**	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	170-175	161.89	569,720	175	168.10	559,740	162.40	2,428,020		
TENDERLOINS	160	152.81	103,880	160-165	159.78	126,040	153.94	534,130		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	92-93	94.63	148,640	93-94	96.08	193,000	94.50	667,760		
BREAST - LINE RUN	92	93.35	124,080	93	95.73	89,400	93.16	461,320		
LEGS	41-42	40.47	311,720	42-43	41.53	278,201	40.56	1,117,320		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	29.78	452,392	31-32	31.25	464,020	30.73	1,740,448		
DRUMSTICKS	38-39	42.63	199,940	38-39	41.07	137,070	41.87	586,110		
THIGHS	37-38	44.21	68,840	37-38	43.66	75,320	43.17	287,080		
B/S THIGHS	88-89	91.87	117,360	89-90	93.27	71,040	89.76	492,219		
WINGS (WHOLE)	112-113	111.58	166,240	112-113	114.41	156,030	113.38	601,930		
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	36,080	10-12	12.26	27,680	11.96	154,120		
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	36.56	18,968	35-40	39.51	12,152	36.92	62,917		
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	69.59	16,160	60-65	70.11	20,480	69.35	81,094		

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	01/23	01/22	01/21	01/20	01/21	01/20	01/16	01/14	01/16	01/14
ALA	4,404	3,940	3,707	3,827	5.37	5.33	4,377	5.32		
ARK	5,495	5,352	5,778	4,886	5.00	5.18	5,976	5.21		
DELMARVA	2,257	2,273	2,246	2,273	5.51	5.54	2,343	5.45		
KY-LA-TN	2,165	2,037	1,948	1,999	5.02	4.97	2,091	4.96		
MISS	2,618	3,089	3,023	2,991	5.49	5.47	2,933	5.41		
NC	2,654	2,453	2,388	2,421	6.35	6.36	2,660	6.28		
TEXAS	2,047	2,050	2,053	2,050	5.07	5.09	2,208	4.97		
TOTAL	21,640	21,194	21,143	20,447	5.35	5.40	22,588	5.36		
MON-FRI	100,138						106,608(B)			

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Jan 04 and 24-Jan-04 is estimated to be 32,376,000 under 4.48 percent from a week ago and down 0.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 33,896,000; last year 32,625,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 24-Jan-04 is estimated to be 145,522,000 head down 8 percent from a week ago, and up 1 from a year ago.

(Last week 157,478,000 Last year 144,124,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	81-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	102-104
	ICE PACK	100-101
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	89-105
	ICE PACK	105
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 10-Jan-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service 4.20 Lbs & down	(B) Retail 4.21-5.25 Lbs	(C) Deboning 5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			
Head	19,626	20,313	39,884
Avg Weight	3.70	4.71	6.40
% of total /1	25%	25%	50%

**COMPARISONS**

Last week	18,409	23,913	39,165
Avg Weight	3.88	4.65	6.26
% of total /1	23%	29%	48%
Same week, yr ago /2	12,009	31,251	33,054
Avg Weight	3.69	4.79	6.35
% of total /1	16%	41%	43%

To date/2004	19,626	20,313	39,884
To date/2003	12,009	31,251	33,054

/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 POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** W/E 17-Jan-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	157,478	1,526	1,278	2,804	396
AVG WT	5.20	3.40	7.89	5.45	6.93
LAST WEEK	158,835	1,258	1,312	2,570	457
SAME WK YR AGO	153,150	1,841	1,505	3,346	410
AVG WT	5.14	3.30	7.84	5.30	6.48
TO-DATE/2004	316,313	2,784	2,590	5,374	853
TO-DATE/2003	305,691	3,577	2,918	6,495	831

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.4 million head or 3.1 million head more than or 102% of estimated fryers available.

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION** - Weekly: JAN 20, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

\*\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*\*

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.35 - 1.40	Silkie	2.75ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.00 - 1.20	Geese	
Pekin Ducks	3.50 - 3.75ea.	9-14 LBS	.50 - .60
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.50 - .60	Pigeons	2.20 - 2.40ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.60 - .70	White Pigeons	4.25 - 4.50ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - .90	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		4-6 LBS	1.50 - 1.70
4-6 LBS	.80 - .95	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.50
7-11 LBS	.80 - 1.00	Bunnies	2.00 - 4.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.55	Guinea Pigs	5.00 - 10.50ea.
Banty Roosters	3.50 - 4.50ea.	Pullets	
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.50ea.	4-6 LBS	1.10 - 1.20
		Total Coops Sold	230

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 19-JAN-2003

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	75.00-76.50	75.00-76.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-85.50	68.00-75.50

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Schedules usually full-time to reduced. Weights were desirable to light. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.45, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 19-JAN-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO****ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
DECEMBER 13	155.4	150.2	103%	5.23
20	156.3	147.8	106%	5.34
27	114.4	145.8	78%	5.22
JANUARY 3	136.5	147.1	93%	5.15
10	160.8	151.1	106%	5.17
17	159.4	156.3	102%	5.20
YEAR TO DATE	320.2	307.4	104%	
JANUARY 24		157.4		
31		158.4		

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER****Under Federal Inspection**

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	01/24/04	01/17/04	% CHG	01/25/03	% CHG
Broilers	145,522	157,478*	-08	144,124*	+01
Cattle	617	592	+04	665*	-07
Hogs	2,037	2,096	-03	1,898*	+07

\*ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Majority prices were unchanged to slightly higher on heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate. Trading was light. Available offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules were less than normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
21-26.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5	29-37.5 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
23-29 MAJORITY 26-27	31.5-39 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5

**LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Majority values were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were adequate to about adequate. Processing schedules were less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-12	10-11

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Negotiations for disposal of light fowl were too few sales to report. Demand was light to moderate for adequate to about adequate offerings. Schedules were at desired to less than normal volume for a moderate call for finished product. Salvage costs were expected to remain constant.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Majority values ranged unchanged to lower. Offerings were tight to adequate with demand generally good. Opinions of value were about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	5.5-12.5	5.5-7

**HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***  
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR  
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 26-JAN-04

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair to moderate. Offerings were mostly adequate. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing. The undertone was steady.

<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Trading was too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for about adequate supplies of spent hens. Schedules were irregular. Finished sales were moderate. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.