



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged entering the weekend. The market tone was steady with some caution noted. Demand into all channels was slow to moderate, best where features were being planned for next week. Supplies were sufficient to instances ample for current trade needs. Breaking stock demand was light for adequate to fully adequate offerings. Breaking schedules were generally normal. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for the moderate demand. Processing schedules for the upcoming week were reported as normal.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was slow to fair with food service movement generally moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI	Prices paid to producers.	Range	Mostly
EXTRA LARGE	69-78	73-75	LARGE	52-59	54	
LARGE	69-77	71-74	MEDIUM	43-47	45	
MEDIUM	60-66	63-65	SMALL	31-33		

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady with some caution noted entering the weekend. Demand into all channels was light to moderate, however improvement was anticipated next week in areas with features. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade needs, but the larger sizes were reported as becoming increasingly more available. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate for the light and unaggressive demand. Schedules were noted as generally normal. Spent hens were fully sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-91	77-80
LARGE	71-85	76-80
MEDIUM	60-73	66-67

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand into retail outlets was light to moderate with some feature activity scheduled for the first of the month. Food service movement was moderate. Supplies were adequate to available. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offers adequate to fully adequate for the light demand. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment cautiously steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	78.5-87	80-83
LARGE	74.5-83	76-79
MEDIUM	64.5-73	66-69

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. The market tone was mostly steady entering the weekend. Demand ranged light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for current requirements. Breaking stock demand was light and unaggressive for sufficient offerings. Breaking schedules were usually normal. Light type hens were fully adequate for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were regular for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75-94.75	77-80
LARGE	63-92.75	75-78
MEDIUM	53-76.75	62-66

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate, best where features were planned for the upcoming week. Supplies were adequate to available.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	85-89
LARGE	83-87
MEDIUM	72-76

CHICAGO AND MIDWEST EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand was moderate. Supplies were adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75-83	77-79
LARGE	74-82	75-78
MEDIUM	65-74	68-70

WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings easily adequate.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady with asking prices for next week unchanged on all sizes. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings fully adequate. Small benchmark price 80. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- extra large dozen 2 for \$3, 20 pack 199.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	121
EXTRA LARGE	117
LARGE	109
MEDIUM	100

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	100-110
EXTRA LARGE	98-105
LARGE	96-99
MEDIUM	87-90

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	279-349
EXTRA LARGE	259-309
LARGE	239-249
MEDIUM	***199-219***

Should have read 199-219 on April 16, 2004

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Demand at current price levels was generally light with offerings mostly fully adequate. Supplies balanced to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment cautiously steady.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	59-63	61-62
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	48-54	48-50

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Majority prices were lower when compared to early week trading. The undertone was unsettled and in a range of steady to barely steady. Supplies were fully adequate for generally normal breaking schedules. Demand was light and unaggressive for sufficient offerings. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending April 17, 2004 were 13 % more than last week, and 24 % higher than a year ago.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	58-63	59-61
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	45-52	46-50

EASTERN REGION AREA:

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

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 17-Apr-04
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
PW	1,177,138	28,021	11,203	6,130	2,613	3,851
LY	1,045,025	25,960	9,448	5,116	1,731	4,123
% CHG PW	6	6	7	11	6	11
% CHG LY	20	14	27	33	60	4

2004	17,570,742	418,335	167,446	93,330	38,446	61,316
2003	16,615,239	405,205	150,466	83,150	33,912	61,868
% CHG YTD	6	3	11	12	13	-1

AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	CURRENT	PREVIOUS	LAST
	WEEK	WEEK	YEAR
	42.10	41.80	42.72
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	39.67	38.53	38.78

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized whites reported at 78 cents fob, with pasteurized salt yolk reported from 54 to 58 cents fob. Trade sentiment was cautiously for whole egg and yolk and mostly steady for whites. Offerings were adequate for all liquid products. Demand was moderate to instances fairly good for all products. Sellers reported that future contractual interest had increased during the week for raw yolk and most were somewhat hesitant to price yolk more than a few weeks out at this time. Breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week's reported prices. Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	CHANGE FROM	
			WTD. AVG.	LAST WEEK
WHOLE	9	56-57	56.11	-3.64
WHITES	16	73-75	74.59	-1.60
YOLKS	10	50-53	52.15	-2.60

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were lower on yolks and whole, but unchanged on whites when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was mostly steady on whites, about steady on yolks and unsettled on whole. Demand and movement improved slightly but was reported as light to moderate with buyers still watching further market developments. Offerings were usually clearing on whites, mixed on whole, and ranged about balanced to available on yolks. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 17 Apr 2004 were 16% more than the previous week, and 22 % more than last year. According to NASS the total frozen eggs supplies in all warehouses on March 31, 2004 were 9 % less than the previous month but were 14 % higher than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS		LTL
	RANGE	MOSTLY	(MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	70-83	71-76	78-84
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		87-100
WHITES	89-92		94-99
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	65-74	66-70	73-82
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	63-70	64-67	70-75

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg ranged 2 cents lower with whites unchanged and sugared and salted yolk 1 cent lower. Trade sentiment was generally steady for all frozen products. Demand was mostly on an as needed basis with reports of buyers attempting to secure future yolk needs on a contractual basis. Offerings were adequate on all products with freezer stocks adequate to available. Breaking stock prices ranged unchanged when compared to last week's reported prices.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS	
	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	71-74	71
WHITES	89-92	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	66-69	69
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	64-67	67

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices were 2 cents lower on whole, 1 cent lower on yolks, and unchanged on whites. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 4/17 was 4% more than the previous week. Frozen demand light and freezer stocks adequate.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.)	
	RANGE	
WHOLE	77-80	
WHITES	94-97	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	73-76	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	71-74	

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Majority prices were unchanged on yolks, unchanged to slightly lower on blends and albumen, but lower on whole when compared to a week earlier. Movement was limited but somewhat improved. Demand was moderate but most buyers were still unaggressive. The undertone was usually about steady on yolks, unsettled and a little mixed on whole, and generally steady with caution on albumen. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 17 Apr 2004 were 6% more than the previous week, and 60% more than last year, The total year to date dried eggs produced were 13% more than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	2.88-3.20	MOSTLY	2.95-3.03
YOLKS	1.58-1.90	MOSTLY	1.60-1.65
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	6.80-7.30	MOSTLY	6.90-7.25
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.94-2.30	MOSTLY	1.95-2.00

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APR 16, 2004-APR 22, 2004

CURRENT LOADS	93.50	FUTURE LOADS	101.50	TOTAL LOADS	195.00
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CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	55.75	—	55.50	57.33	—	—	9.00
GNR W 2	—	—	—	57.00	—	—	1.00
GNR W 4	—	47.50	—	49.00	45.75	48.50	6.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	70.00	72.00	—	—	1.00
GL W J	—	—	74.25	75.50	71.00	66.00	3.25
GL W XL	—	67.60	67.50	69.45	67.14	85.88	65.75
GL W LG	—	67.00	66.00	66.75	73.63	93.00	17.25
GL W MD	55.45	—	57.57	59.63	56.30	57.00	30.00
GL W SM	—	—	41.00	43.50	—	45.00	.75
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	84.75	98.00	1.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	59.57	64.56	61.90	93.00
NRBS - 45	—	—	54.00	55.00	—	—	2.25

CLASS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GL W J	74.00	—	—	80.00	—	83.00	1.75
GL W XL	64.88	70.55	98.00	—	—	72.97	29.00
GL W LG	63.32	66.67	96.00	72.00	—	69.85	21.00
GL W MD	56.00	68.00	—	66.00	—	64.07	15.75
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.00

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

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 prices were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were fully sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST	0-12	8-10.5
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SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Costs of disposal were too few to report. Demand was moderate for light hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were as desired. Opinions of values were expected to remain steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT
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NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal prices were unchanged. Demand continued fairly good to good with a few processors of spent fowl reporting less than full production schedules as offerings were not as abundant as expected. Opinions of value were steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST	0-10.5	5-5.5
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WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings ample.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	78.50	78.00	66.50
SOUTHEAST	78.50	76.50	64.00
MIDWEST	74.00	72.50	64.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	81.50	77.50	67.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	78.29	76.18	65.61

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales were too few to report on heavy canners. Light canners were mostly unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; mostly fair for heavies as most available supplies were being used internally. Limited offerings were well cleared. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
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(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
24-31 MAJORITY 25-26	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
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(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
27-32 MAJORITY 28-28.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 17-Apr-04
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,464	1,287	2,751
LAST WEEK	1,362	1,305	2,667
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,751	1,235	2,986
TO-DATE/2004	19,334	18,970	38,304
TO-DATE/2003	25,711	20,118	45,829

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	341	9	350
LAST WEEK	200	0	200
SAME WEEK YR AGO	192	0	192
TO-DATE/2004	3,541	49	3,590
TO-DATE/2003	4,526	57	4,583

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,805	1,296	3,101
LAST WEEK	1,562	1,305	2,867
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,943	1,235	3,178
TO-DATE/2004	22,875	19,019	41,894
TO-DATE/2003	30,237	20,175	50,412

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 10, 2004	Year-To-Date			
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
LIQUID	95	303	2,170	2,832
FROZEN	0	0	0	14
DRIED	0	0	154	135
TOTAL	95	303	2,324	2,981

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending April 10, 2004	Year-To-Date			
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
LIQUID	18	0	1,167	1,579
FROZEN	85	0	419	1,169
DRIED	78	40	832	360
TOTAL	181	40	2,418	3,108

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 10, 2004	Year-To-Date			
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
JUMBO	0	30	50	106
EXTRALARGE	780	780	5,010	2,550
LARGE	1,660	3,690	13,573	9,433
MEDIUM	480	735	12,360	15,957
UNGRADED	4,276	2,826	29,044	4,296
MISC	1,090	330	5,914	3,312
TOTAL	8,286	8,391	65,951	35,654

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Data Source: Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

MONTHLY COLD STORAGE REPORT

(In Units of 1,000)

	28-Feb 2003	29-Feb 2004	31-Mar 2003	31-Mar 2004
FROZEN EGGS:				
Monthly Cold Storage Report				
Whites	2,571	2,900	2,519	2,858
Yolks	1,169	1,119	1,409	997
Whole & Mixed	9,463	13,914	9,765	11,936
Unclassified	3,924	3,205	3,262	3,489
Total Frozen Eggs	17,127	21,138	16,955	19,280

CHICKENS AND EGGS

March Egg Production Up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.53 billion during March 2004, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.09 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2004 averaged 341 million, up slightly from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,209 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2003.

March 2004 contained 23 weekdays, four Saturdays compared to March 2003 which contained 21 weekdays, and five Saturdays.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2004, totaled 342 million, up 1 percent from a year ago. The 342 million layers consisted of 283 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.6 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.44 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2004, averaged 72.0 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.03 billion eggs during March 2004, up 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during March, at 318 million, was up slightly from a year ago.

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 17-Apr-2004

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW	LY
ATLANTA	22.1	33.2	-33	-29
BOSTON	3.9	4.6	-15	-15
CHICAGO	57.2	119.9	-52	-29
DETROIT	24.1	40.5	-40	-53
KANSAS CITY	2.8	5.6	-50	-58
LOS ANGELES	98.1	111.6	-12	-19
NEW ORLEANS	9.3	9.2	1	-42
NEW YORK	28.0	35.6	-21	-21
ST. LOUIS	14.5	18.6	-22	-30
SAN FRANCISCO	18.4	30.5	-40	-26
TOTAL	278.4	409.3	-32	-29
4 WK MVG AVG	332.2			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 17-Apr-04

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	234.4	4	3
E.N. CENTRAL	492.0	-11	-21
W.N. CENTRAL	261.7	-9	-20
S. ATLANTIC	181.4	-13	-6
S. CENTRAL	98.4	-14	-5
WEST	208.9	-8	-6
TOTAL	1476.8	-9	-13
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)

SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 04/19/04	3,165	180,837	44,278
AM 04/01/04	3,195	183,458	41,759
CHG	-30	-2621	2519
PCT CHG	-1%	-1%	6%

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Apr 20, 2004

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	129	124	101	74
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	122-126	117-121	94-98	67-71
MOSTLY	124-125	119-120	96-97	69-70
RHODE ISLAND	128-132	123-127	100-104	74-78
MOSTLY	128	123	100	74
VERMONT	130-132	125-127	101-104	-
MOSTLY	132	127	104	-

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