



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

THURSDAY
MARCH 02, 2006
VOL. 57 NO. 09

ISSN 1520-6114

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



Early week prices were higher on the larger sizes but unchanged on mediums in most locations. As the week progressed New York prices were sharply higher on the heavier weights and unchanged on mediums with all other areas prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to firm on larger sizes and mostly steady on mediums. Demand was light to good, best where features were available. Supplies were adequate, instances tight on the larger sizes. Breaking stock and check and undergrade prices were unchanged. Demand was mostly light to instances moderate. Offerings were closely balanced to instances short of needs while most breakers worked from current inventories and regular commitments. Floor stocks were balanced to adequate. Schedules were full time. Trade sentiment was steady with a firm undertone. Spent hen removal costs were unchanged to higher. Demand was fairly good while offerings were adequate to fully adequate. Trade sentiment was steady. Removal prices were 0-10 cents, mostly .5-8 cents per head.

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA/MN/WI were 3 cents higher for large. All other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm for the larger sizes with lighter weight eggs reported as mostly steady. Retail demand was moderate to very good. Loose egg sales mostly light to instances moderate. Supplies were in balance to adequate. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was mostly light to moderate. Offerings continued tight to short of current needs. Floor stocks were balanced to fully adequate. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment steady with a firm undertone.

RANGE MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	48-57	51-54
LARGE	47-56	49-52
MEDIUM	35-44	37-40

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

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however the larger sizes were trending sharply higher. Trade sentiment was firm on the heavier weight eggs, but remained mostly steady on mediums. Demand into all outlets ranged light to good. Supplies were sufficient to at times close. Breaking stock offerings were usually adequate for the fair demand. Spent hens were fully adequate for the moderate to instances fairly good demand.

RANGE MOSTLY

EXTRA LARGE	53-67	56-59
LARGE	48-62	53-57
MEDIUM	37-50	41-44

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

COMBINED REGIONAL

FEB 24, 2006

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	53.00	52.00	42.50
SOUTHEAST	52.50	50.50	41.00
MIDWEST	45.50	43.50	36.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	52.50	51.50	44.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	50.90	49.44	41.27

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN

	02-28-06	02-21-06	03-01-05
Large	30-39	22-31	27-36
Medium	18-24	15-21	14-20

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- FEBRUARY 27, 2006

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO		SO		5-Area	
		NO	SO	SO	Atl	Pacific	
		Northeast	CENT	CENT			
Jumbo	Curr Wk	9.2	22.0	6.7	12.9	9.8	60.6
	Change	-2.1	2.9	0.4	-5.7	-1.7	-9%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	21.4	49.4	8.6	17.7	43.2	140.3
	Change	-1.1	1.5	0.5	-2.0	7.4	5%
Large	Curr Wk	32.3	114.6	49.2	75.4	105.0	376.5
	Change	-1.9	4.6	-18.0	-6.5	0.5	-5%
Medium	Curr Wk	11.7	58.5	15.4	19.0	34.6	139.2
	Change	-1.2	-3.4	4.2	2.0	1.5	2%
Small	Curr Wk	6.0	12.7	1.1	4.8	8.1	32.7
	Change	-1.6	1.8	-0.3	-1.5	-1.0	-7%
Misc	Curr Wk	2.8	41.8	12.8	11.0	4.0	72.4
	Change	0.9	-1.3	6.0	-1.4	-1.0	5%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	18.7	58.7	17.2	21.3	26.8	142.7
	Change	1.9	10.5	-9.2	-6.0	-4.5	-5%
Total	Curr Wk	102.1	357.7	111.0	162.1	231.5	964.4
	Change	-5%	5%	-13%	-12%	1%	-3%
TOTAL		Number of Cases		Percent Change		Number of Cooperators	

Shell Egg	964.4	-3%	168
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	230.9	0%	35

Total Shell Egg 1,195.3 -2% 203

1/ Information supplied by a universe of 168 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI
South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX
South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
Pacific- AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 25-FEB-06

	(LBS IN THOUSANDS)					
	(EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)					
	CASES	LIQUID	LIQUID	LIQUID	DRIED	INED
	BROKEN	WHOLE	WHITE	YOLK		
CW	1,274,693	32,252	11,498	6,164	2,902	4,387
PW	1,277,719	31,341	12,671	6,805	3,000	4,405
LY	1,239,906	30,324	11,917	6,138	2,520	4,320
% Chg PWK	0%	3%	-9%	-9%	-3%	0%
% Chg LY	3%	6%	-4%	0%	15%	2%
2006	10,250,897	249,097	97,914	53,988	25,536	35,121
2005	9,850,476	235,377	96,433	51,216	23,382	34,667
% Chg YTD	4%	6%	2%	5%	9%	1%
Average Yield Per Case -			Current	Previous	Last	
			Week	Week	Year	
(Inedible Included)			42.60	43.22	42.50	
(Inedible Excluded)			39.16	39.77	39.02	

IN-LINE PRODUCTION (of total production; lbs. in thousands;
may include limited amount of off-line source material)

	CASES BROKEN		LIQUID WHOLE	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs.	% of Total
CURRENT WEEK	588,586	46.1%	16,026	49.7%
PREVIOUS WEEK	593,282	46.4%	15,838	50.5%
LAST YEAR	500,727	40.4%	13,315	43.9%

BROILER HATCHERY

STATE	Broiler Eggs Set in		Broiler Chicks Placed	
	19 Selected States		in 19 Selected States	
	FEB 18	FEB 25	FEB 18	FEB 25
	Thousand			
AL	31,713	31,868	20,803	21,468
AR	31,127	31,122	23,786	23,832
DE	3,987	3,920	5,874	5,648
FL	1,354	1,373	1,496	1,498
GA	*34,226	34,816	*28,147	27,124
KY	7,210	7,062	*6,063	5,858
LA	4,166	4,166	4,229	4,174
MD	8,901	8,871	4,960	5,022
MS	18,108	18,392	16,547	16,428
NC	19,438	19,225	14,951	15,241
OK	*6,759	6,617	5,948	5,392
PA	*3,333	4,174	*2,989	2,787
SC	5,369	5,339	4,562	4,338
TX	15,147	15,197	13,151	12,625
VA	6,296	6,410	4,996	5,182
CA, MO, TN, & WV	*17,987	18,189	*15,907	16,391
19 State Total	*215,121	216,741	*174,409	173,008
Previous Year Total	213,897	213,989	175,869	176,799
Pct. of Prev. Year	101	101	99	98

* Revised

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 08-Apr-06 is estimated at 159.9 million head. This compares to 161.2 million head the previous week and to 166.0 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 159.3 million head and the composite weighted average price was 73.75 cents per pound.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES - WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES
(CNTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 02/23/06-03/01/06

CLASS	CURRENT LDS 84.25 FUTURE LDS 80.50 TOTAL LDS 164.75						
	SE		NE		MW		
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
	LOADS						
GNR W 1	35.50	45.71	35.25	36.86	—	42.50	44.00
GNR W 2	—	40.50	—	—	—	—	8.00
GNR W 4	—	—	—	25.00	20.00	—	2.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	33.00	39.00	1.00
GL W J	—	—	48.00	49.50	49.50	—	5.00
GL W XL	32.50	55.45	47.58	49.90	45.85	46.25	52.50
GL W LG	—	50.84	42.75	45.00	44.70	—	54.00
GL W MD	37.00	37.00	30.50	32.00	30.56	—	12.75
GL W SM	24.75	27.38	22.29	23.85	—	—	8.00
GL BR LG	—	—	52.00	—	—	—	1.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	27.22	12.00
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	—	23.00	4.00
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	20.00	16.50	18.00	6.00

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 25-Feb-2006

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW		PW		PCT CHG	
	THOUSANDS		THOUSANDS		PW	LY
Atlanta		27.8		31.8	-13	-7
Boston		3.0		3.1	-3	0
Chicago		80.1		81.9	-2	7
Detroit		21.7		24.8	-13	-15
Kansas City		4.3		6.0	-28	-49
Los Angeles		120.7		114.5	5	16
New Orleans		6.0		6.9	-13	-25
New York		31.3		31.2	0	-3
St. Louis		20.7		17.3	20	43
San Francisco		19.1		18.7	2	-4
Total		334.7		336.2	0	4
4 Week Moving Avg.		328.6				

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED W/E 25-Feb-06

	YOUNG		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS		
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
Head	1,691	2,404	34	0	4,129
Avg Wt	16.74	38.66	25.04	0.00	29.57
Last week	1,417	2,546	9	1	3,973
Same wk yr ago	1,473	2,441	32	0	3,946
Avg Wt	16.17	38.60	24.76	0.00	30.11
To-date/2006	12,656	19,600	162	30	32,448
To-date/2005	12,233	20,073	242	32	32,580

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

	Week ending 25-Feb-06					
	(Preliminary) (Released 1:00 Eastern Time)					
	—YOUNG TURKEYS—			OLD	TOTAL TURKEYS	
	THOUSAND	PCT CHG	AVG	BANDED	AVG	AVG
	HEAD	PW	LIVE WT	-THOUSAND	HEAD-	LIVE WT
North East	714	2	24.85	(A)	714	24.85
South Atlantic	693	-11	31.75	(A)	693	31.75
North Central	1,768	7	35.61	(A)	1,768	35.61
South Central	685	16	18.84	(A)	685	18.84
West	269	3	24.12	(A)	269	24.12
U.S. total	4,129(B)	4	29.57	0	4,129	29.57
To-date						
2006	32,418(B)				30	32,448
To-date						
2005	32,548(B)				32	32,580

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 34,000; for the current year to date 162,000; for last year to date 242,000.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION (Preliminary)

W/E 19-Nov-2005	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
Head	158,438	1,054	1,516	2,570	544
Avg Wt	5.48	3.27	7.63	5.84	6.58
Last week	162,394	1,029	1,294	2,323	522
Same wk yr ago	156,421	1,511	1,477	2,988	551
Avg Wt	5.24	3.30	8.08	5.66	6.82
To-date/2006	1,283,395	10,442	11,109	21,551	4,003
To-date/2005	1,250,969	11,268	10,151	21,419	4,052

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 163.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 160.4 million head, or 3.5 million less than estimated available.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 04-Mar-06

CLASS	Current Week 03/04/06(1)	Previous Week 02/25/06
-----THOUSAND HEAD-----		
Broiler/fryer	163,964(2)	161,783
Light hens	1,122	1,061
Heavy hens	1,517	1,434
Total	166,603	164,278

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 04-Mar-06 is 163.4 million head compared to 162.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 164.3 million head or 0.9 million more than estimated available. For the week of 11-Mar-06 the estimated available is 164.2 million head.

**ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/
FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
January	21 156.4	162.4	96%	5.40
	28 164.9	164.5	100%	5.35
February	4 165.3	165.4	100%	5.45
	11 166.5	164.0	102%	5.41
	18 164.3	164.0	100%	5.38
	25 160.4	163.9	98%	5.48
Year to date	1,298.9	1,301.1	100%	
March	4	163.4		
	11	164.2		

FINAL BROILER/FRYER Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook ice-packed broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of

27-FEB-2006 (cents per lb)

	U.S. GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJ	WTD AVG	LDS	WTD AVG	LDS
Chicago	52.00-55.00	55.90	40	57.00	74
Los Angeles	76.00	74.21	68	71.34	132
New York	55.00-58.00	56.59	22	58.33	46

**COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR RTC BROILER/
FRYERS**

27-FEB-2006	Change from 20-FEB-2006	20-FEB-2006	28-FEB-2005
62.94	-.65	63.59	71.52
NUMBER OF LOADS	567		

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/		WTD	LBS
8-16 LB HENS	OFFERS	SALES	AVG (000)
EASTERN REGION 3/	66-69.25	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	66-67	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	66-67	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	66-69.25	-	-
CENTRAL REGION	66-67	-	-
WESTERN REGION	66-67	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - Selected Centers (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM 02/27/06	3,217	69,818	70,033
AM 02/01/06	3,481	52,434	73,883
CHG	-264	17,384	-3,850
PCT CHG	-8%	33%	-5%

HEN MARKETS

HEAVY TYPE (7 pounds and up)* Final Price, Generally for slaughter the week of 27-FEB-06

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
Southeast (1)	9.75-15.5 CENTS/LB.	12-14	13.15
Southeast (2)	TFEWR		
South Central(1)	9-15.25 CENTS/LB.	11-13	12.88

(1) At Farm Buyer Loading (2) At Farm Producer Loading

*Weights under 7 lbs. subject to discount.

LIGHT TYPE Cents per head, generally for removal within the next 10 days (includes handling, freight and any other charges, weights average about 3.50 pounds)

24-FEB-06

REGIONS	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern	3-11	8-10
South Central	Too Few To Report	
North Central	0-10	.5-8

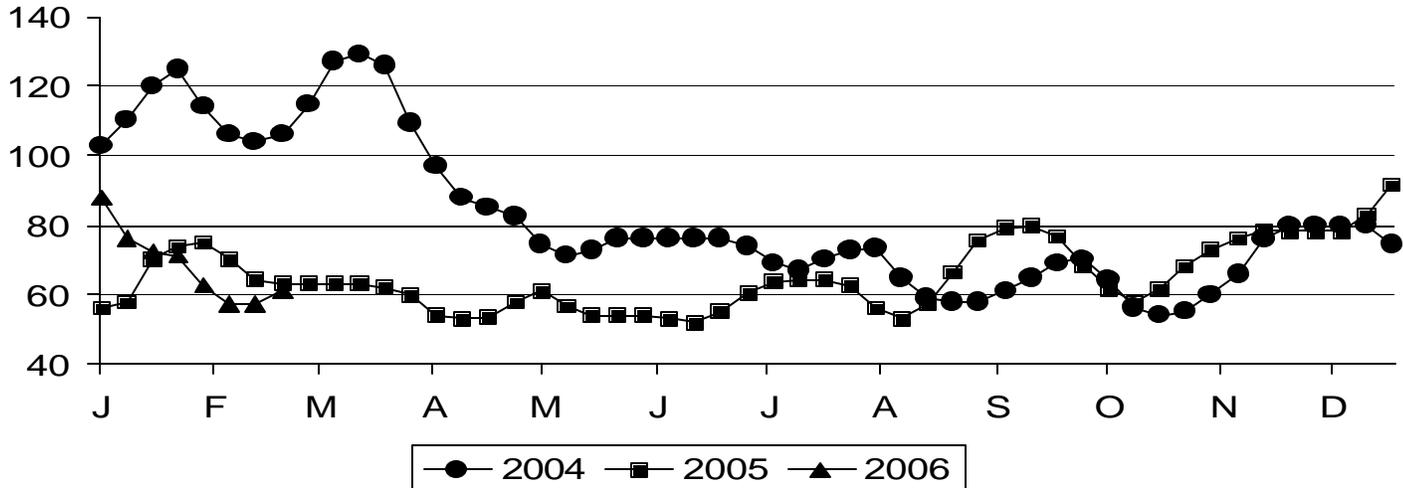
COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT (Receipts From Producers)

W/E 25-Feb-2006	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
REGIONS		PW	LY
North Atlantic	205.4	-3	-2
East North Central	637.3	1	2
West North Central	297.0	1	0
South Atlantic	196.2	1	-9
South Central	69.5	14	-1
West	196.3	5	-3
Total	1,601.7	2	-1

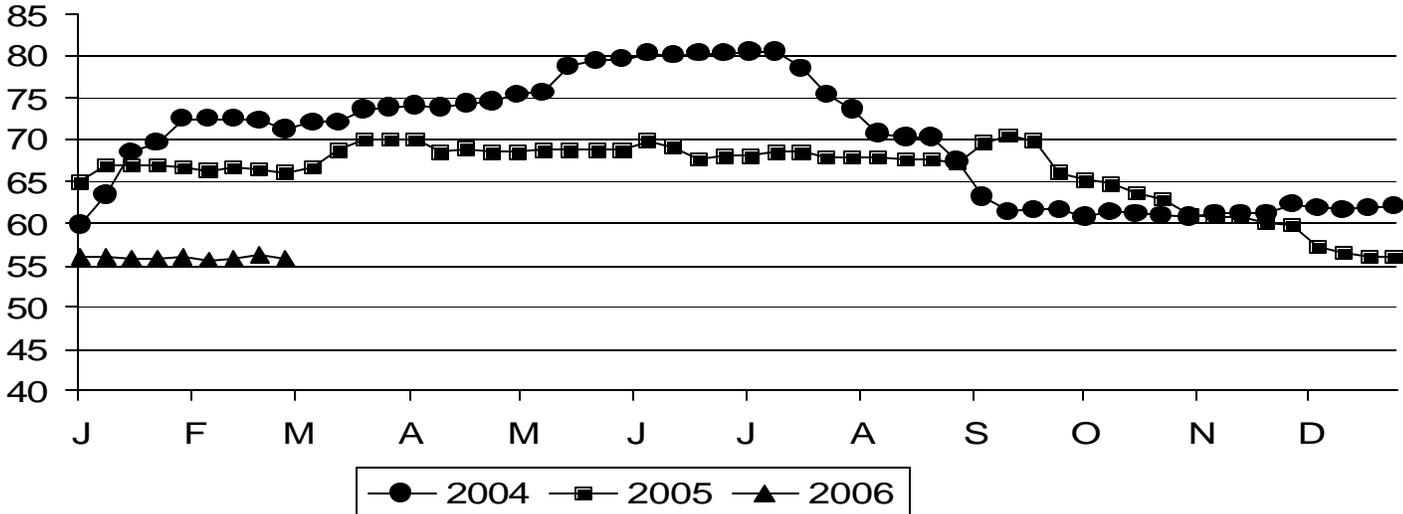
Matched plants reporting 84 84

Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)
East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)
South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)
West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)

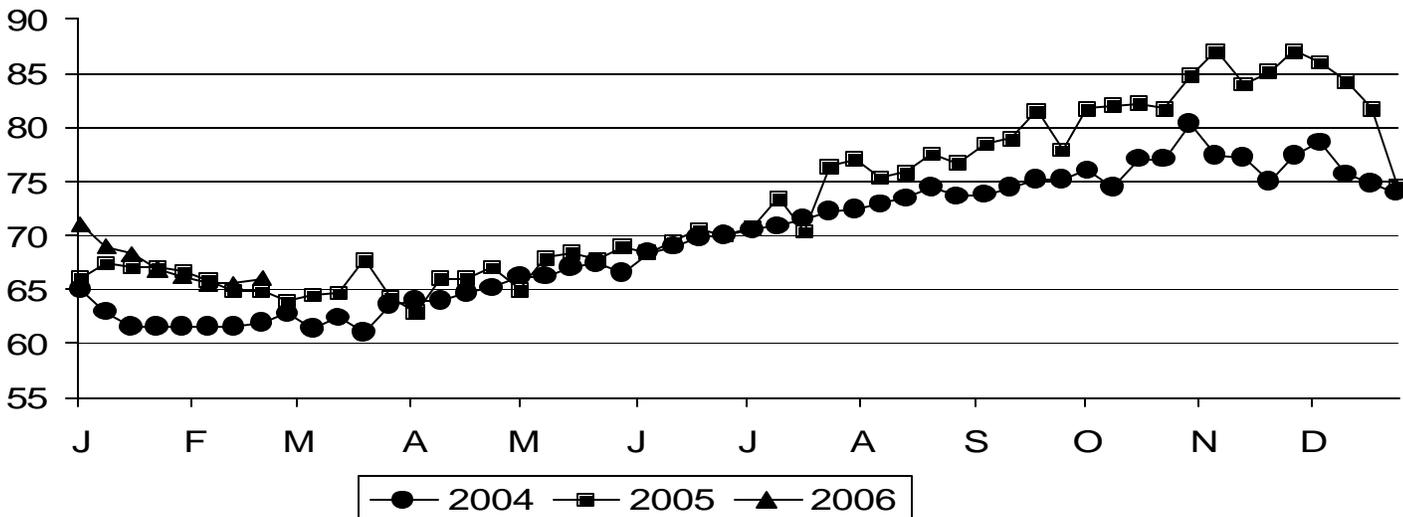
New York Large Weekly Average Price cents per dozen



Chicago Broiler/Fryer Weighted Average Prices cents per pound



Eastern Weekly Average Prices For 8-16 LB Hen Turkey cents per pound



USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC Voice (202)720-6911
Mike Sheats Fax (202)720-2403
Branch Chief

Atlanta, GA Voice (404)562-5850
Johnny Freeman, Fax (404)562-5875
Officer-in-Charge

Jackson, MS Voice (601)965-4662
Gary Brown, Fax (601)359-1175
(Southern States Area Supervisor)

Des Moines, IA Voice (515)284-4471
Mary L. Adkins, Fax (515)284-4468
(Officer-In-Charge) Recorded (515)284-4545

Long Beach, CA Voice (562)388-7337
Jim Derby, Fax (562)432-8295
Officer-in-Charge Recorded (213)534-1335