

**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 18-Mar-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 03/18/06	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/11/06
Broiler/fryer	163,678	164,578
Light hens	1,005	1,000
Heavy hens	1,361	1,493

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	WEEK ENDING 11-Mar-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)		
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	171	0	171
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	312	0	312
Same week yr ago	261	7	268
To-date/2006	2,620	7	2,627
To-date/2005	3,132	11	3,143

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,148	1,580	2,728
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,407	1,527	2,934
Same week yr ago	1,981	1,324	3,305
To-date/2006	15,134	14,223	29,357
To-date/2005	17,667	12,930	30,597

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 11-March-06 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	160,615	977	1,580	2,557
Avg Wt	5.32	3.36	7.75	6.07
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	158,348	1,095	1,527	2,622
Same wk yr ago	157,630	1,720	1,317	3,037
Avg Wt	5.16	3.38	7.99	5.38
To-date/2006	1,602,358	12,514	14,216	26,730
To-date/2005	1,568,694	14,535	12,919	27,454

A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 164.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 162.6 million head, or 1.6 million less than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 04-Mar-06

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	26,554	19,671	52,345
Avg Weight	3.77	4.75	6.37
% of total /1	27%	20%	53%
Last week	22,203	22,565	56,138
Avg Weight	3.82	4.68	6.46
% of total /1	22%	22%	56%
Same week, yr ago /2	26,451	23,762	51,490
Avg Weight	3.56	4.70	6.35
% of total /1	26%	23%	51%
To date/2006	238,620	159,548	487,775
To date/2005	234,348	192,182	432,813

/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 11-Mar-06
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	
Head	2,001	2,376	34	10	4,421
Avg Wt	17.77	37.69	25.75	31.51	28.57
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	2,086	2,511	23	2	4,622
Same wk yr ago	1,551	2,477	10	3	4,041
Avg Wt	16.59	37.81	25.62	55.91	29.65
To-date/2006	16,743	24,487	219	42	41,491
To-date/2005	15,250	25,020	277	35	40,582

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