



# BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch & Analysis

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was mostly about steady to barely steady, at times weak. Retail and food service demand was generally light to fair, slightly better for active ads and promotions. Supplies of smaller sized product were usually sufficient, but heavier weights were fully adequate to ample and often discounted to help move. Floor stocks were adequate to long. In the parts structure, movement was light and selective for mid-week trading. Breast items and wings were at least adequate to readily available and slow to clear, even at discounted levels. Dark meat items were sufficient to closely balanced and moving satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.



**GEORGIA FOB DOCK PRICES** The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 cents to **80.25** based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 75.50 cents last year on February 28, 2007.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading:

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	173.00
BREASTS - B/S	148.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	82.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	121.50
LEG QUARTERS	43.50
WINGS	126.50

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

**SOUTHERN REGION** Trade sentiment was steady at best. Retail demand was typically slow to fair with limited activity, but improvements are expected are first of the month. Food service was slow to instances moderate, light into fast food outlets. Supplies of all sizes were usually more than sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair at best for mid-week trading. Breast items and wings were at least adequate to ample and frequently discounted to help move. Dark meat items were adequate to close balanced and moving satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST REGION** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to no better than fair with most dealers cautious and saw no need to extend floor stocks beyond regular commitments. Offerings of 3 pound and lighter sizes were sufficient for current needs; heavier sizes were at least adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement was limited. The market tone was barely steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breast, wings and tenders were available and slow to clear. Dark meats cuts were generally sufficient for current needs.

**MIDWEST REGION** Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady to weak. Whole bird offerings more than sufficient on light and price sensitive trade inquiry. Retail and food service demand mostly light to moderate, occasionally fairly good on retail advertisements or fast food promotions. Floor stocks adequate to long; weights desirable. Parts trade improved with some buyers looking to fill out front needs; best call noted on boneless/skinless breast and wings. Supplies of large wings and breast cuts available and discounted to help clear; dark meat items were in balance on moderate call. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on dark cuts, steady to weak on white meat parts.

**WESTERN REGION** The market tone was about steady to generally steady. Offerings were in fair balance on lightweight product and ample on heavy weights for immediate needs. Retailer demand was moderate to good with best interest in parts. Floor stocks were generally adequate to cover current needs. The market tone was steady to instances barely steady on parts.

## BROILER -TYPE EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 219 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 23, 2008. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

## BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 178 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 23, 2008. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2007 through February 23, 2008 were 1.42 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

## BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED TOTAL 19 SELECTED STATES

WEEK ENDING 02/23/08	2008	2007	PERCENT CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	219,325	214,659	+02
CHICKS PLACED	178,465	172,634	+03

Source: NASS, USDA

## WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 05-Apr-08 is estimated at 164.0 million head. This compares to 163.2 million head the previous week and to 162.0 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 155.9 million head and the composite weighted average price was 78.66 cents per pound.

FEB 26

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

FEB 27

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD	ITEM	POUNDS			WTD
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	530	122.00-200.00	-	141.81	BREAST - B/S	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
TENDERLOINS	168	134.00-198.00	-	143.92	TENDERLOINS	231	120.00-189.00	-	141.42
BREAST - LINE RUN	100	82.00-90.00	-	82.85	BREAST - LINE RUN	110	80.00-92.00	-	83.00
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	310	59.00-67.00	60-61	60.75	LEGS	243	55.00-67.00	61-63	62.31
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	387	40.00-44.00	40	40.35	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	386	39.00-44.00	40	40.29
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	425	41.00-46.00	42	42.24	LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	882	40.00-47.00	42	42.60
WINGS (WHOLE)	300	115.00-128.00	119-122	120.82	WINGS (WHOLE)	303	100.00-128.00	114-118	116.84
WINGS (CUT)	TOO FEW TO REPORT				WINGS (CUT)	105	120.00-129.00	-	126.00
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR F.O.B. DOCK

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
50.00 - 56.50	52.28	50.00 - 57.50	53.86	53.89

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

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying interest was light and selective during midweek trading as dealers saw no need to extend floor stocks beyond current needs. Offerings of boneless skinless breasts and tenders were available at discounted levels; bone-in breasts were at least sufficient. Wings were readily available and slow to clear. Legs and leg quarters were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light. The market tone was barely steady to weak for boneless skinless breast and tenders; weak for wings and generally steady for the balance of items.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

FEB 26	CURRENT NEG	WTD	FEB 25	CURRENT NEG	WTD
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG	ITEM	TRADING*	AVG
BREAST - B/S	145-150	148.28	BREAST - B/S	145	140.17
TENDERLOINS	135-140	137.90	TENDERLOINS	135	136.45
BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	86.01	BREAST - WITH RIBS	78-79	89.38
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	80.27	BREAST - LINE RUN	78	80.91
LEGS	62-63	64.39	LEGS	62-63	64.78
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	42-43	44.42	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	42-43	44.49
DRUMSTICKS	52-53	62.44	DRUMSTICKS	52-53	58.46
THIGHS	55-56	62.98	THIGHS	55-56	63.68
B/S THIGHS	118-119	120.77	B/S THIGHS	118-119	120.51
WINGS (WHOLE)	124-125	126.94	WINGS (WHOLE)	123-124	127.16
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12-14	11.57	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12-14	11.09
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	36.89	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.35
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.67	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.54

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

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

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

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG
	(1,000)	02/26	(1,000)	02/22	02/25	02/22	(1,000)	02/18	WTS
Alabama	3,877	4,190	4,060	4,188	5.55	5.39	4,018	5.55	
Arkansas	5,285	5,285	4,936	5,181	5.44	5.35	5,351	5.50	
Delmarva	2,191	2,246	1,967	2,188	5.77	5.67	2,164	5.76	
KY-LA-TN	2,398	2,424	2,386	2,320	5.13	4.95	2,422	5.12	
Mississippi	2,803	2,940	3,050	3,025	5.82	5.56	3,081	5.80	
North Carolina	2,901	2,866	2,626	2,584	7.23	7.22	2,796	7.03	
Texas	2,530	2,552	2,545	2,515	5.45	5.27	2,569	5.46	
Total	21,985	22,503	21,570	22,001	5.73	5.59	22,401	5.73	
Mon-Wed	66,778 (A)						66,509 (A)		

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 27-Feb-08 is estimated to be 32,892,000 head down 2.15 percent from a week ago and up 4.89 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 33,615,000, last year 31,358,000)

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

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	97-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	109-118
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	67-78
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

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

	RANGE
BROILER 2# & OVER	ICE PACK 135-142
	DRY PACK 122-127
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 130-139
	DRY PACK 115-120
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 109
	DRY PACK 105-109
DUCKS	199-207

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER**

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 01-Mar-08

Class	CURRENT WEEK		PREVIOUS WEEK	
	03/01/08 (1)	Thousand head	02/23/08	Thousand head
Broiler/fryer	166,086(2)		165,428	
Light hens	1,353		1,175	
Heavy hens	1,543		1,539	
Total	168,982		168,142	

(1)ESTIMATED

2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 01-Mar-08 is 168.4 million head compared to 162.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 166.4 million head or 2.0 million less than estimated available. For the week of 08-Mar-08 the estimated available is 167.6 million head.

**WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS**  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 02/25/08	88,542		79,193	
AM 02/01/08	70,926		85,345	
CHG	17,616		-6,152	
PCT CHG	25		-7	

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)**

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	02/25/08	02/18/08	02/26/07	02/25/08	02/18/08	02/26/07
<b>PACIFIC COAST</b>	3,744	2,911	2,066	8,577	8,318	7,767
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	64	98	153	1,305	1,368	2,188

**CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS**

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S.GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBSAND UP, FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 2008

HENS	RANGE	
	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)
	73-81	71-94

**HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 02/26/08**

	AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY			RANGE		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.70	1.00	.79	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	-	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	2.25	3.75
ROOSTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROOSTERS ea.	-	7.25
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-
DUCKS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKS ea.	-	-
RABBITS lb.	.60	2.10	1.35	RABBITS ea.	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	4.00	4.50
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	7.25	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-			
TOTAL COOPS	174					

**MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-MEXICO CITY**

Cents per pound for the week ending February 22, 2008

	Whole Chickens		Legs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers	Gizzards	Hens
	Breasts	W/Thighs					
<b>RAYON</b>							
Low	67.40	155.87	88.47	12.64	4.21	63.19	
High	75.83	164.30	96.89	16.85	8.43	63.19	
Mostly	67.40	160.08	96.89	16.85	8.43	63.19	
<b>SAN JUAN</b>							
Low	66.14	151.66	88.47	12.64	4.21	67.40	
High	74.57	160.08	96.89	16.85	8.43	67.40	
Mostly	70.77	155.87	92.68	12.64	4.21	67.40	
<b>NEW SAN JUAN</b>							
Low	69.09	160.08	92.68	16.85	8.43	67.40	
High	76.67	168.51	101.11	21.06	12.64	67.40	
Mostly	69.09	164.30	101.11	16.85	8.43	67.40	
<b>BECERRA</b>							
Low	70.77	164.30	96.89	16.85	8.43	71.62	
High	77.94	172.72	109.53	21.06	12.64	71.62	
Mostly	70.77	168.51	105.32	21.06	8.43	71.62	

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was usually light to fair for mid-week trading. Seller offerings were mixed with the smaller sizes adequate while heavier sizes were readily available. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but reported as mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 79 to 89 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady with caution noted. In the parts complex, breast items and wings were at least adequate to ample and competitively priced to stimulate buyer interest. Dark meat cuts were sufficient to close.

RANGE		WEIGHTED AVERAGE		NO. OF BOXES	

(A) Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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