



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week were trending lower in the East, but unchanged elsewhere when compared to early week's values. Trade sentiment was no better than steady in the East, steady in all other areas. Demand covered the full range, best where first of the month business and promotions were active; otherwise, movement was mostly fair. Supplies of all sizes were at least sufficient to available for trade needs. Floor stocks were mixed. In the parts structure, movement was generally light to fair, but slightly better where weekend and first of the month needs increased. Breast items and wings were readily available to sufficient with some spot discounts noted. Dark meat items, however, remained in the strongest position with supplies in good balance to well cleared. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at desirable to heavy weights.

**Preliminary Report** Prices negotiated for truck lot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 07-APR-2008 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	72.00-75.00	62.00-86.75	73.64	25
New York	73.00-76.00			
Los Angeles	90.00			

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	80.00-83.00	66.00-86.00	81.61	92

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broiler/fryers for this week's trading is 82.00 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
934	79.93-82.50	81.06

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	175.50	1,024
BREASTS - B/S	145.50	4,496
BREASTS - WHOLE	82.50	1,007
THIGH MEAT - B/S	121.50	963
LEG QUARTERS	45.00	7,024
WINGS	115.00	2,235

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

**SOUTHERN BROILER/FRYER** Trade sentiment was mostly steady to about steady. Demand entering the weekend was fair to moderate with mixed opinions on first of the month business. Supplies of all sizes were usually more than sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was moderate at best for end of the week trading. Breast items were readily available and wings were fully adequate to ample. Dark meat cuts were in good supply to well cleared and remained in the strongest position. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly fair entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were at least sufficient for current needs. Retail and distributive movement was light. Fast food interest was fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breasts items were at least adequate. Wings were ample. Drums, thighs and leg quarters were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily.

**WESTERN REGION** The preliminary majority reported price was unchanged. Trading for next weeks' deliveries was at generally unchanged prices. Offerings ranged from in close balance to ample, depending on production area and plant. Buyers' interest was generally moderate. Retailer demand was moderate to good; best to cover features in progress. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was overall steady on parts, with dark meat items in the strongest position.

**MIDWEST REGION** Preliminary majority delivered prices on whole fryers into the Chicago area were unchanged. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was mostly steady. Offers were sufficient for light trade inquiry. Retail activity increased significantly for some, while others saw only moderate at best levels. Food service demand was more varied, slow to fairly good; best trade noted into catering and take-out type business. Floor stocks were short to fully adequate; weights desirable to occasionally heavy. Parts trade was light. Supplies of dark meat cuts were in balance; breast cuts were more in line with demand and wings, also were in better balance than prior trade period. The trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on dark meat lines, and steady to barely steady on wings and breast cuts.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to moderate entering the weekend with hopes that first of the month business would improve. Seller offerings were usually more than sufficient for immediate trade needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but reported as mostly desirable. Processing schedules were moderate to at times moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 75 to 85 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady to steady. In the parts complex, breast items and wings were fully sufficient to readily available. Most dark meat cuts remained in good balance to well cleared.

\*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.GRADE A

RANGE	71-87
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	(A)
	03/31/08 - 04/04/08
	04/02/07 - 04/06/07
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
	03/31/08 - 04/04/08
	04/02/07 - 04/06/07
	(A)

(A) NOT REPORTED TO AVOID DISCLOSING INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER PARTS** 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.

APR 03, 2008					APR 04, 2008						
ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJ	WTD AVG	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJ	WTD AVG	WEEKLY (000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	480	121.00-186.00	-	126.96	390	121.00-185.00	-	126.95	2,055	127.62	
TENDERLOINS	156	119.00-176.00	-	127.07	156	123.00-182.00	-	128.26	764	126.91	
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				358	71.10	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				265	64.28	
LEGS	218	62.00-68.00	64-65	64.24	TOO FEW TO REPORT				697	64.21	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	395	40.00-45.00	42-43	42.47	372	41.00-46.00	42-43	42.87	1,927	42.24	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	807	42.00-48.00	45	44.96	906	42.00-48.00	45-46	45.43	3,988	44.84	
WINGS (WHOLE)	125	70.00-95.00	-	80.32	210	70.00-95.00	-	84.88	696	84.57	
WINGS (CUT)	180	85.00-115.00	-	100.22	TOO FEW TO REPORT				645	96.87	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				267	53.80	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				103	50.56	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				466	116.37	
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR APR 03, 2008 -- F.O.B. DOCK.					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR APR 04, 2008 -- F.O.B. DOCK.						
RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE			RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE			5-DAY AVERAGE	
52.50 - 56.50		54.40			53.50 - 57.50		55.10			52.99	

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 activity was mostly fair as dealers assumed product to cover first-of-the-month weekend needs. Offerings of breasts items were fully sufficient for current needs. Leg quarters, drums and thighs were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Wings were readily available at discounted levels. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light. The market tone was barely steady to weak for wings; about steady for breasts items. Leg items were at least steady to fully steady. ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

APR 03, 2008				APR 04, 2008				
ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL /LBS	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY WTD AVG	WEEKLY VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145	140.48	787,833	145	141.11	667,191	140.59	3,461,214
TENDERLOINS	125-130	130.73	95,560	125-130	132.02	82,800	131.11	698,823
BREAST - WITH RIBS	74-75	87.68	73,840	74-75	88.99	64,440	86.02	351,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	74	74.00	70,200	74	75.05	70,200	74.32	345,600
LEGS	64-65	65.97	208,440	64-65	66.58	193,760	66.08	917,600
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	43-44	44.69	234,880	44-45	45.19	167,800	44.97	962,520
DRUMSTICKS	56-57	64.40	70,240	56-57	63.41	95,739	62.72	361,699
THIGHS	59-60	59.36	114,400	59-60	66.27	69,920	63.43	310,120
B/S THIGHS	119-120	121.71	71,520	119-120	121.43	86,680	120.79	377,780
WINGS (WHOLE)	100-101	96.19	158,520	100-101	92.40	216,280	96.27	908,760
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12-14	11.20	22,640	12-14	12.58	50,640	11.77	145,960
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	38.04	6,720	35-40	37.11	9,280	38.00	39,960
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	49.37	13,680	45-50	49.58	31,200	49.76	103,160

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, RI, AND PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

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

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS**

	ESTIMATED (1,000)		ACTUAL (1,000)		AVG WTS		ACTUAL (1,000)		AVG WTS	
Alabama	04/04	04/03	04/02	04/01	04/02	04/01	03/28	03/26		
Arkansas	3,809	4,287	3,920	3,988	5.34	5.62	3,665	5.47		
Delmarva	5,129	5,210	5,286	5,274	5.38	5.43	5,596	5.38		
KY-LA-TN	2,226	2,196	2,242	2,252	5.85	5.80	2,249	5.80		
Mississippi	2,327	2,424	2,424	2,374	5.15	5.19	2,331	5.08		
North Carolina	3,194	3,077	3,046	3,038	5.86	5.82	3,069	5.63		
Texas	2,811	2,976	2,809	2,806	7.07	7.13	2,971	6.95		
Total	22,056	22,727	22,331	22,340	5.69	5.74	22,051	5.64		
Mon-Fri1	12,477	(A)					108,230	(A)		
Saturday	1,104		(included in total for date shown)				1,483			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 04-Apr-08 and 05-Apr-08 is estimated to be 32,998,000 head down 0.28 percent from a week ago and up 26.92 percent from a year ago. (Last week 33,090,000, last year 25,999,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 05-Apr-08 is estimated to be 166,994,000 head up 4.24 percent from a week ago, and up 8.42 percent from a year ago. (Last week 160,207,000, last year 154,029,000) Actual data incorporated when available.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

PROCESSED POULTRY, DLVRD TO RETAILERS		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		100-107
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/FRYER 2# & OVER	DRY PACK	135
	ICE PACK	142
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	140
	DRY PACK	127
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	110
	DRY PACK	120
DUCKS		199-207

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED**

W/E 29-MAR-2008 Under Federal Inspection (Preliminary)

	-----Thousands-----				
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	
	<b>4.25 lbs &amp; down</b>	<b>4.26 - 6.25 lbs</b>	<b>6.26 - 7.75 lbs</b>	<b>7.76 lbs &amp; up</b>	<b>Total</b>
Head	38,955	74,915	31,296	15,041	160,207
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.44	6.84	8.33	5.59
% of total /1	24%	47%	20%	9%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	44,190	79,663	20,519	16,040	160,412
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.43	6.85	8.22	5.45
% of total /1	27%	50%	13%	10%	100%
Year Ago 2/	42,711	80,444	25,807	9,994	158,956
Avg Live Wgt	3.81	5.36	6.93	8.18	5.38
% of total /1	27%	51%	16%	6%	100%
To date/2008	560,242	1,019,863	316,363	215,630	2,112,098
To date/2007	553,561	1,063,465	264,572	151,461	2,033,059

/1May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

Weight Class Description:

(A) This size product is normally marketed bone-in into fast food and food service sectors and may include Cornish hens.

(B) This size product is normally marketed into the retail grocery sector in tray pack or bagged forms.

(C) This size product is normally marketed either into the retail grocery sector in tray pack and IQF form or is further processed and marketed into various sectors.

(D) This size product is normally marketed deboned or as roasters or roasting chicken.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

(PRELIMINARY)

W/E 29-MAR-2008	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	160,207	1,647	1,568	3,215	502
Avg Wt	5.59	3.31	7.99	5.59	6.70
Last week	160,412	1,389	1,392	2,781	432
Same wk yr ago	158,956	1,214	1,412	2,626	510
Avg Wt	5.38	3.31	8.01	5.84	6.70
To-date/2008	2,112,098	17,865	19,311	37,176	5,988
To-date/2007	2,033,059	14,554	17,493	32,047	6,766

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 166.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 162.2 million head, or 4.4 million less than estimated available.

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

Week Ending	Million Head Slaughtered	Million Head Available	Pct	Avg Wt
Feb 23	168.7	168.5	100%	5.54
Mar 1	167.9	168.4	100%	5.49
8	166.5	167.6	99%	5.52
15	168.4	166.4	101%	5.50
22	162.4	165.9	98%	5.45
29	162.2	166.6	97%	5.59
Year to date	2137.8	2162.6	99%	
Apr 5		167.4		
12		167.4		

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

Under Federal Inspection

W/E	-----Thousands-----				
	04/05/08	03/29/08	%CHG	04/07/07	%CHG
Broilers	166,944	160,207 *	+4.24	154,029 *	+8.42
Cattle	624	616	+01	601 *	+04
Hogs	2,286	2,258	+01	2,052 *	+11

\*Actual

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF MAR 31, 2008

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

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	166-170	172-176
MIDWEST MOSTLY	146-156	154-164

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

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	75.00-81.00	78.00-81.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	71.00-87.00	78.00-84.00

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

12 OZ.	64.80-89.91
14 OZ.	71.28-101.25
16 OZ.	77.04-112.08

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 were higher on fresh and frozen whole body ducks and most part items. Trade sentiment was noted as steady to fully steady. Demand was good to very good. Supplies were adequate. Schedules continued full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.50-6.40, bone in legs at \$1.45-2.80, gizzards at \$1.20-1.40, wings at \$.60-.70, livers at \$.95-1.85, and feet at \$.55-1.35.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 31-MAR-2008

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	133-175	130-180

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION -**

DATE OF AUCTION: APRIL 01, 2008

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*

	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.90 - 1.00 ea.
Doves	3.50 - 5.00 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	1.00 - 1.05
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	1.50 - 1.80
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	1.40 - 1.70
Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS	1.00 - 1.30
Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS	.90 - 1.10
Guinea Fowl	5.00 - 8.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	2.75 - 3.50 ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.50 ea.
Leghorn Hens	1.00 - 1.50 ea.
Silkie	3.00 - 5.00 ea.
Pigeons	5.00 - 5.20 ea.
White Pigeons	6.00 - 6.10 ea.
Rabbits 4-6 LBS	1.90 - 2.80
Rabbits 6-9 LBS	1.30 - 1.90
Bunnies	1.50 - 5.00 ea.
Guinea Pigs	2.00 - 6.00 ea.
Goats	45.00 - 50.00 ea.
Kid Goats	20.00 - 30.00 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.90 - 1.00 ea.

Total Coops Sold 416

