

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303**

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 **FAX:** 404-562-5875 **ANNIE TERRY:** 404-562-5870
INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/pymarketnews> **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

September 19, 2008

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 20-Sep-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 09/20/08	PREVIOUS WEEK 09/13/08
Broiler/fryer	170,276	165,112
Light hens	1,291	1,488
Heavy hens	1,834	1,709

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

*****DATA FOR THE WEEKENDING*****

WEEK ENDING 13-Sep-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	357	0	357
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	223	0	223
Same week yr ago	463	3	466
To-date/2008	12,056	50	12,106
To-date/2007	9,524	26	9,550

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,715	1,769	3,484
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,315	1,524	2,839
Same week yr ago	1,410	1,554	2,964
To-date/2008	63,348	59,754	123,102
To-date/2007	50,322	53,573	103,895

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 13-Sep-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	167,637	1,358	1,769	3,127
Avg Wt	5.46	3.21	7.77	5.79
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	144,936	1,092	1,524	2,616
Same wk yr ago	168,326	947	1,551	2,498
Avg Wt	5.48	3.35	7.91	6.18
To-date/2008	6,073,047	51,292	59,704	110,996
To-date/2007	5,942,411	40,798	53,547	94,345

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based 161.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 169.7 million head, or 7.9 million more than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 13-Sep-08

	(A) 4.25 lbs & down	(B) 4.26 - 6.25 lbs	(C) 6.26 - 7.75 lbs	(D) 7.76 lbs & up	Total
Head	44,733	82,495	21,465	18,944	167,637
Avg Live Wgt	3.83	5.38	6.77	8.16	5.46
% of total /1	27%	49%	13%	11%	100%
Last week	35,991	64,506	22,037	22,402	144,936
Avg Live Wgt	3.87	5.37	6.74	8.38	5.67
% of total /1	25%	45%	15%	15%	100%
Year Ago 2/	41,231	84,820	32,484	9,791	168,326
Avg Live Wgt	3.84	5.35	7.08	8.25	5.48
% of total /1	25%	50%	19%	6%	100%
To date/2008	1,572,284	2,953,340	895,951	651,472	6,073,047
To date/2007	1,602,040	2,984,144	957,696	398,531	5,942,411

/1 May 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 TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 13-Sep-08
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	
Head	2,137	2,671	46	18	4,872
Avg Wt	16.73	37.94	25.89	28.05	28.49
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	1,775	2,254	22	7	4,058
Same wk yr ago	2,112	2,753	52	2	4,919
Avg Wt	16.96	36.69	23.40	55.82	27.28
To-date/2008	73,451	101,033	957	362	175,803
To-date/2007	72,695	96,053	848	181	169,777

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