

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

December 24, 2008

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 27-Dec-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | CURRENT WEEK | PREVIOUS WEEK |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | 12/27/08 | 12/20/08 |
| Broiler/fryer | 122,413 | 158,193 |
| Light hens | 1,052 | 1,513 |
| Heavy hens | 730 | 1,305 |

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

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

WEEK ENDING 19-Dec-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

| | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------|
| Head | | | |
| Head sltr Comparisons | A V A I L A B L E | | |
| Last Week | | | |
| Same week yr ago | | | |
| To-date/2008 | | | |
| To-date/2007 | | | |

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

| | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------|
| Head | | | |
| Head sltr Comparisons | A V A I L A B L E | | |
| Last Week | | | |
| Same week yr ago | | | |
| To-date/2008 | | | |
| To-date/2007 | | | |

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 WEEK ENDING 20-Dec-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

| | YOUNG CHICKENS | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Head | 153,795 | 1,380 | 1,411 | 2,791 |
| Avg Wt | 5.48 | 3.20 | 7.71 | 5.48 |
| Head sltr comparisons | | | | |
| Last week | 158,061 | 1,350 | 1,460 | 2,810 |
| Same wk yr ago | 174,400 | 1,475 | 1,570 | 3,045 |
| Avg Wt | 5.45 | 3.34 | 7.91 | 5.70 |
| To-date/2008 | 8,288,513 | 69,213 | 82,476 | 151,689 |
| To-date/2007 | 8,279,134 | 56,984 | 74,813 | 131,797 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 147.8 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 155.7 million head, or 7.9 million more than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 20-Dec-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 | 36,911 | 79,973 | 21,531 | 15,380 | 153,795 |
| Avg Live Wgt | 3.81 | 5.42 | 6.88 | 8.35 | 5.48 |
| % of total /1 | 24% | 52% | 14% | 10% | 100% |
| Last week | 40,140 | 83,742 | 20,287 | 13,892 | 158,061 |
| Avg Live Wgt | 3.83 | 5.41 | 6.91 | 8.30 | 5.45 |
| % of total /1 | 25% | 53% | 13% | 9% | 100% |
| Year Ago 2/ | 49,389 | 83,920 | 24,047 | 17,044 | 174,400 |
| Avg Live Wgt | 3.73 | 5.45 | 6.92 | 8.34 | 5.45 |
| % of total /1 | 28% | 48% | 14% | 10% | 100% |
| To date/2008 | 2,113,561 | 4,017,259 | 1,245,823 | 911,870 | 8,288,513 |
| To date/2007 | 2,191,468 | 4,095,402 | 1,349,226 | 643,038 | 8,279,134 |

/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 20-Dec-08
(THOUSAND HEAD)

| | YOUNG (B) | | YOUNG | OLD | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| | HENS | TOMS | BREEDERS | BREEDERS | |
| Head | 2,280 | 2,694 | 20 | 15 | 5,009 |
| Avg Wt | 16.53 | 40.89 | 28.75 | 30.12 | 29.72 |
| Head sltr comparisons | | | | | |
| Last week | 2,351 | 2,763 | 25 | 3 | 5,142 |
| Same wk yr ago | 1,929 | 2,412 | 3 | 22 | 4,366 |
| Avg Wt | 16.12 | 39.71 | 28.10 | 26.38 | 29.17 |
| To-date/2008 | 103,826 | 140,420 | 1,441 | 481 | 246,168 |
| To-date/2007 | 102,049 | 135,495 | 1,244 | 286 | 239,074 |

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