

**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/marketnews.htm> **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

May 23, 2008

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
 FOR WEEK ENDING 24-May-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 05/24/08	PREVIOUS WEEK 05/17/08
Broiler/fryer	169,043	173,803
Light hens	1,500	1,529
Heavy hens	1,697	1,770

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

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

WEEK ENDING 17-May-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	442	0	442
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	489	0	489
Same week yr ago	358	0	358
To-date/2008	6,719	30	6,749
To-date/2007	4,644	14	4,658

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	2,031	1,812	3,843
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	2,026	1,768	3,794
Same week yr ago	1,443	1,532	2,975
To-date/2008	34,795	30,928	65,723
To-date/2007	26,954	27,477	54,431

LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 17-May-08 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	169,562	1,589	1,812	3,401
Avg Wt	5.49	3.26	7.88	5.72
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	169,819	1,537	1,768	3,305
Same wk yr ago	164,484	1,085	1,532	2,617
Avg Wt	5.37	3.21	8.04	6.04
To-date/2008	3,283,699	28,076	30,898	58,974
To-date/2007	3,159,621	22,310	27,463	49,773

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based 169.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 171.6 million head, or 1.7 million more than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 17-May-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	45,155	82,424	23,386	18,597	169,562
Avg Live Wgt	3.89	5.40	6.73	8.22	5.49
% of total /1	27%	48%	14%	11%	100%
Last week	40,287	86,060	25,747	17,725	169,819
Avg Live Wgt	3.89	5.47	6.83	8.26	5.59
% of total /1	24%	51%	15%	10%	100%
Year Ago 2/	48,397	76,832	28,967	10,288	164,484
Avg Live Wgt	3.69	5.43	6.95	8.39	5.37
% of total /1	27%	47%	18%	6%	100%
To date/2008	866,795	1,581,838	494,951	340,115	3,283,699
To date/2007	854,555	1,604,355	465,415	235,296	3,159,621

/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 17-May-08
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	TOTAL
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	
Head	2,450	2,430	34	25	4,939
Avg Wt	18.78	38.85	25.57	38.96	28.80
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	2,223	2,750	31	0	5,004
Same wk yr ago	2,103	2,699	17	4	4,823
Avg Wt	16.61	37.80	25.07	32.79	28.51
To-date/2008	38,750	54,336	406	185	93,677
To-date/2007	37,308	50,844	283	90	88,525

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