



# BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 09, 2011  
VOL. 58 NO. 147

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News and Analysis

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Whole broiler/fryer prices are steady to about steady in the East, steady to instances weak in the Midwest, and steady in the West. Preliminary majority prices are unchanged in all areas when compared to early week prices. Offerings cover the full range, mostly moderate. Retail and food service demand is light to moderate entering the weekend with slight improvement note. Floor stocks are balanced to long. Market activity is seasonally slow to moderate. In the parts structure, movement is light to moderate for late week business. Prices for wings are firm to higher with good movement. Remaining items are sufficient for the light and unaggressive buyer interest. Supplies are available with wings in the tightest position. All other parts are mostly moderate. Market activity is slow to moderate. In production areas, live supplies are moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

### Preliminary Report

Prices negotiated for truck lot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers FOB Dock and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12-Dec-2011 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	WTD LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
New York	75.00-78.00			
Los Angeles	99.00			
Whole Body 2/				
Chicago	70.00-74.00	70.00-79.00	72.76	30
FOB Dock Equivalent 3/:				
Mississippi	82.00-86.00	73.00-89.00	83.14	22

1/: Includes branded product.

2/: Whole Body category includes whole body birds with or without giblets, all grades, brands, and packaging.

3/: Southeast area

### GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES

The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 89.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

#### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG

LOADS	RANGE	WTD AVG (CENTS PER LB)	VOL (000 LBS)
690	85.47 - 99.01	89.33	

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER LB)	VOL (000 LBS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	185.00	1,064
BREASTS - B/S	146.00	4,641
BREASTS - WHOLE	83.00	1,012
THIGH MEAT - B/S	118.50	873
THIGHS	71.50	747
DRUMSTICKS	70.00	757
LEG QUARTERS	53.00	5,613
WINGS	139.50	2,321

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

**MIDWEST BROILER/FRYER** Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Monday's levels into Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere. Whole bird prices were steady to instances weak. Offers were light to moderate with light to moderate buyer interest. Demand into retail and food service outlets was light to moderate with fast food demand normal and increasing demand from catering operations. Floor stocks were moderate to heavy. Weights were mixed. Whole bird market activity was light to moderate. Parts supplies were light to moderate with wings in the tightest position. Prices trended firm on wings while dark meat items and breast cuts were steady to fully steady. Parts market activity was light to moderate and wings continued to be in strong demand.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER** Prices are trending steady for most sizes. Trucklot buying activity for ready-to-cook whole broiler fryers is light to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes are moderate to instances heavy for current needs. Trade activity is seasonally slow to moderate. In the parts complex, offerings of wings are light with premiums noted. Other items are sufficient for the light and unaggressive buyer interest.

**SOUTHERN BROILER/FRYER** Whole broiler/fryer prices are steady. Offerings of all sizes are moderate to satisfy trade needs. Demand entering the weekend is seasonally light to moderate with trading usually limited to regular commitments. Market activity is slow to moderate. In the parts structure, movement is light to moderate for late week trading. Prices for wings are firm to higher and held with confidence. Breast items and dark meat cuts are moderate. Supplies of wings are light and moving well. All other parts are mostly moderate. Market activity is slow to moderate. In production areas, live supplies are moderate. Weights are mixed, but mostly desirable.

**WESTERN BROILER/FRYER** The Los Angeles preliminary majority is 99 cents, unchanged from last Monday's final. The market on whole fryers is steady. The WOG market is mostly steady on under 3 lb. sizes and steady to weak on over 3 lb. weights. Offerings light to moderate. Retail and foodservice demand light to moderate with some improvement reported for the weekend. Floor stocks moderate. Weights desirable. The market on wings is firm, balance of items mostly steady. Demand light to moderate. Offerings of wings very light to light and held with confidence, balance of items mostly light to moderate. Movement light to moderate.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Less-than-trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 78 to 84 cents with an about steady to steady trending undertone. Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds is light to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings varied by size, but were reported as mostly moderate. Live supplies are moderate; weights are mixed, but noted as mostly desirable. Processing schedules are moderate. Market activity is seasonally slow to moderate. In the parts complex, supplies are light for wings with good movement. The balance of items are moderate.

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	60-93
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	12/05/11 - 12/09/11 (A)
	12/06/10 - 12/10/10 (A)
NO. OF BOXES	12/05/11 - 12/09/11 (A)
	12/06/10 - 12/10/10 (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.

December 08, 2011

Item	Pounds (000)	Range	Maj	Wtd Avg
Breast - B/S		Too Few to Report		
Tenderloins		Too Few to Report		
Breast - Line Run		Too Few to Report		
Front Halves		Too Few to Report		
Legs		Too Few to Report		
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	1,258	44.00-50.00	-	46.26
Leg Quarters (4/10)	886	49.00-52.00	-	51.16
Wings (Whole)		Too Few to Report		
Wings (Cut)		Too Few to Report		
Drumsticks		Too Few to Report		
Thighs		Too Few to Report		
B/S Thighs		Too Few to Report		

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for December 08, 2011 -- f.o.b. dock.

Range	Today's Average
52.50 - 56.00	53.94

December 09, 2011

Item	Pounds (000)	Range	Maj	Wtd Avg	Pounds (000)	Range	Maj	Wtd Avg	Weekly Pounds (000)	Weekly Wtd Avg
Breast - B/S		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			1,532	123.75
Tenderloins		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			712	135.74
Breast - Line Run		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			128	72.00
Front Halves		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			316	61.60
Legs		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			TFEWR	
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	1,197	44.00-50.00	-	46.03	6,318	44.00-50.00	-	46.03	6,318	45.98
Leg Quarters (4/10)	916	49.00-52.00	-	51.09	4,230	49.00-52.00	-	51.09	4,230	51.08
Wings (Whole)		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			320	139.39
Wings (Cut)		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			516	143.39
Drumsticks		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			390	53.00
Thighs		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			TFEWR	
B/S Thighs		Too Few to Report				Too Few to Report			125	119.00

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for December 09, 2011 -- f.o.b. dock.

Range	Today's Average	5-Day Average
52.00 - 56.00	53.78	53.79

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 Parts** Prices are trending firm to higher for wings and steady for the balance of items. Trucklot buying activity improved slightly entering the weekend but still noted as light to moderate overall. Offerings of wings are light with good movement and commanding premiums; breast items and most dark meat cuts are moderate for the lackluster buyer interest. Movement is seasonally slow to moderate.

Ice packed broiler/fryer parts, delivered to first receivers in pool trucklot and trucklot quantities, cents per pound.

December 08, 2011

Item	Current Neg Trading*	Wtd Avg**	Vol /lbs.
Breast - B/S	140-145	125.31	844,200
Tenderloins	140-145	141.60	210,760
Breast - With Ribs	79-80	90.56	59,506
Breast - Line Run	79	77.82	109,779
Legs	68-69	69.38	83,400
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	48-49	51.20	284,440
Drumsticks	56-57	68.69	58,280
Thighs	70-71	77.88	51,840
B/S Thighs	124-125	123.13	132,960
Wings (Whole)	139-140	140.11	229,920
Backs and Necks (Stripped)	16-18	18.00	9,047
Livers (5 Pound Tubs)	50-55	52.20	14,550
Gizzards (Hearts)	70-75	75.00	24,200

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.

\*\* Weighted average price of all grades and brands of product shipped, or to be shipped as of 1:30 p.m.

December 09, 2011

Item	Current Neg Trading*	Wtd Avg**	Vol /lbs.	Weekly Wtd Avg	Weekly Vol/lbs.
Breast - B/S	140-145	126.92	550,860	126.02	3,490,700
Tenderloins	140-145	140.60	104,160	140.46	766,224
Breast - With Ribs	79-80	94.16	35,113	91.74	244,438
Breast - Line Run	79	79.24	108,674	79.57	500,108
Legs	68-69	69.77	74,080	68.35	629,800
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	48-49	51.63	154,680	51.40	1,287,290
Drumsticks	56-57	69.42	52,760	70.63	284,280
Thighs	70-71	76.58	59,200	78.14	290,280
B/S Thighs	124-125	127.95	80,200	126.21	403,360
Wings (Whole)	140-141	144.12	145,240	140.86	932,720
Backs and Necks (Stripped)	16-18	18.00	8,960	18.00	52,198
Livers (5 Pound Tubs)	50-55	51.12	13,680	51.98	60,810
Gizzards (Hearts)	70-75	74.03	27,440	74.46	106,920

**Estimated Slaughter of Broiler-Fryers**

	Estimated		Actual		Avg Wts		Actual		Avg Wts	
	(1,000)	12/08	(1,000)	12/06	12/07	12/06	(1,000)	12/02	11/30	11/30
Alabama	3,450	3,805	3,589	3,794	5.60	5.67	3,681	5.72		
Arkansas	3,829	4,605	4,594	4,713	5.60	5.65	4,446	5.66		
Delmarva	2,072	2,073	1,993	2,083	6.26	6.24	2,044	6.35		
KY-LA-TN	2,301	2,423	2,405	2,152	5.27	5.28	2,224	5.28		
Mississippi	2,407	2,763	2,752	2,880	5.77	5.95	2,296	6.09		
North Carolina	2,795	2,654	2,136	2,544	7.27	7.08	2,390	7.51		
Texas	2,835	2,351	2,379	2,412	5.82	5.94	2,434	6.06		
Total	19,689	20,674	19,848	20,578	5.86	5.93	19,515	5.98		
Mon-Fri	101,544	(A)					99,085	(A)		
Saturday	921	(included in total for date shown)					1,258			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 09-Dec-11 and 10-Dec-11 is estimated to be 29,457,000 head up 0.59 percent from a week ago and down 11.17 percent from a year ago. (Last week 29,284,000, last year 33,160,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 10-Dec-11 is estimated to be 151,865,000 head up 2.57 percent from a week ago, and down 8.84 percent from a year ago. (Last week 148,055,000, last year 166,590,000)

Actual data incorporated when available.

**California Processed Poultry - cents per pound**

Southern (Los Angeles area) - delivered to retailers		Range
Fresh Fryers		109-122
Roasters 4# & Up		129-139
Ducks		
Rabbits-Whole		
Rabbits-Cut Up		
San Francisco - delivered to restaurants & institutions		Range
Fresh Fryers	Dry Pack	113-185
	Ice Pack	
Roasters 4# & Up	Dry Pack	124
	Ice Pack	
Ducks		279-285

**Young Chickens Slaughtered** Under Federal Inspection

W/E 03-Dec-2011 (Preliminary) (in thousands)

	(A) 4.25 lbs. & down	(B) 4.26 - 6.25 lbs.	(C) 6.26 - 7.75 lbs.	(D) 7.76 lbs. & up	Total
Head	31,170	63,558	25,033	28,294	148,055
Avg Live Wgt	3.75	5.43	6.73	8.40	5.86
% of total /1	21%	43%	17%	19%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	28,261	46,840	19,283	18,295	112,679
Avg Live Wgt	3.70	5.54	6.79	8.43	5.76
% of total /1	25%	42%	17%	16%	100%
Year Ago 2/	32,390	68,321	37,334	26,243	164,288
Avg Live Wgt	3.91	5.35	6.65	8.46	5.86
% of total /1	20%	41%	23%	16%	100%
To date/2011*	1,720,483	3,222,339	1,444,015	1,135,147	7,521,984
To date/2010*	1,860,156	3,685,096	1,256,531	936,376	7,738,159

1/ May not total to 100% due to rounding. 2/ Comparable week.

\*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

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 Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection**

(Preliminary)

W/E 03-Dec-2011	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	148,055	1,155	1,477	2,632	429
Avg Wt	5.86	3.13	7.81	5.76	6.85
Last week	112,679	649	820	1,469	312
Same wk yr ago	164,288	1,043	1,503	2,546	391
Avg Wt	5.86	3.23	8.13	6.12	7.03
To-date/2011*	7,521,984	64,022	73,501	137,523	20,606
To-date/2010*	7,738,159	65,193	67,802	132,995	20,240
% Change YTD	-3%	-2%	8%	3%	2%
<b>Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage</b>					
Current week	650,702	1,916	7,613	9,529	2,116
Last week	486,773	1,166	4,194	5,360	1,550
Same wk yr ago	717,232	1,786	8,126	9,912	1,979
To-date/2011*	32,177,590	109,654	380,005	489,659	100,493
To-date/2010*	32,324,362	111,953	358,975	470,928	99,861
% Change YTD	0%	-2%	6%	4%	1%

Dressing % 75.0% 53.0% 66.0% 72.0%

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 143.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 149.9 million head, or 6.3 million more than estimated available. (B) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.

\*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

**Estimated U.S. Fryer Slaughter/Fryer Availability Comparison**

Week Ending	Million Head Slaughtered	Million Head Available*	Pct	Avg Wt
Oct 29	154.5	151.9	102%	5.74
Nov 5	155.7	150.7	103%	5.68
12	153.1	147.3	104%	5.75
19	149.1	143.4	104%	5.67
26	114.0	143.2	80%	5.76
Dec 3	149.9	143.6	104%	5.86
Year to date	7613.3	7546.9	101%	
Dec 10		142.9		
17		141.9		

\*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

**Broiler/Cattle/Hog Weekly Estimated Slaughter**

Under Federal Inspection (in thousands)

W/E	12/10/11	12/03/11	%chg	12/11/10	%chg
<b>Broilers</b>	151,865	148,055 <sup>1</sup>	+2.57	166,590 <sup>1</sup>	-8.84
<b>Cattle</b>	650	666	-02	673 <sup>2</sup>	-03
<b>Hogs</b>	2,330	2,361	-01	2,243 <sup>2</sup>	+04

<sup>1</sup> Actual data incorporated when available.<sup>2</sup> Totals adjusted to reflect USDA, NASS revisions.**Eastern Region Misc. Poultry** Delivery Week of 05-Dec-11

**Ducklings:** Prices Negotiated by First Receivers, US Grade A, 4-5 lbs. Delivered in Trucklot and Pool Trucklot Quantities, Cents/lb.

Origin	Frozen	Fresh
Long Island	221-225	226-232
Midwest	195-210	200-214

**Roasters:** Prices Negotiated by First Receivers, US Grade A & Plant Grade, 5 Lbs & Up, Delivered, Cents/lb.

	Range	Mostly
Ice Packed (12 per box)	70.00-76.00	73.00-75.00
Vacuum Packed (6-9 per box)	72.00-78.00	74.00-76.00

**Squabs:** New York Area Wholesale Prices, Frozen, Plant Grade, Dollars/Dozen, 1 to 10 Boxes

11 oz.	72.00-90.72
13 oz.	80.64-104.64
15 oz.	87.84-109.63

Eastern Region: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT &amp; WV

**Central Region Ducklings** Prices remain steady. Demand is moderate to good. Supplies are moderate. Market activity is moderate to active. Processing schedules are full-time. Prices paid, first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$7.70-8.70, bone in legs at \$2.75-3.10, gizzards at \$1.20-1.50, wings at \$.75-.90, livers at \$1.25-2.05, and feet at \$.75-1.45 cents per lb.

Prices Negotiated by First Receivers for US Grade A Delivered in Trucklot & Pool Trucklot Quantities, 4-5 lbs., cents/lb. Week of 05-Dec-11

Origin	Frozen	Fresh
Midwest and Others	192-210	194-210

**Graystone Small Animal Auction** Date of Auction: 12/06/11

\*\*\*All Papers Required to Sell All Out of State Poultry\*\*\*

Prices Paid per lb., Except as Noted

	Range
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.50 ea.
White Pigeons	4.50 - 5.10 ea.
Broilers 5-7LBS	1.00 - 1.10 lbs.
Bunnies	2.00 - 3.00 ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9LBS	.50 - .80 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11LBS	.70 - .80 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 4-6LBS	.75 - .90 lbs.
Doves	- 4.75 ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.65 - 1.75 lbs.
Guinea Pigs	.05 - .80 ea.
Kid Goats	35.00 - 55.00 ea.
Leghorn Hens	- .50 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.00 - 1.15 lbs.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.05 - 1.20 lbs.
Peacocks	50.00 - 60.00 ea.
Pekin Ducks	- 5.00 ea.
Pheasants	6.00 - 8.00 ea.
Pigeons	3.90 - 4.90 ea.
Pullets 4-6LBS	- 1.05 lbs.
Rabbits 6-9LBS	1.70 - 2.20 lbs.
Rabbits 4-6LBS	2.20 - 2.95 lbs.
Red Fowl 5-9LBS	.70 - .80 lbs.
Red Fowl 4-5LBS	.45 - .60 lbs.
Silkie	2.00 - 3.00 ea.
Turkeys	15.00 - 20.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 5.25 ea.
Bobwhite	2.00 - 2.30 ea.
Fancy Bantam	7.00 - 18.00 ea.
Peahens	- 35.00 ea.
Hamsters	- 2.00 ea.
Total Coops Sold	3141

**NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS****LIVE HEAVY TYPE HENS**

Prices are trending steady at best when compared to the previous week. Supplies are moderate to heavy for the seasonally light to moderate demand. Processing schedules are normal to instances heavy. Retail feature activity is moderate to good. Finished product supplies are moderate to heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate.

**Final prices at Farm Buyer Loading:**

Price Range	Wtd Avg
8.0 - 16.3	13.18

(Southeast Region broiler breeder hens generally for processing, 7 lbs. and up; under 7 lbs. subject to discount.)

**LIVE SPENT LIGHT FOWL**

Prices are trending steady. Demand is seasonally light to moderate for the more than sufficient offerings of light type hens. Processing schedules are normal. Market activity is slow to moderate. The majority price for removal costs remains unchanged at 0-7 cents per head.

(live hens are predominately egg-layers averaging about 3.5 lbs. live weight per bird.) Eastern region = AL, CT, DE, GA, KY, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, AND WV; North Central = IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI; South Central = AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX.

**WEEKLY NEW YORK CITY SEASONAL POULTRY**

**FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 05, 2011.**

**CAPONS:**

Prices are trending steady to instances firm. Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A capons are light to moderate and clearing well. Processors are operating normal schedules. Inquiries for December holiday shipments are good. Trade activity was moderate to active.

**DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:**

6-9 LBS.      2.30-2.55      MOSTLY    2.32-2.45

**GEESE:**

Prices are trending steady. Supplies of frozen USDA Grade A geese are moderate for current needs and clearing satisfactorily. Processors are operating normal schedules. Bookings for the upcoming December holiday period are noted as good. Trade activity is moderate to active.

**DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:**

8-16 LBS.      3.80-4.00      MOSTLY    3.90-4.00

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202) 720-6911	Michael Sheats	Jackson, MS	Voice	(601) 965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(202) 720-2403	(Director)		Fax	(601) 359-1175	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404) 562-5850	Annie Terry	Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515) 284-4471	Jason Karwal
	Fax	(404) 562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)		Fax	(515) 284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)