



# BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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U.S. Department of Agriculture	Agricultural Marketing Service	Poultry Programs	Market News and Analysis
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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Whole broiler/fryer prices are trending steady in the West, steady to higher in the East and Midwest. Offerings of all sizes are light to moderate for current trade needs. Demand entering the holiday weekend is light to moderate. Floor stocks are balanced to long. Market activity is light to moderate. In the parts structure, movement is light to moderate. Prices for wings are firm, tenders are steady to firm, and the remaining items are at least steady. Supplies of wing are tight, and all other parts are light to moderate. Market activity is 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 26-Dec-2011 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	WTD LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
New York	76.00-79.00			
Los Angeles	99.00			
Whole Body 2/				
Chicago	72.00-76.00	65.00-82.00	73.33	33
FOB Dock Equivalent 3/:				
Mississippi	82.00-86.00	75.00-90.00	83.58	19

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

NOTE: Georgia Dock will be closed Friday and Monday. There will not be another report until Tuesday, December 27th due to the Christmas Day holiday weekend. Final weighted average prices will be published at that time.

The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 90.00 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
622	85.00 - 99.01	89.13

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	193.00	721
BREASTS - B/S	146.50	3,597
BREASTS - WHOLE	83.50	758
THIGH MEAT - B/S	117.50	554
THIGHS	71.50	612
DRUMSTICKS	70.00	612
LEG QUARTERS	53.00	4,386
WINGS	153.50	1,755

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

**MIDWEST BROILER/FRYER** Preliminary majority was 2 cents higher into Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere. Whole bird prices were trending steady to fully steady. Offers were light to moderate with generally light buyer interest. Demand into retail and food service outlets was light to moderate with fast food demand normal to good. Floor stocks were moderate to instances long. 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 most sought after.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER** Prices are trending at least steady for most sizes. Trucklot buying activity for ready-to-cook whole broiler fryers is light to moderate as dealers attempted to maintain limited floor stocks entering the holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes are light to moderate for current needs. Trade activity is moderate. In the parts complex, offerings of wings are light and clearing well with premiums noted. Legs and tenders are light to moderate. Other items are sufficient for current needs.

**SOUTHERN BROILER/FRYER** Whole broiler/fryer prices are holding steady. Offerings are moderate to satisfy trade needs. Demand entering the holiday weekend is mostly moderate. Market activity is moderate to instances active. In the parts structure, movement is moderate for late week trading. Prices for wings and tenders continue to trend firm to higher with good movement. Breast items and dark meat items are trending steady and tenders are firm. Supplies of wings and tenders are light and held with confidence. All other parts are mostly moderate. Market activity is moderate to at times active. 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 Monday's final. The market on whole fryers is steady to firm, mostly steady. The WOG market is steady to firm with prices unchanged to higher. Offerings light. Retail and foodservice demand light to good, mostly light to moderate. Floor stocks light to moderate. Weights desirable. The market on wings and tenderloins is firm with prices higher, legs and leg meat steady to firm with prices unchanged to higher, balance of items mostly steady. Demand light to good, mostly light to moderate. Some increased interest reported on leg meat into retail channels for the holiday. Offerings of wings and tenderloins very light to light, balance of items light to moderate.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Less-than-trucklot asking prices are unchanged at 79 to 85 cents. Movement entering the holiday weekend is light to moderate. Offerings of all sizes are available to satisfy trade needs. Live supplies are moderate; weights are mixed, but mostly desirable. Processing schedules are moderate. Market activity is moderate. In the parts complex, supplies of wings and tenders are light, dark meat cuts are light to moderate, and breast items are sufficient.

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	69-95
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)
CUMULATIVE	12/19/11 - 12/23/11 (A)
	12/20/10 - 12/24/10 (A)
NO. OF BOXES	12/19/11 - 12/23/11 (A)
	12/20/10 - 12/24/10 (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 22, 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)	591	47.00-50.00	-	48.04
Leg Quarters (4/10)	927	49.00-52.00	-	51.25
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 22, 2011 -- f.o.b. dock.

Range	Today's Average
53.50 - 56.50	55.02

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; firm for tenders and steady to firm for legs. Other items are at least steady. Trucklot buying activity is seasonally light to moderate as dealers worked hand-to-mouth entering the holiday weekend. Offerings of wings are light and continue to command premiums; tenders and legs are light to moderate and other items are sufficient for current needs. Movement is moderate.

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

December 22, 2011

Item	Current Neg Trading*	Wtd Avg**	Vol /lbs.
Breast - B/S	140-145	126.38	758,000
Tenderloins	155	150.32	207,160
Breast - With Ribs	79-80	84.88	82,743
Breast - Line Run	79	81.76	68,400
Legs	70-71	69.85	140,560
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	48-49	52.61	262,920
Drumsticks	56-57	72.06	57,120
Thighs	70-71	78.60	58,400
B/S Thighs	124-125	122.23	109,680
Wings (Whole)	152-153	155.57	233,400
Backs and Necks (Stripped)	16-18	18.00	9,680
Livers (5 Pound Tubs)	50-55	52.37	11,270
Gizzards (Hearts)	70-75	74.24	26,7200

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 23, 2011

Item	Pounds (000)	Range	Maj	Wtd Avg	Weekly Pounds (000)	Weekly Wtd Avg
Breast - B/S		Too Few to Report			1,833	120.63
Tenderloins		Too Few to Report			900	142.59
Breast - Line Run		Too Few to Report			305	68.08
Front Halves		Too Few to Report			185	62.54
Legs		Too Few to Report			TFEWR	
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	374	47.00-50.00	-	48.78	2,865	48.22
Leg Quarters (4/10)	722	49.00-52.00	-	50.73	4,095	51.09
Wings (Whole)		Too Few to Report			261	144.31
Wings (Cut)		Too Few to Report			348	155.64
Drumsticks		Too Few to Report			TFEWR	
Thighs		Too Few to Report			TFEWR	
B/S Thighs		Too Few to Report			218	115.97

\*\*\*\*\*  
Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for December 23, 2011 -- f.o.b. dock.

Range	Today's Average	5-Day Average
54.50 - 57.00	55.73	54.64

**Estimated Slaughter of Broiler-Fryers**

	Estimated		Actual		Avg Wts		Actual		Avg Wts	
	(1,000)	12/22	(1,000)	12/20	12/21	12/20	(1,000)	12/16	12/14	12/14
Alabama	2,713	3,754	3,477	3,695	5.74	5.72	3,626	5.63		
Arkansas	1,538	4,216	3,941	4,666	5.83	5.62	3,801	5.61		
Delmarva	2,060	2,091	1,671	2,090	6.37	6.14	1,670	6.19		
KY-LA-TN	1,728	2,401	2,191	2,365	4.98	5.21	2,278	4.75		
Mississippi	1,348	2,420	2,339	2,650	5.54	6.07	2,257	5.88		
North Carolina	2,009	2,589	2,422	2,139	7.09	7.20	1,955	7.43		
Texas	1,753	2,431	1,830	2,430	5.38	5.84	2,422	5.75		
Total	13,149	19,902	17,871	20,035	5.85	5.90	18,009	5.81		
Mon-Fri	92,300	(A)					96,980	(A)		
Saturday	50	(included in total for date shown)					533			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Dec-11 and 24-Dec-11 is estimated to be 19,672,000 head down 27.21 percent from a week ago and up from holiday a year ago. (Last week 27,024,000, last year 3,231,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 24-Dec-11 is estimated to be 136,908,000 head down 8.10 percent from a week ago, and up 1.62 percent from a year ago. (Last week 148,975,000, last year 134,724,000)

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		217-285

**Young Chickens Slaughtered** Under Federal Inspection

W/E 17-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	38,356	65,362	21,516	23,741	148,975
Avg Live Wgt	3.67	5.45	6.88	8.30	5.65
% of total /1	26%	44%	14%	16%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	33,745	68,267	25,171	24,819	152,002
Avg Live Wgt	3.81	5.48	6.72	8.41	5.79
% of total /1	22%	45%	17%	16%	100%
Year Ago 2/	39,071	67,599	35,121	22,229	164,020
Avg Live Wgt	3.82	5.42	6.74	8.39	5.72
% of total /1	24%	41%	21%	14%	100%
To date/2011*	1,792,584	3,355,968	1,490,702	1,183,707	7,822,961
To date/2010*	1,940,207	3,820,521	1,322,820	985,221	8,068,769

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 17-Dec-2011	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
Head	148,975	1,491	1,574	3,065	451
Avg Wt	5.65	3.05	7.79	5.48	6.88
Last week	152,002	1,456	1,530	2,986	448
Same wk yr ago	164,020	1,638	1,657	3,295	482
Avg Wt	5.72	3.12	8.07	5.61	6.90
To-date/2011*	7,822,961	66,969	76,605	143,574	21,505
To-date/2010*	8,068,769	68,008	71,053	139,061	21,139
% Change YTD	-3%	-2%	8%	3%	2%

**Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage**

Current week	631,282	2,410	8,093	10,503	2,234
Last week	660,069	2,539	7,887	10,426	2,229
Same wk yr ago	698,955	2,709	8,892	11,601	2,395
To-date/2011*	33,468,941	114,603	395,985	510,588	104,956
To-date/2010*	33,729,500	116,895	376,485	493,380	104,235
% Change YTD	-1%	-2%	5%	3%	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 141.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 150.8 million head, or 8.9 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
Nov 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
10	153.8	142.9	108%	5.79
17	150.8	141.9	106%	5.65
Year to date	7917.9	7831.7	101%	
Dec 24		141.3		
31		143.6		

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

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

Under Federal Inspection (in thousands)

W/E	12/24/11	12/17/11	%chg	12/25/10	%chg
Broilers	136,908	148,975 <sup>1</sup>	-8.10	134,724 <sup>1</sup>	+1.62
Cattle	598	642	-0.07	545 <sup>2</sup>	+1.10
Hogs	2,155	2,339	-0.08	1,851 <sup>2</sup>	+1.16

<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 19-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 fairly good to good, while supplies are moderate. Market activity is moderate. Processing schedules are full-time in preparation for the Christmas holiday. 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 19-Dec-11

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

**Graystone Small Animal Auction** Date of Auction: 12/20/11

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

Prices Paid per lb., Except as Noted

	Range
Banty Hens	- 2.00 ea.
White Pigeons	3.00 - 3.20 ea.
Broilers 5-8LBS	.75 - 1.15 lbs.
Bunnies	2.50 - 5.00 ea.
Chukars	- 4.00 ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9LBS	.55 - .80 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11LBS	.80 - .90 lbs.
Crossbred Roosters 4-6LBS	.90 - 1.05 lbs.
Geese 9-14LBS	1.40 - 1.60 lbs.
Goats	75.00 - 80.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.60 - 1.70 lbs.
Guinea Pigs	.25 - 1.00 ea.
Leghorn Hens	.50 - .70 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.20 - 1.90 lbs.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.25 - 1.50 lbs.
Pekin Ducks	6.00 - 7.50 ea.
Pigeons	1.50 - 2.10 ea.
Pullets 4-6LBS	- 1.10 lbs.
Quail	1.20 - 1.40 ea.
Rabbits 6-9LBS	2.10 - 2.60 lbs.
Rabbits 4-6LBS	2.70 - 3.10 lbs.
Red Fowl 5-6LBS	.60 - .65 lbs.
Red Fowl 4-5LBS	.50 - .60 lbs.
Silkie	2.00 - 4.00 ea.
Turkeys 40LBS	.35 - .45 lbs.
Turkeys	12.00 - 15.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 4.25 ea.
Rats	- .90 ea.
Peahens	- 70.00 ea.
Total Coops Sold	3545

**NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS****NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS****LIVE SPENT HEAVY FOWL**

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 mostly normal. Retail feature activity is moderate to mostly 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 – 16.0	13.14

(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 continues to be 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.

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

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