



EGG & POULTRY NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News & Analysis

NATIONAL EGG REVIEW



This week in New York prices declined sharply for all egg sizes. Early in the week, regional prices were higher for both the larger and smaller sizes. Next week's regional asking prices are trending sharply lower for the heavier and lighter weight eggs. The undertone is weak. Retail demand ranges light to fairly good. Food service demand is light to moderate. Offerings and supplies are moderate to heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate. Central states breaking stock prices, along with checks and undergrades, are lower. The undertone is barely steady to weak. Demand is light to instances moderate. Offerings are moderate to heavy. Supplies are light to moderate. Market activity is slow to moderate. National light type hen removal costs are steady. Offerings are moderate for the light to moderate demand. Processing schedules remain varied. Market activity is slow to moderate.

REGIONAL PRICES -TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A & GRADE A, WHITE EGG IN CARTONS, DELIVERED TO WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

Regions	LARGE		MEDIUM	
	RANGE	MOSTLY	RANGE	MOSTLY
MIDWEST	117-126	119-122	94-103	96-99
NORTHEAST	119-133	124-128	94-107	99-102
SOUTH CENTRAL	130.5-139	132-135	98.5-107	100-103
SOUTHEAST	124.5-133	127-130	96.5-104	97-101

WEEKLY COMBINED REGIONAL 03/30/12
Average prices on sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	121.50	121.00	97.50
SOUTHEAST	125.50	123.50	96.00
MIDWEST	117.50	115.50	94.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	130.50	128.50	98.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	124.08	122.42	96.71

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS - LOOSE EGGS AT FARM, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

IA-MN-WI	04/03/12	03/27/12	04/05/11
LARGE	97-107	97-107	84-94
MEDIUM	74-78	76-80	73-77

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY: Stocks on Hand Available for Marketing (30-dozen cases in thousands) ¹(Includes Conventional and Specialty)

APRIL 02, 2012		Northeast	Southeast	Midwest	South Central	Southwest	Northwest	6-Area Total
Jumbo	This Week	11.4	10.5	23.2	9.1	19.8	3.1	77.0
	% Change	-16.6%	4.4%	5.3%	-6.9%	20.6%	-0.9%	2.7%
Extra-large	This Week	33.0	22.6	36.4	17.1	40.9	7.2	157.1
	% Change	-5.9%	-0.3%	-5.0%	40.5%	-2.2%	-7.8%	-0.4%
Large	This Week	65.4	108.1	135.0	79.2	94.2	64.3	546.2
	% Change	-6.3%	9.1%	-6.3%	16.7%	-15.4%	-2.3%	-2.1%
Medium	This Week	15.5	21.6	55.9	25.3	24.0	10.3	152.6
	% Change	6.9%	-3.1%	13.8%	8.7%	-15.3%	5.4%	3.6%
Small	This Week	2.1	5.4	8.7	1.3	1.7	0.9	20.1
	% Change	6.5%	-13.3%	-23.7%	-17.0%	-34.6%	-13.3%	-19.0%
Miscellaneous	This Week	2.8	12.7	31.1	10.9	6.0	1.3	64.9
	% Change	41.9%	36.5%	11.4%	-8.4%	5.3%	34.0%	12.2%
Ungraded	This Week	7.9	9.1	57.3	31.3	16.4	9.1	131.1
	% Change	-22.3%	-7.9%	-15.5%	-23.5%	-6.4%	-12.2%	-16.3%
Total Shell Egg	This Week	138.1	189.8	347.6	174.2	203.0	96.2	1,148.9
	% Change	-6.1%	5.9%	-3.6%	4.0%	-9.3%	-2.7%	-2.4%

Totals	Cases	Percent Change
Shell Egg	1,148.9	-2.4%
Breaking Stock	242.6	-2.9%
Total Shell Egg	1,391.5	-2.5%

SPECIALTY SHELL EGG INVENTORY²

Stocks on Hand to be Marketed as Specialty (30-dozen cases in thousands)

		Northeast	Southeast	Midwest	South Central	Southwest	Northwest	6-Area Total
Large	This Week	9.4	8.6	0.8	2.6	4.1	3.8	29.2
	% Change	2.8%	11.3%	-95.1%	-10.6%	7.4%	-3.3%	-32.3%
Ungraded	This Week	0.0	0.0	21.9	9.1	0.0	1.6	32.6
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	116.4%	17.6%	0.0%	-4.9%	66.9%
Total Specialty	This Week	9.4	8.6	22.7	11.8	4.1	5.3	61.8
	% Change	2.8%	11.3%	-12.0%	9.9%	7.4%	-3.8%	-1.3%

Percentage of Specialty Shell Egg Inventory Comprised of USDA Certified Organic:
 Large: 35.7%
 Ungraded: 42.6%
 Total: 39.3%

¹ Cooperators normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and must report in both the current and previous week. This is a representative sample of the U.S. inventory and includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

² Specialty eggs include certified organic, nutritionally enhanced, cage-free, and vegetarian-fed types.

Regional Definitions: **Northeast** = CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, and VT; **Southeast** = AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV; **Midwest** = IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, and WI; **South Central** = AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX, and UT; **Southwest** = CA and NV; **Northwest** = ID, MT, OR, WA, and WY.

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

W/E 31-MAR-2012		(Lbs. In Thousands) (Excludes Ingredients)				
Total Production	Cases Broken	Liquid Whole	Liquid Whites	Liquid Yolk	Dried	Inedible
CW	1,245,678	30,467	12,306	6,304	2,127	4,417
PW	1,255,323	29,370	13,259	6,549	2,100	4,351
LY	1,243,315	29,515	12,486	6,613	2,503	4,359
% PW	-1%	4%	-7%	-4%	1%	2%
% LY	0%	3%	-1%	-5%	-15%	1%
2012	16,852,393	400,140	172,404	88,257	35,266	58,025
2011	17,037,368	403,191	175,593	89,105	38,607	57,522
% YTD	-1%	-1%	-2%	-1%	-9%	1%
		CW	PW	LY		
Average Yield Per Case - (inedible included)		42.94	42.64	42.61		
Average Yield Per Case - (inedible excluded)		39.40	39.18	39.10		

IN-LINE PRODUCTION (of total production; lbs. in thousands; may include a limited amount of off-line source material.)

	CASES BROKEN		LIQUID WHOLE	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs.	% of Total
CURRENT WEEK	703,169	56.4%	18,348	60.2%
PREVIOUS WEEK	704,414	56.1%	17,936	61.1%
LAST YEAR	713,248	57.4%	18,522	62.8%

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 31-MAR-2012

Selected Consuming Centers	CW		LW		% Change	
	(Cases in thousands)	LW	LY	LY	LY	LY
Atlanta	18.7	17.6	6	-9		
Boston	3.0	3.0	0	0		
Chicago	59.3	63.0	-6	6		
Los Angeles	59.7	48.7	23	8		
New Orleans	7.2	6.3	14	1		
New York	37.2	39.5	-6	20		
St. Louis	86.7	95.2	-9	-3		
San Francisco	17.6	13.3	32	5		
Total	289.4	286.6	1	4		
4 Week Moving Avg.	286.6					

BROILER HATCHERY

State	Broiler-Type Eggs Set,		Broiler-Type Chicks Set,	
	19 Selected States		19 Selected States	
	Week Ending			
	Mar 24, 2012	Mar 31, 2012	Mar 24, 2012	Mar 31, 2012
	(1,000 eggs)		(1,000 chicks)	
AL.....	28,251	27,319	19,610	20,335
AR.....	20,771	21,178	20,043	20,359
DE.....	3,388	3,517	3,943	3,724
FL.....	1,348	1,350	1,217	1,016
GA.....	31,890	32,796	27,284	27,233
KY.....	7,538	7,683	6,594	6,214
LA.....	3,440	3,500	3,032	3,025
MD.....	7,192	7,000	5,927	7,020
MS.....	17,907	17,907	15,207	15,136
MO.....	7,657	7,464	5,245	5,548
NC.....	20,031	20,077	16,294	16,080
OK.....	6,728	6,930	4,533	3,813
PA.....	3,771	3,696	3,113	3,230
SC.....	5,448	5,385	4,696	4,218
TX.....	14,943	14,933	12,117	12,501
VA.....	6,047	6,311	5,365	4,735
CA, TN, & WV.....	10,648	10,771	10,257	10,658
19 State Total.....	196,998	197,817	164,477	164,845
Prev. Year Total.....	209,382	208,037	173,852	172,812
Pct. of Prev. Year.....	94	95	95	95

Source: NASS, USDA
*Revised

(5-DAY) WEIGHTED AVERAGE TRAILER LOAD SHELL EGG SALES

NATIONAL TRADING FOR MARCH 29, 2012-APRIL 4, 2012 (CENTS/DOZEN)
COURTESY OF U.S.D.A. FEDERAL/STATE MARKET NEWS

CLASS	SE		NE		MW		LOADS
	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	94.00	104.75	92.50	95.67	83.43	84.38	36.00
GNR W 3	--	--	--	--	66.50	--	2.00
GL W J	--	--	104.00	107.00	60.43	--	8.00
GL W XL	--	106.42	100.00	99.83	70.24	72.90	33.25
GL W LG	--	115.20	102.00	95.86	62.13	72.50	33.00
GL W MD	--	--	63.00	67.41	57.03	--	28.00
GL W SM	50.00	--	48.67	51.00	--	--	6.00
NRBS - 50	--	--	--	--	49.00	--	.50
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	69.31	53.00	57.40	42.00
NRBS - 45	--	--	--	--	51.86	--	1.75
NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	50.00	54.00	3.00

TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS

Week Ending 31-MAR-2012 (Preliminary)

	-----Young turkeys-----			Old Breeders	Total turkeys	
	-Thousand Head-	Pct Chg	Avg		--Thousand head--	Live wt
		Prev wk	Live wt			
North East	619	5	28.65	(A)	620	28.65
South Atlantic	672	-16	36.97	(A)	673	36.97
North Central	2,126	-1	33.70	(A)	2,126	33.70
South Central	826	9	18.87	(A)	826	18.87
West	281	-9	28.45	(A)	281	28.45
U.S. total	4,524 (B)	-2	30.47	2	4,526	30.47
To-date						
2012*	55,392 (B)			97	55,489	
To-date						
2011*	55,749 (B)			106	55,855	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 18,000; for the current year to date* 271,000; for last year to date* 293,000.
Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

Week Ending 31-MAR-2012 (Preliminary)

	Young		Breeders		Total Turkeys
	Hens	Toms	Young	Old	
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	1,931	2,575	18	2	4,526
Avg Wt	17.16	40.47	25.58	41.97	30.47
Last week	2,075	2,517	16	11	4,619
Same wk yr ago	1,692	2,558	45	26	4,321
Avg Wt	16.89	39.20	26.78	26.15	29.16
To-date/2012*	22,882	32,239	271	97	55,489
To-date/2011*	22,631	32,825	293	106	55,855
% Change YTD	1%	-2%	-8%	-8%	-1%
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	26,508	83,370	352	64	110,294
Last week	27,849	82,492	308	235	110,884
Same wk yr ago	22,862	80,219	934	527	104,542
To-date/2012*	311,247	1,066,393	5,515	2,444	1,385,599
To-date/2011*	310,789	1,041,005	7,960	2,516	1,362,270
% Change YTD	0%	2%	-31%	-3%	2%
Dressing %	80.0%	80.0%	76.5%	76.5%	

(A) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.
*Note: Year to-date totals reflect comparable time periods.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 12-May-12 is estimated at 151.6 million head. This compares to 150.8 million head the previous week and to 162.1 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 161.0 million head and the composite weighted average price was 83.78 cents per pound.

WEEKLY POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

(Preliminary) Week ending 31-Mar-2012

	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Ducks
-----Thousands-----					
Head	149,755	1,676	1,372	3,048	407
Avg Wt	5.80	3.44	7.76	5.38	6.92
Last week	150,600	1,809	1,383	3,192	402
Same wk yr ago	162,524	1,060	1,301	2,361	431
Avg Wt	5.77	3.31	8.12	5.96	6.86
To-date/2012*	1,945,601	20,462	19,304	39,766	5,502
To-date/2011*	2,075,312	18,650	19,371	38,021	5,833
% Change YTD	-6%	10%	0%	5%	-6%
Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage					
Current week	651,434	2,998	7,187	10,185	2,028
Last week	647,204	2,897	7,450	10,347	1,977
Same wk yr ago	698,634	1,860	7,025	8,885	2,129
To-date/2012*	8,363,107	34,164	100,800	134,964	26,564
To-date/2011*	8,786,209	31,533	101,901	133,434	28,849
% Change YTD	-5%	8%	-1%	1%	-8%
Dressing %	75.0%	52.0%	67.5%		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 152.2 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 151.6 million head, or 0.6 million less 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
Feb 25	151.8	152.9	99%	5.64
Mar 3	153.5	152.5	101%	5.78
10	152.1	151.4	100%	5.79
17	154.9	151.2	102%	5.74
24	152.4	151.9	100%	5.73
31	151.6	152.2	100%	5.80
Year to date	1969.3	1973.9	100%	
Apr 7		151.9		
14		152.9		

*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF U.S. BROILER/FRYERS AND FOWL

Week Ending 07-Apr-12

Class	Current Week 04/07/12 (1)	Previous Week 03/31/12
Broiler/fryer	151,645 (2)	152,006
Light hens	1,778	1,766
Heavy hens	1,250	1,380
Total	154,673	155,152

(1) ESTIMATED

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 07-Apr-12 is 151.9 million head compared to 161.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 151.9 million head or 0.0 million less than estimated available. For the week of 14-Apr-12 the estimated available is 152.9 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS – Selected Centers

		(INCL GOVT STOCKS)		(IN THOUSANDS)	
		Frozen Eggs	Processed Turkeys	Processed Poultry	Other Poultry
		LBS	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM	04/02/12	2,858	134,992		37,773
AM	03/01/12	3,175	129,156		47,693
CHG		-317	5836		-9920
PCT CHG		-10%	5%		-21%

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of February 29, 2012 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on April 1, 2012 are:

Frozen Eggs	33	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
Processed Turkeys	382	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
Processed Other Poultry	475	MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS

Frozen basted equivalent offering prices on a national basis for hens 104.00-107.00 cents shipping point and 16-24 lb. toms 104.00-111.00 cents shipping point for current deliveries.

NATIONAL FOWL MARKETS

30-Mar-12

Live Spent Heavy	Price Range	Wtd Avg
Final Prices at Farm Buyer Loading:	8.5-19.0	13.35
Prices in cents per pound.		

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

Live Spent Light

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.

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT

Week ending 31-Mar-2012 (Receipts From Producers)

Regions	Cases (In Thousands)	Percent Change From	
		Last Week	Last Year
North Atlantic	197.9	-2	-8
East North Central	691.6	-6	3
West North Central	306.2	-1	24
South Atlantic	154.8	2	6
South Central	50.7	0	-3
West	62.3	1	0
Total	1463.5	-3	5

Matched plants reporting 71 71
Areas Covered: N. Atlantic (ME, VT, MA, RI, CT, NH, NY, PA, NJ, MD, DE)
East North Central (WI, IL, MI, OH, IN)
West North Central (IA, MN, MO, KS, SD)
South Atlantic (SC, NC, VA, GA, FL, KY)
South Central (TN, AL, AR, MS, OK)
Western (CA, CO, WA, OR, UT)

FINAL BROILER/FRYER REPORT

Prices negotiated for truck-lot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers and FOB dock at major market areas (cents per lb.)
Week of 02-APR-2012

Delivered to First Receivers 1/:	Grade A		Composite	
	Majority	Wtd Avg	Load	Wtd Avg
Los Angeles	102.00	102.00	20	92.17
New York	87.00-90.00	88.23	22	89.22
Delivered to First Receivers 1/:				
		Whole Body 2/:		Composite
		Majority	Wtd Avg	Loads : Wtd Avg
Chicago	78.00-82.00			78.40 49

1/: Includes branded product.

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

COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE RTC BROILER/FRYER

Loads	04/02/12	Change Last Wk	03/26/12	04/04/11
337	86.74	-4.84	91.58	81.08

