



BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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National Broiler Market-At-A-Glance

Whole broiler/fryer prices are firm to higher. Retail and food service demand is to moderate to good. Floor stocks are adequate for current needs. Market activity is moderate to good entering the extended holiday weekend. In the parts structure, white items are mostly steady. Whole legs and leg meat is firm while the remaining balance of dark items are at least steady. Offerings of breast items, legs and thighs are balanced to tight. Wings are light to moderate and clearing satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies are moderate; weights are mostly desirable.

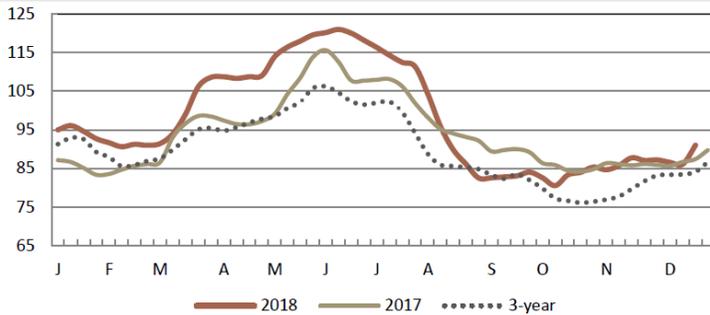
National Whole Broiler/Fryer

National Composite Weighted Average*

	Wtd Avg	Change	1,000 lbs.
This Week:	91.01	↑ 4.90	11,966
Last Week:	86.11		12,908
Last Year:	87.42	↑ 3.59	12,690

Monthly Composite Weighted Average

Nov	86.91	45,713
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	This Week		Last Week	
	Wtd Avg	1,000 lbs.	Wtd Avg	1,000 lbs.
Eastern				
Whole Body:	91.26	4,683	88.00	4,845
WOGS:	92.41	1,633	87.56	1,664
New York				
Whole Body:	91.97	1,214	87.94	1,206
Central				
Whole Body:	85.21	3,558	78.78	4,358
WOGS:	85.07	3,318	78.42	4,078
Chicago				
Whole Body:	87.33	2,412	80.01	2,532
Western				
Whole Body:	96.24	3,725	92.24	3,705
WOGS:	95.55	3,585	91.65	3,605
Los Angeles				
Whole Body:	95.06	1,963	89.92	1,983

Negotiated prices in trucklot and less-than-trucklot quantities of ready-to-cook whole body broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers; prices in cents per pound; volume in thousands of pounds. 1: Prices not reported due to confidentiality. **Eastern Region:** AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV. **Central Region:** AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, NE, NM, OK, OH, SD, TX, WI. **Western Region:** AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

Weekly Poultry Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection

(Preliminary) Week ending 15-Dec-2018

	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Duck
	-----Thousands-----				
Head	156,773	1,180	1,665	2,845	478
Avg Wt	6.14	3.32	8.10	6.12	6.97
Last week	164,048	1,121	1,495	2,616	468
Same wk yr ago	163,013	1,406	1,626	3,032	434
Avg Wt	6.18	3.37	7.90	5.80	6.72
To-date/2018*	8,051,195	52,663	79,466	132,129	21,552
To-date/2017*	8,072,344	62,399	75,208	137,607	20,612
% Change YTD	0%	-16%	6%	-4%	5%

Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage

Current week	731,566	2,174	9,238	11,412	2,365
Last week	764,267	2,016	8,244	10,260	2,376
Same wk yr ago	765,639	2,630	8,799	11,429	2,071
To-date/2018*	37,897,240	100,106	445,633	545,739	103,172
To-date/2017*	37,694,233	116,017	416,346	532,363	98,910
% Change YTD	1%	-14%	7%	3%	4%

Dressing %

Dressing %	76.0%	55.5%	68.5%	71.0%
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(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 155.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 158.7 million head, or 3.3 million more than estimated available.

(B) Dressing % adjustments reflect quarterly update.

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

Estimated U.S. Live Poultry Slaughter

Under Federal Inspection

	Current Week 12/22/2018 (1)	Previous Week 12/15/2018
Class	-----Thousand head-----	
Broiler/fryer	167,065 (2)	159,492
Light hens	1,062	1,189
Heavy hens	1,430	1,672
Total	169,557	162,353

(1) Estimated

(2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 22-Dec-18 is 155.8 million head compared to 162.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 167.4 million head or 11.6 million more than estimated available. For the week of 29-Dec-18 the estimated available is 156.4 million head.

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.

Item	Weekly	
	lbs. (000)	wtd. avg.
Breast - B/S	1,204	90.32
Tenderloins	589	154.45
Breast - Line Run	507	87.45
Front Halves	574	69.43
Legs	1,024	29.82
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	1,089	23.43
Leg Quarters (4/10)	1,072	25.65
Wings (Whole)	584	140.38
Wings (Cut)	548	158.41
Drumsticks	988	25.62
Thighs	626	30.94
B/S Thighs	703	109.54

Whole Body Index Based on Southern States Parts Trading for -- f.o.b. dock.

Range	Today's Average	5-Day Average
41.00 - 56.00	46.75	46.44

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

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

Item	Weekly	
	wtd. avg.	lbs.
Breast - B/S	88.43	3,317,720
Tenderloins	125.33	1,086,760
Breast - With Ribs	113.72	210,645
Breast - Line Run	95.50	497,713
Legs	40.45	702,031
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	29.46	2,784,650
Drumsticks	38.18	561,200
Thighs	59.40	129,620
B/S Thighs	116.07	908,640
Wings (Whole)	150.81	1,457,630
Backs and Necks	10.47	379,442
Livers (5 Pound Tubs)	65.62	59,040
Gizzards (Hearts)	78.65	91,880

Includes New York City Metropolitan Area, Northern NJ, MA, CT, RI, and PA (Northeast Of Harrisburg).

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

Midwest Region Broiler/Fryer Parts

Ice-packed pool trucklot and trucklot quantities, cents per pound
Delivered to: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, & WI
Week of 17-Dec-18 to 21-Dec-2018

	Price per lb.		Mostly	
Breast - B/S	68.00 -	95.00	68.00 -	80.00
Tenderloins	120.00 -	130.00	120.00 -	124.00
Breast - Line Run	73.00 -	96.00	73.00 -	81.00
Legs	34.00 -	36.00	-	-
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	23.00 -	27.00	23.00 -	25.00
Leg Quarters (4/10)	25.00 -	30.00	25.00 -	27.00
Drumsticks	31.00 -	33.00	-	-
Thighs	37.00 -	40.00	37.00 -	39.00
B/S Thighs	106.00 -	116.00	106.00 -	112.00
Wings (Whole)	102.00 -	140.00	107.00 -	114.00
Backs & Necks (Stripped)	17.00 -	33.00	-	-
Livers	25.00 -	51.00	-	-
Gizzards (Hearts)	35.00 -	61.00	-	-

Major Wholesale Markets – Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending December 14, 2018

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
Rayon						
Low	91.49	138.34	80.33	42.40	17.85	98.18
High	92.82	147.27	89.25	49.09	20.08	98.18
Mostly	92.15	142.81	84.79	44.63	17.85	98.18
San Juan						
Low	91.26	138.34	78.10	40.16	17.85	93.72
High	91.49	147.27	87.02	46.86	20.08	93.72
Mostly	91.26	142.81	82.56	42.40	17.85	93.72
New San Juan						
Low	91.49	140.58	82.56	44.63	17.85	98.18
High	93.49	149.50	91.49	51.32	20.08	98.18
Mostly	92.15	145.04	87.02	46.86	17.85	98.18
Becerra						
Low	92.15	142.81	84.79	44.63	17.85	98.18
High	93.72	151.73	93.72	51.32	20.08	98.18
Mostly	92.82	147.27	89.25	46.86	17.85	98.18

National Mechanically Separated Chicken

(f.o.b. Shipper Dock or equiv.; negotiated prices in trucklot and less than trucklot volumes reported in thousand lb. quantities, cents/lb.; delivery within 2- weeks.)

Prices of 15-20% MSC are trending steady to weak. Demand into domestic and export channels are light to moderate at best. Supplies are moderate to heavy. The 2019 contract season continues slow as buyers and sellers continue negotiations. Processing schedules are mostly normal. Market activity is slow. Supplies of raw materials is moderate to heavy. Frame prices are steady with trading levels unchanged to slightly lower at 6-10 cents FOB, mostly 7-9 cents FOB.

Weekly MSC Weighted Average Prices (cents/pound) and Volumes (1,000 pounds)

Fat Content	Frozen			Fresh		
	21-Dec-18	Last Week	Last Year	21-Dec-18	Last Week	Last Year
15% or Less						
Price Range			-			-
Wtd Avg Price			-			-
Volume Traded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20%						
Price Range	21.00 - 26.00	20.00 - 28.00	28.00-33.50	19.00 - 23.00	19.00 - 23.00	19.00-25.00
Wtd Avg Price	24.57	25.08	30.92	20.78	20.49	22.19
Volume Traded	645	604	850	1,734	2,063	1,510
Volume Exported	645	482	850	-	-	-
20% or More						
Price Range			-			-
Wtd Avg Price			-			-
Volume Traded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-

Young Chickens Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection

Week ending 15-Dec-18

(Preliminary)	(A) 4.25 lbs. & down	(B) 4.26 - 6.25 lbs.	(C) 6.26 - 7.75 lbs.	(D) 7.76 lbs. & up	Total
Head	28,832	54,666	35,917	37,358	156,773
Avg Live Wgt	3.51	5.19	6.76	8.97	6.14
% of total /1	18%	35%	23%	24%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	36,846	52,349	41,778	33,075	164,048
Avg Live Wgt	3.69	5.23	7.00	9.19	6.13
% of total /1	22%	32%	25%	20%	100%
Year Ago 2/	44,270	42,270	41,131	35,342	163,013
Avg Live Wgt	3.72	5.35	6.97	9.33	6.18
% of total /1	27%	26%	25%	22%	100%
To date/2018*	1,821,114	2,425,070	2,059,443	1,745,568	8,051,195
To date/2017*	2,001,870	2,450,253	1,902,841	1,717,380	8,072,344
% Change YTD	-9%	-1%	8%	2%	0%

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.

Est. U.S. Fryer Slaughter/Fryer Availability Comparison

Week Ending	Slaughtered	Available*	Percent	Avg Wt
11/10	165.8	163.60	101%	6.28
11/17	161.8	160.50	101%	6.18
11/24	125.6	157.20	80%	6.22
12/1	167.5	153.50	109%	6.30
12/8	166	160.10	104%	6.13
12/15	158.7	155.40	102%	6.14
Year to date	8149	8228.50	99%	
12/22		156.10		
12/29		156.70		

*Based on chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier.

Fast Food and Food Service Sizes

Live weight	RTC WOG's weight	Head (000)	% of Total Slaughter
3.60 lbs & lighter	Under 2.5 lbs.	7,912	5.05%
3.61 - 3.80 lbs.	2.5 - 2.63 lbs.	12,807	8.17%
3.81 - 4.00 lbs.	2.63 - 2.75 lbs.	5,693	3.63%
4.01 - 4.25 lbs.	2.75 - 2.9 lbs.	2,419	1.54%
Totals:		28,831	18.39%

Estimated Slaughter of Broiler-Fryers

	Estimated (1,000)	Actual (1,000)	Avg Wt	Actual (1,000)	Avg Wt
AL	4,785	4,020	4,001	4,066	5.49
AR	6,206	4,915	4,719	4,722	5.85
Delmarva	2,749	2,281	2,068	2,201	6.83
KY-LA-TN	3,166	2,433	2,092	2,437	5.47
MS	2,675	2,743	2,716	2,862	6.28
NC	3,891	2,866	2,801	2,806	8.09
TX	3,451	2,468	2,197	2,502	6.53
Total	26,923	21,726	20,594	21,596	6.27
Mon-Fri	113,525	(A)			104,270
Saturday	5,985	(included in total for date shown)			2,211

A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 21-Dec-18 and 22-Dec-18 is estimated to be 40,975,000 head up 24.24 percent from a week ago and up 36.2 percent from a year ago. (Last week 32,980,000, last year 30,090,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 22-Dec-18 is estimated to be 170,712,000 head up 8.89 percent from a week ago, and up 6.63 percent from a year ago. (Last week 156,773,000, last year 160,093,000) Actual data incorporated when available.

Eastern Region Misc. Poultry

Week of December 17, 2018

Ducklings: Prices negotiated by first receivers, U.S. Grade A, 4-5 lbs., delivered in trucklot & pool trucklot quantities, cents/lb.

Origin	Frozen	Fresh
Long Island	231-235	236-242
Mostly		242
Midwest	205-220	215-230

Roasters: Prices negotiated by first receivers, U.S. Grade A & Plant Grade, 5 lbs. & up, delivered, cents/lb.

	Range	Mostly
Ice Packed (12 Per Box)	92.00-102.00	97.00-100.00
Vacuum Packed (6-9 Per Box)	94.00-108.00	103.00-106.00

Squabs: NY area wholesale prices, frozen, Plant Grade, dollars/dozen, 1-10 boxes

11 oz 92.16- 103.68 13 oz. 113.40- 147.09 15 oz. 123.20- 154.71
Eastern Region: CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

Central Region Ducklings

Week of December 17, 2018

This week, prices remain unchanged. Demand is fairly good to good. Supplies are moderate to short of needs. Processing schedules are full-time to extended in preparation for the Christmas holiday. Market activity is moderate to active. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz. boneless breasts at 750-900, bone-in legs at 450-510, gizzards at 230-250, wings at 100-125, livers at 182-215, and feet 125-150 cents per lb.

Prices negotiated by first receivers for U.S. Grade A delivered in trucklot & pool trucklot quantities, 4-5 lbs., cents/lb

Origin	Frozen	Fresh
Midwest & Others	201-221	225-233

National Fowl Market

Live Spent Heavy Fowl

Final Prices at Farm Buyer Loading: Price Range Wtd Avg
Prices in cents per pound. 4.0-9.0 8.75

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

Southeast Region = AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, AND VA.

Live Spent Light Fowl

Majority price (cents/head) for removal: 0-7

(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.

Ready-to-Cook Midwest Region Negotiated Prices to First Receivers (cents/lb. delivered to first receivers; U.S. Grade A and Plant Grade)

	Price Range
Hens	Ice Packed (12 per Box) 80.0 - 86.0
	Vacuum Packed (6-9 per Box) 85.0 - 90.0

Midwest region = IL, IN, MI, MO, OH, and WI

Live Fowl Auctions - 12-18-18

All Papers Required To Sell All Out Of State Poultry						
Hackettstown, NJ			Gravestone Small Animal, Manheim, PA			
Heavy Fowl			Price Range - cents per lb.			
per lb.:	Low	High	Avg	Red Fowl	Crossbred Fowl	
each:	1.00	5.00	2.32	5-6 lbs: .45 - .60	5-9 lbs: .55 - .90	
				4-5 lbs: .40 - .50		

Delmarva Broiler/Fryer Market US Grade A

Date	Production (000) Actual Slaughter	Live Weight
12/14	2,196	6.73
12/13	2,272	6.78
12/12	2,144	6.80
12/11	2,142	6.84
12/10	2,218	6.95
Weekly	10,973	6.82

Cattle/Hog Weekly Estimated Slaughter

	Under Federal Inspection (in 000's)				
W/E	12/22/18	12/15/18	% chg	12/23/17	% chg
Cattle	659	654	+01	611 ¹	+08
Hogs	2,737	2,612	+05	2,477 ¹	+10

¹ Actual data incorporated when available.

Totals adjusted to reflect USDA, NASS revisions.

Broiler Hatchery

Broiler-Type Eggs Set in the United States Total Down 1 Percent

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 225 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 15, 2018, down 1 percent from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 82.1 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed in the United States Total Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 183 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 15, 2018, up slightly from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 6, 2018 through December 15, 2018 for the United States were 9.09 billion. Cumulative placements were up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

State	Broiler-Type Eggs Set, 19 Selected States and United States		Broiler-Type Chicks Placed, 19 Selected States and United States	
	Dec 08, 2018 (1,000 eggs)	Dec 15, 2018	Dec 08, 2018 (1,000 chicks)	Dec 15, 2018
AL.....	30,568	30,946	23,014	23,151
AR.....	24,309	24,559	22,062	22,699
DE.....	4,674	4,895	4,993	5,246
FL.....	1,194	1,194	1,358	1,341
GA.....	35,564	35,540	26,741	26,358
KY.....	7,221	7,702	5,802	6,204
LA.....	3,532	3,774	3,163	3,167
MD.....	7,744	7,582	5,396	6,123
MS.....	18,569	18,553	15,212	15,460
MO.....	7,733	8,172	5,798	6,316
NC.....	21,251	22,092	17,496	17,641
OK.....	6,669	7,283	4,759	3,897
PA.....	5,251	5,312	4,104	4,041
SC.....	5,560	5,469	4,893	5,466
TX.....	15,325	14,387	12,937	13,019
VA.....	6,074	6,424	5,887	5,287
CA, TN, & WV.....	11,448	11,763	11,038	10,087
Other States.....	8,845	9,817	7,790	7,778
United States.....	221,531	225,464	182,443	183,281
Percent of Prev Year...	100	99	99	100

Source: USDA, NASS

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/BroiHac/BroiHac-12-19-2018.pdf>

Weekly Fryers Available For Marketing

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 26-Jan-19 is estimated at 161.2 million head. This compares to 159.0 million head the previous week and to 158.5 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 162.0 million head and the national weighted average price was 87.42 cents per pound.

US/Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection

Week Ending Dec 15, 2018 (Preliminary)

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	1,180	1,665	2,845
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,121	1,495	2,616
Same week yr ago	1,401	1,615	3,016
To-date/2018*	52,663	79,466	132,129
To-date/2017*	62,394	75,197	137,591

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	111	0	111
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	244	0	244
Same week yr ago	316	0	316
To-date/2018*	13,101	8	13,109
To-date/2017*	14,267	8	14,275

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Total U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	1,291	1,665	2,956
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,365	1,495	2,860
Same week yr ago	1,717	1,615	3,332
To-date/2018*	65,764	79,474	145,238
To-date/2017*	76,661	75,205	151,866

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

Weekly Cold Storage Holdings

Processed other Poultry (000) lbs Selected Centers, incl Gov't Stocks			Cold Storage Holdings Pacific without Denver		
			12/17/18	12/10/18	12/18/17
AM	12/17/18	79,994			
AM	12/01/18	83,115			
CHG		-3121			
PCT CHG		-4%			
			Pacific Coast:		
			11058	11405	8007
			Los Angeles:		
			621	622	1654

Fresh Beef Cuts - FOB Negotiated

	Price Range	Wtd Avg
112A 3 Rib, ribeye, bnls, heavy	752.00 800.00	763.95
168 3 Round, top inside round	228.00 246.75	234.25
180 3 Loin, strip, bnls, 0x1	500.00 530.00	510.68
Ground Beef 81%	180.00 197.00	186.70

Fresh Pork Cuts - FOB Negotiated

	Wtd Avg
Loin - 1/8 Trimmed Loin VAC	80.82
Bnls CC Strap-on	114.76
Butt - 1/8 Trim Steak Ready Butt Vac	116.59
Sparerib - Trmd Sparerib - MED	128.99