



BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

Friday, December 14, 2018

Vol. 65 No. 50

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

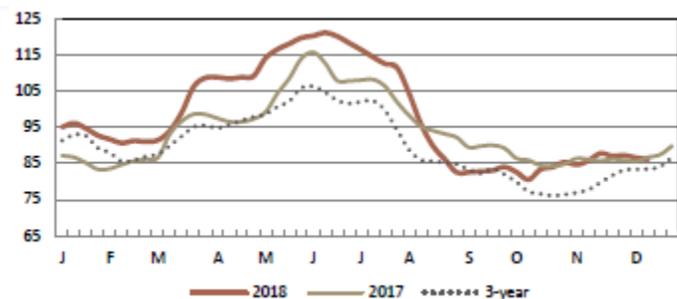
National Broiler Market-At-A-Glance

Whole broiler/fryer prices are mostly steady. Supplies of all sizes are light to moderate. Retail and food service demand is light to instances good. Floor stocks are generally balanced. Market activity is seasonally slow to moderate. In the parts structure, boneless skinless breasts are steady to instances firm, tenderloins steady, bone-in breasts mostly steady, wings steady to weak. The market on dark items is generally steady with legs having mixed undertones. Offerings of dark items are light to moderate with smaller sized leg quarters and drums the most available. The remainder of items are sufficient for current needs. In production areas, live supplies are moderate; weights are generally desirable.

National Whole Broiler/Fryer

National Composite Weighted Average*

	Wtd Avg	Change	1,000 lbs.
This Week:	86.11	↓ -0.47	12,908
Last Week:	86.57		12,171
Last Year:	86.68	↓ -0.57	13,073
Monthly Composite Weighted Average			
Nov	86.91		45,713



	This Week		Last Week	
	Wtd Avg	1,000 lbs.	Wtd Avg	1,000 lbs.
Eastern				
Whole Body:	88.00	4,845	87.97	4,700
WOGS:	87.56	1,664	87.29	1,652
New York				
Whole Body:	87.94	1,206	88.39	1,230
Central				
Whole Body:	78.78	4,358	78.91	3,918
WOGS:	78.42	4,078	78.63	3,758
Chicago				
Whole Body:	80.01	2,532	79.35	2,332
Western				
Whole Body:	92.24	3,705	93.17	3,553
WOGS:	91.65	3,605	92.51	3,453
Los Angeles				
Whole Body:	89.92	1,983	91.39	1,831

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 8-Dec-2018

	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens	Duck
----- Thousands -----					
Head	164,048	1,121	1,495	2,616	468
Avg Wt	6.13	3.24	8.05	5.99	7.15
Last week	165,509	1,042	1,620	2,662	449
Same wk yr ago	163,366	1,322	1,566	2,888	486
Avg Wt	6.27	3.39	7.84	5.80	6.98
To-date/2018*	7,894,422	51,483	77,801	129,284	21,074
To-date/2017*	7,909,331	60,993	73,582	134,575	20,178
% Change YTD	0%	-16%	6%	-4%	4%

Ready-to-Cook Weight and Dressing Percentage

Current week	764,267	2,016	8,244	10,260	2,376
Last week	792,457	2,134	9,011	11,145	2,098
Same wk yr ago	778,472	2,487	8,410	10,897	2,409
To-date/2018*	37,165,674	97,932	436,395	534,327	100,807
To-date/2017*	36,928,594	113,387	407,547	520,934	96,839
% Change YTD	1%	-14%	7%	3%	4%

Dressing % 76.0% 55.5% 68.5% 71.0%
 (A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 160.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 166.0 million head, or 5.9 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 12/15/2018 (1)	Previous Week 12/8/2018
----- Thousand head -----		
Class		
Broiler/fryer	159,492 (2)	162,799
Light hens	1,189	1,133
Heavy hens	1,672	1,495
Total	162,353	165,427

(1) Estimated
 (2) The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 15-Dec-18 is 157.8 million head compared to 165.0 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.8 million head or 2.0 million more than estimated available. For the week of 22-Dec-18 the estimated available is 155.8 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	1,163	86.96
Tenderloins	685	150.93
Breast - Line Run	520	84.54
Front Halves	546	68.97
Legs	1,036	28.33
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	1,023	23.08
Leg Quarters (4/10)	1,020	25.47
Wings (Whole)	606	139.59
Wings (Cut)	588	156.63
Drumsticks	1,072	25.51
Thighs	638	30.44
B/S Thighs	730	108.45

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

Range	Today's Average	5-Day Average
42.00 - 55.50	46.4	46.02

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

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	86.48	2,742,010
Tenderloins	121.46	1,020,680
Breast - With Ribs	109.08	200,030
Breast - Line Run	88.50	432,150
Legs	41.17	461,300
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	28.81	1,964,313
Drumsticks	36.49	669,542
Thighs	52.17	187,860
B/S Thighs	116.39	890,440
Wings (Whole)	140.11	2,012,160
Backs and Necks	10.75	825,588
Livers (5 Pound Tubs)	65.89	58,350
Gizzards (Hearts)	78.13	85,080

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 10-Dec-18 to 14-Dec-2018

	Price per lb.		Mostly	
Breast - B/S	68.00 -	88.00	68.00 -	78.00
Tenderloins	118.00 -	123.00	118.00 -	120.00
Breast - Line Run	71.00 -	85.00	71.00 -	76.00
Legs	34.00 -	35.00	-	-
Leg Quarters (Bulk)	22.00 -	28.00	23.00 -	27.00
Leg Quarters (4/10)	25.00 -	30.00	27.00 -	30.00
Drumsticks	31.00 -	33.00	-	-
Thighs	35.00 -	40.00	-	-
B/S Thighs	107.00 -	116.00	107.00 -	112.00
Wings (Whole)	102.00 -	115.00	107.00 -	113.00
Backs & Necks (Stripped)	17.00 -	31.00	-	-
Livers	25.00 -	51.00	-	-
Gizzards (Hearts)	35.00 -	61.00	-	-

Major Wholesale Markets – Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending December 07, 2018

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks, Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
Rayon						
Low	87.02	138.34	66.94	42.40	17.85	93.72
High	88.14	147.27	75.87	49.09	20.08	93.72
Mostly	87.69	142.81	71.40	44.63	17.85	93.72
San Juan						
Low	86.80	138.34	66.94	40.16	17.85	93.72
High	87.69	147.27	75.87	46.86	20.08	93.72
Mostly	87.02	142.81	71.40	42.40	17.85	93.72
New San Juan						
Low	87.02	140.58	69.17	44.63	17.85	93.72
High	88.81	149.50	78.10	51.32	20.08	93.72
Mostly	87.47	145.04	73.63	46.86	17.85	93.72
Becerra						
Low	87.47	140.58	71.40	44.63	17.85	93.72
High	89.25	149.50	80.33	51.32	20.08	93.72
Mostly	88.14	145.04	75.87	46.86	17.85	93.72

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 instances weak. Demand into domestic and export channels are light. Supplies are moderate to heavy. The 2019 contract season is slow with buyers and sellers continuing with negotiations. Processing schedules are mostly normal. Market activity is slow. Supplies of raw materials range moderate to heavy. Frame prices are steady to firm with trading levels unchanged to slightly lower at 6-13.5 cents FOB, mostly 7-9 cents FOB.

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

Fat Content	Frozen			Fresh		
	14-Dec-18	Last Week	Last Year	14-Dec-18	Last Week	Last Year
15% or Less						
Price Range			-			-
Wtd Avg Price			-			-
Volume Traded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20%						
Price Range	20.00 - 28.00	21.00 - 26.00	28.00-32.00	19.00 - 23.00	19.00 - 23.00	20.00-25.00
Wtd Avg Price	25.08	24.78	30.67	20.49	20.65	22.34
Volume Traded	604	495	658	2,063	1,285	1,428
Volume Exported	482	495	658	-	-	-
20% or More						
Price Range			-			-
Wtd Avg Price			-			-
Volume Traded	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volume Exported	-	-	-	-	-	-

Young Chickens Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection

Week ending 8-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	32,834	50,711	44,651	37,313	165,509
Avg Live Wgt	3.54	5.29	7.02	9.22	6.30
% of total /1	20%	31%	27%	23%	100%
Comparisons					
Last week	26,939	38,060	30,150	28,923	124,072
Avg Live Wgt	3.73	5.32	6.85	9.07	6.22
% of total /1	22%	31%	24%	23%	100%
Year Ago 2/	39,179	49,482	44,393	34,871	167,925
Avg Live Wgt	3.58	5.44	7.00	9.26	6.21
% of total /1	23%	29%	26%	21%	100%
To date/2018*	1,755,436	2,318,055	1,981,748	1,675,135	7,730,374
To date/2017*	1,916,541	2,368,041	1,817,370	1,644,013	7,745,965
% Change YTD	-8%	-2%	9%	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
11/3	166.5	165.5	101%	6.26
11/10	165.8	163.6	101%	6.28
11/17	161.8	160.5	101%	6.18
11/24	125.6	157.2	80%	6.22
12/1	167.5	153.5	109%	6.30
12/8	166.0	160.1	104%	6.13
Year to date	7990.3	8073.1	99%	
12/15		155.4		
12/22		156.1		

*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.	9,893	6.03%
3.61 - 3.80 lbs.	2.5 - 2.63 lbs.	11,460	6.99%
3.81 - 4.00 lbs.	2.63 - 2.75 lbs.	8,109	4.94%
4.01 - 4.25 lbs.	2.75 - 2.9 lbs.	7,384	4.50%
Totals:		36,846	22.46%

Estimated Slaughter of Broiler-Fryers

	Estimated (1,000)	Actual (1,000)	Avg Wt	Actual (1,000)	Avg Wt
AL	3,922	3,968	5.53	3,927	5.69
AR	4,723	4,696	5.74	4,834	5.75
Delmarva	2,243	2,183	6.80	2,144	6.84
KY-LA-TN	2,294	2,394	5.44	1,936	5.49
MS	2,697	2,729	6.26	2,837	6.37
NC	3,332	2,810	8.20	2,541	8.08
TX	2,498	2,512	6.55	2,435	6.82
Total	21,709	21,292	6.27	20,558	6.33
Mon-Fri	107,190 (A)				109,108 (A)
Saturday	1,035	(included in total for date shown)			2,703

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Dec-18 and 15-Dec-18 is estimated to be 33,039,000 head down 2.99 percent from a week ago and down 1.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 34,056,000, last year 33,365,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 15-Dec-18 is estimated to be 159,569,000 head down 2.73 percent from a week ago, and down 2.11 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 164,048,000, last year 163,013,000) Actual data incorporated when available.

Eastern Region Misc. Poultry

Week of December 10, 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)	92.00-100.75	97.00-100.00
Vacuum Packed (6-9 Per Box)	94.00-106.00	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 10, 2018

All prices continue steady. Demand is fairly good to good. Supplies are light to moderate. Processing schedules are full-time. 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. 4.0-9.3 8.87

(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 - 12-11-18

All Papers Required To Sell All Out Of State Poultry					
<u>Hackettstown, NJ</u>			<u>Graystone Small Animal, Manheim, PA</u>		
Heavy Fowl			Price Range - cents per lb.		
per lb.:	Low	High	Avg	Red Fowl	Crossbred Fowl
	.70	.70	.70	5-6 lbs: .45 - .50	5-9 lbs: .50 - .70
each:	2.00	14.00	3.42	4-5 lbs: .40 - .45	

Delmarva Broiler/Fryer Market US Grade A

Date	Production (000) Actual Slaughter	Live Weight
12/7	2,693	6.89
12/6	2,260	6.86
12/5	2,241	6.85
12/4	2,245	6.98
12/3	2,273	7.14
Weekly	11,713	6.94

Cattle/Hog Weekly Estimated Slaughter

Under Federal Inspection (in 000's)

W/E	12/15/18	12/08/18	% chg	12/09/17	% chg
Cattle	654	667	-02	628 ¹	+04
Hogs	2,612	2,558	+02	2,576 ¹	+01

¹ Actual data incorporated when available.

Totals adjusted to reflect USDA, NASS revisions.

Broiler Hatchery

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

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 222 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 8, 2018, up slightly from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 81.9 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 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 182 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 8, 2018, down 1 percent from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 6, 2018 through December 8, 2018 for the United States were 8.91 billion. Cumulative placements were up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

State	Broiler-Type Eggs Set,		Broiler-Type Chicks Placed,	
	19 Selected States and United States			
	Week Ending			
	Dec 01, 2018	Dec 08, 2018	Dec 01, 2018	Dec 08, 2018
	(1,000 eggs)		(1,000 chicks)	
AL.....	31,136	30,568	22,485	23,014
AR.....	24,683	24,309	21,870	22,059
DE.....	5,045	4,674	5,432	4,759
FL.....	1,194	1,194	1,358	1,358
GA.....	34,371	35,564	26,323	26,758
KY.....	8,027	7,221	6,114	5,802
LA.....	3,834	3,532	3,144	3,163
MD.....	7,993	7,744	5,039	5,409
MS.....	18,585	18,569	14,666	15,212
MO.....	8,460	7,733	5,417	5,798
NC.....	23,064	21,251	17,734	17,395
OK.....	7,645	6,669	4,399	4,759
PA.....	5,394	5,226	4,034	4,059
SC.....	5,881	5,560	4,325	4,855
TX.....	16,710	15,325	12,973	12,953
VA.....	6,771	6,074	5,161	6,107
CA, TN, & WV.....	12,614	11,448	10,373	11,038
Other States.....	10,023	8,845	7,252	7,790
United States.....	231,430	221,506	178,099	182,288
Percent of Prev Year...	100	100	100	99

Source: USDA, NASS

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/BroiHatc/BroiHatc-12-07-2018.pdf>

Weekly Fryers Available For Marketing

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 19-Jan-19 is estimated at 159.0 million head. This compares to 155.1 million head the previous week and to 157.7 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 165.0 million head and the national weighted average price was 86.68 cents per pound.

US/Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection

Week Ending Dec 08, 2018 (Preliminary)

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	1,121	1,495	2,616
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,042	1,620	2,662
Same week yr ago	1,322	1,566	2,888
To-date/2018*	51,483	77,821	129,304
To-date/2017*	60,993	73,582	134,575

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	244	0	244
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	345	0	345
Same week yr ago	103	0	103
To-date/2018*	12,990	8	12,998
To-date/2017*	13,951	8	13,959

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	1,365	1,495	2,860
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,387	1,620	3,007
Same week yr ago	1,425	1,566	2,991
To-date/2018*	64,473	77,829	142,302
To-date/2017*	74,944	73,590	148,534

*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		
			12/10/18	12/03/18	12/11/17
AM	12/10/18	82,198			
AM	12/01/18	83,115			
CHG		-917			
PCT CHG		-1%			
Pacific Coast:			11405	11232	8546
Los Angeles:			622	624	1573

Fresh Beef Cuts - FOB Negotiated

	Price Range	Wtd Avg
112A 3 Rib, ribeye, bnls, heavy	824.85 905.00	873.45
168 3 Round, top inside round	206.75 219.75	214.54
180 3 Loin, strip, bnls, 0x1	484.00 516.25	496.06
Ground Beef 81%	170.00 210.00	187.43

Fresh Pork Cuts - FOB Negotiated

	Wtd Avg
Loin - 1/8 Trimmed Loin VAC	78.05
Bnls CC Strap-on	114.15
Butt - 1/8 Trim Steak Ready Butt Vac	113.66
Sparerib - Trmd Sparerib - MED	127.80