PES-286 JUNE 1975

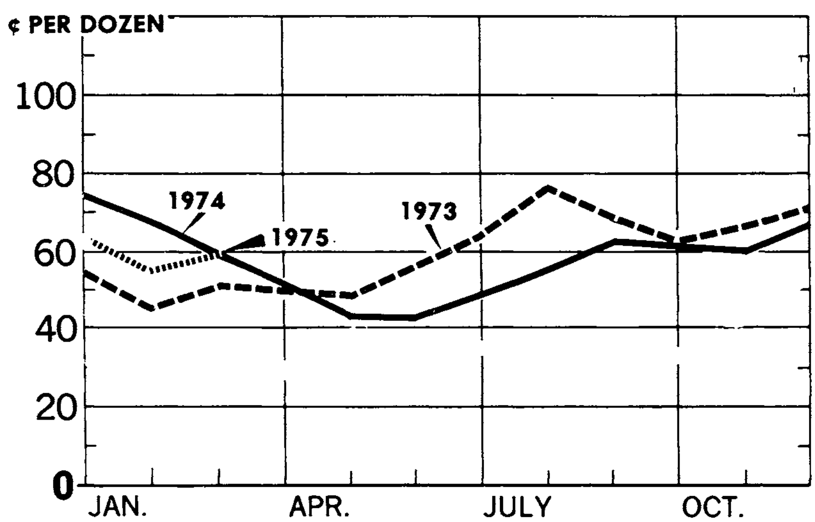
POULTRY AND EGG Situation

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	~~1974~~ 1975				~~1975~~ 1976			
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
		Eggs							
Farm production	Mil. eggs	5,691	5,203	5,811	5,596	5,540	4,995	5,500	5,271
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	296	296	294	290	284	282	279	275
Rate of lay per layer	No.	19.2	17.6	19.8	19.3	19.5	17.7	19.7	19.2
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	24.4	26.2	32.3	34.2	24.1	20.2	18.9	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	4.9	5.2	6.4	6.6	4.6	3.2	3.0	
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	66.6	64.1	56.6	50.1	57.1	54.3	54.1	47.4
Retail price (BLS)									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	93.0	94.5	85.6	78.1	84.2	83.9	74.9	77.2
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	152	153	151	144	160	151	143	146
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	8.8	8.4	7.5	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.6	6.5
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	Thous. cases	34	23	42	59	36	35	48	32
Frozen	Mil. lb.	43.2	37.7	35.7	39.4	54.2	53.8	51.8	47.0
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	35.1	37.7	46.2	54.6	35.0	37.3	46.0	48.1
		Poultry							
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	713.1	601.2	641.9	672.4	646.2	570.2	616.6	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	97.3	59.8	58.9	80.1	64.9	47.1	54.4	
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	20.9	23.7	22.5	21.0	24.2	24.6	23.7	23.4
Chicken, excluding broilers	Ct. per lb.	13.5	12.2	10.7	8.2	9.2	9.4	9.7	8.2
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	35.4	32.3	32.0	27.7	31.8	30.8	30.3	28.7
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	39.7	39.4	38.8	36.3	41.6	41.4	40.7	
Retail price (BLS)									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	59.2	58.7	57.5	55.6	59.3	58.6	58.8	57.6
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	85.4	80.4	79.6	75.8	69.2	71.6	70.4	69.0
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	170	169	165	156	176	167	161	164
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	172	172	168	162	178	168	161	165
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.5
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	33.4	32.5	32.6	34.6	37.2	33.0	33.8	28.8
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	281.0	274.0	250.5	235.9	275.0	267.0	240.2	207.1
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	430.6	423.9	393.9	390.4	456.2	439.2	410.4	369.9
Average weekly placement of broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	59.8	60.7	63.5	63.1	54.5	56.9	59.3	60.6

WHOLESALE EGG PRICES, NEW YORK*



* GRADE A LARGE.

USDA

NEG. ERS 60-75(5)

In This Issue

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SUMMARY

Look for higher egg, broiler, and turkey prices this summer. Production will gain relative to 1974 but remain below year-earlier levels at least until fall when broiler and turkey output may match or exceed the reduced output of October-December 1974.

Production costs remain high but feed ingredient prices have eased in recent months. Prices received during most of the year for broilers and eggs have covered most production costs. The decline in turkey prices in early 1975 resulted in prices generally below production costs. If favorable prospects for the 1975 crops develop, feed ingredient costs likely will continue to ease downward. This would reduce production costs and further improve the profitability of poultry and egg production.

Egg production during the first quarter of 1975 was down 4 percent from 1974 but dropped to 6 percent below in April. Second and third quarter output may average 5-6 percent below the same periods of 1974. On May 1 there were 5 percent fewer layers in the Nation's egg laying flock, the smallest for this date since 1938. High production costs and poor profitability caused producers to hatch about 17 percent fewer pullets during the last quarter of 1974 for laying flock replacements this spring. However, hatchings in the winter for summer replacements rose to near year-earlier levels. About the same size replacement hatch as a year ago will be added to a substantially smaller laying flock during the summer. This, combined with reduced culling of old flocks and increased force molting, likely will result in layer numbers gaining on 1974.

Egg prices dropped sharply in late March as the usual post-Easter decline in demand developed. Prices improved during mid-April but weakened again in May. Prices likely will increase seasonally in coming months as egg output remains below 1974. Reduced egg supplies combined with higher prices for most high protein foods are expected to boost egg prices well above a year earlier in coming months.

Broiler meat output gained during January-March but averaged 6 percent below a year earlier. Output in the previous quarter was down 8 percent. Weekly reports indicate that April output was near year-earlier levels but broiler chick placements for second quarter marketings are down about 5 percent from a year ago. Thus, with marketing weights continuing slightly heavier, spring output likely will be down around 4 percent. Weekly egg sets during the last 3 weeks of May for early summer marketings are down

The next issue of the *Poultry and Egg Situation* will be published in late August

3-6 percent. Broiler meat output will decline seasonally in late summer and fall but the decline will not be as large as last year. If prospects for the 1975 grain crops are favorable, producers are expected to gradually expand output and probably will match or exceed 1974 levels in the fall.

Broiler prices this year have been moderately above a year earlier largely because of reduced supplies of both broilers and pork. Wholesale broiler prices in 9 cities averaged about 43 cents a pound in mid-May, 3 cents above a month earlier and 8 cents above a year ago. Second quarter prices will probably average about 42 cents a pound. Prices are likely to strengthen further in the summer largely as a result of lower broiler and pork supplies and a rise in consumer disposable incomes. However, larger beef supplies will dampen the price rise for broilers.

Turkey meat output in 1975 is running well below last year and will remain lower in coming months. Through March, output was down 23 percent. The number of turkeys marketed was down 18 percent and the average marketing weight dropped 6 percent. The number of poults hatched in recent months has been well below the same months of 1974. Those produced largely for April-August marketings were down 15 percent. Production of poults for marketing during September-December are expected to gain relative to 1974. Marketings in late 1975 may about match the sharply reduced levels of a year earlier.

Turkey prices declined early this year despite the drop in output. Large cold storage stocks and beef supplies contributed to lower turkey prices. However prices have trended upward since mid-February and New York wholesale prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys averaged 52 cents a pound for the week ending May 16. This was about 12 cents a pound above the relatively low prices of a year ago. Turkey prices probably will remain strong in coming months and increase seasonally during the main marketing season (September-December). Turkey prices will be boosted by reduced supplies of both turkeys and pork during this period.

Eggs, Poultry, and Livestock Production and changes from a year earlier

	~~1974~~ 1975				~~1975~~ 1976			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Egg. (Mil. cases)	46.4	46.6	45.0	45.0	44.5	43.8	42.8	43.6
Percent change	0	-1	-1	-3	-4	-6	-5	-3
Broiler[2] (Mil. lbs.)	1,956	2,105	2,055	1,801	1,833	2,020	1,975	1,840
Percent change	+6	+6	+3	-8	-6	-4	-4	+2
Turkey[2] (Mil. lbs.)	216	353	670	596	166	285	605	595
Percent change	+38	+25	+6	-17	-23	-20	-10	0
Beef[3] (Mil. lbs.)	5,434	5,638	5,751	6,021	5,833	5,600	6,200	6,500
Percent change	+1	+12	+15	+7	+7	-1	+8	+8
Pork[3] (Mil. lbs.)	3,378	3,531	3,243	3,431	3,044	3,000	2,700	2,900
Percent change	+4	+11	+16	+3	-10	-15	-17	-15

Egg, Poultry, and Livestock Prices

	~~1974~~ 1975				~~1975~~ 1976			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Eggs, New York[4] (Cents/dozen)	67.5 -25 91.0	45.9 (2) 68.5	56.0	63.4	59.0	49-51	57-59	63-65
Broilers, 9-City[5] (Cents/lb.)	39.3	35.3 40	37.7	40.7	41.2	41-43	43-45	38-40
Turkeys, New York[6] (Cents/lb.)	51.5	39.8	45.4	53.3	48.6	49-51	50-52	53-55
Choice Steers, Omaha (Dollars/100 lbs.)	45.4	39.5	44.2	38.3	35.7	45-47	42-44	39-41
Barrows and Gilts, 7 Market (Dol/100 lbs.)	38.4	28.0	36.6	39.1	39.4	44-46	45-47	43-45

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial Production. [4] Wholesale, Grade A large white. [5] Wholesale weighted average. [6] Wholesale, 8-16 pound young hens.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

PRODUCTION COSTS

The cost of producing poultry and eggs has continued high in 1975. However, feed ingredient prices eased during the first quarter of 1975 and prices received for eggs and broilers have covered most production costs during these months. But the decline in turkey prices in early 1975 has been greater than the reduction in feed costs and the prices received for turkeys generally were less than production costs (tables 20, 21, and 22).

The cost of most items of production has continued climbing. The mid-April index of prices paid by producers for production items (including interest, taxes, and wage rates) was 187 percent of its 1967 base, up 2 percent from March and nearly 11 percent above a year earlier.

Broiler feed prices in mid-April were up slightly from a year-earlier but the mid-April broiler-feed price ratio at 2.9 was unchanged from a month earlier but above the 2.7 of April 1974. Largely as a result of lower turkey prices, the turkey-feed price ratio dropped to 3.5 in mid-April from 3.8 a month earlier but slightly above the low 3.4 ratio of a year earlier. Egg prices fell sharply after Easter and caused the egg-feed price ratio to drop to 6.5 in mid-April. This compares with 7.6 in March and 7.0 for April 1974. In 1974 the post-Easter price break was not fully reflected in the ratio until May. The ratios are expected to increase in coming months and exceed year-earlier levels. Feed prices likely will ease further if large 1975 crops develop and product prices rise as expected in coming months.

As a result of declining feed demand, feed grain prices received by farmers have fallen about 20 percent since the highs last fall. No. 2 yellow corn at Chicago averaged $3.74 a bushel in October 1974 but in early May this year it was around $2.80. Corn and soybean meal prices have been relatively stable since mid-April. If prospects are favorable for the 1975 feed crops, corn prices between now and harvest likely will continue to ease downward. But prices still will reflect tight supplies and some possible pickup in feed demand in coming months. And if this year's feed grain crop is hampered by a poor growing season or an early frost, feed costs for poultry producers will remain high and production schedules will be altered to reflect these higher ccost.

Soybean meal has been a relatively good buy compared with corn this year. The comparatively low soybean meal prices probably have provided some demand stimulus for adding more than the usual amount of protein to poultry feeds, which makes it possible to use relatively less corn. Soybean meal prices (44 percent protein, Decatur) have dropped sharply from $168 a ton last October to $106 in March. Prices during May were in the range of $114 to $123 a ton.

Total Red Meat Output Lower

Smaller total red meat supplies will compete with poultry meat through the balance of 1975 as larger beef and veal output fails to offset sharply reduced pork and lamb output. Total meat supplies (including poultry) for January-March were about 2 percent below a year earlier. Although declining seasonally, total meat supplies will drop further below 1974 levels this spring. Output during the summer likely will gain relative to a year earlier as supplies of most meats (other than pork) increase but total meat supplies may run about 2 percent less than in 1974 during the last half of 1975.

Market prices for cattle have gained sharply in recent weeks. But they are expected to decline during the summer and fall while hog prices continue at a high level. The seasonal rise in hog prices this summer will be tempered by the expected availability of large beef supplies. Choice steer prices at Omaha are likely to drop to the mid to low 40-cents-a-pound level for summer and may slip below 40 cents in the fall. Cattle prices were well above a year earlier in May but probably will be at or lower than 1974 levels this summer. Hog prices have been well above year-earlier levels in 1975 and likely will continue higher during the balance of the year.

EGGS

Production Continues to Slide

Egg production totaled 59.2 million cases through April this year, 4½ percent below the same months of 1974. Output was down 4 percent in the first quarter and dropped to 6 percent below in April. Layer numbers were down around 5 percent in January-March but the rate of lay was up nearly 1 percent. Layer numbers continued to slide in April and the rate of lay dropped below year-earlier levels.

Egg output may show some further decline relative to 1974 before turning upward. Spring production will probably average around 6 percent lower but output is expected to gain on 1974 levels in the summer and fall.

update March issue

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*No.*	*No.*	*Mil. cs.*	*Mil. cs.*
I	295	285	56.6	56.9	46.4	44.5
II	285		58.8		46.6	
III	279		58.1		45.0	
IV	283		57.3		45.0	
Annual .	286		230.8		183.0	

Fewer young pullets entering the flock and an increase in force moltings are probably the main reasons the rate of lay has dropped in recent months. In March the rate of lay fell below the same months of a year earlier for the first time since September 1973. At this time last year a large number of young pullets were entering the flock and old layers were being culled heavily. However, the opposite is occurring this year. The egg-type chick hatchings 5-6 months earlier indicate there are substantially fewer replacement pullets available this year than in 1974 (table 2). Slaughter reports indicate about 6 million fewer mature hens were slaughtered under federal inspection during the first 4 months of 1975 than a year earlier. The increase in force moltings in recent months has contributed to the drop in the rate of lay in two ways. When the layers are being force molted they do not lay any eggs but they are included in the total layer numbers. Thus, the average number of eggs laid per hen in the flock drops. When the force-molted layers begin laying again they lay fewer eggs than young pullets. Thus, the flock last year was younger and more productive than this year.

Pullet chicks placed for laying flocks, 1967-71 average and 1971-75*

Month	1967-71 average	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
January ...	22.6	22.9	22.1	21.7	20.0	19.7
February ..	24.4	24.1	23.1	22.9	21.3	20.8
March	33.0	31.9	26.7	29.1	26.0	25.7
April	36.7	35.5	29.8	30.0	30.1	26.5
May	34.6	33.3	28.8	30.6	28.8	
June	27.5	27.7	24.1	24.9	24.2	
July	22.7	23.5	22.0	23.1	22.0	
August	20.8	22.0	21.3	23.8	19.8	
September .	21.5	19.7	20.5	24.1	18.2	
October ...	21.7	19.4	21.4	25.9	19.9	
November .	19.6	19.0	18.6	22.5	18.7	
December ..	19.7	18.6	18.4	20.0	18.4	
Total	304.8	297.7	276.8	298.6	265.9	

*One-half of egg-type chick hatched plus pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders.

Force Moltings Hold Key

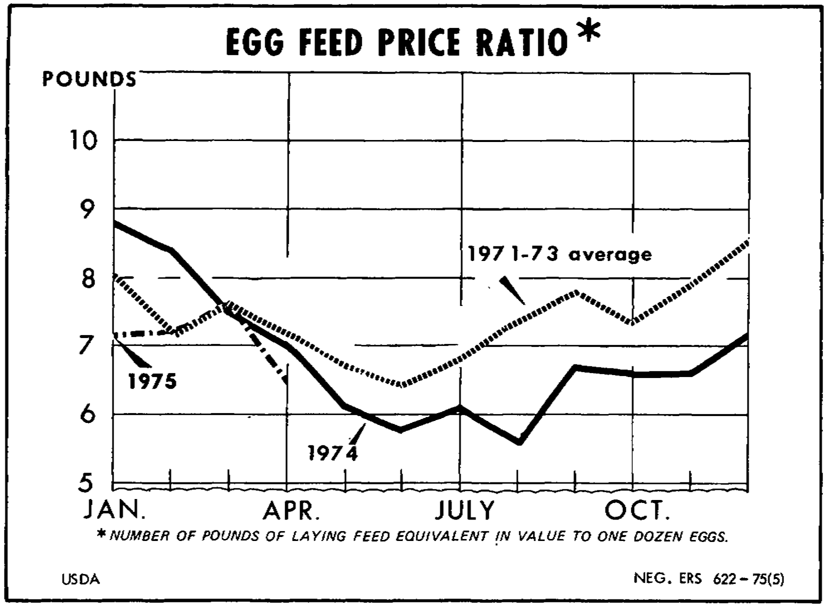
On May 1, 6 percent of the laying flock in 17 States was being force molted and another 13 percent had completed molt. This compares with 5 and 12 percent a month earlier and 4 and 8 percent on May 1, 1974. Apparently, producers are optimistic about the future relationship between feed costs and market egg

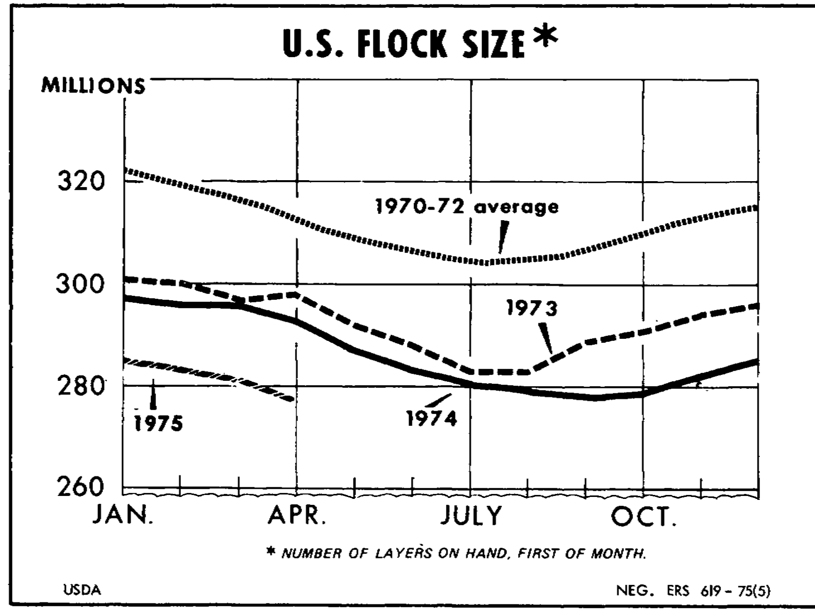
update March issue

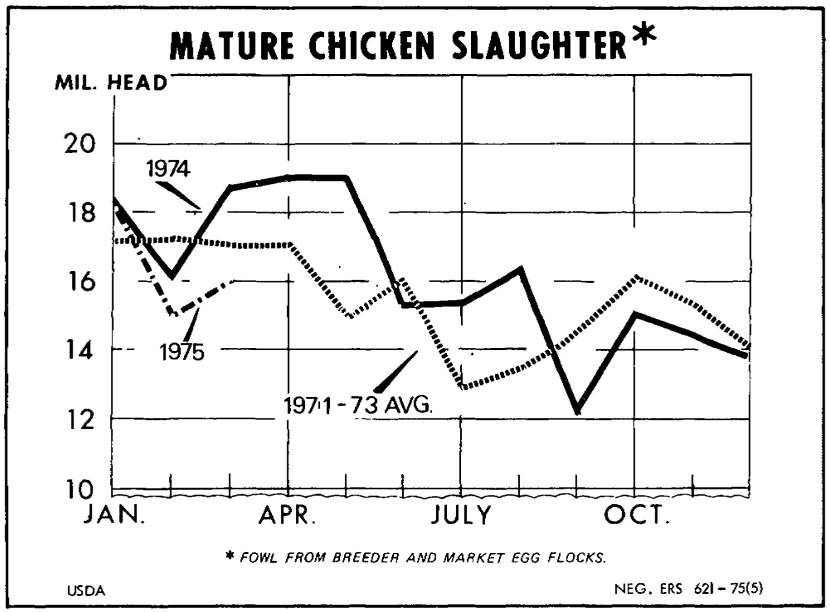
Table 2—Egg-type chick hatchery operations, United States and 5 States reporting weekly, 1973-75

Month	United States: Hatch 1973-74	United States: Hatch 1974-75	Change from year earlier: Hatch	Change from year earlier: Eggs in incubators first of month	5 States[1]: Hatch 1973-74	5 States[1]: Hatch 1974-75	Hatch: Change from year earlier	Period[2]	Egg settings advanced 3 weeks: 1973-74	Egg settings advanced 3 weeks: 1974-75	Change from year earlier
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*		*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*
July	41,159	36,674	-11	-11	12,013	9,117	-24	June 29-Aug. 3	17,466	13,528	-23
August	42,476	34,945	-18	-10	11,758	8,488	-28	Aug. 4-Aug. 31	14,141	9,383	-34
September	42,858	32,091	-25	-28	12,623	7,703	-39	Sept. 1-Sept. 28 ...	15,769	9,105	-42
October	45,974	35,489	-23	-27	13,021	9,343	-28	Sept. 29-Nov. 2 ...	18,200	11,975	-34
November	40,335	33,005	-18	-13	10,491	7,504	-28	Nov. 3-Nov. 30	12,077	8,659	-28
December	35,265	32,159	-11	-11	9,533	7,992	-16	Dec. 1-Dec. 28	10,236	8,611	-16
January	35,083	34,973	0	-2	9,201	8,788	-4	Dec. 29-Feb. 1	13,363	11,650	-13
February	37,695	37,343	-1	-7	8,957	9,408	5	Feb. 2-Mar. 1	11,515	11,725	2
March	46,201	46,009	0	0	9,898	10,832	9	Mar. 2-Mar. 29	11,011	12,187	11
April	54,587	48,052	-12	-10	11,219	9,459	-16	Mar. 30-May 3	16,463	14,254	-13
May	52,074			-7				May 4-May 31	11,776	11,960	2
June	43,400							June 1-June 28			

[1] The five States are Georgia, Mississippi, Oregon, Washington and California. [2] Weeks of 1975 and corresponding weeks of 1974. [3] Change from a year earlier.


EGG FEED PRICE RATIO *
POUNDS
10
9
8
7
6
5
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
1971-73 average
1975
1974
* NUMBER OF POUNDS OF LAYING FEED EQUIVALENT IN VALUE TO ONE DOZEN EGGS.
USDA
NEG. ERS 622-75(5)


U.S. FLOCK SIZE *
MILLIONS
320
300
280
260
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
1970-72 average
1973
1975
1974
* NUMBER OF LAYERS ON HAND, FIRST OF MONTH.
USDA
NEG. ERS 619-75(5)


MATURE CHICKEN SLAUGHTER *
MIL. HEAD
20
18
16
14
12
10
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
1974
1975
1971-73 AVG.
* FOWL FROM BREEDER AND MARKET EGG FLOCKS.
USDA
NEG. ERS 621-75(5)

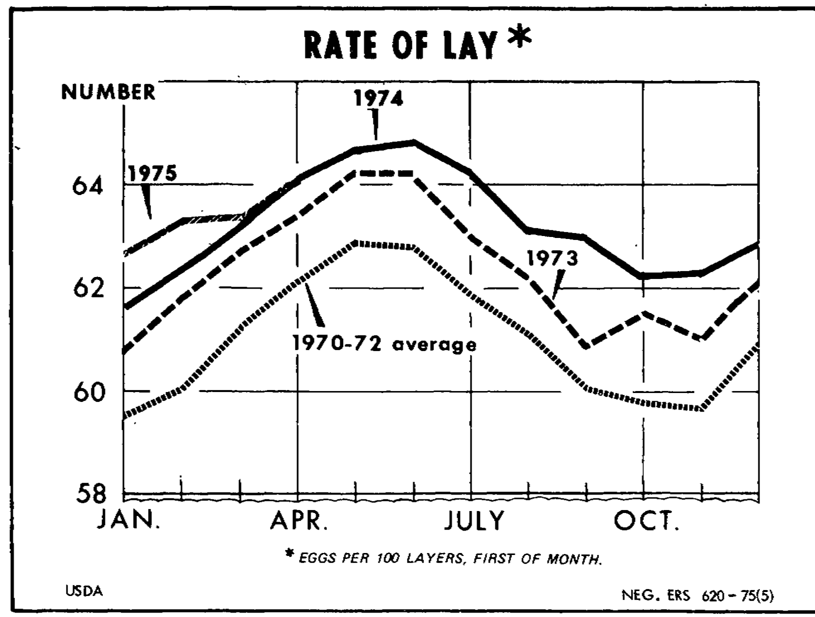

RATE OF LAY *
NUMBER
64
62
60
58
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
1974
1975
1973
1970-72 average
* EGGS PER 100 LAYERS, FIRST OF MONTH.
USDA
NEG. ERS 620-75(5)

Table 3— Forced molt layers as a percent of hens and pullets of laying age, first of month, selected States, 1974-75

State	Being molted						Molt completed					
	March		April		May		March		April		May	
	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
New York	1.0	1.5	1.0	8.0	6.0	7.0	7.5	4.5	5.5	4.5	6.5	9.0
Pennsylvania	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	1.5	2.5	6.5	4.5	4.0	5.5	4.0	4.0
Ohio	.5	1.0	.5	1.5	1.0	3.0	2.5	6.5	2.0	5.0	1.5	4.5
Indiana	.5	1.0	.5	1.5	2.5	.5	1.5	6.0	2.0	4.5	2.5	4.5
Iowa	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	1.5	.5	1.5	.5	1.0	.5
North Carolina	1.5	2.0	.5	1.5	1.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	2.0	5.0	3.0	6.0
South Carolina	1.5	1.5	1.0	4.5	3.0	2.5	6.0	8.5	4.0	5.0	2.0	7.0
Georgia	2.0	9.0	1.5	1.0	4.0	9.5	7.0	15.0	7.5	16.5	9.0	18.0
Florida	.5	3.5	.5	4.0	2.0	6.0	6.5	11.0	7.0	11.0	4.0	11.0
Tennessee	2.0	3.5	1.5	2.5	1.5	1.0	5.0	6.5	5.5	6.0	6.5	8.0
Alabama	1.0	2.0	1.0	3.5	2.0	2.5	7.5	9.5	6.0	9.5	4.0	10.0
Mississippi	.5	.5	1.5	1.0	.5	1.5	1.5	4.5	1.0	4.0	1.8	3.0
Arkansas	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.5	5.0	2.0	3.5	3.0	5.0
Texas	2.5	1.0	2.5	1.5	3.0	2.0	3.0	5.5	2.5	3.5	5.0	4.0
Washington	7.0	10.0	3.5	5.5	6.0	7.5	23.0	30.5	23.5	31.0	20.5	30.5
Oregon	10.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	7.0	8.0	25.5	26.0	31.5	22.0	30.0	19.0
California	7.5	11.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	16.0	19.0	25.5	21.0	28.0	20.0	31.0
17 States	2.6	4.6	2.4	4.6	4.3	6.4	7.9	11.7	8.0	11.9	7.9	13.0

prices. Also, it seems many producers chose to force molt their layers during the spring when egg prices are usually at their seasonal low for the year.

The increase in force moltings takes on added importance when one looks at the current size of the laying flock and the number of replacement pullets becoming available in coming months.

The Nation's egg laying flocks on May 1 totaled 272.5 million layers, 5 percent fewer than a year earlier and the lowest for this date since 1938. There were about 17 percent fewer pullet chicks hatched during the last quarter of 1974 for replacements in the laying flocks this spring but winter hatchings for summer replacements rose to near year-earlier levels. Thus, layer numbers likely will gain on 1974 levels after mid-1975.

Egg Prices Above 1974

Egg prices trailed 1974 levels through mid-April this year before moving above a year earlier. Egg prices fell sharply in early April as the usual post-Easter decline in demand developed. New York wholesale prices for Grade A large eggs fell from 60 cents a dozen on March 27 to 47 cents on April 2. Prices subsequently strengthened in April before weakening again in May. Prices will likely increase seasonally in coming months. Lower egg production and higher prices for most meats are expected to hold egg prices above year-earlier levels for most of the rest of 1975. A pickup in the demand for egg products in coming months could add strength to shell egg prices.

Shell egg prices this year have suffered because of weak demand for breaking eggs. This has forced more eggs to go into the shell egg market. Breakers

Egg-type replacement hatch, by quarters, ~~1965-75~~

Year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Year
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
1965	63.9	94.5	45.3	40.8	244.5
1966	71.1	106.0	53.2	54.4	284.7
1967	76.1	95.2	52.3	43.8	267.4
1968	62.9	83.3	55.9	55.4	257.2
1969	66.0	83.6	58.8	56.5	264.9
1970	78.9	92.5	57.5	56.6	285.5
1971	70.5	87.1	57.0	49.1	263.7
1972	64.4	73.9	56.0	51.3	245.7
1973	66.1	77.0	63.2	60.8	267.1
1974	59.5	75.0	51.9	50.3	236.7
1975	59.2				

Shell egg prices

Calendar quarters	Received by producers		New York wholesale[1]			
			Large		Medium	
	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975
	Cents per doz.	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*
I	62.4	55.2	67.5	59.0	63.4	53.9
II	43.9		45.9		36.9	
III	48.2		56.0		49.2	
IV	56.7		63.4		59.9	
Annual	52.8		58.2		52.4	

[1] Grade A white.

Maybe

Table 4—Eggs: Index of seasonal variation, 1970-74 average

Month	Index					
	Rate of lay	Size of laying flock	Production[2]	Price		
				Producer	Wholesale[1]	Retail
January	98.6	102.1	101.2	112.9	113.0	109.5
February	100.1	101.5	101.9	102.3	96.0	105.0
March	101.8	100.8	102.8	103.5	102.5	101.9
April	103.2	99.7	102.8	95.1	91.6	98.4
May	103.5	98.8	101.8	86.7	81.9	91.8
June	102.4	97.9	100.0	87.5	88.1	87.9
July	100.6	97.7	98.1	94.0	99.4	91.8
August	98.9	98.3	97.0	96.6	~~100.2~~	99.0
September	97.9	99.2	96.9	105.3	107.9	105.1
October	97.5	100.5	97.7	96.3	95.2	103.5
November	97.8	101.5	99.4	104.1	106.2	98.9
December	98.0	102.0	100.5	114.9	117.2	106.7

[1] New York large white Grade A. [2] Average daily rate.

have taken fewer eggs this year because the demand for their product has been very weak.

Breaking Activity at Low Levels

Producers of egg products reduced their egg breaking activity in the closing months of 1974 and early 1975 because of a sluggish demand for egg products.

A total of 3.7 million cases were broken under federal inspection this year during January 5-March 29, about 19 percent less than in the same period of 1974. Breaking eggs accounted for 8 percent of the total egg production in this period, compared with about 10 percent a year earlier. During this period 138.2 million pounds of egg products were produced, down 32 million pounds from the previous year. Frozen egg output totaled 61.4 million pounds, down 23 percent, and dried egg production declined 34 percent to 10.4 million pounds. Liquid egg products for immediate consumption and for processing made up the remainder which was down 11 percent.

Weekly reports of eggs delivered to breakers indicate that breaker activity in May continued well below a year ago. However, breaker activity is expected to gain in coming weeks as demand for egg products picks up but likely will remain below year-earlier levels this summer. Demand for egg products will increase as the economy strengthens. Also, bakery activity should increase as the result of lower prices for sugar and other bakery ingredients working through the system.

Table 5—Cold storage holdings of high protein foods, May 1, ~~1975~~ 1976 with comparisons

Item	Unit	May 1, ~~1973~~ 1974	May 1, ~~1974~~ 1975	April 1, ~~1975~~ 1976	May 1, ~~1975~~ 1976
		Thousands	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Thousands*
Total eggs[1]	case	1,198	1,169	1,222	1,131
Shell	do.	37	66	32	23
Frozen	Pound	45,875	43,552	47,010	43,752
Total poultry	do.	180,396	390,371	369,943	342,070
Total chicken	do.	87,348	163,195	159,071	159,065
Broilers, fryers and roasters	do.	21,814	33,775	28,793	29,279
Hens	do.	29,247	46,505	57,084	57,469
Other frozen chicken	do.	36,287	82,915	73,194	72,317
Total turkey	do.	91,300	224,951	207,111	179,553
Whole	do.	64,813	165,205	156,910	135,500
Other	do.	26,487	59,746	50,201	44,053
Ducks	do.	1,748	2,225	3,761	3,452
All red meats[2]	do.	706,659	995,864	783,256	794,074
Beef	do.	360,117	467,426	383,229	349,664
Frozen pork	do.	234,060	383,856	285,989	328,283
Pork in cooler	do.	14,388	15,259	12,537	12,906
Total cheese	do.	303,425	489,471	447,519	441,928

[1] Frozen eggs converted on basis of 39.5 pounds to the case. [2] Includes other meat and meat products.

Cold storage holdings of shell eggs and egg products on May 1 totaled 1.1 million cases (shell equivalent), compared with 1.2 million cases a month earlier and on May 1, 1974 (table 5). Stocks of frozen egg products on May 1 totaled 44 million pounds, 3 million below April 1, but about the same as on this date in 1974. However, they were below the 46 million pounds 2 years earlier.

Imports Drop; Exports Gain

Imports of shell eggs and egg products during January-March totaled about 100,000 cases (shell equivalent), down 21 percent from the same months of 1974. Almost all of the imports were shell eggs.

A total of 214,000 cases (shell equivalent) of shell eggs and egg products were exported during the first 3 months of 1975, slightly more than year-earlier levels. Exports of shell eggs totaled 171,000 cases, 36 percent above 1974 levels. However, exports of egg products dropped 50 percent to 43,000 shell equivalent cases. Dried egg exports, at almost 400,000 pounds, were down 53 percent. Although hatching egg exports were up about 1 percent to 107,000 cases, they made up only about 62 percent of the shell egg exports—down sharply from 84 percent the previous year.

Table 6—Egg supplies available to civilians for food, January-March ~~1974-75~~ 1975-76

Item	Unit	January-March 1974	January-March 1975	Change from a year earlier
Beginning stocks	Mil. doz.	33.8	42.5	8.7
Farm production	Mil. doz.	1,392.1	1,336.2	-55.9
Imports	Mil. doz.	3.8	3.0	-.8
Exports and shipments	Mil. doz.	11.9	12.8	.9
Military procurement	Mil. doz.	13.7	11.9	-1.8
Eggs used for hatching	Mil. doz.	101.9	96.0	-5.9
Supplies available to civilians for food:				
Total	Mil. doz.	1,302.2	1,261.0	-41.2
Per capita	No.	74.7	71.8	-2.9
Civilian population	Mil.	209.1	210.8	1.7

Shipments to American territories of shell eggs and egg products totaled 213,000 cases (shell equivalent) in January-March this year, 14 percent above last year. Shell egg shipments were up 12 percent to 181,000 cases. Shipments of egg products were up 26 percent to 32,000 cases (shell equivalent).

BROILERS

Broiler Output Gaining But Below 1974

Broiler meat output through federally inspected slaughter plants gained during the first quarter of 1975 but remained below year-earlier levels. Output in January was nearly a tenth below 1974 levels but in March was down only 4 percent. Through March output totaled 1.8 billion pounds, 6 percent below the same period in 1974. The average liveweight of bird marketed during January was below the previous year. However, weights picked up relative to 1974 and were a little more than 1 percent higher in March. Weights during January-March averaged 3.77 pounds, same as a year earlier.

Broilers slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected ~~1974~~ 1975	Number inspected ~~1975~~ 1976	Average live weight ~~1974~~ 1975	Average live weight ~~1975~~ 1976	Certified ~~1974~~ 1975	Certified ~~1975~~ 1976
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	723.9	671.2	3.77	3.77	1,956.1	1,833.0
II	770.0		3.80		2,104.7	
III	755.7		3.77		2,054.9	
IV	650.8		3.83		1,801.0	
Annual	2,900.4		3.79		7,916.8	

Weekly slaughter reports indicate broiler output has continued to gain and in April was near a year earlier. April's output was larger than earlier placements indicated. Marketing weights increased to near-record levels during early April, then dropped sharply in late April. This indicates some broilers that normally would have been marketed in late March were carried over into April. Also, some may have been marketed at lighter weights in late April that normally would have been held until May. Broiler chick placements for May and June marketings are down around 7 and 5 percent (table 7). Thus, if weights continue to slightly exceed a year earlier, broiler meat output for the second quarter likely will only be down around 4 percent.

Broiler chick production for early summer marketings are still running moderately below a year earlier. Weekly egg sets during the first 3 weeks in May averaged 5 percent below May 1974.

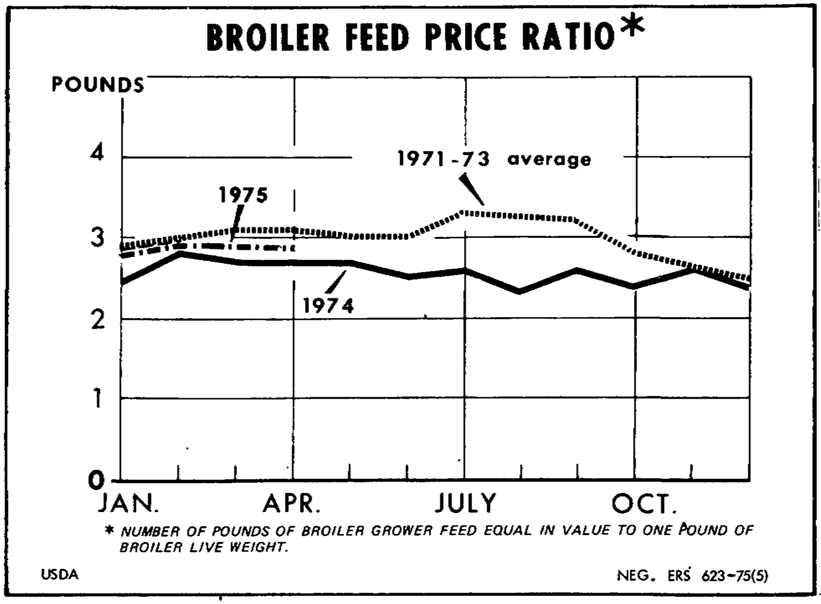
Broiler chick production for late summer and fall marketing is expected to decline seasonally but the decline will not be as great as in 1974. Broiler meat output during October-December 1974 was down 8 percent from the previous year. If prospects for 1975 grain crops are favorable, broiler producers likely will continue to gradually expand broiler output relative to 1974. Output probably will exceed year-earlier levels this fall as producers hold production nearer the normal seasonal pattern rather than cut back sharply as they did in 1974.

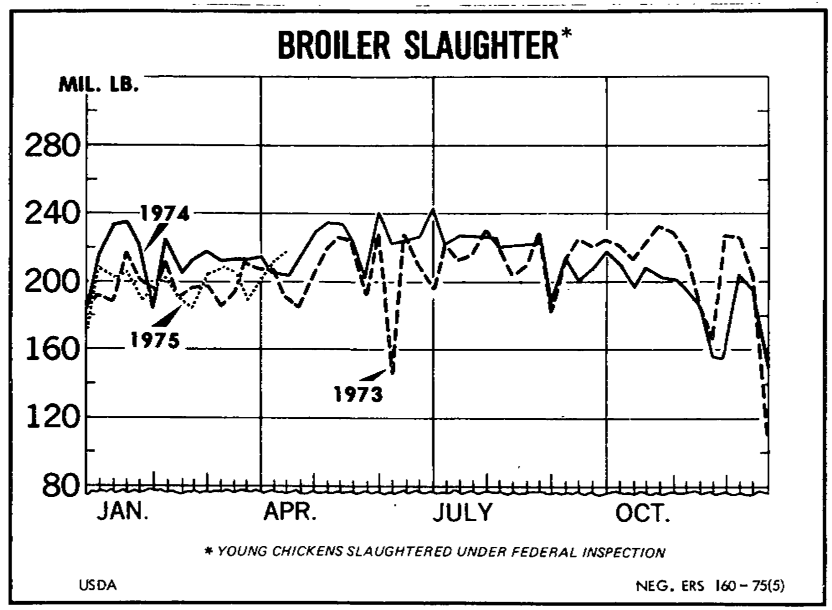
The broiler hatchery supply flock will be substantially below year-earlier levels in coming

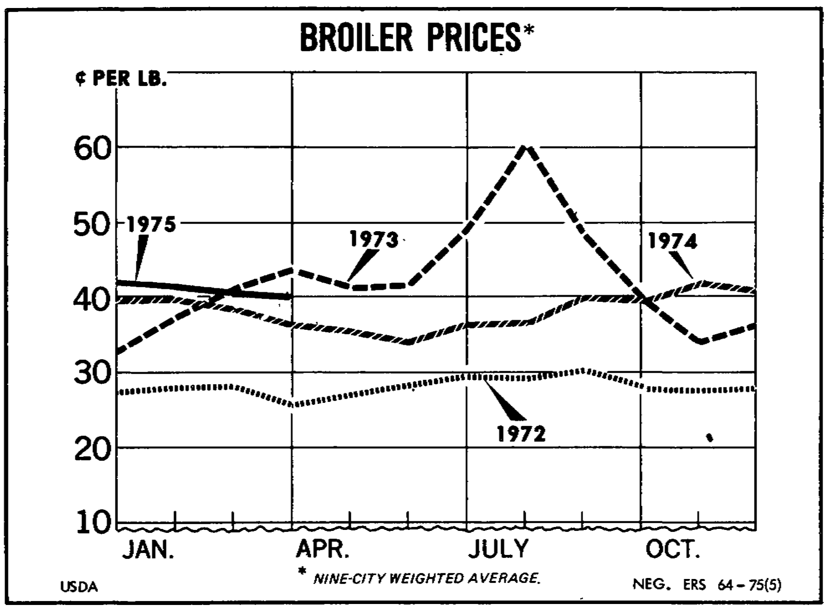
Table 7—Broiler: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1973-75

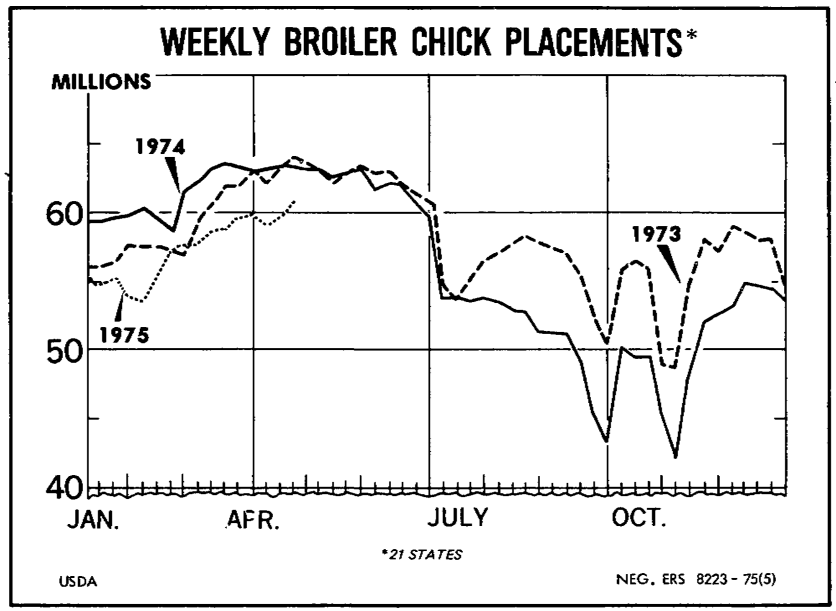
Week ending Saturday	Eggs set			Percent of previous year			Chicks placed			Percent of previous year		
	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975
	Thousand	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
December[1] 1 ..	71,022	72,644	66,405	102	102	91	57,885	58,991	53,156	101	102	90
8 ..	66,722	67,519	65,376	93	101	97	57,668	58,826	54,881	100	102	93
15 ..	69,778	73,067	66,507	97	105	91	57,090	58,062	54,626	99	102	96
22 ..	69,771	73,524	66,249	96	105	90	57,142	58,683	54,478	103	102	93
29 ..	69,617	73,099	66,280	94	105	91	52,732	54,650	53,831	91	103	99
January 5 ..	71,220	73,609	65,316	96	103	89	56,198	59,653	55,269	97	106	93
12 ..	70,560	74,225	63,811	94	105	86	56,059	59,375	54,877	95	106	92
19 ..	71,404	72,931	66,252	93	102	91	56,375	59,679	55,141	95	106	92
26 ..	71,326	71,875	67,876	92	101	95	57,586	59,851	53,996	97	104	90
February 2 ..	70,863	75,227	69,062	91	106	92	57,435	60,371	53,260	96	105	88
9 ..	73,362	76,073	69,809	93	104	92	57,542	59,785	55,061	94	104	92
16 ..	74,865	77,347	70,891	95	103	92	57,293	58,824	57,083	92	103	97
23 ..	76,291	77,871	71,150	97	102	92	56,822	61,760	57,661	90	109	93
March 2 ..	76,503	77,847	71,648	96	102	92	59,669	62,475	57,796	94	105	93
9 ..	76,581	76,807	71,656	96	100	93	60,731	63,459	58,678	96	104	92
16 ..	76,579	76,363	71,171	96	100	93	61,874	63,752	58,915	98	103	92
23 ..	78,320	77,430	72,538	98	99	94	61,883	63,778	59,670	96	103	94
30 ..	78,923	78,197	73,300	98	99	94	62,574	63,156	59,891	97	101	95
April 6 ..	78,611	77,019	73,610	97	98	96	62,161	62,386	59,139	97	100	95
13 ..	78,012	77,565	72,917	97	99	94	63,482	62,919	59,778	98	99	95
20 ..	77,028	76,689	71,398	97	100	93	64,167	63,468	60,763	99	99	96
27 ..	78,168	77,473	72,956	97	99	94	63,785	63,259	60,902	97	99	96
May 4 ..	78,340	77,327	73,542	98	99	95	63,145	63,481	60,661	97	101	96
11 ..	77,924	75,665	73,421	98	97	97	62,164	62,620	58,914	97	101	94
18 ..	78,301	76,378		98	98		62,856	62,944		97	100	
25 ..	77,867	76,499		99	98		63,503	63,421		98	100	
June 1 ..	77,375	75,166		98	97		62,925	61,810		98	98	
8 ..	76,023	74,426		96	98		63,162	62,096		99	98	
15 ..	69,533	67,307		98	97		62,230	62,001		98	100	
22 ..	67,472	67,271		92	100		61,479	60,433		98	98	
29 ..	69,606	67,748		92	97		60,698	59,764		96	98	
July 6 ..	70,569	67,355		92	95		54,683	53,911		98	99	
13 ..	71,568	66,700		93	93		53,697	53,813		93	100	
20 ..	72,713	65,703		95	90		55,119	53,789		92	98	
27 ..	72,546	65,229		97	90		56,553	53,903		95	95	
August 3 ..	72,048	64,361		98	89		57,192	53,607		95	94	
10 ..	71,712	63,529		100	89		58,183	52,981		97	91	
17 ..	71,121	62,824		99	88		58,387	52,641		100	90	
24 ..	71,237	63,017		99	88		57,726	51,640		101	89	
31 ..	66,525	61,194		101	92		57,381	51,417		100	90	
September 7 ..	64,284	56,226		107	87		56,897	51,427		99	90	
14 ..	70,213	54,500		98	78		56,523	51,361		102	91	
21 ..	70,966	61,831		100	87		53,016	49,116		109	93	
28 ..	69,552	60,193		103	87		50,531	45,597		101	90	
October 5 ..	61,920	56,331		104	91		56,041	43,450		98	78	
12 ..	60,624	51,818		94	85		56,547	50,040		100	88	
19 ..	68,326	58,987		99	86		55,795	49,688		104	89	
26 ..	72,325	63,252		101	87		48,973	45,597		104	93	
November 2 ..	71,132	64,159		105	90		48,744	42,106		96	86	
9 ..	72,778	64,422		101	89		55,006	48,019		100	87	
16 ..	72,620	66,265		101	91		58,156	52,079		101	90	
23 ..	72,020	66,312		101	92		57,102	52,733		101	92	
Total	3,764,766	3,616,396		97	96		3,022,567	2,954,647		98	98	

[1] December preceding year.


BROILER FEED PRICE RATIO*
POUNDS
4
3
2
1
0
1971-73 average
1975
1974
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* NUMBER OF POUNDS OF BROILER GROWER FEED EQUAL IN VALUE TO ONE POUND OF BROILER LIVE WEIGHT.
USDA
NEG. ERS 623-75(5)


BROILER SLAUGHTER*
MIL. LB.
280
240
200
160
120
80
1974
1975
1973
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
USDA
NEG. ERS 160-75(5)


BROILER PRICES*
¢ PER LB.
60
50
40
30
20
10
1975
1973
1974
1972
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* NINE-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE.
USDA
NEG. ERS 64-75(5)


WEEKLY BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS*
MILLIONS
60
50
40
1974
1975
1973
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*21 STATES
USDA
NEG. ERS 8223-75(5)

months. Based on pullet chick placements 7-14 months earlier, the flock during the second half of 1975 will be 10-13 percent below July-December 1974 with the low point coming in September. Despite smaller placements for the hatchery supply flock, there likely will be enough eggs during August-October to produce a few more chicks for October-December marketings than in 1974. The supply flock during those months in 1974 was underutilized as a result of the sharp cutback in production. For example, in August-October 1974 there were about 33 chicks hatched per layer in the estimated hatchery supply flock. This was down 14 percent from the 38 chicks per layer for this period in 1973. However, remember that we don't know the exact size of the hatchery supply flock at any time. The flock size is estimated by accumulating the number of replacement pullets entering the flock 7-14 months earlier. However, producers can increase layer numbers by holding old layers in the flock a month or 2 longer than usual. Also, during times of tight hatching egg supplies, some eggs are placed in incubators that normally are rejected because of size requirements. Even if producers step up hatchery activity and increase placements in the supply flocks in coming months, it would not be reflected in increased chick placements until early 1976.

Broiler Prices Strong

Broiler prices in 1975 have been moderately above a year earlier, largely as a result of reduced supplies of both broilers and pork. The 9-city weighted wholesale price for January-March averaged 41 cents a pound, 1 cent above the like period of 1974. Markets were slightly weaker in April but averaged about 4 cents above the 36 cents for April 1974. Markets strengthened in May as broiler output continued to lag a year ago and beef prices moved higher. Broiler prices in 9 cities averaged about 43 cents a pound for May, up about 3 cents from April and 7 cents above the same weeks of May 1974.

The year's highest broiler prices usually occur during June-September with the peak in July. Prices usually decline in the fall with the lows for the year typically in December. Prices likely will follow this general pattern in 1975 but will reflect the supplies and prices of red meats. Increased beef supplies and some decline in prices during the summer will dampen the price rise for broilers. Substantially lower pork supplies throughout the year will partially offset the effects of increased beef supplies. Summer broiler prices will average well above the 37.7 cents a pound for July-September 1974, but prices in the fall may not quite match the 40.7 cents of October-December 1974.

Fewer Broilers Produced in 1974

The production of broilers during the 1974 marketing year (December 1-November 30) totaled 2,993 million birds, slightly fewer than the 3,009 million produced in 1973 (table 17). Of the 8 States producing over 100 million broilers each, production was below 1973 levels except in Georgia, Texas, and Delaware. Arkansas remained the No. 1 producing State with 482 million broilers, 20 million less than in 1973 but still nearly 55 million more than Georgia, the second largest producing State. The 21 commercial broiler producing States accounted for 97 percent of the U.S. total, the same as in 1973.

TURKEYS

Output Down From 1974

Turkey meat output this year is running well below the unusually large 1974 levels and will remain lower in coming months. Output of turkey meat in federally inspected slaughter plants this year through March was down 23 percent from the same months of 1974. The number of turkeys marketed was off 18 percent and the average liveweight dropped 6 percent. High production costs and relatively low turkey prices in the last half of 1974 resulted in losses for producers during much of the period. This, combined with large storage stocks, caused producers to substantially reduce poult production for 1975 marketings.

Turkey meat output will remain substantially below a year ago in coming months. Poult production has been running well below the same months of 1974. Poults hatched in April were down 8 percent

Broiler prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		9-city	
	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976
	Cents per pound			
I	22.4	24.2	39.3	41.2
II	20.2		35.3	
III	21.2		37.7	
IV	23.0		40.7	
Annual	21.7		38.2	

Turkey slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976
	Mil.	*Mil.* -19	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	15.1	12.3	18.3	17.1	216.1	166.4
II	26.6		16.8		353.1	
III	47.0		18.0		670.4	
IV	38.0		19.8		596.2	
Annual	126.8		18.4		1,835.8	

and eggs in incubators on May 1 were down 11 percent. These are the months of the largest poult production; production begins to decline sharply in **June and July (table 8).**

The number of poults produced are used to indicate the number of turkeys available for marketing in 4 months for light breeds and 5 and 6 months for hens **and toms of the heavy breeds (table 9). This** indicates that the number of turkeys for marketing during April-August will be down around 15 percent. Poult production for marketing during the main marketing season is expected to gain relative to a year ago when producers were cutting back production. Turkey marketings in late 1975 may about match the reduced marketings of a year earlier.

Turkey Stocks Large But Falling

Cold storage stocks of turkeys remain large but continue to drop. May 1 stocks of 180 million pounds were down 95 million pounds from January 1. This was 45 million pounds below a year earlier but 88 million above May 1, 1973. Stocks likely will increase seasonally after midyear but continue to decline relative to 1974. Total turkey meat supplies during the balance of 1975 will be well below those of 1974 because of both reduced production and lower stocks **(table 5).**

Turkey Prices Gain

Turkey markets were weak in early 1975 despite the drop in output. Large cold storage turkey stocks and

1974-76

Table 8—Turkey hatchery operations, United States and 9 States reporting weekly, ~~1973-75~~

Month	United States				Period[2]	9-States[1]					
	Hatch		Change from year earlier			Hatch			Egg settings advanced 4 weeks		
	1973-74	1974-75	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month		1973-74	1974-75	Change from year earlier	1973-74	1974-75	Change from year earlier
September	4,045	3,146	-22	-23	Sept. 1-Sept. 28	3,312	2,467	-26	5,766	4,155	-28
October	3,943	4,180	6	2	Sept. 29-Nov. 2	3,962	4,028	2	6,275	6,253	0
November	5,446	5,006	-8	-9	Nov. 3-Nov. 30	4,612	3,937	-15	6,855	5,737	-16
December	8,084	6,504	-20	-19	Dec. 1-Dec. 28	6,115	4,752	-22	9,139	7,018	-23
January	10,867	8,716	-20	-22	Dec. 29-Feb. 1	9,901	8,127	-18	15,150	12,045	-20
February	13,937	12,197	-12	-17	Feb. 2-Mar. 1	11,107	9,363	-16	16,638	13,580	-18
March	19,490	16,294	-16	-6	Mar. 2-Mar. 29	13,621	10,987	-19	20,109	15,968	-21
April	20,767	18,921	-8	-20	March 30-May 3	18,396	16,924	-8	28,128	24,505	-13
May	20,112			-13	May 4-May 31				22,604	20,252	-10
June	17,058				June 1-June 28						
July	12,695				June 29-Aug. 2						
August	6,007				Aug. 3-Aug. 31						

[1] The nine States are: California, Missouri, Ohio, Virginia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Texas and North Carolina. [2] Weeks of 1971-75 and corresponding weeks of 1973-74.

1974-76

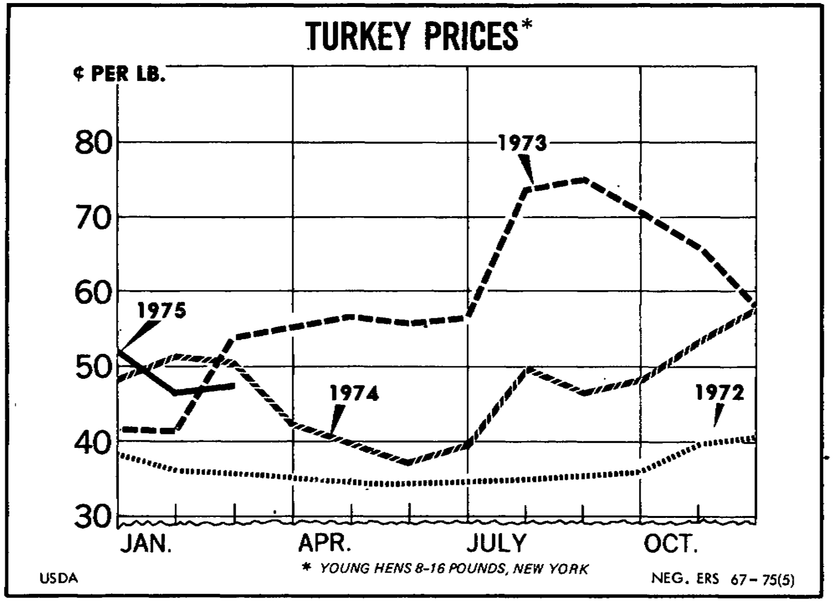
Table 9—Turkeys: Monthly hatchings by breed type, advanced to indicate prospective month of marketing, 48 States, ~~1973-75~~

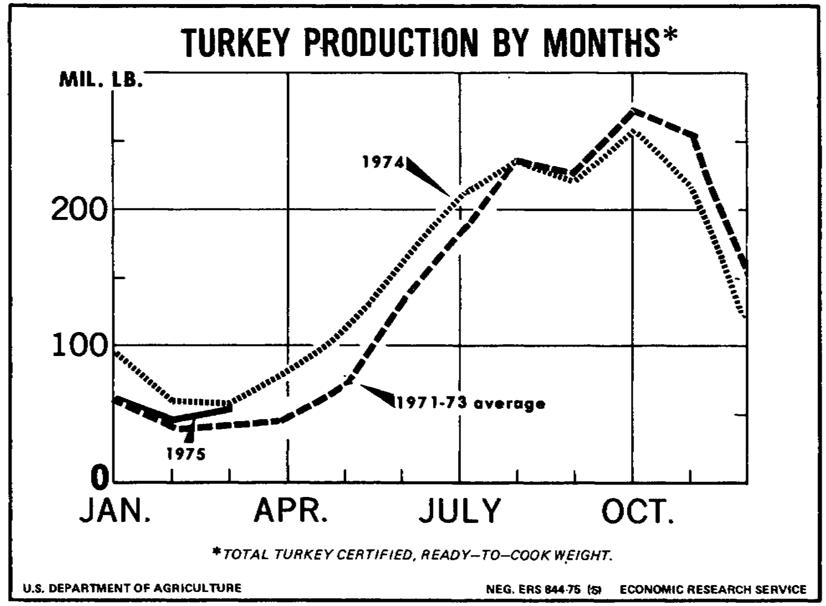
Month of marketing	Light breed advanced 4 months			Heavy breeds: Hens advanced 5 months			Heavy breeds: Toms advanced 6 months			All turkey: Sum of preceding columns*		
	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975
	Million	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*
January	1.2	1.2	0.5	2.5	2.9	2.0	5.5	6.1	5.9	9.2	10.2	9.1
February	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	2.5	2.9	2.6	4.8	5.6	5.1
March	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.3	3.9	4.3	4.1
April	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.5	4.3	4.9	4.6
May	1.4	1.3	1.2	2.5	3.3	2.6	1.5	1.9	1.8	5.5	6.5	5.7
June	1.1	1.2	1.4	4.1	4.8	3.7	2.5	3.3	2.6	7.8	9.2	7.8
July	1.5	1.6	1.5	6.0	6.4	5.4	4.1	4.8	3.7	11.6	12.7	10.6
August	1.3	1.5	1.6	8.4	9.0	7.4	6.0	6.4	5.4	15.7	16.8	14.4
September	1.1	1.4		9.7	9.6	8.6	8.4	9.0	7.4	19.2	19.9	
October	1.5	1.4		10.3	9.3		9.7	9.6	8.6	21.5	20.3	
November	1.7	1.1		9.0	7.9		10.3	9.3		20.9	18.3	
December	1.5	0.8		6.1	5.9		9.0	7.9		16.5	14.6	

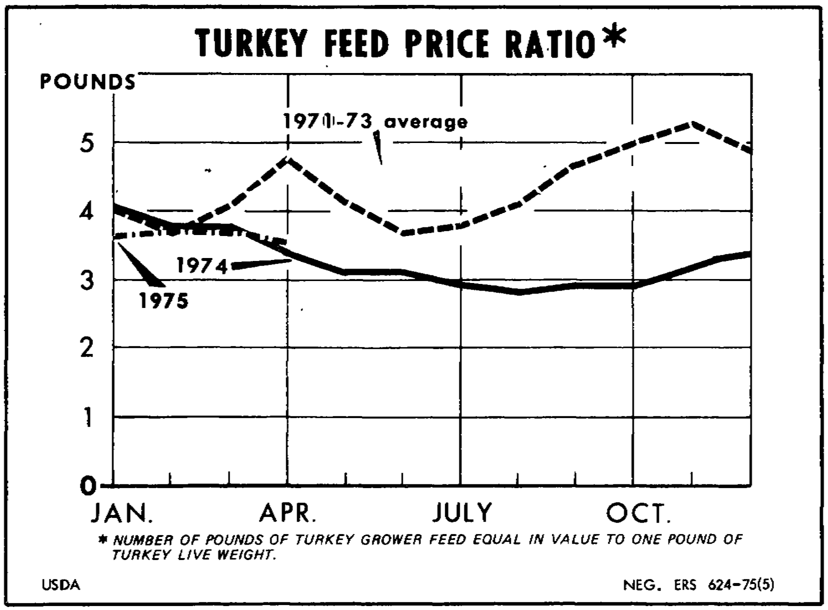
*Detail may not add exactly to totals due to rounding.

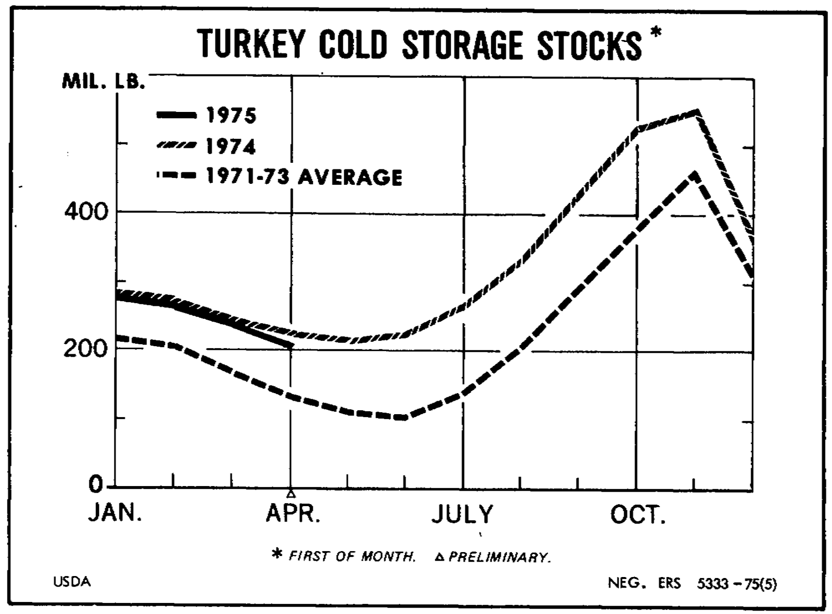
3.0 25% 20.1 18.3 -9%

16.1 15.2 −6% −23%


TURKEY PRICES*
¢ PER LB.
80
70
60
50
40
30
1973
1975
1974
1972
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
USDA
* YOUNG HENS 8-16 POUNDS, NEW YORK
NEG. ERS 67-75(5)


TURKEY PRODUCTION BY MONTHS*
MIL. LB.
200
100
0
1974
1971-73 average
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*TOTAL TURKEY CERTIFIED, READY-TO-COOK WEIGHT.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 844-75 (5)
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE


TURKEY FEED PRICE RATIO*
POUNDS
5
4
3
2
1
0
1971-73 average
1974
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* NUMBER OF POUNDS OF TURKEY GROWER FEED EQUAL IN VALUE TO ONE POUND OF TURKEY LIVE WEIGHT.
USDA
NEG. ERS 624-75(5)


TURKEY COLD STORAGE STOCKS*
MIL. LB.
1975
1974
1971-73 AVERAGE
400
200
0
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* FIRST OF MONTH. △ PRELIMINARY.
USDA
NEG. ERS 5333-75(5)

relatively large beef supplies contributed to lower turkey prices. The New York wholesale price for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys dropped from the 55 cents a pound level in early January to 46 cents in mid-February. Since then prices have trended slowly upward and averaged nearly 52 cents a pound for the 3 weeks ending May 16. This was about 12 cents a pound above the relatively low prices of a year earlier.

Turkey prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		New York wholesale			
			Young hens 8-16 pounds		Young toms 14-20 pounds	
	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1975~~ 1976
	Cents per pound					
I	33.2	31.0	51.5	48.6	47.7	46.3
II	25.1		39.8		37.4	
III	25.5		45.4		40.9	
IV	29.5		53.3		49.7	
Annual	28.3		47.2		43.9	

Turkey prices probably will remain strong in coming months and increase seasonally during the main marketing season (September-December). Turkey meat supplies will be down from 1974 and pork supplies will be sharply lower. This should result in turkey prices during October-December at least matching last year's price of 53 cents a pound in the fourth quarter.

GROSS INCOME DOWN IN 1974

Total gross income for poultry and eggs at the producer level dropped in 1974 as a result of reduced egg and turkey production and lower average prices for broilers and turkeys. Total sales of eggs, chicken (including broilers), and turkeys totaled $6.3 billion, down about $528 million from the record high 1973 sales but $2.1 billion above 1972 (table 10). The largest percentage decline was in turkeys as a result of both a small decrease in the number raised and sharply lower prices.

Gross income from eggs accounted for nearly 47 percent of the total, broilers 39 percent, turkeys 11 percent, and other chicken and poultry 4 percent. Egg's share increased from 43 percent in 1973 while broilers and turkeys share declined from 40 and 14 percent, respectively.

Eggs

Egg sales in the 1974 marketing year (December-November) totaled 182 million cases, about 1 percent fewer than in 1973. Prices received by producers for all eggs sold (including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail) averaged 53.3 cents a dozen in 1974, compared with 52.5 cents in 1973. The higher prices more than offset the small decline in egg sales and resulted in a small gain in gross income for eggs in 1974. The value of the eggs consumed on farms where produced totaled $24.6 million, down from $26.3 million in 1973. Home consumption plus sales brought the total value of 1974 egg production to $2,935 million. This compare with $2,912 million in 1973 (table 11).

Table 10—Gross farm income from poultry and eggs, ~~1960-74~~[1,2] 1965-75[1,2]

Year	Eggs: Sales	Eggs: Consumption on farms	Broilers	Turkeys	Nonbroiler chicken: Sales	Nonbroiler chicken: Consumption on farms	Other poultry[3]	Total: Sales	Total: Consumption on farms	Total: Gross income
	Million dollars	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*
1960	1,731	111	1,014	371	105	35	56	3,277	146	3,423
1961	1,750	98	947	356	91	27	60	3,204	125	3,329
1962	1,703	84	1,049	352	93	24	60	3,257	108	3,365
1963	1,747	77	1,063	377	94	20	62	3,340	97	3,437
1964	1,770	67	1,070	383	86	16	66	3,375	83	3,458
1965	1,785	56	1,217	421	86	13	69	3,578	69	3,647
1966	2,106	51	1,371	486	100	11	77	4,140	62	4,202
1967	1,765	39	1,223	460	91	8	85	3,624	47	3,671
1968	1,893	38	1,326	417	90	8	74	3,800	46	3,846
1969	2,212	38	1,531	454	104	8	81	4,382	46	4,428
1970	2,192	32	1,475	499	102	6	77	4,345	38	4,383
1971	1,813	21	1,487	501	90	5	84	3,975	26	4,001
1972	1,783	17	1,623	539	101	5	103	4,149	22	4,171
1973	2,886	26	2,690	936	166	8	114	6,792	34	6,826
1974[4]	2,910	25	2,437	680	117	5	124	6,268	30	6,298

[1] Compiled from data reported by the Statistical Reporting Service and the Economic Research Service. [2] Beginning in 1970 data (except turkey) correspond to a December-November marketing year. [3] Includes turkey hatching eggs. [4] Preliminary.

1975 4

1965-75 12

Table 11—Eggs: Production, disposition and value, ~~1960-74~~[1,2]

Year	Average number layers on hand during the year	Eggs					
		Produced		Consumed on farms where produced	Sold	Price per dozen	Gross income
		Per layer on hand during year	Total				
	Millions	*Number*	*Millions*	*Millions*	*Millions*	*Cents*	*Million dollars*
1960	295	209	61,602	3,782	57,680	36.1	1,841
1961	297	210	62,423	3,364	59,509	35.6	1,848
1962	300	212	63,569	3,026	60,543	33.8	1,787
1963	298	213	63,500	2,729	60,770	34.5	1,824
1964	301	217	65,215	2,439	62,776	33.8	1,836
1965	301	218	65,560	2,056	63,504	33.7	1,841
1966	304	218	66,205	1,612	64,593	39.1	2,157
1967	314	221	69,327	1,558	67,769	31.3	1,804
1968	310	220	68,156	1,393	66,763	34.0	1,931
1969	307	220	67,546	1,172	66,374	40.0	2,250
1970	314	218	68,282	1,004	67,277	39.1	2,224
1971	315	223	70,082	805	69,276	31.4	1,833
1972	307	227	69,879	682	69,197	30.9	1,800
1973	293	227	66,579	624	65,955	52.5	2,912
1974	286	231	66,045	572	65,473	53.3	2,935

[1] Data cover both farm and commercial operations. [2] 1970-74 are for December 1 previous year-November 30 following year. [3] Preliminary.

1975[3]

Chickens

The equivalent liveweight value of the 1974 marketing year broiler production totaled $2,437 million. This was down about a tenth from 1973, a result of lower prices. The number of broilers produced was down slightly but a small increase in average marketing weights resulted in a slight gain in the number of pounds produced. There were 11.3 billion pounds liveweight of broilers produced in 1974, compared with 11.2 billion in 1973. The equivalent liveweight price at 21.5 cents a pound was 2.5 cents below the previous year.

In addition, sales of chicken other than commercial broilers totaled $117 million, down $49 million from 1973. About 9 percent more pounds of chicken was sold but this was more than offset by a decline in the equivalent liveweight price from 15.1 cents a pound in 1973 to 9.7 cents in 1974. The value of chicken consumed on farms where produced was about $5 million in 1974. Thus, the gross value of other chicken produced in 1974 totaled $123 million.

Turkeys

Gross income from turkeys in 1974 totaled $680 million, a sharp drop from the $936 million gross income in 1973 (table 12). Total pounds of turkey produced in 1974 dropped about 1 percent to 2,426 million pounds. Both the number of turkeys raised and the average liveweight were slightly below the previous year. But most of the decline in gross income from turkeys resulted from turkey prices dropping from 38.2 cents a pound in 1973 to 28 cents in 1974.

FEWER BUT LARGER HATCHERIES

The number of commercial chicken and turkey hatcheries continued the downward trend of the past decade during 1974. Also, the total egg setting capacity for both chickens and turkeys has declined (table 13). Although total capacity was down on January 1, 1975, more chicks were hatched in 1974 despite a sharp cutback in the last half of the year. During the second half of 1974, egg settings of both chickens and turkeys were curtailed sharply because of continued high production costs and negative profits during much of the period.

Chicken Hatcheries—Number and Capacities

On January 1, 1975, there were nearly 800 commercial chicken hatcheries in the United States, down from nearly 1,000 at the time of the last survey on January 1, 1973, and 2,365 a decade earlier. Total egg setting capacity also declined during the period. On January 1, 1975, hatcheries had a total capacity of around 416 million eggs, 20 million less than in 1973 and about 55 million less than in 1965. However, the average capacity per hatchery increased about 80,000 to 522,000 eggs. Of the 797 hatcheries on January 1, 1975, the 428 with capacities of 200,000

Table 12—Turkeys: Production and gross income, 1973-74

State	Number raised[1]				Pounds produced[2]		Price per pound[5]		Gross income	
	Heavy breed		Light breed							
	~~1973~~ 74	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1973~~ 1974	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1973~~ 1974	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1973~~ 1974	~~1974~~ 1975	~~1973~~ 1974	~~1974~~ 1975
	1,000 head	*1,000 head*	*1,000 head*	*1,000 head*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Maine	5	5	2	2	129	137	64.0	55.0	83	75
New Hampshire	20	24	5	4	463	560	64.0	60.0	296	336
Vermont	14	12	0	0	265	264	59.0	60.0	156	158
Massachusetts	144	139	29	33	3,287	3,268	62.0	57.0	2,038	1,863
Rhode Island	10	11	0	0	188	242	62.0	56.0	117	136
Connecticut	67	48	2	3	1,373	1,097	62.0	56.0	851	614
New York	164	(3)	20	(3)	3,496	3,287	43.0	35.0	1,503	1,150
New Jersey	70	72	5	12	1,815	1,512	54.0	50.0	980	756
Pennsylvania	2,336	2,406	496	545	53,808	56,069	36.0	33.5	19,371	18,783
Ohio	2,646	2,725	540	734	59,260	66,067	44.4	27.8	26,311	18,367
Indiana	4,796	5,510	644	902	94,656	107,722	36.0	26.2	34,076	28,223
Illinois	591	520	2	0	12,216	10,452	43.0	34.9	5,253	3,648
Michigan	1,088	968	0	3	26,112	22,333	39.0	28.2	10,184	6,298
Wisconsin	4,209	4,597	20	25	81,620	91,053	36.0	28.5	29,383	25,950
Minnesota	15,936	16,200	7,387	5,734	387,162	364,104	41.0	26.4	158,736	96,123
Iowa	7,430	6,661	76	73	150,120	134,680	41.0	26.5	61,549	35,690
Missouri[3]					197,664	175,695	31.0	26.4	61,276	46,383
North Dakota	1,040	735	178	15	22,533	13,200	40.0	30.0	9,013	3,960
South Dakota	586	588	570	307	22,080	18,527	42.0	29.5	9,274	5,465
Nebraska	841	557	17	0	18,876	11,363	42.0	27.0	7,928	3,068
Kansas	200	203	1	22	3,779	4,950	43.0	28.0	1,625	1,386
Delaware	210	111	8	8	4,382	2,344	35.4	32.0	1,551	750
Maryland	44	31	1	0	783	611	35.6	32.0	279	196
Virginia	4,199	5,016	1,011	994	85,965	99,766	37.0	27.5	31,807	27,436
West Virginia	415	605	965	1,025	21,390	27,058	29.8	29.8	6,374	8,063
North Carolina	11,478	(3)	1,600	(3)	226,249	260,026	38.1	28.6	86,201	74,367
South Carolina	2,200	2,155	100	123	58,650	57,633	29.5	29.5	17,302	17,002
Georgia	1,900	1,712	36	0	36,784	32,528	32.0	27.0	11,771	8,783
Kentucky	5	5	1	9	120	280	38.0	31.0	46	87
Tennessee	12	5	5	5	323	190	34.0	27.0	110	51
Alabama	5	10	24	8	479	308	31.2	25.0	149	77
Mississippi	0	0	0	0		0		0		0
Arkansas[3]					147,204	148,089	33.5	26.7	49,313	39,540
Louisiana	2	2	0	0	40	40	35.0	31.0	14	
Oklahoma[3]					32,193	28,800	35.0	31.0	11,268	8,928
Texas	8,791	8,500	90	280	177,620	175,600	39.7	31.1	70,515	54,612
Colorado	3,547	(3)	6	(3)	73,192	73,871	43.0	26.0	31,473	19,206
Utah	4,061	3,438	0	33	91,373	77,056	43.0	29.0	39,290	22,346
Nevada										
Washington	450	416	1	0	8,885	8,611	50.0	35.0	4,443	3,014
Oregon[3]					20,833	22,292	44.5	32.3	9,271	7,200
California	15,898	15,798	1,650	2,090	322,883	321,984	38.4	27.6	123,987	88,868
Other States[4]	29	59	14	3	803	2,243	44.5	36.9	358	827
United States	115,809	116,087	16,368	15,285	2,451,053	2,425,912	38.2	28.0	935,525	679,797

[1] 1973 based on turkeys hatched September 1, 1972 to August 31, 1973; 1974 based on tuekeys hatched September 1, 1973 to August 31, 1974. Both years exclude young tuekeys lost. [2] Includes home consumption which is less than 1 percent of total production. [3] Breakdown by breeds combined to avoid disclosing individual operations. [4] Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico and Wyoming combined to avoid disclosing individual operations. [5] Liveweight equivalent price. [6] Gross income received by the Agricultural Sector for the production of turkeys.

Table 13—Hatcheries: Number, capacity and utilization, available data, 1953-75[1]

Year	Chicken hatcheries[1]			Chicks hatched in year ending June 30		Turkey hatcheries			Poults hatched in year ending June 30	
	Number	Egg capacity on January 1		Total	Per unit of hatchery capacity	Number	Egg capacity on January 1		Total	Per unit of hatchery capacity
		Total	Per hatchery				Total	Per hatchery		
		Thousands	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Number*		*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Number*
1953	6,890	562,237	81.6	1,736,134	3.09	1,343	54,739	40.8	...	...
1957	5,045	528,563	104.8	2,040,936	3.86	1,007	52,751	52.4	89,218	1.69
1959	4,257	530,057	124.5	2,444,441	4.61	682	45,544	66.8	91,314	2.00
1961	3,525	509,086	144.4	2,599,137	5.11	621	49,730	80.1	117,331	2.36
1963	2,911	494,446	169.9	2,723,585	5.51	551	54,237	98.4	101,791	1.88
1965	2,365	471,318	199.3	2,865,113	6.08	453	51,085	112.8	112,144	2.20
1967	1,932	468,148	242.3	3,341,540	7.14	407	56,983	140.0	137,849	2.42
1969	1,486	453,669	305.3	3,409,928	7.52	303	53,763	177.4	115,328	2.15
1971	1,209	445,336	368.4	3,665,456	8.23	252	49,263	195.5	127,263	2.58
1973	989	436,286	441.1	3,705,743	8.49	203	44,649	219.9	140,464	3.15
1975	797	416,040	522.0	[2]3,536,759	8.50	179	41,436	231.5	[2]136,049	3.28

[1] Includes Hawaii beginning in 1961. [2] For year ending February 28.

eggs and over accounted for about 90 percent of the total egg capacity for all chicken hatcheries. Hatcheries with capacities of 60,000 to 199,000 eggs have increased their size while capacities of both the smaller and larger hatcheries declined between January 1, 1973, and January 1, 1975.

The number of chick hatcheries declined in all regions during the past 2 years with the largest percentage drops in the East North Central and the West where they fell 31 and 22 percent, respectively. Total egg capacity increased slightly in the North Atlantic and the West while it declined in all other regions.

The Nation's chick hatcheries in 1974 produced 3.6 billion chicks, down about 1 percent from 1973's output. Of the chicks hatched in 1974, broiler chicks accounted for about 87 percent of the total. The leading States in broiler chick hatchings were Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and North Carolina. These 5 States produced 62 percent of the broiler chicks in 1974. The 5 leading States in egg-type chicks hatched in 1974 were California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, and Arkansas. These States accounted for 37 percent of the egg type chicks hatched in 1974.

Turkey Hatcheries—Number and Size

There were a total of 179 turkey hatcheries on January 1, 1975, compared with 203 on Janaury 1, 1973 and 453 in 1965. Total egg setting capacity fell a little more than 3 million eggs while the average capacity gained nearly 12,000 eggs to 231,500 eggs per hatchery. A decade earlier the total capacity of turkey hatcheries was 51.1 million eggs with an average of 112,800 eggs per hatchery. On January 1, 1975, about 40 percent of the hatcheries had capacities of 200,000 or more eggs and accounted for nearly 77 percent of the total turkey egg hatching capacity. Between 1973 and 1975 the number of both the smaller and larger hatcheries declined while those with a capacity of 60,000 to 199,999 remained the same.

In 1974, commercial turkey hatcheries produced 140 million turkey poults, down about 5 million from the record large 1973 crop. The leading States in poult production were Minnesota, California, North Carolina, Missouri, and Texas. The 5 States accounted for 58 percent of turkey poults produced in 1974.

POULTRY USE UP, EGGS DOWN IN 1974

The consumption of poultry increased in 1974 while **consumption of all eggs declined (tables 14 and 15).** The revised per capita consumption estimates for poultry are discussed in the special article on supply and utilization revisions in this report.

Per capita consumption totaled 287 eggs in all forms in 1974, down from 294 in 1973 and 23 eggs below 1971 levels. Shell egg use fell 9 eggs per person to 253 but the use of processed eggs increased 2 eggs to 34.

Consumption of chicken meat in 1974 was up about 1 percent to 41.1 pounds per person. Use of broilers (young chicken) was up a tenth of a pound to 37.5 pounds. Per capita use was up 1 pound during the first 9 months of 1974. However, the cutback in production during later 1974 caused consumption for the fourth quarter to fall 9/10 of a pound. Consumption of other

1965-75

Table 14—Per capita consumption of eggs by quarters, ~~1960-74~~

Item and year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total shell	Processed[1]	Total
	Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*
1960	79.9	74.6	73.4	77.8	306	28	334
1961	75.9	72.2	72.7	77.3	298	30	328
1962	76.5	72.1	71.4	76.4	296	30	326
1963	73.9	70.7	70.9	74.6	290	27	317
1964	74.0	69.4	70.4	73.5	287	31	318
1965	72.0	70.5	70.0	72.6	285	29	314
1966	71.0	68.6	69.4	73.4	282	30	313
1967	71.6	69.1	70.6	74.1	285	35	320
1968	73.5	69.8	69.2	71.2	284	32	316
1969	71.0	68.8	68.8	70.2	279	31	310
1970	69.4	67.6	68.4	71.6	277	34	311
1971	70.2	68.9	67.9	70.4	277	37	314
1972	71.0	66.7	66.4	67.5	272	35	307
1973	67.0	65.7	63.3	66.0	262	32	294
1974	64.8	62.4	61.9	63.5	253	34	287

[1] Shell egg equivalent.

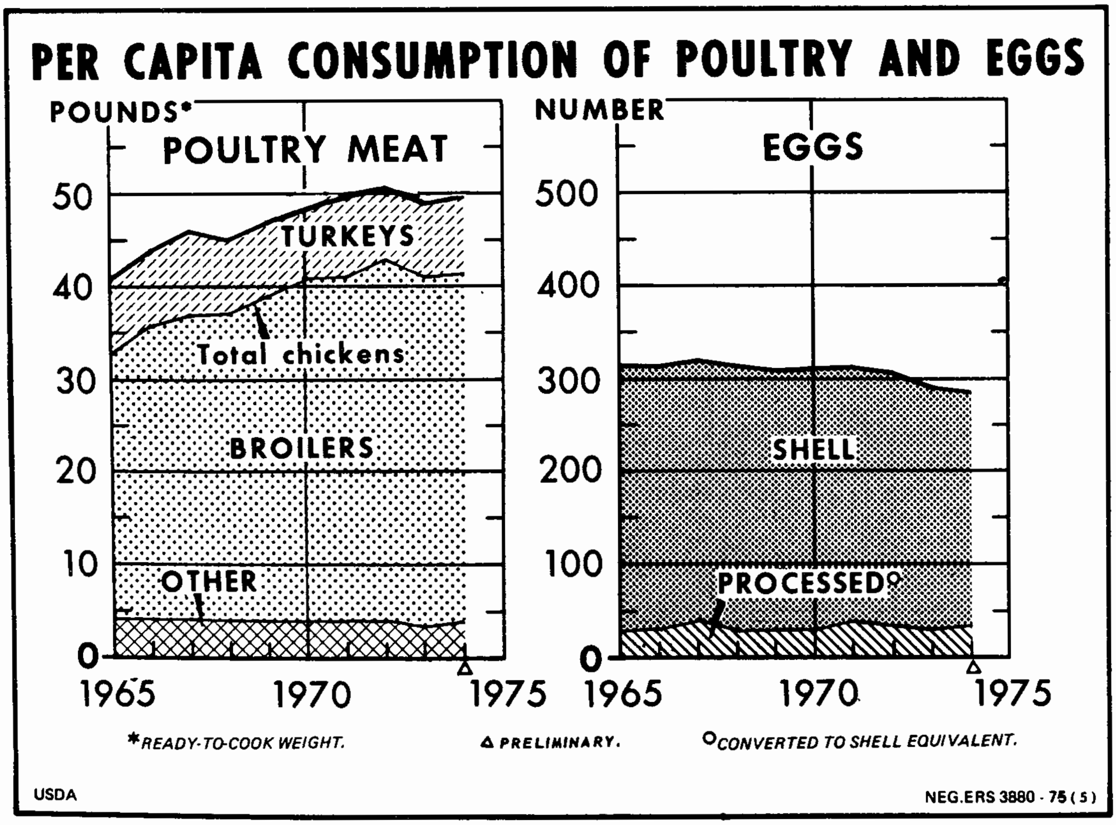


Table 15—Per capita consumption of young chicken and turkeys, 1965-74

Item and year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total	Other chicken	
						Farm	Total
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Young chicken:							
1965	6.7	7.7	8.1	7.1	29.6	3.8	33.4
1966	7.2	8.2	8.7	7.9	32.0	3.6	35.6
1967	7.5	8.6	8.6	7.7	32.4	4.1	36.5
1968	7.6	8.4	8.8	8.0	32.8	3.9	36.7
1969	7.9	9.0	9.2	8.7	34.8	3.6	38.4
1970	8.7	9.8	9.7	8.7	36.9	3.6	40.5
1971	8.7	9.3	9.7	9.0	36.7	3.7	40.4
1972	9.2	10.1	9.9	9.2	38.4	3.6	42.0
1973	8.9	9.6	9.5	9.4	37.4	3.3	40.7
1974	9.3	10.0	9.7	8.5	37.5	3.6	41.1
1975							
							Total chicken and turkey
Turkeys:							
1965	0.7	0.9	1.8	4.1	7.5		40.9
1966	0.7	1.0	2.0	4.1	7.8		43.4
1967	0.8	1.1	2.2	4.5	8.6		45.1
1968	0.9	1.1	1.9	4.0	7.9		44.6
1969	1.0	1.2	2.0	4.1	8.3		46.7
1970	0.9	0.9	2.1	4.1	8.0		48.8
1971	1.0	1.2	2.1	4.1	8.4		49.9
1972	1.1	1.3	2.2	4.4	9.0		51.0
1973	1.2	1.3	2.1	3.9	8.5		49.2
1974	1.2	1.6	1.9	4.1	8.8		49.9

1975

Table 16—Per capita consumption of red meat by quarters, 1965-74

Item and year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total[1]
	Pounds	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*
Beef and Veal:					
1965	25.9	25.2	26.7	26.9	104.7
1966	26.6	26.7	28.1	27.4	108.8
1967	27.4	27.7	27.8	27.4	110.3
1968	28.0	27.7	29.2	28.4	113.3
1969	28.1	27.5	29.4	29.1	114.1
1970	29.1	28.6	29.7	29.2	116.6
1971	28.4	28.7	30.0	28.6	115.7
1972	28.7	29.4	29.8	30.3	118.2
1973	28.5	26.6	27.2	29.1	111.4
1974	28.8	29.2	30.0	31.1	119.1
Pork excluding Lard:					
1965	15.8	14.5	13.8	14.6	58.7
1966	13.8	13.9	13.9	16.5	58.1
1967	16.5	15.0	15.4	17.2	64.1
1968	16.6	15.8	15.9	17.9	66.2
1969	17.0	16.0	15.5	16.5	65.0
1970	15.4	15.6	16.3	19.1	66.4
1971	18.3	17.8	18.0	18.9	73.0
1972	17.9	16.5	15.8	17.2	67.4
1973	16.0	15.4	14.0	16.2	61.6
1974	16.7	17.2	16.1	16.6	66.6
Lamb and Mutton:					
1965	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	3.7
1966	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9	4.0
1967	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9	3.9
1968	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	3.7
1969	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	3.4
1970	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	3.3
1971	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	3.1
1972	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	3.3
1973	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.7
1974	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	2.3
All red Meat:					
1965	42.6	40.6	41.5	42.4	167.1
1966	41.4	41.7	43.0	44.8	170.9
1967	45.0	43.6	44.2	45.5	178.3
1968	45.6	44.4	46.0	47.2	183.2
1969	46.0	44.3	45.8	46.4	182.5
1970	45.4	45.1	46.8	49.0	186.3
1971	47.5	47.3	48.8	48.2	191.8
1972	47.4	47.9	46.6	48.2	188.9
1973	45.2	42.7	41.9	45.9	175.7
1974	46.1	47.0	46.7	48.2	188.0

[1] Detail may not add exactly to total due to rounding.

chicken increased 9 percent to 3.6 pounds per person. The increased consumption of other chicken resulted from increased culling of old layers in 1974.

Turkey production in 1974 was down about 1 percent from a year earlier. However, per capita use increased about 3/10 of a pound to 8.8 pounds. This was still below the record 9.0 pounds per person in 1972. An increase in consumption from year-earlier levels while production declined may seem inconsistent. However, in 1973 there were 73 million more pounds of turkey meat in storage at the end of the year than the beginning of the year. This increase in cold storage stocks was the equivalent of around 4/10 of a pound per person. In 1974 stocks declined slightly.

Consumption of red meats in 1974 increased more than poultry (table 16). Per capita use of beef and veal rose 7.7 pounds to 119.1 while pork jumped 5 pounds to 66.6 pounds. Lamb and mutton continued to slide and at 2.3 pounds per person was down 0.4 of a pound. Thus, total red meat consumption last year increased 12.3 pounds to 188.0 pounds per capita.

Table 17—Chicken and Turkey: Production, disposition and price, ~~1960-74~~

Year	Broilers[1]			Nonbroiler chicken[1]					Turkey		
	Produced[2]		Price per pound	Sales		Consumed on farms		Price per pound	Sales[2]		Price per pound
	Number	Pounds		Number	Pounds	Number	Pounds		Number	Pounds	
	Million	*Million*	*Cents*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Cents*	*Million*	*Million*	*Cents*
1960	1,795	6,017	16.9	182	866	83	298	12.2	83	1,463	25.4
1961	1,991	6,831	13.9	189	902	75	268	10.1	108	1,882	18.9
1962	2,023	6,907	15.2	192	920	66	239	10.2	92	1,627	21.6
1963	2,102	7,276	14.6	191	908	57	205	10.0	94	1,694	22.3
1964	2,161	7,521	14.2	195	937	49	179	9.2	101	1,824	21.0
1965	2,334	8,111	15.0	202	969	40	151	8.9	105	1,901	22.2
1966	2,571	8,989	15.3	212	1,032	33	123	9.7	115	2,107	23.1
1967	2,592	9,183	13.3	239	1,157	29	108	7.9	127	2,354	19.6
1968	2,620	9,326	14.2	225	1,090	26	96	8.2	107	2,028	20.5
1969	2,789	10,048	15.2	219	1,063	22	84	9.7	106	2,027	22.4
1970	2,987	10,819	13.6	233	1,118	19	74	9.1	116	2,203	22.6
1971	2,945	10,818	13.7	249	1,172	18	68	7.7	120	2,264	22.1
1972	3,075	11,480	14.1	236	1,132	16	62	9.0	129	2,432	22.2
1973	3,009	11,220	24.0	229	1,104	15	57	15.0	132	2,451	38.2
1974[3]	2,993	11,322	21.5	252	1,206	15	57	9.7	131	2,426	28.0

[1] Beginning 1970 broiler and nonbroiler data reported as December-November marketing year. [2] Includes home consumption which is less than 1 percent of total production. [3] Preliminary.

Table 18—Chicken and turkey: Total volume slaughtered and volume processed in Federally inspected plants, 1967-74[1]

Item	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973[4]	1974[4]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Chicken:								
Total slaughter:[2]	7,379	7,422	7,907	8,463	8,503	8,889	8,750	8,919
Young	6,552	6,653	7,175	7,687	7,724	8,147	8,025	8,127
Mature	827	769	732	776	779	742	725	792
Federally inspected slaughter certified as wholesome								
Total:	6,393	6,389	6,939	7,677	7,805	8,341	8,308	8,452
Young	5,876	5,939	6,484	7,161	7,281	7,823	7,786	7,917
Mature	517	450	455	516	524	518	521	535
Further processed[3]								
Total:	566	6[illegible]2	650	730	811	903	967	919
Young	220	25[illegible]	272	337	383	437	485	496
Mature	347	378	377	392	428	466	481	423
Cut-up								
Total:	1,297	1,[illegible]97	1,637	1,851	2,062	2,322	2,449	2,473
Young	1,289	1,390	1,628	1,843	2,057	2,317	2,443	2,466
Mature	7	6	9	9	5	6	5	7
Turkeys:								
Total slaughter:[2]	1,870	1,611	1,606	1,732	1,779	1,915	1,933	1,912
Federally inspected slaughter certified as wholesome								
Total:	1,665	1,456	1,433	1,567	1,642	1,797	1,788	1,836
Fryer-roasters	106	79	70	82	87	90	91	100
Young	1,528	1,354	1,344	1,468	1,536	1,690	1,677	1,716
Old	31	23	19	16	18	16	19	20
Further processed: Total[3] .	318	383	494	479	562	639	791	509
Cut-up: Total	115	135	160	191	198	300	263	295

[1] Details may not add to totals because of rounding. [2] Includes non-Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Processed beyond the cut-up stage. [4] Preliminary.

1965-75

Table 19—Eggs: Supply and utilization, ~~1960-74~~[1]

Year	Supply: Production	Supply: Imports	Supply: Beginning stocks[2]	Supply: Total supply	Utilization: Ending stocks	Utilization: Exports and shipments	Domestic disappearance: Eggs used for hatching	Domestic disappearance: Military	Civilian: Total	Civilian: Per capita
	Mil. doz.	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Number*
1960	5,339	3	65	5,407	51	50	282	63	4,961	334
1961	5,358	3	51	5,412	48	47	302	64	4,951	328
1962	5,403	2	48	5,453	50	37	303	70	4,993	326
1963	5,345	1	50	5,396	44	43	304	67	4,938	318
1964	5,435	2	44	5,481	46	32	312	76	5,015	318
1965	5,463	1	46	5,510	41	39	333	94	5,003	314
1966	5,517	15	41	5,573	28	43	365	102	5,035	313
1967	5,777	4	28	5,809	71	55	361	110	5,212	320
1968	5,680	6	71	5,757	56	46	364	108	5,183	316
1969	5,629	9	56	5,694	34	41	395	83	5,141	310
1970	5,711	28	34	5,773	39	46	400	66	5,222	311
1971	5,846	10	39	5,895	58	50	391	52	5,344	314
1972	5,795	2	58	5,855	53	62	395	54	5,291	308
1973	5,547	14	53	5,614	34	49	396	36	5,099	294
1974[4]	5,489	13	34	5,536	43	57	370	54	5,012	287

[1] Calendar years. [2] Storage stocks include shell eggs and the approximate shell-egg equivalent of frozen eggs. [3] Includes USDA donations to military and military feedings of civilians in occupied territories. [4] Preliminary.

Table 20—Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs: Feed[2]	Production costs all eggs: Total[2]	Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs: Total costs[2 3]	Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs: 14 metro areas price[2]	Net returns[2 3 5]
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*
1972					
I	16.2	27.8	42.2	38.2	-4.0
II	17.0	28.6	42.9	35.5	-7.4
III	17.5	29.1	43.4	41.4	-2.1
IV	18.6	30.2	44.6	47.1	2.5
1973					
I	23.7	36.2	52.6	56.7	4.1
II	27.0	39.5	55.9	56.4	0.5
III	37.6	50.1	66.5	73.0	6.5
IV	28.7	41.2	57.6	71.3	13.7
1974					
I	31.2	45.6	63.6	72.3	8.6
II	27.5	41.9	59.9	52.1	-7.8
III	31.4	45.8	63.8	59.9	-3.9
IV	34.1	48.5	66.6	67.8	1.2
1975[4]					
I	30.8	45.2	63.2	65.0	1.8

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly egg production less estimated eggs used for hatching. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for Grade A large eggs. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 21—Estimated costs and returns for broilers[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	9-city weighted average price[2]	
	Cents per pound	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
1972					
I	8.3	13.6	27.2	27.8	0.6
II	8.8	14.2	28.0	27.2	-0.7
III	9.2	14.6	28.5	29.6	1.1
IV	9.7	15.0	29.2	28.0	-1.2
1973					
I	12.2	18.0	34.0	37.0	3.0
II	14.2	20.1	36.9	42.2	5.4
III	21.2	27.0	46.5	52.8	6.3
IV	17.6	23.4	41.5	37.2	-4.3
1974					
I	16.1	22.3	40.5	39.3	-1.2
II	15.2	21.3	39.2	35.3	-3.9
III	14.5	20.7	38.3	37.6	-0.7
IV	17.7	23.8	42.6	40.4	-2.3
1975[4]					
I	16.4	22.6	40.9	41.2	0.3

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly broiler slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for ready-to-cook broilers. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 22—Estimated costs and returns for turkeys[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	New York young hen price[2]	
	Cents per pound	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
1972					
I	11.9	18.9	32.2	36.9	4.7
II	12.9	19.9	33.3	34.8	1.4
III	13.5	20.5	34.1	35.3	1.2
IV	14.1	21.1	34.9	38.5	3.7
1973					
I	15.4	22.9	37.8	45.1	7.3
II	19.8	27.3	43.3	55.9	12.6
III	27.0	34.5	52.3	69.2	16.9
IV	28.2	35.7	53.8	67.2	13.4
1974					
I	22.1	30.3	48.4	49.9	1.6
II	23.6	31.8	50.2	39.2	-11.0
III	19.9	28.1	45.6	45.6	-0.1
IV	24.8	33.0	51.7	52.1	0.4
1975[4]					
I	25.6	33.8	52.8	48.8	-3.9

[1] Based on secondary data and incomplete data from survey. Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly turkey slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for heavy young turkey hens. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 23—Prices and price spreads for eggs and frying chickens, for selected cities and average for 10 cities

Item	Grade A large eggs			U.S. grade A fryers		
	January 1975	February 1975	March 1975	January 1975	February 1975	March 1975
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
10-city Average prices						
Farm price	56.0	54.8	46.9	32.5	31.9	31.8
Price to retailer	71.6	70.8	61.9	47.9	45.6	44.4
Retail price	84.7	84.2	75.9	59.9	59.6	59.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	28.7	29.4	29.0	27.4	27.7	27.7
Farm to retailer	15.6	16.0	15.0	15.4	13.7	12.6
Retail	13.1	13.4	14.0	12.0	14.0	15.1
New York prices						
Farm price	54.3	53.1	43.3	35.9	32.8	32.3
Price to retailer	66.7	69.8	59.8	47.0	45.0	43.0
Retail price	93.7	92.6	81.2	64.6	65.2	63.5
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	39.4	39.5	37.8	28.7	32.4	31.2
Farm to retailer	12.4	16.7	16.4	11.1	12.2	10.7
Retail	27.0	22.8	21.4	17.6	20.2	20.5
Boston prices						
Farm price	54.4	54.3	50.5	37.7	33.1	32.6
Price to retailer	69.5	74.0	65.0	46.0	43.0	43.5
Retail price	91.7	90.6	84.6	63.0	66.8	61.8
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	37.3	36.3	34.1	25.3	33.7	29.2
Farm to retailer	15.1	19.7	14.5	8.3	9.9	10.9
Retail	22.2	16.6	19.6	17.0	23.8	18.3
Chicago prices						
Farm price	53.4	52.3	41.5	29.9	30.1	30.7
Price to retailer	70.5	67.5	56.0	48.5	44.0	43.8
Retail price	83.4	83.4	72.6	58.7	60.2	59.1
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	30.0	31.1	31.1	28.8	30.1	28.4
Farm to retailer	17.1	15.2	14.5	18.6	13.9	13.1
Retail	12.9	15.9	16.6	10.2	16.2	15.3
St. Louis prices						
Farm price	54.4	57.2	46.7	30.3	30.4	30.9
Price to retailer	73.0	69.5	59.5	47.8	47.0	44.5
Retail price	83.0	80.9	72.4	59.8	60.7	61.1
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	28.6	23.7	25.7	29.5	30.3	30.2
Farm to retailer	18.6	12.3	12.8	17.5	16.6	13.6
Retail	10.0	11.4	12.9	12.0	13.7	16.6
San Fransico prices						
Farm price				33.1	33.3	33.3
Price to retailer				54.0	52.0	50.5
Retail				61.6	60.0	59.6
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer				28.5	26.7	26.3
Farm to retailer				20.9	18.7	17.2
Retail				7.6	8.0	9.1
Atlanta prices						
Farm price	53.5	52.0	42.0	29.6	30.2	30.5
Price to retailer	73.0	68.2	57.5	40.7	40.8	41.8
Retail price	84.8	82.7	73.6	59.7	53.3	56.4
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	31.3	30.7	31.6	30.1	23.1	25.9
Farm to retailer	19.5	16.2	15.5	11.1	10.6	11.3
Retail	11.8	14.5	16.1	19.0	12.5	14.6

SUPPLY AND UTILIZATION DATA REVISED

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ABSTRACT

The supply and utilization estimates for poultry were revised back to 1960 to reflect changes in the procedure used to estimate production and changes in the foreign trade categories. Estimates for chicken were broken out into young chicken and other chicken.

KEYWORDS: Supply, utilization, young chicken, other chicken, consumption.

The supply and utilization and per capita consumption estimates for chicken and turkeys have been revised back to 1960. The major change in the supply and utilization tables is that chicken has been broken out into young chicken and other chicken. Also, slight changes have been made in the procedure used to estimate ready-to-cook production. Some changes also were made in the foreign trade categories.

In previous years only a supply and disposition table for total chicken has been published. In order to satisfy numerous requests, the supply and utilization of chicken has been divided between young chicken and other chicken (tables 1 and 2). The term "young chicken" is used instead of "broilers" because other young chickens—such as rock cornish hens and roasters—are included. The data used to arrive at the estimates for young chickens do not distinguish between broilers and other young chickens. However, broilers probably make up almost all of the young chickens. Birds included in the other chicken category are mainly old layers from the table egg laying flocks and hatchery supply flocks.

The figures on supply and utilization and per capita consumption are "estimates" because much of the data used to calculate them are not available on a

Table 1—Young chicken: Supply and utilization[1] 1945-75

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	End stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
1960	4,334	37	4,371	35	102	69	4,165	23.4
1961	4,944	35	4,979	49	159	72	4,699	25.9
1962	4,997	49	5,046	42	188	78	4,738	25.8
1963	5,269	42	5,311	44	130	78	5,059	27.1
1964	5,444	44	~~5,488~~	~~37~~	~~132~~	~~82~~	~~5,237~~	~~27.7~~
1965	5,872	37	5,909	34	122	83	5,670	29.6
1966	6,437	34	6,471	56	139	89	6,187	32.0
1967	6,552	56	6,608	56	138	93	6,321	32.4
1968	6,653	56	6,709	26	144	82	6,457	32.8
1969	7,175	26	7,201	34	159	78	6,930	34.8
1970	7,687	34	7,721	52	178	58	7,433	36.9
1971	7,724	52	7,776	40	196	56	7,484	36.7
1972	8,147	40	8,187	29	198	40	7,920	38.4
1973	8,025	29	8,054	33	193	38	7,790	37.4
1974[2]	8,127	33	8,160	37	222	32	7,869	37.5

[1] Ready-to-cook weight. [2] Preliminary.

Table 2—Other chicken: Supply and utilization[1]

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	End stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
1960	810	124	934	95	52	5	782	4.4
1961	805	95	900	111	60	7	722	4.0
1962	792	111	903	82	57	20	744	4.1
1963	753	82	835	91	58	6	680	3.7
1964	751	91	842	102	72	5	663	3.5
1965	746	102	848	74	46	11	717	3.8
1966	761	74	835	107	28	8	692	3.6
1967	827	107	934	114	18	11	791	4.1
1968	769	114	883	71	18	18	776	3.9
1969	732	71	803	76	7	10	710	3.6
1970	776	76	852	112	4	11	725	3.6
1971	779	112	891	109	5	19	758	3.7
1972	742	109	851	82	8	12	749	3.6
1973	725	82	807	114	10	9	674	3.3
1974[2]	792	114	906	138	13	12	743	3.6

[1] Ready-to-cook weight. [2] Preliminary.

Table 3—Turkey: Supply and utilization, 1960-74

Year	Supply			Total use	Utilization			
	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply		Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita consumption
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
1960	1,166	149	1,315	1,155	24	32	1,099	6.2
1961	1,495	160	1,655	1,392	28	29	1,335	7.4
1962	1,294	263	1,557	1,354	37	34	1,283	7.0
1963	1,351	203	1,554	1,337	31	40	1,266	6.8
1964	1,453	217	1,670	1,463	43	36	1,384	7.4
1965	1,515	207	1,722	1,522	58	40	1,424	7.5
1966	1,674	200	1,874	1,607	47	56	1,504	7.8
1967	1,870	267	2,137	1,770	49	53	1,668	8.6
1968	1,611	367	1,978	1,661	41	63	1,557	7.9
1969	1,606	317	1,923	1,731	40	48	1,643	8.3
1970	1,732	192	1,924	1,705	43	49	1,613	8.0
1971	1,779	219	1,998	1,775	27	41	1,707	8.4
1972	1,915	223	2,138	1,930	42	42	1,846	9.0
1973	1,933	208	2,141	1,860	54	31	1,775	8.5
1974[1]	1,912	281	2,193	1,918	43	29	1,846	8.8

[1] Preliminary.

ready-to-cook weight basis. Data are available on the amount of chicken and turkey slaughtered under federal inspection on a ready-to-cook weight basis. Although the federally inspected output is making up a larger percentage of total production each year, in previous years the nonfederally inspected output was a significant amount of total production. Also, since 1970, total production of chicken has been reported on a December-November marketing year. Thus, the total liveweight production has to be converted to a ready-to-cook equivalent for the calendar year.

Another problem arose in estimating the production of chicken other than young chicken. Data are reported for the total liveweight pounds of chicken sold and consumed on farms where produced and the amount of mature chicken slaughtered under federal inspection. However, there is a significant difference between the total mature hens slaughtered under federal inspection and total reported sales. Thus, we do not know what percentage of the pounds sold are actually consumed. In the supply and utilization table for other chicken all the pounds sold except cold storage stock changes are assumed to be consumed within the same year (table 2).

The procedure for estimating ready-to-cook weight production was changed slightly in order to include only meat that is consumed domestically or exported in our production estimates of chicken and turkey. All condemnations are excluded. The new procedure attempts to take into consideration the condemnation of nonfederally inspected output and the condemnations that occur when chicken and turkey meat is cut up and further processed. The amount of nonfederally inspected output that is condemned is not known. However, the amount condemned was estimated by using the percentage condemned under federal inspection during the same year.

The amounts of ready-to-cook chicken and turkey meat imported, exported, shipped to American territories, or purchased by the military are very hard to estimate. In some of the census classifications it is impossible to determine how much meat is present, what kind of meat (chicken, turkey or other poultry) it is, and what is its ready-to-cook equivalent. In order to minimize errors, the import and export categories in the supply and utilization tables for chicken and turkey only include readily identifiable meat. However, additional data on the exports and imports of poultry are furnished in tables 4 and 5. The data in these tables are not included in the supply and utilization tables and have not been converted to a ready-to-cook basis.

The changes in the supply and utilization resulted in small changes in the consumption estimates for chickens and turkeys. The consumption estimates for chicken other than young chicken showed the largest percentage changes from the old estimates. Nonfederally inspected slaughter makes up a larger percentage of the total production of mature chicken than it does with young chicken or turkey. Thus, when the procedure used to estimate ready-to-cook production was changed to take into consideration condemnations of nonfederal slaughter, the largest changes occurred in the estimates for chicken other than young chicken.

Table 4—Exports: Selected poultry products, 1965-74

Year	Canned poultry[1]	Poultry specialities[2]	Poultry livers[3]
	Thousand pounds	*Thousand pounds*	*Thousand pounds*
1965	19,785	1,463	2,271
1966	15,680	2,996	2,653
1967	15,370	2,031	4,815
1968	11,561	1,918	4,885
1969	5,287	2,774	5,495
1970	3,704	2,635	4,674
1971	3,432	2,643	4,417
1972	6,581	4,380	4,732
1973	2,797	6,715	5,025
1974	3,099	4,709	3,240

[1] Poultry, except soups, in airtight containers. [2] Poultry specialities and poultry products not in airtight containers, not elsewhere counted. [3] Poultry livers, fresh, chilled or frozen.

Table 5—Imports: Poultry and poultry products, 1965-74

Year	Live birds[1]	Fresh or frozen[2]		Prepared or perserved birds[4]
		Chicken[3]	Turkey	
	Thousand pounds	*Thousand pounds*	*Thousand pounds*	*Thousand pounds*
1965	197	79	0	72
1966	184	91	54	104
1967	395	95	0	157
1968	312	7	8	201
1969	665	3	28	372
1970	6,071	55	140	592
1971	3,259	290	0	650
1972	250	197	8	710
1973	5,569	251	0	575
1974	2,099	44	0	1,185

[1] Live baby chicks are not included. [2] Whole or parts. [3] Includes ducks, geese, guineas, and game birds. [4] Prepared or preserved birds not elsewhere counted.

BROILER PRODUCTION COSTS IN THE SOUTH AND NORTHEAST

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ABSTRACT: A survey of more than 200 farms and over 1,000 flocks shows many similarities in performance and some differences in individual cost items in producing broilers in the South and Northeast. From mid-1972 through 1974, costs averaged about 22.5 cents per pound of salable liveweight. Feed accounted for 72-74 percent of total costs, chicks for over 12 percent, and grower payment for 10-12 percent. Costs vary widely between months and within regions.

KEYWORDS: Broilers, production, costs, efficiency.

Costs of producing broilers have been higher and fluctuated more widely since the fall of 1972 than during the preceding 5 years. Most of the changes have been due to fluctuations in prices of major feed ingredients such as corn and soybean meal. However, other costs items have also trended upward since 1972.

Little comprehensive information has been available in recent years on total costs of producing broilers or on the relative importance of specific cost items. Table 1 summarizes some of the cost data being collected by the Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Missouri Agricultural Experiment Stations under cooperative agreements with the Economic Research Service. These data include costs from most of the major broiler producing regions of the United States. Flock records in the study covered a 2-year time period from the spring of 1972 to mid-1974.

Combined records for the two regions suggest that, with total costs of about 22.5 cents per pound of salable liveweight, feed accounted for 72-74 percent, chicks about 12.5 percent, grower payment for 10-12 percent, fuel for 1-2 percent, medication for 1-1.5 percent, litter for about 0.5 percent, and other costs for 0.5-1.0 percent. In the late 1960's when costs were under 15 cents per pound, feed accounted for over 62 percent, chicks 19 percent, grower payment 12 percent, fuel 2 percent, litter under 1 percent, medication and vaccines under 3 percent, and other costs for under 1 percent.

Direct comparison of the item-by-item costs in broiler production in table 1 in the two regions is difficult. Survey data did not cover the same proportions of flocks in each quarter of the total time period. Moreover, the nature of contract terms and the kinds and proportions of inputs furnished by contract growers and contractors vary within and between regions. While various kinds of production contracts exist in both regions, contractors in the Northeast, on the average, furnish higher proportions of the fuel and litter than those in the South. Fuel and litter allowances are often provided to growers in addition to the basic grower payment. The lower grower fixed costs in the Northeast are partially due to higher housing utilization.

Since these costs cover an extended time period, they are not representative of costs at present or in many past months. Costs of producing broilers in any area will vary from month to month, depending on feed ingredient prices, seasonality of fuel requirements for brooding, changes in measures of performance, and changes in factor prices. Using data from series on estimated U.S. costs of producing broilers (Poultry and Egg Situation November 1974 and March 1975) as a basis of comparison, costs in table 00 are about equal to these for late 1973 and early 1974. Costs in the U.S. series were 14.5 cents or under through mid-1972 and well above 25 cents by mid-1973. Recent levels are at or below 21 cents. Costs other than feed have widened from over 5 cents per pound in early 1972 to over 6 cents recently. Seasonal variation in brooding costs, while not large in cents per pound, could result from a range of 10 gallons of propane or less per 1,000 broilers in the summer to well over 60 gallons in the winter and a yearly average of 40-45 gallons.

Because of the time differences in the two area surveys, the table should not be used to conclude that

Table 1—Broiler Production Costs and Efficiency, Southern and Northeastern Regions, 1972-74[1]

Item	South[2]		Northeast[3]	
Sample characteristics:				
Farms (no.)	108		118	
Flocks sold (no.)	415		592	
Average liveweight (lbs. per bird)	3.77		3.96	
Feed conversion (lbs. feed per lb. broiler)	2.17		2.14	
Production Costs:	*Average*	*Range*[2]	*Average*	*Range*[3]
	(cents per pound, salable liveweight)			
Grower:				
Fuel	0.14	0.12-0.22	0.09[6]	0.01-0.40
Electricity	0.07	0.04-0.09	0.10	0.01-0.14
Litter	0.10	0.08-0.12	0.03	0.00-0.13
Hired labor	0.15	0.06-0.22	0.19[7]	0.11-0.28
Miscellanious	0.19[4]	0.08-0.30	0.02[8]	0.01-0.04
Total variable	0.65	---	0.43	---
Depreciation	0.43	0.39-0.60	0.43[9]	0.36-0.51
Interest	0.32	0.16-0.55	0.21	0.14-0.27
Insurance	0.08	0.04-0.10	0.08	0.04-0.15
Repairs, maintenance	0.11	0.06-0.19	0.15	0.11-0.17
Taxes	0.05	0.03-0.07	0.09	0.05-0.15
Total fixed	0.99	---	0.96	---
Total grower:	1.64	---	1.39	---
Contractor:				
Feed	16.65	16.05-17.23	16.25	15.33-16.66
Chicks	2.80	2.65-3.08	2.77	2.47-3.24
Grower payment	2.30	2.19-2.43	2.63	2.24-3.30
Medication and vaccination	0.24	0.14-0.50	0.34[10]	0.13-0.53
Fuel	0.14	0.07-0.22	0.32	0.19-0.45
Litter	0.02	0.01-0.03	0.10	0.00-0.21
Other	0.32[5]	0.23-0.43	0.11[11]	0.00-0.27
Total contractor	22.47	21.34-23.92	22.52	21.62-23.39

[1] Data collected in the South by Georgia Agr. Exp. Sta., in Northeast by Pennsylvania Agr. Exp. Sta. under cooperative agreements with Econ. Res. Ser., U.S. Department of Agriculture. Records from mid-1972 to mid-1974. [2] Includes Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi. Ranges by cost item from individual State averages. [3] Includes Pennsylvania, Maine, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia. Ranges by cost item from individual State averages. [4] Includes waste disposal, water, dues, and other costs. [5] Includes administration, field supervision, insurance, and miscellaneous. Not all cost items included. [6] Includes fuel use for manure and other waste disposal and fuel for heat. See also[7]. [7] Unadjusted for payments in kind frequently associated with manure disposal. [8] Includes sanitation, dues, and other miscellaneous costs. [9] Includes rent. [10] Includes services for sexing, debeaking. [11] Includes sanitation, electricity, dues and other miscellaneous costs. May not completely include some small items.

Northeastern costs are necessarily equal to those in the South. There is also wide variation between flocks in both regions. However, grower payments in broiler production do tend to average higher in Northeast than in the South. This is a function of the extent of competition for growers versus other economic alternatives in various areas, distances of producing areas from the major markets which influence shipping costs, and price premiums obtained for some northeastern broilers over southern birds due to heavier weights, differences in packs, and types of outlets serviced.

The relative shares of fixed and variable costs borne by growers and contractors were not determined by this survey. However, contractors would, of course, incur substantial fixed costs in operating feed mills and hatcheries as part of an integrated organization, plus smaller fixed cost increments under other operations. Although not a fixed cost in an accounting sense, most production contracts specify a minimum rate of payment to contract growers which must be met.

On the basis of the date in the table, grower fixed costs of just under 1 cent per pound would represent 60-70 percent of itemized grower costs and 35-45 percent of grower payment (which includes return to operator labor and management). Estimates made using data from the table and fixed cost percentages from other studies suggest contractor fixed costs (in an integrated organization) of over 1 cent per pound, and over 5 percent of total contractor costs. If a minimum grower payment were added to the preceding fixed costs, the resulting figure of over 3 cents per pound would range from 14 to well over 15 percent of total contractor costs. Even with somewhat different figures, it seems apparent that grower fixed costs constitute a substantially higher percentage of total grower costs than contractor fixed costs do of total contractor costs. On the other hand, the absolute amount of fixed costs incurred by contractors probably exceeds grower fixed costs.

Data in the survey indicate similar feed conversions existed in the South and Northeast, and higher liveweights in the Northeast. Fuel costs averaged higher in the Northeast than in the South, mainly due to climatic differences.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 1, 5-6.—Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, 50 States														
Average for the month														
Number of layers on farms														
1973	Mil.	300	298	297	295	290	286	283	286	290	293	295	297	293
1974	Mil.	296	296	294	290	285	281	279	278	278	280	283	285	286
1975	Mil.	284	292	279	275									
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1973	No.	1,901	1,742	1,954	1,915	1,991	1,908	1,941	1,908	1,836	1,899	1,847	1,917	228
1974	No.	1,920	1,759	1,977	1,932	2,006	1,938	1,975	1,955	1,879	1,930	1,870	1,934	231
1975	No.	1,950	1,770	1,973	1,920									
Total monthly egg production														
1973	Mil. cs.	15.8	14.4	16.1	15.7	16.0	15.1	15.3	15.2	14.8	15.4	15.2	15.8	184.9
1974	Mil. cs.	15.8	14.5	16.1	15.5	15.9	15.1	15.3	15.1	14.5	15.0	14.7	15.3	183.0
1975	Mil. cs.	15.4	13.9	15.3	14.6									
First of month														
Number of layers on farms														
1973	Mil.	301	300	297	298	292	288	283	283	289	291	294	296	
1974	Mil.	297	296	296	292	287	283	280	279	278	279	282	285	
1975	Mil.	285	283	281	277	272								
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1973	No.	60.8	61.8	62.7	63.4	64.2	64.2	63.0	62.2	61.0	61.5	61.0	62.1	
1974	No.	61.6	62.3	63.4	64.1	64.7	64.8	64.3	63.1	63.0	62.2	62.3	62.3	
1975	No.	62.6	63.2	63.3	64.0	64.0								
Daily rate of egg production														
1973	Mil.	183	185	186	189	188	185	178	176	176	179	180	184	
1974	Mil.	183	184	187	187	186	183	180	176	175	174	175	177	
1975	Mil.	178	179	178	177	174								
Tables 7-9.—Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 50 States														
Eggs produced on farms														
1973	1,000 cs.	15,850	14,433	16,131	15,692	16,047	15,142	15,278	15,161	14,786	15,447	15,153	15,792	184,912
1974	1,000 cs.	15,808	15,453	16,142	15,544	15,872	15,136	15,328	15,111	14,531	15,039	15,703	15,300	182,967
1975	1,000 cs.	15,389	13,875	15,278	14,642									
Storage movement of shell eggs														
1973	1,000 cs.	76	-30	10	-60	2	34	-19	8	24	-14	-5	-33	-7
1974	1,000 cs.	-11	19	17	7	20	3	6	-17	-8	3	-21	-16	2
1975	1,000 cs.	-1	13	-16	-9									
Eggs broken commercially														
1973	1,000 cs.	1,143	1,280	1,456	1,406	1,699	1,862	1,678	1,665	1,596	1,805	1,450	1,201	18,241
1974	1,000 cs.	1,435	1,502	1,821	1,862	2,146	2,109	2,071	1,934	1,642	1,749	1,462	1,242	20,975
1975	1,000 cs.	1,441	1,218	1,151										
Eggs used for hatching														
1973	1,000 cs.	997	1,193	1,207	1,242	1,151	1,053	1,100	1,017	1,039	1,035	1,065	1,099	13,198
1974	1,000 cs.	1,013	1,190	1,193	1,214	1,109	999	969	878	877	908	988	998	12,336
1975	1,000 cs.	958	1,123	1,120										
Balance														
1973	1,000 cs.	13,634	11,990	13,458	13,104	13,195	12,193	12,519	12,471	12,127	12,621	12,643	13,525	153,480
1974	1,000 cs.	13,371	11,742	13,111	12,461	12,597	12,025	12,282	12,316	12,020	12,379	12,274	13,076	149,654
1975	1,000 cs.	12,991	11,521	13,023										
Tables 13-14.—Commercial production of poultry and red meat, 48 States														
Chicken and turkey meat, Ready-to-cook weight[1]														
1973	Mil. lb.	855	721	781	725	886	949	920	1,070	910	1,120	999	859	10,795
1974	Mil. lb.	933	766	806	832	944	920	1,002	1,023	898	1,015	800	768	10,707
1975	Mil. lb.	781	676	736										
Total red meat, carcass weight[2]														
1973	Mil. lb.	3,176	2,721	2,976	2,579	3,040	2,799	2,651	2,704	2,635	3,223	3,079	2,894	34,495
1974	Mil. lb.	3,255	2,661	3,098	3,149	3,266	2,945	3,026	3,132	3,074	3,471	3,155	3,088	37,323
1975	Mil. lb.	3,307	2,878	2,957										
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Young														
1973	Mil. lb.	662.1	566.2	621.4	594.4	712.1	680.0	673.6	703.5	609.5	733.5	641.7	588.2	7,786
1974	Mil. lb.	713.1	601.2	641.9	672.4	745.0	687.2	720.1	713.8	621.1	686.9	524.5	589.6	7,917
1975	Mil. lb.	646.2	570.2	616.6										
Mature														
1973	Mil. lb.	46.7	47.5	47.0	46.8	45.3	48.2	39.1	34.7	38.7	47.8	40.9	38.7	521
1974	Mil. lb.	49.2	44.6	51.0	50.8	53.0	45.7	40.6	45.1	35.2	41.6	40.1	38.1	535
1975	Mil. lb.	47.8	39.1	43.6										

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights—Continued														
Total														
1973	Mil. lb.	708.8	613.7	668.4	641.2	757.4	728.2	712.8	738.2	648.1	781.3	682.6	626.9	8,308
1974	Mil. lb.	762.3	645.8	692.9	723.3	798.0	732.9	760.7	758.9	656.2	728.6	564.6	627.7	8,452
1975	Mil. lb.	694.0	609.4	660.2										
Table 26.—Turkey certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Fryer-roasters														
1973	Mil. lb.	6.7	7.6	9.4	7.4	6.3	8.2	7.5	6.8	6.6	8.0	8.8	7.8	91
1974	Mil. lb.	8.9	9.1	8.9	8.3	10.6	11.1	10.0	9.7	5.9	8.0	5.4	3.9	100
1975	Mil. lb.	7.0	6.9	7.5										
Young turkeys														
1973	Mil. lb.	62.0	33.2	35.1	47.4	75.3	129.4	173.5	225.9	204.5	264.1	260.8	166.5	1,677
1974	Mil. lb.	87.3	49.4	48.6	69.0	100.6	144.9	199.2	225.8	213.3	252.4	209.7	115.8	1,716
1975	Mil. lb.	56.8	39.9	45.8										
Old turkeys														
1973	Mil. lb.	1.0	.8	.9	1.0	2.7	5.3	4.0	1.5	1.2	.5	.2	.3	19
1974	Mil. lb.	1.1	1.3	1.4	2.8	2.1	3.8	3.8	1.7	.9	.6	.1	.3	20
1975	Mil. lb.	1.1	.3	1.2										
Total turkeys														
1973	Mil. lb.	69.7	41.6	45.3	55.8	84.2	142.9	185.0	234.1	212.3	272.6	269.9	174.6	1,788
1974	Mil. lb.	97.3	59.8	58.9	80.1	113.2	159.7	213.1	237.2	220.2	261.1	215.2	119.9	1,836
1975	Mil. lb.	64.9	47.1	54.4										
Table 27.—Ducks, and total poultry certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Ducks														
1973	Mil. lb.	2.6	2.2	2.7	4.1	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.0	4.1	4.8	4.0	3.2	49
1974	Mil. lb.	3.0	2.3	2.5	4.4	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.0	5.1	3.5	3.2	51
1975	Mil. lb.	2.5	2.2	2.8										
Total poultry														
1973	Mil. lb.	781.2	657.6	716.6	701.2	847.5	876.8	903.2	977.5	864.6	1,059.8	958.4	804.9	10,149
1974	Mil. lb.	862.8	708.0	754.4	807.8	916.9	898.5	979.8	1,001.8	881.6	996.1	785.1	751.2	10,344
1975	Mil. lb.	761.6	658.7	717.6										
Table 28.—Chicken and turkey inspected for further processing in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Chicken														
Young														
1973	Mil. lb.	40.1	34.7	37.9	40.0	40.6	38.6	37.8	43.2	40.4	48.7	44.6	38.8	485
1974	Mil. lb.	45.1	41.7	46.8	45.8	44.0	38.3	36.3	40.7	39.3	41.9	42.7	33.3	496
1975	Mil. lb.	39.6	35.6	38.4										
Mature														
1973	Mil. lb.	42.6	40.0	48.0	43.2	45.4	41.6	36.9	38.0	36.4	41.1	35.0	33.1	481
1974	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	40.6	38.5	35.8	27.2	24.7	34.5	34.0	40.7	33.1	28.0	423
1975	Mil. lb.	31.2	24.4	25.6										
Total														
1973	Mil. lb.	82.8	74.7	85.9	83.2	86.0	80.2	74.7	81.2	76.8	89.7	79.6	71.9	967
1974	Mil. lb.	90.9	82.1	87.4	84.3	79.7	65.5	61.1	75.1	73.3	82.5	75.8	61.3	919
1975	Mil. lb.	70.8	60.0	64.0										
Turkey														
1973	Mil. lb.	43.2	40.1	48.3	38.4	43.1	53.9	67.4	89.3	83.6	116.9	100.9	65.8	791
1974	Mil. lb.	54.9	41.2	44.6	47.9	60.5	72.4	90.8	110.0	101.4	117.6	88.1	66.9	896
1975	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	44.7										
Table 32.—Per capita consumption of shell eggs														
Shell equivalent:														
1973	No.	23.4	20.5	23.1	22.4	22.5	20.8	21.4	21.2	20.7	21.4	21.5	23.1	262
1974	No.	22.8	19.8	22.2	21.0	21.2	20.2	20.7	20.9	20.3	20.9	20.6	22.0	253
1975	do.	21.8	19.3	21.9										
Tables 34-41.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per dozen for shell eggs														
United States, received by farmers[3]														
1973	Cents	50.0	42.8	46.9	46.9	45.5	50.4	51.9	68.7	63.9	59.3	59.3	64.0	54.1
1974	do.	66.6	63.9	56.7	50.1	42.2	39.8	43.8	47.8	54.8	54.9	55.4	59.0	52.9
1975	do.	57.1	54.3	54.1	47.4									
Grade A large eggs in retail stores[4 5]														
1973	do.	73.9	68.8	66.4	67.7	67.7	71.5	73.8	96.8	91.9	87.4	82.5	89.1	78.1
1974	do.	93.0	94.5	85.6	78.1	64.9	62.5	62.3	71.1	79.0	83.9	81.0	84.1	78.3
1975	do.	84.2	83.9	74.9	77.2									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 34-41.—Monthly average price per dozen shell eggs—Continued														
Iowa, received by farmers														
Buyer quality and volume incentive														
Large														
1973	Cents	43.52	34.75	40.78	40.40	39.14	46.37	52.94	67.13	59.71	54.23	55.69	61.01	49.64
1974	do.	63.16	58.33	50.90	42.52	31.57	31.08	36.27	42.45	49.58	49.81	49.85	54.69	46.68
1975	do.	50.25	43.34	45.26	36.09									
Medium														
1973	do.	39.62	29.24	34.59	34.89	34.90	40.37	44.46	58.58	48.42	46.00	48.62	56.74	43.04
1974	do.	57.99	51.32	43.98	33.12	22.59	20.61	27 86	33.59	43.82	45.14	43.38	49.05	39 37
1975	do.	44.32	37.21	37 38	30.48									
Los Angeles, delivered to retailers[6]														
Large														
1973	do.	65.79	60.60	62.91	59.45	55.73	56.55	61.17	81.37	76.13	69 50	69 20	72.83	65.94
1974	do.	75.73	71.34	61.24	56.21	54.50	51.60	55.86	60.55	67.60	64.12	64.30	70.07	62 76
1975	do.	68.32	68.71	68.55	58.74									
Medium														
1973	do.	63.88	57.60	59.91	56.45	52.73	53.26	57.31	77.76	69 55	63.07	63.40	70.56	62.12
1974	do.	73.73	67.08	57.19	52.50	45.77	44.50	47.59	52.77	62.15	60.26	63 20	60 07	57.98
1975	do.	67.32	67.71	65.67	53.85									
New York, wholesale prices, white														
Large, 75 percent A														
1973	do.	54.29	45.14	50.89	50.25	48.94	56.46	64.70	76.26	68.28	63 07	66.92	71.78	59.75
1974	do.	74.00	68.29	60.20	52.08	42.71	42.83	48.96	55.84	63.07	61.69	61.21	67.26	58.18
1975	do.	62.18	55.44	59.24	50.17									
Medium														
1973	do.	52.40	41.40	47.44	46.45	45.68	50.93	57.48	71.39	60.89	59.39	63.24	70.50	55.60
1974	do.	72.00	62.42	55.67	44.03	34.27	32.33	41.57	47.84	58.09	58 40	56.89	64.42	52 33
1975	do.	57.75	50.58	53.24	46.18									
Midwest, paid delivered[7]														
Large														
1973	do.	52.55	43.12	49.94	50.00	48.56	56.19	65.00	75.56	68.94	63 22	66.44	71.31	59.46
1974	do.	76.50	71.25	63.50	56.25	47 00	47.00	51 12	58.10	66.00	65 20	64.13	70.63	61 39
1975	do.	66.20	59.62	61.38	52.25									
Medium														
1973	do.	49.22	39.38	45.75	45.75	46.30	51 81	57 88	69 56	59.12	57.89	61.66	67.69	54.12
1974	do.	74.10	64.38	58.00	48.25	38.60	36.50	43.12	48 70	60.50	62.30	60.25	67.25	55.16
1975	do.	62.00	54.88	55.50	49.50									
Table 42.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per pound for frozen egg products														
New York and Philadelphia														
Frozen egg														
Whole egg, light colored														
1973	Cents	31.31	30.94	34.28	35.52	37.52	44.56	47.69	59.89	54.89	47.28	42.05	44.29	42 52
1974	do.	47.38	50.34	46.08	35.94	33.83	32.23	33.72	39.39	43.53	39.74	36.78	37.64	39.72
1975	do.	36.11	33.79	32.39	32.77									
White														
1973	do.	17.87	17.50	17.47	17.97	18.75	23.03	25.39	33.31	27.47	21.28	17.75	15.96	21.18
1974	do.	16.41	17.75	16.50	15.86	15.89	16.44	16.41	19.44	22.72	20.47	17.94	18.22	17.84
1975	do.	17.36	16.62	16.17	16.19									
Yolks, light colored, sugared, 43 percent solids														
1973	do.	48.69	48.53	55.31	56.46	59.63	70.89	75.61	91.94	90.54	88.33	84.13	85.79	71.32
1974	do.	87.28	89.72	85.13	68.89	60 22	60.39	64.16	72.89	78.94	77.03	73.90	72 61	74 26
1975	do.	69.00	64.85	60.50	57.37									
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound														
Liveweight														
United States, at farm														
1973	Cents	17.2	19.8	23.2	25.2	23.8	24.3	27.6	36.5	29.7	23 7	19.4	20.0	24.2
1974	do.	21.5	23.4	22.2	21.0	20.5	19.0	20.5	20.9	22.8	22.8	24.2	21.9	21.7
1975	do.	24.2	24.6	23.7	23.4									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound—Continued														
Broilers, weighted average, delivered to major areas[8]														
9-City average[9]														
1973	Cents	32.78	37.28	41.13	43.58	41.57	41.69	49.05	60.30	48.36	40.01	34.45	36.12	42.17
1974	do.	39.69	39.41	38.76	36.30	35.64	34.05	36.41	36.84	39.89	39.32	41.94	40.71	38.25
1975	do.	41.64	41.37	40.72	40.06									
Chicago														
1973	do.	32.5	36.0	40.9	44.2	41.0	41.3	47.1	60.0	48.1	39.9	34.8	36.6	41.9
1974	do.	39.3	39.8	38.5	36.4	35.5	33.8	36.3	36.7	39.8	39.0	41.8	40.2	38.1
1975	do.	42.8	40.9	40.2	39.8									
New York														
1973	do.	32.3	37.6	40.8	44.3	41.0	42.0	48.2	59.9	48.4	40.1	33.8	35.3	42.0
1974	do.	38.5	38.5	37.6	33.6	34.8	33.9	35.7	36.2	39.5	39.3	41.4	39.8	37.4
1975	do.	41.6	41.3	40.3	39.7									
Los Angeles														
1973	do.	34.2	37.5	42.8	45.0	42.1	41.5	47.4	60.2	48.6	39.8	35.7	38.0	42.7
1974	do.	41.2	41.5	40.5	38.1	36.6	34.8	38.0	38.1	40.8	40.2	42.8	41.0	39.5
1975	do.	43.4	42.5	42.0	42.0									
Frying chicken in retail stores[4]														
1973	do.	44.0	45.9	59.9	58.7	58.4	57.9	59.7	92.2	72.8	58.3	54.5	53.2	59.6
1974	do.	59.2	58.7	57.5	55.6	52.2	51.2	51.8	53.5	57.0	56.2	58.2	60.4	56.0
1975	do.	59.3	58.6	58.8	57.6									
Chicken breasts, in retail stores[4]														
1973	do.	80.5	84.4	100.2	100.0	99.6	100.2	101.5	139.6	115.8	102.8	99.7	97.8	101.8
1974	do.	100.1	100.4	99.9	98.0	95.8	94.4	94.6	97.3	99.3	99.0	100.5	102.5	98.5
1975	do.	102.3	103.4	102.9	101.3									
Tables 50-54.—Average turkey prices per pound														
Liveweight[3]														
U.S., at farm														
1973	Cents	24.3	24.5	28.3	31.6	31.9	33.8	34.1	41.1	42.7	42.7	41.7	40.3	34.8
1974	do.	34.8	32.6	32.3	27.7	24.6	23.6	23.0	27.1	27.3	28.0	30.8	33.4	28.0
1975	do.	31.8	30.8	30.3	28.7									
Turkeys in retail stores[4]														
1973	do.	56.4	57.2	59.0	64.6	68.2	71.6	72.9	79.6	85.5	90.5	89.6	86.4	73.5
1974	do.	85.4	80.4	79.6	75.8	70.5	68.1	65.9	66.0	69.8	71.2	71.0	68.9	72.7
1975	do.	69.2	71.6	70.4	69.0									
Wholesale frozen (average f.o.b. or equivalent)														
New York:														
Young hens, 8-16 pounds														
1973	do.	41.4	41.6	54.1	55.0	56.5	55.9	56.6	74.0	75.0	71.1	66.2	58.2	58.8
1974	do.	48.6	55.3	50.7	42.2	39.7	37.4	39.7	49.6	47.0	48.2	53.6	57.9	47.2
1975	do.	51.6	46.9	47.3	48.3									
Young toms, 14-20 pounds														
1973	do.	42.0	42.5	49.6	50.4	53.8	55.6	55.8	70.9	72.6	63.8	60.8	60.2	56.5
1974	do.	48.2	48.2	46.7	39.4	38.4	34.5	37.0	43.1	42.6	45.7	50.6	52.8	43.9
1975	do.	49.1	46.0	43.7	43.3									
Paid at seller's dock, frozen														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1973	do.	43.0	44.1	55.9	57.2	59.4	58.8	59.8	76.0	79.0	74.4	71.3	68.0	62.2
1974	do.	58.6	55.4	55.7	47.5	44.1	41.3	41.5	52.7	52.1	52.3	57.2	61.9	51.7
1975	do.	57.5	50.2	57.2	52.3									
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1973	do.	45.1	48.6	56.0	57.7	60.6	67.8	69.4	81.1	86.0	84.2	80.2	71.2	67.3
1974	do.	60.7	54.2	51.9	45.3	48.4	52.5	52.6	55.8	55.7	54.4	56.3	58.8	53.9
1975	do.	59.0	56.7	55.0	52.0									
Chicago														
Hens, 12-14 pounds														
1973	do.	43.5	43.3	53.2	55.7	57.7	58.6	58.8	73.4	76.2	74.2	70.4	64.5	60.8
1974	do.	51.1	51.8	52.1	46.4	43.0	40.1	41.0	50.8	50.5	50.6	54.9	60.6	49.4
1975	do.	58.7	52.2	50.5	50.7									
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1973	do.	43.8	47.4	53.4	54.4	58.7	65.5	66.8	---	---	---	79.8	75.7	60.6
1974	do.	63.2	57.9	54.9	43.7	46.0	50.3	50.7	54.8	56.3	55.4	55.5	57.0	53.8
1975	do.	57.0	56.7	55.2	55.0									
Tables 57-60.—Prices paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios														
All poults each														
1973	Cents	54.5	56.3	57.3	57.8	58.4	60.2	60.8	64.1	64.7	67.8	65.0	64.0	60.9
1974	do.	64.8	65.1	67.0	68.3	67.9	69.0	68.4	67.4	67.3	67.4	67.2	68.8	67.4
1975	do.	68.7	69.5	70.1	70.0									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 57-60.—Price paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios—Continued														
Feed per ton														
Laying feed														
1973	Dollars	111	117	122	118	131	157	147	165	148	144	138	150	137
1974	do.	152	153	151	144	137	137	141	168	163	168	167	164	154
1975	do.	160	151	143	146									
Broiler grower feed														
1973	do.	120	128	133	130	146	168	163	182	169	163	155	165	152
1974	do.	170	169	165	156	151	151	157	180	176	185	183	180	169
1975	do.	176	167	161	164									
Turkey grower feed														
1973	do.	121	131	137	133	152	179	177	193	176	170	158	167	158
1974	do.	172	172	168	162	156	153	158	188	183	189	187	184	173
1975	do.	178	168	161	165									
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (per bushel)														
1973	Cents	157	160	159	164	201	243	253	297	246	233	256	268	220
1974	do.	293	310	301	246	269	292	329	365	353	385	349	355	321
1975	do.	309	300	296	304									
Soybean meal, 44 percent, Decatur (per ton, bulk)														
1973	Dollars	188	219	200	203	315	412	311	285	208	160	167	192	238
1974	do.	172	160	147	117	109	100	138	156	138	168	141	143	141
1975	do.	129	117	118	122									
Product-feed price ratios														
Broiler[10]														
1973	Pounds	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.9	3.3	2.9	3.4	4.0	3.5	2.9	2.5	2.3	3.2
1974	do.	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.6
1975	do.	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9									
Turkey[11]														
1973	do.	4.0	3.7	4.1	4.8	4.2	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.9	5.0	5.3	4.8	4.4
1974	do.	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	2 9	3.2	3.4	3.3
1975	do.	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.5									
Egg[12]														
1973	do.	9.0	7.3	7.7	7.9	6.9	6.4	7.1	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.6	8.5	7.9
1974	do.	8.8	8.4	7.5	7.0	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	7.2	6.9
1975	do.	7.1	7.2	7.6	6.5									
Tables 61-62.—Chicks hatched by types and pullet chicks placed														
Chicks hatched														
Broiler-type														
1973	Mil.	261.7	241.9	287.4	289.4	298.0	282.7	258.4	270.4	246.3	249.5	253.9	267.5	3,207.0
1974	Mil.	277.5	254.2	296.5	288.9	297.5	275.9	251.1	244.1	220.8	217.1	228.4	252.5	3,104.4
1975	Mil.	252.6	238.5	277.4	274.5									
Egg-type														
1973	Mil.	38.6	41.5	52.0	54.0	55.4	44.7	41.2	42.5	42.9	46.0	40.3	35.3	534.3
1974	Mil.	35.1	37.7	46.2	54.9	52.1	43.4	36.7	34.9	32.1	35.5	33.0	32.2	473.4
1975	Mil.	35.0	37.3	46.0	48.1									
Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks[13]														
Total														
1973	Thou.	2,390	2,170	3,056	3,048	2,958	2,527	2,495	2,588	2,653	2,921	2,306	2,383	31,495
1974	Thou.	2,489	2,474	2,906	2,795	2,754	2,525	2,259	2,288	2,160	2,141	2,171	2,302	29,264
1975	Thou.	2,199	2,128	2,744	2,485									
Cumulation relevant to breeder flock[14]														
1973	Thou.	21,579	21,779	21,515	21,473	21,720	21,415	20,356	19,960	19,436	19,739	20,257	20,717	
1974	Thou.	20,769	20,893	21,232	21,495	22,246	21,496	20,831	20,362	20,309	20,420	20,927	21,028	
1975	Thou.	20,632	20,585	20,490	20,161	19,828	19,093	18,600	18,045	17,648	18,133	18,330		
1976	Thou.													
For laying flock replacements[15]														
1973	Thou.	21,690	22,938	29,056	30,029	30,639	24,891	23,075	23,826	24,082	25,908	22,474	20,015	298,623
1974	Thou.	20,031	21,322	26,006	30,089	28,791	24,225	20,536	19,760	18,206	19,885	18,673	18,382	265,966
1975	Thou.	19,685	20,800	25,748	26,511									
Table 63.—Poults hatched by breeds														
Poults hatched														
Light breeds														
1973	Thou.	1,436	1,137	1,501	1,276	1,130	1,536	1,683	1,465	1,180	1,218	1,551	1,566	16,679
1974	Thou.	1,324	1,193	1,502	1,478	1,381	1,381	1,096	779	515	1,185	1,302	1,284	14,420
1975	Thou.	1,226	1,403	1,499	1,648									
Total heavy breeds														
1973	Thou.	8,278	12,020	16,737	19,357	20,585	17,947	12,170	5,809	2,865	2,725	3,895	6,518	128,906
1974	Thou.	9,572	12,794	17,938	19,172	18,687	15,718	11,858	5,273	2,655	3,008	3,685	5,239	125,599
1975	Thou.	7,490	10,794	14,795	17,273									
All breeds														
1973	Thou.	9,714	13,157	18,238	20,633	21,715	19,483	13,853	7,274	4,045	3,943	5,446	8,084	145,585
1974	Thou.	10,896	13,987	19,440	20,650	20,068	17,099	12,954	6,052	3,170	4,193	4,987	6,523	140,019
1975	Thou.	8,716	12,197	16,294	18,921									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 24—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 66.—Cold storage holdings of shell and frozen eggs, first of month														
All frozen eggs														
1973	Mil. lb.	68.1	57.2	53.4	48.9	45.9	44.4	45.7	47.9	48.7	52.6	54.1	48.5	
1974	Mil. lb.	43.2	37.7	35.7	39.4	43.6	49.6	55.6	59.1	63.4	65.6	64.7	60.1	
1975	Mil. lb.	54.2	53.8	51.8	47.0	43.8								
Shell eggs														
1973	1,000 cs.	41	117	87	97	37	39	73	54	62	86	72	67	
1974	1,000 cs.	34	23	42	59	66	86	89	95	78	70	73	52	
1975	1,000 cs.	36	35	48	32	23								
Shell equivalent of all eggs														
1973	1,000 cs.	1,766	1,566	1,439	1,335	1,198	1,162	1,231	1,267	1,295	1,418	1,442	1,295	
1974	1,000 cs.	1,128	978	946	1,056	1,169	1,340	1,486	1,602	1,684	1,742	1,729	1,573	
1975	1,000 cs.	1,417	1,398	1,358	1,222	1,131								
Tables 68-69.—Cold storage holdings of poultry, first of the month														
Total frozen														
Turkey														
1973	Mil. lb.	208.1	188.4	152.6	115.4	91.3	88.1	137.1	199.4	261.2	350.7	450.5	321.1	
1974	Mil. lb.	281.0	274.0	250.5	235.9	225.0	227.4	265.8	335.8	431.8	528.7	554.6	372.0	
1975	Mil. lb.	275.0	267.0	240.2	207.1	179.6								
Chicken														
Hens														
1973	Mil. lb.	34.8	35.1	37.1	31.0	29.2	26.3	29.5	28.4	24.9	30.3	37.1	47.3	
1974	Mil. lb.	47.2	43.9	40.4	44.4	46.5	53.1	57.6	62.7	64.8	61.3	60.0	55.1	
1975	Mil. lb.	54.0	55.3	55.4	57.1	57.5								
Broilers, fryers and roasters														
1973	Mil. lb.	29.1	27.9	23.3	21.2	21.8	20.2	20.0	19.1	22.2	27.6	33.2	31.5	
1974	Mil. lb.	33.4	32.5	32.6	34.6	33.8	37.5	36.6	34.3	34.2	35.4	36.3	37.0	
1975	Mil. lb.	37.2	33.0	33.8	28.8	29.3								
Tables 70-71.—Exports of fresh or frozen poultry														
Broilers														
1973	Thou. lb.	7,365	8,526	6,958	6,028	7,335	7,205	7,186	6,595	6,695	9,515	9,755	10,635	93,796
1974	Thou. lb.	11,159	9,672	13,610	9,511	8,106	8,014	13,272	8,890	8,179	8,650	7,866	8,413	115,340
1975	Thou. lb.	10,268	9,841	9,903										
Turkeys														
1973	Thou. lb.	2,927	3,180	4,805	1,712	1,613	3,245	4,175	5,392	5,016	5,236	6,678	5,980	49,960
1974	Thou. lb.	4,386	3,477	4,732	2,195	2,770	3,574	2,897	2,788	1,924	4,108	3,664	3,078	39,594
1975	Thou. lb.	1,384	2,551	2,979										
Tables 72-75.—USDA contracts to purchase chicken, and turkey														
Young chickens, ready-to-cook wt.														
1973	Mil. lb.	14.0	5.5	8.9	---	---	---	---	---	6.6	11.4	10.7	4.7	61.5
1974	Mil. lb.	9.3	8.7	---	---	---	---	1.9	3.5	3.0	6.5	7.1	7.9	30.0
1975	Mil. lb.	3.8	---	---	---									
Canned boned chicken														
1973	Doz. cans	261.8	200.6	47.6	268.6	129.2	428.4	214.2	37.4	187.0	91.8	285.6	153.0	2,305.2
1974	Doz. cans	193.8	193.8	---	---	---	---	91.8	234.6	224.4	163.2	13.6	---	1,115.1
1975	Doz. cans	---	---	---										
Canned boney turkey														
1973	Doz. cans	104.7	89.8	---	18.7	22.4	37.4	34.0	139.4	119.0	142.8	10.2	153.0	871.4
1974	Doz. cans	95.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	95.2
1975	Doz. cans	---	---	---										
Turkey, ready-to-cook wt.														
1973	Mil. lb.	---	---	1.5	5.0	---	---	---	2.4	10.1	11.3	5.3	---	35.6
1974	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.3	3.1	15.8	9.7	3.7	9.8	51.4
1975	Mil. lb.	2.2	---	---										

[1]Chicken and turkey meat, excludes slaughter on farms. [2]Excludes farm slaughter, lard and rendered pork fat. [3]Price reported as a price at mid-month. [4]Reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics. Prices are collected on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the week that includes the first Tuesday of the month. [5]Includes price for Grade AA eggs in Anchorage, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle, and Grade AA and ungraded eggs in some small cities. [6]Weighted average price to volume buyers for Consumer Grade A white eggs in cartons delivered to store door. [7]Prices paid by first receivers for cartoned Grade A eggs delivered FOB Midwestern cities. Prior to January 1974, reported as average price paid delivered to Chicago, loose, white, minimum 80 percent A. [8]Trucklot sales of U.S. Grade A and plant grade ready-to-cook, ice-packed broiler-fryers. [9]Computed by weighting the city averages by their metropolitan area populations. The 9 cities are: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco. [10]Pounds of broiler grower equal in value to 1 lb. of broiler liveweight. [11]Pounds of turkey grower equal in value to 1 lb. of turkey liveweight. [12]Pounds of laying feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. [13]Placements reported by leading breeders. [14]Sum of domestic placements 7-14 months previous. [15]One-half egg-type chick hatch plus pullet chicks placed for hatchery supp., flocks.

LIST OF TABLES

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