Poultry and Egg Situation

Economic Research Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

PES-294

JUNE 1977

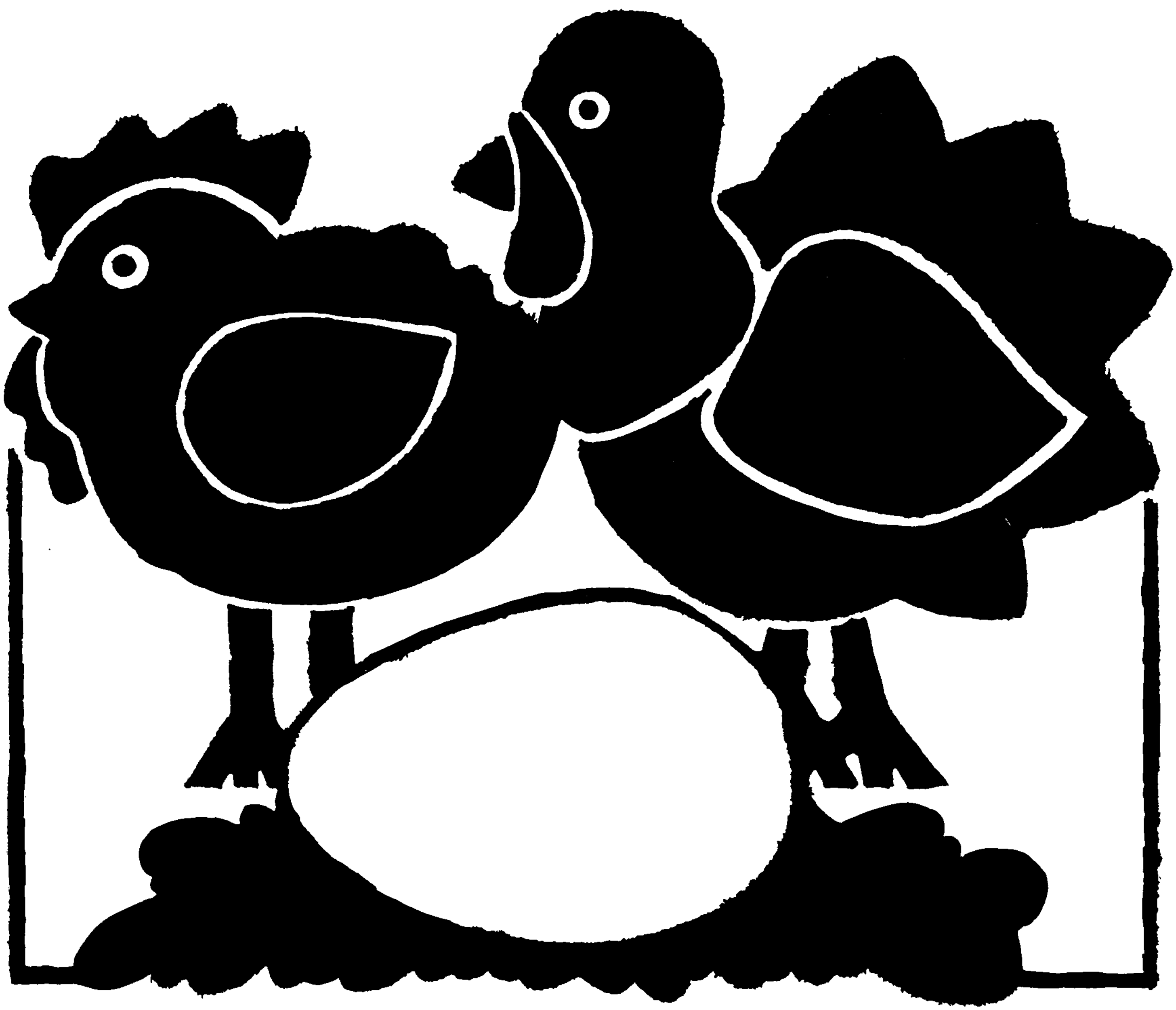
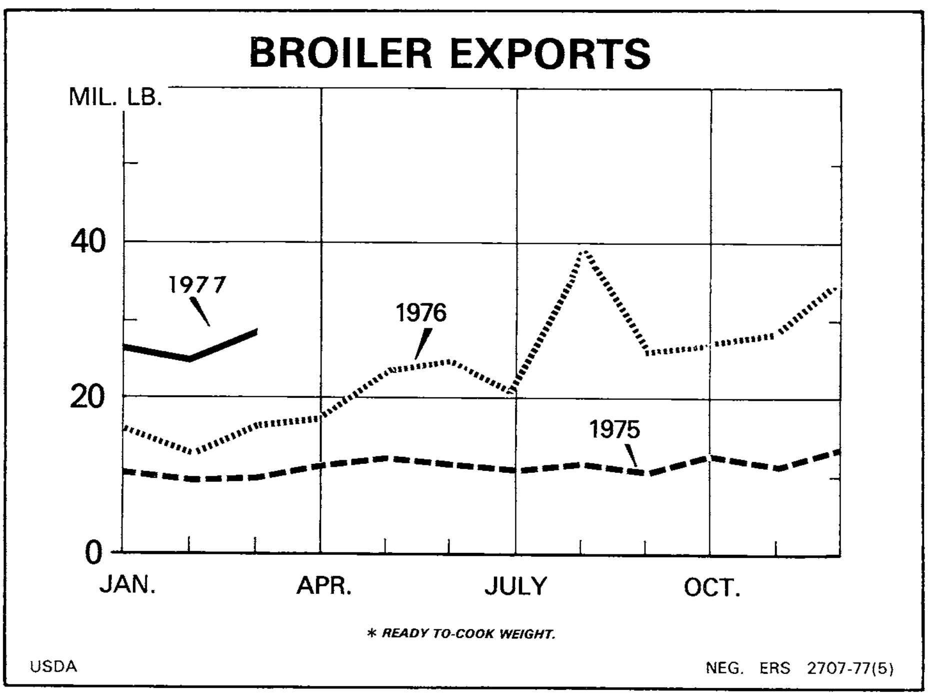


Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1976				1977			
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
					Eggs				
Farm production	Mil. doz.	461.0	432.8	464.2	446.2	455.8	411.3	462.8	445.2
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	281	280	278	274	280	277	275	271
Rate of lay per layer	No.	19.7	18.6	20.0	19.6	19.6	17.8	20.2	19.7
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	61.2	58.5	53.5	52.7	65.1	66.2	58.8	55.3
14 Metro areas price									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	73.3	67.4	62.4	62.0	79.0	76.6	68.0	63.3
Retail price (BLS)									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	89.1	90.1	78.2	77.6	98.6	103.4	89.0	81.2
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	143	143	145	144	156	161	161	163
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	8.7	8.4	7.5	7.3	8.3	8.2	7.3	6.8
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	cases	22	14	21	7.3	36	28	44	42
Frozen	Mil. lb.	36.3	31.7	28.7	29.4	26.1	26.9	24.9	24.7
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	35.8	39.6	50.1	51.5	40.2	41.3	51.0	54.8
					Poultry				
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	712.3	632.3	771.9	742.5	713.8	659.2	783.2	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	76.3	61.7	68.6	79.9	70.5	58.7	80.3	
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	24.2	25.2	24.4	23.5	21.5	24.0	24.3	24.3
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	33.4	32.1	32.9	31.8	32.4	32.5	34.2	33.6
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	41.9	42.7	41.9	41.0	38.8	42.1	41.9	41.4
Retail price (BLS)									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	63.6	61.4	60.8	60.7	54.7	58.8	61.3	61.2
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	76.6	75.0	73.5	74.4	69.7	70.6	71.4	68.2
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	158	160	160	159	174	178	179	183
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	165	165	165	162	182	186	188	195
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	22.3	20.2	19.7	19.4	32.9	27.4	24.6	26.6
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	195.2	186.8	160.7	140.7	203.4	190.2	167.8	142.3
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	313.6	296.1	267.0	248.4	362.8	334.6	302.9	279.4
Average weekly placement of									
broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	60.4	61.7	66.4	68.5	63.6	64.8	69.5	71.6



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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
May 26, 1977

SUMMARY

Egg output will inch up in coming months; broiler output will continue at record levels, and turkey output may not match last year's level. Egg prices will strengthen seasonally but will probably remain below 1976. Broiler and turkey prices will rise seasonally this summer and average above a year earlier.

The demand for poultry products likely will improve in coming months because of gains in consumers' disposable incomes, higher employment, and smaller supplies of red meat after mid-1977. Although demand prospects are favorable, the cost of producing poultry and eggs will continue high at least through the summer. Corn supplies will remain abundant, but soybean meal supplies will stay tight and prices relatively high.

After dropping 2 percent during the first quarter because of the severe winter weather, egg production is again back to year-earlier levels. Layer numbers should gain relative to 1976 as more pullets enter the flocks. There were around a fifth more egg-type pullets hatched for flock replacement during May and June than last year. However, the hatch indicates that replacement pullets will only be up about 6 percent during July-October. The rate of lay is expected to exceed last year's rate for most of the rest of 1977. Thus, egg production during the second half of 1977 likely will average 1 to 2 percent above 1976.

Egg prices dropped sharply, as usual, following Easter. The New York price for Grade A large cartoned eggs dropped about a dime a dozen during the 3 weeks following Easter. Prices likely will strengthen in coming months but will stay well below a year ago.

Egg demand prospects for the first half of 1978 look favorable. Increased consumer incomes will bolster the demand for shell eggs and egg products.

The next issue of the *Poultry and Egg Situation* will be published in early September

Also, hatching use is expected to be up from the first half of 1977. However, total egg production will likely be above a year earlier and shell egg prices lower. An increase in total egg production of 2 percent from first-half 1977 would likely result in the New York cartoned egg prices averaging a nickel a dozen below the expected January-June 1977 average of 67 cents.

Broiler output during January-March was 2 percent above a year earlier—a smaller rise than was earlier expected because of the severe winter weather. Weekly slaughter and chick placement reports indicate that output will be up around 5 percent during the spring and early summer. Producers are continuing to place a record number of eggs in incubators despite sharply higher soybean meal prices. If prospects continue favorable for this year's soybean crop and some easing occurs in soybean meal prices after midyear, producers probably will continue to produce around 5 percent more chicks for slaughter this fall.

Broiler prices have been strong and during January-April averaged a little over 41 cents a pound (wholesale, 9-city average). This was only about a cent below a year earlier despite the record large supplies of meats. Prices are expected to average in the low 40-cent range this spring before strengthening seasonally to the mid-40-cent range this summer. Prospects for broiler prices this fall are favorable for producers. Increased consumer incomes and reduced competing meat supplies mean increased demand for broilers. If broiler output this fall is 5 percent above last fall, the 9-city price may average around 40-42 cents a pound, compared with 35.5 cents last year.

Turkey meat output was down in early 1977 but picked up sharply in March. Output likely will drop below last year's level this summer but may return to year-ago levels in the fall.

Turkey prices trended steadily upward in early 1977 but have weakened recently. Prices may remain relatively weak this spring but likely will strengthen this summer and fall and average moderately above year-earlier levels. Prices are expected to be bolstered next fall by reduced supplies of red meat, increased consumer buying power, and higher prices for competing meats.

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

	1976				1977			
	I	I	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Eggs (Mil. dozens) ..	1,358	1,344	1,342	1,360	1,330	(1,355)	(1,365)	(1,385)
Percent change ...	+1	+1	0	0	-2	+1	+1.5	+2
Broiler[2] (Mil. lb.) ..	2,116	2,314	2,372	2,186	2,156	(2,430)	(2,490)	(2,300)
Percent change ...	+15	+12	+14	+10	+2	+5	+5	+5
Turkeys[2] (Mil. lbs.) .	207	369	710	664	210	(375)	(690)	(665)
Percent change ...	+24	+28	+14	+5	+1	+2	-3	0
Beef[3] (Mil. lbs.) ...	6,491	6,143	6,617	6,411	6,329	(6,150)	(6,200)	(6,100)
Percent change ...	+11	+10	+11	+3	-2	0	-6	-5
Pork[3] (Mil. lbs.) ...	2,895	2,782	2,952	3,590	3,276	(3,150)	(3,050)	(3,550)
Percent change ...	-5	-5	+18	+27	+13	+13	+3	-1

Eggs, Poultry, and Livestock Prices

	1976				1977			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]
Eggs, New York[4] .... (Cents/dozen)	68.0	63.1	71.8	78.4	74.9	(58-60)	(63-65)	(68-70)
Broiler-9-City[5] .... (Cents/lb.)	42.2	41.7	41.5	35.5	40.9	(41-43)	(43-45)	(40-42)
Turkeys, New York[6] ...... (Cents/lb.)	49.3	48.2	48.5	49.0	50.2	(51-53)	(53-55)	(53-55)
Choice Steers, Omaha ...... (Dollars/100 lbs.)	38.7	41.4	37.3	39.0	37.9	(41-43)	(42-44)	(43-45)
Barrows and Gilts, 7 .... Markets (Dol./100 lbs.)	48.0	49.2	43.9	34.2	39.1	(40-42)	(43-45)	(37-39)

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial production. [4] Cartoned, consumer Grade A large, sales to volume buyers, store door delivery. [5] Wholesale weighted average. [6] Wholesale, 8-16 pound young hens.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Factors Affecting the Poultry Industry

The demand for poultry and eggs will improve during the balance of 1977. Consumers' buying power and the number of people gainfully employed will increase. At the same time, supplies of red meat will begin to taper off from the high levels of 1976 and prices will rise.

General Economy Buoyant

Improvement in the general economy in early 1977 was better than was expected after the severe winter weather. Consumers' per capita disposable income in April was 3½ percent above April 1976, and the unemployment rate fell to a seasonally adjusted rate of 7.0 percent in April from 7.3 percent in March, the lowest rate in nearly 2½ years. The economy is expected to experience a real growth rate of around 6 percent for the rest of 1977 and into early 1978. Real disposable personal income may increase by around 5 percent for the same period. The unemployment rate may decline to about 6 percent by mid-1978, down 1 percentage point from April 1977.

Red Meat Supplies to Taper Off

Supplies of red meat have been above year-earlier levels each quarter since the start of 1976. However, after mid-1977 supplies probably will taper off and drop below 1976 levels as a result of the leveling off of the expansion in pork production and the downturn in the cattle inventory. Smaller red meat supplies during the second half of this year are expected to strengthen both farm and retail prices.

Beef production in 1977 will account for nearly two-thirds of the total red meat produced and nearly half of the total of red meat and poultry combined. Thus, any easing in beef supplies will have a heavy impact on other meat prices. Beef supplies during July-December may be down 5 to 7 percent with most of the drop being due to reduced marketings of cows and young cattle coming directly off grass to slaughter. Placements of cattle on feed have been above year-earlier levels. However, fed-beef supplies will likely be below 1976 levels this summer but be above in the fall. This adds up to a little less beef available after midyear at a higher price and moderately smaller supplies of cheaper cuts of beef that compete more closely with broilers and turkeys, largely because of the decline in cow and non-grain-fed beef.

Pork output for the first half of 1977 may average 13 percent above a year ago. However, the gain is expected to narrow this summer and by fall output may only about match last year. The severe winter weather and disease losses probably will hold pork production below what farrowings indicated. Largely as a result of easing pork output and declining beef supplies, hog prices likely will exceed last year's level this fall for the first time since around mid-1976. Somewhat smaller red meat supplies at prices higher than a year earlier will be a positive factor for poultry and egg prices in the fall.

Soaring Soybean Meal Prices Push Up Production Costs

The cost of producing eggs, broilers, and turkeys has risen sharply in recent months, largely because of the surge in soybean meal prices. Estimates show that first quarter 1977 production costs are above the year earlier period (tables 13, 14, and 15).

The full impact of the high soybean meal prices is not shown in first quarter cost estimates because feed prices are lagged. And, many producers may have bought much of their soybean meal before prices skyrocketed. Production costs are likely to stay high during the next few months because continued short supplies and high prices of soybean meal will offset slightly lower feed grain prices. Also, the cost of production items, other than feed, will continue to inch upward.

Lower corn prices this year have partially offset the rise in meal prices. Yellow corn (No. 2 Chicago) averaged $2.52 a bushel during January-April, nearly 15 cents a bushel below the same months in 1976. Prices have continued lower and averaged around $2.40 a bushel in late May, compared with nearly $3 a year earlier. Corn prices likely will continue near the $2.50 per bushel level in coming weeks. However, weather will play a critical role in the marketplace during the summer but may not be as dominant as a year ago when supplies were tighter.

In contrast to corn, soybean supplies are very tight and meal prices are up sharply from a year ago. Soybean meal prices (49 to 50 percent Decatur) increased from an average of $224 a ton in January to $299 a ton for April. Prices in late May were running around $260 a ton, nearly $100 above a year ago. Soybean meal prices will continue strong over the next few months, although there may be wide price swings. Farmers are expected to plant substantially more acreage to soybeans this year. With favorable growing weather, the 1977 soybean crop could be near record levels and result in easing soybean meal prices later this year. Coupled with a larger corn crop and lower prices, this would point to a decline in feed costs from current levels.

EGGS

Egg production is expected to inch upward in coming months and may exceed 1976 levels by 1 to 2 percent this summer and fall. Egg prices will strengthen from spring levels but probably will remain below a year earlier.

Output Bounces Back

After suffering from the effects of last winter's severe weather, egg output has returned to 1976 levels. Egg production in January-March was 2 percent below a year earlier, but production in April was about the same as a year ago. Gains in layer numbers and increased output per hen will likely result in egg production being 1 to 2 percent above 1976 during the balance of 1977.

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*No.*	*No.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*
I	279	277	58.3	57.6	1,357.9	1,329.9
II	272		59.4		1,343.9	
III	272		59.2		1,342.3	
IV	279		58.5		1,359.9	
Annual .	277		235.4		5,404.0	

Layer numbers were down 1 percent on May 1, but they likely will increase relative to 1976 in coming months as more pullets enter the flock. The egg-type chick hatch during November-December 1976 was 23 percent above a year earlier. This indicates that there could be 6-7 million more pullets entering the laying flocks during May-June (table 2). The hatch of egg-type chicks eased in early 1977 and indicates that replacement pullets for July-October will only be up about 6 percent and that the gains in layer numbers may ease after midyear.

Table 2—Egg-type chick hatchery operations

Month	Hatch			Eggs in incubators first of month change from year earlier	
	1975	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*
January	34,818	35,844	40,249	3	12
February	36,552	39,637	41,306	5	12
March	45,372	50.055	50,991	9	1
April	47,409	51,482	54,838	1	8
May	47,989	48,233		-1	11
June	40,854	42,351		3	
July	38,099	38,609		1	
August	34,934	38,257		4	
September ...	33,851	37,721		10	
October	34,801	37,039		9	
November ...	28,446	36,305		21	
December ...	30,679	36,647		15	

The increased number of replacement pullets will be partially offset by the increased slaughter of old hens and fewer force molted layers. When egg prices were high and producer profits were good in January and February, the number of mature chickens that moved through federally inspected plants was about the same as a year earlier. However, as egg prices eased and production costs rose sharply in recent months, producers stepped up marketing of old layers. During March, there were 2.6 million more mature chickens slaughtered than in March 1976, and weekly reports indicate that slaughter remained well above 1976 during April.

On May 1, producers in 17 States reported that 11.8 percent of their hens and pullets had com-

Pullet chicks placed for laying flocks, 1968-72 average and 1973-77*

Month	1968-72 average	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
January ...	22.5	21.7	20.0	19.6	20.3	22.7
February ..	23.8	22.9	21.3	20.4	22.3	23.1
March	31.0	29.1	26.0	25.4	27.5	28.4
April	34.5	30.0	30.1	26.2	28.6	30.7
May	32.9	30.6	28.8	26.9	27.3	
June	26.8	24.9	24.2	22.9	23.8	
July	23.1	23.1	20.6	21.5	22.1	
August	20.9	23.8	19.8	20.1	22.0	
September .	21.5	24.1	18.2	19.6	21.4	
October ...	22.2	25.9	19.9	19.8	21.2	
November .	20.0	22.5	18.7	16.5	20.6	
December ..	20.1	20.0	18.4	17.7	20.7	
Total	299.3	298.6	266.0	258.9	278.8	

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

pleted at least one molt, and another 5.1 percent were in the process of being molted. This compares with 13.0 and 4.7 percent, respectively, on May 1, 1976 (table 3). Because of the increase in replacement pullets and the poor profitability of egg production, force molting of layers may lag 1976 levels in coming months.

If egg production remains unprofitable, producers could hold production at a lower level during the second half of 1977 by sending more old layers to slaughter rather than putting them through a force molt.

In addition to layer numbers edging up, the output per hen during the balance of 1977 is expected to exceed a year ago. The flock will be younger and more productive because of more pullets entering the flock and fewer old layers being recycled.

Post Easter Egg Price Drop

Egg prices showed their usual seasonal drop following Easter. The New York price (consumer Grade A cartoned white eggs, sales to volume buyers, store door delivery) for Large eggs dropped 10 cents a dozen during the 3 weeks following Easter.

Prices likely will rise seasonally in coming months but will stay well below a year earlier. Egg prices usually drop to their low for the year in May, then strengthen during the summer and weaken in October before peaking in December. Prices are expected to follow about the same pattern this year, but the price rise will be limited by the expected gains in egg production relative to 1976. The overall demand for eggs should be relatively strong in coming months because of larger quantities going for the manufacture of egg products and increased hatchery use.

Shell egg prices

Calendar quarter	Received by producers		New York cartoned*		14 Metro areas*	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Cents per doz.	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*
I	57.7	63.4	68.0	74.9	67.7	74.5
II	53.6		63.1		62.5	
III	58.8		71.8		71.0	
IV	65.1		78.4		76.9	
Annual	58.8		70.3			

*Sales to volume buyers, consumer Grade A large.

New York Wholesale Prices Discontinued

USDA's Market News Service as of June 1 discontinued the New York wholesale egg price series for loose eggs. However they will continue to report "Prices to Retailers—Sales to Volume Buyers, Consumer Grade A White Eggs in Cartons, Delivered Store Door."

Over the past 2 years there has been a 75 to 80 percent drop in both the volume of loose eggs handled and the number of handlers. Marketing practices have changed and many dealers who formerly traded in loose eggs are handling cartoned eggs or have gone out of business. The volume of loose eggs handled is no longer sufficient to use as a representative price for eggs.

Table 3—Forced molt layers as a percent of hens and pullets of laying age, first of month, selected states, 1976-77

State	Being molted						Molt completed					
	March		April		May		March		April		May	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Alabama	1.0	.5	.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	10.0	5.5	10.0	4.5	8.0	3.5
Arkansas	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	5.0	8.0	5.0	7.0	4.5	4.5
California	8.0	12.0	9.0	6.0	10.0	12.5	28.0	37.0	35.0	34.5	36.0	32.5
Florida	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	5.5	6.0	12.5	16.0	13.0	14.5	10.5	13.0
Georgia	4.0	3.5	4.5	2.5	8.5	4.5	11.5	12.0	8.5	9.0	10.0	9.5
Indiana	.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.0	2.0	6.5	7.0	6.0	4.5	6.5	5.0
Iowa	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.5	1.5	5.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.0
Mississippi	.5	.5		1.0		2.5	.5	.5	.5	1.0	.5	1.5
New York	2.5	3.5	1.0	4.0	1.0	2.0	7.5	6.0	7.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
North Carolina .	4.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.0	6.0	2.0	3.5	3.0
Ohio	1.0	.5	1.5	.5	3.0	2.5	6.5	8.5	5.5	8.5	2.0	4.0
Oregon	2.0	2.0	6.5	3.5	8.0	9.0	27.0	22.0	23.0	18.0	26.0	20.5
Pennsylvania ...	1.5	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	7.0	2.5	6.0	2.0	6.0	4.0
South Carolina .	4.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	5.5	6.0	7.5	6.5	8.0	6.0
Tennessee	2.0	.5	2.0	4.5	3.0	4.5	8.0	5.0	8.0	5.5	8.0	7.5
Texas	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.5	5.5	2.5	4.0	2.5	4.5
Washington	6.5	8.0	3.0	7.0	6.5	12.0	38.0	34.0	33.5	40.0	34.0	32.5
17 States	3.3	3.9	3.2	2.7	4.7	5.1	12.1	13.8	13.2	12.5	13.0	11.8

Therefore, the *Poultry and Egg Situation* has switched from the New York loose price series to the New York cartoned series. We will also continue to use the 14 Metro area cartoned price series which includes the New York price.

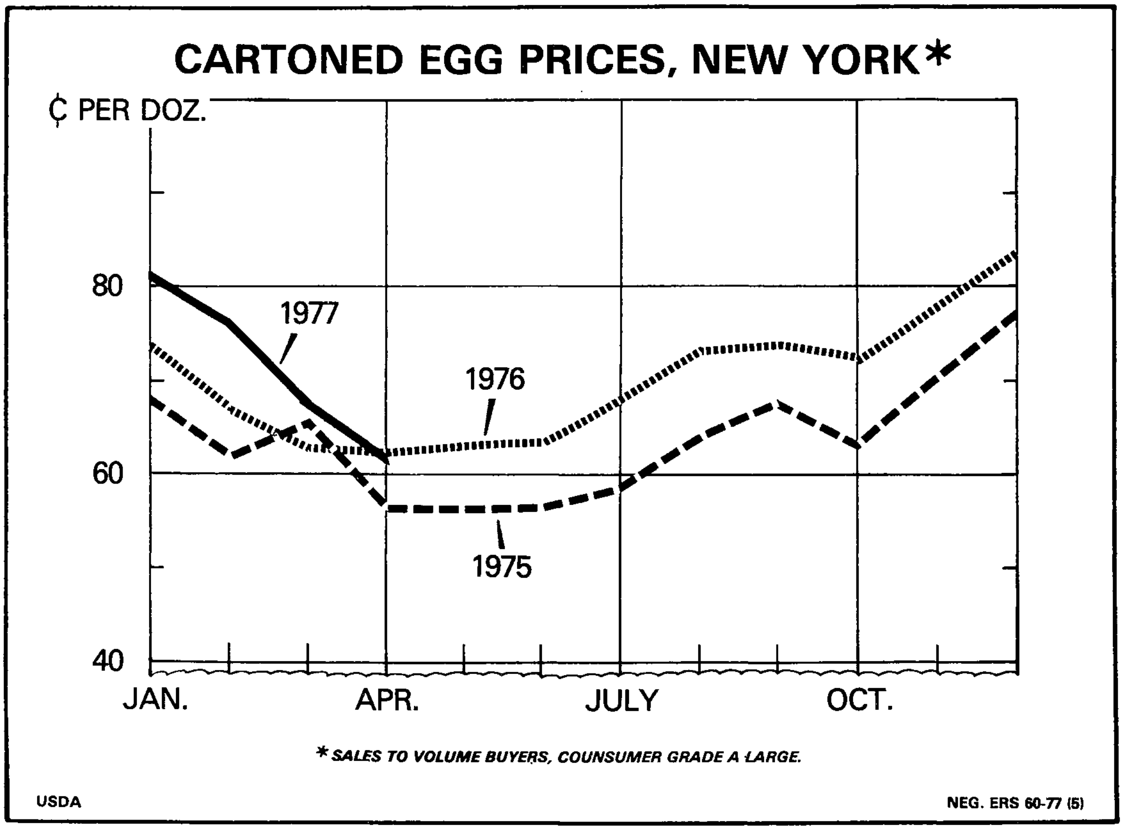
USDA Purchases Dried Egg Mix

USDA purchases of dried egg mix totaled nearly 1.7 million pounds. Around 86,000 cases of shell eggs are required to produce this quantity of egg mix. The first purchase was made on April 26 and thereafter through May 17 when the program ended. USDA purchased 1.5 million pounds in 1976 —all during the month of May.

The dried egg mix consists of 51 percent whole egg solids, 30 percent nonfat milk solids, 15 percent vegetable oil, and 1 percent salt. The whole eggs used in the mix must be processed in plants operating under USDA's Egg Products Inspection Program.

Breaker and Hatchery Use Strong

Egg breakers during January-February broke 90 million dozens of eggs under Federal inspection, 19 percent above the reduced levels in 1976. Weekly reports indicate breakings were up around 8 percent in March and 9 percent in April (table 4).



Cartoned Egg Prices, New York*

Month	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
	Cents per doz.	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*	*Cents per doz.*
January	37.55	60.51	79.75	68.43	73.90	81.04
February	37.01	50.00	74.28	62.09	67.21	76.25
March	42.11	57.14	66.85	65.42	63.04	67.39
April	36.50	56.50	59.07	56.39	62.14	61.38
May	35.11	55.25	49.75	56.32	63.54	
June	36.98	62.89	49.80	56.94	63.61	
July	40.95	69.73	55.32	58.84	68.20	
August	41.51	81.66	62.25	64.46	73.30	
September	45.01	74.53	67.62	67.85	73.96	
October	40.00	69.32	67.94	63.11	72.41	
November	48.75	72.50	67.70	70.49	78.82	
December	57.86	77.53	73.51	76.84	83.87	
Annual	41.61	65.63	64.49	63.93	70.33	

*Sales to volume buyers, store door delivery, consumer Grade A large.

Eggs going for breaking purposes likely will continue well above year-earlier levels in coming months because of very low inventory stocks of frozen egg products. Cold storage stocks of frozen egg products on May 1 totaled a little over 26 million pounds, up 6 percent from a month earlier, but 12 percent below a year earlier. This is the lowest stocks of frozen egg products for the date in recent history. Around 9½ percent of all chicken eggs produced in 1976 went to egg breakers for egg products.

Table 4—Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1976-77

Period[1]	Shell eggs broken	Egg products produced[2]		
		Liquid[3]	Frozen	Dried
	Thou. doz.	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*
1976				
Jan. 4-Jan. 31	36,069	21,263	20,190	3,115
Feb. 1-Feb. 28	37,569	23,729	20,670	3,079
Feb. 29-Mar. 27	44,727	26,076	24,695	4,726
Mar. 28-Apr. 24	46,143	26,107	26,550	4,443
Apr. 25-May 22	45,863	28,198	23,688	4,974
May 23-June 30	68,698	41,699	36,648	6,967
July 1-July 17	28,425	16,315	15,971	3,472
July 18-Aug. 14	48,264	29,420	23,802	6,064
Aug. 15-Sept. 11	45,044	27,117	23,331	4,840
Sept. 12-Sept. 30	36,847	24,106	16,381	3,986
Oct. 1-Oct. 23	42,290	26,283	21,049	4,841
Oct. 24-Nov. 20	48,982	29,278	26,585	5,447
Nov. 21-Dec. 18	42,792	25,120	23,021	4,432
1977				
Dec. 19-Jan. 15	41,440	23,638	22,606	4,225
Jan. 16-Feb. 12	41,678	25,598	21,842	4,588
Feb. 13-Mar. 12	47,126	29,246	23,375	5,725

[1] Weeks in 1976 and 1977. [2] Includes ingredients added. [3] Liquid egg product produced for immediate consumption and for processing.

More eggs are also being used for hatchery purposes this year because of larger production of both egg-type and broiler-type chicks. During January-April, 4 percent more broiler chicks and 6 percent more egg-type chicks were hatched. For all of 1976, an estimated 7.5 percent of all eggs produced were used for hatchery purposes.

Table 5—Egg supplies available to civilians for food, January-March 1976-77

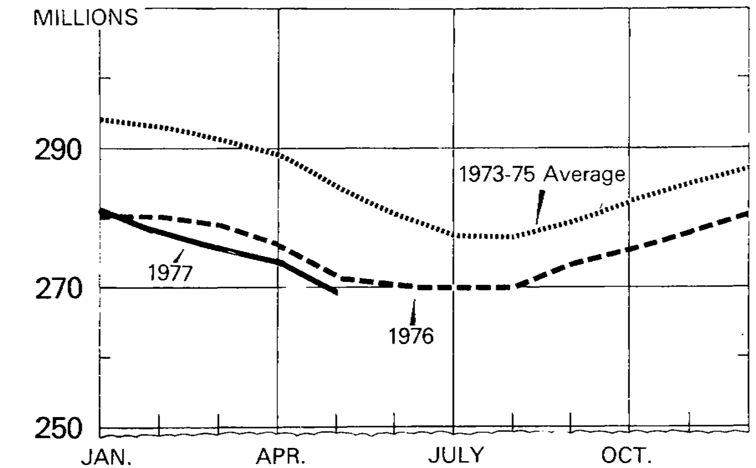
Item	Unit	January-March		
		1976	1977	Change from year earlier
Beginning stocks	Mil. doz.	28.2	20.7	-7.5
Farm Production	Mil. doz.	1,357.9	1,329.9	-28.0
Imports	Mil. doz.	0.2	1.2	1.0
Exports and shipments	Mil. doz.	15.2	16.1	0.9
Military procurements	Mil. doz.	13.1	7.6	-5.5
Eggs used for hatching	Mil. doz.	104.6	108.4	3.8
Supplies available to civilians for food:				
Total	Mil. doz.	1,253.4	1,219.7	-33.7
Percapita	No.	70.8	68.4	-2.4
Civilian population	Mil.	212.5	214.1	1.6

First Half 1978 Egg Prospects

The laying flock on January 1, 1978 likely will be larger than a year earlier and egg prices significantly lower. However, production costs could ease from first half 1977 levels if the large corn and soybean acreage planted this spring develops favorably.

Production costs during January-June 1978 are largely dependent on the 1977 corn and soybean

U.S. FLOCK SIZE*



* NUMBER OF LAYERS ON HAND, FIRST OF MONTH

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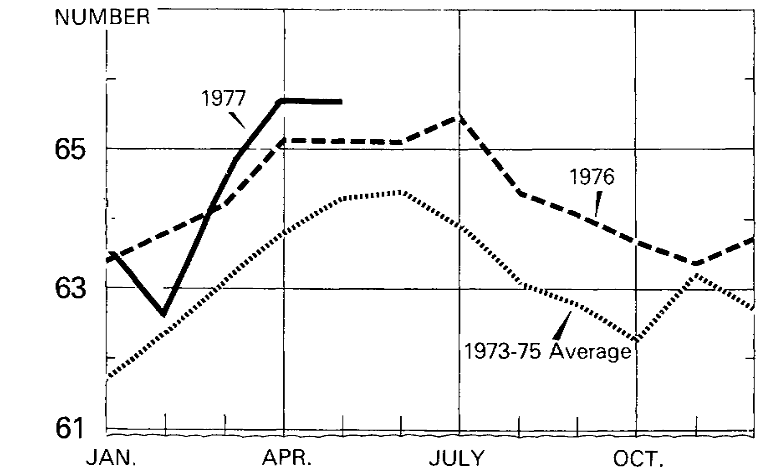
RATE OF LAY*



* EGGS PER 100 LAYERS, FIRST OF MONTH

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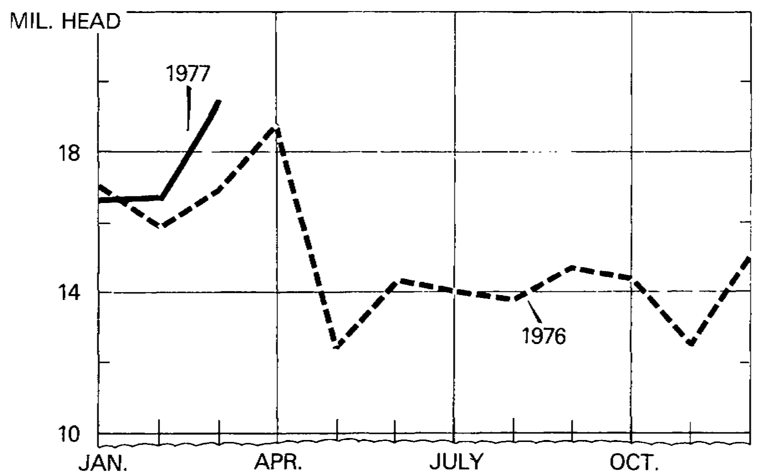
MATURE CHICKEN SLAUGHTER*

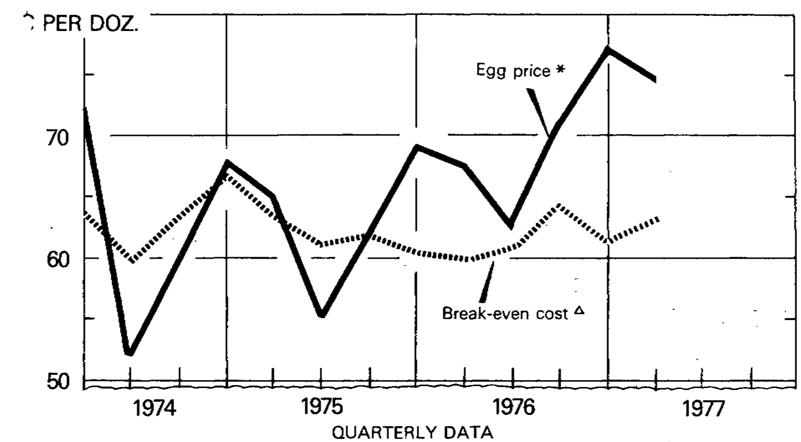


* FOWL FROM BREEDER AND MARKET EGG FLOCKS.

USDA NEG. ERS 621-77 (5)

EGGS

Break-Even Cost and Market Price



* 14 AREA METRO PRICE. Δ ESTIMATED U.S BREAK-EVEN COST

USDA NEG ERS 2609-77(5)

crop with the soybean crop the more critical. Carryover stocks of corn this October may total 800 to 900 million bushels—the largest carryover of old crop since the 1.1 billion bushels in 1972. But carryover stocks of soybeans and soybean meal will be minimal. Although soybean meal prices are expected to ease with a large crop, prices may remain at relatively high levels. On balance, large 1977 corn and soybean crops likely would lead to lower first half 1978 prices both for corn and soybean meal. However, adverse growing weather, which would reduce corn and soybean crops, would cause higher feed costs than in January-June 1977.

The demand for all eggs may be bolstered in the first half of 1978 by improved general economic conditions, larger hatchery use of eggs, and increased breaker activity. Eggs going for hatchery use may show a moderate gain from 1977 levels, but this is largely dependent on the continued expansion in broiler production in 1978. Breaking use could increase further next year but with prospective larger stocks of egg products, the gain over year-earlier levels likely will be less than in 1977.

Egg production in early 1978 will be largely determined by producer decisions during the balance of 1977. If producers continue to raise more replacement pullets, as now seems likely, a sharp reduction in force molting would be necessary to prevent a buildup in the laying flock. It seems likely that the the laying flock at the close of 1977 will be 1-2 percent above a year earlier. In addition, the output per hen will probably continue to rise. Thus, production going into 1978 could be 2 percent or more above 1977.

Higher consumer incomes, hatching use, and breaking use, coupled with total egg production equal to January-June 1977, would be expected to result in the New York cartoned large egg prices in the first half of 1978 averaging 67-70 cents a dozen. This compares with the estimated 67 cents for the first half of 1977. However, if total egg output increases around 2 percent, prices may average 3 to 6 cents a dozen lower than a year earlier (table 6).

Table 6—Estimated January-June 1978 Egg Price/Production Relationships[1]

Total egg production: Million dozen	Total egg production: Percent change from year earlier	New York cartoned large egg prices[2]
		Cents per dozen
2,766	+3	58-61
2,739	+2	61-64
2,712	+1	64-67
2,685	0	[3] 67-70
2,658	-1	70-73
2,631	-2	73-76
2,604	-3	76-79

[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] USDA, cartoned, consumer Grade A, volume buyers, store door delivery. [3] The estimated 67-70 cents a dozen is based on prospective conditions for general economic activity, hatching and breaking use, and assumed no change from the estimated 1977 first half total egg production.

The prices, other than the base price, were estimated by assuming the same conditions as under the base except that total egg production was changed.

BROILERS

Broiler output is expected to be around 5 percent above a year earlier this spring and summer. Market prices for broilers will remain strong this spring and increase seasonally into summer.

Broiler Output Gains

Broiler output through March was at record levels but was somewhat below earlier expectations because of the effects of the severe winter weather over much of the country. Chicks placed 8 weeks earlier indicated that the number of birds marketed should have been above 1976 by around 5 percent but the number of birds inspected for slaughter was up 2.3 percent. The difference between chicks placed and the number marketed indicates that the severe winter weather caused substantial losses to the broiler industry. Broiler meat output during January-March in federally inspected plants totaled 2,156 million pounds (ready-to-cook), up 2 percent from 1976.

Broilers slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected 1976	Number inspected 1977	Average live weight 1976	Average live weight 1977	Certified 1976	Certified 1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	764.7	782.3	3.82	3.82	2,116.4	2,156.2
II	842.9		3.78		2,313.7	
III	864.8		3.79		2,371.6	
IV	780.4		3.87		2,185.5	
Annual .	3,252.8		3.81		8,987.3	

Now that the effects of the adverse weather are behind us, broiler output in the second quarter will increase further. Weekly slaughter reports and chick placements indicate that it will be 5 percent above a year earlier. Producers are continuing to place 5 to 6 percent more eggs in incubators for summer marketings, despite the sharp rise in feed costs (table 7).

If prospects continue favorable for this year's soybean crop and if soybean meal prices ease, pro-

Table 7—Broilers: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1975-77

Week ending	Eggs set 1975	Eggs set 1976	Eggs set 1977	Percent of previous year 1977	Chicks placed 1975	Chicks placed 1976	Chicks placed 1977	Percent of previous year 1977
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*
November								
29	72,321	68,144	74,062	103	58,348	58,362	60,524	104
December								
6	68,101	68,144	74,062	109	59,517	59,529	61,610	103
13	72,353	72,298	75,158	104	59,394	59,407	61,192	103
20	73,231	73,013	76,925	105	59,170	59,200	60,788	103
27	72,752	73,107	76,535	105	56,368	56,398	60,599	107
January								
3	65,629	71,739	77,327	108	55,349	59,337	61,750	104
10	64,498	74,074	78,159	106	54,933	59,146	63,003	105
17	66,755	74,905	77,503	103	55,429	59,615	62,986	106
24	68,543	75,253	77,278	103	54,259	60,608	63,984	106
31	69,768	74,205	78,699	106	53,500	61,168	64,335	105
February								
7	70,495	76,270	80,418	105	55,314	61,397	64,124	104
14	71,371	78,697	82,745	105	57,256	62,089	63,498	102
21	71,308	80,029	83,662	105	57,954	60,489	65,240	108
28	72,652	80,988	84,377	104	58,015	62,870	66,212	105
March								
6	72,080	81,478	85,498	105	58,821	64,639	68,052	105
13	71,552	81,792	85,522	105	58,776	65,667	69,314	106
20	72,818	82,119	85,721	104	59,796	66,944	69,109	103
27	73,608	82,832	86,761	105	60,015	67,168	70,238	105
April								
3	73,775	83,405	87,480	105	59,312	67,449	70,721	105
10	73,297	83,261	87,586	105	59,955	68,039	70,205	103
17	71,790	83,073	87,681	106	60,939	68,560	71,922	105
24	73,242	82,134	85,584	104	61,058	68,729	72,024	105
May								
1	73,892	83,482	87,274	105	60,932	68,869	72,407	105
8	73,994	83,402	87,504	105	59,279	68,369	72,010	105
15	74,033	83,302			60,504	67,075		
22	74,241	83,767			60,120	68,461		
29	74,554	83,815			60,828	68,729		
June								
5	74,177	83,331			61,374	68,662		
12	70,326	83,105			61,153	68,899		
19	70,140	81,278			60,623	69,152		
26	72,123	77,495			60,650	68,412		
July								
3	72,110	80,098			57,886	68,363		
10	71,893	80,641			57,244	66,538		
17	71,789	79,981			58,669	62,977		
24	70,325	79,317			58,985	65,615		
31	70,284	78,625			58,420	65,670		
August								
7	70,087	77,629			58,447	65,182		
14	68,960	76,895			57,723	64,446		
21	70,088	76,602			57,207	63,535		
28	69,445	77,723			57,136	63,297		
September								
4	66,559	73,964			56,445	62,768		
11	58,501	65,270			56,952	62,389		
18	68,763	71,768			56,339	63,517		
25	70,371	76,254			54,388	60,550		
October								
2	67,393	73,645			46,845	52,917		
9	59,532	64,939			56,278	58,163		
16	63,944	67,252			57,677	62,280		
23	69,922	73,567			55,207	60,217		
30	72,638	76,581			48,741	53,091		
November								
6	70,669	74,739			52,444	54,404		
13	72,536	75.892			57,244	60,157		
20	71,753	74,933			59,397	62,816		
	3,667,071	4,024,472			2,998,617	3,293,128		

[1] Includes weeks ending November 30, 1974 through November 22, 1975. [2] Includes weeks ending November 29, 1975 through November 20, 1976.

ducers likely will continue to produce around 5 percent more chicks for slaughter in the fall. However, if prospects turn unfavorable, soybean meal prices will remain under upward price pressures and broiler producers could begin to reduce production.

The broiler hatchery supply flock probably will be large enough to support a 5-percent or larger gain during the second half of 1977. Based on pullet placements 7 to 14 months earlier, the number of layers in the broiler hatchery supply flock will peak this spring then decline seasonally during the summer, but stay above year-earlier levels. Placements throughout the second half of 1975 and all of 1976 were well above the previous year. They fell below a year earlier in February 1977, but moved back above in April.

Broiler Prices Strong

Broiler prices in recent months have been higher than expected. This was partially a result of the severe winter weather which moderated the gains in both broiler meat and pork production. Wholesale broiler prices in 9 cities during January-March averaged slightly over 41 cents a pound, up 5 cents from the prior quarter, but 1 cent below the same months of 1976. Prices continued near this level in April but strengthened in May to around 42 cents a pound. Prices likely will strengthen further during the summer and average in the mid-40-cent range, 2 to 4 cents above a year earlier.

Broiler prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		9-city	
	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Cents per pound			
I	24.6	23.3	42.2	40.9
II	24.1		41.7	
III.......	23.9		41.5	
IV.......	19.8		35.5	
Annual ...	23.1		40.2	

Although broiler supplies will be larger, total red meat supplies may be below year-earlier levels this summer for the first time since the fourth quarter of 1975.

1976 Broiler Crop Record

There were 3,280 million broilers produced in the United States during the 1976 marketing year (December 1-November 30). This was 12 percent above 1975 and nearly 7 percent above the previous record for 1972 (table 26). Production increased in all major producing States. Of the 3,280 million birds produced, 97 percent came from the 21 major commercial broiler-producing States included in the weekly broiler placement report.

Arkansas remained the top producing State by a wide margin. They produced 540 million broilers, nearly a fifth more than Georgia, the second largest producing State. The other producing States in the top 10 in order are Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi, Maryland, Texas, Delaware, California, and Virginia. This was the same ranking as in 1975, with the exception of Virginia which replaced Maine as the tenth largest producing State. With the exception of Virginia, all top 10 States produced over 100 million broilers in 1976.

Prospects for October-December 1977

The tight soybean meal supply situation continues to plague the broiler industry and will continue to do so at least through the summer. However, prospects for a large 1977 soybean crop could improve the situation this fall.

If the corn and soybean crops develop about as now seem likely, (6-billion-bushel-plus corn and nearly 1.6 billion bushel soybean crop) production costs next fall could drop 5 cents a pound from the summer level but still be near the fall of 1976.

Broiler prices normally decline seasonally in the fall. The demand for broilers begins to decline at the end of the summer and continues to weaken until after the year-end holidays. The drop may be less this year because of less competition from red meat and continued growth in the economy.

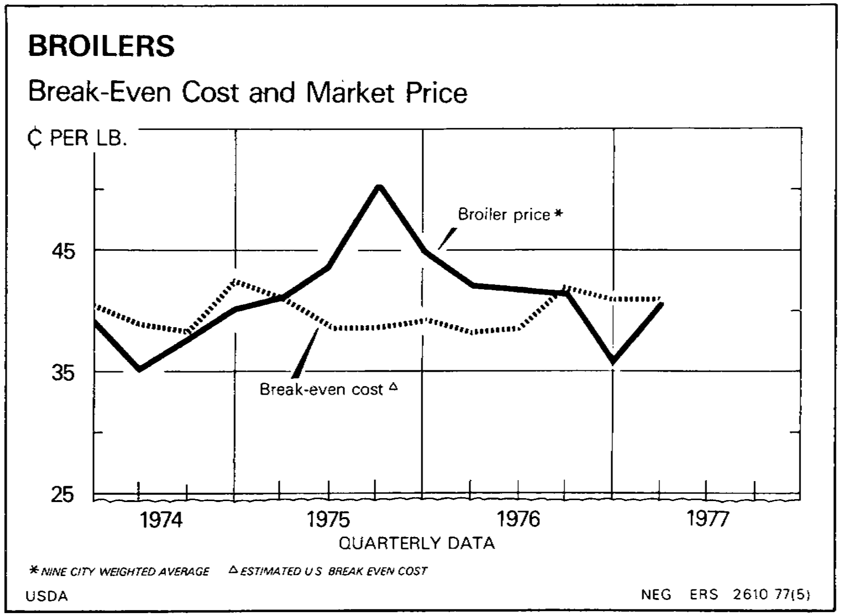
Beef supplies this fall probably will be moderately lower than a year earlier with pork supplies about the same. Both beef and pork prices are expected to surpass year earlier levels. Turkey supplies may not be much different than in October-December 1976.

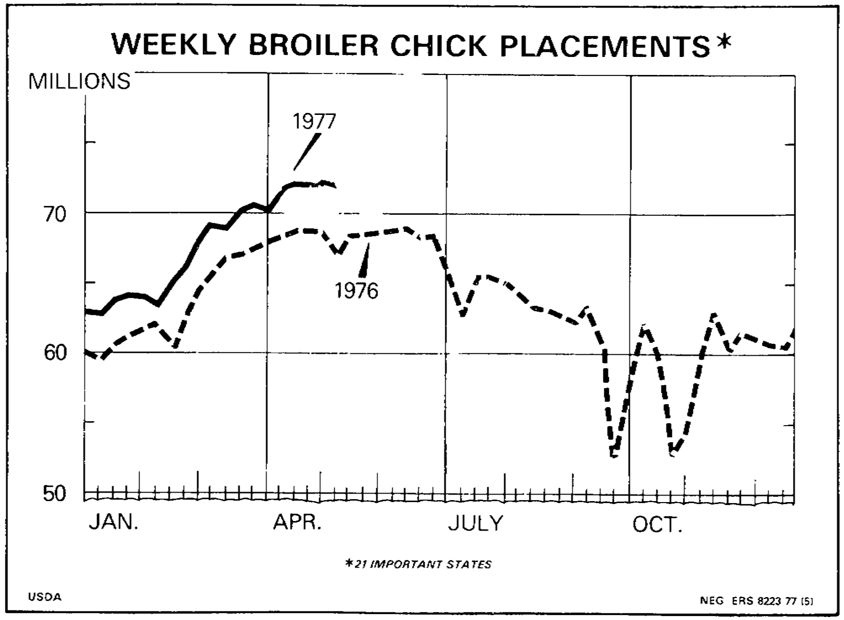
Table 8—Estimated 4th Quarter 1977 Broiler Price/Consumption Relationships[1]

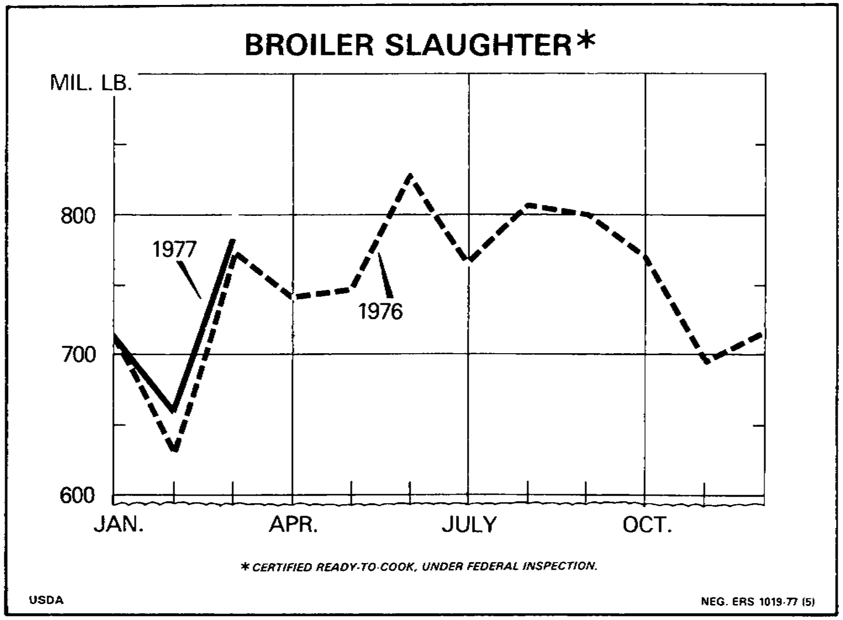
Domestic civilian per capita consumption		Estimated 9-city wholesale broiler price
Pounds	Percent change from year earlier	
		Cents per pound
8.2	-15	52-54
8.7	-10	49-51
9.2	-5	46-48
9.7	-0	[2] 43-45
10.2	+5	40-42
10.7	+10	37-39
11.2	+15	34-36

[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] The estimated 43-45 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats and general economic activity and assumes no change from a year earlier in per capita consumption of broilers.

The prices other than the base 43-45 cents per pound price were estimated by assuming the same conditions for competing meats and economic activity as under the base but various changes from a year earlier in the per capita consumption of broilers.


BROILERS
Break-Even Cost and Market Price
¢ PER LB.
45
35
25
Broiler price *
Break-even cost △
1974
1975
1976
1977
QUARTERLY DATA
* NINE CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE
△ ESTIMATED U.S. BREAK EVEN COST
USDA
NEG. ERS 2610 77(5)


WEEKLY BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS *
MILLIONS
70
60
50
1977
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*21 IMPORTANT STATES
USDA
NEG. ERS 8223 77 (5)


BROILER SLAUGHTER *
MIL. LB.
800
700
600
1977
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* CERTIFIED READY-TO-COOK, UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION.
USDA
NEG. ERS 1019-77 (5)

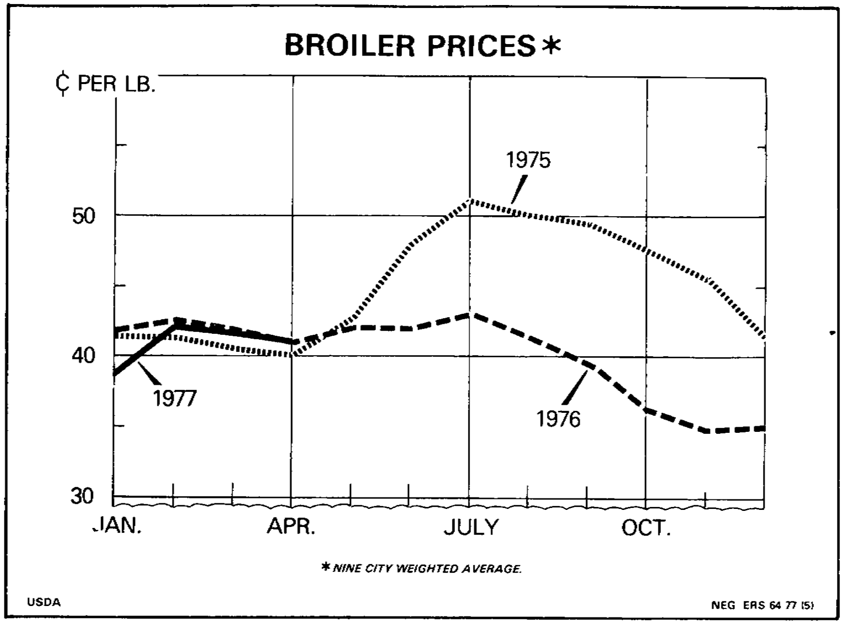

BROILER PRICES *
¢ PER LB.
50
40
30
1975
1977
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* NINE CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE.
USDA
NEG. ERS 64 77 (5)

Table 9—Young chicken: Supply and utilization, Fourth quarter 1965-76

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappear-ance	Population	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million*	*Pounds*
1965	1,444	26	1,469	34	44	20	1,372	192.4	7.1
1966	1,614	38	1,652	56	40	24	1,532	194.0	7.9
1967	1,565	48	1,614	56	39	18	1,501	196.0	7.7
1968	1,638	25	1,663	26	39	17	1,581	197.9	8.0
1969	1,798	25	1,824	34	37	21	1,732	200.1	8.7
1970	1,832	42	1,874	52	44	11	1,767	202.7	8.7
1971	1,910	37	1,947	40	43	13	1,851	205.1	9.0
1972	1,973	24	1,997	29	48	11	1,909	207.1	9.2
1973	2,025	28	2,052	33	50	8	1,961	208.7	9.4
1974	1,849	35	1,884	37	47	8	1,792	210.4	8.5
1975	2,021	23	2,043	22	61	9	1,951	212.1	9.2
1976	2,203	24	2,227	33	115	10	2,069	213.7	9.7

If this fall's red meat supplies and prices and consumers' disposable incomes turn out about as expected, and broiler meat output exceeds a year earlier by around 5 percent, the October-December 9-city broiler prices would be expected to average around 40-42 cents a pound. This would be 5 to 7 cents above October-December 1976. However, if the other factors are as expected and broiler output is held at 1976 levels, broiler prices could average in the mid-40-cent range (table 8).

TURKEYS

Turkey meat production is expected to average below a year earlier this summer but may return to near 1976 levels this fall. Turkey prices have remained relatively weak this spring but should show some seasonal price strength after midyear.

Output Large

Turkey meat output in federally inspected plants during January-February was down 6 percent. But output picked up sharply in March and was up 17 percent as a result of 14 percent more birds marketed at a 3-percent heavier average liveweight.

Turkey slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	14.7	15.0	17.9	17.9	206.6	209.5
II	27.1		17.2		368.5	
III	49.6		18.1		710.4	
IV	43.0		19.5		664.5	
Annual .	134.3		18.3		1,950.1	

This pushed first quarter total output to 1 percent above last year's level.

Turkey marketings will again drop below a year ago in coming months, though marketing weights could average above a year ago. Production of turkey poults in recent months have been below a year earlier. During February-April, there were 4 percent fewer poults hatched but eggs in incubators on May 1 were about the same as a year ago.

Nearly all of the decline in poults hatched was in light breeds. During February-April, the heavy breed poult hatch totaled around 47 million, about the same as in 1976, while the hatch of light breed poults dropped 32 percent to 3.8 million (tables 10 and 11).

Above year-earlier marketing weights are likely to continue because of the larger share of heavy breed turkeys and the increase in demand for heavier weights for further processing.

Further processing of turkeys is continuing the upward trend of recent years. Through March, turkey meat inspected for further processing was up 16 percent to 170 million pounds. During January-March, 27 million pounds were processed in whole bird form, down 16 percent from 1976. However, further processed turkey meat other than whole-bird gained 25 percent to 143 million pounds. Cut-up turkey totaled 89 million pounds, 9 percent above a year earlier.

Storage Stocks Relatively Low

Cold storage turkey stocks have declined seasonally this year and totaled 130 million pounds on May 1. This was 13 percent above a year ago but well below most other recent years. With second quarter turkey output only moderately larger, mid-1977 stocks may total near the 178 million pounds of July 1, 1976.

Table 10—Turkey hatchery operations, United States and 9 States, 1975-77

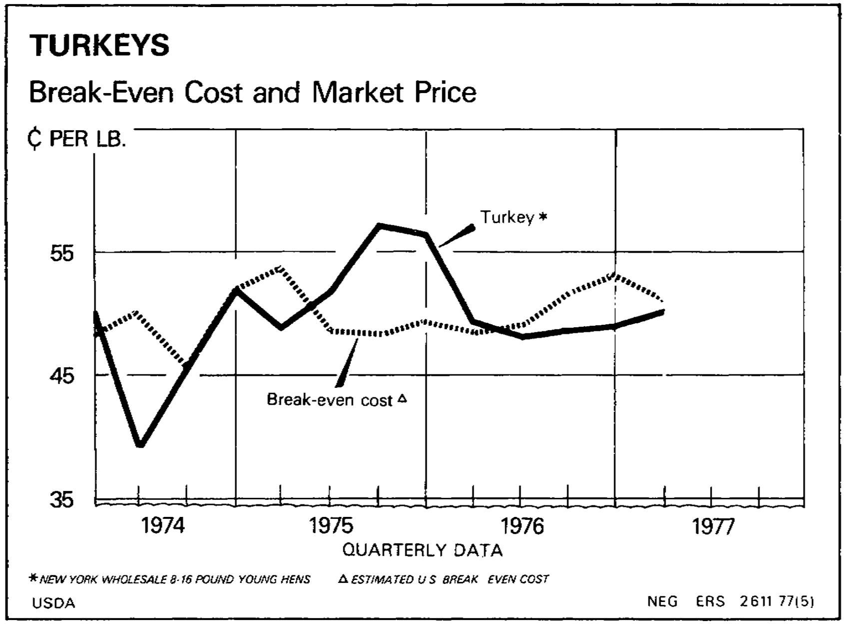
Month	United States				9-States[1]			
	Hatch		Change from year earlier		Hatch		Change from year earlier	
	1975-76	1976-77	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month	1975-76	1976-77	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*
September	4,337	4,301	-1	-2	3,710	3,677	-1	-4
October	4,465	4,889	9	6	3,766	3,977	6	0
November	5,391	6,129	14	4	4,466	5,117	15	6
December	7,888	7,633	-3	-9	6,433	5,974	-7	-13
January	10,582	10,771	2	2	8,565	8,389	-2	-3
February	13,774	12,733	-8	-3	10,781	9,767	-9	-7
March	18,735	18,091	-3	-5	14,819	13,851	-7	-7
April	19,901	19,511	-2	-3	15,408	14,903	-3	-5
May	20,280			0	15,721			-2
June	19,673				15,476			
July	15,422				12,085			
August	8,155				6,638			

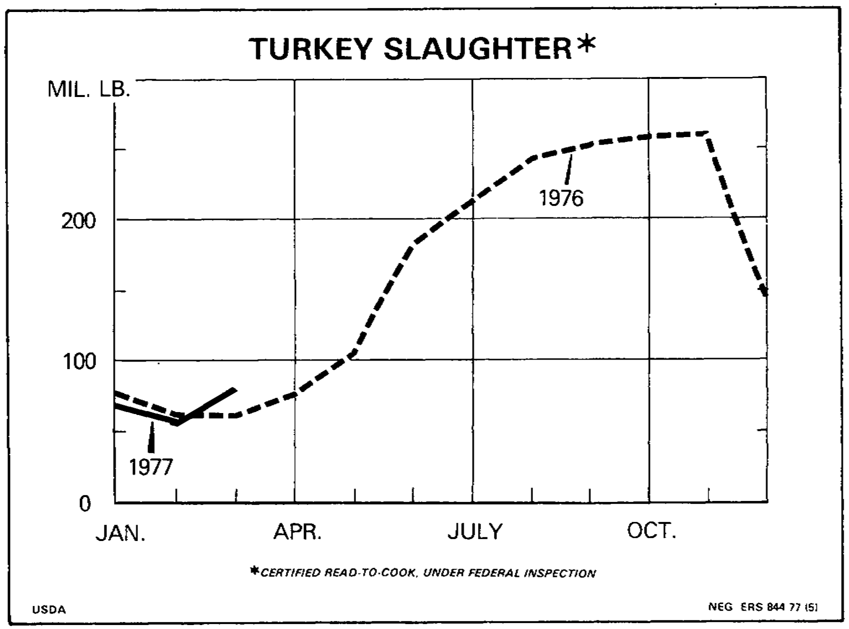
[1] California, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

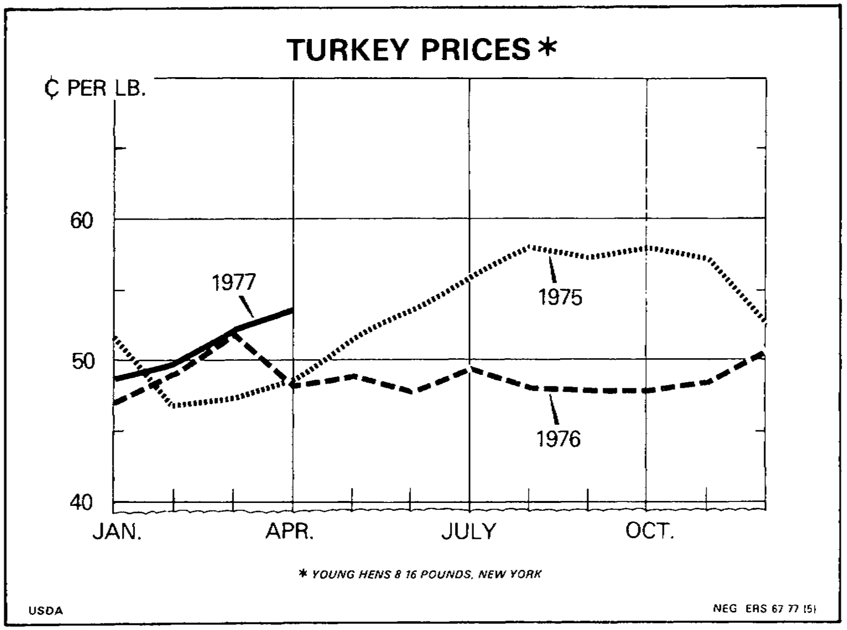
Table 11—Turkeys: Monthly hatchings by breed type, advanced to indicate prospective month of marketing, 1975-77

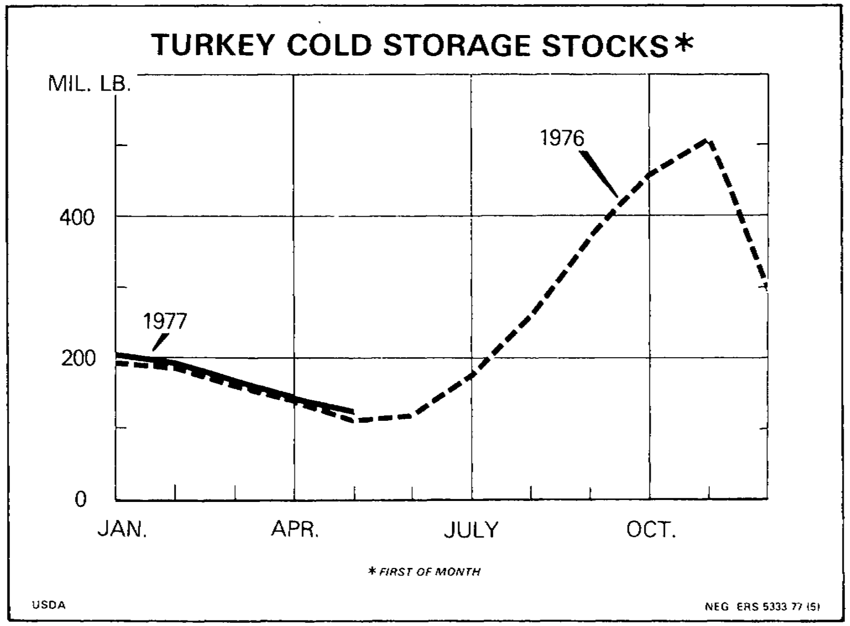
Month of marketing	Light breed advanced 4 months			Heavy breeds: Hens advanced 5 months			Heavy breeds: Toms advanced 6 months			All turkey: Sum of preceding columns*		
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
	Million	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*
January	0.5	0.7	0.6	2.6	3.7	3.5	5.9	6.4	6.7	9.1	10.8	10.8
February	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.8	1.8	2.6	3.7	3.5	5.1	6.5	6.3
March	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.0	1.3	1.8	1.8	4.1	4.8	5.1
April	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.8	2.1	2.4	1.5	1.7	2.0	4.6	5.3	5.7
May	1.2	1.8	1.2	2.6	3.2	3.2	1.8	2.1	2.4	5.7	7.1	6.8
June	1.4	1.5	1.1	3.7	4.4	4.8	2.6	3.2	3.2	7.7	9.1	9.1
July	1.4	2.0	1.3	5.3	6.1	5.8	3.7	4.4	4.8	10.5	12.5	11.9
August	1.7	2.0	1.4	7.4	8.4	8.4	5.3	6.1	5.8	14.3	16.5	15.6
September	1.5	1.9		8.5	8.9	9.1	7.4	8.4	8.4	17.4	19.2	
October	1.4	1.9		8.8	9.2		8.5	8.9	9.1	18.7	20.0	
November	1.5	2.0		8.1	8.9		8.8	9.2		18.4	20.0	
December	1.3	1.2		6.4	6.7		8.1	8.9		15.8	16.8	

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


TURKEYS
Break-Even Cost and Market Price
¢ PER LB.
55
45
35
Turkey *
Break-even cost Δ
1974
1975
1976
1977
QUARTERLY DATA
* NEW YORK WHOLESALE 8-16 POUND YOUNG HENS
Δ ESTIMATED U.S. BREAK-EVEN COST
USDA
NEG. ERS 2611-77(5)


TURKEY SLAUGHTER*
MIL. LB.
200
100
0
1976
1977
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CERTIFIED READ-TO-COOK, UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
USDA
NEG. ERS 844-77 (5)


TURKEY PRICES*
¢ PER LB.
60
50
40
1977
1975
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* YOUNG HENS 8-16 POUNDS, NEW YORK
USDA
NEG. ERS 67-77 (5)


TURKEY COLD STORAGE STOCKS*
MIL. LB.
400
200
0
1976
1977
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* FIRST OF MONTH
USDA
NEG. ERS 5333-77 (5)

Turkey Prices Above 1976

Turkey prices trended steadily upward in early 1977 but have weakened in recent weeks. New York wholesale prices for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys through April averaged 51 cents a pound, ranging from 48.7 cents for January to 53.6 cents for April. Prices for these months in 1976 averaged 49 cents a pound. Prices weakened in late April and averaged around 51 cents a pound in mid-May, 2 cents above a year ago. Prices will remain relatively weak this spring but should strengthen this summer and fall. Prices will be bolstered this fall by reduced supplies and higher prices for red meats and increased consumer incomes.

Turkey prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		New York wholesale			
			Young hens 8-16 pounds		Young toms 14-20 pounds	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Cents per pound					
I	32.8	33.0	49.3	50.2	47.6	51.4
II	31.7		48.2		49.3	
III	31.0		48.5		47.7	
IV	31.8		49.0		50.2	
Annual	31.8		48.7		48.7	

Tom turkey prices, 24-26 pounds, f.o.b. New York[1]

Month	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
	Cents per lb.	*Cents per lb.*	*Cents per lb.*	*Cents per lb.*	*Cents per lb.*
January	41.5	48.9	49.8	52.4	54.2
February	44.5	47.0	46.9	50.7	55.4
March	51.1	45.6	44.6	53.7	57.3
April	52.5	39.3	46.0	54.6	58.1
May	57.6	41.1	50.0	60.0	
June	62.7	41.4	53.2	56.3	
July	64.2	37.4	54.4	56.3	
August	75.4	45.1	56.4	55.4	
September	77.0	46.5	57.9	51.3	
October	67.8	45.2	60.7	51.6	
November	57.7	46.9	60.1	51.6	
December	56.4	49.8	56.9	55.0	
Year	59.0	44.5	53.1	54.1	

[1] U.S. Grade A, frozen, ready-to-cook, carlots or trucklots.

GROSS INCOME UP IN 1976

Gross income from chickens, turkeys, and eggs at the producer level during the 1976 marketing year (December-November) increased nearly 7 percent from 1975 to total $7.1 billion (table 12). About three-fourths of the $452 million gain in 1976 was from eggs, primarily because of higher prices.

Sales of turkeys and broilers were both up around 12 percent, whereas eggs gained less than 1 percent. However, egg prices gained over a tenth, while broilers and turkeys dropped about a tenth.

Gross income from eggs accounted for 45 percent of the total, broilers 42 percent, turkeys 12 percent and other chicken 2 percent. Eggs regained top spot in gross income from broilers in 1976 after loosing it for the first time the previous year. Eggs' share of gross income inched up from 43 percent in 1975, broiler's share fell from 44 percent, and turkeys' share remained near a year earlier.

Table 12—Gross farm income from poultry and eggs, 1965-76[1]

Year	Value of sales and consumption on farms where produced									
	Eggs		Broilers	Turkeys	Nonbroiler chicken		Other poultry[2]	Total		
	Sales	Consumption on farms			Sales	Consumption on farms		Sales	Consumption on farms	Gross income
	Million dollars	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*	*Million dollars*
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	1,781	17	1,622	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	2,911	25	2,437	679	118	5	124	6,269	30	6,299
1975	2,793	22	2,899	794	103	5	(4)	6,589	27	6,616
1976[3]	3,128	24	2,950	824	136	6	(4)	7,038	30	7,068

[1] Beginning in 1970 data (except turkey) correspond to a December-November marketing year. [2] Includes turkey hatching eggs. [3] Preliminary. [4] Not available.

FEWER HATCHERIES

The number of chicken and turkey hatcheries continued to trend downward during 1975 and 1976. At the same time, the total egg hatching capacity increased slightly for chickens but declined for turkeys. Although total egg capacity was not greatly different from 2 years earlier, hatching of both broilers and turkeys in 1976 and early 1977 were at record levels.

Chicken Hatcheries

The number of commerical chicken hatcheries in the United States on January 1, 1977 totaled 651, compared with 797 on January 1, 1975 and with 989 on January 1, 1973. Total egg setting capacity on January 1, 1977 totaled 420 million, up from 416 million 2 years earlier. Despite the limited gain in hatchery capacity, the number of chicks hatched (both egg-type and broiler-type) during January-March 1977 were 16 percent above the same months for 1975.

The number of hatcheries in all size groups declined but the average capacity increased. The 651 hatcheries on January 1, 1977 had an average capacity of about 645,000 eggs, compared with 522,000 on January 1, 1975. Those with capacities of 500,000 eggs and over accounted for 68 percent of the total egg capacity for all chicken hatcheries.

The number of hatcheries declined in all regions of the United States during the past 2 years, with the largest percentage decline in the West North Central, down 26 percent, followed by the South Central and East North Central, each down about 17 percent.

United States chick hatcheries in 1976 produced nearly 4 billion chicks, up a tenth from 1975. Of the chicks hatched in 1976, broiler chicks accounted for about 88 percent of the total. The leading States in broiler-type chick hatchings were Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and Mississippi. These 5 States accounted for 61 percent of the broiler chicken in 1976. The top States in egg-type chicks hatched in 1976 were Georgia, California, Florida, Indiana, and Arkansas. These States produced 39 percent of the egg-type chicks hatched.

Turkey Hatcheries

On January 1, 1977, there were 149 turkey hatcheries in the United States, 31 less than 2 years earlier. Egg capacity declined nearly 4 percent during the same period to 40.4 million but the average capacity per hatchery gained around 17 percent to 271,000 eggs. Over half of the turkey hatcheries have capacities of 200,000 or more eggs and have accounted for 90 percent of total turkey egg hatching capacity. This compares with 41 percent of the hatcheries on January 1, 1975 and 77 percent of the capacity.

In 1976, these hatcheries produced nearly 150 million turkey poults, 9 percent more than in 1975. The leading States in poult production in 1976 were Minnesota, California, North Carolina, Missouri, and Texas. They produced 60 percent of the turkey poults produced in 1976.

RECORD POULTRY USE IN 1976

The consumption of chicken and turkey in 1976 increased 3.6 pounds per person to a record 52.5 pounds. The previous record use was 51 pounds per person in 1972. Consumption of eggs declined for the fifth consecutive year to the lowest per capita use on record. Per capita consumption of eggs in 1976 totaled 276 eggs, down 3 eggs from 1975 and 38 eggs below 1971. All of the decline in 1976 was in shell egg use, down 5 eggs to 243, whereas processed egg use was up 2 eggs to 33 eggs per person.

Total chicken meat used in 1976 totaled 43.3 pounds per person, up 3 pounds from 1975. Broiler consumption (young chicken) increased 3.5 pounds per person and the use of other (mature) chicken dropped a half-pound. The drop in the use of chicken other than broilers resulted from reduced availabilites. Other chicken largely are old hens culled from the egg laying flocks. And the egg-laying flock numbers in 1976 were the smallest on record going back to 1925.

Turkey consumption also reached a record 9.2 pounds per person in 1976, 0.6 pound above 1975 and 0.2 pound above the previous record use in 1972.

Red meat consumption in 1976 increased 11.6 pounds to 192.7 pounds per person. Beef and veal totaled a record 132.8 pounds, up 8.5 pounds from 1975. Pork picked up 3.2 pounds and totaled 58.0 pounds. Thus, consumption of red meat, chicken, and turkey in 1976 (carcass weight) totaled 245.2 pounds per person, 15.3 pounds more than in 1975 and the largest per capita use in recent history.

Table 13—Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs		Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	14 metro areas price[2]	
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*
Annual average[2]					
1972	17.3	28.9	43.3	40.5	-2.8
1973	29.2	41.7	58.1	64.3	6.2
1974	31.0	45.4	63.5	63.0	-0.4
1975	29.0	43.5	61.8	62.9	1.0
1976[4]	28.6	43.1	61.6	69.9	8.2
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					
I	30.8	45.3	63.6	65.0	1.3
II	28.3	42.8	61.1	55.3	-5.7
III	29.3	43.8	62.1	61.9	-0.2
IV	27.8	42.3	60.6	69.1	8.5
1976					
I	26.9	41.4	59.9	67.7	7.9
II	27.9	42.4	60.9	62.5	1.7
III	31.4	45.9	64.4	71.2	6.8
IV	28.4	42.9	61.4	77.9	16.5
1977[4]					
I	29.6	44.1	63.3	74.5	11.2

[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 14—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*
Annual average[2]					
1972	9.0	14.3	28.2	28.2	-0.1
1973	16.4	22.2	39.8	42.4	2.6
1974	15.8	22.0	40.1	38.0	-2.0
1975	15.1	21.3	39.4	45.2	5.8
1976[4]	15.0	21.3	40.2	40.2	0.0
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					
I	16.4	22.6	41.3	41.2	0.0
II	14.5	20.7	38.7	43.7	5.0
III	14.6	20.8	38.7	50.3	11.6
IV	15.0	21.2	39.3	45.1	5.8
1976					
I	13.7	20.0	38.4	42.1	3.8
II	14.1	20.4	38.9	41.7	2.8
III	16.5	22.8	42.2	41.5	-0.7
IV	15.8	22.1	41.2	35.5	-5.7
1977[4]					
I	15.7	22.0	41.2	40.9	-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 15—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*
Annual average[2]					
1972	13.5	20.5	34.1	36.6	2.5
1973	25.6	33.1	50.6	64.5	13.9
1974	22.5	30.7	48.8	47.0	-1.8
1975	22.1	30.7	49.4	55.1	5.8
1976[4]	22.5	31.5	51.3	48.6	-2.8
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					
I	25.6	34.2	53.8	48.9	-4.9
II	21.6	30.2	48.7	51.7	3.0
III	21.3	29.9	48.4	57.1	8.7
IV	22.2	30.8	49.5	56.5	7.0
1976					
I	20.2	29.2	48.5	49.4	0.9
II	20.5	29.5	48.9	48.1	-0.9
III	22.6	31.6	51.5	48.5	-3.0
IV	24.1	33.1	53.3	48.7	-4.7
1977[4]					
I	22.1	31.1	50.9	50.4	-0.6

[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 16—Eggs: Supply and utilization, 1965-76[1]

Year	Supply				Utilization					
							Domestic disappearance			
									Civilian	
	Production	Imports	Beginning stocks[2]	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Eggs used for hatching	Military	Total	Per capita
	Mil. doz.	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*	***Number***
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	5,710	28	34	5,772	39	45	400	66	5,222	311
1971	5,846	10	39	5,895	58	45	391	52	5,349	314
1972	5,795	2	58	5,855	53	56	395	54	5,297	308
1973	5,547	14	53	5,614	34	49	396	36	5,099	294
1974	5,494	13	34	5,541	42	57	366	38	5,038	288
1975	5,365	6	42	5,413	28	62	371	43	4,909	279
1976[3]	5,404	3	28	5,435	21	65	406	45	4,898	276

[1] Calendar years. [2] Storage stocks include shell eggs and the approximate shell-egg equivalent of frozen eggs. [3] Preliminary.

Table 17—Supply and utilization: Young chicken, other chickens, and turkeys, 1965-76[1]

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	End stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappear-ance	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
				Young chicken				
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	8,127	33	8,160	37	222	32	7,869	37.5
1975	8,082	37	8,119	22	254	35	7,808	36.9
1976[2]	9,059	22	9,081	33	414	32	8,602	40.4
				Other chicken				
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	113	10	9	675	3.3
1974	794	113	907	138	13	2	754	3.6
1975	697	138	835	92	19	4	720	3.4
1976[2]	684	92	776	122	37	1	616	2.9
				Turkey				
1965	1,515	207	1,722	200	58	40	1,424	7.4
1966	1,674	200	1,874	267	47	56	1,504	7.8
1967	1,870	267	2,137	367	49	53	1,668	8.6
1968	1,611	367	1,978	317	41	63	1,557	7.9
1969	1,606	317	1,923	192	40	48	1,643	8.3
1970	1,732	192	1,924	219	43	49	1,613	8.0
1971	1,779	219	1,998	223	27	41	1,707	8.4
1972	1,915	223	2,138	208	42	42	1,846	9.0
1973	1,933	208	2,141	281	54	31	1,775	8.5
1974	1,911	281	2,192	275	43	14	1,860	8.9
1975	1,804	275	2,079	195	53	19	1,812	8.6
1976[2]	2,055	195	2,250	203	71	18	1,958	9.2

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

Table 18—Per capita consumption of eggs by quarters, 1965-76

Item and year	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total shell	Processed[1]	Total
	Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*	*Number*
1965	72.0	70.5	70.0	72.6	285	29	314
1966	71.0	68.7	69.4	73.5	283	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	67.7	68.6	71.6	277	34	311
1971	70.3	69.0	68.1	70.5	278	36	314
1972	71.1	66.8	66.6	67.6	272	36	308
1973	67.0	65.8	63.4	66.0	262	32	294
1974	65.1	62.7	62.2	63.9	254	34	288
1975	63.4	60.2	60.6	63.4	248	31	279
1976[2]	62.1	59.7	59.9	61.0	243	33	276

[1] Shell egg equivalent. [2] Preliminary.

Table 19—Per capita consumption of young chicken and turkeys, 1965-76

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	8.5	9.6	9.6	9.2	36.9	3.4	40.3
1976	9.7	10.4	10.6	9.7	40.4	2.9	43.3
							Total chicken and turkey
Turkeys:							
1965	0.7	0.8	1.8	4.1	7.4		40.8
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		48.5
1971	1.0	1.2	2.1	4.1	8.4		48.8
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	2.0	4.1	8.9		50.0
1975	1.1	1.4	2.0	4.1	8.6		48.9
1976	1.2	1.5	2.1	4.4	9.2		52.5

Table 20—Per capita consumption of red meat by quarters, 1965-76

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	28.8	29.4	29.9	30.2	118.3
1973	28.5	26.6	27.2	29.1	111.4
1974	28.8	29.2	30.0	31.1	119.1
1975	31.2	29.3	31.4	32.4	124.3
1976	33.8	32.0	34.3	32.7	132.8
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	17.7	16.6	15.8	17.3	67.4
1973	16.0	15.4	14.0	16.2	61.6
1974	16.7	17.2	16.1	16.6	66.6
1975	15.0	14.1	12.3	13.4	54.8
1976	13.9	13.2	14.1	16.8	58.0
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
1975	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.0
1976	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.9
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	47.3	46.9	46.6	48.2	189.0
1973	45.2	42.7	41.9	45.9	175.7
1974	46.1	47.0	46.7	48.2	188.0
1975	46.7	43.9	44.2	46.3	181.1
1976	48.2	45.6	48.9	50.0	192.7

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

Table 21—Chicken and Turkey: Production, disposition and price, 1965-76

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*
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	19.5
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	63	8.9	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	2,993	11,322	21.5	252	1,206	15	57	9.7	131	2,426	28.0
1975	2,933	11,034	26.3	222	1,042	14	52	9.9	124	2,278	34.8
1976[3]	3,280	12,506	23.6	217	1,044	13	51	13.0	140	2,601	31.7

[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 22—Cold storage holdings of high protein foods

Item	Unit	May 1, 1975	May 1, 1976	April 1, 1977	May 1, 1977
		Thousands	*Thousands*	*Thousands*	*Thousands*
Total eggs[1]	Case				
Shell	do.	1,110	778	666	704
Frozen	Pound	26	26	42	43
		42,815	29,703	24,660	26,090
Total poultry	do.				
Total chicken	do.	340,271	231,548	279,352	264,900
Broilers, fryers and roasters	do.	156,621	114,301	134,534	132,623
Hens	do.	27,757	19,136	26,630	24,769
Other frozen chicken	do.	59,066	32,312	35,679	38,652
		69,798	62,853	72,225	69,202
Total turkey	do.				
Whole	do.	180,222	114,474	142,335	129,817
Other	do.	136,399	74,928	95,187	83,199
		43,823	39,546	47,148	46,618
Ducks	do.				
		3,528	2,773	2,483	2,460
All red meats[2]	do.				
Beef	do.	775,892	724,335	795,066	833,380
Frozen pork	do.	339,576	390,795	493,209	486,655
Pork in cooler[3]	do.	329,380	250,913	222,952	261,019
Total cheese	do.	441,508	393,700	486,911	509,184

[1] Frozen eggs converted on the basis of 39.5 pounds to the case. [2] Includes other meat and meat products. Does not include cooler beef and pork. [3] Not available.

Table 23—Eggs: Production, disposition and value, 1965-76[1] [2]

Year	Average number layers on hand during the year	Eggs: Produced: Per layer on hand during year	Eggs: Produced: Total	Eggs: Consumed on farms where produced	Eggs: Sold	Eggs: Price per dozen	Eggs: Gross Income
	Millions	*Number*	*Millions*	*Millions*	*Millions*	*Cents*	*Million dollars*
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	314	223	70,082	805	69,276	31.4	1,833
1972	306	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	66,083	572	65,511	53.3	2,936
1975	277	232	64,391	526	63,865	52.5	2,815
1976[3]	276	235	64,821	502	64,319	58.4	3,152

[1] Data cover both farm and commercial operations. [2] 1970-76 are for December 1 previous year-November 30 following year. [3] Preliminary.

Table 24—Chicken and turkey: Pounds slaughtered, cut-up, and further processed, 1970-76[1]

Item	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Chicken							
Slaughter:							
Total:[2]							
Young	7,867	7,724	8,147	8,025	8,127	8,082	9,059
Mature	777	779	742	725	794	697	684
Federally inspected:[3]							
Young	7,161	7,281	7,823	7,786	7,917	7,966	8,987
Mature	516	524	518	521	535	473	491
Cut-up[4]							
Young	1,843	2,057	2,317	2,443	2,466	2,582	3,114
Mature	9	5	6	5	7	10	8
Further processed:[4]							
Young	337	383	437	485	496	541	643
Mature	392	428	466	481	423	356	436
Turkey							
Slaughter:							
Total[2]	1,732	1,779	1,915	1,933	1,911	1,804	2,055
Federally inspected:[3]							
Fryer-roasters	82	87	90	91	100	89	92
Young	1,468	1,536	1,690	1,677	1,716	1,612	1,842
Old	16	18	16	19	20	15	17
Total	1,567	1,642	1,797	1,788	1,836	1,716	1,950
Cut-up:[4]	191	198	300	263	295	313	387
Further processed:[4]							
Whole[5]					387	372	446
Other					509	536	608
Total	479	562	639	791	896	908	1,054

[1] Ready-to-cook weight. [2] Includes non-federally inspected slaughter. [3] Certified ready-to-cook. [4] In Federally inspected plants. [5] Whole carcass turkey which have been injected, basted, smoked, etc.

Table 25—Egg production and average number of layers on hand during the year, by States, by regions and for the U.S., 1972-76

State and region	Number of eggs produced[1]					Average number of layers[1]				
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
	Million	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Million*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*	*Thousand*
Maine	1,443	1,549	1,656	1,650	1,790	6,083	6,328	6,565	6,611	7,260
New Hampshire	313	320	275	283	260	1,316	1,347	1,157	1,167	1,081
Vermont	128	150	131	105	103	545	649	545	452	440
Massachusetts	535	522	509	537	442	2,297	2,281	2,172	2,237	1,846
Rhode Island	57	52	65	70	65	250	223	274	304	278
Connecticut	924	932	864	817	913	4,028	4,126	3,782	3,519	3,856
New York	2,271	2,052	2,030	1,984	1,903	9,903	8,916	8,639	8,510	7,986
New Jersey	746	756	736	620	548	3,495	3,414	3,375	2,847	2,533
Pennsylvania	3,599	3,576	3,490	3,299	3,153	15,081	15,183	14,686	13,638	13,020
North Atlantic	10,016	9,909	9,756	9,365	9,177	42,998	42,467	41,195	39,285	38,300
Ohio	2,324	2,060	2,057	1,999	1,913	10,158	8,901	8,806	8,629	8,233
Indiana	3,036	2,770	2,639	2,609	2,774	12,865	11,857	11,271	11,108	11,654
Illinois	1,778	1,664	1,543	1,483	1,392	7,804	7,278	6,809	6,399	5,968
Michigan	1,523	1,539	1,375	1,303	1,293	6,621	6,613	5,947	5,614	5,513
Wisconsin	1,313	1,267	1,183	1,194	1,159	5,806	5,574	5,240	5,253	5,145
East North Central	9,974	9,300	8,797	8,588	8,531	43,254	40,223	38,073	37,003	36,513
Minnesota	2,584	2,474	2,385	2,209	2,289	10,917	10,479	10,030	9,348	9.607
Iowa	2,295	2,141	2,069	2,006	1,949	9,983	9,497	8,967	8,608	8,250
Missouri	1,473	1,347	1,149	1,241	1,195	6,661	6,024	4,998	5,203	4,973
North Dakota	153	153	151	132	120	760	723	683	603	538
South Dakota	814	785	770	701	622	3,673	3,551	3,439	3,155	2,840
Nebraska	813	775	723	782	737	3,762	3,669	3,487	3,678	3,412
Kansas	718	673	601	599	564	3,087	2,938	2,648	2,609	2,354
West North Central	8,850	8,348	7,848	7,670	7,476	38.843	36,881	34,252	33,204	31,974
Delaware	130	128	134	115	127	611	590	610	516	569
Maryland	334	327	335	331	314	1,478	1,468	1,477	1,464	1,377
Virginia	825	789	760	765	799	3,661	3,518	3,299	3,246	3,373
West Virginia	261	242	248	256	230	1,136	1,043	1,041	1,090	1,009
North Carolina	3,433	3,213	3,037	2,802	2,756	15,172	14,094	13,011	11,954	11,591
South Carolina	1,381	1,319	1,301	1,384	1,282	5,757	5,615	5,360	5,791	5,271
Georgia	5,465	5,534	5,827	5,284	5,591	24,754	24,769	25,046	22,897	23,066
Florida	2,840	2,806	2,852	2,779	2,846	12,075	11,760	11,778	11,799	12,041
South Atlantic	14,669	14,358	14,494	13,716	13,945	64,644	62,857	61,622	58,757	58,297
Kentucky	537	515	527	518	541	2,457	2,328	2,261	2,254	2,365
Tennessee	1,113	1,088	1,026	949	922	4,844	4,700	4,323	4,034	3,923
Alabama	2,852	2,853	2,945	2,951	2,919	12,532	12,743	12,904	12,538	12,263
Mississippi	2,281	1,981	1,908	1,707	1,719	10,239	8,793	8,269	7,260	7,297
Arkansas	3,795	3,695	3,601	3,594	3,734	16,519	15,977	15,394	15,021	15,739
Louisiana	744	665	664	658	671	3,282	3,051	3,002	2,864	2,831
Oklahoma	502	446	428	430	458	2,330	2,117	1,978	1,975	2,061
Texas	2,685	2,496	2,292	2,360	2,357	12,115	11,310	10,609	10,271	10,263
South central	14,509	13,739	13,391	13,167	13,321	64,318	61,019	58,740	56,217	56,742
Montana	217	215	202	196	178	942	926	880	832	768
Idaho	167	197	186	184	192	738	844	821	797	833
Wyoming	32	31	30	30	26	148	141	134	134	121
Colorado	297	317	385	473	505	1,393	1,412	1,709	2,021	2,138
New Mexico	234	208	197	234	270	1,031	940	906	968	1,115
Arizona	164	154	149	159	143	778	741	713	669	662
Utah	295	306	311	321	283	1,326	1,334	1,369	1,381	1,310
Nevada	3	4	5	4	5	17	19	27	24	28
Washington	1,035	1,063	1,089	1,084	1,060	4,353	4,593	4,597	4,563	4,458
Oregon	554	535	543	519	532	2,337	2,314	2,282	2,219	2,295
California	8,652	7,680	8,485	8,467	8,953	39,201	35,147	38,276	37,940	38,945
West	11,650	10,710	11,582	11,671	12,147	52,264	48,411	51,704	51,548	52,673
48 State Total	69,668	66,364	65,868	64,177		306,321	291,827	285,586	276,014	273,869
Alaska	7	7	6	5	6	34	34	34	26	26
Hawaii	204	208	207	209	218	952	987	1,031	993	988
United States	69,879	66,579	66,083	64,391	64,821	307,307	292,879	286,652	277,030	275,473

[1] December 1 previous year through November 30. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 26—Chicken: Commercial broilers produced and nonbroilers raised, by States, by region and for the U.S., 1972-76

State and region	Commercial broilers produced[1]					Nonbroiler chickens raised[3]				
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976[5]	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976[5]
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*1,000 hd.*	*1,000 hd.*	*1,000 hd.*	*1,000 hd.*	*1,000 hd.*
Maine	71,344	75,642	77,426	81,035	86,659	5,886	6,029	6,800	8,300	7,000
New Hampshire	---	---	---	---	---	1,255	1,280	1,400	1,300	1,300
Vermont	---	---	---	---	---	600	376	346	350	350
Massachusetts	---	---	---	---	---	2,200	2,000	2,100	1,701	1,900
Rhode Island	---	---	---	---	---	160	154	297	220	285
Connecticut	3,329	2,730	1,836	1,039	1,041	3,320	3,550	3,550	3,330	3,500
New York	1,730	1,650	1,580	1,450	700	9,800	9,750	9,700	8,500	8,400
New Jersey	650	625	500	---	---	2,521	2,700	2,100	2,200	1,700
Pennsylvania	59,368	61,263	63,649	65,770	75,108	13,300	13,500	14,000	12,440	11,800
North Atlantic	136,421	141,910	144,991	149,294	163,508	38,402	39,339	40,293	38,341	36,235
Ohio	12,700	14,000	11,900	16,666	17,499	9,934	8,337	8,758	8,900	9,100
Indiana	13,201	13,583	11,679	12,295	13,905	11,000	11,800	11,800	12,500	13,350
Illinois	---	---	---	---	---	7,300	7,258	6,700	5,500	5,200
Michigan	566	557	577	510	637	5,500	5,700	5,900	6,000	5,600
Wisconsin	13,130	14,795	11,274	11,067	12,285	4,536	4,272	4,500	4,300	4,350
East North Central	39,597	42,935	35,430	40,538	44,326	38,720	37,367	38,158	37,200	37,600
Minnesota	11,039	11,149	10,815	10,092	12,600	9,211	10,111	10,460	9,572	8,496
Iowa	2,992	3,889	3,615	3,250	3,835	9,100	9,000	9,800	10,600	9,600
Missouri	23,354	21,533	19,796	23,369	25,256	8,052	8,000	6,661	7,078	6,800
North Dakota	---	---	---	---	---	1,044	1,077	1,050	800	750
South Dakota	---	---	---	---	---	3,780	3,700	3,640	3,320	2,983
Nebraska	1,733	2,267	2,312	1,720	1,820	2,860	3,083	2,830	2,550	2,300
Kansas	613	703	780	627	0	3,500	3,430	3,300	2,900	3,000
West North Central	39,731	39,541	37,318	39,058	43,511	37,597	38,401	37,741	36,820	33,929
Delaware	131,873	140,967	146,945	136,278	160,046	625	625	510	650	673
Maryland	177,247	190,673	189,709	179,769	199,008	1,815	1,620	1,400	1,500	1,680
Virginia	77,238	77,168	77,200	77,751	88,921	4,700	4,700	4,550	4,400	4,300
West Virginia	15,951	17,301	18,293	15,798	15,129	1,050	1,100	1,150	1,050	1,034
North Carolina	301,772	290,448	286,558	283,986	315,589	17,005	14,794	15,000	14,000	14,020
South Carolina	28,263	28,853	31,552	27,405	33,404	6,000	5,900	5,360	6,040	5,140
Georgia	442,937	412,986	426,857	416,599	451,531	23,179	29,775	23,100	20,800	20,613
Florida	56,655	56,833	59,727	64,347	74,307	11,016	11,600	11,400	11,300	11,350
South Atlantic	1,231,986	1,215,229	1,236,861	1,201,933	1,337,935	65,390	70,114	62,470	59,740	58,810
Kentucky	7,257	7,239	6,885	5,870	6,716	3,200	3,100	3,100	3,000	3,800
Tennessee	54,962	52,342	42,586	18,012	38,310	4,200	3,800	2,500	2,300	2,900
Alabama	399,274	399,324	398,303	395,769	430,225	12,500	14,250	11,550	14,330	15,560
Mississippi	256,264	239,130	227,220	231,301	257,442	13,194	11,891	10,690	10,300	9,967
Arkansas	532,135	501,845	482,399	481,886	540,428	21,884	22,541	23,517	20,092	19,149
Louisiana	55,769	55,509	54,443	50,662	57,578	3,400	3,300	3,250	3,100	3,200
Oklahoma	21,500	23,650	29,560	28,770	31,425	1,964	2,100	2,499	2,100	1,960
Texas	178,511	173,330	173,588	162,769	190,703	11,003	10,300	10,600	11,000	12,000
South Central	1,505,672	1,452,369	1,414,984	1,375,039	1,552,827	71,345	71,282	67,406	66,222	68,536
Montana	---	---	---	---	---	1,200	1,240	1,200	975	830
Idaho	---	---	---	---	---	500	730	740	760	970
Wyoming	---	---	---	---	---	129	122	130	95	82
Colorado	---	---	---	---	---	1,690	2,058	2,036	2,188	2,205
New Mexico	---	---	---	---	---	887	774	721	1,300	1,151
Arizona	---	---	---	---	---	380	704	406	518	563
Utah	---	---	---	---	---	830	1,075	1,024	922	927
Nevada	---	---	---	---	---	18	18	21	17	25
Washington	16,396	17,575	16,730	15,235	15,876	4,060	4,040	4,100	4,660	4,650
Oregon	[4] 17,100	14,000	14,253	14,000	15,150	1,851	1,962	1,972	1,640	1,600
California	86,022	83,193	90,377	95,825	104,950	26,904	27,673	26,457	22,527	23,650
West	119,518	114,768	121,360	125,060	135,976	38,449	40,396	38,807	35,602	36,653
48 State Total[2]	3,072,875	3,006,195	1,991,444	2,930,922	3,278,083	290,093	296,899	284,875	273,725	271,763
Alaska	---	---	---	---	---	35	35	20	68	68
Hawaii	2,046	1,915	1,900	1,789	2,039	637	700	710	565	588
United States	3,074,921	3,008,667	2,992,844	2,932,711	3,280,122	290,765	297,634	285,622	274,558	272,419

[1] Includes production of other meat-type breeds. Excludes States producing less than 500,000. [2] Illinois and Arizona included in 48 State total to avoid disclosing individual operations. [3] Does not include young chickens lost. [4] Idaho included with Oregon to avoid disclosing individual operations. [5] Preliminary.

Table 27—Turkeys: Production and gross income, 1975-76

	Total number raised[1]		Pounds produced[2]		Price per pound		Gross income	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	1,000 head	*1,000 head*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Maine	6	4	114	76	58.0	58.0	66	44
New Hampshire	21	26	441	520	63.0	63.0	278	328
Vermont	7	7	154	147	61.0	61.0	94	90
Massachusetts	125	143	2,375	2,860	58.0	58.0	1,378	1,659
Rhode Island	9	10	198	210	58.0	58.0	115	122
Connecticut	36	33	756	693	60.0	60.0	454	416
New York	145	150	2,886	3,545	40.0	37.0	1,154	1,238
New Jersey	74	81	1,539	1,717	55.0	56.0	846	962
Pennsylvania	2,838	3,695	53,922	70,205	37.3	38.0	20,113	26,678
North Atlantic	3,261	4,149	62,385	79,773	54.5	54.3	24,498	31,537
Ohio	2,835	2,760	54,149	52,164	35.3	32.0	19,115	16,692
Indiana	5,135	5,188	84,214	93,903	31.8	31.3	26,780	29,392
Illinois	445	441	9,612	9,041	37.9	33.0	3,643	2,984
Michigan	700	1,170	16,100	26,910	31.1	30.5	5,007	8,208
Wisconsin	4,894	5,120	95,922	92,672	38.3	33.4	36,738	30,952
East North Central	14,009	14,679	259,997	274,690	34.9	32.0	91,283	88,228
Minnesota	22,752	24,370	368,582	397,231	34.6	29.5	127,529	117,183
Iowa	6,260	6,345	118,940	126,900	35.2	28.6	41,867	36,293
Missouri	8,125	9,725	153,563	186,720	34.1	29.0	52,365	54,149
North Dakota	911	960	16,034	16,032	36.0	29.2	5,772	4,681
South Dakota	860	956	18,060	20,650	34.3	29.3	6,195	6,050
Nebraska	487	455	9,545	9,510	34.6	28.7	3,303	2,729
Kansas	154	96	3,850	2,688	36.8	32.0	1,417	860
West North Central	39,549	42,907	688,574	759,731	35.1	29.5	238,448	221,945
Delaware	(2)	(2)						
Maryland	39	90	842	1,764	35.9	33.3	302	587
Virginia	5,972	7,297	100,927	120,401	33.9	32.2	34,214	38,769
West Virginia	1,530	1,793	25,857	29,585	33.4	30.9	8,636	9,142
North Carolina	14,400	16,700	241,920	283,900	37.2	35.0	89,994	99,365
South Carolina	2,585	2,618	60,748	60,738	33.2	33.0	20,168	20,044
Georgia	1,216	1,853	22,496	33,910	30.2	30.7	8,783	10,410
Florida	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
South Atlantic	25,742	25,742	452,790	530,298	34.0	32.5	162,097	178,317
Kentucky	(2)	(2)						
Tennessee	4	4	76	76	33.0	34.5	25	26
Alabama	17	26	272	465	30.0	30.5	82	142
Mississippi	0							
Arkansas	7,100	10,138	134,900	209,857	32.6	32.5	43,977	68,204
Louisiana	2	2	38	38	33.0	33.0	13	13
Oklahoma	1,370	1,800	20,550	28,080	32.0	31.0	6,576	8,705
Texas	8,845	9,300	168,055	186,000	34.0	32.8	54,612	61,008
South Central	17,338	21,270	323,891	424,516	32.4	32.4	105,285	138,090
Montana	(2)	(2)						
Idaho	(2)	(2)						
Wyoming	(2)	(2)						
Colorado	3,620	3,695	84,708	90,897	35.0	35.0	29,648	31,814
New Mexico	(2)	(2)						
Arizona	(2)	(2)						
Utah	3,446	3,440	75,123	76,024	37.0	33.0	22,346	25,088
Nevada								
Washigton	225	235	5,963	5,147	40.1	36.2	2,391	1,863
Oregon	1,025	1,300	18,963	22,880	39.0	34.0	7,396	7,779
California	15,771	17,506	299,649	332,614	34.1	29.3	102,180	97,456
West	24,087	26,176	484,406	527,562	37.0	33.5	163,961	164,000
Other States[2]	269	217	5,711	4,249	36.2	33.9	2,066	1,441
United States	124,255	139,749	2,277,754	2,600,819	34.8	31.7	793,626	823,566

[1] Based on turkeys hatched September 1, 1974 through August 31, 1975 for 1975 and September 1, 1975 through August 31, 1976 for 1976. [2] Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, New Mexico and Wyoming combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Table 28—Prices and price spreads for eggs and frying chickens, for selected cities and 10-city average

Item	Grade A large eggs			U.S. grade A fryers		
	January 1977	February 1977	March 1977	January 1977	February 1977	March 1977
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per dozen*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*
10-city Average prices						
Farm price	64.2	71.5	54.1	27.1	29.6	32.4
Price to retailer	82.5	86.4	71.6	41.2	45.5	47.7
Retail price	96.5	101.1	86.6	57.0	60.8	62.8
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	32.3	29.6	32.5	29.9	31.2	30.4
Farm to retailer	18.3	14.9	17.5	14.1	15.9	15.3
Retail	14.0	14.7	15.0	15.8	15.3	15.1
New York Prices						
Farm price	63.5	72.6	53.7	27.4	29.4	33.8
Price to retailer	77.7	88.3	69.0	39.0	44.5	45.5
Retail price	104.6	112.3	92.7	58.8	64.2	65.3
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	41.1	39.7	39.0	31.4	34.8	31.5
Farm to retailer	14.2	15.7	15.3	11.6	15.1	11.7
Retail	26.9	24.0	23.7	19.8	19.7	19.8
Boston prices						
Farm price	68.9	72.2	54.1	27.7	29.5	34.5
Price to retailer	84.5	86.5	68.5	43.5	44.5	48.7
Retail price	105.4	110.2	95.3	61.0	65.3	67.6
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	36.5	38.0	41.2	33.3	35.8	33.1
Farm to retailer	15.6	14.3	14.4	15.8	15.0	14.2
Retail	20.9	23.7	26.8	17.5	20.8	18.9
Chicago prices						
Farm price	65.0	71.9	52.6	25.1	27.7	30.9
Price to retailer	85.0	86.5	71.5	39.0	45.0	47.0
Retail price	97.8	104.1	90.6	53.1	57.7	62.2
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	32.8	32.2	38.0	28.0	30.0	31.3
Farm to retailer	20.0	14.6	18.9	13.9	17.3	16.1
Retail	12.8	17.6	19.1	14.1	12.7	15.2
St. Louis prices						
Farm price	66.4	76.2	57.2	25.8	28.3	31.3
Price to retailer	80.0	86.5	67.5	37.3	44.3	45.3
Retail price	93.8	96.3	81.3	57.1	60.0	62.2
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	27.4	20.1	24.1	31.3	31.7	30.9
Farm to retailer	13.6	10.3	10.3	11.5	16.0	14.0
Retail	13.8	9.8	13.8	19.8	15.7	16.9
San Francisco prices						
Farm prices	62.0	66.0	54.0	28.0	31.0	33.2
Price to retailer	76.0	80.0	68.0	51.0	54.5	52.5
Retail price	83.9	88.7	78.8	61.5	67.5	68.6
Price spreads						
Farm to consumer	21.9	22.7	24.8	33.5	36.5	35.4
Farm to retailer	14.0	14.0	14.0	23.0	23.5	19.3
Retail	7.9	8.7	10.8	10.5	13.0	16.1
Atlanta prices						
Farm price	61.0	72.0	53.0	25.3	28.0	30.9
Price to retailer	83.7	84.0	72.3	36.7	39.5	42.7
Retail price	96.4	96.0	88.2	51.4	57.6	54.2
Price spreads	35.4	24.0	35.2	26.1	29.6	23.3
Farm to retailer	22.7	12.0	19.3	11.4	11.5	11.8
Retail	12.7	12.0	15.9	14.7	18.1	11.5

Table 29—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														
1975	Mil.	285	282	280	276	272	271	270	272	275	278	279	280	277
1976	Mil.	281	280	278	274	271	270	270	272	275	277	280	281	276
1977	Mil.	280	277	275	271									
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1975	No.	1,953	1,771	1,972	1,922	1,991	1,933	1,996	1,991	1,914	1,966	1,905	1,969	233
1976	No.	1,971	1,855	2,005	1,955	2,020	1,961	2,014	1,992	1,916	1,970	1,905	1,971	235
1977	No.	1,956	1,782	2,020	1,974									
Total monthly egg production														
1975	Mil. cs.	15.4	13.9	15.3	14.7	15.1	14.5	15.0	15.0	14.6	15.2	14.8	15.3	178.8
1976	Mil. cs.	15.4	14.4	15.5	14.9	15.2	14.7	15.1	15.0	14.6	15.2	14.8	15.4	180.1
1977	Mil. cs.	15.2	13.7	15.4	14.8									
First of month														
Number of layers on farms														
1975	Mil.	286	284	281	278	274	271	270	270	273	276	279	280	
1976	Mil.	281	281	279	276	271	271	270	270	273	276	278	280	
1977	Mil.	281	278	276	275	270								
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1975	No.	62.6	63.2	63.3	64.0	64.1	64.3	64.5	64.1	64.3	63.3	63.3	63.6	
1976	No.	63.4	63.8	64.2	65.1	65.2	65.1	65.5	64.4	64.1	63.7	63.4	63.7	
1977	No.	63.5	62.6	64.6	65.7	65 7								
Daily rate of egg production														
1975	Mil.	179	179	178	178	175	174	174	173	176	175	176	178	
1976	Mil.	178	179	179	180	177	176	177	174	175	176	176	179	
1977	Mil.	179	174	178	180	177								
Tables 7-9.—Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 50 States														
Eggs produced on farms														
1975	1,000 cs.	15,444	13,892	15,317	14,725	15,069	14,528	14,975	15,019	14,608	15,153	14,775	15,325	178,830
1976	1,000 cs.	15,367	14,425	15,472	14,875	15,211	14,711	15,094	15,039	14,611	15,150	14,778	15,403	180,136
1977	1,000 cs.	15,194	13,711	15,425	14,839									
Storage movement of shell eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	-4	16	-16	-6	42	14	2	-4	-8	-17	-15	-18	-14
1976	1,000 cs.	-8	7	5	0	-4	1	11	11	5	-18	-7	3	6
1977	1,000 cs.	1	15	-2	-1									
Eggs broken commercially														
1975	1,000 cs.	1,441	1,218	1,215	1,455	1,651	1,898	1,957	1,738	1,698	1,702	1,234	1,229	18,436
1976	1,000 cs.	1,257	1,252	1,722	1,690	1,571	1,866	1,752	1,753	1,781	1,753	1,739	1,590	19,726
977	1,000 cs.	1,499	1,485											
Eggs used for hatching														
1975	1,000 cs.	933	1,096	1,093	1,128	1,069	1,046	1,027	953	965	959	1,025	1,063	12,357
1976	1,000 cs.	1,043	1,218	1,227	1,251	1,191	1,160	1,132	1,049	1,034	1,030	1,083	1,130	13,548
1977	1,000 cs.	1,061	1,267	1,285										
Balance														
1975	1,000 cs.	13,074	11,562	13,025	12,148	12,307	11,570	11,989	12,332	11,953	12,509	12,531	13,051	148,051
1976	1,000 cs.	13,075	11,948	12,518	11,934	12,453	11,684	12,199	12,226	11,791	12,385	11,963	12,680	146,856
1977	1,000 cs.	12,633	10,944											
Tables 13-14.—Commercial production of poultry and red meat, 48 States														
Chicken and turkey meat, Ready-to-cook weight[1]														
1975	Mil. lb.	781	676	736	825	831	884	967	942	978	1,067	834	914	10,434
1976	Mil. lb.	857	758	912	897	910	1,077	1,045	1,115	1,125	1,094	1,021	928	11,739
1977	Mil. lb.	849	780	938										
Total red meat, carcass weight[2]														
1975	Mil. lb.	3,315	2,880	2,959	3,089	2,873	2,832	2,842	2,860	3,088	3,339	2,978	3,159	36,213
1976	Mil. lb.	3,267	2,907	3,515	3,109	2,928	3,150	3,048	3,350	3,467	3,497	3,453	3,367	39,058
1977	Mil. lb.	3,273	3,084	3,549										
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Young														
1975	Mil. lb.	646.2	570.2	616.6	688.3	690.1	683.1	714.2	680.5	684.9	739.8	560.7	691.4	7,966
1976	Mil. lb.	712.3	632.3	771.9	742.5	745.4	825.9	766.0	805.2	800.3	769.5	699.2	716.8	8,987
1977	Mil. lb.	713.8	659.2	783.2										
Mature														
1975	Mil. lb.	47.8	39.1	43.6	44.6	37.0	39.0	34.5	34.0	38.7	42.2	31.7	40.5	473
1976	Mil. lb.	44.1	42.2	46.4	48.9	34.4	41.1	38.6	38.0	42.6	39.6	34.9	40.4	491
1977	Mil. lb.	43.6	42.6	51.5										

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 29—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														
1975	Mil. lb.	694.0	609.4	660.2	732.9	727.0	722.1	748.7	714.6	723.5	782.0	592.4	732.0	8,439
1976	Mil. lb.	756.4	674.4	818.3	791.4	779.8	867.0	804.7	843.2	842.9	809.1	734.1	757.2	9,479
1977	Mil. lb.	757.4	701.8	834.7										
Table 26.—Turkey certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Fryer-roasters														
1975	Mil. lb.	7.0	6.9	7.5	7.7	6.9	7.2	8.3	7.0	6.8	8.8	8.2	7.0	89
1976	Mil. lb.	6.5	6.4	8.1	6.9	7.5	9.2	9.5	8.3	8.2	7.9	8.2	5.0	92
1977	Mil. lb.	3.2	5.8	7.8										
Young turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	56.8	39.9	45.8	60.5	73.6	128.3	181.3	194.7	221.1	248.3	211.9	150.1	1,612
1976	Mil. lb.	68.9	54.5	58.8	72.1	98.3	170.0	200.3	233.1	243.3	248.4	252.8	141.2	1,842
1977	Mil. lb.	66.1	51.9	71.0										
Old turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	1.1	.3	1.2	.6	1.5	2.9	3.7	1.6	1.0	.4	.1	.3	15
1976	Mil. lb.	.8	.8	1.8	.9	.7	3.1	4.1	2.4	1.3	.3	.4	.3	17
1977	Mil. lb.	1.3	1.1	1.4										
Total turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	64.9	47.1	54.4	68.7	81.9	138.4	193.2	203.3	229.0	257.5	220.2	157.5	1,716
1976	Mil. lb.	76.3	61.7	68.6	79.9	106.5	182.2	213.9	243.8	252.8	256.6	261.5	146.4	1,950
1977	Mil. lb.	70.5	58.7	80.3										
Table 27.—Ducks, and total poultry certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Ducks														
1975	Mil. lb.	2.5	2.2	2.8	4.7	5.0	5.8	5.3	4.6	4.8	4.7	3.7	3.9	50
1976	Mil. lb.	3.2	2.7	3.4	4.7	5.2	6.4	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.3	4.9	4.2	58
1977	Mil. lb.	3.4	3.2	3.9										
Total ppoultry														
1975	Mil. lb.	761.6	658.7	717.6	806.5	814.1	866.5	947.5	922.7	957.5	1,045.6	817.7	893.5	10,210
1976	Mil. lb.	836.0	739.0	890.4	876.1	891.7	1,055.8	1,024.7	1,093.2	1,101.9	1,072.5	1,001.9	908.2	11.491
1977	Mil. lb.	831.5	763.9	918.9										
Table 28.—Chicken and turkey inspected for further processing in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Chicken														
Young														
1975	Mil. lb.	39.6	35.6	38.4	41.9	40.9	47.3	48.2	48.0	50.3	55.3	45.4	49.7	541
1976	Mil. lb.	51.8	47.5	55.6	53.6	52.2	61.0	54.4	56.3	54.0	54.3	50.0	52.8	643
1977	Mil. lb.	50.5	52.9	66.0										
Mature														
1975	Mil. lb.	31.2	24.4	25.6	29.1	21.8	28.3	25.5	27.7	31.9	38.3	34.1	38.2	356
1976	Mil. lb.	43.2	39.6	44.7	40.0	36.8	32.3	26.9	35.5	32.3	33.8	34.0	36.8	436
1977	Mil. lb.	37.8	38.5	43.1										
Total														
1975	Mil. lb.	70.8	60.0	64.0	71.0	62.7	75.6	73.8	75.7	82.2	93.7	79.6	87.9	897
1976	Mil. lb.	95.0	87.1	100.3	93.6	89.0	93.3	81.3	91.8	86.3	88.1	84.0	89.6	1,079
1977	Mil. lb.	88.2	91.4	109.1										
Turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	44.7	49.1	45.3	69.1	99.1	107.4	111.8	129.1	98.9	67.2	908
1976	Mil. lb.	47.9	44.4	54.5	49.1	69.0	97.9	113.6	124.9	132.1	133.9	119.0	67.5	1,054
1977	Mil. lb.	50.2	50.8	69.2										
Table 32.—Per capita consumption of shell eggs														
Shell equivalent:														
1975	no.	22.0	19.4	21.9	20.4	20.6	19.2	20.1	20.6	19.9	20.9	20.9	21.7	248
1976	do.	21.8	19.7	20.6	19.8	20.6	19.3	20.2	20.2	19.5	20.4	19.6	20.9	243
1977	do.	20.9	18.1											
Tables 34-41.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per dozen for shell eggs														
United States, received by farmers[3]														
1975	Cents	57.2	54.1	54.1	47.4	47.1	45.6	46.5	50.8	55.8	52.9	58.2	63.4	52.8
1976	do.	61.2	58.5	53.5	52.7	54.7	53.3	55.1	60.0	61.4	60.3	65.5	69.5	58.8
1977	do.	65.1	66.2	58.8	55.3									
Grade A large eggs in retail stores[4 5]														
1975	do.	84.2	83.9	74.9	77.2	70.6	66.9	70.6	73.7	79.9	77.7	78.1	86.1	77.0
1976	do.	89.1	90.1	78.2	77.6	75.2	74.4	80.0	85.7	89.0	87.6	87.3	94.6	84.1
1977	do.	98.6	103.4	89.0	81.2									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 29—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														
1975	Cents	50.25	43.34	45.26	36.09	36.86	36.90	39.27	44.64	49.43	45.12	51.05	58.52	44.73
1976	do.	56.21	50.26	44.91	44.20	45.80	45.64	50.31	56.50	57.40	55.68	60.98	66.50	52.87
1977	do.	62.45	59.42	51.13	46.24									
Medium														
1975	do.	44.32	37.21	37.38	30.48	26.26	25.90	27.89	34.02	39.31	38.55	42.95	53.25	36.46
1976	do.	48.93	43.63	34.78	35.43	39.42	37.52	40.57	45.84	47.71	46.53	55.57	60.52	44.70
1977	do.	56.67	54.82	41.98	37.43									
Price to volume buyers[6]														
14 Metro areas:														
Large														
1975	do.	67.82	62.49	64.24	55.78	55.37	54.88	56.76	62.28	66.85	62.37	69.08	75.81	62.81
1976	do.	73.30	67.42	62.40	62.05	63.27	62.30	67.38	72.22	73.52	71.44	76.66	82.52	69.54
1977	do.	78.98	76.61	67.99	63.28									
Los Angeles, Grade AA:														
Large														
1975	do.	68.32	68.71	68.55	58.74	60.26	58.50	55.73	61.64	66.78	63.74	70.00	75.48	64.70
1976	do.	75.33	69.00	66.96	66.36	65.75	66.04	69.86	75.00	74.57	68.97	73.67	78.42	70.83
1977	do.	78.29	76.47	70.13	67.29									
Medium														
1975s	do.	67.32	67.71	65.67	53.85	54.55	50.50	49.27	52.74	59.78	60.93	69.00	74.48	60.48
1976	do.	74.33	66.56	63.96	62.91	62.50	60.86	59.71	66.23	69.57	63.39	70.19	76.15	66.36
1977	do.	76.81	73.84	65.96	62.29									
New York, wholesale prices, white														
Large, 75 percent A														
1975	do.	62.18	55.44	59.24	50.17	49.26	50.55	52.59	58.21	61.56	56.65	65.67	71.85	57.78
1976	do.	68.44	60.50	56.78	55.44	58.38	58.83	63.06	68.56	69.19	67.50	75.19	78.17	65.00
1977	do.	75.06	69.94	63.12	56.92									
Medium														
1975	do.	57.75	50.58	53.24	46.18	40.76	41.43	42.58	48.28	53.07	53.61	59.42	70.50	51.45
1976	do.	64.22	57.94	49.56	49.50	53.88	50.94	55.39	60.83	60.33	61.87	71.94	74.94	59.28
1977	do.	71.19	66.44											
Midwest, paid delivered[7]														
Large														
1975	do.	66.20	59.62	61.38	53.25	53.20	52.75	55.20	60.50	65.25	60.90	67.75	74.50	60.88
1976	do.	72.75	66.25	60.75	59.85	62.31	61.12	65.85	71.44	72.12	70.20	76.00	81.60	68.35
1977	do.	78.50	75.38	67.00	62.60									
Medium														
1975	do.	62.00	54.88	55.50	49.50	45.20	44.25	45.60	50.50	56.38	56.60	61.00	72.50	54.49
1976	do.	68.30	62.62	53.00	52.60	56.88	53.94	56.65	62.25	63.75	63.20	72.50	77.60	61.94
1977	do.	74.00	71.38	58.44	54.55									
Table 42.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per pound for frozen egg products														
New York and Philadelphia														
Frozen egg														
Whole egg, light colored														
1975	Cents	36.06	33.81	32.48	32.72	37.94	37.59	38.38	39.80	42.31	41.39	42.16	41.79	38.04
1976	do.	41.31	42.75	42.56	40.52	41.84	42.64	43.83	47.86	52.50	52.06	54.02	52.50	46.20
1977	do.	50.47	48.28	45.46										
White														
1975	do.	17.57	16.97	16.41	16.38	18.75	20.44	21.38	22.27	23.11	22.69	22.94	22.92	20.15
1976	do.	22.31	22.59	22.58	21.92	23.88	25.56	26.97	28.75	31.75	32.37	34.28	34.00	27.25
1977	do.	32.31	32.16	31.03										
Yolks, light colored, sugared, 43 percent solids														
1975	do.	69.39	64.69	60.69	57.69	60.58	61.75	62.69	64.72	67.69	67.42	67.94	68.11	64.45
1976	do.	67.42	67.78	67.50	65.46	66.07	67.40	69.28	76.22	83.34	83.43	84.16	82.02	73.34
1977	do.	79.20	76.62	71.78										
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound														
Liveweight														
United States, at farm														
1975	do.	23.8	24.3	23.5	23.2	24.6	27.6	29.7	29.1	29.6	28.5	27.0	23.9	26.2
1976	do.	24.2	25.2	24.4	23.5	24.6	24.3	25.0	23.8	22.8	20.6	19.4	19.3	23.1
1977	do.	21.5	24.0	24.3	24.3									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 29—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]														
1975	Cents	41.64	41.37	40.72	40.06	42.88	48.05	51.20	49.96	49.66	47.73	45.82	41.79	45.07
1976	do.	41.89	42.68	41.93	41.00	42.07	42.11	43.16	41.61	39.72	36.45	34.92	35.00	40.21
1977	do.	38.78	42.13	41.92	41.44									
Chicago														
1975	do.	42.8	40.9	40.2	39.8	42.3	46.9	50.9	49.6	49.6	47.2	45.6	41.7	44.8
1976	do.	41.7	42.6	41.6	40.9	42.0	41.7	43.3	41.4	39.8	36.2	34.9	35.0	40.1
1977	do.	38.7	41.4	42.0	41.1									
New York														
1975	do.	41.6	41.3	40.3	39.7	42.0	47.2	51.4	49.6	49.7	47.6	45.2	40.6	44.7
1976	do.	41.6	41.9	41.3	40.8	41.8	41.6	42.8	41.4	39.6	36.0	34.2	34.2	39.8
1977	do.	38.0	40.7	41.1	41.0									
Los Angeles														
1975	do.	43.4	42.5	42.0	42.0	44.2	48.0	52.2	51.0	50.9	48.9	47.2	43.3	46.3
1976	do.	43.4	44.4	43.7	42.2	43.0	42.6	44.4	43.0	40.9	38.0	36.6	36.9	41.6
1977	do.	40.7	42.9	43.3	42.5									
Frying chicken in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	59.3	58.6	58.8	57.6	57.9	61.5	68.3	68.6	69.9	66.9	66.5	65.5	63.3
1976	do.	63.6	61.4	60.8	60.7	59.4	62.0	62.6	60.7	59.4	56.7	54.4	54.3	59.7
1977	do.	54.7	58.8	61.3	61.2									
Chicken breasts, in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	102.3	103.4	102.9	101.3	103.0	107.2	116.7	117.1	118.0	116.1	115.8	115.3	109.9
1976	do.	112.3	111.8	109.3	109.6	110.0	111.8	113.7	111.9	110.4	107.0	106.0	106.5	101.6
1977	do.	105.9	108.1	110.5	113.0									
Tables 50-54.—Average turkey prices per pound														
Liveweight[3]														
U.S., at farm														
1975	Cents	32.4	31.2	30.7	29.4	31.1	32.7	34.4	35.7	36.3	36.4	36.7	36.2	33.6
1976	do.	33.4	32.1	32.9	31.8	32.1	31.2	31.1	31.1	30.7	30.7	31.1	33.5	31.8
1977	do.	32.4	32.5	34.2	33.6									
Turkeys in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	69.2	71.6	70.4	69.0	69.1	70.9	71.4	74.5	75.5	76.7	77.4	75.8	72.6
1976	do.	76.6	75.0	73.5	74.4	74.1	74.7	73.9	74.4	72.9	72.8	71.9	70.4	73.7
1977	do.	69.7	70.6	71.4	63.2									
Wholesale frozen (average f.o.b. or equivalent)														
New York.														
Young hens, 8-16 pounds														
1975	do.	51.6	46.9	47.3	48.3	51.6	53.4	56.0	58.0	57.2	58.1	57.3	52.6	53.2
1976	do.	47.1	49.1	51.7	48.2	48.9	47.6	49.5	48.1	48.0	47.8	48.4	50.6	48.7
1977	do.	48.7	49.7	52.3	53.6									
Young toms, 14-20 pounds														
1975	do.	49.1	46.0	43.7	43.3	46.9	49.6	52.7	56.2	57.0	57.2	56.7	54.4	51.8
1976	do.	46.8	46.1	49.8	49.4	50.8	47.8	48.5	47.9	46.8	46.9	49.6	54.0	48.7
1977	do.	50.9	51.2	52.1	53.0									
Paid at seller's dock, frozen														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1975	do.	57.5	50.2	57.2	52.3	55.3	57.0	59.3	61.2	61.2	61.2	61.2	57.9	57.0
1976	do.	51.8	51.8	55.3	52.8	52.9	51.4	52.2	52.0	51.6	51.2	51.7	54.8	52.4
1977	do.	51.9	52.6	55.4	56.6									
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1975	do.	59.0	56.7	55.0	52.0	52.6	56.5	59.5	61.8	64.3	66.8	69.9	70.0	60.3
1976	do.	69.0	69.0	69.7	70.0	70.6	71.0	71.0	71.0	71.0	71.0	72.8	73.0	70.8
1977	do.	72.5	72.2	68.8	68.8									
Chicago														
Hens, 12-14 pounds														
1975	do.	58.7	52.2	50.5	50.6	53.3	54.7	57.1	58.8	58.5	59.3	60.5	57.0	55.9
1976	do.	51.2	50.0	53.5	51.1	50.8	50.2	51.0	50.4	49.7	49.6	50.4	52.9	50.9
1977	do.	50.6	50.6	53.7	55.2									
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1975	do.	57.0	56.7	55.2	55.0	55.0	56.0	57.0	60.3	62.1	65.1	67.2	68.0	59.6
1976	do.	68.0	68.0	67.8	68.4	69.4	70.0	70.0	69.6	69.6	70.0	70.2	70.5	69.3
1977	do.	70.5	68.3	67.0	66.9									
Tables 57-60.—Prices paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios														
All poults each														
1975	Cents	68.7	69.5	70.1	70.0	70.2	71.0	73.9	70.6	70.4	68.6	67.6	68.8	69.9
1976	do.	68.9	69.6	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.2	71.3	69.8	68.5	67.7	66.4	67.1	69.3
1977	do.	67.9	70.6	72.9	73.1									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 29—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														
1975	Dol.	160	151	143	146	145	144	145	150	149	148	143	143	147
1976	do.	143	143	145	144	146	156	162	158	159	154	151	153	151
1977	do.	156	161	161	163									
Broiler grower feed														
1975	do.	176	167	161	164	161	162	161	163	164	164	158	160	163
1976	do.	158	160	160	159	161	172	181	177	179	170	169	174	168
1977	do.	174	178	179	183									
Turkey grower feed														
1975	do.	178	168	161	165	164	165	163	168	170	170	164	165	167
1976	do.	165	165	165	162	165	178	187	181	181	177	177	179	174
1977	do.	182	186	188	195									
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (per bushel)														
1975	Cents	309	300	296	304	288	291	286	317	301	276	264	259	291
1976	do.	262	270	268	268	284	296	296	287	277	249	233	244	270
1977	do.	253	254	252	250									
Soybean meal, 49-50 percent, Decatur (per ton, bulk)														
1975	Dol.	138	127	126	132	129	140	134	144	144	136	127	132	134
1976	do.	136	139	136	136	162	200	208	187	192	182	193	213	174
1977	do.	224	230	247	299									
Product-feed price ratios														
Broiler[10]														
1975	Lbs.	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.2
1976	do.	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.8
1977	do.	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7									
Turkey[11]														
1975	do.	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.0
1976	do.	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7
1977	do.	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4									
Egg[12]														
1975	do.	7.2	7.2	7.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.8	7.5	7.1	8.1	9.0	7.2
1976	do.	8.7	8.4	7.5	7.4	7.6	6.9	6.9	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.6	9.1	7.9
1977	do.	8.3	8.2	7.3	6.8									
Tables 61-62.—Chicks hatched by types and pullet chicks placed														
Chicks hatched														
Broiler-type														
1975	Mil.	253.7	239.0	278.1	275.3	285.1	274.7	270.8	268.3	247.6	249.9	254.6	271.9	3,169.1
1976	Mil.	278.9	268.2	309.5	310.6	321.1	309.2	303.9	295.9	271.9	268.2	267.9	283.0	3,488.3
1977	Mil.	293.3	272.0	322.9	324.4									
Egg-type														
1975	Mil.	34.8	36.6	45.4	47.4	48.0	40.9	38.1	34.9	33.9	34.8	28.4	30.7	453.8
1976	Mil.	35.8	39.6	50.1	51.5	48.2	42.4	38.6	38.3	37.7	37.0	36.3	36.6	492.2
1977	Mil.	40.2	41.3	51.0	54.8									
Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks[13]														
Total														
1975	Thou.	2,211	2,134	2,754	2,492	2,874	2,459	2,466	2,645	2,647	2,449	2,306	2,379	29,816
1976	Thou.	2,423	2,556	2,907	3,104	3,164	2,648	2,797	2,836	2,584	2,668	2,434	2,547	32,668
1977	Thou.	2,585	2,419	2,919	3,275									
Cumulation relevant to breeder flock[14]														
1975	Thou.	20,632	20,585	20,490	20,161	19,828	19,093	18,600	18,057	17,666	18,161	18,365	19,079	
1976	Thou.	19,397	19,692	20,035	20,471	20,786	20,338	20,225	19,774	19,871	20,312	20,771	21,288	
1977	Thou.	21,487	21,978	22,435	22,596	22,708	22,235	21,678	21,099	20,870	20,992	21.431		
1978	Thou.													
Table 63.—Poults hatched by breeds														
Poults hatched														
Light breeds														
1975	Thou.	1,202	1,367	1,406	1,657	1,526	1,400	1,524	1,319	747	1,008	1,244	1,518	15,918
1976	Thou.	1,815	1,496	1,977	2,029	1,933	1,930	1,997	1,215	625	955	1,265	1,257	18,494
1977	Thou.	1,203	1,126	1,270	1,372									
Total heavy breeds														
1975	Thou.	7,487	10,657	14,719	16,960	17,568	16,140	12,734	7,329	3,590	3,457	4,147	6,370	121,158
1976	Thou.	8,767	12,278	16,758	17,872	18,347	17,743	13,425	6,940	3,676	3,934	4,864	6,376	130,980
1977	Thou.	9,568	11,607	16,821	18,139									
All breeds														
1975	Thou.	8,689	12,024	16,125	18,617	19,094	17,540	14,258	8,648	4,337	4,465	5,391	7,888	137,076
1976	Thou.	10,582	13,774	18,735	19,901	20,280	19,673	15,422	8,155	4,301	4,889	6,129	7,633	149,474
1977	Thou.	10,771	12,733	18,091	19,511									

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 29—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														
1975	Mil. lb.	54.2	52.1	51.0	46.7	42.8	44.7	47.8	52.1	51.9	51.0	46.6	42.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	36.3	31.7	28.7	29.4	29.7	28.9	30.1	31.6	31.0	28.7	28.9	25.5	
1977	Mil. lb.	26.1	26.9	24.9	24.7	26.1								
Shell eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	36	32	48	32	26	68	82	84	80	72	55	40	
1976	1,000 cs.	22	14	21	26	26	22	23	34	45	50	32	25	
1977	1,000 cs.	28	29	44	42	43								
Shell equivalent of all eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	1,408	1,350	1,340	1,214	1,110	1,200	1,291	1,402	1,393	1,364	1,235	1,108	
1976	1,000 cs.	940	818	747	769	778	754	786	835	830	776	764	671	
1977	1,000 cs.	689	695	710	675	666	704							
Tables 68-69.—Cold storage holdings of poultry, first of the month														
Total frozen														
Turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	275.0	267.1	239.9	207.3	180.2	162.7	193.2	248.6	328.3	409.8	472.4	286.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	195.2	186.8	160.7	140.7	114.5	120.8	177.3	261.9	370.3	459.7	512.3	298.8	
1977	Mil. lb.	203.4	190.2	167.8	142.3	129.8								
Chicken														
Hens														
1975	Mil. lb.	54.0	55.7	55.6	56.6	59.1	57.1	56.9	54.3	52.9	49.1	44.7	41.6	
1976	Mil. lb.	39.2	34.7	31.4	29.4	32.3	30.1	34.2	36.8	38.6	37.9	40.5	40.3	
1977	Mil. lb.	42.1	40.5	38.8	35.7	38.7								
Broilers, fryers and roasters														
1975	Mil. lb.	37.2	31.5	32.9	28.0	27.8	24.1	22.6	21.7	22.5	22.7	21.9	21.5	
1976	Mil. lb.	22.3	20.2	19.7	19.4	19.1	17.4	20.0	25.6	27.4	24.3	24.3	29.1	
1977	Mil. lb.	32.9	27.4	24.6	26.6	24.8								
Tables 70-71.—Exports of fresh or frozen poultry														
Broilers														
1975	Thou. lb.	10,268	9,841	9,903	11,620	12,595	11,858	10,851	11,931	10,615	13,046	11,483	13,720	137,731
1976	Thou. lb.	16,263	12,881	16,254	17,226	23,950	24,940	20,438	339,409	26,048	26,555	28,906	34,537	287,408
1977	Thou. lb.	27,105	24,963	18,891										
Turkeys														
1975	Thou. lb.	1,384	2,551	2,979	2,952	2,851	3,807	4,389	4,023	5,293	7,139	5,368	4,507	47,244
1976	Thou. lb.	5,135	5,993	7,719	3,958	3,864	6,267	4,050	4.513	4,923	6,327	6,268	6,152	65,170
1977	Thou. lb.	2,947	3,303	2,138										
Tables 72-75.—USDA contracts to purchase chicken, and turkey														
Young chickens, ready-to-cook wt.														
1975	Mil. lb.	3.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.3	6.8	7.0	5.2	30.0
1976	Mil. lb.	7.6	7.3	8.4	---	---	---	---	4.5	5.2	3.3	6.2	4.6	47.1
1977	Mil. lb.	4.9	6.4	4.4										
Canned boned chicken														
1975	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	2.3	---	---	1.3	1.9	2.3	7.3	15.1
1976	Mil. lb.	5.0	2.9	2.4	---	---	---	---	1.3	.4	4.1	2.1	1.8	20.0
1977	Mil. lb.	3.4	3.0	7.6										
Canned boney turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1976	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.7	.5	.7	---	3.0
1977	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---								
Turkey, ready-to-cook wt.														
1975	Mil. lb.	2.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.1	6.9	10.4	---	---	21.6
1976	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.6	13.9	14.4	---	---	34.9
1977	Mil. lb.	3.9	4.6											

[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.

QUARTERLY BROILER PRICE PREDICTIVE EQUATIONS

by Gerald R. Rector
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ABSTRACT: Equations were developed to predict quarterly broiler prices based upon the factors that influence them. Multiple regression analysis was used to relate wholesale broiler prices to the per capita consumption of beef, pork, young chicken, and turkey, plus per capita disposable income. As expected, per capita consumption of chicken and income had the greatest impact on broiler prices. The equation predicted well in 1976.

KEYWORDS: Broiler prices, consumption, income, predictive accuracy.

Equations were developed to predict quarterly broiler prices based upon the economic environment that generates broiler prices. A set of possible explanatory variables, data, and procedures to analyze the data was assembled from general knowledge of the broiler industry and from examination of previous studies on the subject. The main criteria used in the development and selection of an equation was predictive capability, coupled with ease of use and updating.

Description of the Equation

The equation is a linear, price-dependent equation in which the deflated wholesale broiler prices are specified as a function of the per capita consumption of beef, pork, young chicken, and turkey, plus per capita disposable income expressed in 1972 dollars. Deflated broiler prices and disposable income in 1972 dollars were used in order to minimize the impact of inflation through time. The equation was estimated by ordinary least squares using quarterly data for 1960-75. The equation below is the one selected for presentation. Numbers in parentheses below the equation coefficients are the "t" values, a measure of statistical reliability of the coefficients. The R^2 (corrected for degrees of freedom), the standard error of the estimate, and the Durbin-Watson statistic are listed below the equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
DWBP = 70.9978 &- \underset{(2.79)}{.678PCAB} - \underset{(5.58)}{.8856PCP} - \underset{(6.60)}{.38024PCYC} \\
&- \underset{(2.04)}{.35038PCT^*} + \underset{(5.49)}{9.3826RPDI} - \underset{(1.91)}{13.2578S1} \\
&- \underset{(1.61)}{11.2413S2} - \underset{(1.46)}{10.2682S3} + \underset{(1.48)}{2.5818D2} + \underset{(3.88)}{7.1269D3}
\end{aligned}$$

$R^2 = 8.57$ S.E.E. = 1.41 D.W. = 1.26

The dependent variable (DWBP) was constructed by dividing the reported quarterly average wholesale price by the quarterly consumer price index for all items (1967=100). The explanatory variables PCAB, PCP, and PCYC are the quarterly per capita consumption of beef and veal, pork, and young chicken, respectively. The PCT* variable is the per capita consumption of turkey. The variable enters the equation only in the fourth quarter, the observations for the other three quarters were set equal to zero. This specification resulted from the fact that equations estimated for each quarter showed that per capita consumption of turkey was not a significant variable in the first three quarters but was very significant in the fourth. The variable RPDI is quarterly per capita disposable income expressed in 1000's of 1972 dollars.

The variables S1, S2, and S3 are 0, 1 quarterly dummy variables to account for seasonality in demand by measuring changes in the level of demand from one quarter to the next. These dummy variables in effect separate the basic equation into four separate quarterly equations which differ only in the value of the constant term or intercept.

Two dummy variables (D2, D3) were also included for the second and third quarters of 1973 in order to remove the impact of price controls in those quarters. Since these variables have values of zero in every quarter but the second and third quarters of 1973, they are not used when predicting prices for any year but 1973.

Evaluation

The following chart shows how well the equation predicts quarterly broiler prices for 1970-76. The actual and predicted prices are deflated, wholesale broiler prices. The chart shows that the equation catches most of the upturns and downturns.

The second and third quarter of 1973 predictive prices are exactly the same as the actual prices because the variables D2 and D3 force them to be.

Good predictive capacity is expected within the period of fit (1960-75), but this equation also predicted well outside the period. The predicted quarterly wholesale broiler prices (in cents per pound) for 1976 were 40.1, 43.5, 40.6, and 36.0. The predicted undeflated prices were calculated by multiplying the predicted deflated prices by the consumer price index for all items (1967=100). The actual 9-city quarterly averages in 1976 were 42.2, 41.7, 41.5, and 35.5. Since this equation is designed with short run forecasting in mind, testing the equation four quarters ahead of the period was considered reasonable. Since its performance is reasonable, this specification should prove useful for future analysis.

Table 1 gives the estimated quarterly flexibility coefficients calculated at the 1960-75 quarterly mean values. At the mean values, the largest percentage changes in the deflated wholesale price of broiler chicken would be from income and the consumption of chicken. Beef, pork, and income show their largest quarterly impact in the fourth quarter. Chicken has about the same impact in the second, third, and fourth quarters; the first quarter was only slightly lower. Given the linear equation used to estimate the flexibility coefficients, these coefficients will vary as the prices and quantities vary at different points in time.

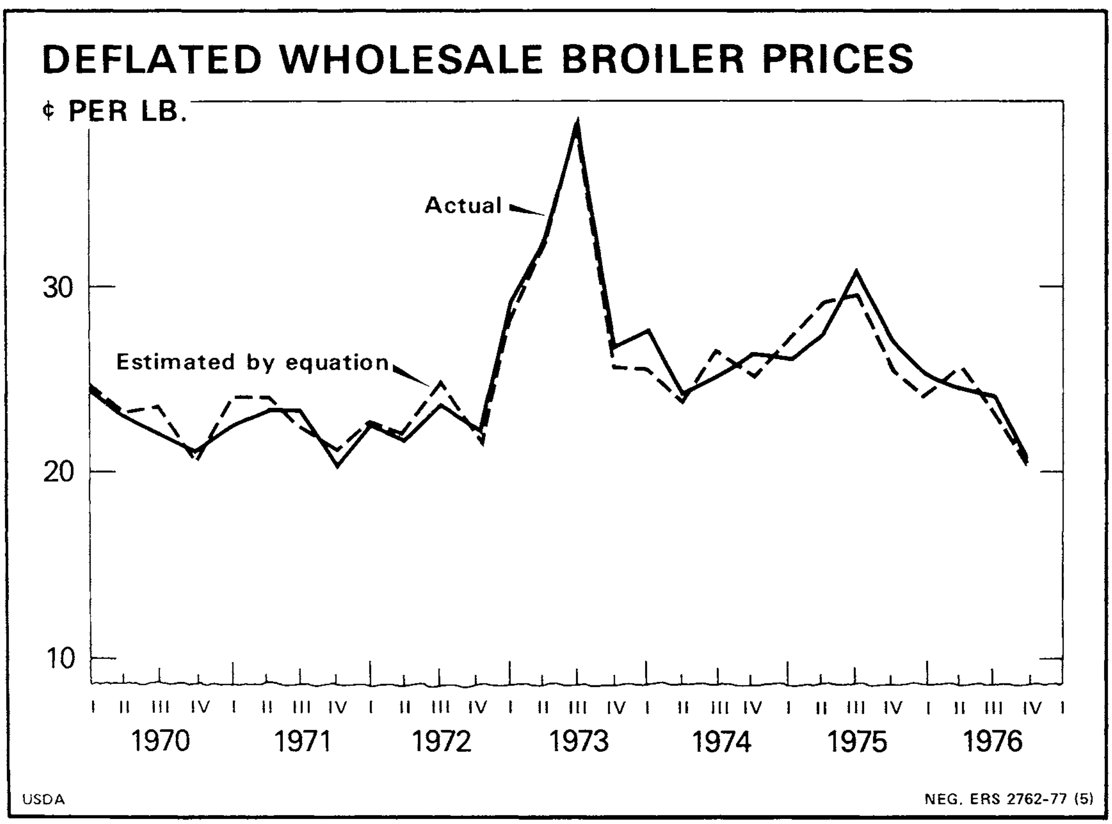
Table 1—Estimated price flexibility coefficients[1]

Quarters	Percentage change in deflated chicken price from a 1 percent change in:				
	Beef and veal (PCAB)	Pork (PCP)	Young chicken (PCYC)	Turkey (PCT*)[2]	Disposable income (RPDI)
I	-.644	-.514	-1.004	--	1.112
II	-.660	-.502	-1.172	--	1.153
III	-.668	-.473	-1.155	--	1.128
IV	-.729	-.585	-1.145	-.553	1.246

[1] Based on a linear estimating equation with quarterly values at the 1960-75 average quarterly levels. [2] Turkey variable only used in fourth quarter.

Other Equations

Many other equations were estimated using different variables and different estimating procedures. Similar equations that were estimated using undeflated broiler prices and disposable income expressed in current dollars had better fits, but they did not do as good a job of predicting broiler prices outside of the period of fit. Other equations were estimated separately for each quarter. Some of these equations were acceptable for the first, second, and fourth quarter. However, no third quarter equation was found to be acceptable.



MARKETING AND INTEGRATION IN THE POULTRY AND EGG INDUSTRIES

by George B. Rogers,[1] Leonard A. Voss,[2]
William L. Henson,[1] and Harold B. Jones[1]

ABSTRACT: Plants which pack and break eggs or process poultry are a major link in marketing channels. They are the major receivers of farm production, and major suppliers of retail outlets and further-processing firms. Thus, processing plants perform many assembly, storage, and distribution functions. Many of them are part of vertically-integrated firms which also engage in contract or direct production and input-supplying. Ninety-nine percent of the Nation's broilers and 80 percent each of the market eggs and turkeys are produced by integrated firms. Two-thirds of broiler and market egg output reaches consumers in near-original form through retail outlets, compared with only 40 percent of the turkeys and only 12 percent of the fowl. Egg breaking plant output is virtually all manufactured into products, and half the turkeys and four-fifths of the fowl are further-processed.

KEYWORDS: Eggs, broilers, turkeys, fowl, marketing, integration, channels, plants, firm.

Previous articles have summarized assembly, processing, and distribution costs of packing plants. This article summarizes the marketing practices of and the functions performed by such plants and the other functions of firms of which they are a part. Data from sample processing plants were collected under cooperative agreements between the Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Economic Research Service. In subsequent tabulations, this has been supplemented with information from other studies and trade press articles. Sample plant and firm tabulations may vary somewhat from total industry figures.

Processing plants carry out rather diverse marketing programs and they are engaged in many other related functions. Moreover, they are quite typically units in poultry and egg firms that also are involved in contract or direct production and input-supplying. Thus, the poultry and egg industries are already vertically-integrated to a substantial extent. It is likely that vertical integration will expand in future years as more firms take on additional producing, input-supplying and marketing functions.

Egg Marketing Channels

About 67 percent of market egg production reaches consumers through retail outlets, and only 4 percent is sold directly by producers to consumers. Virtually all of these eggs are graded and cartoned. Institutions, such as restaurants and other public eating places, military establishments, schools, and hospitals, use about 17 percent of output. These are mainly received as graded eggs in cases. Less than 1 percent of egg output is destined for net exports and shipments. The remaining 12 percent of egg volume goes to egg breaking plants. This output goes mainly into egg-containing products, although there are a few regular egg or dietary products sold at retail. Eggs received by breaking plants include both graded eggs and Nest Run eggs in cases.

Shell egg packing plants include various types of operations. Some are producer-packers, such as large integrated operations with producing and packing units at one location. Other plants are either independent or units of integrated firms dependent on contract production. Others are plants owned by distributors or retailers. Data in table 1 represent a mixture of packing plant types. Over 70 percent of the output of shell egg packing plants is cartoned. Direct to retailer movement is close to 60 percent.

Distributors of shell eggs receive some eggs in cartoned form and the balance as graded or Nest Run in cases. Some of these may be run through distributor-owned grading and cartoning plants. Retailers and institutions are the major outlets for distributors, with minor quantities going to breaking plants. Retailer-owned plants are primarily to serve company needs.

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Table 1—Shell eggs: Marketing practices of sample packing plants, by regions, 1973-76

Item	South 1975	Northeast 1974	Midwest 1973-74[1]	West Coast 1973-76	Total or average[2]
Number of plants	17	41	32	19	109
Volume (mil. cs.) per yr.	4.7	11.1	7.5	11.1	34.4
	(Percents)	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*
Type of pack:					
% cartoned	71	72	72	73	72
% loose graded	20	25	20	14	20
% ungraded	9	3	8	13	8
Outlets:					
% to distributors	46	29	32	9	29
% to retailers	42	63	57	70	58
% to institutions	8	6	6	7	7
% to export	1	([3])	--	2	1
% to breaking	3	2	5	12	5

[1] Includes small number in Mountain region. [2] Other information included in percents, where available. [3] Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 2—Egg breaking: Marketing practices of sample plants, by regions, 1973-75

Item	Midwest[3] 1973-74	West Coast 1973-75	Total or average[4]
Number of plants	14	10	24
Volume (mil. cs. shell eggs) per year	3.2	1.2	4.4
	(Percents)	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*
End product type:			
% liquid	27	61	36
% frozen	21	39	26
% dried	52	--	38
Outlets:			
% distributors	11	15	14
% bakeries, institutions	28	33	31
% food manufacturers	58	48	52
% export	3	3	3
% other[1]	([2])	1	([2])

[1] Other breaking plants and pet food. [2] Less than o.5 percent. [3] Includes Mountain region. [4] Other information included in percents, where available.

Egg breaking plants may engage in a substantial amount of direct distribution to bakeries and institutional users. Most of what they sell to distributors, as well as some of what they sell to food manufacturers (including dryers), eventually goes to bakeries and institutions.

Data in table 2 include plants which produce a larger percentage of liquid and dried eggs than is true nationally. Nationally, liquid egg output accounts for about one-fourth of egg product production, frozen eggs for over two fifths, and dried eggs for the balance. In total, bakeries use almost half of egg product output, over two-fifths go to food manufacturers, and most of the balance to institutions.

Broiler Marketing Channels

About 66 percent of broiler output reaches consumers through retail outlets. Another 25 percent moves to the insitutional trade, with fast food outlets alone accounting for around three-fourths (about 19 percent of the total). Further-processing uses 6 percent, and the balance of 3 percent is exported, mainly as frozen whole birds and parts.

Data in table 3 approximate current broiler processing plant practices. But in recent years ice-packed has probably declined slightly, and the proportions produced in the cut-up and further-processed forms have increased slightly.

Distributors play an important role in broiler marketing. These include not only independent firms but also units affiliated with retail chains and a growing number owned or franchised by processors. The volume of broilers moving to all types of distributors slightly exceeds that moving directly to retailers from processing plants. Distributors supply about 64 percent of the needs of the institutional trade and about 41 percent of the needs of retail outlets. Direct shipments from processing plants supply the balance.

Turkey Marketing Channels

Over half of the national output of turkey meat is now used in producing further-processed items. Whole-bird processed turkeys (includes self-basting) account for over 40 percent of this output and other more extensively further-processed products for the balance. Production of further-processed products by slaughtering firms account for almost 73 percent of total further-processed output and includes about 97 percent of the whole-bird processed turkeys.

Table 3—Broilers: Marketing practices of sample processing plants, by regions, 1973-75

Item	South 1974	North-east 1974	West Coast 1973-75	Total or average[3]
Number of plants	16	13	8	37
Volume (mil. lbs. RTC) per yr.	855	411	279	1,545
	(Percents)	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*
Type of pack:				
% ice-packed[1]	57	75	44	59
% deep chill	22	15	43	24
% CO2[1]	13	5	12	11
% frozen	8	5	1	6
Product form:				
% whole	70	60	55	64
% cut-up	26	34	41	31
% further-processed	4	6	4	5
Outlets:				
% to distributors[2]	53	55	19	47
% to retailers[2]	31	30	65	37
% to institutions	9	6	11	9
% to export	3	3	1	2
%to processing	4	6	4	5

[1] May include small amounts of combination packs. [2] May include company-owned distributors of processors and other firms. [3] Other information included in percents where available.

Data in table 4 appear to include a substantial share of plants which market more turkeys in fresh form, as whole birds, and direct to retailers than many other plants. Nationwide, frozen turkeys account for close to 85 percent of output, and about 17 percent are cut-up.

Table 4—Turkeys: Marketing practices of sample processing plants, by regions, 1973-74

Item	Midwest South 1973-74	West 1973-74	Total or average[2]
Number of plants	9	10	19
Volume (mil. lbs. RTC) per year	239	194	433
	(Percents)	*(Percents)*	*(Percents)*
Type of pack:			
% ice-packed[1]	12	4	9
% deep-chill[1]	10	14	11
% frozen	78	82	80
Product form:			
% whole	65	57	62
% cut-up	12	14	13
% further-processed	23	29	25
Outlets:			
% to distributors	14	14	14
% to retailers	55	46	51
% to institutions	6	7	6
% to export	2	3	2
% to processing	23	30	27

[1] May include small amounts of other packs. [2] Other information included in percents where available.

About 84 percent of whole, cut-up and further-processed turkey products reach consumers through retail outlets, 14 percent are used by institutions, and 2 percent are exported. Over four-fifths of retail supplies are obtained directly from processing plants and the balance from distributors. Processing plants probably supply over half the needs of the institutional trade.

Fowl Marketing Channels

Spent fowl from egg producing flocks are the predominant item included in mature chicken slaughter. Over four-fifths of mature chicken slaughter is further-processed and about 30 percent of this is done by slaughtering plants.

Over 12 percent of mature chicken slaughter reaches consumers through retail outlets and under 7 percent goes to the institutional trade. Plants supply almost 60 percent of retail needs and over 40 percent of institutional needs, and distributors the balance.

Data in table 5 include a substantial share of plants which did less further-processing and more selling to distributors and retailers than many other plants.

Table 5—Fowl: Marketing practices of sample processing plants, by regions, 1973-74

Item	Midwest South 1973-74	West Coast 1973-74	Total or average[2]
Number of plants	9	6	15
Volume (mil. lbs. RTC) per year	164	25	189
	(Percents)	*Percents)*	*(Percents)*
Type of pack:			
% ice-packed[1]	79	28	70
% deep-chill[1]	8	5	8
% frozen	13	67	22
Product form:			
% whole	75	90	77
% cut-up	1	10	2
% further-processed	25	--	21
Outlets:			
% to distributors	9	59	18
% to retailers	14	19	15
% to institutions	5	13	6
% to export	--	3	1
% to processing	72	6	60

[1] May include small amounts of other packs. [2] Other information included in percents, where available.

Processing Plant Functions (Tables 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Many plants surveyed bought some poultry or shell eggs on the open market. This included all of the fowl processing plants but less than one-fourth

Table 6—Functions performed by firms with shell egg plants, by regions, 1973-76

Item	Regions				
	South 1975	Northeast 1974	Midwest 1973-74[1]	West Coast 1973-76	Total[2]
Number of plants	17	41	32	19	109
Plants which:					
Buy eggs	8	28	15	6	57
Assemble eggs	14	27	27	13	81
Grade, pack	17	41	32	19	109
Carton	17	41	32	19	109
Break	1	3	7	8	19
Freeze	1	3	4	6	14
Dry	0	0	1	1	2
Receive, warehouse, store	5	4	13	16	38
Long-distance haul	10	14	16	7	47
Deliver to retailers, institutions	14	33	27	17	91
Plants which are part of firms having:					
Hatcheries	2	7	5	0	14
Feed mills	7	12	10	5	34
Own production	7	27	18	15	67
Contract production	8	10	7	2	27
Pullet rearing	5	1	8	7	21
Grain production	1	1	2	2	6

[1] Includes small number in Mountain region. [2] Some may be associated with poultry processing and breeding flocks.

of the broiler processing plants. Most of the broilers and major shares of the shell eggs and turkeys are produced by integrated firms. Most plants also conducted their own assembly operations, although some used contract haulers. With some egg breaking and shell egg plants, delivery to the plant was sometimes made by the seller.

A substantial majority of the egg breaking, turkey, and fowl plants carried out substantial receiving, warehousing, and storage operations, since much of the output was frozen. With shell eggs and broilers moving in and out of plants more rapidly, receiving, warehousing, and storage was less significant. From less than half of the shell egg plants to almost three-fourths of the fowl plants did long-distance hauling in their own vehicles. Contract haulers carried the balance. Direct deliveries to retailers and institutions were made by a majority of plants, ranging from over three-fifths of the shell egg plants to 100 percent of the turkey plants. Some retailers or institutions also picked up supplies at processing plants.

Many egg processing plants carried out both shell egg packing and egg breaking operations. Many plants which break eggs produced both liquid and frozen eggs, and a few produced dried egg. Most broiler processing plants also had cut-up lines, as did almost three-fifths of the turkey plants, and a third of the fowl plants. Less than a third of the broiler plants engaged in further processing.

It is likely that more shell egg plants will engage in egg breaking in the future. A modest expansion into cutting-up and further-processing may also occur in slaughtering plants.

Table 7—Functions performed by firms with egg breaking plants, by regions, 1973-75

Item	Regions		
	Midwest[1] 1973-74	West Coast 1973-75	Total[2]
Number of plants	15	10	25
Plants which:			
Buy eggs	13	5	18
Assemble eggs	9	7	16
Grade, pack	8	7	15
Carton	7	7	14
Break	15	10	25
Freeze	11	9	20
Dry	5	--	5
Receive, warehouse, store	13	9	22
Long-distance haul	9	5	14
Deliver to retailers, institutions	12	10	22
Plants which are part of firms having:			
Hatcheries	1	--	1
Feed mills	1	1	2
Own production	6	5	11
Contract production	2	1	3
Replacement rearing	2	1	3

[1] Includes Mountain region. [2] Some may have breeding flocks.

Table 8—Functions performed by firms with broiler packing plants, by regions, 1973-75

Item	Regions			
	South 1974	North-east 1974	West Coast 1973-75	Total[1]
Number of plants . .	17	13	8	38
Plants which:				
Buy live or RTC .	2	4	3	9
Assemble live . . .	10	9	6	25
Slaughter, eviscerate	17	13	6	36
Cut-up	15	10	8	33
Further-process . .	2	6	4	12
Receive, warehouse, store . . .	8	5	6	19
Long-distance haul	5	6	5	16
Deliver to retailers, institutions . . .	10	11	8	29
Plants which are part of firms having:				
Hatcheries	17	8	3	28
Feed mills	17	9	3	29
Own production .	3	10	6	19
Contract production	17	12	5	34

[1] Some may have breeder flocks and be associated with rendering plants.

Firm Functions (Tables 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Almost all broiler processing plants belonged to firms which were engaged in contract production and/or produced broilers on their own farms. A majority of the turkey processing and shell egg processing plants also were associated with firms having contract or owned-farm production, as were a sizable (and growing) number of egg breaking plants. Nationally, it is estimated that 90 percent of the broilers are produced under contract and 9 percent are produced on company-owned farms. For turkeys, 52 percent are produced under contract and 28 percent are produced by large integrated firms. For eggs, about 43 percent are contract production and 37 percent are produced by owner-integrated operations.

About three-fourths of the firms with broiler processing plants had hatcheries and feed mills. Substantial numbers of firms with shell egg processing and turkey processing plants also had feed mills and hatcheries. Some firms maintained breeder flocks and raised replacements.

A few firms were engaged in grain production. This may expand in future years and feed ingredient storage capacities at feed mill sites may increase. Some poultry firms owned rendering plants for directly recycling poultry byproduct meal into feed milling operations. Many firms with production operations were selling manure and litter to crop farmers. A few were producing dried fertilizer, and, in some instances, manure and litter were going to cattle feeding operations.

Table 9—Functions performed by firms with turkey packing plant by regions, 1973-74

Item	Regions		
	Midwest, So. Northeast 1973-74	West 1973-74	Total[1]
Number of plants	13	10	23
Plants which:			
Buy live or RTC . . .	8	7	15
Assemble live	12	8	20
Slaughter, eviscerate .	13	8	21
Cut-up	9	6	15
Further-process	10	5	15
Receive, warehouse, store	11	10	21
Long-distance haul . .	7	6	13
Deliver to retailers, institutions	12	10	23
Plants which are part of firms having:			
Hatcheries	4	4	8
Feed mills	6	4	10
Own production	5	5	10
Contract production .	7	6	13
Breeder flocks	2	4	6

[1] Some may also be associated with rendering plants.

Table 10—Functions performed by firms with fowl packing plants, by regions, 1973-74

Item	Regions		
	Midwest, South 1973-74	West Coast 1973-74	Total[1]
Number of plants	9	6	15
Plants which:			
Buy live or RTC	9	6	15
Assemble live	9	4	13
Slaughter, eviscerate . . .	9	4	13
Cut-up	1	3	4
Further-process	4	1	5
Receive, warehouse, store	6	6	12
Long-distance haul	8	3	11
Deliver to retailers, institutions	8	6	14
Plants which are part of firms having:			
Hatcheries	---	2	2
Feed mills	1	1	2

[1] Some may also be associated with rendering plants.

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