

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

JLTRY PRICES MARCH 2023

As part of its mandate to ensure fair pricing in the marketplace, the Consumer Affairs Division has been collecting live poultry prices from a sample of poultry depots throughout Trinidad. The prices listed below reflect prices collected for the period March 24th-27th, 2023.

It must be noted that the average price per pound (lb) is the 'live weight' price, which is the price before the chicken has been plucked and gutted. An additional fee is charged for plucking and gutting. Some poultry depots do not offer a separate 'live weight' price and 'pluck and gut' fee. Instead, they offer a single 'dressed weight' price which is the price per pound after the chicken has been processed.

POULTRY DEPOT/ PLUCK SHOP	LOCATION	LIVE WEIGHT PRICE (\$ PER LB)	PLUCK & GUT FEE (\$)
Shaun's Poultry and Meats	St. James	9.00	15.00
Nell's Poultry Depot	California	8.30	20.00
Chico's Poultry Depot	Chaguanas	9.50	12.00
Chicken Boys Poultry Depot	Charlieville	9.00	15.00
Maddy's Poultry Depot	Southern Main Road, California	8.00	15.00
V & R Ramparas Poultry Depot	LP#7 Balmain Road, Couva	8.50	15.00
Mohammed's Poultry Depot	Claxton Bay	8.00	15.00
V Mac Poultry Depot	149 Malgretoute Village, Princes Town	8.25	15.00
St. Charles Poultry	290 St. Charles Village, Princes Town	7.99	15.00
Mohammed's Poultry	57 Manahambre Road, Princes Town	8.00	20.00
Ravi's Poultry Depot	La Romain	8.50	15.00
Indar's Meat and Poultry Depot	Siparia	6.99	14.00
Avocat Poultry	Avocat	8.50	12.00
Low Price Poultry Depot	Fyzabad	8.50	14.00
Ramphally's Poultry Depot	Next to Unipet, High Street, Rio Claro	9.00	15.00
D Poultry Depot	Rio Claro	9.50	14.00
AVERAGE PRICE		8.47	15.06
MODAL PRICE		8.50	15.00

KEY

🔺 Highest Live Weight Price per Ib 🔺 Highest Pluck and Gut Fee 🔺 Highest Dressed Weight Price

🔻 Lowest Live Weight Price per Ib 🛛 🔻 Lowest Pluck and Gut Fee 🛛 🔻 Lowest Dressed Weight Price

DRESSED WEIGHT\$/LB **POULTRY DEPOT/PLUCK SHOP** LOCATION Port of Spain 17.00 George Street Meat Shop Imtiaz Poultry Depot California 17.00 16.00 **Reeyad's Poultry Depot** Aranguez Main Road, Aranguez D'Abadie Meat Mart D'Abadie 16.00 St. Augustine Poultry Depot 18.00 Eastern Main Road, St. Augustine **Pro Processors** 17.50 Arima Jeremy's Poultry Depot 17.00 Arima La Sieva Rd, Sangre Grande 18.00 Lamboy's Poultry Depot Joycelyn Poultry Depot Sangre Grande 19.00 115 Bristol Village, Mayaro 16.50 Lavish Food Ltd Mayaro Poultry and Meats Next to Mayaro Market, Mayaro 17.00 **Riaz Poultry Depot** Calcutta Rd. #2 Freeport 16.00 153 Rochard Douglas Road, **Dillon's Meat Shop** 17.00 Barrackpore Ali's Cunupia 17.00 15 Cocoyea Village, Naparima-Market City Poultry 16.00 Mayaro Rd, San Fernando Shamo's Poultry and Meat 16.00 45 Siparia Old Road, Fyzabad Shop 20 Rest House Trace, St. Mary's 16.00 **R.P.M Meats** Village, Moruga AVERAGE DRESSED WEIGHT PRICE 16.88 MODAL DRESSED WEIGHT PRICE 17.00

Consumers are advised that of the two (2) pricing methods that exist, there is no general rule of thumb that one method is better than the other. The preferred method will always be the one that offers better value for money for consumers at the time of purchase. To illustrate this, assume a consumer wishes to purchase a 5lb chicken at a poultry depot that uses the 'live weight' pricing method. Using the total average price per lb of \$8.47 and an average pluck and gut fee of \$15.06, a 5lb bird will cost the consumer \$57.41 ((5 x \$8.47) + \$15.06). However, it is estimated that, on average, 20% of the live weight of the bird is lost in the pluck and gut process. Therefore, when purchasing a 5lb bird for \$57.41, the consumer will actually get a bird with a weight of around 4lbs after processing. This translates to a final price of around \$14.35 per lb for the actual bird. Estimated final prices for other similar weights are shown below:

LIVE WEIGHT	AVERAGE PRICE PER LB \$	PRICE PER BIRD INCLUSIVE OF PLUCK AND GUT* \$	DRESSED WEIGHT (20% LOSS)	FINAL PRICE PER LB TO CONSUMER \$	
6 lbs	8.47	65.88	4.8 lbs	13.73	
5 lbs	8.47	57.41	4.0 lbs	14.35	
4 lbs	8.47	48.94	3.2 lbs	15.29	
*15.06 pluck and gut					

As always, the CAD is interested in safeguarding not just the economic well-being of consumers but their health interests as well. Accordingly, consumers are advised to always:

- Compare prices across poultry depots; 1.
- Ensure that the premises of poultry depots are maintained in a sanitary condition and 2. that there is running water;
- 3. Ensure that handling is done in a safe and sanitary fashion;
- 4. When purchasing chicken that has already been processed, ensure that the chicken is free of all entrails and is not discoloured.
- 5. Ensure that you and the establishment you go to are employing all Public Health protocols; mask wearing, sanitizing, frequent washing of hands and social distancing.

For further enquiries, please contact the Consumer Affairs Division (623-2931) or email consumeraffairs@gov.tt www.tradeind.gov.tt



