

Poultry

Delaware growers produced 242.9 million broiler/roaster chickens in 2008. Pounds live weight in 2008 totaled 1.58 billion pounds. The average live weight per bird was 6.5 pounds in 2008. Total value of birds raised was \$773.7 million, and the live weight price per pound increased to a new record high of 49 cents. Sussex County is the number one broiler producing county in the U.S. The 2008 U.S. production of birds was at 9.01 billion and up one percent from the 2007 production of 8.91 billion birds. Total live weight increased two percent to 50.4 billion pounds, while value of production increased seven percent, to \$23.1 billion.

Broiler/Roaster Production and Value, Delaware, 2004 - 2008

| Year | Number Broiler/ Roasters | Avg. Live weight Per Bird | Production | Avg. Value per Pound | Total Value |
|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | Million birds | Pounds | Million pounds | Cents | Million dollars |
| 2004 | 241 | 6.2 | 1,492 | 46.0 | 686 |
| 2005 | 248 | 6.5 | 1,612 | 46.0 | 742 |
| 2006 | 245 | 6.6 | 1,614 | 38.0 | 613 |
| 2007 | 246 | 6.5 | 1,598 | 46.0 | 735 |
| 2008 | 243 | 6.5 | 1,579 | 49.0 | 774 |

