



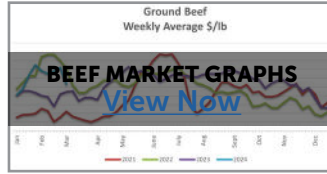
# SUPERIOR MARKET UPDATES

*Meat • Seafood • Produce*

## Pork Bellies

*Expect increased pressure on bellies as we head into the this year's grilling season.*

# MEAT INSIGHTS



## Beef ▼

The current state of the beef market is showing a consistent or slightly **weaker** trend. In comparison to the same period last year, production has **declined** by 3.3%. Furthermore, the year-to-date total headcount has decreased by 5.1% from the previous year, while live weights have increased by 40 lbs. The supply of USDA beef slaughterers has exceeded 600,000 per week, which is contributing to a rise in market product. The news regarding the human avian flu and dairy cattle is having an impact on futures. The **grinds** market is displaying a combination of demand from retail and food service, with a gradual improvement in supply. As we enter the spring grilling season, activity on **loins** remains stable with a continuous increase in supply.

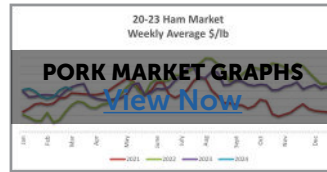
## MARKET TRENDS

*Meat*

BEEF	
Grinds	●
Loins	●
Rounds	●
Chucks	●
Ribs	●

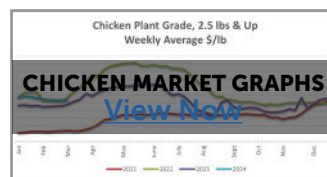
PORK	
Bellies	●
Hams	●
Loins	●
Butts	●
Ribs	●

CHICKEN	
WOGS	●
Tenders	●
Boneless Breast	●
Leg Quarter	●
Wings	●



## Pork ▲

The pork markets are standing **firm**, displaying a steady 1.4% increase in total production compared to the same week last year. Moreover, there has been a significant rise in the total headcount, with an additional 58,000 compared to the same week last year. It appears that consumers are still opting for the more economical choice of pork over beef, as the demand remains strong. However, the **bellies** market is currently facing some uncertainty, despite the high demand it is experiencing. The supply for bellies is quite diverse, and when combined with the anticipation of a bacon-filled summer season, it is exerting upward pressure on the market. On the flip side, the demand for **loins** is skyrocketing due to an increase in loin deboning, and this trend is expected to persist. Conversely, the demand for **butts** is robust due to a surge in retail demand, while supplies are limited.



## Chicken ■

The poultry industry is following a **consistent** pattern, seeing a decrease of 5,410,000 in total headcount from the previous year. Demand remains stable. Predictions for April business and market adjustments have proven to be accurate. The limited supply is a result of decreased slaughter levels, which have dropped by 2% year-to-date. Despite challenges, the market for all cuts is holding steady, with demand for **tenders** leveling off and a balanced demand for **breasts**.



# SEAFOOD INSIGHTS



## Gulf Shrimp ▲

The market is currently experiencing a high level of volatility due to the limited availability and inconsistent nature of data regarding shrimp landings from the Gulf of Mexico. There has been a significant **decrease** of 33.2% in landings compared to the same month last year. The increased competitiveness in imports has helped fuel the volatility that is present in the market.



## White Shrimp ▬

The market's **steady** trajectory looks to continue, with no signs of wavering. As the market for black tiger shrimp stabilizes, there is an anticipated surge in demand for white shrimp. Adequate supplies are available, and the level of demand remains moderate.



## Blue Swimming Crab ▼

Lump, backfin, special, and claw blue crab markets have been adjusted downwards. Smaller grades are now more readily **available**, while the availability of larger grades is considered satisfactory.



## North American Lobster ▲

Pressure is increasing within the market as supplies continue to be **depleted**. Numerous sizes are becoming scarce to the point of non-existence, with substitutes not set to arrive for months.



## Snapper ▼

As the market stabilized for all snapper options, there was a noticeable **downward** shift in the yellowtail snapper market. This change can be attributed to the increased supply of all snapper varieties.



## Canadian Salmon ▲

The current availability of salmon supply is **limited**. It is anticipated that the shortage will be addressed by sourcing from western regions where the supply is more abundant.



## Tilapia ▲

The Tilapia market is currently facing **upward pressure** on fresh and frozen fillets due to supply issues. It is projected that Tilapia will undergo supply changes as a result of expected freight issues, while the demand for this fish remains steady.

## MARKET TRENDS

### Seafood

SEAFOOD	▲	▬	▼
Pollock	•		
Canadian Snow Crab	•		
Blue Swimming Crab			•
White Shrimp	•		
Canadian Salmon	•		
Chilean Atlantic Salmon	•		
Mahi Mahi	•		
Cod	•		
North American Lobster	•		
Tuna	•		
Tilapia	•		
Halibut	•		
Scallops	•		
Sea Bass	•		
Snapper	•		
Swai	•		
Swordfish	•		
Catfish	•		



# PRODUCE INSIGHTS

## MARKET TRENDS

### Produce



#### Bell Peppers ▼

Green bell peppers are experiencing a strong demand, and this demand is being met with a significant increase in supply. In contrast, the market for red and yellow bell peppers remains stable, although there is a slight **decrease** in demand. Moreover, the demand for jumbo-sized peppers is declining as the supply continues to grow.



#### Avocados ▲

Avocado harvests have decreased, leading to a **scarcity** of large sizes as the demand for Cinco de Mayo approaches. Smaller sizes are more abundant and consistent. The quality is only average as a result of a dry and hot season in Mexico.



#### Tomatoes ▬

The market for cherry, grape, and Roma tomatoes is showing signs of improvement as supply and demand **levels out**. Hothouse, round, and Campari Cocktail tomatoes are scarce with high demand.



#### Citrus ▲

Lemons and oranges are currently in short supply for smaller sizes. However, limes are experiencing a **high** demand in the market, especially due to Cinco de Mayo. Fortunately, smaller-sized limes are more readily available, while larger sizes are anticipated to remain scarce.



#### Asparagus ▬

The market has seen a **boost** from U.S. production, as well as imports from Peru and Mexico. With high product quality, market dynamics are expected to change this week as production regions shift.



#### Onions ▬

Yellow and white onion supply is **increasing** due to spring crops in Texas and California. It's predicted that supplies will continue their upward trend. Red onions are expected to stay limited for the next few weeks.



#### Grapes ▲

The allocation of imported supplies is being carefully planned to address demand and local availability. **Shortages** are predicted in the weeks ahead before production begins in Mexico and Southern California.



PRODUCE	▲	▬	▼
Asparagus	•		
Corn	•		
Bell Peppers	•		
Lemons	•		
Pineapple	•		
Strawberry	•		
Tomato	•		
Avocado	•		
Onions	•		
Beans	•		
Limes	•		
Oranges	•		
Grapes	•		
Cucumbers	•		
Eggplant	•		
Lettuce	•		
Garlic	•		
Celery	•		
Carrots	•		
Mushrooms	•		
Apples	•		
Banana	•		
Peas	•		





## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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