

Poultry Slaughter



National
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Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 7 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during October (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.76 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the amount certified in October 1994. Updated totals for September 1995 show that 2.53 billion pounds were certified. The January through October cumulative total of pounds certified, at 25.7 billion pounds, was up 5 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during October 1995 was 3.73 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.03 billion pounds of young chickens, 71.4 million pounds of mature chickens, 615 million pounds of turkeys, and 11.7 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 1995 averaged 4.76 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from 4.71 pounds per bird a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens increased 1 percent from 5.32 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.38 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during October 1995 averaged 23.1 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from October 1994.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 1995 totaled 11.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.32 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.28 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 58.0 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.72 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.69 percent a year earlier.

October 1995 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, while October 1994 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
Sep 1995	607,716	12,027	619,743	1,592	-----
Oct 1994	601,695	12,474	614,169	1,621	-----
Oct 1995	637,956	13,260	651,216	1,726	-----
Jan-Oct 1994	5,910,360	141,746	6,052,106	16,840	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	6,194,635	135,371	6,330,006	16,091	-----
1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Sep 1995	2,819,312	62,756	2,882,068	10,523	1,262
Oct 1994	2,833,201	66,332	2,899,533	10,858	1,793
Oct 1995	3,033,963	71,392	3,105,356	11,662	1,730
Jan-Oct 1994	27,320,498	696,462	28,016,960	111,553	5,353
Jan-Oct 1995	28,719,982	688,420	29,408,401	106,738	6,525
Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1995	4.64	5.22	4.65	6.61	-----
Oct 1994	4.71	5.32	4.72	6.70	-----
Oct 1995	4.76	5.38	4.77	6.76	-----
Jan-Oct 1994	4.62	4.91	4.63	6.62	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	4.64	5.09	4.65	6.63	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	3/ Old	Total Turkeys	
1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
Sep 1995	---	23,980	250	24,230	-----
Oct 1994	21	25,526	190	25,738	-----
Oct 1995	37	27,185	133	27,354	-----
Jan-Oct 1994	348	229,498	1,708	231,554	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	314	232,008	1,573	233,895	-----
1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Sep 1995	---	531,870	5,706	537,576	3,431,429
Oct 1994	210	578,247	4,658	583,115	3,495,299
Oct 1995	338	611,797	3,273	615,409	3,734,157
Jan-Oct 1994	3,386	5,211,572	42,041	5,256,999	33,390,865
Jan-Oct 1995	2,731	5,370,463	38,655	5,411,850	34,933,513
Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1995	----	22.18	22.79	22.19	-----
Oct 1994	9.95	22.65	24.45	22.66	-----
Oct 1995	9.22	22.51	24.70	22.50	-----
Jan-Oct 1994	9.74	22.71	24.61	22.70	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	8.69	23.15	24.58	23.14	-----

- 1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.
- 2/ Of the Mature Chickens inspected, the number reported in thousands as heavy fowl (broiler breeding stock) was: October 1994: 5,299, October 1995: 5,864.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: October 1994: 102, October 1995: 82.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Sep 1995					
Chilled	1,877,101	35,696	1,912,797	2,397	142
Frozen	178,838	2,563	181,401	5,111	616
Total	2,055,939	38,259	2,094,198	7,508	758
Oct 1994					
Chilled	1,889,747	38,112	1,927,859	2,403	215
Frozen	173,152	2,495	175,647	5,300	930
Total	2,062,899	40,607	2,103,506	7,703	1,145
Oct 1995					
Chilled	2,019,356	39,890	2,059,247	2,650	140
Frozen	202,438	4,013	206,451	5,658	914
Total	2,221,794	43,903	2,265,698	8,307	1,054
Jan-Oct 1994					
Chilled	18,280,026	399,281	18,679,308	24,292	711
Frozen	1,600,491	26,178	1,626,670	55,842	2,684
Total	19,880,518	425,460	20,305,977	80,134	3,395
Jan-Oct 1995					
Chilled	19,102,769	392,600	19,495,369	24,188	870
Frozen	1,803,728	26,277	1,830,004	52,293	3,117
Total	20,906,497	418,877	21,325,373	76,481	3,988

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

: Turkeys :					
:-----					
	Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Total
	Roasters			Turkeys	Poultry
:-----					
: 1,000 Pounds :					
Sep 1995					
Chilled	---	195,974	3,107	199,082	2,114,417
Frozen	---	223,546	1,364	224,910	412,039
Total	---	419,521	4,472	423,992	2,526,456
Oct 1994					
Chilled	---	212,824	1,992	214,817	2,145,294
Frozen	155	242,586	1,514	244,255	426,133
Total	155	455,410	3,507	459,072	2,571,427
Oct 1995					
Chilled	---	225,291	1,822	227,113	2,289,149
Frozen	249	254,879	689	255,817	468,840
Total	249	480,171	2,511	482,930	2,757,989
Jan-Oct 1994					
Chilled	225	1,944,296	18,027	1,962,549	20,666,859
Frozen	2,334	2,162,434	13,481	2,178,249	3,863,445
Total	2,559	4,106,730	31,508	4,140,798	24,530,304
Jan-Oct 1995					
Chilled	---	2,043,450	20,082	2,063,532	21,583,959
Frozen	2,073	2,190,363	9,230	2,201,667	4,087,081
Total	2,073	4,233,813	29,312	4,265,199	25,671,041

1/ Ready-to-cook weights. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		

	1,000 Pounds				

Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Sep 1995	9,470	950	10,421	18	4
Oct 1994	7,780	762	8,542	10	10
Oct 1995	9,422	1,182	10,604	10	6
Jan-Oct 1994	92,388	12,589	104,977	123	32
Jan-Oct 1995	107,766	12,139	119,905	147	32

Percent 2/					
Oct 1994	0.27	1.15	0.29	0.09	0.53
Oct 1995	0.31	1.66	0.34	0.09	0.35

	1,000 Pounds				

Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1995	39,606	3,160	42,766	181	16
Oct 1994	38,669	3,154	41,823	184	52
Oct 1995	42,497	3,844	46,341	218	22
Jan-Oct 1994	387,267	32,267	419,534	1,842	100
Jan-Oct 1995	443,085	33,590	476,675	1,814	105

Percent 3/					
Oct 1994	1.52	5.28	1.60	1.88	3.20
Oct 1995	1.56	5.98	1.66	2.08	1.41

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
					Total	
		Fryer-			Total	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Sep 1995	---	1,210	27	1,237	11,680	
Oct 1994	1	1,121	32	1,153	9,714	
Oct 1995	3	1,307	19	1,329	11,949	
Jan-Oct 1994	8	13,681	334	14,023	119,156	
Jan-Oct 1995	12	14,264	337	14,613	134,697	
Percent 2/						
Oct 1994	0.24	0.19	0.68	0.20	0.28	
Oct 1995	0.76	0.21	0.57	0.22	0.32	
		1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Sep 1995	---	10,436	268	10,704	53,666	
Oct 1994	3	10,754	303	11,060	53,118	
Oct 1995	6	11,178	202	11,385	57,966	
Jan-Oct 1994	46	102,089	2,967	105,102	526,578	
Jan-Oct 1995	36	101,721	2,593	104,351	582,944	
Percent 3/						
Oct 1994	1.37	2.07	7.22	2.11	1.69	
Oct 1995	1.93	2.03	6.86	2.06	1.72	

- 1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.
2/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds (live weight) inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.
3/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AL	76,946	75,961	363,845	359,792	4.73	4.74
AR	92,923	100,350	424,557	470,730	4.57	4.69
CA	18,077	20,717	92,939	108,058	5.14	5.22
DE	23,042	25,314	123,021	139,601	5.34	5.51
FL	12,242	12,217	52,705	52,352	4.31	4.29
GA	82,167	85,990	396,142	410,493	4.82	4.77
LA	13,217	13,333	60,356	60,747	4.57	4.56
MD	17,423	17,998	80,919	84,578	4.64	4.70
MS	51,339	53,608	237,121	253,415	4.62	4.73
MO	18,196	24,457	78,478	104,020	4.31	4.25
NC	52,676	56,058	272,315	290,695	5.17	5.19
PA	8,055	7,957	40,191	40,243	4.99	5.06
SC	18,279	19,360	73,878	84,279	4.04	4.35
TN	12,724	14,310	58,344	64,177	4.59	4.48
TX	34,649	37,739	148,965	171,303	4.30	4.54
VA	29,306	30,971	138,982	145,938	4.74	4.71
WA	2,968	2,881	15,431	14,646	5.20	5.08
US	601,695	637,956	2,833,201	3,033,963	4.71	4.76

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Total		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	Certified 1/		N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AL	267,070	266,783	5,762	6,867	1.76	2.12
AR	300,130	334,772	5,066	5,741	1.33	1.36
CA	67,288	78,420	1,833	1,992	2.19	2.05
DE	89,826	101,243	1,779	1,842	1.61	1.47
FL	37,156	39,461	485	573	1.02	1.22
GA	290,545	305,535	5,941	5,725	1.67	1.55
LA	43,683	44,056	747	982	1.38	1.80
MD	57,361	58,115	923	871	1.27	1.14
MS	179,958	192,704	2,775	2,747	1.30	1.20
MO	57,246	74,813	905	1,523	1.28	1.63
NC	202,823	216,269	3,689	3,990	1.51	1.53
PA	28,356	28,630	869	822	2.40	2.27
SC	54,015	62,264	972	1,060	1.46	1.40
TN	41,672	46,169	621	773	1.18	1.34
TX	112,281	130,529	1,678	1,874	1.25	1.22
VA	99,901	103,916	1,522	1,735	1.22	1.32
WA	11,088	10,775	388	350	2.80	2.65
US	2,062,899	2,221,794	38,669	42,497	1.52	1.56

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, October 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	8,519	219,831	152,445	---	13,837
AR	---	6,558	320,335	136,338	8,181	9,726
CA	---	7,300	93,684	12,071	1,387	12,306
DE	---	12,166	109,845	45,408	---	---
FL	---	856	17,969	9,327	---	---
GA	---	4,528	172,882	124,127	3,869	17,725
LA	---	771	39,080	15,440	728	3,048
MD	---	---	69,033	14,546	52	---
MS	---	3,923	102,798	40,085	1,389	14,154
MO	---	5,988	87,730	32,051	2,436	1,788
NC	---	4,850	134,339	76,309	193	33,803
PA	---	4,136	28,506	16,237	448	---
SC	---	2,017	30,519	54,300	243	4,864
TN	---	---	49,232	17,828	---	1,965
TX	---	772	103,262	48,246	425	2,262
VA	---	5,865	82,809	34,448	---	---
WA	---	2,309	19,510	---	328	974
US	---	95,864	1,865,027	863,721	47,723	163,290
Number						
State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	15,292	35,848	88,564	5,432	221,368	761,136
AR	14,660	35,989	83,791	7,023	146,027	768,628
CA	582	9,970	3,679	---	64,968	205,947
DE	4,160	8,235	18,650	2,958	25,390	226,812
FL	1,487	4,093	7,800	---	34,741	76,273
GA	19,164	40,366	72,528	13,786	179,838	648,813
LA	2,053	3,532	13,061	791	31,762	110,266
MD	1,590	4,977	---	---	11,878	102,076
MS	6,512	26,644	47,342	5,403	97,588	345,838
MO	3,027	13,080	15,607	---	61,314	223,021
NC	7,304	28,029	64,276	4,463	134,132	487,698
PA	1,991	2,747	---	---	25,948	80,013
SC	3,844	13,798	15,201	4,348	36,639	165,773
TN	2,544	7,070	---	2,409	37,749	118,797
TX	1,388	9,140	13,455	1,595	7,776	188,321
VA	4,631	8,676	27,025	2,484	48,912	214,850
WA	437	1,366	584	---	14,617	40,125
US	97,946	272,814	566,711	60,288	1,301,318	5,334,702

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		----- Pounds -----	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	12,474	13,260	66,332	71,392	5.32	5.38

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1994	1995	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		----- Percent -----	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	40,607	43,903	3,154	3,844	5.28	5.98

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, October 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors	
							Number
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	---	2,667	241,247	13,250	1,011	101,201	
							Number
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total	
CA	---	---	---	---	670	670	
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	29,112	55,467	158,167	3,072	44,748	649,942	

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,136	2,455	44,469	49,999	20.82	20.36
CA	2,376	2,355	49,506	50,217	20.83	21.33
IA	1,306	1,418	35,450	38,196	27.15	26.94
MN	3,921	4,001	82,193	85,946	20.96	21.48
MO	1,815	2,011	42,523	47,365	23.43	23.55
NC	4,278	4,179	96,029	92,950	22.45	22.24
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,375	3,705	63,331	68,633	18.76	18.52
US	25,526	27,185	578,247	611,797	22.65	22.51

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, October 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1994	1995	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	35,627	39,763	998	1,053	2.49	2.34
CA	39,616	40,497	636	739	1.43	1.63
IA	27,570	29,586	776	894	2.43	2.60
MN	64,782	68,142	1,928	1,893	2.61	2.45
MO	33,505	37,413	1,105	1,059	2.89	2.48
NC	75,666	73,550	1,596	1,339	1.85	1.60
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	49,570	51,079	943	800	1.65	1.30
US	455,410	480,171	10,754	11,178	2.07	2.03

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, October 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	11,273	---	---	---
CA	---	---	10,070	3,400	51	---
IA	---	---	---	3,361	---	---
MN	---	---	22,748	6,930	1,813	26
MO	---	---	23,082	2,049	---	---
NC	---	82	8,342	805	---	4
PA	---	---	---	871	---	---
VA	---	---	8,142	541	---	---
US	---	136	131,669	25,436	12,063	161

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	1,036	2,061	---	---	14,370
CA	---	486	554	---	---	14,561
IA	44	---	---	---	---	3,405
MN	340	2,411	3,078	301	1,562	39,209
MO	94	---	925	---	---	26,150
NC	190	1,389	1,109	---	1,465	13,386
PA	---	---	---	---	198	1,069
VA	35	864	304	---	1,179	11,065
US	1,388	9,412	11,185	3,477	13,662	208,589

Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection-Daily Summary forms (FSIS 6000-21) completed by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA. This form provides actual counts of birds slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. Over 99 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The FSIS 6000-21 forms collect number of head slaughtered daily under FI by species and class as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights. Approximately 350 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection. Annual totals of poultry slaughtered under State-administered Non-Federal Inspection (NFI) are published in the April release.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late reports received by FSIS from plants and are usually less than one-half of 1 percent of the preliminary totals. Revisions for the previous month and year-to-date totals are published in each monthly release. Final data are published in the annual summary released in April and reflect any late reports or corrections which occurred after the monthly revisions were published.

Procedures and Reliability: Plant inspectors submit forms (FSIS 6000-21) weekly summarizing the plant's activity. When inconsistencies in the data are detected, the reports are returned to the inspectors for correction. Inspectors correct or validate the report and resubmit it. The reports cover weekly activities through Saturday night and reported data are allocated to the appropriate month as it enters the database.

A NASS computer program provides a review of current data with historical data for each plant. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. The program also generates a missing reports listing for a telephone follow-up. Data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release.

Major slaughter plants with missing reports are adjusted prior to publication to assure that all plants slaughtering a significant portion of a specific class are accounted for each week. Estimates for missing weeks are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on either the previous week's information or a week determined to be similar to the one missing. Late reports replace imputed data as they become available. While there will continue to be a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it is expected to have only a minimal impact on the final totals.

Poultry slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and, therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Generally, no State data are published if less than three plants operate for a species in a State, or if one plant has 60 percent or more of the total head for that species. These data are included in the U.S. totals.

Definitions Used To Report Federally Inspected Slaughter

- Ante-Mortem Condemnations** - Birds condemned prior to their entry into the slaughter plant.
- Certified Ready-to-Cook** - The weight of poultry certified wholesome by inspection after post-mortem condemnation pounds are removed. Ready-to-cook represents poultry meat ready for the marketing channel.
- Ducks** - Includes all ducks regardless of age and weight.
- Frozen** - Poultry products which have been at 0 degrees F. or below.
- Fryer-Roaster Turkeys** - Young immature birds, usually under 16 weeks of age.
- Mature Chickens** - Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks and stags and cocks.
- New York Dressed Weight** - Carcass weight after only feathers and blood are removed. This weight is approximately 90% of live weight.
- Old Turkeys (Breeders)** - Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.
- Other Poultry** - Includes all other ready-to-cook products which bear the U.S.D.A. Inspected for Wholesomeness legend.
- Post-Mortem Condemnations** - Carcasses or parts condemned by the inspector because of disease or mishandling and removed from the slaughter line and destroyed.
- Young Chickens** - Commercially grown broilers-fryers and other young immature birds such as roasters and capons.
- Young Turkeys (Mature)** - Young birds grown to a matured market age, about 5 months.

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The next "**Poultry Slaughter**" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on January 5, 1996.

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