

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during September (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.58 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in September 1995. Updated totals for August 1996 show that 2.80 billion pounds were certified. The January through September cumulative total of pounds certified, at 24.3 billion pounds, was up 6 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during September 1996 was 3.50 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.86 billion pounds of young chickens, 67.6 million pounds of mature chickens, 560 million pounds of turkeys, and 11.5 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 1996 averaged 4.76 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was up 3 percent from 5.22 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.38 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during September 1996 averaged 23.3 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from September 1995.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 1996 totaled 12.2 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.35 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.34 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 57.8 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.83 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.74 percent a year earlier.

September 1996 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, while September 1995 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, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Aug 1996	658,493	11,176	669,669	1,810	-----
Sep 1995	607,716	12,027	619,743	1,592	-----
Sep 1996	600,288	12,549	612,837	1,757	-----
Jan-Sep 1995	5,556,679	122,110	5,678,790	14,365	-----
Jan-Sep 1996	5,694,218	117,343	5,811,560	15,055	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Aug 1996	3,105,525	58,796	3,164,320	11,797	1,014
Sep 1995	2,819,312	62,756	2,882,068	10,523	1,262
Sep 1996	2,858,866	67,572	2,926,437	11,502	1,843
Jan-Sep 1995	25,686,018	617,027	26,303,046	95,075	4,794
Jan-Sep 1996	27,102,558	616,994	27,719,552	100,185	7,907
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Aug 1996	4.72	5.26	4.73	6.52	-----
Sep 1995	4.64	5.22	4.65	6.61	-----
Sep 1996	4.76	5.38	4.78	6.55	-----
Jan-Sep 1995	4.62	5.05	4.63	6.62	-----
Jan-Sep 1996	4.76	5.26	4.77	6.65	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	3/ Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Aug 1996	---	26,524	257	26,781	-----
Sep 1995	---	23,980	250	24,230	-----
Sep 1996	13	23,792	185	23,991	-----
Jan-Sep 1995	278	204,823	1,440	206,541	-----
Jan-Sep 1996	153	215,661	1,501	217,315	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Aug 1996	---	605,794	6,280	612,074	3,789,205
Sep 1995	---	531,870	5,706	537,576	3,431,429
Sep 1996	85	555,189	4,561	559,835	3,499,618
Jan-Sep 1995	2,393	4,758,666	35,381	4,796,441	31,199,356
Jan-Sep 1996	1,327	5,113,522	39,117	5,153,966	32,981,609
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Aug 1996	---	22.84	24.46	22.86	-----
Sep 1995	---	22.18	22.79	22.19	-----
Sep 1996	6.35	23.33	24.60	23.34	-----
Jan-Sep 1995	8.62	23.23	24.57	23.22	-----
Jan-Sep 1996	8.68	23.71	26.05	23.72	-----

- 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: September 1995: 4,815, September 1996: 5,753.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: September 1995: 91, September 1996: 128.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Aug 1996					
Chilled	2,091,411	33,099	2,124,510	2,890	240
Frozen	181,072	2,174	183,246	5,604	347
Total	2,272,483	35,273	2,307,756	8,494	586
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
Sep 1996					
Chilled	1,912,414	40,084	1,952,498	2,798	299
Frozen	176,562	1,191	177,754	5,437	746
Total	2,088,976	41,275	2,130,251	8,235	1,045
Jan-Sep 1995					
Chilled	17,083,413	352,710	17,436,122	21,538	731
Frozen	1,601,290	22,264	1,623,553	46,636	2,203
Total	18,684,703	374,973	19,059,676	68,174	2,933
Jan-Sep 1996					
Chilled	18,161,158	357,377	18,518,535	25,902	1,848
Frozen	1,648,963	17,822	1,666,785	46,375	2,641
Total	19,810,121	375,199	20,185,320	72,277	4,489

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Aug 1996					
Chilled	---	215,156	3,568	218,724	2,346,364
Frozen	---	261,765	1,237	263,002	452,199
Total	---	476,921	4,805	481,726	2,798,563
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
Sep 1996					
Chilled	---	200,258	2,232	202,490	2,158,084
Frozen	59	236,580	1,225	237,865	421,802
Total	59	436,838	3,457	440,354	2,579,886
Jan-Sep 1995					
Chilled	---	1,818,159	18,260	1,836,419	19,294,810
Frozen	1,824	1,935,484	8,541	1,945,849	3,618,241
Total	1,824	3,753,643	26,802	3,782,269	22,913,052
Jan-Sep 1996					
Chilled	3	1,910,773	20,626	1,931,402	20,477,687
Frozen	1,014	2,121,990	8,869	2,131,873	3,847,673
Total	1,017	4,032,763	29,495	4,063,275	24,325,360

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Aug 1996	11,584	989	12,573	22	7
Sep 1995	9,470	950	10,421	18	4
Sep 1996	9,235	934	10,168	10	15
Jan-Sep 1995	98,344	10,957	109,301	137	25
Jan-Sep 1996	104,983	10,184	115,167	101	48
Percent 2/					
Sep 1995	0.34	1.51	0.36	0.17	0.34
Sep 1996	0.32	1.38	0.35	0.09	0.79
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Aug 1996	45,576	3,481	49,057	189	12
Sep 1995	39,606	3,160	42,766	181	16
Sep 1996	42,322	4,151	46,473	206	18
Jan-Sep 1995	400,588	29,746	430,333	1,596	83
Jan-Sep 1996	419,612	35,492	455,104	1,563	85
Percent 3/					
Sep 1995	1.56	5.60	1.65	1.91	1.36
Sep 1996	1.64	6.83	1.76	1.99	1.08

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, September 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total	
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Aug 1996	---	1,837	47	1,884	14,487	
Sep 1995	---	1,210	27	1,237	11,680	
Sep 1996	1	1,954	35	1,991	12,184	
Jan-Sep 1995	9	12,957	318	13,284	122,747	
Jan-Sep 1996	6	15,726	396	16,128	131,443	
Percent 2/						
Sep 1995	---	0.23	0.48	0.23	0.34	
Sep 1996	1.56	0.35	0.77	0.36	0.35	
		1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Aug 1996	---	11,478	318	11,796	61,054	
Sep 1995	---	10,436	268	10,704	53,666	
Sep 1996	6	10,803	272	11,082	57,779	
Jan-Sep 1995	30	90,544	2,391	92,965	524,978	
Jan-Sep 1996	24	99,562	2,457	102,044	558,796	
Percent 3/						
Sep 1995	---	2.18	5.21	2.21	1.74	
Sep 1996	7.98	2.16	6.63	2.20	1.83	

- 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, September 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds
AL	74,656	69,129	343,701	326,456	4.60	4.72
AR	94,814	90,593	425,928	426,816	4.49	4.71
CA	18,847	18,195	96,672	89,119	5.13	4.90
DE	23,614	21,829	128,636	121,118	5.45	5.55
FL	11,913	10,526	52,350	46,962	4.39	4.46
GA	82,857	88,254	392,476	431,254	4.74	4.89
LA	12,840	11,236	56,271	52,869	4.38	4.71
MD	16,794	16,619	78,627	80,201	4.68	4.83
MS	49,556	53,352	223,518	243,753	4.51	4.57
MO	23,928	27,115	100,899	118,312	4.22	4.36
NC	52,172	49,855	266,272	264,482	5.10	5.30
PA	7,952	8,292	39,744	42,011	5.00	5.07
SC	18,774	17,662	80,122	79,722	4.27	4.51
TN	13,576	13,529	60,364	60,334	4.45	4.46
TX	35,876	36,364	155,254	162,337	4.33	4.46
VA	29,076	27,822	135,149	127,589	4.65	4.59
WA	2,840	2,543	14,102	13,037	4.96	5.13
US	607,716	600,288	2,819,312	2,858,866	4.64	4.76

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, September 1995-96

State	Total		Post-Mortem Condemnations				
	Certified 1/		N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
		1,000 Pounds				Percent	
AL	252,418	239,593	6,550	6,404	2.12	2.18	
AR	301,805	308,528	5,457	5,619	1.42	1.46	
CA	69,411	64,539	2,001	1,257	2.30	1.57	
DE	93,484	87,198	1,578	1,810	1.36	1.66	
FL	35,447	34,878	561	708	1.19	1.68	
GA	292,477	320,512	5,438	7,120	1.54	1.83	
LA	41,219	38,411	846	831	1.67	1.75	
MD	55,780	56,256	794	1,008	1.12	1.40	
MS	167,421	181,649	2,640	2,056	1.31	0.94	
MO	73,022	86,226	1,621	1,675	1.78	1.57	
NC	199,161	195,602	3,688	4,201	1.54	1.76	
PA	28,417	29,236	816	995	2.28	2.63	
SC	59,375	57,626	1,001	1,418	1.39	1.98	
TN	43,150	43,880	659	670	1.21	1.23	
TX	118,608	122,782	1,724	1,970	1.23	1.35	
VA	93,883	88,986	1,313	1,315	1.08	1.14	
WA	10,442	9,348	408	351	3.21	2.99	
US	2,055,939	2,088,976	39,606	42,322	1.56	1.64	

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, September 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	7,340	196,237	177,418	8,964	13,635
AR	---	4,354	300,213	138,477	13,773	5,504
CA	---	---	---	5,503	1,280	6,110
DE	---	8,211	130,993	35,174	---	---
FL	---	452	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,875	164,029	187,836	2,183	14,689
LA	---	352	39,255	21,082	1,611	1,438
MD	---	3,911	71,462	20,831	42	5,807
MS	---	1,940	72,236	23,478	1,305	9,029
MO	---	4,031	86,566	27,060	3,044	1,293
NC	---	4,376	126,597	---	250	30,686
PA	---	1,599	30,777	15,896	211	---
SC	---	2,178	32,133	---	---	2,297
TN	---	542	52,814	13,740	---	---
TX	---	628	112,258	38,426	500	2,240
VA	---	2,647	68,746	19,980	---	---
WA	---	---	20,179	364	---	1,266
US	---	55,313	1,746,554	917,322	46,639	129,851

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AL	15,405	27,602	77,314	11,600	205,383	740,898
AR	17,207	31,261	71,555	8,463	149,564	740,371
CA	634	6,114	3,057	667	54,564	77,929
DE	4,542	---	20,020	4,855	---	203,795
FL	1,794	3,468	7,711	2,455	---	15,880
GA	18,557	39,366	55,994	14,184	194,864	693,577
LA	1,836	3,051	---	---	---	68,625
MD	1,921	11,302	---	791	---	116,067
MS	5,533	26,240	24,072	---	78,843	242,676
MO	3,047	9,939	16,542	---	27,647	179,169
NC	7,910	27,029	52,755	3,098	179,828	432,529
PA	3,307	2,447	---	---	---	54,237
SC	4,581	20,029	19,128	---	57,260	137,606
TN	2,754	6,695	14,017	822	29,215	120,599
TX	1,367	6,710	15,101	734	11,581	189,545
VA	3,881	7,000	27,526	1,396	48,323	179,499
WA	---	567	---	---	16,999	39,375
US	100,519	267,067	484,099	63,839	1,257,770	5,068,973

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, September 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		----- Pounds -----	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	12,027	12,549	62,756	67,572	5.22	5.38

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, September 1995-96

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		----- Percent -----	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	38,259	41,275	3,160	4,151	5.60	6.83

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, September 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	3,944	207,080	14,357	731	125,161
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	40	267	---	---	307
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	24,970	36,829	209,061	2,293	49,163	673,589

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,133	2,155	42,538	39,763	19.94	18.46
CA	1,875	1,803	39,975	40,046	21.32	22.21
IA	1,268	1,212	33,357	31,373	26.31	25.89
MN	3,539	3,986	70,516	86,200	19.93	21.62
MO	1,807	1,969	41,454	51,546	22.95	26.17
NC	3,899	3,334	86,758	80,939	22.25	24.28
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,309	3,167	61,338	59,406	18.53	18.76
US	23,980	23,792	531,870	555,189	22.18	23.33

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 1995-96

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	33,599	32,503	1,113	613	2.91	1.71
CA	31,879	30,907	572	612	1.59	1.70
IA	26,061	24,498	798	669	2.66	2.37
MN	56,378	68,139	1,329	2,053	2.09	2.65
MO	32,460	40,221	1,418	1,505	3.80	3.25
NC	68,804	63,162	1,275	1,510	1.63	2.07
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	48,677	46,483	785	920	1.42	1.72
US	419,521	436,838	10,436	10,803	2.18	2.16

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, September 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AR	---	---	7,945	---	---	---
CA	---	---	6,438	629	---	---
IA	---	---	---	4,021	5,409	3
MN	---	---	17,480	---	2,071	---
MO	---	---	23,794	6,069	---	---
NC	---	8	7,313	1,763	---	---
PA	---	---	3,130	---	---	---
VA	---	---	9,904	381	---	---
US	---	172	104,535	24,959	9,894	65

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AR	---	357	1,358	---	1,058	10,718
CA	17	---	---	---	---	7,084
IA	---	---	---	---	---	9,433
MN	223	1,494	1,650	---	2,746	25,664
MO	---	276	904	---	1,604	32,647
NC	183	1,915	1,624	263	---	13,069
PA	32	---	600	---	274	4,036
VA	29	1,170	445	---	---	11,929
US	1,043	7,863	9,009	2,000	18,816	178,356

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, September 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	2,623	506	---	89

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	12	169	157	---	1,288	4,844

Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection Form (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 revision 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.

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 December 3, 1996.

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