

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 7 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during October (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.97 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the amount certified in October 1995. Updated totals for September 1996 show that 2.61 billion pounds were certified. The January through October cumulative total of pounds certified, at 27.3 billion pounds, was up 6 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during October 1996 was 4.02 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.27 billion pounds of young chickens, 76.8 million pounds of mature chickens, 661 million pounds of turkeys, and 13.0 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 1996 averaged 4.81 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 2 percent from 5.40 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.29 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during October 1996 averaged 23.7 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from October 1995.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 1996 totaled 12.6 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.32 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 63.4 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.75 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.72 percent a year earlier.

October 1996 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, while October 1995 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four 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 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1996	606,579	12,556	619,135	1,759	-----
Oct 1995	640,987	13,341	654,327	1,765	-----
Oct 1996	679,706	14,517	694,224	1,973	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	6,197,666	135,451	6,333,117	16,129	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	6,371,602	131,671	6,503,273	17,029	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1996	2,894,853	67,614	2,962,467	11,513	1,982
Oct 1995	3,052,003	72,042	3,124,045	11,883	1,749
Oct 1996	3,270,772	76,772	3,347,544	13,008	2,769
Jan-Oct 1995	28,738,021	689,069	29,427,090	106,958	6,543
Jan-Oct 1996	30,367,344	692,235	31,059,579	113,204	10,872
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1996	4.77	5.39	4.78	6.54	-----
Oct 1995	4.76	5.40	4.77	6.73	-----
Oct 1996	4.81	5.29	4.82	6.59	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	4.64	5.09	4.65	6.63	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	4.77	5.26	4.78	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, October 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1996	13	24,068	185	24,267	-----
Oct 1995	37	27,188	133	27,357	-----
Oct 1996	17	27,638	282	27,937	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	314	232,011	1,573	233,898	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	170	243,326	1,791	245,287	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1996	85	560,370	4,561	565,016	3,540,978
Oct 1995	338	611,868	3,273	615,479	3,753,156
Oct 1996	175	653,888	6,875	660,938	4,024,260
Jan-Oct 1995	2,731	5,370,534	38,655	5,411,920	34,952,512
Jan-Oct 1996	1,502	5,766,170	46,219	5,813,891	36,997,545
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1996	6.35	23.28	24.60	23.28	-----
Oct 1995	9.22	22.51	24.70	22.50	-----
Oct 1996	10.14	23.66	24.40	23.66	-----
Jan-Oct 1995	8.69	23.15	24.58	23.14	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	8.83	23.70	25.81	23.70	-----

- 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 1995: 5,945, October 1996: 6,386.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: October 1995: 82, October 1996: 77.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Sep 1996					
Chilled	1,937,531	40,097	1,977,628	2,807	302
Frozen	178,887	1,202	180,089	5,437	829
Total	2,116,417	41,299	2,157,717	8,244	1,132
Oct 1995					
Chilled	2,029,030	40,277	2,069,306	2,745	150
Frozen	205,748	4,013	209,761	5,731	914
Total	2,234,778	44,290	2,279,067	8,476	1,064
Oct 1996					
Chilled	2,181,348	45,292	2,226,641	3,074	351
Frozen	207,466	1,495	208,962	6,272	1,218
Total	2,388,815	46,787	2,435,602	9,346	1,569
Jan-Oct 1995					
Chilled	19,112,442	392,986	19,505,428	24,283	880
Frozen	1,807,038	26,277	1,833,315	52,366	3,117
Total	20,919,480	419,263	21,338,743	76,649	3,998
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	20,343,208	401,546	20,744,754	28,984	2,203
Frozen	1,854,030	19,328	1,873,358	52,647	3,971
Total	22,197,238	420,873	22,618,111	81,631	6,174

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Sep 1996					
Chilled	---	202,032	2,232	204,264	2,185,000
Frozen	59	238,897	1,225	240,181	426,536
Total	59	440,928	3,457	444,445	2,611,537
Oct 1995					
Chilled	---	225,349	1,822	227,170	2,299,371
Frozen	249	254,879	689	255,817	472,224
Total	249	480,228	2,511	482,988	2,771,595
Oct 1996					
Chilled	---	243,487	3,053	246,539	2,476,605
Frozen	136	270,539	2,121	272,797	489,248
Total	136	514,026	5,174	519,336	2,965,853
Jan-Oct 1995					
Chilled	---	2,043,508	20,082	2,063,590	21,594,181
Frozen	2,073	2,190,363	9,230	2,201,667	4,090,465
Total	2,073	4,233,871	29,312	4,265,256	25,684,646
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	3	2,153,841	23,679	2,177,522	22,953,463
Frozen	1,150	2,392,320	11,145	2,404,615	4,334,590
Total	1,153	4,546,161	34,824	4,582,137	27,288,054

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 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Sep 1996	9,323	934	10,257	10	15
Oct 1995	9,547	1,189	10,736	10	6
Oct 1996	9,897	987	10,884	9	11
Jan-Oct 1995	107,891	12,146	120,037	147	32
Jan-Oct 1996	114,845	11,162	126,008	110	60
Percent 2/					
Oct 1995	0.31	1.65	0.34	0.09	0.35
Oct 1996	0.30	1.29	0.33	0.07	0.41
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1996	42,843	4,155	46,998	206	20
Oct 1995	42,714	3,866	46,580	224	22
Oct 1996	45,938	4,539	50,477	224	42
Jan-Oct 1995	443,302	33,612	476,914	1,820	105
Jan-Oct 1996	465,763	39,956	505,719	1,787	130
Percent 3/					
Oct 1995	1.56	5.96	1.66	2.09	1.41
Oct 1996	1.56	6.57	1.68	1.91	1.67

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Poultry
		Roasters			Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Sep 1996	:	1	1,965	35	2,001	12,284
Oct 1995	:	3	1,307	19	1,329	12,081
Oct 1996	:	1	1,609	47	1,657	12,562
Jan-Oct 1995	:	12	14,264	337	14,613	134,829
Jan-Oct 1996	:	7	17,336	447	17,790	143,967
Percent 2/						
Oct 1995	:	0.76	0.21	0.57	0.22	0.32
Oct 1996	:	0.49	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.31
		1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Sep 1996	:	6	10,887	272	11,166	58,390
Oct 1995	:	6	11,179	202	11,387	58,213
Oct 1996	:	5	12,278	388	12,670	63,413
Jan-Oct 1995	:	36	101,723	2,593	104,352	583,191
Jan-Oct 1996	:	28	111,795	2,863	114,686	622,322
Percent 3/						
Oct 1995	:	1.93	2.03	6.86	2.06	1.72
Oct 1996	:	2.86	2.09	6.27	2.13	1.75

- 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 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	76,208	79,413	362,414	377,283	4.76	4.75
AR	100,350	101,107	470,730	482,082	4.69	4.77
CA	20,717	20,065	108,058	100,049	5.22	4.99
DE	25,314	25,503	139,601	139,943	5.51	5.49
FL	12,217	11,967	52,352	53,818	4.29	4.50
GA	86,983	98,153	415,874	499,040	4.78	5.08
LA	14,345	13,655	67,218	64,998	4.69	4.76
MD	17,998	18,545	84,578	90,370	4.70	4.87
MS	53,609	58,879	253,423	265,649	4.73	4.51
MO	24,457	30,383	104,020	133,025	4.25	4.38
NC	56,058	56,010	290,695	297,325	5.19	5.31
PA	7,957	9,788	40,243	50,109	5.06	5.12
SC	19,360	18,950	84,279	84,833	4.35	4.48
TN	14,310	16,205	64,177	69,953	4.48	4.32
TX	37,739	41,139	171,303	183,408	4.54	4.46
VA	30,971	31,650	145,938	150,912	4.71	4.77
WA	2,881	2,880	14,646	14,871	5.08	5.16
US	640,987	679,706	3,052,003	3,270,772	4.76	4.81

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AL	268,319	276,849	6,879	7,171	2.11	2.11
AR	334,772	347,850	5,741	5,719	1.36	1.32
CA	78,420	73,130	1,992	1,514	2.05	1.68
DE	101,243	101,689	1,842	2,029	1.47	1.61
FL	39,461	38,833	573	766	1.22	1.58
GA	309,902	366,357	5,735	8,015	1.53	1.78
LA	48,501	46,287	1,120	943	1.85	1.61
MD	58,115	64,638	871	1,291	1.14	1.59
MS	192,709	201,590	2,747	2,147	1.20	0.90
MO	74,813	96,429	1,523	1,687	1.63	1.41
NC	216,269	220,331	3,990	4,051	1.53	1.51
PA	28,630	35,090	822	1,203	2.27	2.67
SC	62,264	61,325	1,060	1,398	1.40	1.83
TN	46,169	50,977	773	688	1.34	1.09
TX	130,529	139,814	1,874	2,272	1.22	1.38
VA	103,916	104,923	1,735	1,486	1.32	1.09
WA	10,775	10,998	350	434	2.65	3.24
US	2,234,778	2,388,815	42,714	45,938	1.56	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 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	12,703	227,965	161,702	8,253	14,439
AR	---	6,035	304,031	145,106	7,979	7,415
CA	---	---	---	10,651	1,504	---
DE	---	7,479	119,389	64,436	---	---
FL	---	560	---	---	---	2,222
GA	---	2,469	184,541	425,321	1,721	18,223
LA	---	533	47,407	25,288	736	1,809
MD	---	4,527	92,865	32,753	74	6,025
MS	---	2,395	78,691	25,057	1,126	9,778
MO	---	5,091	89,939	22,164	2,030	1,631
NC	---	3,877	135,034	90,535	---	35,858
PA	---	1,249	34,576	33,480	277	---
SC	---	1,496	30,786	---	---	3,078
TN	---	---	54,255	14,141	---	---
TX	---	841	133,806	47,292	544	2,444
VA	---	3,020	74,559	35,198	136	---
WA	---	322	---	---	---	---
US	---	66,025	1,926,321	1,237,723	41,299	152,754
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	15,379	31,980	94,330	10,486	237,741	814,978
AR	15,794	34,053	73,007	6,685	146,099	746,204
CA	790	5,657	3,778	---	58,437	80,817
DE	4,334	9,440	20,702	5,079	---	230,859
FL	1,953	3,249	8,062	---	---	16,046
GA	16,756	52,168	56,905	12,661	239,823	1,010,588
LA	2,191	2,960	---	---	---	80,924
MD	2,028	10,832	---	---	15,579	164,683
MS	5,108	19,428	24,448	3,770	90,993	260,794
MO	2,814	14,268	17,346	1,087	30,536	186,906
NC	8,014	25,807	66,900	5,801	201,418	573,244
PA	3,113	3,019	---	---	---	75,714
SC	3,689	19,293	18,903	---	62,363	139,608
TN	2,811	6,105	11,867	---	25,760	114,939
TX	1,392	9,047	16,494	1,041	10,872	223,773
VA	3,674	6,644	26,998	857	62,593	213,679
WA	---	---	522	---	22,060	22,904
US	97,918	274,650	527,203	62,348	1,423,224	5,809,465

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 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	13,341	14,517	72,042	76,772	5.40	5.29

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		----- Percent -----	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	44,290	46,787	3,866	4,539	5.96	6.57

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 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	22	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	32	6,658	225,363	16,240	2,698	125,459

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	160	---	---	182
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	29,236	44,131	207,054	1,391	58,035	716,297

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, October 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	2,455	2,342	49,999	42,485	20.36	18.14
CA	2,355	2,151	50,217	47,307	21.33	22.00
IA	1,418	1,423	38,196	36,986	26.94	25.99
MN	4,001	4,579	85,946	99,426	21.48	21.72
MO	2,011	2,067	47,365	56,159	23.55	27.17
NC	4,179	4,300	92,950	107,214	22.24	24.93
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,705	3,329	68,633	63,791	18.52	19.16
US	27,188	27,638	611,868	653,888	22.51	23.66

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	39,763	34,485	1,053	644	2.34	1.68
CA	40,497	37,818	739	810	1.63	1.90
IA	29,586	28,922	894	747	2.60	2.25
MN	68,142	79,154	1,893	2,255	2.45	2.52
MO	37,413	44,724	1,059	1,350	2.48	2.67
NC	73,550	83,705	1,339	2,059	1.60	2.13
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	51,079	48,373	800	967	1.30	1.68
US	480,228	514,026	11,179	12,278	2.03	2.09

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 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	9,496	850	---	---
CA	---	---	10,037	1,200	---	7
IA	---	---	---	3,922	---	---
MN	---	---	19,810	3,908	1,331	22
MO	---	---	23,290	3,854	---	---
NC	---	---	12,758	---	---	6
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	---	565	---	---
US	---	136	131,219	21,122	9,228	119

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	402	1,297	---	1,212	13,257
CA	21	680	---	---	---	11,945
IA	---	52	---	---	---	3,974
MN	255	1,573	2,000	---	3,883	32,782
MO	---	396	704	---	1,021	29,265
NC	272	2,956	2,054	---	1,851	19,897
PA	41	---	---	---	---	41
VA	---	1,129	350	---	---	2,044
US	1,233	9,234	9,610	2,349	15,960	200,210

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 January 6, 1997.

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