

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
Washington, D.C.

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during January (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.81 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in January 1996. Updated totals for December 1996 show that 2.55 billion pounds were certified. The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during January 1997 was 3.84 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.19 billion pounds of young chickens, 71.4 million pounds of mature chickens, 564 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.6 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during January 1997 averaged 4.88 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 6 percent from 5.17 pounds per bird the previous year to 4.88 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during January 1997 averaged 24.6 pounds per bird, virtually unchanged from January 1996.

Ante-mortem condemnations during January 1997 totaled 17.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.47 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.50 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 68.8 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.99 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 2.05 percent a year earlier.

January 1997 contained 24 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays, while January 1996 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) 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, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
Dec 1996	594,616	12,201	606,817	1,852	-----
Jan 1996	644,121	14,154	658,275	1,705	-----
Jan 1997	653,336	14,627	667,963	1,895	-----
Jan-Jan 1996	644,121	14,154	658,275	1,705	-----
Jan-Jan 1997	653,336	14,627	667,963	1,895	-----
1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Dec 1996	2,875,265	58,881	2,934,146	12,563	856
Jan 1996	3,116,733	73,120	3,189,853	11,429	633
Jan 1997	3,186,371	71,427	3,257,799	12,643	1,145
Jan-Jan 1996	3,116,733	73,120	3,189,853	11,429	633
Jan-Jan 1997	3,186,371	71,427	3,257,799	12,643	1,145
Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
Dec 1996	4.84	4.83	4.84	6.78	-----
Jan 1996	4.84	5.17	4.85	6.70	-----
Jan 1997	4.88	4.88	4.88	6.67	-----
Jan-Jan 1996	4.84	5.17	4.85	6.70	-----
Jan-Jan 1997	4.88	4.88	4.88	6.67	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Dec 1996	10	21,849	146	22,005	-----
Jan 1996	---	21,384	173	21,557	-----
Jan 1997	15	22,799	102	22,917	-----
Jan-Jan 1996	---	21,384	173	21,557	-----
Jan-Jan 1997	15	22,799	102	22,917	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Dec 1996	122	521,240	3,851	525,213	3,472,779
Jan 1996	---	525,102	4,419	529,521	3,731,437
Jan 1997	184	560,960	2,900	564,044	3,835,630
Jan-Jan 1996	---	525,102	4,419	529,521	3,731,437
Jan-Jan 1997	184	560,960	2,900	564,044	3,835,630
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Dec 1996	12.00	23.86	26.45	23.87	-----
Jan 1996	---	24.56	25.57	24.56	-----
Jan 1997	12.00	24.60	28.34	24.61	-----
Jan-Jan 1996	---	24.56	25.57	24.56	-----
Jan-Jan 1997	12.00	24.60	28.34	24.61	-----

- 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: January 1996: 5,697, January 1997: 5,173.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: January 1996: 49, January 1997: 104.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Dec 1996					
Chilled	1,915,137	34,725	1,949,861	3,732	274
Frozen	182,878	646	183,524	5,233	206
Total	2,098,015	35,371	2,133,385	8,965	480
Jan 1996					
Chilled	2,084,089	42,299	2,126,388	2,982	165
Frozen	202,369	2,157	204,526	5,238	211
Total	2,286,458	44,456	2,330,915	8,220	376
Jan 1997					
Chilled	2,126,682	41,329	2,168,011	3,383	388
Frozen	191,878	1,272	193,150	5,738	235
Total	2,318,560	42,601	2,361,161	9,121	622
Jan-Jan 1996					
Chilled	2,084,089	42,299	2,126,388	2,982	165
Frozen	202,369	2,157	204,526	5,238	211
Total	2,286,458	44,456	2,330,915	8,220	376
Jan-Jan 1997					
Chilled	2,126,682	41,329	2,168,011	3,383	388
Frozen	191,878	1,272	193,150	5,738	235
Total	2,318,560	42,601	2,361,161	9,121	622

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Dec 1996					
Chilled	44	211,540	1,061	212,646	2,166,514
Frozen	46	196,407	1,845	198,298	387,261
Total	91	407,948	2,906	410,945	2,553,775
Jan 1996					
Chilled	---	211,044	2,309	213,352	2,342,887
Frozen	---	201,353	1,101	202,454	412,430
Total	---	412,396	3,410	415,806	2,755,317
Jan 1997					
Chilled	67	217,618	1,747	219,432	2,391,213
Frozen	69	222,129	495	222,693	421,816
Total	136	439,746	2,243	442,125	2,813,029
Jan-Jan 1996					
Chilled	---	211,044	2,309	213,352	2,342,887
Frozen	---	201,353	1,101	202,454	412,430
Total	---	412,396	3,410	415,806	2,755,317
Jan-Jan 1997					
Chilled	67	217,618	1,747	219,432	2,391,213
Frozen	69	222,129	495	222,693	421,816
Total	136	439,746	2,243	442,125	2,813,029

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Dec 1996	10,921	1,057	11,977	9	3
Jan 1996	15,648	1,105	16,753	8	5
Jan 1997	12,965	1,584	14,549	10	3
Jan-Jan 1996	15,648	1,105	16,753	8	5
Jan-Jan 1997	12,965	1,584	14,549	10	3
Percent 2/					
Jan 1996	0.50	1.51	0.53	0.07	0.82
Jan 1997	0.41	2.22	0.45	0.08	0.25
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Dec 1996	44,923	3,516	48,438	265	10
Jan 1996	52,434	4,048	56,482	159	12
Jan 1997	51,278	4,376	55,654	287	11
Jan-Jan 1996	52,434	4,048	56,482	159	12
Jan-Jan 1997	51,278	4,376	55,654	287	11
Percent 3/					
Jan 1996	1.87	6.15	1.97	1.55	2.03
Jan 1997	1.79	6.81	1.90	2.52	1.08

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, January 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Dec 1996	---	1,420	25	1,445	13,435
Jan 1996	---	1,840	56	1,896	18,663
Jan 1997	---	3,321	60	3,381	17,942
Jan-Jan 1996	---	1,840	56	1,896	18,663
Jan-Jan 1997	---	3,321	60	3,381	17,942
Percent 2/					
Jan 1996	---	0.35	1.27	0.36	0.50
Jan 1997	0.07	0.59	2.07	0.60	0.47
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Dec 1996	5	10,244	243	10,492	59,205
Jan 1996	---	11,909	229	12,139	68,791
Jan 1997	7	12,681	149	12,836	68,789
Jan-Jan 1996	---	11,909	229	12,139	68,791
Jan-Jan 1997	7	12,681	149	12,836	68,789
Percent 3/					
Jan 1996	---	2.52	5.77	2.55	2.05
Jan 1997	4.13	2.51	5.69	2.53	1.99

- 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, January 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-----	1,000 -----	-----	1,000 Pounds -----	---	Pounds ---
AL	73,661	70,642	362,130	344,526	4.92	4.88
AR	98,972	98,690	468,673	477,603	4.74	4.84
CA	22,807	22,360	116,011	117,492	5.09	5.25
DE	23,889	24,118	134,121	132,549	5.61	5.50
FL	12,353	11,515	55,963	52,535	4.53	4.56
GA	92,462	95,077	448,526	482,703	4.85	5.08
LA	12,771	10,180	59,807	45,242	4.68	4.44
MD	17,001	17,414	81,200	85,121	4.78	4.89
MS	51,678	59,205	245,653	276,442	4.75	4.67
MO	25,834	29,542	111,059	126,507	4.30	4.28
NC	56,464	52,454	302,125	287,263	5.35	5.48
PA	8,415	9,336	44,453	47,607	5.28	5.10
SC	18,646	18,922	82,717	84,636	4.44	4.47
TN	14,331	14,916	66,375	68,980	4.63	4.62
TX	39,980	42,266	183,376	195,159	4.59	4.62
VA	30,746	31,027	149,150	149,858	4.85	4.83
WA	2,987	2,921	14,666	15,063	4.91	5.16
US	644,121	653,336	3,116,733	3,186,371	4.84	4.88

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, January 1996-97

State	Total		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	Certified 1/		N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AL	276,440	251,798	8,057	7,394	2.47	2.38
AR	335,800	339,191	6,734	6,428	1.60	1.50
CA	86,225	86,264	2,313	1,639	2.21	1.55
DE	97,110	95,015	3,039	2,639	2.52	2.21
FL	41,895	38,541	658	869	1.31	1.84
GA	331,619	353,186	7,059	8,139	1.75	1.87
LA	44,857	32,405	986	629	1.83	1.55
MD	57,706	59,437	1,453	1,611	1.99	2.10
MS	182,906	211,775	3,139	2,701	1.42	1.09
MO	80,163	91,805	1,947	1,854	1.95	1.63
NC	224,588	213,081	4,657	5,048	1.71	1.95
PA	31,364	32,729	1,278	1,209	3.19	2.82
SC	62,544	61,440	1,570	1,811	2.11	2.38
TN	46,986	49,134	751	705	1.26	1.14
TX	139,339	145,738	2,425	3,119	1.47	1.78
VA	102,004	104,362	2,335	2,038	1.74	1.51
WA	10,983	11,098	382	477	2.89	3.52
US	2,286,458	2,318,560	52,434	51,278	1.87	1.79

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, January 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	---	219,615	372,367	5,225	16,428
AR	---	7,871	358,165	159,505	11,201	9,861
CA	---	6,256	95,230	14,419	1,945	9,560
DE	---	19,264	116,767	138,198	---	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	2,005	191,853	402,351	3,104	18,235
LA	---	---	35,426	17,419	309	3,143
MD	---	---	104,096	75,327	92	8,561
MS	---	3,251	109,581	41,025	1,590	14,377
MO	---	7,447	139,670	29,114	2,212	2,520
NC	---	14,718	158,257	136,381	435	43,504
PA	---	---	39,682	56,123	314	---
SC	---	3,220	32,980	---	53	4,253
TN	---	---	47,041	14,487	---	---
TX	---	979	168,197	67,435	555	2,929
VA	---	6,540	104,876	77,208	159	---
WA	---	---	33,522	---	---	1,133
US	---	108,273	2,200,097	1,799,043	43,200	180,619
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	12,930	32,599	71,036	10,417	250,437	991,054
AR	15,755	52,445	73,465	5,554	114,197	808,019
CA	1,164	9,368	2,939	---	37,027	177,908
DE	4,186	9,070	15,993	1,902	43,422	348,802
FL	1,638	2,765	8,392	1,074	---	13,869
GA	17,488	52,153	52,396	15,578	240,471	995,634
LA	1,363	5,804	---	---	---	63,464
MD	2,222	10,306	---	273	27,456	228,333
MS	5,680	22,550	25,264	2,359	120,277	345,954
MO	3,288	19,033	19,008	---	38,795	261,087
NC	8,390	29,993	60,113	3,092	205,072	659,955
PA	2,025	3,630	---	---	41,956	143,730
SC	4,904	15,646	19,472	2,406	75,211	158,145
TN	2,336	7,486	---	---	25,190	96,540
TX	1,638	12,978	18,992	1,195	27,195	302,093
VA	3,993	9,172	28,749	1,365	108,507	340,569
WA	---	1,028	569	---	---	36,252
US	96,415	321,297	505,013	52,754	1,515,802	6,822,513

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, January 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,154	14,627	73,120	71,427	5.17	4.88

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, January 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	44,456	42,601	4,048	4,376	6.15	6.81

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, January 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	18	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	3,670	291,070	15,381	844	155,005
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	26	---	---	---	44
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	30,296	63,479	214,124	1,802	53,727	829,398

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, January 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,177	2,350	44,919	40,651	20.64	17.30
CA	1,560	1,568	35,408	35,968	22.70	22.94
IA	971	946	30,068	27,285	30.97	28.84
MN	2,649	2,903	59,492	68,253	22.46	23.51
MO	1,863	2,097	46,391	57,252	24.90	27.30
NC	3,907	3,795	97,269	99,297	24.89	26.17
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,937	3,061	55,244	57,465	18.81	18.77
US	21,384	22,799	525,102	560,960	24.56	24.60

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, January 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	36,502	33,314	937	628	2.32	1.72
CA	27,485	28,992	448	470	1.41	1.45
IA	23,458	21,309	1,082	744	4.00	3.03
MN	46,798	53,248	1,806	2,440	3.37	3.97
MO	36,123	44,758	1,270	1,636	3.04	3.17
NC	77,097	77,596	1,790	2,244	2.05	2.51
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	42,786	43,965	827	922	1.66	1.78
US	412,396	439,746	11,909	12,681	2.52	2.51

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, January 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AR	---	---	8,295	---	131	---
CA	---	---	5,666	185	---	---
IA	---	---	---	4,289	---	---
MN	---	---	19,579	8,313	---	19
MO	---	---	29,032	4,846	---	---
NC	---	---	9,632	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	1,052	---	---
VA	---	10	---	528	---	---
US	---	670	119,319	30,060	6,017	172
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	---	---	1,051	---	851	10,328
CA	27	---	---	---	---	5,878
IA	36	---	---	---	---	4,325
MN	---	1,328	1,650	---	---	30,889
MO	139	---	1,550	---	1,231	36,798
NC	317	2,311	---	---	2,400	14,660
PA	112	---	---	---	---	1,164
VA	22	978	298	255	---	2,091
US	1,469	9,760	12,355	3,411	16,130	199,363

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, January 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	2,267	374	---	31
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	18	85	110	29	430	3,344

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.

Index

	Page
Definitions.....	17
Mature Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, U.S., January 1996-1997.....	11
Mature Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	12
Mature Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, U.S., January 1996-1997.....	11
Old Turkeys (Breeders) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, U.S., January 1996-1997.....	15
Poultry Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified (RTC) by Type, U.S., January 1997.....	4
Poultry Slaughter Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type, U.S., January 1997.....	6
Poultry Slaughter Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type, U.S., January 1997.....	2
Reliability Statement.....	16
Young Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	8
Young Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	10
Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	9
Young Turkeys (Mature) Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	13
Young Turkeys (Mature) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	14
Young Turkeys (Mature) Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., January 1996-1997.....	13

The next **"Poultry Slaughter"** report will be released at 3 P.M. ET on April 4, 1997.

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