

# Poultry Slaughter



USDA  
Washington, D.C.

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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 7 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during June (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.75 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the amount certified in June 1996. Updated totals for May 1997 show that 2.86 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during June 1997 was 3.70 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.02 billion pounds of young chickens, 75.2 million pounds of mature chickens, 602 million pounds of turkeys, and 11.3 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during June 1997 averaged 4.77 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 8 percent from 5.49 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.03 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during June 1997 averaged 24.1 pounds per bird, up one percent from June 1996.

Ante-mortem condemnations during June 1997 totaled 13.4 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.36 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.38 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 60.2 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.80 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.74 percent a year earlier.

June 1997 contained 21 weekdays and four Saturdays, while June 1996 contained 20 weekdays 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, June 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
May 1997	665,120	15,743	680,863	1,906	-----
Jun 1996	599,799	12,098	611,897	1,579	-----
Jun 1997	632,599	14,963	647,562	1,689	-----
Jan-Jun 1996	3,769,565	80,678	3,850,243	9,741	-----
Jan-Jun 1997	3,837,074	88,107	3,925,181	10,621	-----
1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
May 1997	3,201,709	76,626	3,278,336	12,907	1,186
Jun 1996	2,830,429	66,389	2,896,819	10,538	903
Jun 1997	3,015,231	75,248	3,090,478	11,307	1,213
Jan-Jun 1996	18,037,021	420,652	18,457,673	65,356	4,196
Jan-Jun 1997	18,538,661	431,264	18,969,925	71,364	6,877
Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
May 1997	4.81	4.87	4.81	6.77	-----
Jun 1996	4.72	5.49	4.73	6.67	-----
Jun 1997	4.77	5.03	4.77	6.69	-----
Jan-Jun 1996	4.78	5.21	4.79	6.71	-----
Jan-Jun 1997	4.83	4.89	4.83	6.72	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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

-----					
: Turkeys :					
:-----					
: Fryer- : : Total :					Total
: Roasters : Young 3/ : Old : Turkeys :					Poultry
:-----					
: 1,000 Head :					
: Number Inspected :					
May 1997	: 14	23,976	140	24,129	-----
Jun 1996	: ---	24,248	67	24,315	-----
Jun 1997	: 1	24,863	100	24,964	-----
:					
Jan-Jun 1996	: 89	138,872	851	139,811	-----
Jan-Jun 1997	: 66	136,869	712	137,647	-----
:					
: 1,000 Pounds :					
: Live Weight :					
May 1997	: 121	591,818	3,551	595,490	3,887,919
Jun 1996	: ---	577,247	1,880	579,127	3,487,387
Jun 1997	: 13	598,967	2,584	601,563	3,704,561
:					
Jan-Jun 1996	: 803	3,333,339	23,066	3,357,207	21,884,433
Jan-Jun 1997	: 640	3,323,462	18,976	3,343,077	22,391,244
:					
: Pounds :					
: Average Live Weight :					
May 1997	: 8.70	24.68	25.40	24.68	-----
Jun 1996	: ---	23.81	28.05	23.82	-----
Jun 1997	: 12.29	24.09	25.84	24.10	-----
:					
Jan-Jun 1996	: 9.03	24.00	27.11	24.01	-----
Jan-Jun 1997	: 9.69	24.28	26.66	24.29	-----
:-----					

- 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: June 1996: 5,629, June 1997: 5,501.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: June 1996: 131, June 1997: 62.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
May 1997					
Chilled	2,133,851	44,400	2,178,251	3,083	398
Frozen	201,124	2,567	203,691	6,093	243
Total	2,334,976	46,967	2,381,943	9,176	641
Jun 1996					
Chilled	1,902,017	38,496	1,940,513	2,687	245
Frozen	167,760	1,903	169,663	4,958	241
Total	2,069,777	40,399	2,110,176	7,645	486
Jun 1997					
Chilled	1,989,091	42,608	2,031,699	2,870	392
Frozen	225,913	2,887	228,800	5,247	264
Total	2,215,004	45,495	2,260,499	8,117	656
Jan-Jun 1996					
Chilled	12,089,020	243,615	12,332,635	17,600	1,076
Frozen	1,091,890	11,846	1,103,736	29,662	1,294
Total	13,180,909	255,462	13,436,371	47,262	2,369
Jan-Jun 1997					
Chilled	12,351,058	248,176	12,599,234	18,581	2,328
Frozen	1,189,212	11,816	1,201,028	32,403	1,433
Total	13,540,269	259,993	13,800,262	50,984	3,761

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total Poultry
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
May 1997					
Chilled	---	224,634	1,935	226,569	2,408,301
Frozen	88	240,472	707	241,267	451,294
Total	88	465,106	2,642	467,835	2,859,595
Jun 1996					
Chilled	---	208,241	1,059	209,299	2,152,744
Frozen	---	246,437	376	246,813	421,676
Total	---	454,677	1,435	456,112	2,574,420
Jun 1997					
Chilled	4	227,510	1,454	228,967	2,263,928
Frozen	6	252,618	439	253,062	487,373
Total	9	480,128	1,893	482,029	2,751,301
Jan-Jun 1996					
Chilled	3	1,270,935	12,912	1,283,850	13,635,161
Frozen	630	1,358,853	4,457	1,363,941	2,498,632
Total	633	2,629,788	17,369	2,647,790	16,133,793
Jan-Jun 1997					
Chilled	73	1,275,568	11,166	1,286,807	13,906,950
Frozen	395	1,346,172	3,198	1,349,765	2,584,628
Total	469	2,621,739	14,364	2,636,572	16,491,578

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

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
May 1997	9,613	1,012	10,625	13	4
Jun 1996	10,068	1,261	11,329	13	4
Jun 1997	10,104	1,362	11,466	11	9
Jan-Jun 1996	71,129	6,856	77,985	52	23
Jan-Jun 1997	62,584	6,977	69,561	63	31
Percent 2/					
Jun 1996	0.36	1.90	0.39	0.13	0.49
Jun 1997	0.34	1.81	0.37	0.10	0.72
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
May 1997	48,577	4,695	53,272	257	11
Jun 1996	40,181	3,843	44,024	171	8
Jun 1997	43,569	4,753	48,322	221	11
Jan-Jun 1996	286,403	23,954	310,357	987	48
Jan-Jun 1997	291,075	26,605	317,680	1,458	65
Percent 3/					
Jun 1996	1.58	6.43	1.69	1.80	0.99
Jun 1997	1.61	7.02	1.74	2.17	1.01

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			
		1,000 Pounds			
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			Total Poultry
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
May 1997	---	1,312	29	1,342	11,984
Jun 1996	---	1,895	47	1,943	13,289
Jun 1997	---	1,884	20	1,905	13,390
Jan-Jun 1996	4	10,001	269	10,275	88,335
Jan-Jun 1997	1	11,075	167	11,243	80,898
Percent 2/					
Jun 1996	---	0.33	2.52	0.34	0.38
Jun 1997	0.54	0.31	0.78	0.32	0.36
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
May 1997	4	10,956	252	11,212	64,751
Jun 1996	---	10,174	116	10,289	54,492
Jun 1997	1	11,421	204	11,625	60,179
Jan-Jun 1996	11	66,050	1,488	67,549	378,940
Jan-Jun 1997	19	66,993	1,161	68,173	387,376
Percent 3/					
Jun 1996	---	1.96	6.83	1.97	1.74
Jun 1997	5.86	2.12	8.76	2.15	1.80

- 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, June 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	69,226	70,442	327,063	336,818	4.72	4.78	
AR	88,104	95,573	414,789	458,829	4.71	4.80	
CA	18,876	20,189	95,592	99,993	5.06	4.95	
DE	21,979	22,898	115,511	123,561	5.26	5.40	
FL	10,388	11,228	45,997	49,570	4.43	4.41	
GA	85,740	88,927	417,878	434,853	4.87	4.89	
LA	13,743	11,792	62,649	49,993	4.56	4.24	
MD	15,523	17,106	71,492	81,782	4.61	4.78	
MS	52,809	58,158	236,947	269,206	4.49	4.63	
MO	27,657	29,183	117,399	124,143	4.24	4.25	
NC	50,954	50,111	261,508	269,785	5.13	5.38	
PA	8,239	9,536	41,239	47,771	5.01	5.01	
SC	17,698	18,319	78,509	82,749	4.44	4.52	
TN	13,299	13,266	58,526	60,354	4.40	4.55	
TX	35,169	39,031	157,273	174,547	4.47	4.47	
VA	28,264	30,046	135,252	139,799	4.79	4.65	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	599,799	632,599	2,830,429	3,015,231	4.72	4.77	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AL	241,521	253,942	6,323	6,754	2.15	2.23
AR	298,984	330,520	5,129	5,537	1.37	1.34
CA	69,732	76,673	1,516	1,554	1.76	1.73
DE	83,572	89,351	1,877	2,307	1.81	2.07
FL	33,514	36,154	764	852	1.85	1.91
GA	308,528	320,491	5,623	5,145	1.50	1.31
LA	46,014	38,038	953	960	1.69	2.13
MD	50,458	57,579	1,507	1,403	2.34	1.91
MS	178,735	201,945	2,021	2,837	0.95	1.17
MO	85,421	91,811	1,890	2,058	1.79	1.84
NC	193,184	200,593	3,339	4,513	1.42	1.86
PA	28,693	32,822	1,108	1,129	2.99	2.63
SC	57,385	60,804	1,326	1,391	1.88	1.87
TN	43,439	41,754	600	685	1.14	1.26
TX	117,575	133,587	1,682	1,975	1.19	1.26
VA	93,836	95,794	1,691	1,551	1.39	1.23
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,069,777	2,215,004	40,181	43,569	1.58	1.61

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, June 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	3,762	181,108	203,798	5,305	7,041
AR	---	6,699	297,232	118,733	15,370	7,157
CA	---	---	86,155	9,524	1,322	6,356
DE	---	35,144	101,961	93,051	---	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	3,471	152,879	161,957	1,075	12,320
LA	---	218	---	14,230	---	2,887
MD	---	28,057	99,781	46,510	92	8,081
MS	---	3,272	93,897	32,437	3,499	10,540
MO	---	5,279	---	23,301	1,710	1,887
NC	---	17,854	152,287	96,019	205	41,507
PA	---	---	32,647	29,019	286	---
SC	---	---	32,407	---	---	3,021
TN	---	---	52,007	18,202	---	---
TX	---	---	110,966	31,999	875	2,189
VA	---	---	76,160	26,538	174	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	1,314	152,328	2,202,692	1,040,036	45,273	153,936

  

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AL	12,198	28,660	65,934	8,157	214,849	730,812
AR	13,902	28,177	---	3,566	98,522	589,358
CA	649	7,380	2,750	880	46,553	161,569
DE	2,854	10,367	16,382	---	46,829	306,588
FL	1,592	3,663	8,075	2,275	---	15,605
GA	15,100	33,727	57,975	12,042	185,226	635,772
LA	2,286	---	---	---	---	19,621
MD	1,942	11,543	---	1,229	18,676	215,911
MS	7,499	19,994	29,571	1,573	130,760	333,042
MO	3,193	10,173	21,251	---	36,817	103,611
NC	7,235	26,079	53,768	7,268	180,606	582,828
PA	3,696	3,922	---	1,862	---	71,432
SC	3,482	13,745	18,530	7,249	62,561	140,995
TN	2,521	4,610	---	---	22,779	100,119
TX	1,721	14,130	15,369	871	11,091	189,211
VA	2,985	9,291	23,305	5,081	78,715	222,249
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	89,373	247,886	599,266	61,406	1,342,065	5,935,575

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, June 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	12,098	14,963	66,389	75,248	5.49	5.03

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	40,399	45,495	3,843	4,753	6.43	7.02

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, June 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
CA	---	39	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	5,698	267,500	21,117	1,488	148,728

  

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
CA	---	56	---	---	---	95
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	31,268	69,319	229,859	2,387	86,337	863,701

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, June 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	2,167	2,031	38,981	36,338	17.99	17.89
CA	1,841	1,678	38,968	38,228	21.17	22.78
IA	1,103	1,183	30,744	32,714	27.88	27.65
MN	3,855	4,254	84,352	91,516	21.88	21.51
MO	1,835	2,085	50,047	57,467	27.28	27.57
NC	4,126	3,835	102,174	98,878	24.77	25.78
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,078	3,087	60,384	61,726	19.62	19.99
US	24,248	24,863	577,247	598,967	23.81	24.09

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	32,021	29,554	452	417	1.29	1.27
CA	31,610	31,110	506	592	1.44	1.72
IA	23,562	25,598	649	684	2.35	2.32
MN	66,218	74,476	1,954	2,588	2.57	3.14
MO	38,849	46,237	1,438	1,196	3.19	2.31
NC	80,307	78,220	1,521	1,663	1.65	1.87
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	46,643	47,658	789	796	1.45	1.43
US	454,677	480,128	10,174	11,421	1.96	2.12

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, June 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	4,036	271	76	---
CA	---	---	5,519	---	---	---
IA	---	---	4,071	2,514	---	---
MN	---	---	20,569	---	1,662	---
MO	---	---	20,326	---	165	---
NC	---	---	4,938	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	4,724	---	---	---
US	---	421	93,918	17,221	7,113	97

  

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	253	992	---	1,085	6,713
CA	8	---	---	29	---	5,556
IA	52	---	371	---	---	7,008
MN	344	1,696	2,401	1,565	2,792	31,029
MO	103	186	---	---	1,438	22,218
NC	71	---	---	252	773	6,034
PA	60	---	---	---	419	479
VA	27	916	194	---	---	5,861
US	1,021	7,919	10,531	3,768	12,916	154,925



## 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 September 4, 1997.

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