

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
Washington, D.C.

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during July (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.84 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in July 1996. Updated totals for June 1997 show that 2.78 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during July 1997 was 3.83 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.12 billion pounds of young chickens, 72.4 million pounds of mature chickens, 621 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.3 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during July 1997 averaged 4.69 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 4 percent from 5.37 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.17 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during July 1997 averaged 23.4 pounds per bird, up slightly from July 1996.

Ante-mortem condemnations during July 1997 totaled 16.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.43 percent of the live weight inspected, unchanged from a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 65.0 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.89 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.79 percent a year earlier.

July 1997 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, the same as July 1996. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, July 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
Jun 1997	639,730	15,223	654,953	1,689	-----
Jul 1996	655,381	12,744	668,125	1,746	-----
Jul 1997	665,777	13,985	679,762	1,910	-----
Jan-Jul 1996	4,424,947	93,421	4,518,368	11,487	-----
Jan-Jul 1997	4,512,873	102,352	4,615,225	12,531	-----
1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Jun 1997	3,051,563	77,218	3,128,781	11,307	1,264
Jul 1996	3,053,970	68,401	3,122,370	11,530	853
Jul 1997	3,119,555	72,368	3,191,924	12,347	1,552
Jan-Jul 1996	21,090,991	489,053	21,580,044	76,886	5,050
Jan-Jul 1997	21,710,415	505,603	22,216,017	83,712	8,493
Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
Jun 1997	4.77	5.07	4.78	6.69	-----
Jul 1996	4.66	5.37	4.67	6.60	-----
Jul 1997	4.69	5.17	4.70	6.46	-----
Jan-Jul 1996	4.77	5.23	4.78	6.69	-----
Jan-Jul 1997	4.81	4.94	4.81	6.68	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Jun 1997					
Chilled	2,012,388	43,823	2,056,212	2,870	411
Frozen	226,725	2,889	229,614	5,247	268
Total	2,239,113	46,712	2,285,825	8,117	679
Jul 1996					
Chilled	2,044,291	39,441	2,083,732	2,614	234
Frozen	189,017	2,610	191,627	5,672	254
Total	2,233,307	42,052	2,275,359	8,285	488
Jul 1997					
Chilled	2,078,827	41,925	2,120,751	2,931	505
Frozen	216,955	2,719	219,673	5,864	379
Total	2,295,781	44,643	2,340,425	8,795	884
Jan-Jul 1996					
Chilled	14,133,311	283,057	14,416,367	20,213	1,310
Frozen	1,280,906	14,457	1,295,363	35,334	1,548
Total	15,414,217	297,513	15,711,730	55,547	2,858
Jan-Jul 1997					
Chilled	14,464,221	291,317	14,755,538	21,512	2,859
Frozen	1,406,935	14,537	1,421,472	38,267	1,816
Total	15,871,156	305,853	16,177,009	59,779	4,675

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Jun 1997					
Chilled	4	227,510	1,454	228,967	2,288,460
Frozen	6	253,179	439	253,624	488,752
Total	9	480,689	1,893	482,591	2,777,212
Jul 1996					
Chilled	---	222,855	1,914	224,769	2,311,349
Frozen	325	261,964	1,950	264,238	461,791
Total	325	484,819	3,864	489,007	2,773,140
Jul 1997					
Chilled	---	226,529	1,880	228,409	2,352,596
Frozen	---	260,870	1,090	261,960	487,876
Total	---	487,399	2,970	490,368	2,840,473
Jan-Jul 1996					
Chilled	3	1,493,790	14,826	1,508,619	15,946,510
Frozen	955	1,620,817	6,407	1,628,178	2,960,423
Total	958	3,114,607	21,233	3,136,797	18,906,933
Jan-Jul 1997					
Chilled	73	1,502,097	13,045	1,515,215	16,295,124
Frozen	395	1,607,603	4,288	1,612,286	3,073,841
Total	469	3,109,700	17,333	3,127,502	19,368,965

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

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jun 1997	10,312	1,420	11,732	11	9
Jul 1996	12,894	1,396	14,290	16	3
Jul 1997	12,897	1,597	14,494	12	9
Jan-Jul 1996	84,023	8,252	92,275	68	26
Jan-Jul 1997	75,728	8,632	84,361	75	40
Percent 2/					
Jul 1996	0.42	2.04	0.46	0.14	0.38
Jul 1997	0.41	2.21	0.45	0.10	0.57
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jun 1997	44,269	4,950	49,219	221	12
Jul 1996	44,877	3,827	48,704	181	8
Jul 1997	47,961	4,325	52,286	279	17
Jan-Jul 1996	331,280	27,781	359,061	1,168	56
Jan-Jul 1997	339,915	31,127	371,042	1,737	82
Percent 3/					
Jul 1996	1.63	6.22	1.73	1.75	1.05
Jul 1997	1.71	6.64	1.82	2.51	1.18

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer-			Total	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
<i>Ante-Mortem</i>						
(Live Weight)						
Jun 1997	---	1,885	20	1,905	13,657	
Jul 1996	1	1,923	44	1,968	16,277	
Jul 1997	---	1,996	38	2,034	16,549	
Jan-Jul 1996	5	11,925	313	12,243	104,612	
Jan-Jul 1997	1	13,072	204	13,277	97,753	
<i>Percent 2/</i>						
Jul 1996	0.15	0.31	0.84	0.32	0.43	
Jul 1997	---	0.32	0.95	0.33	0.43	
		1,000 Pounds				
<i>Post-Mortem</i>						
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Jun 1997	1	11,428	204	11,632	61,084	
Jul 1996	7	11,099	379	11,485	60,378	
Jul 1997	---	12,209	247	12,456	65,037	
Jan-Jul 1996	18	77,148	1,867	79,033	439,318	
Jan-Jul 1997	19	79,209	1,408	80,636	453,498	
<i>Percent 3/</i>						
Jul 1996	1.68	2.01	8.09	2.06	1.79	
Jul 1997	---	2.20	6.98	2.23	1.89	

- 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, July 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	73,782	77,088	342,160	353,126	4.64	4.58	
AR	94,622	96,335	437,095	450,860	4.62	4.68	
CA	21,357	20,145	105,791	103,457	4.95	5.14	
DE	23,914	23,689	129,206	127,117	5.40	5.37	
FL	11,636	11,644	51,345	50,401	4.41	4.33	
GA	95,275	96,881	457,524	470,958	4.80	4.86	
LA	14,269	12,171	63,716	52,996	4.47	4.35	
MD	17,924	17,953	83,920	83,618	4.68	4.66	
MS	57,472	62,310	257,016	281,823	4.47	4.52	
MO	28,526	29,412	120,324	124,754	4.22	4.24	
NC	54,751	52,800	277,286	281,061	5.06	5.32	
PA	8,954	10,221	45,311	48,478	5.06	4.74	
SC	19,729	17,721	85,124	77,266	4.31	4.36	
TN	15,139	15,786	66,662	68,367	4.40	4.33	
TX	41,083	41,580	181,660	186,050	4.42	4.47	
VA	32,301	32,214	150,388	146,584	4.66	4.55	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	655,381	665,777	3,053,970	3,119,555	4.66	4.69	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, July 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	250,806	262,429	7,630	7,315	2.48	2.30
AR	314,831	322,596	5,930	6,381	1.51	1.57
CA	77,361	76,413	1,655	1,805	1.74	1.94
DE	93,706	93,343	1,859	2,045	1.60	1.79
FL	37,290	36,371	809	940	1.75	2.07
GA	340,226	349,506	6,303	6,433	1.53	1.52
LA	46,089	39,912	1,100	1,077	1.92	2.26
MD	59,617	60,293	1,141	1,186	1.51	1.58
MS	192,367	215,247	2,518	3,742	1.09	1.48
MO	87,100	90,282	1,812	1,748	1.67	1.56
NC	205,249	205,433	4,047	4,692	1.62	1.85
PA	30,936	33,759	1,033	1,186	2.53	2.72
SC	62,441	56,857	1,646	1,335	2.15	1.92
TN	48,594	49,473	687	776	1.14	1.26
TX	137,467	142,715	2,217	2,478	1.36	1.48
VA	105,556	103,673	1,530	1,621	1.13	1.23
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,233,307	2,295,781	44,877	47,961	1.63	1.71

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, July 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AL	---	4,849	207,371	218,622	---	7,908
AR	---	6,231	322,945	121,661	17,034	---
CA	---	4,878	108,100	12,194	1,402	4,798
DE	---	17,258	121,340	68,655	---	---
FL	---	799	---	---	1,179	---
GA	---	3,194	175,768	184,320	2,413	12,698
LA	---	255	---	13,885	1,131	2,053
MD	---	19,191	107,846	32,673	48	7,215
MS	---	2,713	118,755	53,989	2,795	9,026
MO	---	4,469	---	25,775	2,271	1,784
NC	---	14,176	169,227	79,703	115	36,591
PA	---	2,758	31,388	25,784	340	---
SC	---	---	27,715	---	---	2,565
TN	---	---	50,205	---	---	---
TX	---	---	131,267	33,706	1,568	1,968
VA	---	---	80,184	20,665	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,471	107,380	3,489,500	1,033,035	62,876	764,568
	Number					
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	15,178	41,523	72,167	13,691	273,058	854,367
AR	16,586	30,937	---	9,411	140,933	665,738
CA	598	8,021	2,611	---	55,044	197,646
DE	3,600	11,451	19,307	---	40,566	282,177
FL	1,911	2,735	8,321	2,736	---	17,681
GA	20,500	52,764	61,333	16,331	227,491	756,812
LA	3,100	6,041	---	367	---	26,832
MD	1,981	11,766	---	1,435	18,167	200,322
MS	9,726	25,072	34,633	2,217	173,579	432,505
MO	3,683	10,593	25,618	---	42,333	116,526
NC	8,679	27,781	69,415	15,913	220,629	642,229
PA	3,197	4,622	---	---	39,346	107,435
SC	4,153	17,316	21,360	---	65,317	138,426
TN	3,230	7,220	18,544	2,000	33,993	115,192
TX	2,262	17,061	20,444	1,938	18,191	228,405
VA	3,809	12,261	31,907	5,283	84,547	238,656
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	109,918	308,993	1,031,040	85,784	1,650,199	8,645,764

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, July 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	12,744	13,985	68,401	72,368	5.37	5.17

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	42,052	44,643	3,827	4,325	6.22	6.64

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, July 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
CA	---	11	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	3,851	259,404	19,640	694	135,853

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
CA	71	---	---	---	---	82
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	23,223	51,017	210,548	2,128	73,098	779,456

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, July 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	2,276	2,276	41,247	38,412	18.12	16.88
CA	1,951	1,878	41,913	41,836	21.48	22.28
IA	1,345	1,336	34,563	34,654	25.70	25.94
MN	4,285	4,429	91,857	95,441	21.44	21.55
MO	1,945	2,230	52,835	60,383	27.17	27.07
NC	4,380	3,807	107,490	92,824	24.54	24.38
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,386	3,389	65,971	66,078	19.48	19.50
US	26,239	26,348	613,254	617,202	23.37	23.43

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	33,996	32,209	627	497	1.69	1.44
CA	33,929	33,165	643	553	1.71	1.47
IA	27,189	27,356	708	803	2.28	2.57
MN	73,619	75,171	2,088	3,099	2.53	3.61
MO	41,834	46,954	1,359	1,171	2.86	2.15
NC	84,578	72,519	1,730	1,493	1.79	1.79
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	50,835	51,987	888	924	1.50	1.55
US	484,819	487,399	11,099	12,209	2.01	2.20

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, July 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AR	---	---	4,764	---	---	---
CA	---	---	7,937	---	40	---
IA	---	---	---	---	---	---
MN	---	---	24,892	5,554	1,889	12
MO	---	---	17,352	---	---	---
NC	---	---	4,859	---	---	---
PA	---	---	5,948	---	190	---
VA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	158	103,677	20,517	9,014	79

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AR	---	---	---	---	1,018	5,782
CA	7	---	---	67	---	8,051
IA	---	---	432	---	---	432
MN	249	1,932	2,774	---	5,102	42,404
MO	93	229	417	411	1,970	20,472
NC	95	1,857	2,644	---	962	10,417
PA	127	---	---	---	638	6,903
VA	20	1,649	296	371	1,875	4,211
US	999	8,518	10,709	3,142	16,724	173,537

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 3:00 p.m. ET on October 3, 1997.

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*USDA to Hold Data Users Meeting
Holiday Inn Mart Plaza
Chicago, Illinois
October 20, 1997*

The National Agricultural Statistics Service will be organizing an open forum for Data Users. The purpose will be to provide updates on pending changes in the USDA statistical and information programs including the status of the 1997 Census of Agriculture, and to seek comments and input from data users. Other agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

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