

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released January 6, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Poultry Slaughter" call John Lange (202) 720-0585 or Mike Barker (202) 720-3243, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 7 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during November (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.69 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the amount certified in November 1997. Updated totals for October 1998 show that 3.02 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during November 1998 was 3.65 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.99 billion pounds of young chickens, 60.4 million pounds of mature chickens, 587 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.5 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during November 1998 averaged 4.99 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from last year. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.37 pounds per bird, 5 percent more than a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during November 1998 averaged 24.2 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from November 1997.

Ante-mortem condemnations during November 1998 totaled 12.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.35 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.33 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 62.5 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.90 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.84 percent a year earlier.

November 1998 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays, while November 1997 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, November 1998 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		

: 1,000 Head					
Number Inspected					
Oct 1998	686,139	13,834	699,972	2,055	-----
Nov 1997	564,133	11,894	576,027	1,555	-----
Nov 1998	598,230	11,240	609,471	1,903	-----
Jan-Nov 1997	7,088,020	154,015	7,242,035	19,936	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	7,171,830	154,299	7,326,129	21,407	-----
: 1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Oct 1998	3,381,079	70,739	3,451,818	13,529	1,929
Nov 1997	2,748,232	61,070	2,809,302	10,409	1,004
Nov 1998	2,985,256	60,415	3,045,671	12,482	870
Jan-Nov 1997	34,058,972	773,474	34,832,446	132,942	16,696
Jan-Nov 1998	34,741,044	789,794	35,530,838	140,908	13,661
: Pounds					
Average Live Weight					
Oct 1998	4.93	5.11	4.93	6.58	-----
Nov 1997	4.87	5.13	4.88	6.69	-----
Nov 1998	4.99	5.37	5.00	6.56	-----
Jan-Nov 1997	4.81	5.02	4.81	6.67	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	4.84	5.12	4.85	6.58	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, November 1998 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Oct 1998					
Chilled	2,266,875	39,906	2,306,781	3,410	503
Frozen	226,530	5,018	231,549	6,280	656
Total	2,493,405	44,924	2,538,330	9,690	1,159
Nov 1997					
Chilled	1,825,960	35,999	1,861,959	2,625	352
Frozen	199,540	1,912	201,452	4,788	217
Total	2,025,500	37,911	2,063,411	7,413	569
Nov 1998					
Chilled	1,978,865	35,364	2,014,229	3,626	241
Frozen	205,191	1,606	206,797	5,101	270
Total	2,184,056	36,969	2,221,026	8,728	511
Jan-Nov 1997					
Chilled	22,718,053	443,368	23,161,421	33,212	5,261
Frozen	2,247,078	25,313	2,272,392	61,555	4,226
Total	24,965,131	468,682	25,433,813	94,767	9,487
Jan-Nov 1998					
Chilled	23,165,158	438,850	23,604,008	35,163	4,381
Frozen	2,289,577	38,812	2,328,389	65,101	3,424
Total	25,454,735	477,662	25,932,397	100,264	7,805

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, November 1998 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total Poultry
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Oct 1998						
Chilled	4	212,903	2,392	215,299	2,525,993	
Frozen	---	256,839	1,493	258,332	496,817	
Total	4	469,742	3,885	473,630	3,022,810	
Nov 1997						
Chilled	---	239,205	1,332	240,537	2,105,472	
Frozen	---	211,416	1,554	212,970	419,428	
Total	---	450,621	2,886	453,507	2,524,900	
Nov 1998						
Chilled	14	246,846	1,535	248,395	2,266,491	
Frozen	---	210,243	554	210,797	422,965	
Total	14	457,089	2,089	459,192	2,689,456	
Jan-Nov 1997						
Chilled	86	2,407,380	20,690	2,428,156	25,628,050	
Frozen	395	2,577,529	11,389	2,589,314	4,927,487	
Total	482	4,984,910	32,079	5,017,470	30,555,538	
Jan-Nov 1998						
Chilled	48	2,283,525	24,010	2,307,582	25,951,135	
Frozen	215	2,527,999	10,648	2,538,862	4,935,776	
Total	263	4,811,524	34,658	4,846,445	30,886,911	

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, November 1998 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Oct 1998	11,986	754	12,739	18	7
Nov 1997	9,169	844	10,013	11	2
Nov 1998	11,111	641	11,753	15	1
Jan-Nov 1997	118,978	12,920	131,898	136	88
Jan-Nov 1998	149,229	14,263	163,492	165	52
Percent 2/					
Nov 1997	0.33	1.38	0.36	0.10	0.18
Nov 1998	0.37	1.06	0.39	0.12	0.13
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Oct 1998	50,517	4,277	54,794	292	29
Nov 1997	41,690	3,514	45,204	213	9
Nov 1998	47,965	3,604	51,570	298	12
Jan-Nov 1997	524,337	47,848	572,185	2,658	167
Jan-Nov 1998	549,541	46,250	595,792	2,976	147
Percent 3/					
Nov 1997	1.69	6.39	1.79	2.28	0.96
Nov 1998	1.79	6.63	1.88	2.65	1.55

See footnotes at end of table.

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Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	----- 1,000	-----	---- 1,000 Pounds	----	--- Pounds	---
AL	65,612	68,876	317,741	348,470	4.84	5.06
AR	87,066	87,337	419,941	424,332	4.82	4.86
CA	15,330	18,841	81,547	98,042	5.32	5.20
DE	20,108	21,165	109,909	118,733	5.47	5.61
FL	10,764	10,082	50,443	54,030	4.69	5.36
GA	82,650	82,408	412,666	415,560	4.99	5.04
LA	11,551	12,138	56,139	54,087	4.86	4.46
MD	15,506	15,953	74,404	75,449	4.80	4.73
MS	51,040	53,520	241,638	265,866	4.73	4.97
MO	25,632	27,074	111,215	119,358	4.34	4.41
NC	40,194	48,217	222,873	278,119	5.54	5.77
PA	7,979	7,967	41,904	40,889	5.25	5.13
SC	14,461	16,080	68,104	76,017	4.71	4.73
TN	10,971	14,466	52,029	71,026	4.74	4.91
TX	37,352	40,534	173,500	192,431	4.65	4.75
VA	25,005	26,751	119,861	129,778	4.79	4.85
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	564,133	598,230	2,748,232	2,985,256	4.87	4.99

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AL	234,507	260,171	7,518	8,942	2.63	2.85
AR	302,272	303,240	4,817	6,184	1.27	1.62
CA	58,863	71,049	1,257	1,386	1.71	1.57
DE	80,124	86,332	1,721	2,167	1.74	2.03
FL	36,361	36,108	996	1,969	2.19	4.05
GA	303,101	304,862	6,503	6,159	1.75	1.65
LA	40,164	37,405	1,042	1,079	2.06	2.22
MD	53,153	53,688	1,158	1,069	1.73	1.57
MS	183,830	197,541	2,767	3,926	1.27	1.64
MO	80,612	88,358	1,458	1,081	1.46	1.01
NC	164,745	209,720	3,596	3,842	1.79	1.53
PA	29,165	28,814	1,133	1,223	3.00	3.32
SC	66,088	55,782	1,292	1,478	2.11	2.16
TN	36,452	52,518	510	722	1.09	1.13
TX	131,671	143,912	2,076	1,873	1.33	1.08
VA	82,766	90,945	1,473	1,396	1.37	1.20
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,025,500	2,184,056	41,690	47,965	1.69	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, November 1998

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,309	180,460	141,996	2,356	13,927
AR	---	3,549	269,445	109,793	6,420	6,101
CA	---	4,614	111,423	7,131	891	3,032
DE	---	4,254	98,970	54,824	109	---
FL	---	406	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	130,313	223,463	1,762	14,491
LA	---	---	32,719	31,560	---	1,977
MD	---	2,786	84,255	32,335	175	10,472
MS	---	---	121,314	188,720	1,933	6,742
MO	---	4,286	66,979	17,364	1,625	2,075
NC	---	3,317	127,079	66,123	415	44,658
PA	---	733	31,296	39,549	175	---
SC	---	2,262	33,136	70,522	---	4,244
TN	---	408	43,690	14,773	---	---
TX	---	---	116,742	43,160	659	3,055
VA	---	1,883	69,738	32,782	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	49,547	1,716,327	1,126,014	33,843	165,175

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AL	12,127	33,656	65,531	8,931	203,822	664,115
AR	10,281	33,361	39,887	4,330	90,860	574,027
CA	488	5,335	2,278	384	23,895	159,471
DE	2,362	9,204	16,911	9,226	58,735	254,595
FL	1,466	1,848	5,680	---	---	9,400
GA	11,870	34,367	63,765	6,426	273,852	760,309
LA	1,643	---	---	581	25,761	94,241
MD	1,835	9,959	---	---	20,897	162,714
MS	6,060	36,304	28,814	2,162	188,509	580,558
MO	2,191	12,836	15,681	---	30,420	153,457
NC	6,178	42,974	54,517	7,195	76,071	428,527
PA	1,692	2,242	---	387	33,504	109,578
SC	3,910	---	---	---	57,577	171,651
TN	2,558	6,155	---	1,087	15,536	84,207
TX	1,433	12,105	11,695	1,034	8,861	198,744
VA	2,261	8,001	14,528	1,737	59,527	190,457
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	74,022	306,352	474,618	62,414	1,374,153	5,382,465

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	--- Pounds ---
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	11,894	11,240	61,070	60,415	5.13	5.37

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1997	1998	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	-----		1,000 Pounds		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	37,911	36,969	3,514	3,604	6.39	6.63

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, November 1998

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	4,430	243,927	13,462	738	102,794

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	41	---	---	---	41
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	18,461	30,883	144,815	1,456	38,192	599,158

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,195	2,345	38,415	42,593	17.50	18.16
CA	2,304	2,455	51,707	58,162	22.45	23.69
IA	1,164	1,275	30,907	35,238	26.56	27.64
MN	3,619	3,620	80,398	85,648	22.21	23.66
MO	2,264	1,778	55,745	49,005	24.62	27.56
NC	3,283	3,175	80,604	68,580	24.55	21.60
PA	1,008	1,188	21,483	25,929	21.32	21.83
VA	2,938	3,164	54,539	66,803	18.57	21.12
US	24,385	24,161	574,354	584,404	23.55	24.19

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, November 1997-98

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1997	1998	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	31,173	33,739	454	602	1.31	1.57
CA	40,265	46,094	667	646	1.43	1.23
IA	24,068	28,040	627	741	2.25	2.34
MN	65,076	67,114	2,316	2,090	3.20	2.71
MO	42,539	38,999	1,183	940	2.36	2.13
NC	62,733	54,600	1,304	940	1.80	1.52
PA	17,049	19,873	535	379	2.77	1.62
VA	40,489	50,742	789	855	1.61	1.42
US	450,621	457,089	10,585	10,461	2.05	1.99

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, November 1998

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	5,949	---	---	---
CA	---	---	9,443	286	---	8
IA	---	---	4,796	1,187	---	5
MN	---	---	15,734	2,296	1,129	---
MO	---	---	14,254	---	---	---
NC	---	---	5,133	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	495	---	7
VA	---	---	3,987	222	---	---
US	---	271	86,284	10,691	5,761	100

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	---	---	---	---	5,949
CA	---	696	450	---	505	11,388
IA	44	---	---	---	---	6,032
MN	182	1,174	1,507	---	1,496	23,518
MO	115	290	---	---	---	14,659
NC	---	---	---	192	721	6,046
PA	114	---	---	---	559	1,175
VA	20	---	209	---	1,344	5,782
US	979	10,015	9,918	1,907	12,113	138,039

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, November 1998

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	3,198	248	---	49
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	---	70	80	---	581	4,226

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 February 2, 1999.

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