



Poultry Slaughter

Released October 4, 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 11 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during August (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.02 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the amount certified in August 1998. Updated totals for July 1999 show that 2.96 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during August 1999 was 4.07 billion pounds, up 10 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.39 billion pounds of young chickens, up 10 percent; 77.2 million pounds of mature chickens, up 6 percent; 595 million pounds of turkeys, up 10 percent; and 12.3 million pounds of ducks, down 2 percent from August 1998.

Young chickens slaughtered during August 1999 averaged 4.82 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from August 1998. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.43 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during August 1999 averaged 24.7 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from August 1998.

Ante-mortem condemnations during August 1999 totaled 20.6 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.51 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.55 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 66.7 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.82 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.97 percent a year earlier.

August 1999 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays. August 1998 had 21 weekdays and five Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		

	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Jul 1999	686,713	14,921	701,634	1,876	-----
Aug 1998	651,038	14,169	665,207	1,962	-----
Aug 1999	703,410	14,211	717,620	1,935	-----
Jan-Aug 1998	5,231,618	115,724	5,347,342	15,398	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	5,440,424	120,321	5,560,745	15,266	-----

	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Jul 1999	3,353,080	77,804	3,430,884	12,123	1,061
Aug 1998	3,093,523	72,941	3,166,464	12,547	1,486
Aug 1999	3,387,913	77,167	3,465,080	12,324	1,892
Jan-Aug 1998	25,199,586	588,292	25,787,877	101,340	8,908
Jan-Aug 1999	27,043,228	619,489	27,662,718	100,535	8,219

	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Jul 1999	4.88	5.21	4.89	6.46	-----
Aug 1998	4.75	5.15	4.76	6.40	-----
Aug 1999	4.82	5.43	4.83	6.37	-----
Jan-Aug 1998	4.82	5.08	4.82	6.58	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	4.97	5.15	4.97	6.59	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total	
		Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	Total Poultry
		1,000 Head				
Number Inspected						
Jul 1999	---	21,964	175	22,139	-----	
Aug 1998	40	22,162	158	22,360	-----	
Aug 1999	---	23,838	228	24,066	-----	
Jan-Aug 1998	40	177,442	1,235	178,716	-----	
Jan-Aug 1999	56	170,844	1,217	172,117	-----	
		1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight						
Jul 1999	---	552,810	4,544	557,354	4,001,422	
Aug 1998	356	534,616	4,040	539,012	3,719,509	
Aug 1999	---	589,567	5,798	595,365	4,074,661	
Jan-Aug 1998	356	4,406,134	32,412	4,438,903	30,337,028	
Jan-Aug 1999	491	4,347,334	32,143	4,379,968	32,151,439	
		Pounds				
Average Live Weight						
Jul 1999	---	25.17	26.01	25.18	-----	
Aug 1998	8.96	24.12	25.53	24.11	-----	
Aug 1999	---	24.73	25.38	24.74	-----	
Jan-Aug 1998	8.96	24.83	26.25	24.84	-----	
Jan-Aug 1999	8.85	25.45	26.41	25.45	-----	

- 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: August 1998: 5,308, August 1999: 6,385.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: August 1998: 119, August 1999: 79.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Jul 1999					
Chilled	2,244,454	43,410	2,287,864	3,144	342
Frozen	222,578	3,334	225,913	5,366	260
Total	2,467,032	46,745	2,513,776	8,510	602
Aug 1998					
Chilled	2,059,652	39,947	2,099,599	2,962	452
Frozen	206,038	3,357	209,395	5,986	401
Total	2,265,690	43,304	2,308,994	8,948	854
Aug 1999					
Chilled	2,283,017	43,526	2,326,543	3,377	422
Frozen	212,916	3,173	216,088	5,232	655
Total	2,495,932	46,699	2,542,631	8,609	1,077
Jan-Aug 1998					
Chilled	16,811,764	324,367	17,136,131	24,785	3,161
Frozen	1,644,157	29,246	1,673,402	47,637	1,838
Total	18,455,921	353,613	18,809,534	72,422	4,999
Jan-Aug 1999					
Chilled	18,120,945	345,917	18,466,862	27,232	2,674
Frozen	1,730,644	26,984	1,757,628	43,292	2,035
Total	19,851,589	372,901	20,224,490	70,524	4,708

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total Poultry
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Jul 1999					
Chilled	---	182,271	2,036	184,307	2,475,657
Frozen	---	252,467	1,390	253,857	485,396
Total	---	434,738	3,426	438,164	2,961,052
Aug 1998					
Chilled	30	189,222	2,239	191,491	2,294,505
Frozen	215	220,657	821	221,693	437,475
Total	245	409,879	3,061	413,184	2,731,980
Aug 1999					
Chilled	---	205,226	2,596	207,822	2,538,164
Frozen	---	258,758	1,791	260,549	482,525
Total	---	463,983	4,388	468,371	3,020,689
Jan-Aug 1998					
Chilled	30	1,631,078	17,372	1,648,480	18,812,557
Frozen	215	1,828,190	7,138	1,835,543	3,558,420
Total	245	3,459,268	24,510	3,484,023	22,370,977
Jan-Aug 1999					
Chilled	35	1,550,740	16,095	1,566,870	20,063,637
Frozen	313	1,873,381	8,013	1,881,707	3,684,662
Total	348	3,424,121	24,108	3,448,577	23,748,299

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jul 1999	19,815	2,651	22,466	17	5
Aug 1998	16,351	2,113	18,464	19	6
Aug 1999	16,920	1,935	18,856	26	8
Jan-Aug 1998	110,979	11,625	122,604	113	37
Jan-Aug 1999	121,092	12,422	133,515	144	47
Percent 2/					
Aug 1998	0.53	2.90	0.58	0.15	0.39
Aug 1999	0.50	2.51	0.54	0.21	0.44
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jul 1999	48,083	4,755	52,838	251	9
Aug 1998	50,056	4,312	54,368	268	18
Aug 1999	49,158	4,701	53,860	271	15
Jan-Aug 1998	402,391	34,126	436,517	2,102	90
Jan-Aug 1999	409,857	38,352	448,209	2,299	65
Percent 3/					
Aug 1998	1.80	6.57	1.91	2.38	1.35
Aug 1999	1.61	6.77	1.73	2.44	0.91

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, August 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
						Total
		Fryer-			Total	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem						
(Live Weight)						
	Jul 1999	---	2,363	74	2,437	24,925
	Aug 1998	1	1,832	72	1,905	20,393
	Aug 1999	---	1,703	54	1,757	20,647
	Jan-Aug 1998	1	13,080	299	13,380	136,134
	Jan-Aug 1999	1	12,450	350	12,800	146,506
Percent 2/						
	Aug 1998	0.18	0.34	1.78	0.35	0.55
	Aug 1999	---	0.29	0.94	0.30	0.51
		1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem						
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
	Jul 1999	---	11,181	283	11,464	64,561
	Aug 1998	7	10,909	229	11,145	65,799
	Aug 1999	---	12,234	312	12,546	66,692
	Jan-Aug 1998	7	87,646	2,139	89,792	528,501
	Jan-Aug 1999	5	87,053	2,224	89,282	539,855
Percent 3/						
	Aug 1998	2.20	2.27	6.30	2.30	1.97
	Aug 1999	---	2.31	5.98	2.34	1.82

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, August 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	71,173	81,725	351,385	408,048	4.94	4.99	
AR	95,391	104,773	440,418	481,752	4.62	4.60	
DE	22,845	24,155	119,959	134,243	5.25	5.56	
FL	10,403	10,718	53,580	54,615	5.15	5.10	
GA	95,695	99,797	460,649	479,230	4.81	4.80	
LA	14,422	13,650	63,221	58,526	4.38	4.29	
MD	17,282	18,091	80,497	84,814	4.66	4.69	
MS	55,857	58,936	260,344	280,363	4.66	4.76	
MO	30,157	30,895	126,760	136,445	4.20	4.42	
NC	49,827	56,111	266,214	304,470	5.34	5.43	
PA	9,303	10,064	46,975	51,598	5.05	5.13	
SC	18,290	18,111	84,222	83,275	4.60	4.60	
TN	15,198	17,472	71,854	79,565	4.73	4.55	
TX	44,413	46,158	191,136	206,427	4.30	4.47	
VA	30,020	30,946	141,722	147,938	4.72	4.78	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	651,038	703,410	3,093,523	3,387,913	4.75	4.82	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, August 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	264,596	301,259	8,016	7,710	2.53	2.10
AR	318,750	352,203	6,285	6,227	1.59	1.44
DE	87,494	97,782	1,934	2,380	1.79	1.97
FL	37,119	39,054	1,134	1,159	2.35	2.36
GA	341,971	351,167	6,681	6,829	1.61	1.58
LA	43,300	41,782	1,522	1,643	2.67	3.12
MD	55,299	59,764	2,269	1,809	3.13	2.37
MS	196,467	217,307	3,585	3,010	1.53	1.19
MO	91,539	100,091	1,401	1,727	1.23	1.41
NC	200,300	231,283	4,363	4,266	1.82	1.56
PA	32,610	36,210	1,319	1,214	3.12	2.61
SC	61,332	60,256	1,705	1,586	2.25	2.12
TN	51,639	57,721	881	642	1.36	0.90
TX	144,446	159,451	2,220	2,450	1.29	1.32
VA	98,748	102,937	1,753	1,347	1.37	1.01
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,265,690	2,495,932	50,056	49,158	1.80	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, August 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,679	226,144	265,224	4,550	11,908
AR	---	4,415	341,770	126,997	22,158	5,260
DE	---	3,555	128,884	46,327	351	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	2,167	169,282	212,166	1,709	8,705
LA	---	305	62,667	62,555	950	988
MD	---	3,157	102,888	26,342	66	6,638
MS	---	1,222	139,908	44,162	1,256	2,235
MO	---	2,195	82,471	40,244	3,339	2,018
NC	---	4,219	168,619	70,202	---	---
PA	---	---	35,418	17,150	218	---
SC	---	785	37,188	53,727	114	---
TN	---	273	47,200	---	741	---
TX	---	---	129,563	39,366	1,079	2,123
VA	---	---	82,259	23,530	42	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	38,896	2,093,849	1,127,767	50,262	144,085
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	16,086	55,791	78,602	19,698	250,860	930,542
AR	15,548	42,672	64,582	5,815	133,730	762,947
DE	3,623	14,806	20,664	---	43,679	261,889
FL	3,132	4,520	10,338	---	---	17,990
GA	16,316	56,359	79,421	10,420	330,545	887,090
LA	1,810	7,531	10,701	---	---	147,507
MD	1,897	---	---	---	23,657	164,645
MS	7,205	29,402	34,449	1,841	112,060	373,740
MO	3,320	19,559	23,063	---	63,233	239,442
NC	10,417	41,483	39,371	8,544	101,209	444,064
PA	2,803	5,400	---	388	39,365	100,742
SC	5,619	13,901	12,890	3,342	46,277	173,843
TN	2,335	7,084	---	2,497	27,830	87,960
TX	2,739	17,608	19,813	---	14,862	227,153
VA	2,590	11,880	7,566	4,135	45,829	177,831
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	102,872	384,961	537,943	92,106	1,467,561	6,040,302

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, August 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,169	14,211	72,941	77,167	5.15	5.43

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, August 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	43,304	46,699	4,312	4,701	6.57	6.77

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, August 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	7,211	273,296	13,707	1,127	135,875

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	554	---	---	554
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	32,472	61,242	205,403	1,496	71,634	803,463

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, August 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,175	2,279	36,929	40,168	16.98	17.63
CA	1,494	2,189	32,025	54,407	21.43	24.86
IA	1,255	1,448	33,866	40,957	26.99	28.28
MN	3,929	4,108	98,960	97,523	25.19	23.74
MO	1,890	2,120	49,618	58,036	26.25	27.37
NC	2,746	2,636	67,893	63,085	24.73	23.94
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,860	3,093	55,752	68,211	19.50	22.05
US	22,162	23,838	534,616	589,567	24.12	24.73

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, August 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	29,173	32,837	874	832	2.63	2.30
CA	25,834	43,248	493	787	1.71	1.61
IA	25,967	31,751	847	1,045	2.78	2.83
MN	69,200	77,172	2,109	2,647	2.37	3.02
MO	39,218	45,256	1,042	1,310	2.33	2.51
NC	53,582	49,752	1,383	1,328	2.26	2.34
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	43,050	53,328	767	924	1.53	1.51
US	409,879	463,983	10,909	12,234	2.27	2.31

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, August 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors	
	Number						
AR	---	---	7,026	---	---	---	
CA	---	---	10,881	---	4	---	
IA	---	---	6,348	2,874	---	---	
MN	---	---	18,055	3,168	1,471	24	
MO	---	---	20,933	---	---	---	
NC	---	---	3,555	---	---	---	
PA	---	---	3,437	---	50	---	
VA	---	12	3,573	---	---	---	
US	---	150	96,744	25,607	6,218	72	
			Number				
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total	
AR	---	---	---	---	---	7,026	
CA	---	---	---	177	---	11,062	
IA	---	290	---	---	---	9,512	
MN	261	1,769	1,255	---	2,275	28,278	
MO	---	419	882	---	1,940	24,174	
NC	98	---	---	---	---	3,653	
PA	52	---	---	---	---	3,539	
VA	---	---	---	---	1,383	4,968	
US	821	12,185	11,214	3,519	19,076	175,606	

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 November 4, 1999.

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