



Poultry Slaughter

Released December 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 Down 1 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during October (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.00 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the amount certified in October 1998. Updated totals for September 1999 show that 3.01 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during October 1999 was 4.04 billion pounds, down 1 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.35 billion pounds of young chickens, down 1 percent; 77.7 million pounds of mature chickens, up 10 percent; 600 million pounds of turkeys, up slightly; and 12.1 million pounds of ducks, down 11 percent from October 1998.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 1999 averaged 5.05 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from October 1998. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.47 pounds per bird, up 7 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during October 1999 averaged 25.4 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from October 1998.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 1999 totaled 14.2 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.35 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.34 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 60.6 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.67 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.82 percent a year earlier.

October 1999 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. October 1998 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1999	682,486	13,680	696,166	1,994	-----
Oct 1998	687,719	13,834	701,553	2,055	-----
Oct 1999	663,592	14,216	677,808	1,828	-----
Jan-Oct 1998	6,575,467	143,059	6,718,526	19,504	-----
Jan-Oct 1999	6,792,566	148,218	6,940,785	19,141	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1999	3,395,418	74,571	3,469,989	13,167	1,920
Oct 1998	3,386,585	70,739	3,457,323	13,529	1,929
Oct 1999	3,350,224	77,722	3,427,946	12,094	1,580
Jan-Oct 1998	31,762,238	729,379	32,491,618	128,426	12,791
Jan-Oct 1999	33,819,148	771,785	34,590,934	126,166	11,788
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1999	4.98	5.45	4.98	6.60	-----
Oct 1998	4.92	5.11	4.93	6.58	-----
Oct 1999	5.05	5.47	5.06	6.62	-----
Jan-Oct 1998	4.83	5.10	4.84	6.58	-----
Jan-Oct 1999	4.98	5.21	4.98	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, October 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Head			Poultry
Number Inspected					
Sep 1999	---	22,949	185	23,133	-----
Oct 1998	1	24,614	194	24,809	-----
Oct 1999	---	23,478	194	23,672	-----
Jan-Oct 1998	40	224,889	1,642	226,572	-----
Jan-Oct 1999	56	217,275	1,602	218,933	-----
		1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight					
Sep 1999	---	576,284	4,875	581,159	4,066,236
Oct 1998	5	594,694	5,043	599,742	4,072,523
Oct 1999	---	595,208	5,145	600,354	4,041,973
Jan-Oct 1998	362	5,544,576	42,796	5,587,734	38,220,569
Jan-Oct 1999	491	5,519,223	42,385	5,562,100	40,290,987
		Pounds			
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1999	---	25.11	26.40	25.12	-----
Oct 1998	10.15	24.16	25.97	24.17	-----
Oct 1999	---	25.35	26.54	25.36	-----
Jan-Oct 1998	8.98	24.65	26.06	24.66	-----
Jan-Oct 1999	8.84	25.40	26.45	25.41	-----

- 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: October 1998: 6,258, October 1999: 6,601.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: October 1998: 34, October 1999: 72.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Sep 1999					
Chilled	2,291,131	42,188	2,333,319	3,550	356
Frozen	206,817	3,121	209,938	5,555	766
Total	2,497,948	45,309	2,543,257	9,105	1,122
Oct 1998					
Chilled	2,269,656	39,906	2,309,562	3,410	503
Frozen	227,269	5,018	232,288	6,280	656
Total	2,496,925	44,924	2,541,850	9,690	1,159
Oct 1999					
Chilled	2,251,376	43,818	2,295,194	3,619	337
Frozen	215,274	3,611	218,885	4,948	599
Total	2,466,650	47,429	2,514,079	8,566	935
Jan-Oct 1998					
Chilled	21,189,440	403,487	21,592,926	31,537	4,140
Frozen	2,085,480	37,206	2,122,686	59,999	3,154
Total	23,274,920	440,693	23,715,613	91,536	7,294
Jan-Oct 1999					
Chilled	22,684,194	431,924	23,116,118	34,418	3,413
Frozen	2,156,786	33,716	2,190,502	54,069	3,400
Total	24,840,980	465,640	25,306,620	88,487	6,813

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total	
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Sep 1999						
Chilled	---	202,042	1,905	203,947	2,541,171	
Frozen	---	249,287	1,660	250,947	467,207	
Total	---	451,329	3,564	454,894	3,008,378	
Oct 1998						
Chilled	4	213,616	2,392	216,012	2,529,488	
Frozen	---	256,839	1,493	258,332	497,555	
Total	4	470,456	3,885	474,344	3,027,043	
Oct 1999						
Chilled	---	219,349	2,215	221,564	2,520,714	
Frozen	---	249,076	1,658	250,734	475,165	
Total	---	468,424	3,874	472,298	2,995,878	
Jan-Oct 1998						
Chilled	34	2,037,311	22,475	2,059,820	23,688,423	
Frozen	215	2,317,757	10,094	2,328,065	4,513,905	
Total	249	4,355,067	32,569	4,387,885	28,202,328	
Jan-Oct 1999						
Chilled	35	1,972,141	20,215	1,992,391	25,146,340	
Frozen	313	2,372,060	11,417	2,383,790	4,631,760	
Total	348	4,344,201	31,632	4,376,180	29,778,100	

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

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Sep 1999	13,552	952	14,505	44	8
Oct 1998	11,994	754	12,748	18	7
Oct 1999	11,882	869	12,751	19	18
Jan-Oct 1998	138,128	13,622	151,750	151	51
Jan-Oct 1999	147,011	14,243	161,254	207	74
Percent 2/					
Oct 1998	0.35	1.07	0.37	0.13	0.38
Oct 1999	0.35	1.12	0.37	0.16	1.12
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1999	45,513	4,237	49,750	262	27
Oct 1998	50,550	4,277	54,827	292	29
Oct 1999	44,205	4,659	48,864	277	32
Jan-Oct 1998	501,609	42,646	544,255	2,679	134
Jan-Oct 1999	499,659	47,248	546,907	2,842	125
Percent 3/					
Oct 1998	1.66	6.72	1.76	2.40	1.69
Oct 1999	1.47	6.66	1.58	2.54	2.24

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, October 1998-1999

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	75,992	77,526	380,636	403,690	5.01	5.21	
AR	97,898	96,259	470,497	468,703	4.81	4.87	
DE	24,019	22,141	134,066	129,000	5.58	5.83	
FL	10,896	10,528	58,445	54,433	5.36	5.17	
GA	98,501	92,800	484,815	469,412	4.92	5.06	
LA	14,309	14,058	63,074	61,500	4.41	4.37	
MD	18,624	16,884	88,032	83,369	4.73	4.94	
MS	60,036	58,645	296,101	298,574	4.93	5.09	
MO	31,038	29,172	135,410	131,469	4.36	4.51	
NC	57,590	53,576	324,918	311,650	5.64	5.82	
PA	9,290	9,426	48,576	49,649	5.23	5.27	
SC	19,458	18,150	89,818	90,756	4.62	5.00	
TN	16,283	17,336	76,810	82,217	4.72	4.74	
TX	45,833	44,096	211,719	212,176	4.62	4.81	
VA	30,981	29,247	148,461	140,372	4.79	4.80	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	687,719	663,592	3,386,585	3,350,224	4.92	5.05	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1998-1999

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	287,003	291,808	6,824	6,764	1.99	1.86
AR	343,507	341,233	5,668	5,254	1.34	1.25
DE	97,878	93,779	2,057	1,932	1.70	1.66
FL	42,029	38,926	1,275	1,022	2.42	2.09
GA	356,535	343,099	7,352	6,864	1.68	1.62
LA	43,913	44,405	1,327	900	2.34	1.63
MD	63,118	59,926	1,076	1,164	1.36	1.55
MS	223,815	232,679	4,115	2,877	1.54	1.07
MO	99,200	95,935	1,281	1,365	1.05	1.15
NC	245,291	236,076	5,192	4,251	1.78	1.52
PA	33,745	34,596	1,629	1,134	3.73	2.54
SC	66,041	66,566	1,885	1,468	2.33	1.80
TN	56,111	59,074	881	676	1.27	0.91
TX	162,759	163,723	2,152	2,438	1.13	1.28
VA	103,874	99,939	1,529	1,160	1.14	0.92
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,496,925	2,466,650	50,550	44,205	1.66	1.47

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, October 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,159	190,427	233,223	2,152	10,525
AR	---	2,450	256,258	95,761	---	4,419
DE	---	2,600	119,995	40,166	130	---
FL	---	282	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,765	153,811	220,396	1,155	8,241
LA	---	133	31,220	27,315	218	929
MD	---	3,030	95,793	25,894	62	6,246
MS	---	1,032	117,440	51,606	1,124	2,051
MO	---	3,024	70,516	23,634	2,175	1,643
NC	---	---	142,534	56,323	---	37,079
PA	---	---	35,681	25,537	313	---
SC	---	1,125	36,542	109,827	93	---
TN	---	393	49,770	14,568	497	---
TX	---	---	121,238	26,045	600	2,275
VA	---	1,508	66,400	25,294	152	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	37,374	1,783,461	1,049,183	29,924	125,862
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	10,962	43,806	67,461	17,063	133,080	709,858
AR	10,649	33,503	42,883	3,523	94,169	543,615
DE	2,569	11,762	15,131	5,623	37,696	235,672
FL	2,193	2,741	---	---	---	5,216
GA	12,554	49,626	71,208	12,571	306,772	838,099
LA	987	---	---	1,158	6,155	68,115
MD	1,661	11,984	---	---	19,082	163,752
MS	4,961	23,257	26,930	1,771	101,119	331,291
MO	1,945	11,115	13,399	---	29,612	157,063
NC	7,242	35,321	33,986	4,912	122,109	439,506
PA	2,254	4,529	---	---	33,025	101,339
SC	4,512	11,666	11,802	3,400	45,092	224,059
TN	2,205	8,906	---	---	22,926	99,265
TX	1,882	13,581	17,292	1,172	14,360	198,445
VA	1,821	9,541	8,743	3,263	33,597	150,319
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	75,058	310,099	456,060	66,539	1,196,610	5,130,170

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 1998-1999

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	13,834	14,216	70,739	77,722	5.11	5.47	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1998-1999

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	-----		1,000 Pounds		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	44,924	47,429	4,277	4,659	6.72	6.66

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, October 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	8,485	294,980	12,646	2,031	142,961

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	36,601	56,610	217,939	2,807	57,723	832,783

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, October 1998-1999

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,177	2,015	39,158	37,849	17.99	18.79
CA	2,004	2,087	46,831	52,595	23.37	25.20
IA	1,401	1,530	35,792	44,451	25.55	29.05
MN	4,198	3,880	93,973	94,876	22.39	24.45
MO	2,006	2,162	54,015	58,977	26.93	27.28
NC	2,673	2,764	61,366	67,041	22.96	24.26
PA	1,025	1,054	24,100	23,695	23.50	22.47
VA	3,340	3,254	71,762	70,077	21.48	21.54
US	24,614	23,478	594,694	595,208	24.16	25.35

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, October 1998-1999

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	32,094	31,028	604	629	1.71	1.85
CA	37,608	41,704	689	768	1.64	1.62
IA	28,007	34,707	754	1,094	2.34	2.73
MN	74,749	74,924	2,070	2,153	2.45	2.52
MO	44,530	46,345	1,106	1,305	2.28	2.46
NC	48,907	52,150	1,144	1,307	2.07	2.17
PA	19,245	18,174	362	420	1.67	1.97
VA	56,099	54,709	934	825	1.45	1.31
US	470,456	468,424	11,223	11,134	2.10	2.08

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, October 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	6,291	542	---	---
CA	---	---	10,534	633	124	---
IA	---	---	6,964	1,955	---	---
MN	---	---	20,618	4,116	2,049	24
MO	---	---	---	2,737	---	---
NC	---	---	6,386	---	---	---
PA	---	---	4,925	---	88	---
VA	---	---	4,088	176	---	---
US	---	287	107,558	17,697	7,037	107

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	22	475	---	---	2,055	9,385
CA	31	---	---	76	605	12,003
IA	79	---	1,725	---	988	11,711
MN	182	1,528	983	---	1,983	31,483
MO	---	---	738	11	1,488	4,974
NC	134	1,253	---	---	1,162	8,935
PA	---	---	---	---	833	5,846
VA	18	---	---	---	---	4,282
US	872	10,227	10,091	1,878	14,260	170,014

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 January 7, 2000.

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