



Poultry Slaughter

Released January 7, 2000, 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 8 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during November (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.93 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the amount certified in November 1998. Updated totals for October 1999 show that 3.00 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during November 1999 was 3.92 billion pounds, up 7 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.22 billion pounds of young chickens, up 7 percent; 66.7 million pounds of mature chickens, up 11 percent; 624 million pounds of turkeys, up 6 percent; and 12.7 million pounds of ducks, unchanged from November 1998.

Young chickens slaughtered during November 1999 averaged 5.01 pounds per bird, up slightly from 4.99 pounds per bird in November 1998. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.23 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during November 1999 averaged 25.1 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from November 1998.

Ante-mortem condemnations during November 1999 totaled 12.6 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.32 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.36 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 59.2 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.68 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.91 percent a year earlier.

November 1999 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. November 1998 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Oct 1999	665,163	14,107	679,269	1,869	-----
Nov 1998	601,105	11,135	612,240	1,931	-----
Nov 1999	642,481	12,760	655,241	1,917	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	7,176,571	154,194	7,330,766	21,434	-----
Jan-Nov 1999	7,436,618	160,869	7,597,487	21,099	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Oct 1999	3,355,857	77,323	3,433,180	12,380	1,659
Nov 1998	3,001,420	60,237	3,061,657	12,676	956
Nov 1999	3,219,178	66,705	3,285,883	12,678	1,193
Jan-Nov 1998	34,763,658	789,617	35,553,275	141,102	13,747
Jan-Nov 1999	37,043,959	838,091	37,882,050	139,131	13,061
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Oct 1999	5.05	5.48	5.05	6.62	-----
Nov 1998	4.99	5.41	5.00	6.57	-----
Nov 1999	5.01	5.23	5.01	6.61	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	4.84	5.12	4.85	6.58	-----
Jan-Nov 1999	4.98	5.21	4.99	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, November 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Oct 1999	---	23,480	194	23,674	-----
Nov 1998	2	24,279	101	24,383	-----
Nov 1999	1	24,688	123	24,812	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	43	249,169	1,743	250,955	-----
Jan-Nov 1999	56	241,965	1,726	243,747	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Oct 1999	---	595,248	5,145	600,394	4,047,613
Nov 1998	18	587,112	2,756	589,887	3,665,176
Nov 1999	15	620,583	3,274	623,872	3,923,626
Jan-Nov 1998	380	6,131,689	45,552	6,177,621	41,885,745
Jan-Nov 1999	506	6,139,846	45,659	6,186,012	44,220,254
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Oct 1999	5.60	25.35	26.54	25.36	-----
Nov 1998	7.41	24.18	27.28	24.19	-----
Nov 1999	---	25.14	26.59	25.14	-----
Jan-Nov 1998	8.89	24.61	26.13	24.62	-----
Jan-Nov 1999	9.00	25.37	26.46	25.38	-----

- 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: November 1998: 4,778, November 1999: 5,204.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: November 1998: 43, November 1999: 59.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Oct 1999					
Chilled	2,256,936	43,617	2,300,553	3,630	343
Frozen	217,785	3,611	221,396	5,156	645
Total	2,474,721	47,228	2,521,949	8,785	987
Nov 1998					
Chilled	1,987,459	35,276	2,022,735	3,634	305
Frozen	204,987	1,614	206,600	5,248	270
Total	2,192,446	36,890	2,229,335	8,881	574
Nov 1999					
Chilled	2,182,627	38,037	2,220,663	3,888	283
Frozen	204,149	2,537	206,686	5,109	433
Total	2,386,776	40,573	2,427,349	8,997	716
Jan-Nov 1998					
Chilled	23,176,899	438,762	23,615,661	35,171	4,444
Frozen	2,290,467	38,820	2,329,287	65,247	3,424
Total	25,467,366	477,582	25,944,948	100,418	7,869
Jan-Nov 1999					
Chilled	24,872,381	469,760	25,342,140	38,317	3,702
Frozen	2,363,446	36,253	2,399,699	59,386	3,878
Total	27,235,827	506,013	27,741,839	97,703	7,580

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds			
Oct 1999					
Chilled	---	219,380	2,215	221,596	2,526,121
Frozen	---	249,076	1,658	250,734	477,930
Total	---	468,456	3,874	472,329	3,004,051
Nov 1998					
Chilled	14	249,193	1,558	250,765	2,277,438
Frozen	---	210,306	554	210,860	422,978
Total	14	459,499	2,112	461,625	2,700,416
Nov 1999					
Chilled	11	251,994	1,357	253,362	2,478,196
Frozen	---	235,240	1,096	236,336	448,563
Total	11	487,234	2,453	489,698	2,926,760
Jan-Nov 1998					
Chilled	48	2,286,504	24,033	2,310,585	25,965,861
Frozen	215	2,528,062	10,648	2,538,925	4,936,883
Total	263	4,814,566	34,681	4,849,510	30,902,744
Jan-Nov 1999					
Chilled	46	2,224,166	21,572	2,245,784	27,629,943
Frozen	313	2,607,300	12,513	2,620,125	5,083,089
Total	359	4,831,466	34,084	4,865,910	32,713,032

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 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Oct 1999	11,894	859	12,753	19	18
Nov 1998	11,233	690	11,924	15	2
Nov 1999	10,634	675	11,309	16	3
Jan-Nov 1998	149,362	14,312	163,674	165	52
Jan-Nov 1999	157,656	14,909	172,565	223	77
Percent 2/					
Nov 1998	0.37	1.15	0.39	0.12	0.16
Nov 1999	0.33	1.01	0.34	0.13	0.24
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Oct 1999	44,270	4,640	48,909	279	32
Nov 1998	48,462	3,595	52,057	300	13
Nov 1999	43,432	4,103	47,535	273	21
Jan-Nov 1998	550,071	46,241	596,312	2,979	148
Jan-Nov 1999	543,157	51,331	594,488	3,116	146
Percent 3/					
Nov 1998	1.79	6.63	1.89	2.63	1.53
Nov 1999	1.50	6.83	1.61	2.39	1.94

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys					
					Total		
		Fryer-			Total	Poultry	
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys		
		1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)							
	Oct 1999	---	1,346	32	1,378	14,168	
	Nov 1998	---	1,087	15	1,103	13,043	
	Nov 1999	---	1,221	27	1,247	12,576	
	Jan-Nov 1998	1	17,042	384	17,428	181,319	
	Jan-Nov 1999	1	16,434	437	16,872	189,737	
Percent 2/							
	Nov 1998	2.22	0.19	0.56	0.19	0.36	
	Nov 1999	---	0.20	0.82	0.20	0.32	
			1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)							
	Oct 1999	---	11,134	340	11,475	60,695	
	Nov 1998	---	10,496	146	10,642	63,013	
	Nov 1999	---	11,164	214	11,378	59,206	
	Jan-Nov 1998	8	120,410	2,775	123,193	722,631	
	Jan-Nov 1999	5	121,133	3,093	124,231	721,980	
Percent 3/							
	Nov 1998	2.83	1.99	5.88	2.00	1.91	
	Nov 1999	0.84	2.00	7.25	2.03	1.68	

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, November 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	68,748	74,330	347,870	381,084	5.06	5.13	
AR	87,226	92,248	423,894	439,653	4.86	4.77	
DE	21,165	21,479	118,733	125,743	5.61	5.85	
FL	10,082	9,879	54,030	54,082	5.36	5.47	
GA	85,520	88,350	429,679	437,746	5.02	4.95	
LA	12,138	12,601	54,087	54,431	4.46	4.32	
MD	15,953	16,472	75,449	79,039	4.73	4.80	
MS	52,888	56,713	263,517	288,034	4.98	5.08	
MO	27,150	28,620	119,638	128,367	4.41	4.49	
NC	46,961	51,145	274,357	298,199	5.84	5.83	
PA	7,967	9,035	40,889	47,521	5.13	5.26	
SC	17,532	17,385	82,949	88,830	4.73	5.11	
TN	14,466	15,960	71,026	74,087	4.91	4.64	
TX	40,534	45,479	192,431	214,171	4.75	4.71	
VA	26,713	27,733	129,616	134,049	4.85	4.83	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	601,105	642,481	3,001,420	3,219,178	4.99	5.01	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, November 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	258,386	281,889	8,840	6,685	2.82	1.95
AR	303,163	321,067	6,161	4,977	1.61	1.26
DE	86,332	90,856	2,167	1,755	2.03	1.55
FL	36,108	47,766	1,969	881	4.05	1.81
GA	314,491	320,940	6,256	6,891	1.62	1.75
LA	37,405	38,496	1,079	639	2.22	1.30
MD	53,688	55,658	1,069	1,153	1.57	1.62
MS	195,866	225,710	3,853	2,733	1.62	1.05
MO	88,561	94,966	1,082	1,412	1.01	1.22
NC	205,307	225,370	4,232	4,319	1.71	1.61
PA	28,814	33,046	1,223	1,245	3.32	2.91
SC	60,988	65,512	1,601	1,611	2.15	2.01
TN	52,518	53,523	722	631	1.13	0.95
TX	143,912	163,849	1,873	2,311	1.08	1.20
VA	90,828	93,811	1,397	1,144	1.20	0.95
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,192,446	2,386,776	48,462	43,432	1.79	1.50

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 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,237	193,883	288,426	2,966	11,176
AR	---	3,488	255,995	116,125	---	4,495
DE	---	---	98,767	34,774	94	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,330	148,043	265,954	1,095	8,767
LA	---	---	21,334	20,025	---	674
MD	---	2,449	87,593	31,295	48	5,926
MS	---	1,279	105,658	63,151	1,055	1,851
MO	---	2,698	80,038	32,176	1,632	1,551
NC	---	2,746	135,923	68,862	552	39,349
PA	---	---	40,192	41,069	300	---
SC	---	---	35,780	83,463	81	---
TN	---	282	41,898	13,851	340	---
TX	---	---	131,296	28,944	768	2,180
VA	---	1,496	64,271	32,110	141	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	40,634	1,762,335	1,195,485	28,498	123,707
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	9,996	50,462	60,141	12,585	161,652	792,524
AR	10,320	27,486	45,648	2,758	95,423	561,738
DE	2,381	9,222	11,713	4,473	33,525	194,949
FL	1,759	---	6,608	---	---	8,367
GA	11,525	47,262	64,246	13,595	308,487	870,304
LA	728	4,383	4,173	214	---	51,531
MD	1,711	9,517	---	2,040	24,918	165,497
MS	4,661	22,177	24,890	1,533	94,079	320,334
MO	1,805	14,680	11,622	---	35,845	182,047
NC	6,113	33,672	32,571	7,238	101,976	429,002
PA	1,838	3,698	---	279	35,747	123,123
SC	4,415	13,166	---	3,668	64,107	204,680
TN	1,915	9,095	---	---	18,805	86,186
TX	1,751	16,457	15,945	2,065	10,595	210,001
VA	1,776	12,222	6,639	3,044	31,232	152,931
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	69,469	312,619	426,715	62,267	1,230,503	5,252,232

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, November 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	11,135	12,760	60,237	66,705	5.41	5.23	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	-----		1,000 Pounds		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	36,890	40,573	3,595	4,103	6.63	6.83

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 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	5,861	285,747	13,734	1,447	110,242

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	59	431	---	---	490
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	38,808	45,927	190,100	2,070	103,583	797,519

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, November 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	2,345	2,286	42,593	39,768	18.16	17.40
CA	2,493	2,715	59,052	67,405	23.69	24.82
IA	1,275	1,490	35,238	44,270	27.64	29.71
MN	3,620	3,876	85,663	96,169	23.66	24.81
MO	1,778	2,187	49,005	58,853	27.56	26.91
NC	3,175	3,006	68,580	71,366	21.60	23.74
PA	1,188	1,201	25,929	26,531	21.83	22.09
VA	3,164	3,248	66,803	69,127	21.12	21.28
US	24,279	24,688	587,112	620,583	24.18	25.14

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	33,739	32,458	602	547	1.57	1.53
CA	46,817	52,373	654	902	1.23	1.49
IA	28,040	34,005	741	1,067	2.34	2.68
MN	67,127	76,429	2,090	2,360	2.71	2.73
MO	38,999	47,165	940	1,043	2.13	1.97
NC	54,600	55,335	940	1,201	1.52	1.87
PA	19,873	21,019	379	442	1.62	1.85
VA	50,742	53,711	855	883	1.42	1.42
US	459,499	487,234	10,496	11,164	1.99	2.00

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 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	6,531	557	---	---
CA	---	---	11,749	865	---	---
IA	---	---	---	1,987	---	10
MN	---	12	21,272	6,257	1,803	37
MO	---	---	14,262	---	15	---
NC	---	---	5,555	---	---	15
PA	---	---	6,921	1,878	104	---
VA	---	13	4,461	195	---	---
US	---	90	100,408	16,691	6,596	121
	Number					
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	---	551	---	---	2,039	9,678
CA	41	---	---	---	960	13,615
IA	44	---	---	103	---	2,144
MN	410	1,266	903	39	2,352	34,351
MO	---	---	---	---	1,436	15,713
NC	128	---	---	---	1,574	7,272
PA	86	---	---	24	---	9,013
VA	19	2,604	320	---	---	7,612
US	1,068	11,370	10,993	1,746	14,509	163,592

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 4, 2000.

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