



Poultry Slaughter

Released March 3, 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 Down 2 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during January (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.85 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the amount certified in January 1999. Updated totals for December 1999 show that 2.95 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during January 2000 was 3.86 billion pounds, down 2 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.26 billion pounds of young chickens, 2 percent below last year; 70.1 million pounds of mature chickens, down 7 percent; 508 million pounds of turkeys, down 3 percent; and 13.1 million pounds of ducks, up 1 percent from January 1999.

Young chickens slaughtered during January 2000 averaged 5.03 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from 5.00 pounds per bird in January 1999. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.10 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during January 2000 averaged 26.5 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from January 1999.

Ante-mortem condemnations during January 2000 totaled 17.8 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.46 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.49 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 63.7 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.84 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 2.01 percent a year earlier.

January 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays, January 1999 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Dec 1999	664,778	14,675	679,453	2,196	-----
Jan 1999	663,691	15,236	678,927	1,927	-----
Jan 2000	648,905	13,750	662,655	1,972	-----
Jan-Jan 1999	663,691	15,236	678,927	1,927	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	648,905	13,750	662,655	1,972	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Dec 1999	3,349,720	75,487	3,425,206	14,671	891
Jan 1999	3,318,308	75,507	3,393,815	12,969	819
Jan 2000	3,263,888	70,119	3,334,007	13,114	636
Jan-Jan 1999	3,318,308	75,507	3,393,815	12,969	819
Jan-Jan 2000	3,263,888	70,119	3,334,007	13,114	636
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Dec 1999	5.04	5.14	5.04	6.68	-----
Jan 1999	5.00	4.96	5.00	6.73	-----
Jan 2000	5.03	5.10	5.03	6.65	-----
Jan-Jan 1999	5.00	4.96	5.00	6.73	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	5.03	5.10	5.03	6.65	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	
		1,000 Head				
Number Inspected						
Dec 1999	---	21,049	226	21,274	-----	
Jan 1999	---	19,775	97	19,873	-----	
Jan 2000	24	18,961	142	19,126	-----	
Jan-Jan 1999	---	19,775	97	19,873	-----	
Jan-Jan 2000	24	18,961	142	19,126	-----	
		1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight						
Dec 1999	---	541,630	6,156	547,786	3,988,553	
Jan 1999	---	518,976	2,641	521,617	3,929,220	
Jan 2000	194	503,695	3,736	507,626	3,855,383	
Jan-Jan 1999	---	518,976	2,641	521,617	3,929,220	
Jan-Jan 2000	194	503,695	3,736	507,626	3,855,383	
		Pounds				
Average Live Weight						
Dec 1999	---	25.73	27.27	25.75	-----	
Jan 1999	---	26.24	27.10	26.25	-----	
Jan 2000	8.09	26.57	26.39	26.54	-----	
Jan-Jan 1999	0.00	26.24	27.10	26.25	-----	
Jan-Jan 2000	8.09	26.57	26.39	26.54	-----	

- 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: January 1999: 5,138, January 2000: 5,304.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: January 1999: 78, January 2000: 21.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Dec 1999					
Chilled	2,255,477	43,941	2,299,418	4,275	296
Frozen	210,517	2,283	212,801	5,983	246
Total	2,465,994	46,225	2,512,219	10,258	542
Jan 1999					
Chilled	2,217,328	42,437	2,259,765	3,365	342
Frozen	208,393	3,122	211,516	5,750	122
Total	2,425,721	45,559	2,471,280	9,116	464
Jan 2000					
Chilled	2,200,183	38,634	2,238,817	3,700	268
Frozen	195,748	3,401	199,149	5,602	110
Total	2,395,930	42,035	2,437,966	9,302	378
Jan-Jan 1999					
Chilled	2,217,328	42,437	2,259,765	3,365	342
Frozen	208,393	3,122	211,516	5,750	122
Total	2,425,721	45,559	2,471,280	9,116	464
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Total	2,395,930	42,035	2,437,966	9,302	378

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total Poultry
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Dec 1999					
Chilled	---	215,887	3,044	218,931	2,522,920
Frozen	---	209,483	1,587	211,069	430,099
Total	---	425,370	4,631	430,000	2,953,018
Jan 1999					
Chilled	---	199,430	1,466	200,896	2,464,368
Frozen	---	209,495	482	209,978	427,365
Total	---	408,925	1,949	410,874	2,891,733
Jan 2000					
Chilled	143	195,314	2,084	197,542	2,440,327
Frozen	12	200,066	679	200,758	405,620
Total	155	395,381	2,764	398,300	2,845,946
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Frozen	---	209,495	482	209,978	427,365
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Chilled	143	195,314	2,084	197,542	2,440,327
Frozen	12	200,066	679	200,758	405,620
Total	155	395,381	2,764	398,300	2,845,946

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Dec 1999	13,121	883	14,004	18	1
Jan 1999	16,213	1,223	17,436	18	4
Jan 2000	15,318	1,022	16,340	18	0
Jan-Jan 1999	16,213	1,223	17,436	18	4
Jan-Jan 2000	15,318	1,022	16,340	18	0
Percent 2/					
Jan 1999	0.49	1.62	0.51	0.14	0.43
Jan 2000	0.47	1.46	0.49	0.14	0.06
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Dec 1999	46,312	4,721	51,033	337	7
Jan 1999	55,158	4,656	59,814	291	5
Jan 2000	48,303	4,326	52,629	309	6
Jan-Jan 1999	55,158	4,656	59,814	291	5
Jan-Jan 2000	48,303	4,326	52,629	309	6
Percent 3/					
Jan 1999	1.85	6.85	1.96	2.49	0.65
Jan 2000	1.64	6.86	1.75	2.62	0.96

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, January 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Poultry
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Dec 1999	---	1,287	75	1,362	15,385
Jan 1999	---	1,743	30	1,773	19,231
Jan 2000	16	1,385	40	1,441	17,799
Jan-Jan 1999	---	1,743	30	1,773	19,231
Jan-Jan 2000	16	1,385	40	1,441	17,799
Percent 2/					
Jan 1999	---	0.34	1.12	0.34	0.49
Jan 2000	8.28	0.27	1.08	0.28	0.46
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Dec 1999	---	10,823	366	11,189	62,567
Jan 1999	---	10,582	236	10,818	70,927
Jan 2000	4	10,549	221	10,774	63,718
Jan-Jan 1999	---	10,582	236	10,818	70,927
Jan-Jan 2000	4	10,549	221	10,774	63,718
Percent 3/					
Jan 1999	---	2.27	9.93	2.30	2.01
Jan 2000	2.29	2.33	6.58	2.36	1.84

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, January 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	75,783	73,236	389,537	374,018	5.14	5.11	
AR	94,867	91,040	471,548	447,036	4.97	4.91	
DE	22,517	21,406	130,934	127,987	5.81	5.98	
FL	10,599	10,615	56,760	58,480	5.36	5.51	
GA	94,574	90,324	471,763	449,775	4.99	4.98	
LA	15,404	15,303	70,470	68,261	4.57	4.46	
MD	16,217	16,145	78,411	79,361	4.84	4.92	
MS	59,711	53,212	289,776	266,429	4.85	5.01	
MO	30,343	29,611	137,934	133,758	4.55	4.52	
NC	52,739	49,131	299,526	286,122	5.68	5.82	
PA	8,597	8,882	44,338	46,652	5.16	5.25	
SC	17,496	17,065	84,666	85,758	4.84	5.03	
TN	16,206	17,502	80,801	82,836	4.99	4.73	
TX	43,717	46,630	204,789	220,940	4.68	4.74	
VA	30,159	28,979	143,001	144,990	4.74	5.00	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	663,691	648,905	3,318,308	3,263,888	5.00	5.03	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, January 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --		
AL	290,194	274,401	7,375	8,128	2.10	2.41
AR	338,274	325,993	6,561	5,779	1.55	1.44
DE	95,305	92,588	3,090	2,560	2.62	2.22
FL	41,626	40,659	1,278	1,019	2.50	1.94
GA	345,356	325,177	9,206	7,876	2.17	1.95
LA	48,038	48,007	1,869	727	2.95	1.18
MD	55,547	55,820	1,338	1,124	1.90	1.57
MS	210,890	205,735	4,482	2,787	1.72	1.16
MO	101,907	98,837	1,554	1,594	1.25	1.32
NC	225,457	215,688	5,311	4,412	1.97	1.71
PA	30,317	32,535	1,500	1,347	3.76	3.21
SC	62,333	63,158	1,574	1,641	2.07	2.13
TN	59,192	60,023	931	647	1.28	0.87
TX	155,430	171,569	2,259	2,557	1.23	1.29
VA	101,530	99,937	1,541	1,538	1.20	1.18
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,425,721	2,395,930	55,158	48,303	1.85	1.64

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, January 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	2,137	209,480	590,232	2,973	11,747
AR	---	9,045	297,897	148,741	7,615	6,801
DE	---	---	134,528	64,921	102	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,852	156,649	413,277	949	10,983
LA	---	---	25,760	17,176	117	832
MD	---	4,657	95,842	39,523	36	8,458
MS	---	914	105,599	64,831	708	1,940
MO	---	3,779	97,564	46,579	1,752	1,588
NC	---	2,735	161,097	110,489	507	30,243
PA	---	2,648	46,659	56,859	562	---
SC	---	---	47,663	98,970	93	---
TN	---	195	42,646	16,268	425	1,070
TX	---	---	156,223	60,197	515	---
VA	---	2,185	89,656	52,420	100	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	54,610	2,008,768	1,846,156	25,439	138,045
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	9,264	46,426	44,579	12,035	208,050	1,136,923
AR	9,170	45,038	42,411	1,811	124,549	693,078
DE	3,035	12,126	12,981	5,120	58,526	291,339
FL	1,891	4,955	6,439	---	---	13,285
GA	11,581	60,305	57,053	8,249	289,133	1,010,031
LA	941	4,929	6,107	155	8,035	64,052
MD	1,964	12,897	19,506	1,119	28,537	212,539
MS	4,164	27,393	21,190	750	104,797	332,286
MO	1,992	14,402	14,067	2,542	35,060	219,325
NC	6,330	40,482	34,355	5,656	119,569	511,463
PA	1,739	4,111	---	210	45,015	157,803
SC	5,143	15,754	---	---	52,159	219,782
TN	2,092	10,213	12,707	---	19,857	105,473
TX	2,096	15,507	17,847	1,008	14,161	267,554
VA	2,527	19,586	---	---	25,511	191,985
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	68,949	379,157	386,636	54,759	1,272,045	6,234,564

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, January 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	---
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	15,236	13,750	75,507	70,119	4.96	5.10	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnsions,
Selected States and United States, January 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnsions				
	1999	2000	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/		
	-----	1,000 Pounds	-----	----	--	Percent	--
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	45,559	42,035	4,656	4,326	6.85	6.86	

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, January 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	14	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	7,324	304,954	30,403	1,625	149,960

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	43	---	---	---	57
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	41,833	41,631	181,056	2,641	56,411	817,838

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, January 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,074	2,026	36,873	37,384	17.78	18.46
CA	1,227	1,209	29,677	31,865	24.18	26.35
IA	1,027	1,284	33,606	41,346	32.71	32.19
MN	2,840	2,674	69,717	67,708	24.55	25.32
MO	1,924	1,892	55,329	53,732	28.76	28.40
NC	2,694	2,272	68,865	59,100	25.57	26.01
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,081	2,892	68,212	63,492	22.14	21.96
US	19,775	18,961	518,976	503,695	26.24	26.57

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, January 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1999	2000	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	30,013	30,116	549	758	1.65	2.25
CA	23,697	25,329	416	442	1.56	1.54
IA	26,090	31,506	922	1,192	3.05	3.20
MN	55,113	53,681	1,965	2,200	3.13	3.61
MO	43,607	42,252	1,279	915	2.57	1.89
NC	54,370	45,981	1,119	1,178	1.81	2.21
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	53,429	50,062	1,009	964	1.64	1.69
US	408,925	395,381	10,582	10,549	2.27	2.33

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, January 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	6,351	435	---	---
CA	---	---	6,080	82	---	---
IA	---	---	6,900	4,442	---	---
MN	---	---	19,781	14,989	1,504	21
MO	---	---	13,087	---	---	---
NC	---	---	5,133	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	2,354	---	---
VA	---	---	5,707	270	---	---
US	---	320	87,755	30,241	6,546	50

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	44	342	---	---	1,878	9,050
CA	37	---	118	---	---	6,317
IA	93	---	801	---	---	12,236
MN	---	621	1,009	---	1,111	39,036
MO	56	290	596	---	1,165	15,194
NC	130	1,220	---	---	1,380	7,863
PA	110	---	---	---	---	2,464
VA	24	---	---	---	---	6,001
US	1,413	9,242	10,319	2,095	11,449	159,430

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 April 5, 2000.

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