



# Poultry Slaughter

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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 8 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during January 2001 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.11 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the amount certified in January 2000. Updated totals for December 2000 show that 2.81 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during January 2001 was 4.20 billion pounds, up 8 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.54 billion pounds of young chickens, 7 percent above last year; 70.1 million pounds of mature chickens, down slightly; 575 million pounds of turkeys, up 13 percent; and 15.3 million pounds of ducks, up 9 percent from January 2000.

Young chickens slaughtered during January 2001 averaged 5.03 pounds per bird, down slightly from January 2000. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.11 pounds per bird, nearly the same as a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during January 2001 averaged 27.2 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from January 2000.

Ante-mortem condemnations during January 2001 totaled 19.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.47 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.46 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 63.4 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.68 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.83 percent a year earlier.

January 2001 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. January 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, January 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
-----					
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Dec 2000	630,740	11,152	641,892	2,245	-----
Jan 2000	655,879	13,755	669,634	2,102	-----
Jan 2001	704,161	13,713	717,874	2,315	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	655,879	13,755	669,634	2,102	-----
Jan-Jan 2001	704,161	13,713	717,874	2,315	-----
-----					
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Dec 2000	3,188,151	57,394	3,245,545	14,874	788
Jan 2000	3,306,965	70,135	3,377,100	14,020	1,000
Jan 2001	3,542,492	70,069	3,612,560	15,337	686
Jan-Jan 2000	3,306,965	70,135	3,377,100	14,020	1,000
Jan-Jan 2001	3,542,492	70,069	3,612,560	15,337	686
-----					
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Dec 2000	5.05	5.15	5.06	6.62	-----
Jan 2000	5.04	5.10	5.04	6.67	-----
Jan 2001	5.03	5.11	5.03	6.63	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	5.04	5.10	5.04	6.67	-----
Jan-Jan 2001	5.03	5.11	5.03	6.63	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, January 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Head			
Number Inspected					
Dec 2000	---	19,445	306	19,751	-----
Jan 2000	24	19,015	146	19,184	-----
Jan 2001	---	21,027	128	21,156	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	24	19,015	146	19,184	-----
Jan-Jan 2001	---	21,027	128	21,156	-----
		1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight					
Dec 2000	---	505,404	8,241	513,645	3,774,852
Jan 2000	194	505,651	3,851	509,696	3,901,815
Jan 2001	0	571,283	3,560	574,843	4,203,427
Jan-Jan 2000	194	505,651	3,851	509,696	3,901,815
Jan-Jan 2001	---	571,283	3,560	574,843	4,203,427
		Pounds			
Average Live Weight					
Dec 2000	---	25.99	26.95	26.01	-----
Jan 2000	8.09	26.59	26.45	26.57	-----
Jan 2001	---	27.17	27.74	27.17	-----
Jan-Jan 2000	8.09	26.59	26.45	26.57	-----
Jan-Jan 2001	---	27.17	27.74	27.17	-----

- 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 2000: 5,304, January 2001: 5,376.  
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: January 2000: 21, January 2001: 25.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
United States, January 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Dec 2000					
Chilled	2,168,747	33,282	2,202,029	4,457	212
Frozen	187,280	1,528	188,808	6,093	290
Total	2,356,027	34,810	2,390,837	10,550	502
Jan 2000					
Chilled	2,218,910	38,634	2,257,544	3,750	327
Frozen	208,652	3,401	212,054	6,201	283
Total	2,427,562	42,035	2,469,597	9,950	610
Jan 2001					
Chilled	2,385,877	40,728	2,426,605	4,228	141
Frozen	218,426	916	219,342	6,697	283
Total	2,604,303	41,644	2,645,947	10,926	425
Jan-Jan 2000					
Chilled	2,218,910	38,634	2,257,544	3,750	327
Frozen	208,652	3,401	212,054	6,201	283
Total	2,427,562	42,035	2,469,597	9,950	610
Jan-Jan 2001					
Chilled	2,385,877	40,728	2,426,605	4,228	141
Frozen	218,426	916	219,342	6,697	283
Total	2,604,303	41,644	2,645,947	10,926	425

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
 United States, January 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total Poultry
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Dec 2000					
Chilled	---	200,959	4,788	205,748	2,412,445
Frozen	---	195,503	2,127	197,629	392,820
Total	---	396,462	6,915	403,377	2,805,266
Jan 2000					
Chilled	143	195,776	2,157	198,075	2,459,695
Frozen	12	201,110	679	201,802	420,340
Total	155	396,886	2,836	399,877	2,880,035
Jan 2001					
Chilled	---	224,809	2,486	227,296	2,658,270
Frozen	---	229,862	318	230,179	456,502
Total	---	454,671	2,804	457,475	3,114,772
Jan-Jan 2000					
Chilled	143	195,776	2,157	198,075	2,459,695
Frozen	12	201,110	679	201,802	420,340
Total	155	396,886	2,836	399,877	2,880,035
Jan-Jan 2001					
Chilled	---	224,809	2,486	227,296	2,658,270
Frozen	---	229,862	318	230,179	456,502
Total	---	454,671	2,804	457,475	3,114,772

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 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Dec 2000	18,516	1,189	19,705	24	5
Jan 2000	15,479	1,022	16,501	19	2
Jan 2001	16,537	1,221	17,757	23	4
Jan-Jan 2000	15,479	1,022	16,501	19	2
Jan-Jan 2001	16,537	1,221	17,757	23	4
Percent 2/					
Jan 2000	0.47	1.46	0.49	0.13	0.22
Jan 2001	0.47	1.74	0.49	0.15	0.53
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Dec 2000	41,029	2,881	43,910	416	7
Jan 2000	48,743	4,328	53,071	323	9
Jan 2001	46,628	3,696	50,324	389	8
Jan-Jan 2000	48,743	4,328	53,071	323	9
Jan-Jan 2001	46,628	3,696	50,324	389	8
Percent 3/					
Jan 2000	1.64	6.86	1.75	2.56	1.02
Jan 2001	1.46	5.86	1.55	2.82	1.26

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, January 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
					Total	
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Poultry
		Roasters			Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Dec 2000	---	1,700	34	1,734	21,468	
Jan 2000	16	1,400	64	1,480	18,002	
Jan 2001	---	2,036	60	2,095	19,879	
Jan-Jan 2000	16	1,400	64	1,480	18,002	
Jan-Jan 2001	---	2,036	60	2,095	19,879	
Percent 2/						
Jan 2000	8.28	0.28	1.66	0.29	0.46	
Jan 2001	---	0.36	1.67	0.36	0.47	
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Dec 2000	---	10,578	422	11,000	55,334	
Jan 2000	4	10,583	228	10,815	64,218	
Jan 2001	---	12,484	239	12,723	63,444	
Jan-Jan 2000	4	10,583	228	10,815	64,218	
Jan-Jan 2001	---	12,484	239	12,723	63,444	
Percent 3/						
Jan 2000	2.29	2.33	6.58	2.36	1.83	
Jan 2001	---	2.43	7.44	2.46	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, January 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	73,155	79,372	374,064	400,864	5.11	5.05	
AR	91,172	102,036	447,753	503,304	4.91	4.93	
DE	21,406	22,425	127,987	129,297	5.98	5.77	
FL	10,800	10,096	59,578	53,582	5.52	5.31	
GA	92,800	97,335	466,235	487,216	5.02	5.01	
LA	15,189	14,102	67,735	65,585	4.46	4.65	
MD	16,205	16,343	79,865	76,808	4.93	4.70	
MS	53,535	59,185	269,868	289,650	5.04	4.89	
MO	29,611	32,064	133,758	147,733	4.52	4.61	
NC	50,841	57,910	295,563	333,078	5.81	5.75	
PA	8,956	9,420	47,002	49,105	5.25	5.21	
SC	17,575	20,069	88,565	106,831	5.04	5.32	
TN	18,017	19,175	85,054	88,709	4.72	4.63	
TX	47,033	50,753	223,343	243,808	4.75	4.80	
VA	29,027	30,415	145,074	149,563	5.00	4.92	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	655,879	704,161	3,306,965	3,542,492	5.04	5.03	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, January 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	274,678	295,188	8,092	5,742	2.40	1.59
AR	326,505	360,813	5,789	8,114	1.44	1.79
DE	92,588	92,813	2,560	2,475	2.22	2.13
FL	41,428	38,258	1,047	827	1.95	1.72
GA	340,654	360,898	8,075	5,845	1.92	1.33
LA	47,683	46,279	713	669	1.17	1.13
MD	56,206	54,837	1,132	1,165	1.57	1.68
MS	204,581	220,904	2,589	2,480	1.07	0.95
MO	98,837	108,322	1,594	1,742	1.32	1.31
NC	222,943	250,827	4,561	5,202	1.71	1.74
PA	32,772	34,061	1,357	1,225	3.21	2.77
SC	65,196	77,897	1,692	1,507	2.12	1.57
TN	61,599	63,732	664	796	0.87	1.00
TX	173,463	188,180	2,617	2,842	1.30	1.30
VA	100,017	105,165	1,539	1,467	1.18	1.09
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,427,562	2,604,303	48,743	46,628	1.64	1.46

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 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,075	197,148	156,275	1,376	14,702
AR	---	5,296	351,510	167,478	5,696	10,569
DE	---	---	122,332	73,059	---	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,232	135,413	216,331	792	20,133
LA	---	---	22,900	---	---	710
MD	---	---	62,968	36,460	---	12,080
MS	---	822	101,873	39,116	319	2,782
MO	---	3,431	108,302	56,416	2,124	---
NC	---	4,001	155,766	153,581	375	48,279
PA	---	---	45,957	30,322	369	---
SC	---	---	26,691	80,996	---	---
TN	---	340	50,715	22,716	452	1,312
TX	---	459	189,723	75,156	642	5,331
VA	---	2,117	70,457	59,198	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	59,919	1,980,653	1,270,286	18,740	199,641
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	8,427	43,655	44,847	9,996	100,130	577,631
AR	10,838	50,640	43,790	4,873	118,415	769,105
DE	3,787	13,705	11,276	2,871	35,895	262,925
FL	1,457	4,102	3,524	---	---	9,083
GA	9,333	42,136	31,787	4,707	183,136	645,000
LA	718	4,078	4,622	---	---	33,028
MD	2,270	---	---	1,082	24,360	139,220
MS	3,601	17,795	9,886	1,269	74,611	252,074
MO	2,450	19,512	15,944	900	40,327	249,406
NC	7,553	51,379	34,065	6,871	97,558	559,428
PA	1,759	7,409	8,670	69	42,713	137,268
SC	2,163	---	9,905	4,409	21,326	145,490
TN	3,300	11,437	9,687	---	---	99,959
TX	1,965	16,112	14,551	1,357	20,695	325,991
VA	2,296	9,900	---	688	19,923	164,579
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	66,508	359,760	322,118	49,442	917,690	5,244,757

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, January 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	13,755	13,713	70,135	70,069	5.10	5.11

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns,  
Selected States and United States, January 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	42,035	41,644	4,328	3,696	6.86	5.86

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 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	8	4,151	295,104	13,880	1,959	129,718

  

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	72	---	125	---	197
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	31,509	31,999	207,149	1,681	60,931	778,089

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, January 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,026	2,281	37,384	39,718	18.46	17.41
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
IA	1,284	1,347	41,346	42,851	32.19	31.82
MN	2,677	2,915	67,867	78,678	25.35	26.99
MO	1,915	2,187	54,922	58,765	28.68	26.87
NC	2,286	2,995	59,336	81,133	25.96	27.09
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,892	3,111	63,492	69,038	21.96	22.19
US	19,015	21,027	505,651	571,283	26.59	27.17

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, January 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	30,116	33,234	758	678	2.25	1.90
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
IA	31,506	33,862	1,192	1,297	3.20	3.36
MN	53,805	62,385	2,207	2,188	3.61	3.09
MO	43,137	47,705	934	1,319	1.89	2.49
NC	46,178	63,737	1,179	1,454	2.21	1.99
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	50,062	53,512	964	898	1.69	1.45
US	396,886	454,671	10,583	12,484	2.33	2.43

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 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	6,375	---	---	---
CA	---	---	---	54	---	---
IA	---	---	6,155	5,347	---	---
MN	---	---	16,094	2,772	---	---
MO	---	---	21,842	---	---	---
NC	---	---	6,987	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	5,531	---	---	---
US	---	48	96,463	19,250	4,895	96
	Number					
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	---	495	---	---	---	6,870
CA	48	---	---	---	---	102
IA	63	---	803	---	695	13,063
MN	---	828	845	---	1,080	21,619
MO	---	---	707	---	---	22,549
NC	---	---	---	---	---	6,987
PA	213	---	---	---	---	213
VA	---	---	---	---	---	5,531
US	1,387	9,538	11,836	2,962	12,432	158,907

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
 United States, January 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
			5,113	517		102
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
US	9	106	242	9	461	6,559

## 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.

**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 3:00 p.m. ET on April 6, 2001.

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