



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 5 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during April 2001 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 2.95 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the amount certified in April 2000. Updated totals for March 2001 show that 3.12 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during April 2001 was 4.00 billion pounds, up 6 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.37 billion pounds of young chickens, 6 percent above last year; 68.9 million pounds of mature chickens, up 1 percent; 543 million pounds of turkeys, up 3 percent; and 14.8 million pounds of ducks, up 21 percent from April 2000.

Young chickens slaughtered during April 2001 averaged 5.04 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from April 2000. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.33 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during April 2001 averaged 26.9 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from April 2000.

Ante-mortem condemnations during April 2001 totaled 14.2 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.36 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.34 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 61.6 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.71 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.72 percent a year earlier.

April 2001 contained 21 weekdays and four Saturdays.
April 2000 contained 20 weekdays and five Saturdays.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		

	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Mar 2001	697,430	14,302	711,731	2,130	-----
Apr 2000	635,886	13,351	649,237	1,839	-----
Apr 2001	668,827	12,925	681,752	2,247	-----
Jan-Apr 2000	2,695,223	56,411	2,751,634	7,872	-----
Jan-Apr 2001	2,703,978	53,960	2,757,938	8,704	-----

	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Mar 2001	3,492,469	73,630	3,566,098	14,015	763
Apr 2000	3,181,703	68,442	3,250,145	12,251	760
Apr 2001	3,369,250	68,904	3,438,154	14,843	559
Jan-Apr 2000	13,517,179	289,769	13,806,948	52,491	3,791
Jan-Apr 2001	13,578,097	280,985	13,859,082	57,516	2,908

	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Mar 2001	5.01	5.15	5.01	6.58	-----
Apr 2000	5.00	5.13	5.01	6.66	-----
Apr 2001	5.04	5.33	5.04	6.60	-----
Jan-Apr 2000	5.02	5.14	5.02	6.67	-----
Jan-Apr 2001	5.02	5.21	5.03	6.61	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Head			Total Poultry
Number Inspected					
Mar 2001	---	21,551	152	21,703	-----
Apr 2000	---	19,889	154	20,043	-----
Apr 2001	---	20,001	177	20,178	-----
Jan-Apr 2000	34	81,504	596	82,133	-----
Jan-Apr 2001	---	81,644	631	82,275	-----
		1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight					
Mar 2001	---	579,032	4,259	583,291	4,164,167
Apr 2000	---	520,945	4,067	525,013	3,788,169
Apr 2001	---	538,484	4,733	543,217	3,996,773
Jan-Apr 2000	271	2,142,978	15,802	2,159,050	16,022,281
Jan-Apr 2001	---	2,202,399	17,025	2,219,424	16,138,931
		Pounds			
Average Live Weight					
Mar 2001	---	26.87	28.01	26.88	-----
Apr 2000	---	26.19	26.39	26.19	-----
Apr 2001	---	26.92	26.70	26.92	-----
Jan-Apr 2000	8.01	26.29	26.53	26.29	-----
Jan-Apr 2001	---	26.98	26.97	26.98	-----

- 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: April 2000: 5,301, April 2001: 5,532.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: April 2000: 39, April 2001: 38.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		

1,000 Pounds					
Mar 2001					
Chilled	2,373,808	43,729	2,417,538	3,864	181
Frozen	227,656	658	228,314	6,341	279
Total	2,601,464	44,388	2,645,852	10,206	459
Apr 2000					
Chilled	2,134,884	38,733	2,173,617	3,463	192
Frozen	205,493	2,559	208,052	5,140	275
Total	2,340,377	41,292	2,381,669	8,603	468
Apr 2001					
Chilled	2,247,750	40,519	2,288,269	4,268	126
Frozen	230,326	1,265	231,591	6,543	209
Total	2,478,075	41,784	2,519,860	10,811	335
Jan-Apr 2000					
Chilled	9,073,462	161,920	9,235,383	14,496	1,136
Frozen	870,283	11,769	882,052	22,878	1,203
Total	9,943,745	173,689	10,117,435	37,374	2,339
Jan-Apr 2001					
Chilled	9,140,788	164,873	9,305,662	15,990	641
Frozen	882,019	3,658	885,677	25,562	1,062
Total	10,022,808	168,531	10,191,339	41,552	1,702

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds			
Mar 2001					
Chilled	---	232,131	2,498	234,629	2,656,212
Frozen	---	225,284	782	226,066	461,000
Total	---	457,415	3,280	460,695	3,117,212
Apr 2000					
Chilled	---	206,227	2,100	208,327	2,385,600
Frozen	---	207,307	870	208,178	421,644
Total	---	413,534	2,970	416,505	2,807,244
Apr 2001					
Chilled	---	208,872	3,052	211,924	2,504,587
Frozen	---	207,903	488	208,391	446,734
Total	---	416,775	3,540	420,315	2,951,321
Jan-Apr 2000					
Chilled	199	834,178	8,322	842,700	10,093,714
Frozen	17	854,849	3,383	858,249	1,764,382
Total	217	1,689,027	11,705	1,700,949	11,858,097
Jan-Apr 2001					
Chilled	---	866,882	10,888	877,770	10,200,062
Frozen	---	867,092	2,174	869,267	1,781,567
Total	---	1,733,975	13,062	1,747,037	11,981,629

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, April 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Mar 2001	13,713	1,125	14,838	20	4
Apr 2000	10,870	840	11,710	18	4
Apr 2001	11,513	1,076	12,589	31	1
Jan-Apr 2000	52,000	3,825	55,825	78	12
Jan-Apr 2001	54,345	4,575	58,920	94	9
Percent 2/					
Apr 2000	0.34	1.23	0.36	0.15	0.55
Apr 2001	0.34	1.56	0.37	0.21	0.13
----- 1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Mar 2001	46,122	4,081	50,203	305	9
Apr 2000	42,486	4,826	47,312	259	9
Apr 2001	46,116	3,644	49,760	324	7
Jan-Apr 2000	201,465	19,486	220,951	1,151	39
Jan-Apr 2001	179,174	15,025	194,199	1,330	31
Percent 3/					
Apr 2000	1.48	7.84	1.62	2.34	1.29
Apr 2001	1.52	5.88	1.61	2.42	1.37

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			
					Total
		Fryer-			Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem					
(Live Weight)					
Mar 2001	---	2,604	50	2,655	17,517
Apr 2000	---	1,168	52	1,220	12,953
Apr 2001	---	1,563	54	1,617	14,238
Jan-Apr 2000	16	5,509	176	5,701	61,616
Jan-Apr 2001	---	7,943	212	8,155	67,178
Percent 2/					
Apr 2000	---	0.22	1.28	0.23	0.34
Apr 2001	---	0.29	1.15	0.30	0.36
Post-Mortem					
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Mar 2001	---	13,055	305	13,360	63,876
Apr 2000	---	10,701	342	11,044	58,623
Apr 2001	---	11,116	345	11,461	61,551
Jan-Apr 2000	5	46,097	1,073	47,176	269,317
Jan-Apr 2001	---	48,772	1,170	49,942	245,502
Percent 3/					
Apr 2000	---	2.28	9.35	2.34	1.72
Apr 2001	---	2.29	8.10	2.34	1.71

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, April 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	73,743	78,179	374,775	399,842	5.08	5.11	
AR	91,263	95,257	440,742	460,015	4.83	4.83	
DE	19,277	20,427	113,841	117,984	5.91	5.78	
FL	9,541	9,926	51,844	55,020	5.43	5.54	
GA	91,508	96,196	451,415	475,256	4.93	4.94	
LA	14,850	13,404	65,741	61,573	4.43	4.59	
MD	15,205	15,645	71,850	72,808	4.73	4.65	
MS	53,214	56,399	270,348	284,560	5.08	5.05	
MO	27,899	28,576	125,747	130,703	4.51	4.57	
NC	49,641	53,691	289,075	319,091	5.82	5.94	
PA	7,994	8,285	42,206	43,962	5.28	5.31	
SC	18,383	17,527	92,335	92,285	5.02	5.27	
TN	17,053	19,018	80,392	90,457	4.71	4.76	
TX	44,834	48,452	217,334	232,272	4.85	4.79	
VA	27,311	28,767	134,165	141,319	4.91	4.91	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	635,886	668,827	3,181,703	3,369,250	5.00	5.04	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, April 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	272,380	284,037	6,896	5,828	2.04	1.62
AR	321,104	332,763	5,283	8,137	1.33	1.97
DE	83,427	84,693	2,202	2,364	2.15	2.23
FL	37,310	39,567	852	743	1.83	1.50
GA	332,126	351,919	5,784	6,607	1.42	1.54
LA	45,612	44,096	567	472	0.96	0.85
MD	51,727	51,709	1,080	1,080	1.67	1.65
MS	209,732	217,597	2,507	2,258	1.03	0.88
MO	92,673	95,958	1,740	1,885	1.54	1.60
NC	218,471	239,769	4,507	4,375	1.73	1.52
PA	29,712	31,445	1,069	888	2.81	2.24
SC	67,712	66,747	1,933	993	2.33	1.20
TN	58,023	65,072	696	796	0.96	0.98
TX	165,838	180,320	2,369	3,546	1.21	1.70
VA	91,945	100,433	1,100	1,387	0.91	1.09
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,340,377	2,478,075	42,486	46,116	1.48	1.52

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, April 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	3,011	155,621	127,069	2,517	---
AR	---	5,391	294,573	168,569	7,443	7,368
DE	---	12,940	108,349	55,848	---	---
FL	---	183	---	---	---	---
GA	---	949	118,718	157,258	647	18,059
LA	---	245	18,588	9,918	244	1,281
MD	---	22,239	56,260	35,184	---	11,474
MS	---	982	78,044	38,866	392	3,357
MO	---	2,715	107,739	73,809	1,846	---
NC	---	3,431	136,978	79,446	---	60,284
PA	---	628	31,580	18,682	331	2,029
SC	---	---	17,892	36,747	---	---
TN	---	927	46,762	17,747	864	2,457
TX	---	---	166,157	63,638	698	4,327
VA	---	---	62,848	43,825	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	68,401	1,732,777	973,182	19,977	217,332
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	7,189	34,196	53,051	12,333	103,679	498,666
AR	8,457	32,163	39,234	5,348	101,229	669,775
DE	2,418	10,210	11,143	1,041	33,158	235,107
FL	---	3,118	---	1,067	13,501	17,869
GA	7,368	35,251	25,315	4,892	160,868	529,325
LA	676	2,853	3,622	260	7,365	45,052
MD	1,867	19,242	---	1,585	27,344	175,195
MS	3,242	14,160	12,995	755	55,551	208,344
MO	2,293	17,248	14,933	931	---	221,514
NC	5,685	36,960	28,215	5,721	77,364	434,084
PA	1,596	4,600	6,390	255	34,431	100,522
SC	---	2,778	7,373	---	12,141	76,931
TN	2,639	10,387	7,214	---	21,576	110,573
TX	1,865	12,882	15,682	1,848	13,141	280,238
VA	1,819	9,632	---	997	18,204	137,325
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	54,423	276,146	307,095	45,567	929,456	4,624,356

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, April 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	13,351	12,925	68,442	68,904	5.13	5.33

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	41,292	41,784	4,826	3,644	7.84	5.88

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, April 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	3,995	273,073	9,992	407	144,244

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	22,332	31,433	148,951	1,584	62,490	698,501

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, April 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	2,123	2,189	38,594	37,306	18.18	17.04
CA	1,438	1,169	37,254	28,759	25.91	24.61
IA	1,208	1,262	38,583	40,381	31.93	31.99
MN	3,065	3,083	77,939	82,476	25.43	26.75
MO	1,958	1,783	55,455	49,089	28.32	27.54
NC	2,555	2,771	66,683	72,917	26.10	26.32
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,807	2,826	61,744	64,881	22.00	22.96
US	19,889	20,001	520,945	538,484	26.19	26.92

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	31,436	29,270	693	554	2.00	1.65
CA	29,913	24,220	509	531	1.52	2.05
IA	30,042	31,276	1,025	1,087	2.95	2.99
MN	62,008	64,053	2,035	2,337	2.90	3.15
MO	43,514	38,386	1,173	1,086	2.35	2.46
NC	52,780	57,664	1,416	1,310	2.36	2.00
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	48,827	48,977	883	789	1.59	1.35
US	413,534	416,775	10,701	11,116	2.28	2.29

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, April 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors	
							Number
AR	---	---	5,705	---	---	---	
CA	---	---	5,089	---	4	---	
IA	---	---	4,833	3,116	---	7	
MN	---	---	14,559	3,060	---	---	
MO	---	---	13,746	---	---	---	
NC	---	---	5,119	---	---	---	
PA	---	---	---	---	41	---	
VA	---	---	2,839	118	---	---	
US	---	99	76,006	13,824	4,775	119	
							Number
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total	
AR	---	227	---	---	---	5,932	
CA	23	---	76	63	---	5,255	
IA	51	---	396	---	---	8,403	
MN	---	748	865	---	1,413	20,645	
MO	---	116	340	---	---	14,202	
NC	160	1,318	---	---	1,297	7,894	
PA	126	---	---	---	828	995	
VA	38	---	---	612	---	3,607	
US	1,009	6,758	10,963	2,365	10,986	126,904	

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 July 6, 2001.

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