



Poultry Slaughter

Released February 9, 2004, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "*Poultry Slaughter*" call John Lange at 202-720-0585, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 6 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during December 2003 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.22 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the amount certified in December 2002. Updated totals for November 2003 show that 2.92 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during December 2003 was 4.34 billion pounds, up 5 percent from a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.71 billion pounds, up 8 percent from December 2002, mature chickens at 63.5 million pounds, were down 10 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 554 million pounds, down 6 percent, and ducks totaled 15.1 million pounds, up 9 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during December 2003 averaged 5.25 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from December 2002. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.56 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during December 2003 averaged 26.9 pounds per bird, down 2 percent from December 2002.

Ante-mortem condemnations during December 2003 totaled 16.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.38 percent of the live weight inspected, compared to 0.46 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 43.7 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.12 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.21 percent a year earlier.

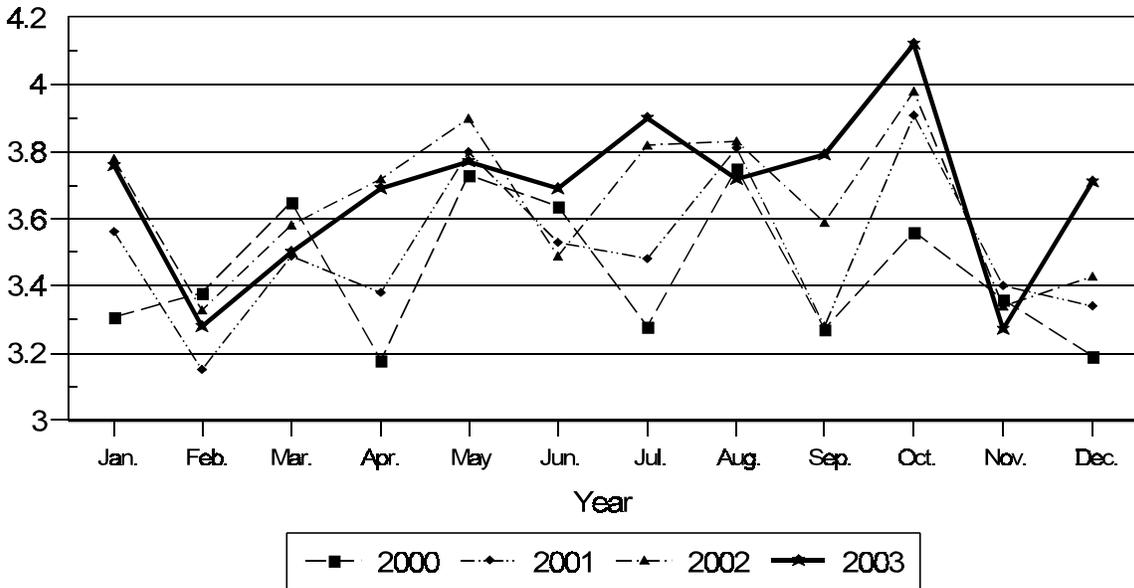
December 2003 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. December 2002 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

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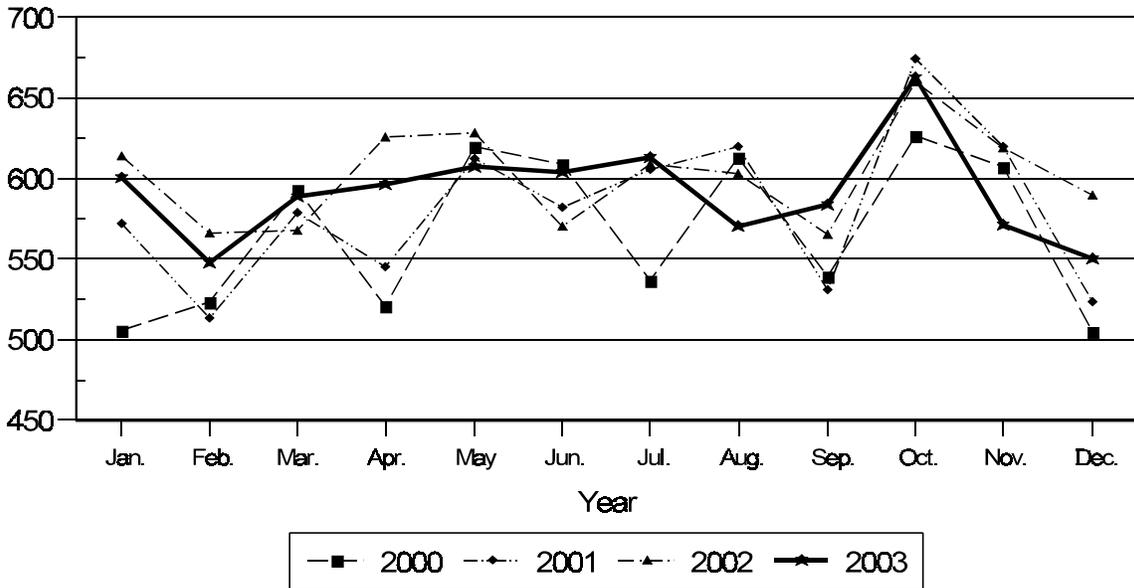
Young Chickens: Live Weight Slaughtered, by Month, 2000-2003

Billion Pounds



Young Turkeys: Live Weight Slaughtered, by Month, 2000-2003

Million Pounds



**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, December 2003¹**

Commodity	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Percent of	
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Number Slaughtered					
Chickens					
Young	662,504	625,960	706,615	107	113
Mature	13,130	9,387	11,429	87	122
Light	7,150	4,356	5,932	83	136
Heavy	5,980	5,031	5,497	92	109
Total	675,634	635,347	718,044	106	113
Turkeys					
Young	21,282	22,413	20,451	96	91
Old	274	248	155	57	63
Total	21,556	22,661	20,606	96	91
Ducks	2,099	1,875	2,212	105	118
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	3,447,277	3,271,052	3,709,529	108	113
Mature	70,736	54,828	63,523	90	116
Light	24,087	14,700	19,782	82	135
Heavy	46,649	40,128	43,741	94	109
Total	3,518,013	3,325,880	3,773,052	107	113
Turkeys					
Young	582,675	570,816	549,718	94	96
Old	7,594	6,729	4,413	58	66
Total	590,269	577,545	554,131	94	96
Ducks	13,878	12,796	15,089	109	118
Other Poultry	920	754	355	39	47
Total Poultry	4,123,080	3,916,975	4,342,627	105	111
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Average Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	5.20	5.23	5.25	101	100
Mature	5.39	5.84	5.56	103	95
Light	3.37	3.37	3.33	99	99
Heavy	7.80	7.98	7.96	102	100
Total	5.21	5.23	5.25	101	100
Turkeys					
Young	27.38	25.47	26.88	98	106
Old	27.67	27.13	28.49	103	105
Total	27.38	25.49	26.89	98	105
Ducks	6.61	6.83	6.82	103	100

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, December 2003 ¹ (continued)**

Commodity	January to Date			Percent of	
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Number Slaughtered					
Chickens					
Young	8,406,313	8,546,240	8,512,945	101	100
Mature	160,069	169,859	147,562	92	87
Light	91,594	96,448	76,604	84	79
Heavy	68,475	73,411	70,958	104	97
Total	8,566,382	8,716,099	8,660,507	101	99
Turkeys					
Young	266,932	268,675	264,547	99	98
Old	2,370	2,569	3,028	128	118
Total	269,302	271,244	267,575	99	99
Ducks	26,260	23,998	24,302	93	101
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	42,335,507	43,715,247	44,199,048	104	101
Mature	854,308	907,955	824,872	97	91
Light	313,651	328,387	261,323	83	80
Heavy	540,657	579,568	563,549	104	97
Total	43,189,815	44,623,202	45,023,920	104	101
Turkeys					
Young	6,965,326	7,189,257	7,089,621	102	99
Old	63,367	69,926	81,479	129	117
Total	7,028,693	7,259,183	7,171,100	102	99
Ducks	173,983	160,319	160,868	92	100
Other Poultry	13,498	12,667	9,911	73	78
Total Poultry	50,405,989	52,055,371	52,365,799	104	101
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Average Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	5.04	5.12	5.19	103	101
Mature	5.34	5.35	5.59	105	104
Light	3.42	3.40	3.41	100	100
Heavy	7.90	7.89	7.94	101	101
Total	5.04	5.12	5.20	103	102
Turkeys					
Young	26.09	26.76	26.80	103	100
Old	26.73	27.21	26.92	101	99
Total	26.10	26.76	26.80	103	100
Ducks	6.63	6.68	6.62	100	99

¹ Federally inspected only.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, December 2003 ¹**

Commodity	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Percent of	
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Chilled					
Chickens					
Young	2,273,858	2,213,525	2,460,509	108	111
Mature	41,500	33,775	38,916	94	115
Light	11,752	7,414	10,029	85	135
Heavy	29,748	26,361	28,887	97	110
Total	2,315,358	2,247,300	2,499,425	108	111
Turkeys					
Young	252,348	252,989	246,679	98	98
Old	4,378	3,463	2,209	50	64
Total	256,726	256,452	248,888	97	97
Ducks	3,641	5,969	7,391	203	124
Other Poultry	220	188	182	83	97
Total Poultry	2,575,945	2,509,909	2,755,886	107	110
Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	253,493	208,282	265,935	105	128
Mature	709	86	159	22	185
Light	549		102	19	
Heavy	160	86	57	36	66
Total	254,202	208,368	266,094	105	128
Turkeys					
Young	205,517	197,275	187,588	91	95
Old	1,113	1,777	1,095	98	62
Total	206,630	199,052	188,683	91	95
Ducks	6,521	3,972	4,393	67	111
Other Poultry	317	277	55	17	20
Total Poultry	467,670	411,669	459,225	98	112
Total Chilled and Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	2,527,351	2,421,807	2,726,444	108	113
Mature	42,209	33,861	39,075	93	115
Light	12,301	7,414	10,131	82	137
Heavy	29,908	26,447	28,944	97	109
Total	2,569,560	2,455,668	2,765,519	108	113
Turkeys					
Young	457,865	450,264	434,267	95	96
Old	5,491	5,240	3,304	60	63
Total	463,356	455,504	437,571	94	96
Ducks	10,162	9,941	11,784	116	119
Other Poultry	537	465	237	44	51
Total Poultry	3,043,615	2,921,578	3,215,111	106	110

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, December 2003 ¹ (continued)**

Commodity	January to Date			Percent of	
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Chilled					
Chickens					
Young	28,524,594	29,140,868	29,471,501	103	101
Mature	500,941	529,762	494,722	99	93
Light	149,558	154,690	126,959	85	82
Heavy	351,383	375,072	367,763	105	98
Total	29,025,535	29,670,630	29,966,223	103	101
Turkeys					
Young	2,679,054	2,919,181	2,956,618	110	101
Old	37,733	42,235	50,299	133	119
Total	2,716,787	2,961,416	3,006,917	111	102
Ducks	48,926	41,833	52,058	106	124
Other Poultry	3,130	2,751	2,764	88	100
Total Poultry	31,794,378	32,676,630	33,027,962	104	101
Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	2,741,215	3,098,854	3,191,222	116	103
Mature	14,855	17,347	7,870	53	45
Light	12,437	13,969	5,579	45	40
Heavy	2,418	3,378	2,291	95	68
Total	2,756,070	3,116,201	3,199,092	116	103
Turkeys					
Young	2,833,934	2,740,537	2,627,752	93	96
Old	10,979	10,779	11,017	100	102
Total	2,844,913	2,751,316	2,638,769	93	96
Ducks	75,215	75,026	66,945	89	89
Other Poultry	5,085	4,994	3,693	73	74
Total Poultry	5,681,283	5,947,537	5,908,499	104	99
Total Chilled and Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	31,265,809	32,239,722	32,662,723	104	101
Mature	515,796	547,109	502,592	97	92
Light	161,995	168,659	132,538	82	79
Heavy	353,801	378,450	370,054	105	98
Total	31,781,605	32,786,831	33,165,315	104	101
Turkeys					
Young	5,512,988	5,659,718	5,584,370	101	99
Old	48,712	53,014	61,316	126	116
Total	5,561,700	5,712,732	5,645,686	102	99
Ducks	124,141	116,859	119,003	96	102
Other Poultry	8,215	7,745	6,457	79	83
Total Poultry	37,475,661	38,624,167	38,936,461	104	101

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, December 2003 ¹**

Commodity	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2002
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003	2002	2003	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	14,968	11,043	14,112	94	128	178,884	170,434	95
Mature	1,246	598	621	50	104	17,477	12,733	73
Light	586	220	263	45	120	7,833	5,839	75
Heavy	660	378	358	54	95	9,644	6,894	71
Total	16,214	11,641	14,733	91	127	196,361	183,167	93
Turkeys								
Young	2,467	1,413	1,735	70	123	23,528	25,894	110
Old	58	42	35	60	83	675	1,235	183
Total	2,525	1,455	1,770	70	122	24,203	27,129	112
Ducks	27	24	25	93	104	331	339	102
Other Poultry	6	3				63	28	44
Total Poultry	18,772	13,123	16,528	88	126	220,958	210,663	95
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Percent of Total Weight Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.43	0.34	0.38	88	112	0.41	0.39	95
Mature	1.76	1.09	0.98	56	90	1.92	1.55	81
Light	2.43	1.49	1.33	55	89	2.39	2.23	93
Heavy	1.41	0.94	0.82	58	87	1.66	1.23	74
Total	0.46	0.35	0.39	85	111	0.44	0.41	93
Turkeys								
Young	0.42	0.25	0.32	76	128	0.33	0.37	112
Old	0.76	0.62	0.80	105	129	0.97	1.52	157
Total	0.43	0.25	0.32	74	128	0.33	0.38	115
Ducks	0.19	0.19	0.16	84	84	0.21	0.21	100
Other Poultry	0.65	0.33	0.10	15	30	0.51	0.31	61
Total Poultry	0.46	0.34	0.38	83	112	0.42	0.40	95

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Pounds condemned as a percent of live weight pounds inspected.

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, December 2003 ¹**

Commodity	Dec 2002	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2002
				Dec 2002	Nov 2003	2002	2003	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
N.Y. Dressed Weight								
Chickens								
Young	29,905	23,735	30,996	104	131	381,610	361,636	95
Mature	3,869	2,468	2,975	77	121	47,327	41,894	89
Light	1,952	1,240	1,543	79	124	23,916	22,249	93
Heavy	1,917	1,228	1,432	75	117	23,411	19,645	84
Total	33,774	26,203	33,971	101	130	428,937	403,530	94
Turkeys								
Young	10,529	9,229	9,170	87	99	131,941	123,714	94
Old	412	272	201	49	74	4,165	4,733	114
Total	10,941	9,501	9,371	86	99	136,106	128,447	94
Ducks	280	280	348	124	124	2,992	3,504	117
Other Poultry	13	7	5	38	71	156	132	85
Total Poultry	45,008	35,991	43,695	97	121	568,191	535,613	94
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Percent of Total Weight Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.96	0.81	0.93	97	115	0.97	0.91	94
Mature	6.08	5.00	5.20	86	104	5.79	5.64	97
Light	9.00	9.37	8.67	96	93	8.09	9.46	117
Heavy	4.57	3.40	3.64	80	107	4.49	3.87	86
Total	1.07	0.88	1.00	93	114	1.07	1.00	93
Turkeys								
Young	2.01	1.80	1.85	92	103	2.04	1.94	95
Old	6.03	4.50	5.06	84	112	6.62	6.45	97
Total	2.06	1.83	1.88	91	103	2.08	1.99	96
Ducks	2.24	2.43	2.56	114	105	2.07	2.42	117
Other Poultry	1.65	1.03	1.64	99	159	1.39	1.51	109
Total Poultry	1.21	1.02	1.12	93	110	1.21	1.14	94

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Pounds condemned as a percent of N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
by State and United States, December 2003**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	75,780	86,864	393,574	451,329	5.19	5.20
AR	86,362	95,809	429,887	482,376	4.98	5.03
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
DE	20,326	23,721	130,998	153,653	6.44	6.48
FL	9,328	10,331	52,745	58,087	5.65	5.62
GA	89,376	101,792	450,168	511,821	5.04	5.03
KY	18,311	19,505	97,999	106,346	5.35	5.45
LA	13,979	15,864	71,776	80,063	5.13	5.05
MD	12,701	15,256	62,535	75,484	4.92	4.95
MS	54,553	62,889	295,804	338,407	5.42	5.38
MO	30,096	33,288	139,764	159,637	4.64	4.80
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	50,644	58,066	314,690	364,567	6.21	6.28
OH	3,222	3,697	17,324	19,975	5.38	5.40
PA	7,800	8,952	41,053	47,847	5.26	5.34
SC	18,345	16,214	108,772	92,333	5.93	5.69
TN	15,602	17,949	81,203	94,453	5.20	5.26
TX	47,618	53,207	233,715	263,410	4.91	4.95
VA	24,464	27,155	118,421	134,088	4.84	4.94
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	47,453	56,056	230,624	275,653	4.86	4.92
US	625,960	706,615	3,271,052	3,709,529	5.23	5.25

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by State and United States, December 2003**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent ²	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	291,768	323,913	3,001	3,965	0.85	0.98
AR	313,152	350,794	2,895	3,728	0.75	0.86
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
DE	94,320	110,006	1,548	1,957	1.31	1.42
FL	36,823	41,806	577	668	1.22	1.28
GA	331,256	372,303	2,577	4,482	0.64	0.97
KY	74,445	77,430	547	660	0.62	0.69
LA	52,153	58,898	243	305	0.38	0.42
MD	44,722	53,984	673	823	1.20	1.21
MS	218,461	252,332	2,057	2,286	0.77	0.75
MO	102,742	117,413	855	1,079	0.68	0.75
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	241,673	283,489	2,827	3,678	1.00	1.12
OH	12,433	14,448	216	246	1.39	1.37
PA	29,491	34,020	596	709	1.61	1.65
SC	80,526	68,243	505	668	0.52	0.80
TN	58,935	68,690	566	771	0.77	0.91
TX	181,344	205,680	1,402	1,652	0.67	0.70
VA	86,867	91,057	929	1,171	0.87	0.97
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	170,696	201,938	1,721	2,148	0.83	0.87
US	2,421,807	2,726,444	23,735	30,996	0.81	0.93

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected.

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, November 2003**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL		*	92,778	31,327	*	*
AR		993	128,932	58,440	2,545	1,841
CA		*	73,554	4,763	255	677
DE		753	81,634	26,991	*	*
FL		86	*	*	*	*
GA		*	68,120	34,842	*	3,524
IN		*	5,344	*	*	*
KY		*	30,189	9,586	31	*
LA		195	11,593	3,259	*	108
MD		783	39,313	17,389	47	3,160
MS		530	55,195	20,369	349	584
MO		1,313	52,040	13,391	397	*
NJ		*	*	*	*	*
NY		*	*	*	*	*
NC		499	72,666	32,833	129	12,951
OH		*	15,638	2,150	*	*
PA		116	15,572	8,687	*	436
SC		*	*	*	*	793
TN		108	29,347	7,816	117	451
TX		*	69,907	18,024	207	1,904
VA		230	42,608	*	100	*
WA		*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts		29,415	88,235	51,640	4,058	21,035
US		35,021	972,665	341,507	8,235	47,464
Mature Birds						
Light		1,648	149,684	12,024	101	68,244
Heavy		487	56,733	2,690	235	8,666
US		2,135	206,417	14,714	336	76,910

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, November 2003 (continued)**

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam-ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL	3,229	18,135	16,650	5,872	70,482	243,473
AR	5,908	15,935	24,706	2,494	34,716	276,510
CA	*	*	1,698	*	*	104,106
DE	1,679	12,142	8,870	1,660	18,389	157,178
FL	953	3,902	*	1,493	11,043	53,705
GA	2,663	29,990	8,880	5,554	45,979	200,351
IN	*	*	387	*	*	*
KY	147	6,367	2,408	*	3,691	55,313
LA	284	*	*	*	1,853	24,199
MD	*	8,618	*	*	13,599	102,793
MS	2,533	17,207	12,097	743	50,161	159,768
MO	1,050	8,287	9,149	*	20,665	108,346
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	2,587	343	*	*
NC	3,150	21,438	15,036	4,590	80,430	243,722
OH	*	690	*	*	*	30,415
PA	805	2,566	3,540	129	*	43,361
SC	372	5,037	*	*	*	*
TN	739	7,793	3,275	202	5,992	55,840
TX	884	8,814	5,978	*	7,179	140,067
VA	1,400	8,701	*	4,091	12,852	104,535
WA	*	593	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	5,664	13,757	60,685	8,444	61,140	172,374
US	31,460	189,972	175,946	35,615	438,171	2,276,056
Mature Birds						
Light	5,606	6,823	121,117	248	68,066	433,561
Heavy	1,560	9,694	19,030	705	48,571	148,371
US	7,166	16,517	140,147	953	116,637	581,932

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ The sum of the individual diseases does not add across to the total for "Other States".

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, December 2003**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL		*	118,240	52,274	1,411	*
AR		1,133	168,766	94,133	3,325	2,344
CA		*	74,986	5,297	789	739
DE		3,262	104,241	44,792	*	*
FL		*	*	*	*	*
GA		516	79,578	47,655	443	3,811
IN		*	6,566	*	*	*
KY		*	33,257	*	50	*
LA		*	13,984	5,297	*	137
MD		*	50,197	22,175	*	3,904
MS		227	61,537	32,303	345	549
MO		1,578	67,240	18,966	*	1,825
NJ		*	*	*	*	*
NY		217	*	*	*	*
NC		698	91,806	69,032	109	15,641
OH		29	18,824	2,672	21	*
PA		219	23,350	15,946	120	487
SC		*	*	*	*	*
TN		104	40,543	11,087	136	*
TX		*	80,017	46,892	*	2,273
VA		384	53,998	*	21	*
WA		32	*	3,868	*	*
Oth Sts		6,010	110,829	101,733	4,549	24,904
US		14,409	1,197,959	574,122	11,319	56,614
Mature Birds						
Light		2,523	206,573	12,828	133	89,079
Heavy		699	61,940	4,759	376	10,052
US		3,222	268,513	17,587	509	99,131

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, December 2003 (continued)**

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam-ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL	3,589	21,204	20,928	7,686	102,087	332,314
AR	6,574	19,094	26,261	3,044	41,678	366,352
CA	*	5,813	*	*	14,572	109,315
DE	2,004	17,905	9,926	2,311	23,771	213,754
FL	*	3,865	*	*	12,754	61,568
GA	3,193	34,519	11,379	4,317	71,541	256,952
IN	83	*	*	*	*	*
KY	205	8,569	3,183	1,339	3,798	68,563
LA	449	3,578	*	*	*	28,488
MD	*	18,392	*	1,198	16,322	140,061
MS	2,681	17,740	10,922	406	45,918	172,628
MO	1,233	*	9,720	437	22,070	141,675
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	3,094	338	*	*
NC	3,531	32,384	16,672	5,536	108,827	344,236
OH	*	577	*	*	*	31,550
PA	1,377	4,855	3,576	936	14,303	65,169
SC	*	3,972	*	*	*	*
TN	951	11,958	3,986	*	13,051	84,857
TX	1,107	7,296	7,776	1,885	11,213	159,604
VA	1,476	10,928	*	*	16,009	134,955
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	8,583	24,413	67,908	12,874	71,579	253,611
US	37,036	247,062	195,331	42,307	589,493	2,965,652
Mature Birds						
Light	6,664	10,205	121,023	1,566	78,424	529,018
Heavy	1,749	10,027	21,250	2,527	59,282	172,661
US	8,413	20,232	142,273	4,093	137,706	701,679

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ The sum of the individual diseases does not add across to the total for "Other States".

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, by State and United States, December 2003

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AR	2,884	2,781	51,313	50,360	17.79	18.11
CA	2,369	*	50,697	*	21.40	*
IA	1,422	1,432	43,138	45,140	30.33	31.52
MN	3,092	2,700	80,483	78,605	26.03	29.12
MO	1,430	1,435	41,366	43,051	28.93	30.00
NC	3,080	2,867	80,000	77,867	25.97	27.16
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	8,136	9,236	223,819	254,695	27.51	27.58
US	22,413	20,451	570,816	549,718	25.47	26.88

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, December 2003

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	November	December	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent ²	
			November	December	November	December
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	41,711	41,847	732	733	1.58	1.62
CA	40,099	*	1,018	*	2.23	*
IA	33,327	33,672	903	1,052	2.32	2.59
MN	64,308	62,375	1,368	1,340	1.89	1.89
MO	32,330	33,582	966	986	2.60	2.54
NC	62,968	61,485	993	1,020	1.38	1.46
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	175,521	201,306	3,249	4,039	1.61	1.76
US	450,264	434,267	9,229	9,170	1.80	1.85

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected.

**Turkeys Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, November 2003**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young (Mature)						
AR			7,467	556	*	*
CA		7	10,529	607	*	*
IA			5,731	1,416	*	*
MN		*	*	*	683	15
MO			9,097	*		
NC		*	3,634	*		*
OH		*	*	49	*	*
PA		*	*	270	*	*
VA		*	*	*		*
Other States		250	47,112	7,023	2,795	167
US		257	83,570	9,921	3,478	182
Old (Breeders)						
US		1	3,241	607	255	101
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young (Mature)						
AR	28	*	*	*	1,610	13,126
CA	*	524	349	*	1,438	13,945
IA	72	365	434	*	*	10,404
MN	*	712	814	*	2,180	24,150
MO	*	*	233	5	*	14,305
NC	*	*	342	*	725	5,989
OH	15	89	47	*	*	*
PA	114	*	*	26	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other States	523	4,610	3,547	1,250	8,699	44,219
US	752	6,300	5,766	1,281	14,652	126,159
Old (Breeders)						
US	21	147	90	13	498	4,974

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ The sum of the individual diseases does not add across to the total for "Other States".

**Turkeys Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, December 2003**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young (Mature)						
AR			9,289	1,053	*	*
CA		*	6,822	275		*
IA			7,168	1,859	*	
MN		*	16,378	*	*	*
MO			13,104	*		
NC		*	3,434	*	*	*
OH		*	*	*	*	*
PA		*	*	607	*	2
VA		*	*	*	*	*
Other States		432	32,235	5,650	4,282	52
US		432	88,430	9,444	4,282	54
Old (Breeders)						
US		2	2,425	590	12	82
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young (Mature)						
AR	*	960	*	*	*	14,107
CA	*	290	275	*	982	9,122
IA	103	365	900	*	634	12,745
MN	*	444	567	*	1,670	21,544
MO	28	500	230	*	1,041	15,700
NC	33	694	385	*	1,241	6,423
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	201	18	947	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other States	543	2,985	2,762	1,576	5,858	49,233
US	707	6,238	5,320	1,594	12,373	128,874
Old (Breeders)						
US	39	100	90	15	593	3,948

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosing individual operations.

¹ The sum of the individual diseases does not add across to the total for "Other States".

Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection Form (FSIS 6000-21). This form is completed by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA for all 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. Data are summarized weekly and accumulated to monthly totals for this release.

Data for 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 is a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it has only a minimal impact on the published 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.

State data are published for selected states for young chickens and young turkeys. State data are not 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 live weight for that species. Data for all states not published are included in the "Other States" category. Also included in this category are data for published states that are confidential (denoted by an *). Data for all states are included in the U.S. totals. For 2002, young chickens were killed in 34 states, young turkeys in 21 states.

Definitions

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. Included with young turkeys.

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 USDA 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.

The next "*Poultry Slaughter*" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on March 8, 2004.

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