



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 10 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during March 2004 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.43 billion pounds, up 10 percent from the amount certified in March 2003. Updated totals for February 2004 show that 2.91 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during March 2004 was 4.64 billion pounds, up 11 percent from a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.96 billion pounds, up 13 percent from March 2003, and mature chickens at 68.2 million pounds, were up 1 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 597 million pounds, up slightly, and ducks totaled 14.9 million pounds, up 16 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during March 2004 averaged 5.16 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from March 2003. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.39 pounds per bird, unchanged from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during March 2004 averaged 26.5 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from March 2003.

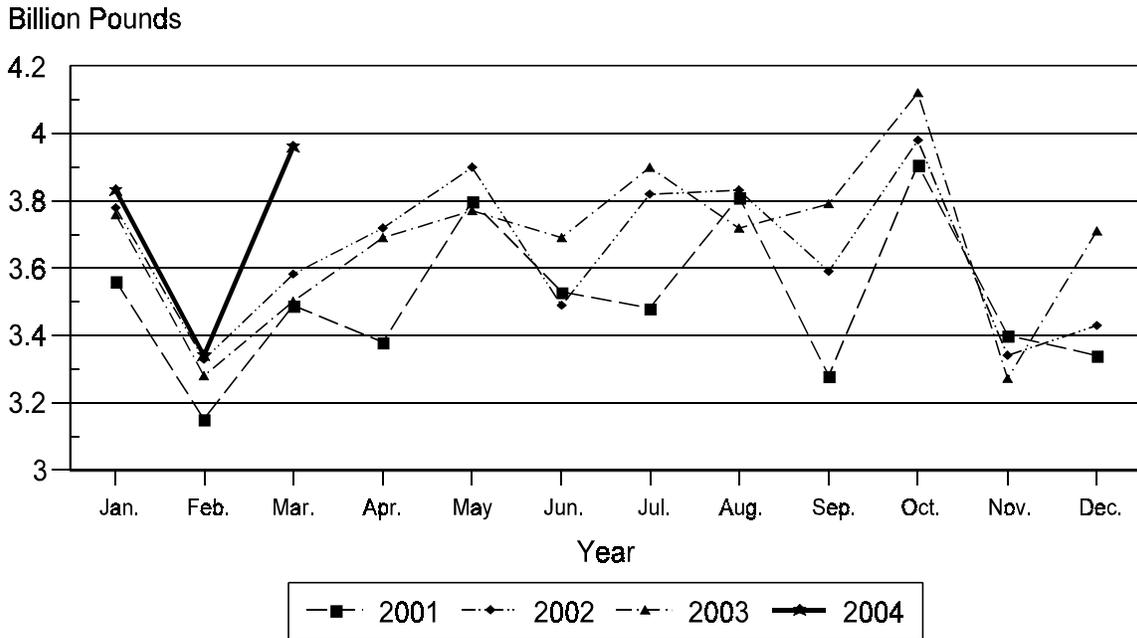
Ante-mortem condemnations during March 2004 totaled 19.7 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.42 percent of the live weight inspected, compared to 0.41 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 55.7 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.34 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.25 percent a year earlier.

March 2004 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays.
March 2003 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays.

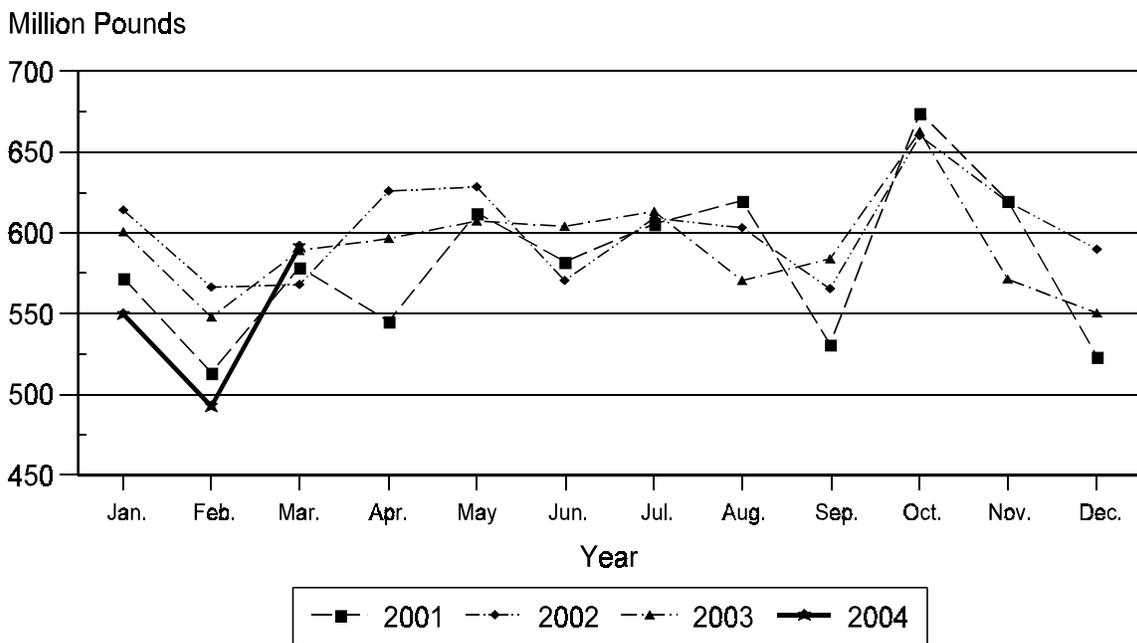
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Young Chickens: Live Weight Slaughtered, by Month, 2001-2004



Young Turkeys: Live Weight Slaughtered, by Month, 2001-2004



**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, March 2004¹**

Commodity	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Percent of	
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004
	<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	683,185	647,799	766,867	112	118
Mature	12,559	9,755	12,648	101	130
Light	6,963	5,249	6,148	88	117
Heavy	5,596	4,506	6,500	116	144
Total	695,744	657,554	779,515	112	119
Turkeys					
Young	21,462	18,339	22,316	104	122
Old	189	107	229	121	214
Total	21,651	18,446	22,545	104	122
Ducks	1,964	1,940	2,237	114	115
	<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	3,505,352	3,338,079	3,957,173	113	119
Mature	67,751	53,115	68,151	101	128
Light	23,586	17,133	20,620	87	120
Heavy	44,165	35,982	47,531	108	132
Total	3,573,103	3,391,194	4,025,324	113	119
Turkeys					
Young	588,863	491,692	590,863	100	120
Old	5,217	2,830	6,103	117	216
Total	594,080	494,522	596,966	100	121
Ducks	12,860	13,050	14,912	116	114
Other Poultry	774	242	393	51	162
Total Poultry	4,180,817	3,899,008	4,637,595	111	119
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Average Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	5.13	5.15	5.16	101	100
Mature	5.39	5.44	5.39	100	99
Light	3.39	3.26	3.35	99	103
Heavy	7.89	7.99	7.31	93	91
Total	5.14	5.16	5.16	100	100
Turkeys					
Young	27.44	26.81	26.48	97	99
Old	27.55	26.37	26.71	97	101
Total	27.44	26.81	26.48	97	99
Ducks	6.55	6.73	6.67	102	99

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, March 2004 ¹ (continued)**

Commodity	January to Date			Percent of	
	2002	2003	2004	2002	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	2,082,048	2,042,277	2,137,252	103	105
Mature	43,031	39,147	33,728	78	86
Light	26,379	22,003	17,235	65	78
Heavy	16,652	17,144	16,493	99	96
Total	2,125,079	2,081,424	2,170,980	102	104
Turkeys					
Young	62,790	62,828	60,601	97	96
Old	526	686	543	103	79
Total	63,316	63,514	61,144	97	96
Ducks	6,048	6,090	6,330	105	104
	<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	10,629,696	10,555,414	11,125,223	105	105
Mature	220,077	208,539	185,376	84	89
Light	89,710	74,286	57,941	65	78
Heavy	130,367	134,253	127,435	98	95
Total	10,849,773	10,763,953	11,310,599	104	105
Turkeys					
Young	1,737,453	1,732,898	1,631,691	94	94
Old	14,801	18,809	14,928	101	79
Total	1,752,254	1,751,707	1,646,619	94	94
Ducks	40,990	40,047	42,570	104	106
Other Poultry	2,085	2,443	857	41	35
Total Poultry	12,645,102	12,558,150	13,000,645	103	104
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Average Live Weight					
Chickens					
Young	5.11	5.17	5.21	102	101
Mature	5.11	5.33	5.50	108	103
Light	3.40	3.38	3.36	99	99
Heavy	7.83	7.83	7.73	99	99
Total	5.11	5.17	5.21	102	101
Turkeys					
Young	27.67	27.58	26.93	97	98
Old	28.15	27.40	27.49	98	100
Total	27.68	27.58	26.93	97	98
Ducks	6.78	6.58	6.73	99	102

¹ Federally inspected only.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, March 2004 ¹**

Commodity	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Percent of	
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Chilled					
Chickens					
Young	2,340,477	2,260,926	2,673,963	114	118
Mature	40,185	31,957	44,539	111	139
Light	11,222	8,794	10,454	93	119
Heavy	28,963	23,163	34,085	118	147
Total	2,380,662	2,292,883	2,718,502	114	119
Turkeys					
Young	245,724	211,816	260,567	106	123
Old	3,411	2,033	3,616	106	178
Total	249,135	213,849	264,183	106	124
Ducks	2,972	6,240	7,111	239	114
Other Poultry	162	122	210	130	172
Total Poultry	2,632,931	2,513,094	2,990,006	114	119
Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	251,919	210,582	230,492	91	109
Mature	952	387	551	58	142
Light	781		64	8	
Heavy	171	387	487	285	126
Total	252,871	210,969	231,043	91	110
Turkeys					
Young	218,913	177,190	205,911	94	116
Old	417	154	688	165	447
Total	219,330	177,344	206,599	94	116
Ducks	5,994	3,942	4,502	75	114
Other Poultry	295	34	25	8	74
Total Poultry	478,490	392,289	442,169	92	113
Total Chilled and Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	2,592,396	2,471,508	2,904,455	112	118
Mature	41,137	32,344	45,090	110	139
Light	12,003	8,794	10,518	88	120
Heavy	29,134	23,550	34,572	119	147
Total	2,633,533	2,503,852	2,949,545	112	118
Turkeys					
Young	464,637	389,006	466,478	100	120
Old	3,828	2,187	4,304	112	197
Total	468,465	391,193	470,782	100	120
Ducks	8,966	10,182	11,613	130	114
Other Poultry	457	156	235	51	151
Total Poultry	3,111,421	2,905,383	3,432,175	110	118

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, March 2004¹ (continued)**

Commodity	January to Date			Percent of	
	2002	2003	2004	2002	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	7,123,731	7,040,457	7,489,746	105	106
Mature	127,623	123,211	115,535	91	94
Light	42,978	35,668	29,632	69	83
Heavy	84,645	87,543	85,903	101	98
Total	7,251,354	7,163,668	7,605,281	105	106
Turkeys					
Young	673,379	719,562	711,635	106	99
Old	9,200	12,069	9,472	103	78
Total	682,579	731,631	721,107	106	99
Ducks	11,544	9,738	20,483	177	210
Other Poultry	568	585	461	81	79
Total Poultry	7,946,045	7,905,622	8,347,332	105	106
Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	694,814	746,012	711,451	102	95
Mature	3,979	2,674	1,108	28	41
Light	3,380	2,073	64	2	3
Heavy	599	601	1,044	174	174
Total	698,793	748,686	712,559	102	95
Turkeys					
Young	693,532	646,349	579,336	84	90
Old	2,006	1,682	1,563	78	93
Total	695,538	648,031	580,899	84	90
Ducks	19,434	18,751	12,726	65	68
Other Poultry	721	909	98	14	11
Total Poultry	1,414,486	1,416,377	1,306,282	92	92
Total Chilled and Frozen					
Chickens					
Young	7,818,545	7,786,469	8,201,197	105	105
Mature	131,602	125,885	116,643	89	93
Light	46,358	37,741	29,696	64	79
Heavy	85,244	88,144	86,947	102	99
Total	7,950,147	7,912,354	8,317,840	105	105
Turkeys					
Young	1,366,911	1,365,911	1,290,971	94	95
Old	11,206	13,751	11,035	98	80
Total	1,378,117	1,379,662	1,302,006	94	94
Ducks	30,978	28,489	33,209	107	117
Other Poultry	1,289	1,494	559	43	37
Total Poultry	9,360,531	9,321,999	9,653,614	103	104

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, March 2004 ¹**

Commodity	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2003
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	13,082	14,472	16,362	125	113	45,653	47,592	104
Mature	857	637	786	92	123	3,071	2,601	85
Light	508	223	264	52	118	1,706	945	55
Heavy	349	414	522	150	126	1,365	1,656	121
Total	13,939	15,109	17,148	123	113	48,724	50,193	103
Turkeys								
Young	3,079	1,924	2,508	81	130	7,275	6,525	90
Old	110	33	25	23	76	494	98	20
Total	3,189	1,957	2,533	79	129	7,769	6,623	85
Ducks	21	30	27	129	90	78	82	105
Other Poultry	3	1				11	1	9
Total Poultry	17,152	17,097	19,708	115	115	56,582	56,899	101
	<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	0.37	0.43	0.41	111	95	0.43	0.43	100
Mature	1.26	1.20	1.15	91	96	1.47	1.40	95
Light	2.15	1.30	1.28	60	98	2.30	1.63	71
Heavy	0.79	1.15	1.10	139	96	1.02	1.30	127
Total	0.39	0.45	0.43	110	96	0.45	0.44	98
Turkeys								
Young	0.52	0.39	0.42	81	108	0.42	0.40	95
Old	2.11	1.15	0.41	19	36	2.63	0.65	25
Total	0.54	0.40	0.42	78	105	0.44	0.40	91
Ducks	0.16	0.23	0.18	113	78	0.19	0.19	100
Other Poultry	0.34	0.44	0.10	29	23	0.42	0.19	45
Total Poultry	0.41	0.44	0.42	102	95	0.45	0.44	98

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, March 2004 ¹**

Commodity	Mar 2003	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2003
				Mar 2003	Feb 2004	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
N.Y. Dressed Weight								
Chickens								
Young	31,381	39,608	40,035	128	101	95,057	111,789	118
Mature	3,593	2,754	3,335	93	121	11,861	9,145	77
Light	2,011	1,716	1,548	77	90	6,563	4,840	74
Heavy	1,582	1,038	1,787	113	172	5,298	4,305	81
Total	34,974	42,362	43,370	124	102	106,918	120,934	113
Turkeys								
Young	11,222	9,111	11,472	102	126	31,822	30,020	94
Old	439	226	494	113	219	1,401	1,062	76
Total	11,661	9,337	11,966	103	128	33,223	31,082	94
Ducks	274	348	382	139	110	830	1,080	130
Other Poultry	18	5	9	50	180	45	17	38
Total Poultry	46,927	52,052	55,727	119	107	141,016	153,113	109
	<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	0.99	1.32	1.12	113	85	1.00	1.12	112
Mature	5.89	5.76	5.44	92	94	6.32	5.48	87
Light	9.47	11.13	8.34	88	75	9.82	9.28	95
Heavy	3.98	3.20	4.18	105	131	4.38	3.75	86
Total	1.09	1.39	1.20	110	86	1.10	1.19	108
Turkeys								
Young	2.12	2.06	2.16	102	105	2.04	2.04	100
Old	9.35	8.87	8.99	96	101	8.28	7.90	95
Total	2.18	2.10	2.23	102	106	2.11	2.10	100
Ducks	2.37	2.97	2.84	120	96	2.30	2.82	123
Other Poultry	2.61	2.23	2.74	105	123	2.03	2.28	112
Total Poultry	1.25	1.48	1.34	107	91	1.25	1.31	105

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, March 2004**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	<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	78,773	93,271	403,971	484,867	5.13	5.20
AR	89,775	107,209	444,569	518,082	4.95	4.83
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
DE	21,401	24,248	134,984	155,574	6.31	6.42
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	96,228	106,673	460,223	523,971	4.78	4.91
KY	18,522	24,365	96,923	119,963	5.23	4.92
LA	11,993	17,088	66,924	94,452	5.58	5.53
MD	11,825	12,993	58,559	65,776	4.95	5.06
MS	58,134	70,439	314,157	372,980	5.40	5.30
MO	29,366	35,808	135,158	154,438	4.60	4.31
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	49,676	59,253	302,802	361,766	6.10	6.11
OH	3,010	3,491	16,180	18,678	5.38	5.35
PA	9,607	9,989	44,821	52,089	4.67	5.21
SC	18,796	22,201	104,220	131,527	5.54	5.92
TN	17,174	19,572	88,349	101,470	5.14	5.18
TX	46,303	56,930	235,063	287,992	5.08	5.06
VA	25,331	28,839	123,916	140,590	4.89	4.87
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	61,885	74,498	307,260	372,958	4.97	5.01
US	647,799	766,867	3,338,079	3,957,173	5.15	5.16

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

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by State and United States, March 2004**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent ²	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	<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	296,343	349,825	4,463	5,219	1.23	1.20
AR	325,342	374,314	4,546	4,922	1.14	1.06
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
DE	98,869	111,759	1,780	2,140	1.47	1.53
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	336,534	377,318	4,539	5,638	1.10	1.20
KY	70,998	88,567	781	795	0.90	0.74
LA	47,710	63,590	330	419	0.55	0.49
MD	41,944	47,173	674	757	1.28	1.28
MS	239,827	279,147	2,912	2,679	1.03	0.80
MO	99,619	111,150	1,393	1,538	1.14	1.11
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	229,012	282,217	4,274	4,505	1.57	1.38
OH	11,906	13,760	185	261	1.27	1.55
PA	31,074	36,446	743	822	1.84	1.75
SC	83,701	98,855	725	887	0.77	0.75
TN	63,530	76,948	948	818	1.19	0.90
TX	180,483	223,205	3,479	3,480	1.64	1.34
VA	91,625	102,689	4,565	1,340	4.09	1.06
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	222,991	267,492	3,271	3,815	1.18	1.14
US	2,471,508	2,904,455	39,608	40,035	1.32	1.12

* 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, February 2004**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL		*	127,711	56,063	*	3,780
AR	*	*	182,411	136,270	3,113	2,052
CA	*	*	*	4,618	1,034	1,038
DE		*	93,702	52,057	26	*
FL		*	*	*	*	*
GA	*	381	82,367	70,691	*	4,295
IN		*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	28,017	*	23	*
LA	*	*	16,234	6,897	*	166
MD		*	42,043	28,920	38	*
MS		*	64,385	45,251	*	603
MO		1,009	78,331	31,523	463	1,901
NJ		*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	*	485	94,200	78,204	*	10,458
OH		*	14,320	*	*	*
PA		*	22,552	14,649	192	576
SC	*	*	14,729	*	23	1,105
TN	*	109	44,059	17,158	291	945
TX	*	70	116,886	*	497	2,878
VA	*	256	50,367	*	7	*
WA		*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	4,079	19,287	185,023	263,517	2,767	20,654
US	4,079	21,608	1,257,337	805,818	8,474	50,451
Mature Birds						
Light		2,681	199,251	12,731	141	98,187
Heavy	258	773	47,307	2,825	266	7,409
US	258	3,454	246,558	15,556	407	105,596

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, February 2004 (continued)**

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam-ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL	3,369	25,871	22,220	10,819	134,356	385,311
AR	7,176	27,462	31,615	1,371	106,944	499,525
CA	*	*	1,826	487	8,751	120,023
DE	2,012	10,332	10,883	2,692	33,528	221,266
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	3,047	35,881	10,549	7,420	138,241	353,068
IN	49	*	282	*	*	18,592
KY	161	5,915	*	*	7,663	77,146
LA	*	2,663	*	285	*	32,392
MD	*	11,274	*	529	*	151,663
MS	2,479	17,362	11,176	669	65,783	209,493
MO	1,205	9,124	7,752	774	37,854	169,936
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	2,356	447	*	*
NC	3,076	32,557	16,921	7,070	130,795	374,043
OH	*	837	*	*	*	25,762
PA	1,315	3,710	3,938	*	25,520	74,074
SC	609	*	1,292	*	3,559	41,313
TN	1,203	9,886	4,646	*	*	98,846
TX	881	7,919	7,077	1,950	18,239	312,486
VA	1,356	9,503	*	*	20,441	132,033
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	6,218	25,257	56,389	10,061	122,987	208,661
US	34,156	235,553	188,922	44,574	854,661	3,505,633
Mature Birds						
Light	4,638	6,804	131,695	956	126,371	583,455
Heavy	1,115	9,580	12,962	976	35,945	119,416
US	5,753	16,384	144,657	1,932	162,316	702,871

* 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, March 2004**

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL	*	*	116,825	51,887	*	*
AR		768	198,687	115,685	3,481	2,264
CA		1,308	*	5,177	367	801
DE		*	110,208	57,479	43	*
FL		*	*	*	*	*
GA	*	590	83,589	60,150	*	4,752
IN		*	*	*	*	*
KY		*	41,302	15,255	*	*
LA		72	18,456	6,595	54	*
MD		*	44,522	30,204	33	*
MS		228	68,841	35,282	560	734
MO		1,643	90,358	30,828	454	2,079
NJ		*	*	*	*	*
NY		*	*	*	*	*
NC		1,005	112,041	78,245	139	11,314
OH		*	20,370	*	*	67
PA		*	27,294	21,693	301	566
SC	*	*	14,189	*	28	1,075
TN		*	43,768	15,054	186	715
TX	*	*	120,473	91,264	368	2,575
VA		238	49,402	24,409	*	*
WA		*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	44	24,152	210,784	49,076	2,826	22,878
US	44	30,028	1,371,109	688,283	8,840	49,820
Mature Birds						
Light		2,583	192,519	12,360	141	82,258
Heavy		684	61,143	3,529	222	10,953
US		3,267	253,662	15,889	363	93,211

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, March 2004 (continued)**

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam-ination	Overscald	Other	Total ¹
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young Birds						
AL	4,329	24,643	20,670	7,251	159,053	389,497
AR	8,336	21,376	32,351	3,093	68,541	454,582
CA	737	5,874	2,207	*	*	133,556
DE	2,584	11,342	11,404	*	49,686	261,925
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	3,645	32,792	10,569	7,659	103,838	307,955
IN	85	*	342	*	*	*
KY	198	6,645	4,170	*	*	82,467
LA	*	3,049	2,772	*	3,108	37,611
MD	*	8,830	*	*	*	149,349
MS	2,553	17,935	10,904	531	62,120	199,688
MO	1,282	*	9,929	*	47,228	198,076
NJ	*	*	*	*	*	*
NY	*	*	2,459	336	4,131	15,440
NC	3,843	29,298	22,638	8,353	162,384	429,260
OH	126	806	*	*	*	34,738
PA	1,173	4,160	5,604	*	28,486	89,755
SC	629	*	2,003	*	5,458	49,198
TN	970	8,857	4,403	564	*	87,643
TX	1,090	8,307	9,583	805	24,519	259,059
VA	1,553	10,253	8,787	2,325	33,597	134,222
WA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	5,038	33,129	46,697	13,197	124,614	227,939
US	38,171	227,296	207,492	44,114	876,763	3,541,960
Mature Birds						
Light	6,528	9,668	137,748	1,269	79,370	524,444
Heavy	1,710	14,610	21,540	1,786	75,626	191,803
US	8,238	24,278	159,288	3,055	154,996	716,247

* 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, March 2004

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	<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	2,649	3,015	47,024	55,343	17.75	18.35
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
IA	*	*	*	*	*	*
MN	2,578	2,917	69,877	80,766	27.11	27.68
MO	1,446	1,551	42,565	45,498	29.44	29.34
NC	2,703	3,659	70,466	88,282	26.07	24.13
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	8,963	11,174	261,760	320,974	29.20	28.73
US	18,339	22,316	491,692	590,863	26.81	26.48

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

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, March 2004

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent ²	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	<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	39,299	45,804	672	766	1.59	1.54
CA	*	*	*	*	*	*
IA	*	*	*	*	*	*
MN	55,897	64,693	1,343	2,331	2.14	3.21
MO	35,003	34,787	973	1,000	2.54	2.44
NC	56,729	68,664	835	1,069	1.32	1.34
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	202,078	252,530	5,288	6,306	2.24	2.18
US	389,006	466,478	9,111	11,472	2.06	2.16

* 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, February 2004**

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		*	*	906	16	*
CA		*	*	*	*	9
IA			*	*	*	*
MN		*	17,234	2,286	*	*
MO			10,027	*	*	*
NC			*	*	3	*
OH		*	*	*	*	*
PA		*	*	382	*	2
VA		*	*	*	*	
Other States	4,798	41	46,382	12,288	3,750	72
US	4,798	41	73,643	15,862	3,769	83
Old (Breeders)						
US			3,626	351	23	74
	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	*	633	*	*	1,374	*
CA	*	*	*	231	*	*
IA	73	433	*	*	*	*
MN	*	*	529	*	2,259	23,674
MO	*	*	361	*	*	13,264
NC	*	*	376	184	*	11,057
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	894	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other States	797	5,460	3,611	2,084	10,815	80,315
US	870	6,526	4,877	2,499	15,342	128,310
Old (Breeders)						
US	8	42	81	2	680	4,887

* 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, March 2004**

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		2	6,551	*	*	*
CA		*	*	41	*	*
IA			4,625	1,722	*	*
MN		*	19,721	*	*	*
MO		*	11,247	*	*	*
NC			*	*		*
OH		*	*	*	*	
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA		*	*	*	*	*
Other States	3	33	37,140	14,355	4,797	82
US	3	35	79,284	16,118	4,797	82
Old (Breeders)						
US		1	8,287	486	28	84
	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	*	626	*	*	1,480	11,047
CA	50	*	*	224	*	*
IA	74	481	467	*	299	9,536
MN	*	648	588	*	1,732	28,209
MO	*	*	302	*	*	14,696
NC	83	1,172	513	274	1,703	7,869
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	*	*
VA	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other States	562	3,104	2,692	599	8,915	55,550
US	769	6,031	4,562	1,097	14,129	126,907
Old (Breeders)						
US	32	159	162	25	2,159	11,423

* 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 June 7, 2004.

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