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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

# Poultry Slaughter

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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 4 Percent From Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during September 2006 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.39 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the amount certified in September 2005. August 2006 revised certified total at 3.70 billion pounds, was up 1 percent from August 2005. The August revision represented a decrease of 33.7 million pounds or 0.9 percent from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during September 2006 was 4.59 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 4.71 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.93 billion pounds, down 3 percent from September 2005. Mature chickens, at 62.1 million pounds, were down 8 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 584 million pounds, up 2 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 15.2 million pounds, down 3 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 2006 averaged 5.52 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from September 2005. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.23 pounds per bird, up 7 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2006 averaged 27.8 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from September 2005.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 2006 totaled 14.3 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.36 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 41.1 million pounds, were 1.20 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.26 percent a year earlier.

September 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays, while September 2005 had 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.



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**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,  
United States, September, 2005-2006<sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2005
				Sep 2005	Aug 2006	2005	2006	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Number Slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	750,057	793,371	711,232	95	90	6,669,899	6,666,948	100
Mature	11,616	11,571	9,976	86	86	112,332	99,771	89
Light	5,431	4,329	4,020	74	93	57,040	41,717	73
Heavy	6,185	7,242	5,956	96	82	55,292	58,054	105
Total	761,673	804,942	721,208	95	90	6,782,231	6,766,719	100
Turkeys								
Young	20,952	23,099	20,819	99	90	181,673	185,635	102
Old	188	307	213	113	69	1,791	1,928	108
Total	21,140	23,406	21,032	99	90	183,464	187,563	102
Ducks	2,313	2,414	2,263	98	94	20,457	21,067	103
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	4,054,261	4,250,058	3,926,646	97	92	35,589,767	36,325,919	102
Mature	67,855	73,649	62,145	92	84	636,630	608,886	96
Light	17,991	14,459	13,455	75	93	188,846	139,307	74
Heavy	49,864	59,190	48,690	98	82	447,784	469,579	105
Total	4,122,116	4,323,707	3,988,791	97	92	36,226,397	36,934,805	102
Turkeys								
Young	568,585	622,907	578,717	102	93	5,131,535	5,271,473	103
Old	4,850	7,561	5,614	116	74	47,077	50,498	107
Total	573,435	630,468	584,331	102	93	5,178,612	5,321,971	103
Ducks	15,720	15,511	15,225	97	98	137,391	141,647	103
Other Poultry <sup>2</sup>	1,745	407	1,327	76	326	5,180	3,993	77
Total Poultry	4,713,016	4,970,093	4,589,674	97	92	41,547,580	42,402,416	102
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Avg Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	5.41	5.36	5.52	102	103	5.34	5.45	102
Mature	5.84	6.36	6.23	107	98	5.67	6.10	108
Light	3.31	3.34	3.35	101	100	3.31	3.34	101
Heavy	8.06	8.17	8.17	101	100	8.10	8.09	100
Total	5.41	5.37	5.53	102	103	5.34	5.46	102
Turkeys								
Young	27.14	26.97	27.80	102	103	28.25	28.40	101
Old	25.94	24.63	26.36	102	107	26.29	26.19	100
Total	27.13	26.94	27.78	102	103	28.23	28.37	100
Ducks	6.80	6.43	6.73	99	105	6.72	6.72	100

<sup>1</sup> Federally inspected only.

<sup>2</sup> Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
United States, September, 2005-2006<sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2005
				Sep 2005	Aug 2006	2005	2006	
				<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	
<b>Chilled</b>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Chickens								
Young	2,718,969	2,832,966	2,596,706	96	92	23,962,196	24,389,484	102
Mature	41,981	45,940	39,441	94	86	389,391	379,193	97
Light	9,054	7,346	6,895	76	94	96,629	71,049	74
Heavy	32,927	38,594	32,546	99	84	292,762	308,144	105
Total	2,760,950	2,878,906	2,636,147	95	92	24,351,587	24,768,677	102
Turkeys								
Young	251,572	271,483	257,451	102	95	2,283,207	2,319,265	102
Old	2,517	5,002	3,168	126	63	28,837	31,817	110
Total	254,089	276,485	260,619	103	94	2,312,044	2,351,082	102
Ducks	5,624	5,396	5,222	93	97	50,275	51,069	102
Other Poultry <sup>2</sup>	251	181	171	68	94	1,888	1,583	84
<b>Total Poultry</b>	<b>3,020,914</b>	<b>3,160,968</b>	<b>2,902,159</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>26,715,794</b>	<b>27,172,411</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young	292,155	308,047	284,627	97	92	2,498,947	2,556,424	102
Mature	254	342	267	105	78	3,661	3,343	91
Light			23			8	122	1,525
Heavy	254	342	244	96	71	3,653	3,221	88
Total	292,409	308,389	284,894	97	92	2,502,608	2,559,767	102
Turkeys								
Young	199,177	222,124	199,191	100	90	1,780,709	1,855,296	104
Old	1,213	756	1,146	94	152	6,716	6,629	99
Total	200,390	222,880	200,337	100	90	1,787,425	1,861,925	104
Ducks	5,674	5,733	5,577	98	97	48,368	50,403	104
Other Poultry <sup>2</sup>	797	32	544	68	1,700	1,275	773	61
<b>Total Poultry</b>	<b>499,270</b>	<b>537,034</b>	<b>491,352</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>4,339,676</b>	<b>4,472,868</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>Total Chilled and Frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young	3,011,124	3,141,013	2,881,333	96	92	26,461,143	26,945,908	102
Mature	42,235	46,282	39,708	94	86	393,052	382,536	97
Light	9,054	7,346	6,918	76	94	96,637	71,171	74
Heavy	33,181	38,936	32,790	99	84	296,415	311,365	105
Total	3,053,359	3,187,295	2,921,041	96	92	26,854,195	27,328,444	102
Turkeys								
Young	450,749	493,607	456,642	101	93	4,063,916	4,174,561	103
Old	3,730	5,758	4,314	116	75	35,553	38,446	108
Total	454,479	499,365	460,956	101	92	4,099,469	4,213,007	103
Ducks	11,298	11,129	10,799	96	97	98,643	101,472	103
Other Poultry <sup>2</sup>	1,048	213	715	68	336	3,163	2,356	74
<b>Total Poultry</b>	<b>3,520,184</b>	<b>3,698,002</b>	<b>3,393,511</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>31,055,470</b>	<b>31,645,279</b>	<b>102</b>

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Includes geese, guineas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,  
United States, September, 2005-2006<sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2005
				Sep 2005	Aug 2006	2005	2006	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	14,278	20,027	11,891	83	59	129,101	129,219	100
Mature	1,085	1,805	752	69	42	10,259	9,395	92
Light	415	578	214	52	37	3,792	2,860	75
Heavy	670	1,227	538	80	44	6,467	6,535	101
Total	15,363	21,832	12,643	82	58	139,360	138,614	99
Turkeys								
Young	1,529	2,044	1,580	103	77	14,714	15,891	108
Old	29	124	44	152	35	412	602	146
Total	1,558	2,168	1,624	104	75	15,126	16,493	109
Ducks	34	52	47	138	90	300	341	114
Other Poultry	5		4	80		11	5	45
Total Poultry	16,960	24,052	14,318	84	60	154,797	155,453	100
	<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 Live Weight Condemned <sup>2</sup>								
Chickens								
Young	0.35	0.47	0.30	86	64	0.36	0.36	100
Mature	1.60	2.45	1.21	76	49	1.61	1.54	96
Light	2.31	4.00	1.59	69	40	2.01	2.05	102
Heavy	1.34	2.07	1.10	82	53	1.44	1.39	97
Total	0.37	0.50	0.32	86	64	0.38	0.38	100
Turkeys								
Young	0.27	0.33	0.27	100	82	0.29	0.30	103
Old	0.62	1.64	0.78	126	48	0.88	1.19	135
Total	0.27	0.34	0.28	104	82	0.29	0.31	107
Ducks	0.22	0.34	0.31	141	91	0.22	0.24	109
Other Poultry	0.23		0.30	130		0.21	0.13	62
Total Poultry	0.36	0.48	0.31	86	65	0.37	0.37	100

<sup>1</sup> Federally inspected only.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as a percent of live weight pounds inspected.

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,  
United States, September, 2005-2006<sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	Sep 2005	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2005
				Sep 2005	Aug 2006	2005	2006	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
<b>Carcass and Parts</b>								
Chickens								
Young	33,080	33,490	29,283	89	87	314,148	312,202	99
Mature	2,777	3,090	2,752	99	89	28,017	26,268	94
Light	1,281	1,139	1,097	86	96	14,210	11,115	78
Heavy	1,496	1,951	1,655	111	85	13,807	15,153	110
Total	35,857	36,580	32,035	89	88	342,165	338,470	99
Turkeys								
Young	8,544	9,268	8,534	100	92	77,843	77,456	100
Old	248	319	208	84	65	2,720	2,168	80
Total	8,792	9,587	8,742	99	91	80,563	79,624	99
Ducks	322	388	363	113	94	3,268	3,447	105
Other Poultry	13	4	9	69	225	60	49	82
<b>Total Poultry</b>	<b>44,984</b>	<b>46,559</b>	<b>41,149</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>426,056</b>	<b>421,590</b>	<b>99</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Percent of Weight Condemned<sup>2</sup></b>								
Chickens								
Young	1.09	1.05	1.01	93	95	1.17	1.15	98
Mature	6.17	6.26	6.48	105	104	6.65	6.43	97
Light	12.39	13.42	13.69	110	102	12.82	13.51	105
Heavy	4.31	4.77	4.80	111	101	4.45	4.64	104
Total	1.16	1.13	1.08	93	96	1.26	1.22	97
Turkeys								
Young	1.86	1.84	1.83	99	100	1.88	1.82	97
Old	6.23	5.25	4.60	74	88	7.11	5.34	75
Total	1.90	1.88	1.86	98	99	1.93	1.85	96
Ducks	2.77	3.37	3.25	117	97	3.21	3.29	102
Other Poultry	1.23	1.84	1.24	101	67	1.86	2.04	109
<b>Total Poultry</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>97</b>

<sup>1</sup> Federally inspected only.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as a percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<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	99,129	86,056	520,508	468,620	5.25	5.45
AR	103,277	92,499	534,659	498,192	5.18	5.39
DE	27,197	24,662	174,716	165,169	6.42	6.70
GA	117,583	105,768	599,859	552,464	5.10	5.22
KY	25,221	22,178	134,653	122,443	5.34	5.52
LA	16,308	15,224	90,469	87,432	5.55	5.74
MD	12,452	11,391	59,124	54,213	4.75	4.76
MS	66,222	59,590	375,392	346,635	5.67	5.82
MO	36,651	33,425	167,656	157,463	4.57	4.71
NC	62,095	56,174	411,614	382,605	6.63	6.81
OH	4,040	3,795	20,739	20,083	5.13	5.29
PA	10,732	9,551	58,748	54,123	5.47	5.67
SC	24,937	22,143	148,043	137,150	5.94	6.19
TN	23,482	22,000	118,801	113,105	5.06	5.14
TX	59,230	52,434	308,781	277,831	5.21	5.30
VA	28,687	26,062	144,671	136,480	5.04	5.24
Oth Sts	76,128	68,280	381,625	352,638	5.01	5.16
US	793,371	711,232	4,250,058	3,926,646	5.36	5.52

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<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	385,358	345,534	4,010	3,334	1.03	0.96
AR	387,995	360,995	4,863	4,420	1.24	1.21
DE	125,868	119,336	1,963	1,501	1.54	1.24
GA	446,759	408,754	3,305	2,930	0.73	0.71
KY	101,117	88,557	812	774	0.80	0.87
LA	66,013	63,683	501	415	0.75	0.65
MD	43,152	39,388	482	399	1.10	1.00
MS	266,349	248,654	3,376	2,901	1.25	1.15
MO	123,631	115,098	1,154	1,099	0.92	0.95
NC	320,327	291,218	4,004	3,582	1.23	1.22
OH	15,402	14,731	297	222	1.89	1.48
PA	40,069	37,192	742	752	1.82	1.98
SC	110,542	100,910	816	706	0.73	0.69
TN	90,222	81,507	846	718	0.93	0.87
TX	238,740	212,524	2,360	1,922	0.98	0.90
VA	100,975	95,657	812	737	0.80	0.76
Oth Sts	278,494	257,595	3,147	2,871	1.12	1.10
US	3,141,013	2,881,333	33,490	29,283	1.05	1.01

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,  
by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL			*	367	93,373	80,371
AR			*	*	163,851	131,169
DE			4,892	1,917	101,721	80,856
GA			456	345	86,632	73,911
KY			*	*	41,312	32,531
LA			*	*	18,608	14,382
MD			*	596	25,603	21,434
MS			*	*	67,343	56,128
MO			839	546	64,400	63,012
NC			472	306	102,109	92,659
OH			*	*	6,991	6,244
PA			*	100	16,339	16,813
SC			119	186	10,295	8,663
TN			211	*	56,264	44,810
TX			*	100	56,514	44,443
VA			*	*	42,221	32,871
Oth Sts			4,508	1,926	184,755	154,949
US			11,497	6,389	1,138,331	955,246
Mature						
Light			1,043	1,130	136,560	137,143
Heavy			657	464	49,511	39,351
US			1,700	1,594	186,071	176,494
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	29,790	27,884	588	750	3,718	2,925
AR	26,940	19,789	*	*	3,331	3,056
DE	16,108	13,547	*	*	*	6,942
GA	37,431	29,560	450	381	6,517	6,990
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	3,554	3,430	*	101	448	397
MD	*	*	*	17	*	*
MS	27,589	17,750	287	115	835	741
MO	5,095	4,304	295	*	1,593	1,474
NC	28,709	27,068	51	*	9,750	*
OH	2,070	*	15	*	65	63
PA	7,798	9,238	83	*	310	283
SC	*	*	65	51	*	*
TN	11,758	9,716	124	*	544	556
TX	11,661	10,994	105	*	1,184	1,042
VA	8,254	6,341	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	40,019	39,315	5,928	6,450	24,411	22,538
US	256,776	218,936	7,991	7,865	52,706	47,007
Mature						
Light	28,315	29,723	112	131	58,293	61,775
Heavy	2,347	1,530	160	79	6,277	6,118
US	30,662	31,253	272	210	64,570	67,893

\* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,  
by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	2,907	2,281	12,023	9,040	17,299	11,887
AR	5,394	4,170	26,650	26,948	31,634	23,766
DE	2,363	1,619	7,834	4,628	7,352	5,957
GA	1,749	1,631	21,663	20,761	11,628	11,978
KY	*	*	4,664	4,517	6,997	5,857
LA	382	219	5,221	3,297	2,671	1,490
MD	*	*	3,086	*	*	*
MS	2,462	2,038	5,591	3,566	6,574	5,694
MO	1,089	996	3,885	3,537	8,001	8,401
NC	2,100	1,968	20,673	18,079	14,733	18,403
OH	*	*	1,734	992	*	*
PA	507	504	2,242	2,456	5,458	5,866
SC	540	384	4,566	3,074	1,852	1,374
TN	649	584	3,017	3,574	5,626	3,734
TX	741	682	3,731	3,289	7,940	7,291
VA	1,318	1,038	3,275	2,859	6,173	4,919
Oth Sts	4,418	3,964	12,399	13,847	34,382	32,861
US	26,619	22,078	142,254	124,464	168,320	149,478
Mature						
Light	12,379	8,619	3,129	3,156	86,789	87,549
Heavy	630	648	11,919	9,891	11,487	9,865
US	13,009	9,267	15,048	13,047	98,276	97,414
State	Overscald		Other		Total <sup>1</sup>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	*	10,116	132,524	104,775	314,463	250,396
AR	4,516	9,461	107,667	96,604	374,695	318,763
DE	*	*	26,726	28,838	181,466	145,964
GA	5,521	7,621	67,859	58,351	239,906	211,529
KY	800	*	*	*	*	*
LA	112	*	1,398	1,427	32,549	24,836
MD	470	*	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	81,102	67,677	194,650	154,568
MO	*	636	*	*	150,295	138,391
NC	7,523	8,894	95,147	86,800	281,267	262,722
OH	*	*	*	*	21,983	16,591
PA	*	*	7,062	10,353	40,363	46,542
SC	2,086	2,865	29,058	23,151	56,476	46,928
TN	887	765	6,438	4,489	85,518	68,452
TX	*	*	50,081	41,268	137,757	111,920
VA	1,982	2,224	*	*	84,977	70,906
Oth Sts	44,437	14,464	259,811	228,434	541,336	472,168
US	68,334	57,046	864,873	752,167	2,737,701	2,340,676
Mature						
Light	745	1,719	56,222	46,103	383,587	377,048
Heavy	697	1,649	64,771	61,309	148,456	130,904
US	1,442	3,368	120,993	107,412	532,043	507,952

\* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> The sum of the individual diseases does not add to total for "Other States."

**Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<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	2,940	2,584	53,543	50,108	18.21	19.39
MN	3,457	3,053	87,211	80,498	25.23	26.37
MO	1,579	1,400	47,122	42,522	29.85	30.37
Oth Sts	15,123	13,782	435,031	405,589	28.77	29.43
US	23,099	20,819	622,907	578,717	26.97	27.80

**Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, August-September 2006**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<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	44,388	40,730	822	750	1.82	1.81
MN	69,451	64,486	1,603	1,272	2.26	1.93
MO	37,002	33,330	890	821	2.35	2.40
Oth Sts	342,766	318,096	5,953	5,691	1.71	1.76
US	493,607	456,642	9,268	8,534	1.84	1.83

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

**Turkeys Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type, by State and United States, August-September 2006**

Cause	Young		Old	
	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Tuberculosis				
Leukosis	78	52		2
Septicaemia	73,080	68,430	3,390	2,314
Airsacculitis	14,269	13,747	522	408
Synovitis	4,178	3,808	16	
Tumors	100	104	193	80
Bruises	394	424	27	19
Cadaver	4,435	3,858	80	90
Contamination	4,581	3,398	131	58
Overscald	3,723	2,478	1	6
Other	27,148	24,950	2,261	33
Total	131,986	121,249	6,621	3,010

## Reliability of Poultry Slaughter Estimates

**Data Sources:** Data for poultry slaughter estimates are collected 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 number of head slaughtered daily, by species and class, as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights are obtained by shift for each plant. Approximately 320 plants slaughtered poultry in the U.S. under Federal Inspection in 2005. Young chickens were killed in 35 states, young turkeys in 24 states.

**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 February and reflect any late reports or corrections which occurred after the monthly revisions were published.

**Procedures and Reliability:** Plant inspectors submit data electronically for each shift a plant operates. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. Data are 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. Estimates for missing shifts are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on a shift 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. 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.

## Terms and Definitions Used for Poultry Slaughter Estimates:

**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.

**Old Turkeys** - Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.

**Other Poultry Chilled or Frozen** - 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** - Young birds grown to a matured market age, about 5 months.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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Fleming Gibson - Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Catfish Processing, Mink, Turkey Hatchery .....	(202) 690-3237
Darin Jantzi - Turkeys Raised, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture .....	(202) 720-3570
Sharyn Lavender - Layers, Eggs, Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey .....	(202) 720-3244

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