



NASS

FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

Poultry Slaughter

Released January 31, 2007, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Poultry Slaughter* call Fleming Gibson at 202-690-3237, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 7 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during December 2006 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.18 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the amount certified in December 2005. November 2006 revised certified total at 3.46 billion pounds, was down 1 percent from November 2005. The November revision represented an increase of 20.5 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during December 2006 was 4.32 billion pounds, down 6 percent from 4.57 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.70 billion pounds, down 6 percent from December 2005. Mature chickens, at 58.9 million pounds, were down 12 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 542 million pounds, down 2 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 16.2 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during December 2006 averaged 5.47 pounds per bird, down slightly from December 2005. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.97 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during December 2006 averaged 28.1 pounds per bird, down 2 percent from December 2005.

Ante-mortem condemnations during December 2006 totaled 14.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.35 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.38 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 41.6 million pounds, were 1.29 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.37 percent a year earlier.

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

Contents

	Page
Poultry Slaughter	1
Young Chickens Slaughtered	5
Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause	6
Young Turkeys Slaughtered	8
Turkeys Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause	8
Reliability of Poultry Slaughter Estimates	9
Terms and Definitions	10
Information Contacts	10

**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, December, 2005-2006¹**

Commodity	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2005
				Dec 2005	Nov 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	717,637	715,712	676,558	94	95	8,853,809	8,834,969	100
Mature	11,827	10,161	9,865	83	97	146,664	131,043	89
Light	5,735	3,663	4,167	73	114	73,240	53,987	74
Heavy	6,092	6,498	5,698	94	88	73,424	77,056	105
Total	729,464	725,873	686,423	94	95	9,000,473	8,966,012	100
Turkeys								
Young	19,195	23,266	19,091	99	82	245,642	252,722	103
Old	167	244	198	119	81	2,452	2,592	106
Total	19,362	23,510	19,289	100	82	248,094	255,314	103
Ducks	2,555	2,362	2,405	94	102	27,890	28,093	101
	<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	3,931,183	3,952,390	3,699,924	94	94	47,578,696	48,308,524	102
Mature	67,146	64,470	58,910	88	91	835,142	801,986	96
Light	19,302	12,467	13,616	71	109	242,876	179,984	74
Heavy	47,844	52,003	45,294	95	87	592,266	622,002	105
Total	3,998,329	4,016,860	3,758,834	94	94	48,413,838	49,110,510	101
Turkeys								
Young	548,561	631,914	536,539	98	85	6,883,300	7,117,152	103
Old	4,303	6,410	5,367	125	84	64,163	68,275	106
Total	552,864	638,324	541,906	98	85	6,947,463	7,185,427	103
Ducks	17,238	15,849	16,176	94	102	187,694	188,786	101
Other Poultry ²	372	407	311	84	76	8,028	6,250	78
Total Poultry	4,568,803	4,671,440	4,317,227	94	92	55,557,023	56,490,973	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	5.48	5.52	5.47	100	99	5.37	5.47	102
Mature	5.68	6.34	5.97	105	94	5.69	6.12	108
Light	3.37	3.40	3.27	97	96	3.32	3.33	100
Heavy	7.85	8.00	7.95	101	99	8.07	8.07	100
Total	5.48	5.53	5.48	100	99	5.38	5.48	102
Turkeys								
Young	28.58	27.16	28.10	98	103	28.02	28.16	100
Old	25.61	26.27	27.11	106	103	26.17	26.34	101
Total	28.55	27.15	28.09	98	103	28.00	28.14	101
Ducks	6.75	6.71	6.73	100	100	6.73	6.72	100

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, December, 2005-2006¹**

Commodity	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2005
				Dec 2005	Nov 2006	2005	2006	
				Pct	Pct			
	<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>
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	2,643,826	2,615,266	2,453,400	93	94	31,995,187	32,318,100	101
Mature	41,315	40,280	36,688	89	91	511,849	499,558	98
Light	9,786	6,414	6,950	71	108	123,904	91,718	74
Heavy	31,529	33,866	29,738	94	88	387,945	407,840	105
Total	2,685,141	2,655,546	2,490,088	93	94	32,507,036	32,817,658	101
Turkeys								
Young	259,868	298,360	243,582	94	82	3,119,995	3,178,214	102
Old	2,537	3,241	3,289	130	101	39,031	41,984	108
Total	262,405	301,601	246,871	94	82	3,159,026	3,220,198	102
Ducks	6,075	5,302	5,554	91	105	67,890	67,004	99
Other Poultry ²	204	155	183	90	118	2,495	2,097	84
Total Poultry	2,953,825	2,962,604	2,742,696	93	93	35,736,447	36,106,957	101
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	272,975	283,567	251,576	92	89	3,369,647	3,411,576	101
Mature	241	312	140	58	45	4,547	4,403	97
Light		8				8	181	2,263
Heavy	241	304	140	58	46	4,539	4,222	93
Total	273,216	283,879	251,716	92	89	3,374,194	3,415,979	101
Turkeys								
Young	174,572	201,314	179,882	103	89	2,335,688	2,455,110	105
Old	725	1,667	826	114	50	9,599	10,125	105
Total	175,297	202,981	180,708	103	89	2,345,287	2,465,235	105
Ducks	6,213	5,996	6,001	97	100	66,714	68,093	102
Other Poultry ²	27	79	23	85	29	2,391	1,578	66
Total Poultry	454,753	492,935	438,448	96	89	5,788,586	5,950,885	103
Total Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	2,916,801	2,898,833	2,704,976	93	93	35,364,834	35,729,676	101
Mature	41,556	40,592	36,828	89	91	516,396	503,961	98
Light	9,786	6,422	6,950	71	108	123,912	91,899	74
Heavy	31,770	34,170	29,878	94	87	392,484	412,062	105
Total	2,958,357	2,939,425	2,741,804	93	93	35,881,230	36,233,637	101
Turkeys								
Young	434,440	499,674	423,464	97	85	5,455,683	5,633,324	103
Old	3,262	4,908	4,115	126	84	48,630	52,109	107
Total	437,702	504,582	427,579	98	85	5,504,313	5,685,433	103
Ducks	12,288	11,298	11,555	94	102	134,604	135,097	100
Other Poultry ²	231	234	206	89	88	4,886	3,675	75
Total Poultry	3,408,578	3,455,539	3,181,144	93	92	41,525,033	42,057,842	101

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, December, 2005-2006¹**

Commodity	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2005
				Dec 2005	Nov 2006	2005	2006	
				1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight				Percent	Percent			Percent
Chickens								
Young	14,842	13,005	12,614	85	97	169,073	167,600	99
Mature	910	809	709	78	88	12,628	11,830	94
Light	310	178	171	55	96	4,645	3,479	75
Heavy	600	631	538	90	85	7,983	8,351	105
Total	15,752	13,814	13,323	85	96	181,701	179,430	99
Turkeys								
Young	1,600	1,560	1,496	94	96	19,201	20,650	108
Old	74	54	43	58	80	596	749	126
Total	1,674	1,614	1,539	92	95	19,797	21,399	108
Ducks	33	38	47	142	124	390	468	120
Other Poultry		1				19	10	53
Total Poultry	17,459	15,467	14,909	85	96	201,907	201,307	100
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Percent of Live Weight Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.38	0.33	0.34	89	103	0.36	0.35	97
Mature	1.36	1.25	1.20	88	96	1.51	1.48	98
Light	1.61	1.43	1.26	78	88	1.91	1.93	101
Heavy	1.26	1.21	1.19	94	98	1.35	1.34	99
Total	0.39	0.34	0.35	90	103	0.38	0.37	97
Turkeys								
Young	0.29	0.25	0.28	97	112	0.28	0.29	104
Old	1.72	0.84	0.80	47	95	0.93	1.10	118
Total	0.30	0.25	0.28	93	112	0.28	0.30	107
Ducks	0.19	0.24	0.29	153	121	0.21	0.25	119
Other Poultry		0.25				0.24	0.16	67
Total Poultry	0.38	0.33	0.35	92	106	0.36	0.36	100

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, 2005-2006¹**

Commodity	Dec 2005	Nov 2006	Dec 2006	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2005
				Dec 2005	Nov 2006	2005	2006	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Carcass and Parts								
Chickens								
Young	36,094	31,495	31,009	86	98	414,893	406,715	98
Mature	3,164	2,974	2,707	86	91	37,425	35,119	94
Light	1,582	1,093	1,098	69	100	18,796	14,546	77
Heavy	1,582	1,881	1,609	102	86	18,629	20,573	110
Total	39,258	34,469	33,716	86	98	452,318	441,834	98
Turkeys								
Young	7,544	8,387	7,338	97	87	101,391	102,455	101
Old	236	259	192	81	74	3,558	2,802	79
Total	7,780	8,646	7,530	97	87	104,949	105,257	100
Ducks	427	355	378	89	106	4,505	4,553	101
Other Poultry	4	5	4	100	80	82	76	93
Total Poultry	47,469	43,475	41,628	88	96	561,854	551,720	98
	<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 Weight Condemned²								
Chickens								
Young	1.22	1.07	1.13	93	105	1.16	1.13	97
Mature	7.08	6.83	6.85	97	100	6.76	6.51	96
Light	13.92	14.54	13.64	98	94	13.17	13.67	104
Heavy	4.74	5.22	5.11	108	98	4.53	4.76	105
Total	1.31	1.16	1.21	93	105	1.24	1.20	97
Turkeys								
Young	1.71	1.65	1.70	100	103	1.82	1.79	98
Old	6.75	5.01	4.46	66	89	6.82	5.10	75
Total	1.75	1.68	1.73	99	103	1.87	1.82	97
Ducks	3.36	3.05	3.17	94	104	3.24	3.26	101
Other Poultry	1.70	2.09	1.90	112	91	1.65	2.03	123
Total Poultry	1.37	1.24	1.29	94	104	1.33	1.29	97

¹ Federally inspected only.

² 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, November-December 2006**

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	87,120	81,665	475,362	447,032	5.46	5.47
AR	90,673	85,606	482,742	449,463	5.32	5.25
DE	24,500	24,552	166,637	164,862	6.80	6.71
GA	106,931	101,308	563,564	526,717	5.27	5.20
KY	23,606	21,927	127,955	118,678	5.42	5.41
LA	15,821	15,274	92,601	87,868	5.85	5.75
MD	11,915	11,809	57,298	56,413	4.81	4.78
MS	62,249	55,727	362,090	315,342	5.82	5.66
MO	33,395	31,799	153,563	146,817	4.60	4.62
NC	56,775	52,603	390,074	358,001	6.87	6.81
OH	3,481	3,666	19,473	20,078	5.59	5.48
PA	9,049	8,817	49,526	47,494	5.47	5.39
SC	23,474	22,889	149,530	144,598	6.37	6.32
TN	21,616	20,574	110,600	104,728	5.12	5.09
TX	53,637	50,975	283,271	271,080	5.28	5.32
VA	25,278	24,861	132,488	129,577	5.24	5.21
Oth Sts	66,192	62,506	335,616	311,176	5.07	4.98
US	715,712	676,558	3,952,390	3,699,924	5.52	5.47

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

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	November	December	Carcass and Parts		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>
AL	350,938	328,829	3,603	3,720	1.02	1.12
AR	348,086	323,603	4,671	4,532	1.32	1.38
DE	120,145	118,874	1,532	1,630	1.26	1.35
GA	416,481	389,748	3,466	3,258	0.83	0.83
KY	92,260	85,327	1,030	1,046	1.10	1.21
LA	68,022	64,035	366	349	0.54	0.54
MD	41,858	40,316	553	641	1.30	1.57
MS	260,259	224,043	3,029	2,559	1.15	1.13
MO	113,076	107,596	1,015	1,041	0.89	0.96
NC	297,316	271,685	3,719	3,698	1.24	1.34
OH	14,464	14,779	243	309	1.65	2.05
PA	32,938	31,818	699	710	2.08	2.18
SC	109,949	106,119	818	862	0.74	0.81
TN	79,817	75,570	787	811	0.98	1.06
TX	215,786	205,659	2,205	2,246	1.01	1.08
VA	92,937	90,462	682	727	0.73	0.80
Oth Sts	244,501	226,513	3,077	2,870	1.24	1.25
US	2,898,833	2,704,976	31,495	31,009	1.07	1.13

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² 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, November-December 2006**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL			75	*	88,976	83,741
AR			*	653	150,178	155,025
DE			1,284	1,203	75,850	75,779
GA			315	*	76,448	75,847
KY			*	*	36,976	36,349
LA			*	47	12,368	12,950
MD			278	*	25,060	30,496
MS			*	*	48,468	42,025
MO			514	408	69,444	72,539
NC			*	*	92,060	86,092
OH				*	5,930	5,311
PA			80	117	16,661	17,295
SC			75	*	9,810	9,369
TN			139	92	48,991	44,270
TX			*	*	54,652	60,123
VA			*	*	26,505	28,341
Oth Sts			2,033	5,055	186,437	172,530
US			4,793	7,575	1,024,814	1,008,082
Mature						
Light			1,180	1,594	141,726	141,944
Heavy			387	248	51,498	47,405
US			1,567	1,842	193,224	189,349
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	53,002	69,091	693	*	3,568	3,654
AR	41,818	49,023	1,472	1,595	3,083	3,009
DE	19,979	28,623	*	*	*	*
GA	59,937	70,462	180	*	6,848	7,008
KY	*	*	38	*	*	*
LA	4,317	5,822	*	*	444	477
MD	*	*	18	17	*	*
MS	26,159	35,516	125	149	814	848
MO	8,309	10,488	232	*	1,586	1,403
NC	34,269	44,655	*	59	8,830	*
OH	2,234	1,566	*	15	80	96
PA	13,047	14,278	*	*	314	385
SC	*	*	*	*	*	*
TN	19,083	19,623	99	*	463	464
TX	20,106	30,409	73	88	1,260	1,480
VA	10,044	15,167	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	85,697	82,211	1,631	2,550	21,103	33,677
US	398,001	476,934	4,561	4,473	48,393	52,501
Mature						
Light	32,551	30,441	133	131	56,913	59,691
Heavy	2,185	1,509	82	55	7,393	6,055
US	34,736	31,950	215	186	64,306	65,746

* 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, November-December 2006**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	2,167	1,984	9,339	7,980	12,913	10,167
AR	4,228	3,679	18,856	15,714	23,633	22,133
DE	1,236	1,269	3,856	3,647	5,156	4,819
GA	1,472	1,724	23,681	24,204	13,631	10,485
KY	222	*	3,702	4,505	5,531	5,068
LA	230	183	3,119	2,956	1,299	1,073
MD	*	*	*	*	*	*
MS	1,733	1,372	3,972	3,998	4,398	3,805
MO	948	955	2,445	2,824	8,202	8,123
NC	1,863	1,852	18,662	18,012	14,226	13,694
OH	*	*	*	878	*	*
PA	517	548	1,590	1,315	3,788	3,512
SC	388	363	3,002	2,093	1,437	1,304
TN	766	586	4,215	3,035	3,320	3,006
TX	690	708	3,539	4,049	5,648	6,270
VA	873	936	2,118	2,426	3,360	3,749
Oth Sts	3,659	4,004	13,639	13,248	33,827	30,504
US	20,992	20,163	115,735	110,884	140,369	127,712
Mature						
Light	9,526	10,538	1,904	2,355	83,426	87,312
Heavy	1,004	990	8,388	9,471	12,614	9,824
US	10,530	11,528	10,292	11,826	96,040	97,136
State	Overscald		Other		Total ¹	
	November	December	November	December	November	December
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	5,169	13,909	125,433	125,665	301,335	316,786
AR	*	15,222	104,450	102,970	353,856	369,023
DE	1,862	*	22,321	*	137,610	155,873
GA	5,092	4,161	82,158	68,402	269,762	262,924
KY	*	194	*	*	*	*
LA	56	*	2,262	3,500	24,205	27,081
MD	562	*	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	64,729	62,056	151,444	150,227
MO	611	*	47,702	50,101	139,993	148,011
NC	9,538	7,472	70,045	62,973	250,061	246,329
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	9,283	7,705	46,094	46,062
SC	*	1,849	*	*	51,249	55,802
TN	309	*	5,166	4,304	82,551	76,494
TX	*	*	51,025	49,620	139,970	156,695
VA	*	1,638	17,034	*	62,484	72,098
Oth Sts	20,499	17,107	217,960	288,601	610,310	612,368
US	43,698	61,552	819,568	825,897	2,620,924	2,695,773
Mature						
Light	1,479	1,327	44,426	47,596	373,264	382,929
Heavy	1,381	964	75,009	65,365	159,941	141,886
US	2,860	2,291	119,435	112,961	533,205	524,815

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

¹ 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, November-December 2006

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	2,828	2,654	55,504	50,227	19.63	18.92
MN	3,222	2,533	83,149	68,437	25.81	27.02
MO	1,288	1,230	41,316	38,139	32.08	31.00
Oth Sts	15,928	12,674	451,945	379,736	28.37	29.96
US	23,266	19,091	631,914	536,539	27.16	28.10

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, November-December 2006

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		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>
AR	45,016	40,456	871	804	1.90	1.95
MN	66,626	54,624	1,349	1,170	1.98	2.10
MO	32,372	30,052	726	631	2.19	2.06
Oth Sts	355,660	298,332	5,441	4,733	1.51	1.56
US	499,674	423,464	8,387	7,338	1.65	1.70

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² 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, November-December 2006

Cause	Young		Old	
	November	December	November	December
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Tuberculosis				
Leukosis	48	65	2	
Septicaemia	70,811	63,907	2,333	2,025
Airsacculitis	6,848	7,597	386	223
Synovitis	3,640	3,732	3	1
Tumors	117	57	117	116
Bruises	575	406	11	39
Cadaver	4,760	3,517	15	29
Contamination	3,529	2,711	74	38
Overscald	2,081	1,230	85	1
Other	22,345	21,670	347	117
Total	114,754	104,892	3,373	2,589

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 included. 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.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Darin Jantzi, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-3570
Mark Aitken - Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
David Colwell - Cold Storage	(202) 720-8784
Fleming Gibson - Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Catfish Processing, Mink, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
Darin Jantzi - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture	(202) 720-3570
Sharyn Lavender - Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey	(202) 720-3244

ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: www.nass.usda.gov.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at www.nass.usda.gov, under the right navigation, *Receive reports by Email*, click on **National** or **State**. Follow the instructions on the screen.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-605-6220 FAX: 703-605-6900
(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.