



NASS

FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

Poultry Slaughter

Released February 28, 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 Slightly from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during January 2007 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.55 billion pounds, down slightly from the amount certified in January 2006. December 2006 revised certified total at 3.20 billion pounds, was down 6 percent from December 2005. The December revision represented an increase of 20.4 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during January 2007 was 4.81 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 4.75 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.12 billion pounds, up slightly from January 2006. Mature chickens, at 63.3 million pounds, were down 10 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 615 million pounds, up 9 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 16.7 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during January 2007 averaged 5.50 pounds per bird, unchanged from January 2006. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.90 pounds per bird, up 6 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during January 2007 averaged 29.6 pounds per bird, down 2 percent from January 2006.

Ante-mortem condemnations during January 2007 totaled 17.2 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.36 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.33 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 47.8 million pounds, were 1.33 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.37 percent a year earlier.

January 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays, while January 2006 had 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 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, January, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Jan 2006	Dec 2006	2006	2007	
	<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	744,882	679,262	748,998	101	110	744,882	748,998	101
Mature	12,602	9,865	10,728	85	109	12,602	10,728	85
Light	6,437	4,167	4,634	72	111	6,437	4,634	72
Heavy	6,165	5,698	6,094	99	107	6,165	6,094	99
Total	757,484	689,127	759,726	100	110	757,484	759,726	100
Turkeys								
Young	18,521	19,091	20,565	111	108	18,521	20,565	111
Old	188	198	194	103	98	188	194	103
Total	18,709	19,289	20,759	111	108	18,709	20,759	111
Ducks	2,347	2,405	2,470	105	103	2,347	2,470	105
	<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	4,095,723	3,724,613	4,116,055	100	111	4,095,723	4,116,055	100
Mature	70,398	58,910	63,303	90	107	70,398	63,303	90
Light	21,299	13,616	15,176	71	111	21,299	15,176	71
Heavy	49,099	45,294	48,127	98	106	49,099	48,127	98
Total	4,166,121	3,783,523	4,179,358	100	110	4,166,121	4,179,358	100
Turkeys								
Young	560,735	536,539	609,562	109	114	560,735	609,562	109
Old	5,126	5,367	5,185	101	97	5,126	5,185	101
Total	565,861	541,906	614,747	109	113	565,861	614,747	109
Ducks	15,882	16,176	16,676	105	103	15,882	16,676	105
Other Poultry ²	300	311	341	114	110	300	341	114
Total Poultry	4,748,164	4,341,916	4,811,122	101	111	4,748,164	4,811,122	101
	<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	5.50	5.48	5.50	100	100	5.50	5.50	100
Mature	5.59	5.97	5.90	106	99	5.59	5.90	106
Light	3.31	3.27	3.27	99	100	3.31	3.27	99
Heavy	7.96	7.95	7.90	99	99	7.96	7.90	99
Total	5.50	5.49	5.50	100	100	5.50	5.50	100
Turkeys								
Young	30.28	28.10	29.64	98	105	30.28	29.64	98
Old	27.27	27.11	26.73	98	99	27.27	26.73	98
Total	30.25	28.09	29.61	98	105	30.25	29.61	98
Ducks	6.77	6.73	6.75	100	100	6.77	6.75	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, January, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Jan 2006	Dec 2006	2006	2007	
				<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	
Chilled	<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	2,766,547	2,473,843	2,731,219	99	110	2,766,547	2,731,219	99
Mature	42,533	36,688	39,032	92	106	42,533	39,032	92
Light	10,683	6,950	7,728	72	111	10,683	7,728	72
Heavy	31,850	29,738	31,304	98	105	31,850	31,304	98
Total	2,809,080	2,510,531	2,770,251	99	110	2,809,080	2,770,251	99
Turkeys								
Young	245,238	243,582	273,258	111	112	245,238	273,258	111
Old	3,228	3,289	3,435	106	104	3,228	3,435	106
Total	248,466	246,871	276,693	111	112	248,466	276,693	111
Ducks	5,788	5,554	5,660	98	102	5,788	5,660	98
Other Poultry ²	163	183	180	110	98	163	180	110
Total Poultry	3,063,497	2,763,139	3,052,784	100	110	3,063,497	3,052,784	100
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	282,956	251,576	279,932	99	111	282,956	279,932	99
Mature	432	140	195	45	139	432	195	45
Light	2					2		
Heavy	430	140	195	45	139	430	195	45
Total	283,388	251,716	280,127	99	111	283,388	280,127	99
Turkeys								
Young	197,737	179,882	205,769	104	114	197,737	205,769	104
Old	656	826	476	73	58	656	476	73
Total	198,393	180,708	206,245	104	114	198,393	206,245	104
Ducks	5,563	6,001	6,222	112	104	5,563	6,222	112
Other Poultry ²	19	23	25	132	109	19	25	132
Total Poultry	487,363	438,448	492,619	101	112	487,363	492,619	101
Total Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,049,503	2,725,419	3,011,151	99	110	3,049,503	3,011,151	99
Mature	42,965	36,828	39,227	91	107	42,965	39,227	91
Light	10,685	6,950	7,728	72	111	10,685	7,728	72
Heavy	32,280	29,878	31,499	98	105	32,280	31,499	98
Total	3,092,468	2,762,247	3,050,378	99	110	3,092,468	3,050,378	99
Turkeys								
Young	442,975	423,464	479,027	108	113	442,975	479,027	108
Old	3,884	4,115	3,911	101	95	3,884	3,911	101
Total	446,859	427,579	482,938	108	113	446,859	482,938	108
Ducks	11,351	11,555	11,882	105	103	11,351	11,882	105
Other Poultry ²	182	206	205	113	100	182	205	113
Total Poultry	3,550,860	3,201,587	3,545,403	100	111	3,550,860	3,545,403	100

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, January, 2006-2007 ¹**

Commodity	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Jan 2006	Dec 2006	2006	2007	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	12,969	12,758	14,257	110	112	12,969	14,257	110
Mature	771	709	855	111	121	771	855	111
Light	292	171	265	91	155	292	265	91
Heavy	479	538	590	123	110	479	590	123
Total	13,740	13,467	15,112	110	112	13,740	15,112	110
Turkeys								
Young	1,700	1,496	1,944	114	130	1,700	1,944	114
Old	43	43	104	242	242	43	104	242
Total	1,743	1,539	2,048	117	133	1,743	2,048	117
Ducks	28	47	35	125	74	28	35	125
Total Poultry	15,511	15,053	17,195	111	114	15,511	17,195	111
	<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 ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.32	0.34	0.35	109	103	0.32	0.35	109
Mature	1.10	1.20	1.35	123	113	1.10	1.35	123
Light	1.37	1.26	1.75	128	139	1.37	1.75	128
Heavy	0.98	1.19	1.23	126	103	0.98	1.23	126
Total	0.33	0.36	0.36	109	100	0.33	0.36	109
Turkeys								
Young	0.30	0.28	0.32	107	114	0.30	0.32	107
Old	0.84	0.80	2.01	239	251	0.84	2.01	239
Total	0.31	0.28	0.33	106	118	0.31	0.33	106
Ducks	0.18	0.29	0.21	117	72	0.18	0.21	117
Total Poultry	0.33	0.35	0.36	109	103	0.33	0.36	109

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, January, 2006-2007 ¹**

Commodity	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Jan 2006	Dec 2006	2006	2007	
				<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Carcass and Parts								
Chickens								
Young	36,817	31,222	35,443	96	114	36,817	35,443	96
Mature	3,314	2,707	2,870	87	106	3,314	2,870	87
Light	1,730	1,098	1,182	68	108	1,730	1,182	68
Heavy	1,584	1,609	1,688	107	105	1,584	1,688	107
Total	40,131	33,929	38,313	95	113	40,131	38,313	95
Turkeys								
Young	8,522	7,338	8,752	103	119	8,522	8,752	103
Old	235	192	323	137	168	235	323	137
Total	8,757	7,530	9,075	104	121	8,757	9,075	104
Ducks	401	378	387	97	102	401	387	97
Other Poultry	3	4	4	133	100	3	4	133
Total Poultry	49,292	41,841	47,779	97	114	49,292	47,779	97
	<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 Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	1.19	1.13	1.16	98	103	1.19	1.16	98
Mature	7.16	6.85	6.82	95	100	7.16	6.82	95
Light	13.93	13.64	13.27	95	97	13.93	13.27	95
Heavy	4.68	5.11	5.09	109	100	4.68	5.09	109
Total	1.28	1.21	1.24	97	102	1.28	1.24	97
Turkeys								
Young	1.89	1.70	1.79	95	105	1.89	1.79	95
Old	5.71	4.46	7.63	134	171	5.71	7.63	134
Total	1.92	1.73	1.84	96	107	1.92	1.84	96
Ducks	3.41	3.17	3.15	92	100	3.41	3.15	92
Other Poultry	1.62	1.90	1.91	118	100	1.62	1.91	118
Total Poultry	1.37	1.29	1.33	97	103	1.37	1.33	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, December 2006-January 2007**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<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	81,665	86,211	447,032	475,117	5.47	5.51
AR	85,606	97,679	449,463	506,849	5.25	5.19
DE	24,552	27,122	164,862	184,859	6.71	6.82
GA	101,308	110,255	526,717	573,752	5.20	5.20
KY	21,927	23,945	118,678	128,399	5.41	5.36
LA	15,274	15,995	87,868	92,588	5.75	5.79
MD	11,809	12,074	56,413	58,125	4.78	4.81
MS	55,727	62,488	315,342	355,899	5.66	5.70
MO	31,799	33,598	146,817	157,535	4.62	4.69
NC	55,307	62,664	382,690	431,788	6.92	6.89
OH	3,666	3,924	20,078	21,115	5.48	5.38
PA	8,817	10,551	47,494	56,923	5.39	5.39
SC	22,889	24,121	144,598	153,247	6.32	6.35
TN	20,574	23,402	104,728	120,405	5.09	5.14
TX	50,975	55,126	271,080	290,442	5.32	5.27
VA	24,861	27,170	129,577	140,409	5.21	5.17
Oth Sts	62,506	72,673	311,176	368,603	4.98	5.07
US	679,262	748,998	3,724,613	4,116,055	5.48	5.50

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by State and United States, December 2006-January 2007**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<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	328,829	350,545	3,720	4,050	1.12	1.14
AR	323,603	363,142	4,532	5,216	1.38	1.42
DE	118,874	133,488	1,630	2,047	1.35	1.51
GA	389,748	424,585	3,258	3,994	0.83	0.93
KY	85,327	92,363	1,046	832	1.21	0.89
LA	64,035	67,636	349	384	0.54	0.56
MD	40,316	42,436	641	653	1.57	1.52
MS	224,043	251,566	2,559	2,869	1.13	1.13
MO	107,596	115,775	1,041	1,314	0.96	1.12
NC	292,128	328,791	3,911	4,473	1.32	1.34
OH	14,779	15,350	309	316	2.05	2.02
PA	31,818	38,376	710	820	2.18	2.09
SC	106,119	112,552	862	994	0.81	0.88
TN	75,570	86,914	811	940	1.06	1.07
TX	205,659	220,533	2,246	2,343	1.08	1.05
VA	90,462	98,099	727	873	0.80	0.88
Oth Sts	226,513	269,000	2,870	3,325	1.25	1.22
US	2,725,419	3,011,151	31,222	35,443	1.13	1.16

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, December 2006-January 2007**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL			*	74	83,741	89,223
AR			653	649	155,025	191,495
DE			1,203	1,693	75,779	97,586
GA			*	352	75,847	92,271
KY			*	*	36,349	36,107
LA			47	42	12,950	13,650
MD			*	275	30,496	*
MS			*	*	42,025	46,355
MO			408	453	72,539	89,477
NC			*	619	91,215	101,460
OH			*	*	5,311	6,911
PA			117	*	17,295	22,963
SC			*	*	9,369	9,960
TN			92	116	44,270	52,271
TX			*	45	60,123	62,846
VA			*	*	28,341	34,058
Oth Sts			5,058	1,861	172,530	227,629
US			7,578	6,179	1,013,205	1,174,262
Mature						
Light			1,594	1,762	141,944	134,933
Heavy			248	227	47,405	44,633
US			1,842	1,989	189,349	179,566
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	69,091	89,209	*	541	3,654	3,985
AR	49,023	63,033	1,595	1,940	3,009	3,297
DE	28,623	36,281	*	*	*	*
GA	70,462	147,122	*	181	7,008	8,132
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	5,822	6,076	*	68	477	464
MD	*	*	17	41	*	*
MS	35,516	33,635	149	99	848	812
MO	10,488	14,886	*	270	1,403	1,848
NC	45,339	58,297	59	*	*	*
OH	1,566	2,005	15	*	96	145
PA	14,278	16,361	*	*	385	416
SC	*	*	*	20	*	*
TN	19,623	25,818	*	46	464	611
TX	30,409	28,212	88	63	1,480	1,447
VA	15,167	18,901	*	44	*	*
Oth Sts	82,211	115,627	2,550	1,521	33,698	42,386
US	477,618	655,463	4,473	4,834	52,522	63,543
Mature						
Light	30,441	27,182	131	133	59,691	61,590
Heavy	1,509	2,647	55	79	6,055	6,333
US	31,950	29,829	186	212	65,746	67,923

* 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, December 2006-January 2007**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	1,984	2,142	7,980	7,899	10,167	9,649
AR	3,679	3,994	15,714	15,533	22,133	23,526
DE	1,269	1,617	3,647	4,664	4,819	5,731
GA	1,724	1,968	24,204	27,195	10,485	11,666
KY	*	237	4,505	4,298	5,068	6,306
LA	183	198	2,956	2,342	1,073	1,177
MD	*	*	*	3,388	*	*
MS	1,372	1,596	3,998	3,929	3,805	3,884
MO	955	1,035	2,824	5,427	8,123	8,810
NC	1,889	2,133	18,982	21,840	14,133	16,611
OH	*	*	878	979	*	302
PA	548	697	1,315	1,871	*	4,888
SC	363	514	2,093	2,532	1,304	*
TN	586	562	3,035	*	3,006	3,693
TX	708	636	4,049	6,223	6,270	6,651
VA	936	871	2,426	2,663	3,749	4,228
Oth Sts	4,004	3,786	13,248	17,591	34,016	32,997
US	20,200	21,986	111,854	128,374	128,151	140,119
Mature						
Light	10,538	17,600	2,355	2,286	87,312	83,448
Heavy	990	935	9,471	7,134	9,824	10,005
US	11,528	18,535	11,826	9,420	97,136	93,453
State	Overscald		Other		Total ¹	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<i>Number of Head</i>					
Young						
AL	13,909	12,091	125,665	152,426	316,786	367,239
AR	15,222	10,881	102,970	121,296	369,023	435,644
DE	*	*	*	37,589	155,873	199,564
GA	4,161	4,927	68,402	79,432	262,924	373,246
KY	194	692	*	*	*	*
LA	*	27	3,500	4,093	27,081	28,137
MD	*	376	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	*	101,355	150,227	192,618
MO	*	647	50,101	75,639	148,011	198,492
NC	8,360	6,665	64,380	69,124	255,901	291,380
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	7,705	10,474	46,062	58,293
SC	1,849	1,898	*	44,280	55,802	74,597
TN	*	*	4,304	*	76,494	95,760
TX	*	2,811	49,620	48,259	156,695	157,193
VA	1,638	*	*	19,065	72,098	84,710
Oth Sts	17,107	13,626	350,657	210,393	612,368	665,953
US	62,440	54,641	827,304	973,425	2,705,345	3,222,826
Mature						
Light	1,327	219	47,596	83,736	382,929	412,889
Heavy	964	777	65,365	84,213	141,886	156,983
US	2,291	996	112,961	167,949	524,815	569,872

* 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, December 2006-January 2007

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<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	2,654	2,874	50,227	56,575	18.92	19.69
MN	2,533	2,739	68,437	73,959	27.02	27.00
MO	1,230	1,384	38,139	44,000	31.00	31.79
Oth Sts	12,674	13,568	379,736	435,028	29.96	32.06
US	19,091	20,565	536,539	609,562	28.10	29.64

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, December 2006-January 2007

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	December	January	December	January	December	January
	<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	40,456	45,652	804	945	1.95	2.03
MN	54,624	58,621	1,170	1,220	2.10	2.04
MO	30,052	34,562	631	752	2.06	2.13
Oth Sts	298,332	340,192	4,733	5,835	1.56	1.69
US	423,464	479,027	7,338	8,752	1.70	1.79

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, United States, December 2006-January 2007

Cause	Young		Old	
	December	January	December	January
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Tuberculosis				
Leukosis	65	143		
Septicaemia	63,907	62,763	2,025	2,556
Airsacculitis	7,597	9,193	223	452
Synovitis	3,732	3,899	1	37
Tumors	57	132	116	163
Bruises	406	350	39	19
Cadaver	3,517	3,327	29	34
Contamination	2,711	3,259	38	89
Overscald	1,230	987	1	6
Other	21,670	23,703	117	2,170
Total	104,892	107,756	2,589	5,526

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
Sharyn Lavender - Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey	(202) 720-3244
Toby Paterson - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture	(202) 720-0585

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.