

# Poultry Slaughter



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

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Released June 2, 1995, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. This summary relates to preliminary inspection totals for April 1995 and updated March 1995 totals.

## Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 1 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during April (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.32 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the amount certified in April 1994. Updated totals for March 1995 show that 2.68 billion pounds were certified. The January through April cumulative total of pounds certified, at 9.81 billion pounds, was up 6 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during April 1995 was 3.18 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.63 billion pounds of young chickens, 70.7 million pounds of mature chickens, 469 million pounds of turkeys, and 9.28 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during April 1995 averaged 4.68 pounds per bird, 1 percent higher than the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was up 5 percent from 4.68 pounds per bird the previous year to 4.91 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during April 1995 averaged 23.8 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from April 1994.

Ante-mortem condemnations during April 1995 totaled 10.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.33 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.31 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 54.5 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.91 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.74 percent a year earlier.

April 1995 contained 20 weekdays and five Saturdays, while April 1994 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Mar 1995	650,444	14,432	664,875	1,687	-----
Apr 1994	567,983	15,393	583,376	1,587	-----
Apr 1995	561,447	14,387	575,834	1,372	-----
Jan-Apr 1994	2,246,969	59,483	2,306,452	6,776	-----
Jan-Apr 1995	2,379,830	56,583	2,436,413	6,121	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Mar 1995	3,021,666	72,341	3,094,008	11,355	332
Apr 1994	2,643,379	72,098	2,715,478	10,582	251
Apr 1995	2,628,167	70,651	2,698,818	9,283	348
Jan-Apr 1994	10,463,434	279,211	10,742,645	45,300	1,186
Jan-Apr 1995	11,093,727	279,775	11,373,502	41,126	1,402
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Mar 1995	4.65	5.01	4.65	6.73	-----
Apr 1994	4.65	4.68	4.65	6.67	-----
Apr 1995	4.68	4.91	4.69	6.76	-----
Jan-Apr 1994	4.66	4.69	4.66	6.69	-----
Jan-Apr 1995	4.66	4.94	4.67	6.72	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Mar 1995	---	23,136	139	23,275	-----
Apr 1994	---	20,691	124	20,815	-----
Apr 1995	45	19,587	100	19,732	-----
Jan-Apr 1994	35	80,843	566	81,444	-----
Jan-Apr 1995	59	82,956	515	83,530	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Mar 1995	---	547,138	3,591	550,729	3,656,424
Apr 1994	---	479,419	3,298	482,717	3,209,028
Apr 1995	418	466,197	2,597	469,212	3,177,660
Jan-Apr 1994	312	1,853,719	14,596	1,868,626	12,657,757
Jan-Apr 1995	567	1,973,143	12,818	1,986,528	13,402,558
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Mar 1995	----	23.65	25.82	23.66	-----
Apr 1994	----	23.17	26.57	23.19	-----
Apr 1995	9.31	23.80	25.85	23.78	-----
Jan-Apr 1994	8.97	22.93	25.78	22.94	-----
Jan-Apr 1995	9.55	23.79	24.88	23.78	-----

- 1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.  
2/ Of the Mature Chickens inspected, the number reported in thousands as heavy fowl (broiler breeding stock) was: April 1994: 4,428, April 1995: 4,776.  
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: April 1994: 88, April 1995: 59.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type.  
United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Mar 1995					
Chilled	2,002,537	41,652	2,044,189	2,512	28
Frozen	192,307	2,805	195,112	5,695	178
Total	2,194,844	44,457	2,239,302	8,207	206
Apr 1994					
Chilled	1,764,701	40,987	1,805,688	2,540	13
Frozen	159,583	3,046	162,629	5,096	146
Total	1,924,285	44,033	1,968,318	7,635	158
Apr 1995					
Chilled	1,739,836	40,836	1,780,672	2,293	59
Frozen	163,137	1,893	165,030	4,349	158
Total	1,902,973	42,729	1,945,701	6,642	217
Jan-Apr 1994					
Chilled	6,974,119	161,165	7,135,284	11,257	176
Frozen	616,811	8,785	625,596	21,351	585
Total	7,590,930	169,949	7,760,880	32,608	761
Jan-Apr 1995					
Chilled	7,356,163	161,842	7,518,005	9,677	207
Frozen	691,488	8,530	700,019	19,841	668
Total	8,047,651	170,372	8,218,023	29,518	875

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
 United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
1,000 Pounds					
Mar 1995					
Chilled	---	220,625	2,045	222,670	2,269,399
Frozen	---	211,647	669	212,317	413,301
Total	---	432,272	2,714	434,986	2,682,701
Apr 1994					
Chilled	---	181,102	1,767	182,869	1,991,109
Frozen	---	197,079	672	197,751	365,622
Total	---	378,181	2,439	380,620	2,356,731
Apr 1995					
Chilled	---	188,320	1,511	189,831	1,972,854
Frozen	310	179,838	452	180,600	350,137
Total	310	368,158	1,963	370,431	2,322,991
Jan-Apr 1994					
Chilled	---	728,108	7,233	735,341	7,882,057
Frozen	231	732,116	3,643	735,990	1,383,521
Total	231	1,460,224	10,875	1,471,330	9,265,578
Jan-Apr 1995					
Chilled	---	793,360	6,959	800,318	8,328,207
Frozen	421	762,232	2,744	765,396	1,485,924
Total	421	1,555,591	9,702	1,565,715	9,814,131

1/ Ready-to-cook weights. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Mar 1995	10,908	963	11,870	11	1
Apr 1994	7,716	1,269	8,985	14	5
Apr 1995	8,463	973	9,436	12	1
Jan-Apr 1994	37,910	5,869	43,778	53	8
Jan-Apr 1995	40,210	3,979	44,189	44	6
Percent 2/					
Apr 1994	0.29	1.76	0.33	0.14	2.05
Apr 1995	0.32	1.38	0.35	0.13	0.33
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Mar 1995	49,158	3,409	52,567	185	4
Apr 1994	36,914	3,400	40,314	172	1
Apr 1995	42,118	3,433	45,551	142	5
Jan-Apr 1994	153,120	12,894	166,015	783	11
Jan-Apr 1995	179,103	13,343	192,446	676	20
Percent 3/					
Apr 1994	1.55	5.24	1.65	1.80	0.60
Apr 1995	1.78	5.40	1.88	1.70	1.44

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, April 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Mar 1995	---	1,315	43	1,357	13,239
Apr 1994	---	1,062	19	1,082	10,086
Apr 1995	4	1,046	16	1,066	10,515
Jan-Apr 1994	2	5,391	125	5,518	49,357
Jan-Apr 1995	4	4,741	98	4,843	49,082
Percent 2/					
Apr 1994	----	0.22	0.59	0.22	0.31
Apr 1995	0.88	0.22	0.63	0.23	0.33
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Mar 1995	---	10,711	327	11,038	63,795
Apr 1994	---	9,381	291	9,672	50,159
Apr 1995	4	8,627	202	8,833	54,531
Jan-Apr 1994	4	39,205	1,187	40,397	207,205
Jan-Apr 1995	6	38,547	977	39,530	232,671
Percent 3/					
Apr 1994	----	2.17	9.80	2.23	1.74
Apr 1995	1.14	2.06	8.62	2.09	1.91

1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds (live weight) inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

3/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AL	74,553	71,054	344,184	334,147	4.62	4.70
AR	90,149	85,416	407,814	390,823	4.52	4.58
CA	19,185	18,518	97,847	92,668	5.10	5.00
DE	22,433	21,392	121,490	113,879	5.42	5.32
FL	11,042	11,722	47,564	51,506	4.31	4.39
GA	75,193	74,544	360,197	356,562	4.79	4.78
LA	12,874	12,828	57,505	56,288	4.47	4.39
MD	16,958	15,938	76,947	74,169	4.54	4.65
MS	46,679	47,330	208,991	219,467	4.48	4.64
MO	16,229	20,191	68,438	85,436	4.22	4.23
NC	49,276	46,345	247,251	236,867	5.02	5.11
PA	8,390	7,275	42,227	36,550	5.03	5.02
SC	16,574	18,462	67,945	76,535	4.10	4.15
TN	12,468	12,398	54,817	55,342	4.40	4.46
TX	31,713	31,123	144,799	137,759	4.57	4.43
VA	28,663	27,576	134,471	129,171	4.69	4.68
WA	3,152	2,828	14,971	14,280	4.75	5.05
US	567,983	561,447	2,643,379	2,628,167	4.65	4.68

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.



Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	1,000 Pounds				Percent	
AL	251,286	242,436	5,651	7,005	1.82	2.33
AR	287,789	277,120	5,069	5,029	1.38	1.43
CA	71,329	66,746	1,840	2,344	2.09	2.81
DE	87,049	81,652	1,872	2,366	1.71	2.31
FL	34,395	35,964	370	447	0.86	0.96
GA	266,258	262,805	4,846	5,699	1.49	1.78
LA	40,809	40,731	807	756	1.56	1.49
MD	55,116	52,094	969	1,179	1.40	1.77
MS	160,960	162,219	2,733	2,838	1.45	1.44
MO	49,493	62,011	970	1,168	1.57	1.52
NC	180,976	174,603	3,303	4,115	1.48	1.93
PA	29,760	25,873	1,151	817	3.03	2.48
SC	49,450	56,545	733	1,084	1.20	1.57
TN	38,076	39,684	538	605	1.09	1.22
TX	108,701	104,377	1,833	1,716	1.41	1.38
VA	97,580	89,053	1,372	1,745	1.13	1.50
WA	11,085	10,494	405	368	3.01	2.87
US	1,924,285	1,902,973	36,914	42,118	1.55	1.78

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
Selected States and United States, April 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	48,775	218,564	251,025	5,196	20,317
AR	---	11,099	320,599	147,954	7,336	16,434
CA	---	8,169	113,287	---	910	17,252
DE	---	119,234	103,585	72,009	---	---
FL	---	---	17,387	9,104	---	---
GA	---	27,909	181,127	239,344	1,912	18,043
LA	---	988	44,662	20,039	785	4,466
MD	---	58,180	68,688	30,446	---	---
MS	---	6,640	121,008	79,034	1,420	15,492
MO	---	6,398	78,412	16,218	2,205	1,961
NC	---	---	126,625	74,737	75	60,313
PA	---	---	33,050	28,354	250	3,507
SC	---	---	28,421	57,126	---	---
TN	---	---	45,265	9,657	---	1,592
TX	---	---	110,900	47,029	429	4,129
VA	---	15,300	81,111	67,607	84	---
WA	---	8,859	23,167	---	160	1,263
US	---	419,283	1,886,880	1,211,778	31,441	246,265
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	13,081	32,557	80,941	10,676	230,641	911,773
AR	14,044	28,676	74,101	5,958	121,284	747,485
CA	764	7,060	3,485	1,321	---	152,248
DE	4,184	6,267	13,928	1,835	30,986	352,028
FL	1,076	5,586	6,247	---	25,490	64,890
GA	15,076	33,550	62,002	12,608	169,863	761,434
LA	2,114	2,392	7,283	187	---	82,916
MD	1,958	7,832	---	277	12,203	179,584
MS	6,530	17,342	37,105	2,645	111,077	398,293
MO	2,433	21,744	17,660	---	32,434	179,465
NC	4,295	22,543	27,828	3,511	182,394	502,321
PA	2,468	2,119	---	---	---	69,748
SC	3,158	18,144	12,684	1,749	55,376	176,658
TN	1,959	8,562	8,828	---	39,245	115,108
TX	1,415	8,167	9,656	1,297	6,636	189,658
VA	3,972	11,966	26,979	2,023	52,753	261,795
WA	470	1,224	---	47	14,500	49,690
US	86,935	248,103	454,489	56,015	1,319,107	5,960,296

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	15,393	14,387	72,098	70,651	4.68	4.91

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1994	1995	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	44,033	42,729	3,400	3,433	5.24	5.40

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
Selected States and United States, April 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	3,304	255,463	11,207	612	117,451
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	99	---	---	99
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	32,030	30,989	156,481	2,083	49,710	659,330

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,116	1,919	43,635	40,479	20.62	21.10
CA	1,455	1,503	30,948	30,303	21.26	20.16
IA	862	1,121	26,120	33,580	30.29	29.95
MN	2,661	2,424	57,657	52,135	21.67	21.51
MO	1,490	1,518	36,534	39,230	24.52	25.85
NC	4,311	3,694	98,053	87,444	22.74	23.67
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,053	2,502	59,223	48,627	19.40	19.43
US	20,691	19,586	479,419	466,197	23.17	23.80

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, April 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
AR	35,436	32,695	882	809	2.24	2.22
CA	25,085	24,670	426	413	1.53	1.52
IA	20,654	26,162	741	827	3.15	2.74
MN	45,214	41,577	1,498	1,026	2.89	2.19
MO	28,095	31,458	942	837	2.86	2.37
NC	78,022	69,377	1,679	1,349	1.90	1.71
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	46,417	37,797	807	770	1.51	1.76
US	378,181	368,158	9,381	8,627	2.17	2.06

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause.  
Selected States and United States, April 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	9,131	---	---	8
CA	---	7	6,806	46	---	6
IA	---	---	---	2,892	---	---
MN	---	---	9,633	3,764	611	---
MO	---	---	13,682	2,730	---	---
NC	---	---	5,348	---	---	4
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	7,340	---	---	---
US	---	150	84,608	19,181	5,253	116
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	---	---	361	---	9,500
CA	---	---	458	---	---	7,323
IA	---	---	---	---	164	3,056
MN	147	1,377	1,103	---	---	16,635
MO	---	---	---	---	---	16,412
NC	121	1,814	---	---	1,654	8,941
PA	67	---	---	---	---	67
VA	---	---	161	---	---	7,501
US	1,143	8,361	8,184	1,663	9,902	138,561

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
United States, April 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	1,795	257	20	78
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	6	98	201	---	2,272	4,727

## Poultry Slaughter Estimates

**Data Sources:** Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection-Daily Summary forms (MP Form 513) completed by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA. This form provides actual counts of birds slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. Over 99 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The MP Form 513 collects 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. Annual totals of poultry slaughtered under State-administered Non-Federal Inspection (NFI) are published in the April release.

**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 (MP Form 513) 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. The program also generates a missing reports listing for a telephone follow-up. Data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release.

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 will continue to be a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it is expected to have only a minimal impact on the final 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.

Generally, no State data are 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 head for that species. These data are included in the U.S. totals.



## Definitions Used To Report Federally Inspected Slaughter

**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.

**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 U.S.D.A. 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.

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