

# Poultry Slaughter



USDA  
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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 4 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during November (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.49 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the amount certified in November 1995. Updated totals for October 1996 show that 2.98 billion pounds were certified. The January through November cumulative total of pounds certified, at 29.8 billion pounds, was up 5 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during November 1996 was 3.37 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.72 billion pounds of young chickens, 49.4 million pounds of mature chickens, 592 million pounds of turkeys, and 11.9 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during November 1996 averaged 4.81 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 4 percent from 5.29 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.08 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during November 1996 averaged 22.9 pounds per bird, virtually unchanged from November 1995.

Ante-mortem condemnations during November 1996 totaled 11.7 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.35 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.33 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 54.3 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.79 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.76 percent a year earlier.

November 1996 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays, while November 1995 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
-----					
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Oct 1996	682,885	14,527	697,413	1,973	-----
Nov 1995	596,524	11,972	608,496	1,707	-----
Nov 1996	564,701	9,727	574,428	1,781	-----
Jan-Nov 1995	6,794,190	147,423	6,941,613	17,837	-----
Jan-Nov 1996	6,939,482	141,408	7,080,890	18,811	-----
-----					
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Oct 1996	3,287,322	76,851	3,364,173	13,008	2,809
Nov 1995	2,843,278	63,385	2,906,664	11,495	1,250
Nov 1996	2,716,794	49,400	2,766,193	11,857	1,640
Jan-Nov 1995	31,581,300	752,454	32,333,754	118,453	7,793
Jan-Nov 1996	33,100,687	741,714	33,842,401	125,061	12,551
-----					
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Oct 1996	4.81	5.29	4.82	6.59	-----
Nov 1995	4.77	5.29	4.78	6.73	-----
Nov 1996	4.81	5.08	4.82	6.66	-----
Jan-Nov 1995	4.65	5.10	4.66	6.64	-----
Jan-Nov 1996	4.77	5.25	4.78	6.65	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,  
 United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	3/ Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Oct 1996	17	27,752	282	28,051	-----
Nov 1995	27	25,652	178	25,857	-----
Nov 1996	7	25,741	132	25,880	-----
Jan-Nov 1995	341	257,663	1,751	259,755	-----
Jan-Nov 1996	177	269,182	1,922	271,282	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Oct 1996	175	659,016	6,875	666,066	4,046,057
Nov 1995	265	585,790	4,742	590,796	3,510,204
Nov 1996	72	588,512	3,232	591,816	3,371,507
Jan-Nov 1995	2,996	5,956,323	43,396	6,002,716	38,462,716
Jan-Nov 1996	1,574	6,359,810	49,451	6,410,835	40,390,848
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Oct 1996	10.14	23.75	24.40	23.74	-----
Nov 1995	9.88	22.84	26.59	22.85	-----
Nov 1996	9.82	22.86	24.55	22.87	-----
Jan-Nov 1995	8.78	23.12	24.78	23.11	-----
Jan-Nov 1996	8.87	23.63	25.72	23.63	-----

- 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: November 1995: 5,091, November 1996: 3,856.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: November 1995: 59, November 1996: 74.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Oct 1996					
Chilled	2,191,903	45,310	2,237,213	3,074	372
Frozen	208,352	1,533	209,885	6,272	1,218
Total	2,400,255	46,843	2,447,098	9,346	1,590
Nov 1995					
Chilled	1,885,510	36,259	1,921,769	3,128	151
Frozen	197,345	2,697	200,042	5,088	613
Total	2,082,855	38,956	2,121,811	8,216	764
Nov 1996					
Chilled	1,809,840	29,794	1,839,634	3,356	399
Frozen	173,458	718	174,177	5,088	496
Total	1,983,299	30,512	2,013,811	8,444	895
Jan-Nov 1995					
Chilled	20,997,953	429,245	21,427,198	27,411	1,031
Frozen	2,004,383	28,974	2,033,356	57,454	3,730
Total	23,002,335	458,219	23,460,554	84,865	4,761
Jan-Nov 1996					
Chilled	22,163,603	431,357	22,594,960	32,340	2,623
Frozen	2,028,374	20,084	2,048,458	57,735	4,467
Total	24,191,977	451,441	24,643,418	90,075	7,090

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
 United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Oct 1996						
Chilled	0	244,162	3,053	247,215	2,487,874	
Frozen	136	273,962	2,121	276,219	493,594	
Total	136	518,124	5,174	523,435	2,981,468	
Nov 1995						
Chilled	1	249,698	2,612	252,311	2,177,359	
Frozen	178	213,320	906	214,405	420,147	
Total	179	463,018	3,518	466,716	2,597,506	
Nov 1996						
Chilled	0	247,998	1,492	249,490	2,092,879	
Frozen	53	217,852	987	218,892	398,653	
Total	53	465,850	2,479	468,382	2,491,531	
Jan-Nov 1995						
Chilled	1	2,293,205	22,694	2,315,900	23,771,540	
Frozen	2,252	2,403,684	10,136	2,416,071	4,510,612	
Total	2,253	4,696,889	32,831	4,731,972	28,282,152	
Jan-Nov 1996						
Chilled	3	2,402,514	25,171	2,427,688	25,057,611	
Frozen	1,203	2,613,594	12,132	2,626,929	4,737,589	
Total	1,207	5,016,108	37,302	5,054,617	29,795,200	

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Oct 1996	9,930	987	10,917	9	11
Nov 1995	9,539	731	10,270	9	5
Nov 1996	9,526	666	10,192	11	10
Jan-Nov 1995	117,430	12,877	130,308	156	36
Jan-Nov 1996	124,404	11,829	136,232	121	70
Percent 2/					
Nov 1995	0.34	1.15	0.35	0.08	0.36
Nov 1996	0.35	1.35	0.37	0.09	0.63
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Oct 1996	46,163	4,542	50,705	224	42
Nov 1995	41,527	3,282	44,809	190	14
Nov 1996	40,126	2,872	42,998	254	15
Jan-Nov 1995	484,829	36,894	521,723	2,010	119
Jan-Nov 1996	506,114	42,831	548,945	2,042	145
Percent 3/					
Nov 1995	1.62	5.75	1.71	1.84	1.21
Nov 1996	1.64	6.46	1.73	2.38	1.02

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,  
 United States, November 1996 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Oct 1996		1	1,616	47	1,664	12,601
Nov 1995		12	1,359	36	1,406	11,690
Nov 1996		0	1,517	18	1,535	11,748
Jan-Nov 1995		24	15,623	372	16,019	146,519
Jan-Nov 1996		7	18,859	465	19,332	155,755
Percent 2/						
Nov 1995		4.45	0.23	0.75	0.24	0.33
Nov 1996		0.24	0.26	0.57	0.26	0.35
		1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
Oct 1996		5	12,359	388	12,751	63,722
Nov 1995		13	10,299	312	10,624	55,637
Nov 1996		1	10,841	197	11,039	54,306
Jan-Nov 1995		49	112,021	2,906	114,976	638,828
Jan-Nov 1996		30	122,717	3,060	125,806	676,937
Percent 3/						
Nov 1995		5.33	1.95	7.32	2.00	1.76
Nov 1996		1.58	2.05	6.78	2.07	1.79

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, November 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000	Pounds	-----	Pounds
AL	70,799	63,594	339,920	305,083	4.80	4.80	
AR	92,556	86,504	437,046	420,399	4.72	4.86	
CA	18,151	16,148	90,651	79,547	4.99	4.93	
DE	24,063	20,162	132,872	111,810	5.52	5.55	
FL	11,847	10,203	51,548	47,146	4.35	4.62	
GA	80,495	78,871	383,125	389,761	4.76	4.94	
LA	12,804	8,848	58,980	40,328	4.61	4.56	
MD	16,916	16,016	80,938	76,768	4.78	4.79	
MS	51,242	49,837	240,384	225,662	4.69	4.53	
MO	23,536	26,401	98,779	114,267	4.20	4.33	
NC	52,587	45,409	276,276	241,195	5.25	5.31	
PA	7,719	8,021	38,601	40,436	5.00	5.04	
SC	18,734	16,733	82,351	74,441	4.40	4.45	
TN	12,947	12,713	57,634	56,869	4.45	4.47	
TX	34,971	38,284	159,477	176,608	4.56	4.61	
VA	27,305	26,291	130,788	126,374	4.79	4.81	
WA	2,443	2,241	12,470	11,603	5.10	5.18	
US	596,524	564,701	2,843,278	2,716,794	4.77	4.81	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.



Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, November 1995-96

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AL	251,095	223,463	6,483	5,441	2.12	1.98
AR	310,565	300,516	5,648	5,198	1.44	1.37
CA	66,132	58,566	1,710	1,213	2.10	1.69
DE	96,576	79,537	2,240	1,869	1.87	1.86
FL	36,789	33,965	536	676	1.15	1.59
GA	285,107	288,128	5,515	7,208	1.60	2.05
LA	43,372	28,971	860	529	1.62	1.46
MD	57,477	54,806	1,063	1,343	1.46	1.94
MS	184,264	172,828	2,586	2,013	1.20	0.99
MO	71,749	84,251	1,551	1,501	1.74	1.46
NC	205,809	179,456	3,852	3,448	1.55	1.59
PA	27,448	27,956	1,007	1,133	2.90	3.11
SC	61,324	54,875	1,196	1,281	1.61	1.91
TN	41,876	40,374	641	607	1.24	1.19
TX	120,048	130,624	1,784	2,294	1.24	1.44
VA	91,817	87,804	1,553	1,505	1.32	1.32
WA	9,307	8,562	337	335	3.00	3.21
US	2,082,855	1,983,299	41,527	40,126	1.62	1.64

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, November 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	---	195,150	155,505	7,052	12,938
AR	---	7,345	272,801	153,170	6,280	7,164
CA	---	5,588	80,757	10,408	1,232	8,568
DE	---	5,611	94,158	74,780	---	---
FL	---	1,159	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,553	141,728	569,933	1,060	14,350
LA	---	---	28,426	12,240	532	---
MD	---	5,042	88,409	---	63	6,108
MS	---	2,303	73,688	26,832	1,087	10,171
MO	---	5,330	98,133	29,716	2,117	1,974
NC	---	4,357	114,010	78,279	477	35,245
PA	---	1,051	36,084	52,852	378	---
SC	---	1,405	29,257	---	48	3,556
TN	---	---	46,341	16,826	---	---
TX	---	632	130,892	55,109	---	2,187
VA	---	5,133	68,197	51,052	134	---
WA	---	---	---	530	260	---
US	---	77,887	1,713,561	1,455,049	31,825	144,366
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	12,001	26,868	75,094	8,176	179,378	672,162
AR	13,538	36,575	58,534	3,660	123,485	682,552
CA	712	5,823	2,292	---	40,804	156,184
DE	3,900	6,536	14,962	1,513	41,929	243,389
FL	1,624	2,819	7,248	1,517	---	14,367
GA	12,210	39,348	45,600	8,086	192,772	1,026,640
LA	1,099	---	---	---	---	42,297
MD	1,871	11,868	---	---	19,546	132,907
MS	4,591	16,609	19,381	1,138	107,588	263,388
MO	2,566	12,078	16,910	---	27,794	196,618
NC	5,892	27,286	53,955	2,639	158,853	480,993
PA	2,023	5,171	---	---	---	97,559
SC	3,055	15,815	18,763	1,295	58,713	131,907
TN	2,058	4,772	9,566	750	25,017	105,330
TX	1,233	7,205	13,314	1,738	16,840	229,150
VA	2,693	7,632	25,592	---	70,861	231,294
WA	---	902	418	---	18,221	20,331
US	77,391	249,111	430,733	40,914	1,234,810	5,455,647

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, November 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	11,972	9,727	63,385	49,400	5.29	5.08

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, November 1995-96

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	38,956	30,512	3,282	2,872	5.75	6.46

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, November 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	4,401	169,086	11,829	1,235	91,641

  

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	22,963	31,861	131,003	1,473	30,761	496,253

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, November 1995-96

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,232	2,261	46,182	39,799	20.69	17.61
CA	2,477	2,594	52,232	58,916	21.09	22.71
IA	1,228	1,163	34,204	30,371	27.85	26.12
MN	3,758	3,747	80,245	81,781	21.35	21.83
MO	1,945	1,940	44,558	50,231	22.91	25.89
NC	4,128	3,967	90,534	94,325	21.93	23.78
PA	1,090	1,118	22,146	22,683	20.32	20.29
VA	3,087	3,077	56,270	56,694	18.23	18.43
US	25,652	25,741	585,790	588,512	22.84	22.86

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, November 1995-96

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	36,937	32,646	815	644	1.96	1.80
CA	42,212	46,364	649	815	1.38	1.54
IA	26,962	23,219	766	610	2.49	2.23
MN	63,211	64,739	2,044	2,103	2.83	2.86
MO	34,869	40,731	907	988	2.26	2.19
NC	71,843	74,198	1,255	1,708	1.54	2.01
PA	17,638	17,780	298	235	1.50	1.15
VA	44,202	45,479	669	858	1.32	1.68
US	463,018	465,850	10,299	10,841	1.95	2.05

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, November 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	8,851	802	---	---
CA	---	---	10,670	492	---	---
IA	---	---	---	---	---	---
MN	---	---	21,444	8,400	1,690	57
MO	---	---	17,676	---	---	5
NC	---	---	9,773	---	---	---
PA	---	---	4,380	507	---	---
VA	---	---	9,314	437	---	9
US	---	410	123,834	19,287	7,519	162

  

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	507	1,322	554	3,127	15,163
CA	29	752	---	28	---	11,971
IA	---	---	---	---	---	---
MN	198	1,330	2,072	---	3,283	38,474
MO	---	270	706	---	799	19,456
NC	---	2,269	2,309	---	2,939	17,290
PA	37	---	---	8	---	4,932
VA	---	972	---	---	---	10,732
US	1,273	8,412	10,157	2,262	17,346	190,662



## Poultry Slaughter Estimates

**Data Sources:** Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection Form (FSIS 6000-21) 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 FSIS 6000-21 forms collect number of head slaughtered daily under FI by species and class as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights. Approximately 350 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection. 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 (FSIS 6000-21) weekly summarizing the plant's activity. When inconsistencies in the data are detected, the reports are returned to the inspectors for correction. Inspectors correct or validate the report and resubmit it. The reports cover weekly activities through Saturday night and reported data are allocated to the appropriate month as it enters the database.

A NASS computer program provides a review of current data with historical data for each plant. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. 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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The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3 P.M. ET on February 3, 1997.

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