

# Poultry Slaughter



USDA  
Washington, D.C.

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Released February 3, 1997, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Poultry Slaughter" call Jim Brewster at (202) 720-8784, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET. For assistance with general agricultural statistics, information about NASS, its products or services, contact the Agricultural Statistics Hotline at 1-800-727-9540 or E-mail: [NASS@NASS.USDA.GOV](mailto:NASS@NASS.USDA.GOV).

## **Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 3 Percent**

Poultry Certified Wholesome during December (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.52 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the amount certified in December 1995. Updated totals for November 1996 show that 2.52 billion pounds were certified. The January through December cumulative total of pounds certified, at 32.4 billion pounds, was up 5 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during December 1996 was 3.43 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.84 billion pounds of young chickens, 58.9 million pounds of mature chickens, 523 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.6 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during December 1996 averaged 4.84 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from the average live weight a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens was down 3 percent from 4.98 pounds per bird the previous year to 4.83 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during December 1996 averaged 23.9 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from December 1995.

Ante-mortem condemnations during December 1996 totaled 13.3 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.39 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.37 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 58.8 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.90 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.88 percent a year earlier.

December 1996 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, while December 1995 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five 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, December 1996 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Nov 1996	571,724	9,727	581,450	1,781	-----
Dec 1995	577,239	11,995	589,234	1,692	-----
Dec 1996	587,028	12,201	599,229	1,852	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	7,371,429	159,418	7,530,847	19,528	-----
Jan-Dec 1996	7,535,351	153,609	7,688,959	20,663	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Nov 1996	2,749,467	49,400	2,798,867	11,857	1,643
Dec 1995	2,771,680	59,766	2,831,446	11,422	547
Dec 1996	2,838,816	58,881	2,897,696	12,563	848
Jan-Dec 1995	34,352,980	812,220	35,165,199	129,875	8,340
Jan-Dec 1996	35,977,796	800,594	36,778,390	137,624	13,403
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Nov 1996	4.81	5.08	4.81	6.66	-----
Dec 1995	4.80	4.98	4.81	6.75	-----
Dec 1996	4.84	4.83	4.84	6.78	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	4.66	5.09	4.67	6.65	-----
Jan-Dec 1996	4.77	5.21	4.78	6.66	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Nov 1996	7	25,745	132	25,884	-----
Dec 1995	17	21,143	117	21,277	-----
Dec 1996	10	21,710	144	21,864	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	358	278,806	1,868	281,032	-----
Jan-Dec 1996	188	290,896	2,066	293,150	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Nov 1996	72	588,585	3,232	591,890	3,404,256
Dec 1995	140	500,256	3,019	503,415	3,346,830
Dec 1996	122	518,857	3,811	522,790	3,433,898
Jan-Dec 1995	3,137	6,456,579	46,415	6,506,131	41,809,546
Jan-Dec 1996	1,697	6,878,740	53,261	6,933,698	43,863,115
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Nov 1996	9.82	22.86	24.55	22.87	-----
Dec 1995	8.15	23.66	25.89	23.66	-----
Dec 1996	12.00	23.90	26.48	23.91	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	8.75	23.16	24.85	23.15	-----
Jan-Dec 1996	9.04	23.65	25.78	23.65	-----

- 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: December 1995: 4,162, December 1996: 4,129.  
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: December 1995: 59, December 1996: 95.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Nov 1996					
Chilled	1,825,200	29,794	1,854,994	3,356	401
Frozen	182,247	718	182,966	5,088	496
Total	2,007,447	30,512	2,037,960	8,444	897
Dec 1995					
Chilled	1,831,199	34,846	1,866,045	3,163	140
Frozen	187,256	1,453	188,710	5,032	232
Total	2,018,455	36,299	2,054,754	8,196	372
Dec 1996					
Chilled	1,888,942	34,725	1,923,667	3,732	271
Frozen	181,965	646	182,611	5,233	205
Total	2,070,907	35,371	2,106,278	8,965	476
Jan-Dec 1995					
Chilled	22,829,151	464,091	23,293,242	30,574	1,172
Frozen	2,191,639	30,427	2,222,066	62,487	3,962
Total	25,020,790	494,518	25,515,308	93,061	5,133
Jan-Dec 1996					
Chilled	24,069,034	466,082	24,535,116	36,072	2,896
Frozen	2,225,048	20,730	2,245,777	62,968	4,672
Total	26,294,082	486,812	26,780,893	99,040	7,568

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Nov 1996					
Chilled	---	248,053	1,492	249,545	2,108,295
Frozen	53	217,852	987	218,892	407,442
Total	53	465,904	2,479	468,437	2,515,737
Dec 1995					
Chilled	3	203,346	1,662	205,012	2,074,359
Frozen	86	191,101	646	191,832	385,806
Total	89	394,447	2,308	396,844	2,460,165
Dec 1996					
Chilled	44	211,186	1,046	212,276	2,139,946
Frozen	46	194,825	1,829	196,701	384,750
Total	91	406,011	2,875	408,976	2,524,695
Jan-Dec 1995					
Chilled	4	2,496,552	24,356	2,520,912	25,845,900
Frozen	2,337	2,594,784	10,782	2,607,904	4,896,418
Total	2,341	5,091,336	35,138	5,128,816	30,742,318
Jan-Dec 1996					
Chilled	48	2,613,755	26,217	2,640,019	27,214,103
Frozen	1,250	2,808,419	13,961	2,823,630	5,137,047
Total	1,297	5,422,174	40,177	5,463,649	32,351,150

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

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Nov 1996	9,635	666	10,301	11	10
Dec 1995	10,123	841	10,964	9	1
Dec 1996	10,833	1,057	11,890	9	3
Jan-Dec 1995	127,553	13,719	141,272	165	38
Jan-Dec 1996	135,417	12,885	148,302	130	74
Percent 2/					
Dec 1995	0.37	1.41	0.39	0.08	0.27
Dec 1996	0.38	1.79	0.41	0.07	0.40
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Nov 1996	40,489	2,872	43,361	254	15
Dec 1995	43,119	3,390	46,509	172	6
Dec 1996	44,434	3,516	47,950	265	10
Jan-Dec 1995	527,948	40,283	568,232	2,182	125
Jan-Dec 1996	550,938	46,347	597,284	2,307	155
Percent 3/					
Dec 1995	1.73	6.30	1.83	1.67	1.17
Dec 1996	1.74	6.63	1.84	2.34	1.31

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
1,000 Pounds					
<b>Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)</b>					
Nov 1996	---	1,518	18	1,536	11,858
Dec 1995	1	1,340	44	1,386	12,361
Dec 1996	---	1,411	25	1,436	13,339
Jan-Dec 1995	25	16,963	417	17,405	158,879
Jan-Dec 1996	7	20,271	490	20,769	169,275
<b>Percent 2/</b>					
Dec 1995	1.05	0.27	1.47	0.28	0.37
Dec 1996	0.07	0.27	0.66	0.27	0.39
1,000 Pounds					
<b>Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)</b>					
Nov 1996	1	10,841	197	11,039	54,670
Dec 1995	29	9,714	188	9,931	56,618
Dec 1996	5	10,351	242	10,598	58,822
Jan-Dec 1995	78	121,736	3,094	124,907	695,446
Jan-Dec 1996	34	133,069	3,301	136,405	736,150
<b>Percent 3/</b>					
Dec 1995	23.02	2.16	6.92	2.19	1.88
Dec 1996	4.13	2.22	7.05	2.25	1.90

- 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, December 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	68,019	61,775	327,880	301,542	4.82	4.88
AR	90,348	91,968	425,177	446,397	4.71	4.85
CA	17,291	17,788	88,713	91,042	5.13	5.12
DE	22,523	21,895	125,594	122,185	5.58	5.58
FL	11,833	10,752	53,316	49,301	4.51	4.59
GA	81,198	84,194	391,079	417,077	4.82	4.95
LA	12,217	11,572	55,812	52,100	4.57	4.50
MD	16,407	16,404	78,414	77,254	4.78	4.71
MS	46,578	53,990	221,938	247,079	4.76	4.58
MO	23,660	27,301	101,159	120,113	4.28	4.40
NC	49,998	44,827	263,253	241,974	5.27	5.40
PA	7,378	8,089	37,824	40,936	5.13	5.06
SC	17,637	17,013	77,553	75,792	4.40	4.46
TN	12,365	13,472	55,772	63,086	4.51	4.68
TX	33,644	37,255	156,083	170,299	4.64	4.57
VA	28,121	26,823	136,342	128,373	4.85	4.79
WA	2,436	2,267	12,420	11,510	5.10	5.08
US	577,239	587,028	2,771,680	2,838,816	4.80	4.84

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.



Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, December 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	240,063	221,819	6,501	6,022	2.20	2.22	
AR	301,332	320,590	5,689	5,949	1.49	1.48	
CA	64,775	66,448	1,612	1,481	2.02	1.81	
DE	90,045	86,901	2,902	2,623	2.57	2.39	
FL	39,152	35,006	601	747	1.25	1.68	
GA	289,760	305,722	5,795	7,120	1.65	1.90	
LA	41,310	36,004	864	716	1.72	1.53	
MD	55,371	52,469	1,353	1,569	1.92	2.26	
MS	166,962	192,099	2,456	2,321	1.23	1.04	
MO	72,686	87,106	1,588	1,690	1.74	1.56	
NC	193,683	179,022	3,848	3,537	1.62	1.62	
PA	26,734	28,422	1,034	1,232	3.04	3.34	
SC	56,966	55,172	1,267	1,430	1.82	2.10	
TN	40,061	45,782	645	706	1.29	1.24	
TX	118,043	128,209	1,873	2,606	1.33	1.70	
VA	95,619	90,140	1,921	1,708	1.57	1.48	
WA	9,385	8,603	325	343	2.91	3.31	
US	2,018,455	2,070,907	43,119	44,434	1.73	1.74	

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, December 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	---	194,539	223,260	5,189	15,864
AR	---	8,119	308,260	163,415	14,604	8,050
CA	---	6,586	85,230	16,811	1,691	8,108
DE	---	---	111,470	129,473	---	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,866	161,053	415,715	1,588	16,436
LA	---	430	38,493	---	414	2,699
MD	---	---	100,486	---	97	7,215
MS	---	3,438	91,414	35,412	1,172	14,830
MO	---	7,936	124,326	31,052	2,489	2,277
NC	---	8,393	115,897	83,785	289	38,845
PA	---	2,336	34,914	68,405	393	---
SC	---	1,791	32,123	88,581	38	3,361
TN	---	---	48,573	---	---	---
TX	---	906	146,308	71,063	704	2,329
VA	---	3,506	76,562	61,116	157	---
WA	---	---	21,119	524	---	828
US	---	91,976	1,892,292	1,593,528	41,522	167,665
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	12,297	26,126	66,453	4,975	225,578	774,281
AR	14,119	38,908	60,922	5,305	120,268	741,970
CA	913	7,720	2,483	---	29,376	158,918
DE	4,050	6,731	16,565	1,868	---	270,157
FL	1,374	2,268	7,461	658	---	11,761
GA	15,256	48,715	52,828	8,221	224,861	946,539
LA	---	---	---	---	---	42,036
MD	1,790	7,889	---	460	21,931	139,868
MS	4,810	16,912	21,368	1,703	111,497	302,556
MO	3,285	10,685	18,004	---	36,791	236,845
NC	5,671	23,365	46,278	3,133	106,826	432,482
PA	2,092	3,476	---	350	43,012	154,978
SC	4,052	18,436	---	---	66,197	214,579
TN	2,486	5,177	---	347	21,902	78,485
TX	1,280	9,455	13,273	1,059	27,571	273,948
VA	3,150	8,604	24,895	949	100,587	279,526
WA	---	1,224	503	300	20,711	45,209
US	84,953	261,749	442,275	36,866	1,342,472	5,955,298

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, December 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	11,995	12,201	59,766	58,881	4.98	4.83

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		----- Percent -----			
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	36,299	35,371	3,390	3,516	6.30	6.63

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, December 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	5,765	213,285	15,112	538	135,269
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	23,054	49,102	177,243	1,380	42,193	662,941

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, December 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	1,952	1,995	39,524	34,126	20.25	17.11
CA	1,843	1,883	38,111	41,681	20.68	22.13
IA	1,019	1,137	30,533	31,827	29.96	27.98
MN	2,784	3,072	57,995	70,252	20.83	22.87
MO	1,625	1,732	41,049	47,861	25.26	27.64
NC	3,571	3,295	83,772	81,572	23.46	24.75
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,613	2,871	49,202	51,526	18.83	17.94
US	21,143	21,710	500,256	518,857	23.66	23.90

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1995	1996	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	31,900	27,790	716	521	2.01	1.70
CA	30,865	32,789	467	552	1.36	1.47
IA	23,755	24,674	895	793	3.26	2.77
MN	46,305	54,661	1,454	2,018	2.79	3.19
MO	32,271	37,713	1,025	1,127	2.77	2.62
NC	66,131	63,834	1,381	1,496	1.83	2.04
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	37,555	39,155	643	841	1.45	1.81
US	394,447	406,011	9,714	10,351	2.16	2.22

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, December 1996

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	7,964	---	---	---
CA	---	---	6,968	253	51	---
IA	---	---	---	5,647	---	---
MN	---	---	19,196	12,627	1,623	16
MO	---	---	---	---	---	9
NC	---	---	8,300	675	---	13
PA	---	---	---	1,177	66	---
VA	---	---	---	463	---	---
US	---	236	114,286	29,325	6,917	136
	Number					
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	---	373	1,366	355	956	11,014
CA	13	544	298	21	127	8,275
IA	---	---	---	---	---	5,647
MN	267	1,124	1,706	---	---	36,559
MO	---	304	492	---	763	1,568
NC	252	1,597	1,602	---	1,454	13,893
PA	---	---	---	---	---	1,243
VA	35	929	---	119	---	1,546
US	1,207	7,254	9,016	1,984	11,919	182,280



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The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3 P.M. ET on March 4, 1997.

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