

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released December 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.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during October (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.04 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in October 1996. Updated totals for September 1997 show that 2.79 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during October 1997 was 4.11 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.36 billion pounds of young chickens, 73.3 million pounds of mature chickens, 654 million pounds of turkeys, and 14.1 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 1997 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 5.29 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.11 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during September 1997 averaged 23.9 pounds per bird, up one percent from October 1996.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 1997 totaled 12.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.31 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 67.9 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.84 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.75 percent a year earlier.

October 1997 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, the same as October 1996. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		Poultry
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1997	647,490	12,477	659,967	1,849	-----
Oct 1996	686,141	14,527	700,669	1,973	-----
Oct 1997	695,290	14,326	709,616	2,104	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	6,378,152	131,676	6,509,828	17,029	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	6,515,160	141,923	6,657,083	18,364	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1997	3,117,642	66,742	3,184,385	12,248	2,419
Oct 1996	3,302,868	76,844	3,379,712	13,008	2,814
Oct 1997	3,364,731	73,260	3,437,991	14,102	2,476
Jan-Oct 1996	30,400,087	692,275	31,092,362	113,204	10,916
Jan-Oct 1997	31,270,372	710,872	31,981,244	122,400	18,899
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1997	4.81	5.35	4.83	6.62	-----
Oct 1996	4.81	5.29	4.82	6.59	-----
Oct 1997	4.84	5.11	4.84	6.70	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	4.77	5.26	4.78	6.65	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	4.80	5.01	4.80	6.67	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			
		-----			Total
		Fryer-			Total
		Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Turkeys

		1,000 Head			
Number Inspected					
Sep 1997	---	25,081	264	25,345	-----
Oct 1996	17	27,752	282	28,051	-----
Oct 1997	2	27,204	185	27,391	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	170	242,977	1,791	244,938	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	68	240,481	1,499	242,049	-----
		1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight					
Sep 1997	---	579,854	6,413	586,267	3,785,320
Oct 1996	175	659,016	6,875	666,066	4,061,599
Oct 1997	19	649,738	4,599	654,356	4,108,925
Jan-Oct 1996	1,502	5,760,723	46,219	5,808,444	37,024,925
Jan-Oct 1997	658	5,751,265	38,284	5,790,208	37,912,751
		Pounds			
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1997	---	23.12	24.27	23.13	-----
Oct 1996	10.14	23.75	24.40	23.74	-----
Oct 1997	7.74	23.88	24.83	23.89	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	8.83	23.71	25.81	23.71	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	9.62	23.92	25.54	23.92	-----

- 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: October 1996: 6,395, October 1997: 5,672.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: October 1996: 77, October 1997: 72.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Sep 1997					
Chilled	2,078,323	38,203	2,116,526	2,817	828
Frozen	202,479	2,658	205,137	5,917	611
Total	2,280,801	40,861	2,321,663	8,734	1,439
Oct 1996					
Chilled	2,200,362	45,305	2,245,667	3,074	374
Frozen	213,926	1,533	215,459	6,272	1,218
Total	2,414,287	46,838	2,461,126	9,346	1,591
Oct 1997					
Chilled	2,250,633	41,228	2,291,861	3,219	683
Frozen	225,524	3,698	229,222	6,769	775
Total	2,476,156	44,926	2,521,083	9,988	1,458
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	20,362,440	401,548	20,763,988	28,984	2,226
Frozen	1,860,835	19,355	1,880,190	52,647	3,971
Total	22,223,275	420,902	22,644,178	81,631	6,197
Jan-Oct 1997					
Chilled	20,872,043	406,362	21,278,406	30,545	6,958
Frozen	2,040,582	23,401	2,063,983	56,717	4,341
Total	22,912,625	429,764	23,342,389	87,262	11,299

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds			
Sep 1997					
Chilled	---	209,196	2,981	212,177	2,332,348
Frozen	---	248,431	1,951	250,382	462,046
Total	---	457,627	4,932	462,559	2,794,395
Oct 1996					
Chilled	---	244,162	3,053	247,215	2,496,330
Frozen	136	273,962	2,121	276,219	499,167
Total	136	518,124	5,174	523,435	2,995,497
Oct 1997					
Chilled	13	245,380	2,078	247,471	2,543,234
Frozen	---	262,968	1,574	264,542	501,308
Total	13	508,348	3,652	512,013	3,044,543
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	3	2,154,504	23,679	2,178,186	22,973,384
Frozen	1,150	2,387,181	11,145	2,399,476	4,336,283
Total	1,153	4,541,685	34,824	4,577,662	27,309,667
Jan-Oct 1997					
Chilled	86	2,167,998	19,358	2,187,442	23,503,350
Frozen	395	2,364,631	9,835	2,374,862	4,499,903
Total	482	4,532,629	29,193	4,562,304	28,003,254

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Sep 1997	10,780	1,028	11,808	18	6
Oct 1996	10,109	987	11,096	9	11
Oct 1997	10,627	891	11,519	17	29
Jan-Oct 1996	115,062	11,162	126,225	110	60
Jan-Oct 1997	109,588	12,047	121,635	125	89
Percent 2/					
Oct 1996	0.31	1.28	0.33	0.07	0.40
Oct 1997	0.32	1.22	0.34	0.12	1.18
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1997	45,790	3,953	49,742	215	23
Oct 1996	46,232	4,542	50,774	224	42
Oct 1997	50,868	4,228	55,096	278	31
Jan-Oct 1996	466,064	39,957	506,021	1,787	130
Jan-Oct 1997	482,376	44,220	526,597	2,444	175
Percent 3/					
Oct 1996	1.56	6.57	1.67	1.91	1.65
Oct 1997	1.68	6.41	1.78	2.19	1.37

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
					Total	
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Poultry
		Roasters			Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)						
Sep 1997	---	1,363	25	1,388	13,221	
Oct 1996	1	1,616	47	1,664	12,781	
Oct 1997	---	1,294	17	1,311	12,876	
Jan-Oct 1996	7	17,329	447	17,782	144,177	
Jan-Oct 1997	2	17,344	268	17,613	139,463	
Percent 2/						
Oct 1996	0.49	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.31	
Oct 1997	1.55	0.20	0.36	0.20	0.31	
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)						
		1,000 Pounds				
Sep 1997	---	11,226	306	11,532	61,512	
Oct 1996	5	12,359	388	12,751	63,791	
Oct 1997	1	12,282	190	12,474	67,878	
Jan-Oct 1996	28	111,737	2,863	114,628	622,567	
Jan-Oct 1997	21	114,607	2,161	116,788	646,004	
Percent 3/						
Oct 1996	2.86	2.08	6.27	2.13	1.75	
Oct 1997	8.81	2.10	4.60	2.12	1.84	

- 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, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds
AL	81,305	79,571	389,603	384,526	4.79	4.83
AR	102,762	105,954	491,887	510,065	4.79	4.81
CA	20,065	19,849	100,049	97,764	4.99	4.93
DE	25,503	25,070	139,943	142,122	5.49	5.67
FL	11,967	12,801	53,818	59,517	4.50	4.65
GA	99,933	101,602	504,782	500,432	5.05	4.93
LA	12,562	14,889	60,420	68,617	4.81	4.61
MD	18,545	19,035	90,370	93,382	4.87	4.91
MS	59,895	58,980	269,457	274,263	4.50	4.65
MO	30,383	30,409	133,025	130,505	4.38	4.29
NC	56,010	52,351	297,325	286,802	5.31	5.48
PA	9,788	9,826	50,109	51,856	5.12	5.28
SC	19,805	20,837	88,448	94,405	4.47	4.53
TN	16,205	15,612	69,953	71,029	4.32	4.55
TX	41,139	45,097	183,408	208,200	4.46	4.62
VA	31,650	32,888	150,912	157,570	4.77	4.79
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	686,141	695,290	3,302,868	3,364,731	4.81	4.84

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/			
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	285,584	285,841	7,267	8,616	2.07	2.49
AR	354,355	368,634	5,868	5,586	1.33	1.22
CA	73,130	71,257	1,514	2,105	1.68	2.39
DE	101,689	102,210	2,029	1,939	1.61	1.52
FL	38,833	46,163	766	1,589	1.58	2.97
GA	373,253	374,203	8,094	6,486	1.78	1.44
LA	42,842	48,574	880	1,296	1.62	2.10
MD	64,638	65,859	1,291	1,229	1.59	1.46
MS	204,623	209,672	2,152	2,967	0.89	1.20
MO	96,429	94,890	1,687	1,412	1.41	1.20
NC	220,331	216,019	4,051	4,365	1.51	1.69
PA	35,090	36,060	1,203	1,217	2.67	2.61
SC	64,013	68,107	1,409	1,837	1.77	2.16
TN	50,977	51,519	688	723	1.09	1.13
TX	139,814	158,431	2,272	2,765	1.38	1.48
VA	104,923	109,601	1,486	3,682	1.09	2.60
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,414,287	2,476,156	46,232	50,868	1.56	1.68

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, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	2,208	205,599	231,660	4,969	10,057
AR	---	6,773	288,828	102,527	9,588	7,160
CA	---	---	110,514	---	1,377	5,753
DE	---	---	109,932	47,741	---	---
FL	---	736	---	---	---	---
GA	---	4,955	165,310	176,692	2,241	13,202
LA	---	296	49,253	19,378	---	2,082
MD	---	7,694	90,702	32,757	---	8,493
MS	---	2,300	98,641	42,363	2,632	7,689
MO	---	---	73,423	14,225	2,378	1,818
NC	---	6,520	145,038	72,483	149	46,522
PA	---	3,282	32,291	20,552	416	---
SC	---	1,631	31,446	---	91	3,575
TN	---	353	57,768	15,752	---	---
TX	---	---	123,419	31,393	1,842	2,317
VA	---	3,044	89,776	30,355	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	71,528	1,905,612	1,039,711	41,100	159,738
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	13,367	38,510	62,668	9,197	394,152	972,387
AR	13,673	29,238	63,972	4,420	111,477	637,656
CA	756	---	4,276	1,321	50,266	174,263
DE	3,844	10,690	15,130	2,471	36,547	226,355
FL	2,097	3,349	11,153	2,531	---	19,866
GA	14,283	40,463	48,246	11,476	252,454	729,322
LA	2,983	---	---	---	---	73,992
MD	2,104	9,363	---	1,328	19,712	172,153
MS	6,274	21,968	29,163	1,318	177,648	389,996
MO	2,399	11,174	24,094	2,029	32,679	164,219
NC	8,782	25,904	---	8,258	162,281	475,937
PA	2,313	4,975	---	---	35,478	99,307
SC	3,988	15,940	28,094	---	82,788	167,553
TN	3,136	6,823	17,055	2,064	26,303	129,254
TX	2,023	20,034	20,903	---	14,333	216,264
VA	3,798	11,067	34,110	---	103,894	276,044
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	93,150	306,872	1,076,029	60,748	1,692,032	6,446,520

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,527	14,326	76,851	73,260	5.29	5.11

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	46,843	44,926	4,542	4,228	6.57	6.41

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, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
CA	---	---	---	54	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	4,447	242,813	22,913	698	172,006

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
CA	---	---	222	---	---	276
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	31,683	66,174	195,072	3,585	47,782	787,173

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,342	2,480	42,485	44,470	18.14	17.93
CA	2,151	2,127	47,307	50,699	22.00	23.84
IA	1,423	1,458	36,986	37,813	25.99	25.93
MN	4,579	4,584	99,426	101,066	21.72	22.05
MO	2,067	2,387	56,159	63,111	27.17	26.44
NC	4,300	3,413	107,214	84,478	24.93	24.75
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,329	3,401	63,791	67,511	19.16	19.85
US	27,752	27,204	659,016	649,738	23.75	23.88

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	34,485	36,391	644	609	1.68	1.52
CA	37,818	38,303	810	710	1.90	1.56
IA	28,922	29,368	747	688	2.25	2.02
MN	79,154	79,755	2,255	2,656	2.52	2.92
MO	44,724	49,148	1,350	1,283	2.67	2.26
NC	83,705	66,429	2,059	1,391	2.13	1.83
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	48,373	51,723	967	955	1.68	1.57
US	518,124	508,348	12,359	12,282	2.08	2.10

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 Condemed Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	7,133	---	---	10
CA	---	---	12,231	386	---	---
IA	---	---	---	2,585	---	---
MN	---	---	28,538	3,555	2,504	26
MO	---	---	20,288	---	397	---
NC	---	5	5,451	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	5,035	351	---	---
US	---	222	121,164	16,809	8,581	151

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	467	---	---	1,143	8,753
CA	---	---	400	---	---	13,017
IA	---	---	---	---	---	2,585
MN	403	2,003	1,689	1,051	3,732	43,501
MO	72	237	583	---	1,627	23,204
NC	71	1,934	---	279	1,076	8,816
PA	80	---	---	---	267	347
VA	36	893	209	---	1,380	7,904
US	1,114	8,516	9,019	2,805	15,613	183,994

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	1,647	719	---	27
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	13	189	60	---	1,003	3,658

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.

Index

	Page
Definitions.....	16
Mature Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Mature Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Mature Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Old Turkeys (Breeders) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	14
Poultry Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified (RTC) by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	4
Poultry Slaughter Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	6
Poultry Slaughter Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	2
Reliability Statement.....	15
Young Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	8
Young Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	10
Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	9
Young Turkeys (Mature) Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	12
Young Turkeys (Mature) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	13
Young Turkeys (Mature) Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	12

The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on January 6, 1998.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or 202-720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

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: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports by Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Send an e-mail message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu. In the body of the message type the word: **list**.

AUTOFAX ACCESS

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts. Document 0411 is a list of available reports.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-834-0125 FAX: 703-834-0110
(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.

Poultry Slaughter



USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released December 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.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during October (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.04 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in October 1996. Updated totals for September 1997 show that 2.79 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during October 1997 was 4.11 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.36 billion pounds of young chickens, 73.3 million pounds of mature chickens, 654 million pounds of turkeys, and 14.1 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 1997 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 5.29 pounds per bird the previous year to 5.11 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during September 1997 averaged 23.9 pounds per bird, up one percent from October 1996.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 1997 totaled 12.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.31 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 67.9 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.84 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.75 percent a year earlier.

October 1997 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, the same as October 1996. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		Poultry

	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1997	647,490	12,477	659,967	1,849	-----
Oct 1996	686,141	14,527	700,669	1,973	-----
Oct 1997	695,290	14,326	709,616	2,104	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	6,378,152	131,676	6,509,828	17,029	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	6,515,160	141,923	6,657,083	18,364	-----

	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1997	3,117,642	66,742	3,184,385	12,248	2,419
Oct 1996	3,302,868	76,844	3,379,712	13,008	2,814
Oct 1997	3,364,731	73,260	3,437,991	14,102	2,476
Jan-Oct 1996	30,400,087	692,275	31,092,362	113,204	10,916
Jan-Oct 1997	31,270,372	710,872	31,981,244	122,400	18,899

	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1997	4.81	5.35	4.83	6.62	-----
Oct 1996	4.81	5.29	4.82	6.59	-----
Oct 1997	4.84	5.11	4.84	6.70	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	4.77	5.26	4.78	6.65	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	4.80	5.01	4.80	6.67	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Sep 1997	---	25,081	264	25,345	-----
Oct 1996	17	27,752	282	28,051	-----
Oct 1997	2	27,204	185	27,391	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	170	242,977	1,791	244,938	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	68	240,481	1,499	242,049	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Sep 1997	---	579,854	6,413	586,267	3,785,320
Oct 1996	175	659,016	6,875	666,066	4,061,599
Oct 1997	19	649,738	4,599	654,356	4,108,925
Jan-Oct 1996	1,502	5,760,723	46,219	5,808,444	37,024,925
Jan-Oct 1997	658	5,751,265	38,284	5,790,208	37,912,751
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Sep 1997	---	23.12	24.27	23.13	-----
Oct 1996	10.14	23.75	24.40	23.74	-----
Oct 1997	7.74	23.88	24.83	23.89	-----
Jan-Oct 1996	8.83	23.71	25.81	23.71	-----
Jan-Oct 1997	9.62	23.92	25.54	23.92	-----

- 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: October 1996: 6,395, October 1997: 5,672.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: October 1996: 77, October 1997: 72.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Sep 1997					
Chilled	2,078,323	38,203	2,116,526	2,817	828
Frozen	202,479	2,658	205,137	5,917	611
Total	2,280,801	40,861	2,321,663	8,734	1,439
Oct 1996					
Chilled	2,200,362	45,305	2,245,667	3,074	374
Frozen	213,926	1,533	215,459	6,272	1,218
Total	2,414,287	46,838	2,461,126	9,346	1,591
Oct 1997					
Chilled	2,250,633	41,228	2,291,861	3,219	683
Frozen	225,524	3,698	229,222	6,769	775
Total	2,476,156	44,926	2,521,083	9,988	1,458
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	20,362,440	401,548	20,763,988	28,984	2,226
Frozen	1,860,835	19,355	1,880,190	52,647	3,971
Total	22,223,275	420,902	22,644,178	81,631	6,197
Jan-Oct 1997					
Chilled	20,872,043	406,362	21,278,406	30,545	6,958
Frozen	2,040,582	23,401	2,063,983	56,717	4,341
Total	22,912,625	429,764	23,342,389	87,262	11,299

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Sep 1997					
Chilled	---	209,196	2,981	212,177	2,332,348
Frozen	---	248,431	1,951	250,382	462,046
Total	---	457,627	4,932	462,559	2,794,395
Oct 1996					
Chilled	---	244,162	3,053	247,215	2,496,330
Frozen	136	273,962	2,121	276,219	499,167
Total	136	518,124	5,174	523,435	2,995,497
Oct 1997					
Chilled	13	245,380	2,078	247,471	2,543,234
Frozen	---	262,968	1,574	264,542	501,308
Total	13	508,348	3,652	512,013	3,044,543
Jan-Oct 1996					
Chilled	3	2,154,504	23,679	2,178,186	22,973,384
Frozen	1,150	2,387,181	11,145	2,399,476	4,336,283
Total	1,153	4,541,685	34,824	4,577,662	27,309,667
Jan-Oct 1997					
Chilled	86	2,167,998	19,358	2,187,442	23,503,350
Frozen	395	2,364,631	9,835	2,374,862	4,499,903
Total	482	4,532,629	29,193	4,562,304	28,003,254

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Sep 1997	10,780	1,028	11,808	18	6
Oct 1996	10,109	987	11,096	9	11
Oct 1997	10,627	891	11,519	17	29
Jan-Oct 1996	115,062	11,162	126,225	110	60
Jan-Oct 1997	109,588	12,047	121,635	125	89
Percent 2/					
Oct 1996	0.31	1.28	0.33	0.07	0.40
Oct 1997	0.32	1.22	0.34	0.12	1.18
1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1997	45,790	3,953	49,742	215	23
Oct 1996	46,232	4,542	50,774	224	42
Oct 1997	50,868	4,228	55,096	278	31
Jan-Oct 1996	466,064	39,957	506,021	1,787	130
Jan-Oct 1997	482,376	44,220	526,597	2,444	175
Percent 3/					
Oct 1996	1.56	6.57	1.67	1.91	1.65
Oct 1997	1.68	6.41	1.78	2.19	1.37

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, October 1997 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-			Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem					
(Live Weight)					
Sep 1997	---	1,363	25	1,388	13,221
Oct 1996	1	1,616	47	1,664	12,781
Oct 1997	---	1,294	17	1,311	12,876
Jan-Oct 1996	7	17,329	447	17,782	144,177
Jan-Oct 1997	2	17,344	268	17,613	139,463
Percent 2/					
Oct 1996	0.49	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.31
Oct 1997	1.55	0.20	0.36	0.20	0.31
Post-Mortem					
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Sep 1997	---	11,226	306	11,532	61,512
Oct 1996	5	12,359	388	12,751	63,791
Oct 1997	1	12,282	190	12,474	67,878
Jan-Oct 1996	28	111,737	2,863	114,628	622,567
Jan-Oct 1997	21	114,607	2,161	116,788	646,004
Percent 3/					
Oct 1996	2.86	2.08	6.27	2.13	1.75
Oct 1997	8.81	2.10	4.60	2.12	1.84

- 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, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-----	1,000 -----	-----	1,000 Pounds -----	---	Pounds ---
AL	81,305	79,571	389,603	384,526	4.79	4.83
AR	102,762	105,954	491,887	510,065	4.79	4.81
CA	20,065	19,849	100,049	97,764	4.99	4.93
DE	25,503	25,070	139,943	142,122	5.49	5.67
FL	11,967	12,801	53,818	59,517	4.50	4.65
GA	99,933	101,602	504,782	500,432	5.05	4.93
LA	12,562	14,889	60,420	68,617	4.81	4.61
MD	18,545	19,035	90,370	93,382	4.87	4.91
MS	59,895	58,980	269,457	274,263	4.50	4.65
MO	30,383	30,409	133,025	130,505	4.38	4.29
NC	56,010	52,351	297,325	286,802	5.31	5.48
PA	9,788	9,826	50,109	51,856	5.12	5.28
SC	19,805	20,837	88,448	94,405	4.47	4.53
TN	16,205	15,612	69,953	71,029	4.32	4.55
TX	41,139	45,097	183,408	208,200	4.46	4.62
VA	31,650	32,888	150,912	157,570	4.77	4.79
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	686,141	695,290	3,302,868	3,364,731	4.81	4.84

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/			
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AL	285,584	285,841	7,267	8,616	2.07	2.49
AR	354,355	368,634	5,868	5,586	1.33	1.22
CA	73,130	71,257	1,514	2,105	1.68	2.39
DE	101,689	102,210	2,029	1,939	1.61	1.52
FL	38,833	46,163	766	1,589	1.58	2.97
GA	373,253	374,203	8,094	6,486	1.78	1.44
LA	42,842	48,574	880	1,296	1.62	2.10
MD	64,638	65,859	1,291	1,229	1.59	1.46
MS	204,623	209,672	2,152	2,967	0.89	1.20
MO	96,429	94,890	1,687	1,412	1.41	1.20
NC	220,331	216,019	4,051	4,365	1.51	1.69
PA	35,090	36,060	1,203	1,217	2.67	2.61
SC	64,013	68,107	1,409	1,837	1.77	2.16
TN	50,977	51,519	688	723	1.09	1.13
TX	139,814	158,431	2,272	2,765	1.38	1.48
VA	104,923	109,601	1,486	3,682	1.09	2.60
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,414,287	2,476,156	46,232	50,868	1.56	1.68

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, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	2,208	205,599	231,660	4,969	10,057
AR	---	6,773	288,828	102,527	9,588	7,160
CA	---	---	110,514	---	1,377	5,753
DE	---	---	109,932	47,741	---	---
FL	---	736	---	---	---	---
GA	---	4,955	165,310	176,692	2,241	13,202
LA	---	296	49,253	19,378	---	2,082
MD	---	7,694	90,702	32,757	---	8,493
MS	---	2,300	98,641	42,363	2,632	7,689
MO	---	---	73,423	14,225	2,378	1,818
NC	---	6,520	145,038	72,483	149	46,522
PA	---	3,282	32,291	20,552	416	---
SC	---	1,631	31,446	---	91	3,575
TN	---	353	57,768	15,752	---	---
TX	---	---	123,419	31,393	1,842	2,317
VA	---	3,044	89,776	30,355	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	71,528	1,905,612	1,039,711	41,100	159,738
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	13,367	38,510	62,668	9,197	394,152	972,387
AR	13,673	29,238	63,972	4,420	111,477	637,656
CA	756	---	4,276	1,321	50,266	174,263
DE	3,844	10,690	15,130	2,471	36,547	226,355
FL	2,097	3,349	11,153	2,531	---	19,866
GA	14,283	40,463	48,246	11,476	252,454	729,322
LA	2,983	---	---	---	---	73,992
MD	2,104	9,363	---	1,328	19,712	172,153
MS	6,274	21,968	29,163	1,318	177,648	389,996
MO	2,399	11,174	24,094	2,029	32,679	164,219
NC	8,782	25,904	---	8,258	162,281	475,937
PA	2,313	4,975	---	---	35,478	99,307
SC	3,988	15,940	28,094	---	82,788	167,553
TN	3,136	6,823	17,055	2,064	26,303	129,254
TX	2,023	20,034	20,903	---	14,333	216,264
VA	3,798	11,067	34,110	---	103,894	276,044
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	93,150	306,872	1,076,029	60,748	1,692,032	6,446,520

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		---- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,527	14,326	76,851	73,260	5.29	5.11

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	46,843	44,926	4,542	4,228	6.57	6.41

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, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,342	2,480	42,485	44,470	18.14	17.93
CA	2,151	2,127	47,307	50,699	22.00	23.84
IA	1,423	1,458	36,986	37,813	25.99	25.93
MN	4,579	4,584	99,426	101,066	21.72	22.05
MO	2,067	2,387	56,159	63,111	27.17	26.44
NC	4,300	3,413	107,214	84,478	24.93	24.75
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,329	3,401	63,791	67,511	19.16	19.85
US	27,752	27,204	659,016	649,738	23.75	23.88

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, October 1996-97

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1996	1997	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AR	34,485	36,391	644	609	1.68	1.52
CA	37,818	38,303	810	710	1.90	1.56
IA	28,922	29,368	747	688	2.25	2.02
MN	79,154	79,755	2,255	2,656	2.52	2.92
MO	44,724	49,148	1,350	1,283	2.67	2.26
NC	83,705	66,429	2,059	1,391	2.13	1.83
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	48,373	51,723	967	955	1.68	1.57
US	518,124	508,348	12,359	12,282	2.08	2.10

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, October 1997

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	7,133	---	---	10
CA	---	---	12,231	386	---	---
IA	---	---	---	2,585	---	---
MN	---	---	28,538	3,555	2,504	26
MO	---	---	20,288	---	397	---
NC	---	5	5,451	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	5,035	351	---	---
US	---	222	121,164	16,809	8,581	151

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	467	---	---	1,143	8,753
CA	---	---	400	---	---	13,017
IA	---	---	---	---	---	2,585
MN	403	2,003	1,689	1,051	3,732	43,501
MO	72	237	583	---	1,627	23,204
NC	71	1,934	---	279	1,076	8,816
PA	80	---	---	---	267	347
VA	36	893	209	---	1,380	7,904
US	1,114	8,516	9,019	2,805	15,613	183,994

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.

Index

	Page
Definitions.....	16
Mature Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Mature Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Mature Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	11
Old Turkeys (Breeders) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, U.S., October 1996-1997.....	14
Poultry Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified (RTC) by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	4
Poultry Slaughter Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	6
Poultry Slaughter Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type, U.S., October 1997.....	2
Reliability Statement.....	15
Young Chickens Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	8
Young Chickens Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	10
Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	9
Young Turkeys (Mature) Number Inspected, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	12
Young Turkeys (Mature) Post-Mortem Condemnations by Cause, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	13
Young Turkeys (Mature) Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and U.S., October 1996-1997.....	12

The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on January 6, 1998.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or 202-720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

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: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports by Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Send an e-mail message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu. In the body of the message type the word: list.

AUTOFAX ACCESS

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts. Document 0411 is a list of available reports.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 703-834-0125 FAX: 703-834-0110
(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.
