

Poultry Slaughter



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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 2 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during February (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.66 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the amount certified in February 1998. Updated totals for January 1999 show that 2.89 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during February 1999 was 3.61 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.07 billion pounds of young chickens, 69.2 million pounds of mature chickens, 455 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.3 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during February 1999 averaged 4.99 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.16 pounds per bird up 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during February 1998 averaged 25.7 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from February 1998.

Ante-mortem condemnations during February 1999 totaled 14.7 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.41 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.38 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 62.3 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.92 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 2.05 percent a year earlier.

February 1999 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, the same as February 1998.

1998 Poultry Slaughter up 1 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome under Federal Inspection during 1998 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 33.8 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the total amount certified during 1997. Young chickens, at 27.9 billion pounds, accounted for 82 percent of the total pounds certified ready-to-cook and were up 2 percent from 1997. The average live weight for young chickens increased 1 percent to 4.86 pounds. Total turkeys, at 5.28 billion pounds, represented 16 percent of the overall total and were down 4 percent from 1997. The average live weight for total turkeys increased 3 percent to 24.6 pounds per bird. The remaining 2 percent of pounds certified ready-to-cook were mature chickens, ducks, and other poultry.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, February 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		

	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Jan 1999	663,524	15,218	678,742	1,927	-----
Feb 1998	607,389	12,692	620,081	1,718	-----
Feb 1999	615,670	13,412	629,082	1,841	-----
Jan-Feb 1998	1,276,280	27,462	1,303,741	3,744	-----
Jan-Feb 1999	1,279,194	28,630	1,307,824	3,768	-----

	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Jan 1999	3,318,603	75,365	3,393,967	12,969	784
Feb 1998	2,929,823	64,655	2,994,478	11,466	965
Feb 1999	3,073,441	69,155	3,142,597	12,292	575
Jan-Feb 1998	6,163,528	138,861	6,302,390	25,027	2,122
Jan-Feb 1999	6,392,044	144,520	6,536,564	25,261	1,359

	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Jan 1999	5.00	4.95	5.00	6.73	-----
Feb 1998	4.82	5.09	4.83	6.67	-----
Feb 1999	4.99	5.16	5.00	6.68	-----
Jan-Feb 1998	4.83	5.06	4.83	6.68	-----
Jan-Feb 1999	5.00	5.05	5.00	6.70	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, February 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	3/	Old	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Turkeys	
		1,000 Head			
Number Inspected	:				
Jan 1999	:	---	19,775	97	19,873
Feb 1998	:	---	20,668	166	20,834
Feb 1999	:	---	17,605	140	17,745
Jan-Feb 1998	:	---	42,276	324	42,600
Jan-Feb 1999	:	---	37,380	238	37,618
		1,000 Pounds			
Live Weight	:				
Jan 1999	:	---	518,976	2,641	521,617
Feb 1998	:	---	518,165	4,340	522,505
Feb 1999	:	---	451,725	3,759	455,484
Jan-Feb 1998	:	---	1,065,950	8,607	1,074,557
Jan-Feb 1999	:	---	970,701	6,400	977,101
		Pounds			
Average Live Weight	:				
Jan 1999	:	---	26.24	27.10	26.25
Feb 1998	:	---	25.07	26.12	25.08
Feb 1999	:	---	25.66	26.82	25.67
Jan-Feb 1998	:	---	25.21	26.56	25.22
Jan-Feb 1999	:	---	25.97	26.94	25.97

- 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: February 1998: 4,988, February 1999: 5,024.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: February 1998: 72, February 1999: 49.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, February 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Jan 1999					
Chilled	2,218,167	42,404	2,260,571	3,365	324
Frozen	208,728	3,086	211,814	5,750	122
Total	2,426,895	45,490	2,472,385	9,116	445
Feb 1998					
Chilled	1,945,503	36,386	1,981,889	2,761	344
Frozen	199,373	2,589	201,962	5,319	203
Total	2,144,875	38,975	2,183,851	8,081	548
Feb 1999					
Chilled	2,058,564	37,724	2,096,288	3,611	220
Frozen	192,382	3,777	196,159	4,904	98
Total	2,250,946	41,500	2,292,446	8,514	318
Jan-Feb 1998					
Chilled	4,102,527	76,519	4,179,046	6,183	784
Frozen	410,889	6,720	417,609	11,551	448
Total	4,513,416	83,239	4,596,655	17,734	1,232
Jan-Feb 1999					
Chilled	4,276,731	80,128	4,356,859	6,976	544
Frozen	401,110	6,863	407,973	10,654	220
Total	4,677,841	86,990	4,764,831	17,630	763

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, February 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Total
		Roasters			Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Jan 1999						
Chilled	---	199,430	1,466	200,896	2,465,156	
Frozen	---	209,495	482	209,978	427,664	
Total	---	408,925	1,949	410,874	2,892,820	
Feb 1998						
Chilled	---	195,371	2,167	197,538	2,182,533	
Frozen	---	212,332	1,009	213,341	420,826	
Total	---	407,703	3,176	410,879	2,603,358	
Feb 1999						
Chilled	---	164,395	2,002	166,398	2,266,516	
Frozen	---	192,749	803	193,552	394,712	
Total	---	357,144	2,806	359,950	2,661,228	
Jan-Feb 1998						
Chilled	---	403,765	4,038	407,803	4,593,816	
Frozen	---	434,481	2,328	436,809	866,417	
Total	---	838,246	6,366	844,612	5,460,234	
Jan-Feb 1999						
Chilled	---	363,825	3,469	367,294	4,731,672	
Frozen	---	402,244	1,285	403,530	822,376	
Total	---	766,069	4,754	770,824	5,554,048	

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, February 1999 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jan 1999	16,219	1,216	17,436	18	4
Feb 1998	11,039	1,011	12,050	10	1
Feb 1999	12,639	849	13,488	13	4
Jan-Feb 1998	24,675	2,235	26,909	24	4
Jan-Feb 1999	28,858	2,066	30,924	32	8
Percent 2/					
Feb 1998	0.38	1.56	0.40	0.09	0.15
Feb 1999	0.41	1.23	0.43	0.11	0.73
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jan 1999	55,098	4,649	59,747	291	5
Feb 1998	49,126	4,001	53,127	234	9
Feb 1999	48,203	4,301	52,504	294	4
Jan-Feb 1998	99,554	8,239	107,793	518	18
Jan-Feb 1999	103,300	8,950	112,251	584	9
Percent 3/					
Feb 1998	1.86	6.88	1.97	2.27	1.02
Feb 1999	1.74	6.91	1.86	2.65	0.85

See footnotes at end of table.

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Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	68,297	71,201	330,909	362,627	4.85	5.09	
AR	92,032	90,822	439,839	439,982	4.78	4.84	
CA	17,973	19,162	94,749	98,265	5.27	5.13	
DE	20,173	20,116	113,529	115,333	5.63	5.73	
FL	9,539	9,587	43,888	51,444	4.60	5.37	
GA	87,814	89,387	428,241	442,860	4.88	4.95	
LA	11,322	12,708	52,843	56,702	4.67	4.46	
MD	15,662	15,563	74,238	73,711	4.74	4.74	
MS	54,179	52,047	259,242	259,554	4.78	4.99	
MO	27,080	27,499	119,764	125,672	4.42	4.57	
NC	48,834	49,506	266,864	284,639	5.46	5.75	
PA	8,824	8,038	44,854	41,300	5.08	5.14	
SC	16,315	17,128	76,944	83,624	4.72	4.88	
TN	12,527	15,252	55,593	75,862	4.44	4.97	
TX	38,004	40,697	172,993	192,496	4.55	4.73	
VA	27,209	27,145	129,526	132,165	4.76	4.87	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	607,389	615,670	2,929,823	3,073,441	4.82	4.99	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	244,900	273,469	8,411	7,626	2.82	2.34
AR	314,323	320,942	5,695	5,755	1.44	1.45
CA	69,387	70,941	1,697	1,178	1.99	1.33
DE	80,617	82,875	2,509	2,550	2.46	2.46
FL	29,692	35,959	739	1,038	1.87	2.24
GA	319,707	326,701	6,546	7,460	1.70	1.87
LA	37,626	40,543	1,096	1,310	2.30	2.57
MD	53,171	51,944	1,206	1,125	1.80	1.70
MS	195,024	188,001	4,233	3,208	1.81	1.37
MO	87,911	93,045	1,442	1,590	1.34	1.41
NC	195,481	213,158	4,669	5,037	1.94	1.97
PA	31,037	29,108	1,271	1,056	3.15	2.84
SC	56,260	61,365	1,577	1,462	2.28	1.94
TN	40,506	55,271	583	849	1.17	1.24
TX	136,205	144,429	2,433	2,086	1.56	1.20
VA	90,265	92,671	1,573	1,571	1.35	1.32
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,144,875	2,250,946	49,126	48,203	1.86	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, February 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,573	198,763	315,613	1,435	18,648
AR	---	3,918	308,297	143,397	5,449	6,690
CA	---	7,415	90,915	5,822	---	4,392
DE	---	7,466	105,803	94,187	193	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	5,503	147,175	424,370	---	11,522
LA	---	---	39,234	46,603	---	2,243
MD	---	5,628	90,833	57,222	179	10,469
MS	---	3,556	130,883	104,139	1,713	4,688
MO	---	4,990	93,695	42,461	2,684	1,853
NC	---	---	147,978	119,378	327	50,207
PA	---	---	38,108	27,832	145	---
SC	---	1,210	34,866	71,654	72	5,579
TN	---	271	53,894	17,474	---	---
TX	---	---	121,962	53,732	630	2,633
VA	---	---	72,842	64,566	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	74,538	1,898,509	1,655,802	37,127	172,260

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AL	10,337	38,546	53,289	11,078	268,014	917,296
AR	10,131	34,927	45,569	3,827	117,817	680,022
CA	739	5,474	2,450	981	15,956	134,144
DE	2,553	11,713	14,362	2,439	55,904	294,620
FL	1,475	3,197	7,271	---	---	11,943
GA	12,443	46,386	67,475	11,403	331,224	1,057,501
LA	1,547	6,405	---	---	28,998	125,030
MD	1,895	8,936	---	1,641	25,561	202,364
MS	4,752	26,296	28,648	1,162	151,019	456,856
MO	2,410	12,427	14,944	1,113	37,076	213,653
NC	8,339	46,930	45,701	4,578	148,698	572,136
PA	2,305	2,539	---	---	35,206	106,135
SC	4,096	14,715	11,269	6,531	42,376	192,368
TN	2,664	8,808	---	---	18,608	101,719
TX	1,564	10,753	13,069	1,118	11,316	216,777
VA	2,019	8,595	7,809	2,753	68,735	227,319
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	75,221	311,254	437,206	59,185	1,493,412	6,214,514

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	---
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	12,692	13,412	64,655	69,155	5.09	5.16	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	-----		1,000 Pounds		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	38,975	41,500	4,001	4,301	6.88	6.91

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, February 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	9,539	363,352	18,081	697	134,206

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	35,330	37,425	205,846	2,422	52,066	858,964

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,127	1,905	37,944	33,954	17.84	17.82
CA	1,306	976	31,043	23,712	23.76	24.28
IA	1,164	1,024	31,731	32,475	27.26	31.70
MN	2,916	2,509	67,716	62,672	23.22	24.97
MO	2,063	1,728	55,115	50,635	26.72	29.30
NC	3,226	2,013	83,509	49,402	25.88	24.55
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,430	3,001	48,245	66,514	19.85	22.17
US	20,668	17,605	518,165	451,725	25.07	25.66

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, February 1998-99

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	31,383	27,859	612	498	1.79	1.63
CA	25,079	19,163	425	330	1.52	1.55
IA	24,557	24,585	809	896	2.83	3.07
MN	52,931	49,680	2,277	1,549	3.74	2.75
MO	43,243	39,881	1,305	1,168	2.63	2.56
NC	66,255	39,204	1,522	912	2.03	2.05
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	36,292	52,442	758	964	1.75	1.61
US	407,703	357,144	11,321	9,269	2.43	2.28

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, February 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	4,446	418	---	---
CA	---	---	5,183	18	---	---
IA	---	---	4,231	4,535	---	---
MN	---	---	13,046	2,859	---	---
MO	---	---	18,889	2,869	---	---
NC	---	---	---	---	---	---
PA	---	---	3,580	---	---	---
VA	---	---	4,572	309	---	---
US	---	73	78,130	17,835	3,828	98

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	---	---	---	---	4,864
CA	11	---	268	---	---	5,480
IA	45	---	---	---	---	8,811
MN	154	448	839	---	952	18,298
MO	---	---	---	---	1,259	23,017
NC	---	1,105	1,343	---	461	2,909
PA	---	---	---	---	---	3,580
VA	43	1,588	177	---	1,269	7,958
US	912	7,667	6,990	1,936	9,666	127,135

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemed Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, February 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	3,540	404	---	53

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	10	124	102	---	570	4,803

Poultry Slaughter: Number and Live Weight by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/

Month	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		

: 1,000 Head					
Number					
Jan	668,891	14,769	683,661	2,026	-----
Feb	607,389	12,692	620,081	1,718	-----
Mar	653,139	13,014	666,154	1,887	-----
Apr	660,982	16,448	677,430	1,895	-----
May	635,698	14,713	650,411	1,867	-----
Jun	668,284	14,967	683,251	2,034	-----
Jul	686,198	14,950	701,148	2,009	-----
Aug	651,038	14,169	665,207	1,962	-----
Sep	656,130	13,501	669,631	2,051	-----
Oct	687,719	13,834	701,553	2,055	-----
Nov	601,105	11,135	612,240	1,931	-----
Dec	661,113	15,102	676,215	2,042	-----
Total 2/	7,837,684	169,297	8,006,980	23,477	-----
: 1,000 Pounds					
Live Weight					
Jan	3,233,705	74,207	3,307,912	13,560	1,157
Feb	2,929,823	64,655	2,994,478	11,466	965
Mar	3,197,296	66,330	3,263,626	12,575	1,070
Apr	3,258,011	80,287	3,338,298	12,657	1,088
May	3,085,643	76,117	3,161,759	12,218	997
Jun	3,190,130	77,319	3,267,449	13,338	1,071
Jul	3,211,453	76,438	3,287,891	12,978	1,074
Aug	3,093,523	72,941	3,166,464	12,547	1,486
Sep	3,176,068	70,349	3,246,417	13,557	1,955
Oct	3,386,585	70,739	3,457,323	13,529	1,929
Nov	3,001,420	60,237	3,061,657	12,676	956
Dec	3,291,191	75,764	3,366,955	13,694	835
Total 2/	38,054,849	865,381	38,920,229	154,796	14,582

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number and Live Weight by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
Month	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	Total Poultry	
		1,000 Head				
Number						
Jan	---	21,608	158	21,766	-----	
Feb	---	20,668	166	20,834	-----	
Mar	---	22,320	136	22,456	-----	
Apr	---	22,144	147	22,291	-----	
May	---	21,180	108	21,288	-----	
Jun	---	23,186	193	23,379	-----	
Jul	---	24,174	168	24,342	-----	
Aug	40	22,162	158	22,360	-----	
Sep	---	22,833	213	23,047	-----	
Oct	1	24,614	194	24,809	-----	
Nov	2	24,279	101	24,383	-----	
Dec	33	21,886	139	22,058	-----	
Total 2/	76	271,055	1,882	273,013	-----	
		1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight						
Jan	---	547,785	4,267	552,052	3,874,681	
Feb	---	518,165	4,340	522,505	3,529,414	
Mar	---	559,013	4,009	563,022	3,840,293	
Apr	---	562,575	3,865	566,440	3,918,482	
May	---	528,904	2,750	531,654	3,706,629	
Jun	---	575,209	4,890	580,099	3,861,958	
Jul	---	579,867	4,251	584,119	3,886,062	
Aug	356	534,616	4,040	539,012	3,719,509	
Sep	---	543,748	5,342	549,089	3,811,018	
Oct	5	594,694	5,043	599,742	4,072,523	
Nov	18	587,112	2,756	589,887	3,665,176	
Dec	280	543,173	3,583	547,036	3,928,520	
Total 2/	660	6,674,862	49,135	6,724,657	45,814,264	

1/ Federally inspected only.

2/ Months may not add to total due to rounding of monthly data.

Poultry Slaughter: Average Live Weight by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/

Month	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
Pounds 2/					
Average Live Weight					
Jan	4.83	5.02	4.84	6.69	-----
Feb	4.82	5.09	4.83	6.67	-----
Mar	4.90	5.10	4.90	6.66	-----
Apr	4.93	4.88	4.93	6.68	-----
May	4.85	5.17	4.86	6.54	-----
Jun	4.77	5.17	4.78	6.56	-----
Jul	4.68	5.11	4.69	6.46	-----
Aug	4.75	5.15	4.76	6.40	-----
Sep	4.84	5.21	4.85	6.61	-----
Oct	4.92	5.11	4.93	6.58	-----
Nov	4.99	5.41	5.00	6.57	-----
Dec	4.98	5.02	4.98	6.70	-----
Total	4.86	5.11	4.86	6.59	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry Slaughter: Average Live Weight by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				
Month	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	Total Poultry	
		Pounds 2/				
Average						
Live Weight						
Jan	---	25.35	27.02	25.36	-----	
Feb	---	25.07	26.12	25.08	-----	
Mar	---	25.05	29.40	25.07	-----	
Apr	---	25.41	26.34	25.41	-----	
May	---	24.97	25.45	24.97	-----	
Jun	---	24.81	25.33	24.81	-----	
Jul	---	23.99	25.24	24.00	-----	
Aug	8.96	24.12	25.53	24.11	-----	
Sep	---	23.81	25.05	23.83	-----	
Oct	10.25	24.16	25.98	24.17	-----	
Nov	7.41	24.18	27.28	24.19	-----	
Dec	8.43	24.82	25.83	24.80	-----	
Total	8.69	24.63	26.11	24.63	-----	

1/ Federally inspected only.

2/ Averages calculated from unrounded data.

Poultry: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/

Month	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		

1,000 Pounds					
Chilled					
Jan	2,157,025	40,133	2,197,157	3,422	440
Feb	1,945,503	36,386	1,981,889	2,761	344
Mar	2,115,387	37,317	2,152,703	3,051	370
Apr	2,166,543	43,994	2,210,537	3,168	394
May	2,068,562	42,067	2,110,629	3,026	371
Jun	2,144,471	42,857	2,187,328	3,383	409
Jul	2,154,622	41,666	2,196,288	3,012	379
Aug	2,059,652	39,947	2,099,599	2,962	452
Sep	2,108,020	39,213	2,147,233	3,341	476
Oct	2,269,656	39,906	2,309,562	3,410	503
Nov	1,987,459	35,276	2,022,735	3,634	305
Dec	2,181,597	42,358	2,223,955	4,249	326
Total 2/	25,358,496	481,120	25,839,616	39,419	4,771
Frozen					
Jan	211,516	4,131	215,647	6,232	244
Feb	199,373	2,589	201,962	5,319	203
Mar	217,191	2,894	220,085	5,870	211
Apr	216,633	4,099	220,732	5,941	203
May	191,061	4,043	195,105	5,652	142
Jun	202,878	4,143	207,021	6,321	190
Jul	199,466	3,989	203,456	6,315	243
Aug	206,038	3,357	209,395	5,986	401
Sep	214,054	2,942	216,996	6,083	660
Oct	227,269	5,018	232,288	6,280	656
Nov	204,987	1,614	206,600	5,248	270
Dec	213,717	3,652	217,369	5,409	172
Total 2/	2,504,184	42,472	2,546,655	70,656	3,596

See footnotes at end of table.

-- continued

Poultry: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total Poultry
Month	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys		
1,000 Pounds						
Chilled						
Jan	---	208,394	1,871	210,265	2,411,284	
Feb	---	195,371	2,167	197,538	2,182,533	
Mar	---	214,576	2,357	216,933	2,373,059	
Apr	---	214,439	1,973	216,413	2,430,511	
May	---	195,582	1,238	196,820	2,310,846	
Jun	---	208,410	2,930	211,340	2,402,460	
Jul	---	205,084	2,596	207,680	2,407,360	
Aug	30	189,222	2,239	191,491	2,294,505	
Sep	---	192,616	2,712	195,328	2,346,378	
Oct	4	213,616	2,392	216,012	2,529,488	
Nov	14	249,193	1,558	250,765	2,277,438	
Dec	209	215,620	1,677	217,506	2,446,036	
Total 2/	257	2,502,124	25,710	2,528,091	28,411,897	
Frozen						
Jan	---	222,149	1,319	223,468	445,591	
Feb	---	212,332	1,009	213,341	420,826	
Mar	---	223,193	801	223,994	450,160	
Apr	---	229,544	938	230,482	457,359	
May	---	223,558	780	224,338	425,237	
Jun	---	245,806	784	246,590	460,123	
Jul	---	250,950	687	251,636	461,649	
Aug	215	220,657	821	221,693	437,475	
Sep	---	232,727	1,463	234,190	457,930	
Oct	---	256,839	1,493	258,332	497,555	
Nov	---	210,306	554	210,860	422,978	
Dec	---	212,534	1,043	213,577	436,526	
Total 2/	215	2,740,597	11,691	2,752,502	5,373,409	

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Months may not add to total due to rounding of monthly data.

Poultry: Chilled Plus Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/

Month	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Chilled plus Frozen					
Jan	2,368,541	44,264	2,412,804	9,654	684
Feb	2,144,875	38,975	2,183,851	8,081	548
Mar	2,332,577	40,211	2,372,789	8,921	582
Apr	2,383,176	48,093	2,431,269	9,109	597
May	2,259,623	46,110	2,305,734	8,678	513
Jun	2,347,349	47,000	2,394,349	9,704	600
Jul	2,354,089	45,655	2,399,744	9,327	622
Aug	2,265,690	43,304	2,308,994	8,948	854
Sep	2,322,074	42,155	2,364,229	9,425	1,136
Oct	2,496,925	44,924	2,541,850	9,690	1,159
Nov	2,192,446	36,890	2,229,335	8,881	574
Dec	2,395,314	46,010	2,441,324	9,657	498
Total 2/	27,862,680	523,592	28,386,272	110,075	8,367

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry: Chilled Plus Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/ (continued)

: Turkeys :					
:-----: Total					
Month	Fryer-	Young	Old	Total	Total
	Roasters			Turkeys	Poultry

: 1,000 Pounds :					
Chilled plus Frozen :					
:					
Jan	---	430,543	3,190	433,733	2,856,875
Feb	---	407,703	3,176	410,879	2,603,358
Mar	---	437,769	3,158	440,927	2,823,219
Apr	---	443,984	2,911	446,895	2,887,870
May	---	419,141	2,018	421,158	2,736,083
Jun	---	454,216	3,713	457,930	2,862,583
Jul	---	456,034	3,283	459,316	2,869,009
Aug	245	409,879	3,061	413,184	2,731,980
Sep	---	425,344	4,174	429,518	2,804,308
Oct	4	470,456	3,885	474,344	3,027,043
Nov	14	459,499	2,112	461,625	2,700,416
Dec	209	428,154	2,720	431,083	2,882,562
	:				
Total 2/	472	5,242,720	37,400	5,280,593	33,785,306

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Months may not add to total due to rounding of monthly data.

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/

Month	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		

1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jan	13,636	1,223	14,859	14	3
Feb	11,039	1,011	12,050	10	1
Mar	13,392	774	14,165	11	1
Apr	11,117	1,108	12,224	11	4
May	11,099	1,485	12,584	13	11
Jun	15,793	1,882	17,675	17	7
Jul	18,553	2,028	20,582	19	3
Aug	16,351	2,113	18,464	19	6
Sep	15,155	1,243	16,398	20	6
Oct	11,994	754	12,748	18	7
Nov	11,233	690	11,924	15	2
Dec	18,292	1,143	19,435	23	4
Total 2/	167,654	15,455	183,109	188	56
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jan	50,428	4,238	54,666	284	9
Feb	49,126	4,001	53,127	234	9
Mar	53,817	4,389	58,206	266	9
Apr	53,153	4,534	57,687	249	12
May	47,607	4,082	51,688	260	8
Jun	47,367	4,102	51,469	295	13
Jul	50,838	4,469	55,306	245	12
Aug	50,056	4,312	54,368	268	18
Sep	48,669	4,242	52,911	285	15
Oct	50,550	4,277	54,827	292	29
Nov	48,462	3,595	52,057	300	13
Dec	50,589	4,563	55,153	311	8
Total 2/	600,661	50,805	651,465	3,289	155

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, Month, and Total, United States, 1998 1/ (continued)

Month	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jan	---	1,590	30	1,620	16,495
Feb	---	1,373	38	1,411	13,472
Mar	---	1,756	31	1,787	15,964
Apr	---	1,353	25	1,377	13,616
May	---	1,350	21	1,371	13,979
Jun	---	1,702	45	1,748	19,448
Jul	---	2,124	38	2,162	22,766
Aug	1	1,832	72	1,905	20,393
Sep	---	1,636	40	1,676	18,101
Oct	---	1,239	29	1,268	14,041
Nov	---	1,087	15	1,103	13,043
Dec	2	1,475	29	1,506	20,968
Total 2/	3	18,517	413	18,934	202,287
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jan	---	11,389	320	11,709	66,669
Feb	---	11,321	337	11,658	65,028
Mar	---	12,044	243	12,287	70,768
Apr	---	11,043	262	11,305	69,253
May	---	9,395	218	9,613	61,570
Jun	---	10,515	308	10,823	62,600
Jul	---	11,031	221	11,252	66,815
Aug	7	10,909	229	11,145	65,799
Sep	---	11,045	225	11,269	64,480
Oct	---	11,223	266	11,489	66,638
Nov	---	10,496	146	10,642	63,013
Dec	14	10,148	215	10,376	65,847
Total 2/	22	130,558	2,990	133,569	788,479

1/ Federally inspected only.

2/ Months may not add to total due to rounding of monthly data.

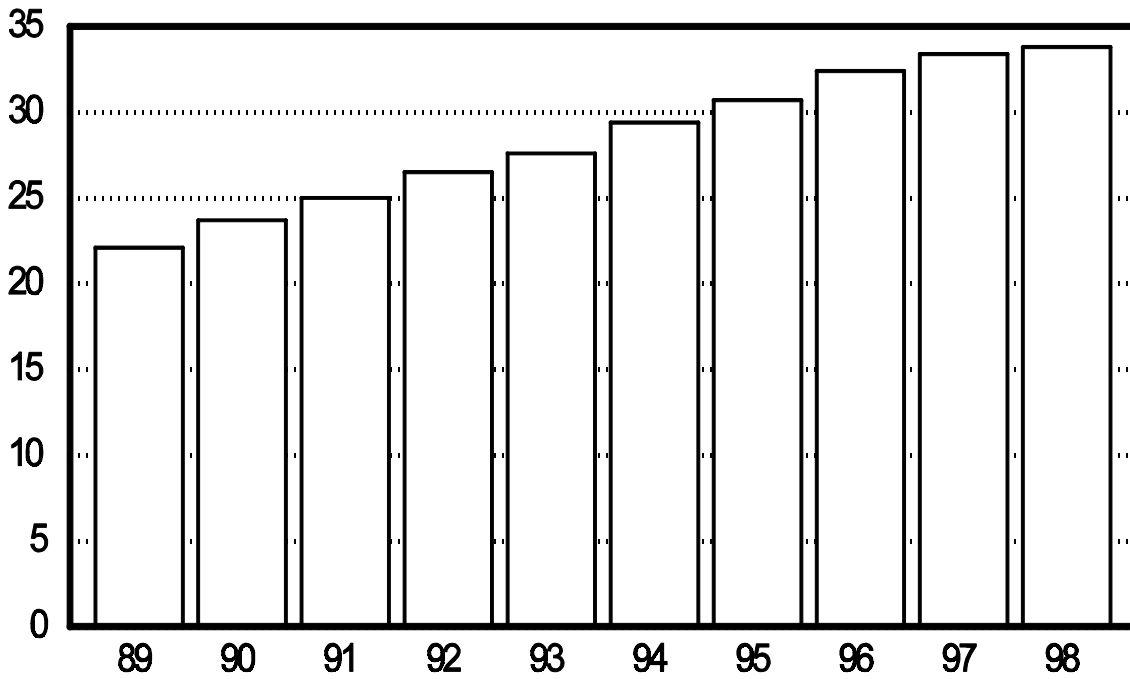
Total Poultry Slaughtered (Ready-to-cook Weights),
United States, 1997 and 1998

Year	Federal Inspection 1/	Non-Federal Inspection 2/	Total Inspection
(Million Pounds)			
1997	33,372	40	33,412
1998	33,785	29	33,814

1/ Includes chickens, turkeys, ducks and other poultry.
2/ Includes chickens and turkeys only.

Poultry Slaughter: Pounds Certified
United States, 1989-98
Ready-to-Cook Weight 1/

Billion Pounds



1/ Federally Inspected

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 3:00 p.m. ET on May 4, 1999.

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