



# Poultry Slaughter

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Released August 5, 1999, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Poultry Slaughter" call John Lange (202) 720-0585 or Mike Barker (202)720-3243, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

## **Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 8 Percent**

Poultry certified wholesome during June (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.09 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the amount certified in June 1998. Updated totals for May 1999 show that 2.97 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during June 1999 was 4.17 billion pounds. Inspections included 3.50 billion pounds of young chickens, 80.7 million pounds of mature chickens, 576 million pounds of turkeys, and 12.3 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during June 1999 averaged 5.00 pounds per bird, up 5 percent from June 1998. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.28 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during June 1999 averaged 25.8 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from June 1998.

Ante-mortem condemnations during June 1999 totaled 19.3 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.46 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.50 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 65.5 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.75 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.80 percent a year earlier.

June 1999 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays, the same as June 1998.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
-----					
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
May 1999	670,631	15,321	685,951	1,801	-----
Jun 1998	668,284	14,967	683,251	2,034	-----
Jun 1999	698,515	15,298	713,813	1,890	-----
Jan-Jun 1998	3,894,383	86,604	3,980,987	11,427	-----
Jan-Jun 1999	4,042,829	91,067	4,133,895	11,384	-----
-----					
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
May 1999	3,376,399	77,879	3,454,279	12,036	874
Jun 1998	3,190,130	77,319	3,267,449	13,338	1,071
Jun 1999	3,495,221	80,731	3,575,952	12,329	1,051
Jan-Jun 1998	18,894,609	438,914	19,333,522	75,815	6,349
Jan-Jun 1999	20,267,107	463,932	20,731,039	75,588	5,198
-----					
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
May 1999	5.03	5.08	5.04	6.68	-----
Jun 1998	4.77	5.17	4.78	6.56	-----
Jun 1999	5.00	5.28	5.01	6.52	-----
Jan-Jun 1998	4.85	5.07	4.86	6.63	-----
Jan-Jun 1999	5.01	5.09	5.01	6.64	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
May 1999	27	21,668	107	21,802	-----
Jun 1998	---	23,186	193	23,379	-----
Jun 1999	28	22,172	154	22,355	-----
Jan-Jun 1998	---	131,106	908	132,014	-----
Jan-Jun 1999	56	124,864	814	125,733	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
May 1999	236	557,558	2,798	560,592	4,027,781
Jun 1998	---	575,209	4,890	580,099	3,861,958
Jun 1999	255	571,838	4,110	576,204	4,165,535
Jan-Jun 1998	---	3,291,651	24,120	3,315,771	22,731,457
Jan-Jun 1999	491	3,203,317	21,801	3,225,609	24,037,434
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
May 1999	8.72	25.73	26.24	25.71	-----
Jun 1998	---	24.81	25.33	24.81	-----
Jun 1999	8.97	25.79	26.69	25.78	-----
Jan-Jun 1998	---	25.11	26.56	25.12	-----
Jan-Jun 1999	8.85	25.65	26.79	25.65	-----

- 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: June 1998: 5,901, June 1999: 6,309.  
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: June 1998: 69, June 1999: 42.

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
May 1999					
Chilled	2,259,360	43,422	2,302,782	3,266	301
Frozen	209,534	3,547	213,081	5,159	199
Total	2,468,894	46,970	2,515,864	8,425	500
Jun 1998					
Chilled	2,144,471	42,857	2,187,328	3,383	409
Frozen	202,878	4,143	207,021	6,321	190
Total	2,347,349	47,000	2,394,349	9,704	600
Jun 1999					
Chilled	2,350,690	44,648	2,395,339	3,291	339
Frozen	223,003	3,635	226,638	5,423	264
Total	2,573,693	48,284	2,621,977	8,714	602
Jan-Jun 1998					
Chilled	12,597,489	242,754	12,840,244	18,811	2,330
Frozen	1,238,652	21,899	1,260,552	35,336	1,194
Total	13,836,142	264,653	14,100,795	54,147	3,524
Jan-Jun 1999					
Chilled	13,578,946	258,651	13,837,597	20,662	1,864
Frozen	1,282,027	20,477	1,302,504	32,345	1,119
Total	14,860,973	279,128	15,140,101	53,008	2,983

See footnotes at end of table.

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

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds			
May 1999	:				
Chilled	:	21	190,682	1,514	2,498,566
Frozen	:	146	247,795	603	466,983
Total	:	166	438,477	2,117	2,965,549
Jun 1998	:				
Chilled	:	---	208,410	2,930	2,402,460
Frozen	:	---	245,806	784	460,123
Total	:	---	454,216	3,713	2,862,583
Jun 1999	:				
Chilled	:	14	204,066	1,809	2,604,857
Frozen	:	167	247,143	1,230	480,866
Total	:	182	451,209	3,039	3,085,723
Jan-Jun 1998	:				
Chilled	:	---	1,236,772	12,536	14,110,692
Frozen	:	---	1,356,584	5,630	2,659,296
Total	:	---	2,593,356	18,166	16,769,988
Jan-Jun 1999	:				
Chilled	:	35	1,163,426	11,463	15,035,047
Frozen	:	313	1,360,721	4,832	2,701,835
Total	:	348	2,524,147	16,294	17,736,882

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

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

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- : 1,000 Pounds -----					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
May 1999	12,794	1,067	13,861	16	4
Jun 1998	15,793	1,882	17,675	17	7
Jun 1999	15,178	1,955	17,133	20	9
Jan-Jun 1998	76,075	7,483	83,558	75	28
Jan-Jun 1999	84,006	7,812	91,818	100	34
Percent 2/					
Jun 1998	0.50	2.43	0.54	0.13	0.69
Jun 1999	0.43	2.42	0.48	0.16	0.89
----- : 1,000 Pounds -----					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
May 1999	48,534	4,897	53,431	291	8
Jun 1998	47,367	4,102	51,469	295	13
Jun 1999	48,956	5,050	54,006	260	8
Jan-Jun 1998	301,497	25,346	326,843	1,589	61
Jan-Jun 1999	312,341	28,847	341,188	1,773	39
Percent 3/					
Jun 1998	1.65	5.90	1.75	2.46	1.31
Jun 1999	1.56	6.95	1.68	2.35	0.80

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, June 1999 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-			Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem					
(Live Weight)					
May 1999	---	1,318	24	1,343	15,225
Jun 1998	---	1,702	45	1,748	19,448
Jun 1999	---	2,074	59	2,133	19,295
Jan-Jun 1998	---	9,124	190	9,314	92,975
Jan-Jun 1999	1	8,885	221	9,107	101,059
Percent 2/					
Jun 1998	---	0.30	0.93	0.30	0.50
Jun 1999	0.15	0.36	1.45	0.37	0.46
Post-Mortem					
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
May 1999	2	10,538	275	10,815	64,545
Jun 1998	---	10,515	308	10,823	62,600
Jun 1999	3	10,924	320	11,247	65,520
Jan-Jun 1998	---	65,706	1,689	67,395	395,887
Jan-Jun 1999	5	63,622	1,629	65,256	408,256
Percent 3/					
Jun 1998	8.77	2.03	7.01	2.07	1.80
Jun 1999	1.16	2.12	8.64	2.17	1.75

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, June 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	71,092	79,574	348,454	407,287	4.90	5.12	
AR	97,869	97,506	462,413	476,463	4.72	4.89	
DE	23,742	22,854	135,715	130,672	5.72	5.72	
FL	10,726	10,880	48,880	57,774	4.56	5.31	
GA	95,492	100,133	455,879	501,473	4.77	5.01	
LA	13,096	15,340	59,094	68,313	4.51	4.45	
MD	18,747	17,776	87,829	85,461	4.68	4.81	
MS	57,377	60,450	265,495	300,458	4.63	4.97	
MO	30,741	31,328	133,354	141,460	4.34	4.52	
NC	55,445	56,199	300,304	323,931	5.42	5.76	
PA	9,590	9,419	48,936	48,633	5.10	5.16	
SC	19,873	19,680	88,692	92,496	4.46	4.70	
TN	15,991	18,622	73,735	91,052	4.61	4.89	
TX	41,119	46,789	176,836	217,955	4.30	4.66	
VA	32,732	30,580	155,023	151,656	4.74	4.96	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	668,284	698,515	3,190,130	3,495,221	4.77	5.00	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.



Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, June 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	256,726	302,687	6,423	8,040	2.05	2.19
AR	331,329	347,339	6,085	5,772	1.46	1.35
DE	96,529	94,538	2,772	2,554	2.27	2.17
FL	35,581	40,752	927	1,053	2.11	2.02
GA	341,967	368,161	6,252	7,109	1.52	1.58
LA	41,045	47,348	1,087	1,509	2.04	2.45
MD	62,664	60,503	1,095	1,476	1.39	1.92
MS	208,199	231,968	3,633	2,758	1.52	1.02
MO	96,046	104,312	1,361	1,503	1.13	1.18
NC	226,364	245,446	4,893	4,819	1.81	1.65
PA	34,007	34,330	1,456	1,217	3.31	2.78
SC	65,123	67,896	1,505	1,476	1.88	1.77
TN	53,128	65,867	795	1,050	1.20	1.28
TX	134,447	166,650	1,936	2,294	1.22	1.17
VA	107,544	105,380	1,854	1,372	1.33	1.00
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,347,349	2,573,693	47,367	48,956	1.65	1.56

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, June 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,793	218,666	396,515	2,109	11,824
AR	---	3,025	303,532	108,779	18,618	5,466
DE	---	5,859	121,806	71,803	154	15,880
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	13,634	150,653	289,603	1,117	8,888
LA	---	257	47,614	44,598	---	1,521
MD	---	9,759	110,896	44,753	76	9,132
MS	---	1,625	120,702	39,519	1,160	2,560
MO	---	2,755	81,715	---	2,929	1,951
NC	---	---	155,489	77,554	---	---
PA	---	---	37,246	22,092	255	---
SC	---	1,270	36,510	67,904	71	---
TN	---	354	47,769	15,262	---	---
TX	---	---	124,569	45,424	1,159	2,228
VA	---	---	73,819	26,382	59	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	93,227	1,981,751	1,381,455	44,475	150,214
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	11,302	45,212	73,390	14,112	243,787	1,018,710
AR	13,052	36,616	56,960	9,625	111,859	667,532
DE	2,706	17,552	18,265	8,696	51,653	314,374
FL	2,344	---	7,807	---	---	10,151
GA	13,211	40,640	71,932	11,264	327,193	928,135
LA	2,225	11,032	12,178	2,331	32,042	153,798
MD	1,742	15,604	---	2,205	31,955	226,122
MS	5,672	27,319	23,127	2,058	79,222	302,964
MO	2,285	14,425	19,225	1,891	34,144	161,320
NC	7,705	46,085	42,240	9,852	109,604	448,529
PA	2,469	4,222	---	---	35,442	101,726
SC	4,665	19,487	---	---	45,932	175,839
TN	2,259	10,835	---	1,622	20,390	98,491
TX	2,099	16,022	17,863	1,315	11,718	222,397
VA	2,198	11,422	7,020	---	41,223	162,123
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	82,666	357,219	499,130	81,886	1,345,895	6,017,918

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, June 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	14,967	15,298	77,319	80,731	5.17	5.28

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	47,000	48,284	4,102	5,050	5.90	6.95

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, June 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	138	51	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	3,287	10,446	341,817	22,362	1,210	150,857
State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	81	70	316	---	585	1,241
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	40,799	64,870	204,207	2,565	63,593	906,013

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, June 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	2,194	2,224	38,347	41,965	17.48	18.87
CA	1,292	1,604	31,034	36,435	24.02	22.71
IA	1,249	1,548	34,772	45,679	27.84	29.50
MN	3,830	3,680	88,328	90,061	23.06	24.47
MO	2,057	2,022	56,706	58,522	27.57	28.94
NC	3,515	2,537	92,094	64,838	26.20	25.55
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	3,025	2,757	60,309	61,039	19.94	22.14
US	23,186	22,172	575,209	571,838	24.81	25.79

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

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

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1998	1999	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	31,184	33,903	581	606	1.68	1.60
CA	25,042	29,543	373	448	1.33	1.36
IA	26,646	35,610	850	1,097	2.72	2.67
MN	70,077	71,533	1,946	2,292	2.45	2.83
MO	44,594	46,197	1,054	1,212	2.07	2.30
NC	73,662	51,259	1,611	1,228	1.94	2.10
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	47,297	47,687	724	811	1.33	1.48
US	454,216	451,209	10,515	10,924	2.03	2.12

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, June 1999

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AR	---	---	4,965	298	---	---
CA	---	---	5,432	60	---	---
IA	---	---	6,019	2,024	---	4
MN	---	---	15,515	---	1,159	22
MO	---	---	15,436	---	---	---
NC	---	---	---	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	720	---	---
VA	---	---	3,083	232	---	---
US	---	678	77,198	13,169	5,792	92

  

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
AR	29	---	---	---	1,395	6,687
CA	29	---	207	9	---	5,737
IA	45	---	---	---	1,289	9,381
MN	210	978	915	---	1,424	20,223
MO	66	321	---	---	1,884	17,707
NC	---	---	2,199	---	567	2,766
PA	---	---	---	---	---	720
VA	30	---	172	---	1,192	4,709
US	854	8,379	8,575	3,099	11,753	129,589

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

		Tuber-			Airsac-		
State		culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
		Number					
US	---	5	2,820	862	16	95	
		Bruises	Cadaver	Contam-	Overscald	Other	Total
		Number					
US		18	163	417	5	1,003	5,404

## Poultry Slaughter Estimates

**Data Sources:** Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection Form (FSIS 6000-21) completed by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA. This form provides actual counts of birds slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. Over 99 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The FSIS 6000-21 forms collect number of head slaughtered daily under FI by species and class as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights. Approximately 350 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection. Annual totals of poultry slaughtered under State-administered Non-Federal Inspection (NFI) are published in the April release.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions are generally the result of late reports received by FSIS from plants and are usually less than one-half of 1 percent of the preliminary totals. Revisions for the previous month and year-to-date totals are published in each monthly release. Final data are published in the annual summary released in April and reflect any late reports or corrections which occurred after the monthly revision were published.

**Procedures and Reliability:** Plant inspectors submit forms (FSIS 6000-21) weekly summarizing the plant's activity. When inconsistencies in the data are detected, the reports are returned to the inspectors for correction. Inspectors correct or validate the report and resubmit it. The reports cover weekly activities through Saturday night and reported data are allocated to the appropriate month as it enters the database.

A NASS computer program provides a review of current data with historical data for each plant. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. The program also generates a missing reports listing for a telephone follow-up. Data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release.

Major slaughter plants with missing reports are adjusted prior to publication to assure that all plants slaughtering a significant portion of a specific class are accounted for each week. Estimates for missing weeks are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on either the previous week's information or a week determined to be similar to the one missing. Late reports replace imputed data as they become available. While there will continue to be a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it is expected to have only a minimal impact on the final totals.

Poultry slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and, therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Generally, no State data are published if less than three plants operate for a species in a State, or if one plant has 60 percent or more of the total head for that species. These data are included in the U.S. totals.



## Definitions Used To Report Federally Inspected Slaughter

- Ante-Mortem Condemnations** - Birds condemned prior to their entry into the slaughter plant.
- Certified Ready-to-Cook** - The weight of poultry certified wholesome by inspection after post-mortem condemnation pounds are removed. Ready-to-cook represents poultry meat ready for the marketing channel.
- Ducks** - Includes all ducks regardless of age and weight.
- Fryer-Roaster Turkeys** - Young immature birds, usually under 16 weeks of age.
- Mature Chickens** - Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks and stags and cocks.
- New York Dressed Weight** - Carcass weight after only feathers and blood are removed. This weight is approximately 90% of live weight.
- Old Turkeys (Breeders)** - Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.
- Other Poultry** - Includes all other ready-to-cook products which bear the U.S.D.A. Inspected for Wholesomeness legend.
- Post-Mortem Condemnations** - Carcasses or parts condemned by the inspector because of disease or mishandling and removed from the slaughter line and destroyed.
- Young Chickens** - Commercially grown broilers-fryers and other young immature birds such as roasters and capons.
- Young Turkeys (Mature)** - Young birds grown to a matured market age, about 5 months.

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The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on September 3, 1999.

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