



Poultry Slaughter

Released October 6, 2000, 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 7 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during August (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 3.26 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the amount certified in August 1999. Updated totals for July 2000 show that 2.89 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during August 2000 was 4.41 billion pounds, up 8 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.70 billion pounds of young chickens, 8 percent above last year; 82.2 million pounds of mature chickens, up 6 percent; 617 million pounds of turkeys, up 4 percent; and 13.7 million pounds of ducks, up 8 percent from August 1999.

Young chickens slaughtered during August 2000 averaged 4.91 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from 4.82 pounds per bird in August 1999. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.49 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during August 2000 averaged 24.7 pounds per bird, down slightly from August 1999.

Ante-mortem condemnations during August 2000 totaled 24.9 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.56 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.51 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 61.6 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.55 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.81 percent a year earlier.

August 2000 contained 23 weekdays and four Saturdays.
August 1999 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Jul 2000	661,589	13,100	674,689	1,865	-----
Aug 1999	708,119	14,211	722,331	1,988	-----
Aug 2000	752,777	14,958	767,736	2,111	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	5,446,489	120,322	5,566,811	15,319	-----
Jan-Aug 2000	5,594,789	114,781	5,709,570	15,883	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Jul 2000	3,276,876	72,159	3,349,036	12,296	887
Aug 1999	3,412,248	77,169	3,489,417	12,694	1,960
Aug 2000	3,697,118	82,161	3,779,279	13,744	1,230
Jan-Aug 1999	27,073,507	619,492	27,692,998	100,905	8,288
Jan-Aug 2000	27,864,750	605,593	28,470,343	105,105	7,900
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Jul 2000	4.95	5.51	4.96	6.59	-----
Aug 1999	4.82	5.43	4.83	6.38	-----
Aug 2000	4.91	5.49	4.92	6.51	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	4.97	5.15	4.97	6.59	-----
Jan-Aug 2000	4.98	5.28	4.99	6.62	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Head			Total Poultry
Number Inspected					
Jul 2000	---	21,191	156	21,347	-----
Aug 1999	---	23,842	235	24,077	-----
Aug 2000	---	24,704	254	24,958	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	56	170,849	1,224	172,128	-----
Jan-Aug 2000	81	174,758	1,349	176,188	-----
Live Weight		1,000 Pounds			
Jul 2000	---	535,933	3,974	539,907	3,902,126
Aug 1999	---	589,965	6,020	595,984	4,100,055
Aug 2000	---	610,668	6,383	617,052	4,411,305
Jan-Aug 1999	491	4,347,731	32,365	4,380,587	32,182,778
Jan-Aug 2000	657	4,518,364	35,153	4,554,173	33,137,521
Average Live Weight		Pounds			
Jul 2000	---	25.29	25.41	25.29	-----
Aug 1999	---	24.74	25.57	24.75	-----
Aug 2000	---	24.72	25.17	24.72	-----
Jan-Aug 1999	8.85	25.45	26.44	25.45	-----
Jan-Aug 2000	8.13	25.85	26.05	25.85	-----

- 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: August 1999: 6,385, August 2000: 6,868.
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: August 1999: 79, August 2000: 68.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Jul 2000					
Chilled	2,206,608	40,639	2,247,247	3,471	296
Frozen	209,086	3,293	212,379	5,425	243
Total	2,415,693	43,932	2,459,626	8,896	539
Aug 1999					
Chilled	2,299,426	43,528	2,342,954	3,395	469
Frozen	216,967	3,173	220,139	5,506	655
Total	2,516,392	46,700	2,563,093	8,901	1,124
Aug 2000					
Chilled	2,488,025	46,219	2,534,244	3,894	229
Frozen	229,912	3,500	233,412	6,051	513
Total	2,717,937	49,719	2,767,657	9,944	743
Jan-Aug 1999					
Chilled	18,141,687	345,918	18,487,605	27,249	2,720
Frozen	1,734,695	26,984	1,761,679	43,566	2,035
Total	19,876,382	372,902	20,249,284	70,816	4,755
Jan-Aug 2000					
Chilled	18,715,274	338,962	19,054,236	29,175	2,185
Frozen	1,775,736	25,863	1,801,599	46,089	2,652
Total	20,491,010	364,825	20,855,835	75,264	4,837

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds			
Jul 2000					
Chilled	---	193,043	1,822	194,865	2,445,879
Frozen	---	229,214	1,242	230,456	448,503
Total	---	422,257	3,064	425,321	2,894,382
Aug 1999					
Chilled	---	205,236	2,596	207,832	2,554,649
Frozen	---	259,074	1,877	260,951	487,251
Total	---	464,310	4,473	468,783	3,041,901
Aug 2000					
Chilled	---	218,904	2,964	221,869	2,760,236
Frozen	---	261,473	1,876	263,348	503,325
Total	---	480,377	4,840	485,217	3,263,561
Jan-Aug 1999					
Chilled	35	1,550,750	16,095	1,566,880	20,084,455
Frozen	313	1,873,697	8,099	1,882,109	3,689,389
Total	348	3,424,447	24,194	3,448,989	23,773,843
Jan-Aug 2000					
Chilled	219	1,692,348	18,028	1,710,595	20,796,191
Frozen	276	1,867,959	8,345	1,876,579	3,726,919
Total	495	3,560,307	26,373	3,587,174	24,523,110

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jul 2000	16,449	1,580	18,028	21	3
Aug 1999	17,244	1,935	19,179	26	9
Aug 2000	19,705	2,715	22,419	30	5
Jan-Aug 1999	121,576	12,422	133,998	144	48
Jan-Aug 2000	115,989	10,651	126,640	177	31
----- Percent 2/ -----					
Aug 1999	0.51	2.51	0.55	0.20	0.45
Aug 2000	0.53	3.30	0.59	0.22	0.43
----- 1,000 Pounds -----					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jul 2000	39,705	4,090	43,795	256	7
Aug 1999	49,242	4,702	53,943	275	16
Aug 2000	44,331	4,494	48,825	331	12
Jan-Aug 1999	409,942	38,352	448,294	2,303	66
Jan-Aug 2000	376,069	37,931	414,000	2,324	82
----- Percent 3/ -----					
Aug 1999	1.60	6.77	1.72	2.41	0.92
Aug 2000	1.33	6.08	1.44	2.67	1.09

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, August 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			
					Total
		Fryer-			Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Jul 2000	---	1,821	23	1,844	19,896
Aug 1999	---	1,701	55	1,756	20,970
Aug 2000	---	2,333	74	2,406	24,861
Jan-Aug 1999	1	12,448	351	12,799	146,989
Jan-Aug 2000	17	13,213	357	13,588	140,436
Percent 2/					
Aug 1999	---	0.29	0.92	0.29	0.51
Aug 2000	---	0.38	1.15	0.39	0.56
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Jul 2000	---	10,687	231	10,918	54,976
Aug 1999	---	12,242	326	12,568	66,802
Aug 2000	---	12,112	363	12,475	61,643
Jan-Aug 1999	5	87,062	2,238	89,304	539,967
Jan-Aug 2000	9	92,968	2,300	95,277	511,683
Percent 3/					
Aug 1999	---	2.31	6.01	2.34	1.81
Aug 2000	---	2.20	6.32	2.25	1.55

- 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, August 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	----
AL	82,041	88,589	409,299	442,772	4.99	5.00	
AR	104,785	105,666	481,871	495,630	4.60	4.69	
DE	24,155	24,406	134,243	141,575	5.56	5.80	
FL	10,718	11,451	54,615	60,513	5.10	5.28	
GA	101,196	104,170	486,811	514,061	4.81	4.93	
LA	13,763	17,101	58,628	71,568	4.26	4.19	
MD	18,091	19,470	84,814	92,307	4.69	4.74	
MS	60,377	64,810	288,957	317,351	4.79	4.90	
MO	31,693	32,559	139,801	141,626	4.41	4.35	
NC	55,789	57,862	302,936	333,153	5.43	5.76	
PA	10,064	10,078	51,598	52,409	5.13	5.20	
SC	18,174	19,375	83,638	96,567	4.60	4.98	
TN	17,472	20,810	79,565	94,094	4.55	4.52	
TX	46,705	53,354	209,266	243,104	4.48	4.56	
VA	30,946	33,158	147,938	163,266	4.78	4.92	
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	708,119	752,777	3,412,248	3,697,118	4.82	4.91	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, August 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
		----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --		
AL	301,794	322,708	7,678	6,828	2.08	1.71
AR	352,293	359,008	6,212	5,940	1.43	1.33
DE	97,782	102,807	2,380	2,245	1.97	1.76
FL	39,054	43,327	1,159	956	2.36	1.76
GA	357,600	378,179	6,876	5,185	1.57	1.12
LA	41,793	50,086	1,632	661	3.09	1.03
MD	59,764	65,171	1,809	988	2.37	1.19
MS	224,478	248,893	3,120	2,486	1.20	0.87
MO	102,468	102,984	1,737	1,780	1.38	1.40
NC	231,154	250,615	4,200	4,318	1.54	1.44
PA	36,210	36,233	1,214	1,114	2.61	2.36
SC	60,519	70,862	1,593	1,316	2.12	1.51
TN	57,721	67,875	642	711	0.90	0.84
TX	161,931	191,017	2,464	2,553	1.31	1.17
VA	102,937	109,612	1,347	1,357	1.01	0.92
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,516,392	2,717,937	49,242	44,331	1.60	1.33

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, August 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	2,461	197,209	127,432	2,409	11,446
AR	---	5,296	269,583	87,195	9,570	4,458
DE	---	3,138	115,117	26,000	270	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,785	139,758	107,618	1,016	11,720
LA	---	---	31,713	11,264	228	---
MD	---	2,988	77,610	14,357	41	9,659
MS	---	721	95,396	27,699	483	1,743
MO	---	2,164	84,111	26,996	2,194	---
NC	---	3,522	151,429	53,957	185	41,647
PA	---	943	34,353	11,999	---	---
SC	---	861	28,983	---	26	---
TN	---	382	46,472	16,674	465	808
TX	---	498	159,875	40,809	742	2,402
VA	---	---	65,696	15,753	26	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	34,614	1,824,955	653,801	25,457	141,119
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	12,011	68,139	55,556	13,313	150,274	640,250
AR	10,341	34,194	54,026	4,255	127,894	606,812
DE	4,153	16,734	14,498	4,099	42,964	226,973
FL	2,089	---	4,820	---	---	6,909
GA	12,501	36,617	32,209	21,312	173,718	538,254
LA	---	5,258	5,285	106	9,016	62,870
MD	2,285	15,210	---	2,005	20,903	145,058
MS	4,726	17,107	---	741	53,677	202,293
MO	2,772	22,148	20,835	1,475	63,085	225,780
NC	9,168	44,355	38,850	7,097	98,777	448,987
PA	2,084	4,490	---	464	33,598	87,931
SC	4,363	19,384	10,896	5,399	31,331	101,243
TN	2,532	12,899	13,627	2,400	30,554	126,813
TX	2,074	16,286	17,191	1,600	16,873	258,350
VA	2,327	12,040	---	1,198	18,206	115,246
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	79,778	373,481	393,415	72,538	1,017,713	4,616,871

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, August 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	-----	1,000	-----	1,000 Pounds	----	Pounds	---
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,211	14,958	77,169	82,161	5.43	5.49	

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, August 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1999	2000	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	-----		1,000 Pounds		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	46,700	49,719	4,702	4,494	6.77	6.08

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, August 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	38	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	6,075	297,988	15,591	1,572	129,319

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	26	---	---	667	731
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	33,560	43,501	176,394	2,684	84,686	791,370

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, August 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,279	2,349	40,168	40,752	17.63	17.35
CA	2,189	1,854	54,407	40,803	24.86	22.01
IA	1,448	1,481	40,957	42,297	28.28	28.56
MN	4,108	3,890	97,523	90,536	23.74	23.28
MO	2,120	2,468	58,036	61,789	27.37	25.04
NC	2,636	2,962	63,085	74,168	23.94	25.04
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	23,842	24,704	589,965	610,668	24.74	24.72

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemns, Selected States and United States, August 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemns			
	1999	2000	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	32,837	33,949	832	615	2.30	1.68
CA	43,248	33,113	787	569	1.61	1.55
IA	31,751	32,965	1,045	1,071	2.83	2.81
MN	77,172	71,027	2,647	2,370	3.02	2.91
MO	45,256	48,812	1,310	1,290	2.51	2.32
NC	49,752	58,387	1,328	1,646	2.34	2.47
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	464,310	480,377	12,242	12,112	2.31	2.20

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, August 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	4,357	---	---	---
CA	---	8	---	297	---	6
IA	---	---	6,697	2,240	---	---
MN	---	---	14,726	1,821	1,479	---
MO	---	---	17,937	3,535	---	---
NC	---	---	4,474	---	---	---
PA	---	---	2,782	---	22	---
VA	---	27	4,642	---	---	---
US	---	638	83,678	17,304	6,734	128

State	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	436	---	---	---	4,793
CA	---	---	250	---	161	722
IA	97	---	741	---	---	9,775
MN	238	1,038	943	458	1,345	22,048
MO	79	497	623	10	---	22,681
NC	100	2,010	---	---	1,439	8,023
PA	65	---	---	---	---	2,869
VA	84	---	---	---	2,027	6,780
US	960	8,765	10,080	3,136	13,186	144,609

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemed Post-Mortem by Cause,
 United States, August 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	---	2,879	665	34	106

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	11	228	165	40	715	4,843

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.

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 November 4 2000.

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