



# Poultry Slaughter

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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 1 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during September 2001 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 2.88 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the amount certified in September 2000. Updated totals for August 2001 show that 3.37 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during September 2001 was 3.90 billion pounds, unchanged from a year ago. Inspections included 3.28 billion pounds of young chickens, unchanged from last year; 66.5 million pounds of mature chickens, unchanged; 538 million pounds of turkeys, down 1 percent; and 13.7 million pounds of ducks, up 1 percent from September 2000.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 2001 averaged 5.04 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from September 2000. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.51 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2001 averaged 25.1 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from September 2000.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 2001 totaled 16.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.42 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.39 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 43.8 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.25 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.49 percent a year earlier.

September 2001 contained 20 weekdays and five Saturdays.  
September 2000 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Aug 2001	769,827	14,051	783,877	2,461	-----
Sep 2000	657,987	12,438	670,426	2,068	-----
Sep 2001	650,634	12,070	662,704	2,046	-----
Jan-Sep 2000	6,261,542	127,963	6,389,505	17,988	-----
Jan-Sep 2001	6,288,990	119,948	6,408,938	20,098	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Aug 2001	3,805,799	77,593	3,883,392	16,096	1,823
Sep 2000	3,272,702	66,778	3,339,480	13,527	1,914
Sep 2001	3,279,131	66,480	3,345,611	13,673	1,079
Jan-Sep 2000	31,189,865	678,030	31,867,895	118,849	9,991
Jan-Sep 2001	31,507,133	643,036	32,150,169	132,734	9,187
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Aug 2001	4.94	5.52	4.95	6.54	-----
Sep 2000	4.97	5.37	4.98	6.54	-----
Sep 2001	5.04	5.51	5.05	6.68	-----
Jan-Sep 2000	4.98	5.30	4.99	6.61	-----
Jan-Sep 2001	5.01	5.36	5.02	6.60	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight  
by Type, United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer- Roasters	Young 3/	Old	Total Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Head				
Number Inspected						
Aug 2001	---	24,780	258	25,038	-----	
Sep 2000	---	21,625	234	21,859	-----	
Sep 2001	7	21,151	259	21,417	-----	
Jan-Sep 2000	81	196,670	1,591	198,342	-----	
Jan-Sep 2001	19	196,600	1,720	198,339	-----	
		1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight						
Aug 2001	---	619,621	6,779	626,401	4,527,711	
Sep 2000	---	538,521	6,325	544,846	3,899,767	
Sep 2001	63	531,191	6,552	537,807	3,898,169	
Jan-Sep 2000	657	5,059,737	41,653	5,102,047	37,098,781	
Jan-Sep 2001	157	5,148,692	45,326	5,194,175	37,486,266	
		Pounds				
Average Live Weight						
Aug 2001	---	25.01	26.25	25.02	-----	
Sep 2000	---	24.90	26.98	24.92	-----	
Sep 2001	8.59	25.11	25.31	25.11	-----	
Jan-Sep 2000	8.13	25.73	26.18	25.72	-----	
Jan-Sep 2001	8.19	26.19	26.36	26.19	-----	

- 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: September 2000: 5,428, September 2001: 5,338.  
3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: September 2000: 51, September 2001: 76.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Aug 2001					
Chilled	2,574,280	45,198	2,619,478	4,287	486
Frozen	249,114	1,357	250,471	6,674	665
Total	2,823,394	46,555	2,869,949	10,961	1,151
Sep 2000					
Chilled	2,223,614	37,682	2,261,296	3,794	353
Frozen	198,201	2,431	200,632	6,035	803
Total	2,421,816	40,113	2,461,929	9,830	1,156
Sep 2001					
Chilled	2,200,620	38,953	2,239,574	3,654	4,756
Frozen	207,088	3,362	210,449	6,126	379
Total	2,407,708	42,315	2,450,023	9,780	5,135
Jan-Sep 2000					
Chilled	20,974,594	380,082	21,354,676	33,091	2,626
Frozen	1,977,033	28,623	2,005,656	52,191	3,463
Total	22,951,627	408,706	23,360,332	85,281	6,089
Jan-Sep 2001					
Chilled	21,246,231	376,889	21,623,120	36,483	6,828
Frozen	2,034,444	13,091	2,047,535	57,985	3,014
Total	23,280,675	389,980	23,670,655	94,467	9,842

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,  
 United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total	
		Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys	Poultry
		1,000 Pounds				
Aug 2001						
Chilled	---	233,413	3,721	237,134	2,861,386	
Frozen	---	252,269	1,515	253,784	511,594	
Total	---	485,682	5,236	490,918	3,372,980	
Sep 2000						
Chilled	---	201,114	2,828	203,942	2,469,386	
Frozen	---	221,871	2,002	223,872	431,343	
Total	---	422,985	4,829	427,815	2,900,729	
Sep 2001						
Chilled	45	199,702	3,484	203,231	2,451,215	
Frozen	---	209,541	1,561	211,102	428,056	
Total	45	409,243	5,044	414,332	2,879,271	
Jan-Sep 2000						
Chilled	219	1,892,635	20,996	1,913,850	23,304,243	
Frozen	276	2,092,393	10,347	2,103,015	4,164,325	
Total	495	3,985,028	31,343	4,016,865	27,468,568	
Jan-Sep 2001						
Chilled	53	1,940,777	27,571	1,968,401	23,634,831	
Frozen	61	2,112,411	7,225	2,119,697	4,228,231	
Total	113	4,053,188	34,796	4,088,097	27,863,062	

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
-----					
: 1,000 Pounds					
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Aug 2001	18,218	1,841	20,059	41	14
Sep 2000	12,058	1,550	13,607	28	5
Sep 2001	13,856	1,020	14,875	30	19
Jan-Sep 2000	128,207	12,262	140,468	205	36
Jan-Sep 2001	134,899	11,916	146,815	277	51
Percent 2/					
Sep 2000	0.37	2.32	0.41	0.21	0.27
Sep 2001	0.42	1.53	0.44	0.22	1.74
: 1,000 Pounds					
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Aug 2001	37,534	3,812	41,346	314	20
Sep 2000	36,647	3,782	40,429	356	22
Sep 2001	29,013	3,308	32,321	321	209
Jan-Sep 2000	413,559	41,905	455,463	2,681	104
Jan-Sep 2001	367,257	33,499	400,755	2,922	294
Percent 3/					
Sep 2000	1.24	6.29	1.35	2.92	1.29
Sep 2001	0.98	5.53	1.07	2.61	*. **

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations  
by Type, United States, September 2001 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			
		-----			Total
		Fryer-		Total	Poultry
		Roasters	Young	Old	Turkeys
		-----			
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem					
(Live Weight)					
Aug 2001	---	2,473	89	2,562	22,676
Sep 2000	---	1,616	56	1,672	15,312
Sep 2001	1	1,517	40	1,558	16,482
Jan-Sep 2000	17	14,693	413	15,124	155,833
Jan-Sep 2001	2	17,848	564	18,413	165,556
Percent 2/					
Sep 2000	---	0.30	0.88	0.31	0.39
Sep 2001	2.22	0.29	0.61	0.29	0.42
Post-Mortem					
(N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Aug 2001	---	11,446	370	11,816	53,496
Sep 2000	---	11,136	352	11,487	52,294
Sep 2001	2	10,625	336	10,963	43,814
Jan-Sep 2000	9	104,111	2,660	106,780	565,028
Jan-Sep 2001	3	107,207	2,865	110,074	514,045
Percent 3/					
Sep 2000	---	2.30	6.18	2.34	1.49
Sep 2001	3.31	2.22	5.70	2.26	1.25

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, September 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AL	77,863	76,970	397,620	390,501	5.11	5.07
AR	93,257	90,354	436,710	441,814	4.68	4.89
DE	21,048	19,653	126,162	114,715	5.99	5.84
FL	9,979	9,840	53,177	53,229	5.33	5.41
GA	89,451	93,075	444,461	459,163	4.97	4.93
LA	12,248	13,231	53,401	62,347	4.36	4.71
MD	17,010	15,410	82,009	71,623	4.82	4.65
MS	58,197	58,093	289,824	292,993	4.98	5.04
MO	28,092	27,956	122,928	127,402	4.38	4.56
NC	54,526	51,598	317,067	301,016	5.81	5.83
PA	9,240	8,578	47,972	45,682	5.19	5.33
SC	17,794	17,452	90,420	90,972	5.08	5.21
TN	18,103	18,618	82,639	90,114	4.56	4.84
TX	45,716	47,199	206,946	229,553	4.53	4.86
VA	27,884	25,830	136,924	126,161	4.91	4.88
WA	4,204	3,943	21,111	20,564	5.02	5.22
US	657,987	650,634	3,272,702	3,279,131	4.97	5.04

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.



Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
AL	290,492	285,219	5,401	4,497	1.51	1.28
AR	319,521	321,107	5,119	4,034	1.30	1.01
DE	90,972	82,932	1,925	1,502	1.70	1.45
FL	37,532	37,547	844	712	1.76	1.49
GA	331,339	336,334	4,114	3,709	1.03	0.90
LA	39,196	45,033	484	379	1.01	0.68
MD	58,608	49,569	931	783	1.26	1.21
MS	225,060	203,539	2,063	1,697	0.79	0.64
MO	89,449	94,055	1,476	785	1.33	0.68
NC	241,212	232,603	4,174	3,204	1.46	1.18
PA	33,504	32,371	1,036	897	2.40	2.18
SC	65,783	58,427	973	635	1.20	0.78
TN	59,889	63,799	620	639	0.83	0.79
TX	161,929	185,180	2,055	1,623	1.10	0.79
VA	95,238	93,557	1,103	872	0.90	0.77
WA	15,787	15,307	269	280	1.42	1.51
US	2,421,815	2,407,708	36,647	29,013	1.24	0.98

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, September 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	1,050	126,878	49,819	1,293	5,763
AR	---	1,754	199,150	61,997	4,894	2,959
DE	---	1,431	81,244	19,448	51	6,768
FL	---	145	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,477	100,119	68,888	353	6,424
LA	---	---	18,894	9,924	---	788
MD	---	2,109	43,489	12,827	42	---
MS	---	482	64,488	17,019	700	1,218
MO	---	1,593	50,310	14,366	880	2,378
NC	---	856	107,274	36,979	---	12,647
PA	---	260	22,692	7,751	---	770
SC	---	82	14,872	---	---	---
TN	---	523	37,643	10,287	435	856
TX	---	205	84,756	31,336	---	2,044
VA	---	---	48,506	13,785	78	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	19,504	1,209,861	392,515	14,473	58,497
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	6,417	29,791	43,554	9,115	104,214	377,894
AR	6,685	30,268	31,720	---	53,190	392,617
DE	2,341	11,123	8,356	7,050	13,600	151,412
FL	998	5,062	3,537	427	8,578	18,747
GA	6,417	33,394	22,880	5,054	98,667	343,673
LA	584	3,588	---	98	---	33,876
MD	1,381	12,409	---	1,097	17,635	90,989
MS	3,373	10,915	---	---	37,172	135,367
MO	1,309	7,448	7,112	341	16,132	101,869
NC	5,088	32,815	26,551	10,976	60,755	293,941
PA	1,641	5,226	4,259	490	38,788	81,877
SC	---	---	5,078	3,825	11,228	35,085
TN	1,702	8,574	5,100	1,252	10,354	76,726
TX	1,297	8,754	---	---	8,732	137,124
VA	1,535	8,588	---	---	13,468	85,960
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	45,175	235,587	259,059	56,849	576,562	2,868,082

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,  
Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	12,438	12,070	66,778	66,480	5.37	5.51

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,  
Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-----		-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	40,113	42,315	3,782	3,308	6.29	5.53

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, September 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	2,198	244,171	13,398	1,729	111,531

  

	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	17,925	28,334	136,335	1,422	70,916	627,959

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	1,987	2,253	35,014	39,499	17.62	17.53
CA	1,530	1,524	36,033	37,659	23.56	24.71
IA	1,417	1,488	40,794	40,058	28.80	26.93
MN	3,420	3,361	81,595	79,431	23.86	23.64
MO	1,951	1,791	49,136	50,041	25.19	27.94
NC	2,772	2,704	67,209	66,578	24.25	24.63
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	2,977	2,902	64,488	61,788	21.66	21.29
US	21,625	21,151	538,521	531,191	24.90	25.11

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	2000	2001	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	29,008	32,320	631	746	2.00	2.10
CA	28,681	33,530	582	1,035	1.80	3.05
IA	31,527	29,265	977	916	2.66	2.54
MN	64,134	66,188	1,892	1,774	2.58	2.48
MO	37,588	31,311	1,164	992	2.63	2.20
NC	52,809	53,263	1,781	1,014	2.94	1.69
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	50,325	46,424	831	766	1.43	1.38
US	422,985	409,243	11,136	10,625	2.30	2.22

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
Selected States and United States, September 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AR	---	---	8,002	---	---	---
CA	---	---	11,843	3,686	---	---
IA	---	---	4,963	1,896	---	---
MN	---	---	13,180	1,839	---	9
MO	---	---	11,742	---	---	---
NC	---	---	4,272	---	---	---
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	---	3,509	---	---	15
US	---	500	86,665	19,470	4,432	520
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	---	954	---	---	---	8,956
CA	---	---	---	584	---	16,113
IA	127	---	316	---	---	7,302
MN	139	1,031	757	---	1,473	18,428
MO	30	260	---	---	---	12,032
NC	---	---	---	---	---	4,272
PA	---	---	---	---	---	---
VA	---	1,456	360	---	1,419	6,759
US	958	10,382	11,979	3,481	18,880	157,267

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,  
United States, September 2001

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
US	---	204	3,492	1,695	26	295
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
US	31	171	150	15	257	6,336

## 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.

## Index

	Page
Definitions.....	17
Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, Selected States and United States, September 2001.....	12
Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001.....	11
Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001...	11
Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, United States, September 2001.....	15
Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type, United States, September 2001 with comparisons.....	6
Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type, United States, September 2001 with comparisons.....	4
Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type, United States, September 2001 with comparisons.....	2
Reliability Statement.....	16
Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, Selected States and United States, September 2001.....	10
Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001.....	8
Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001.....	9
Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, Selected States and United States, September 2001.....	14
Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001.....	13
Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 2000-2001..	13

The next "Poultry Slaughter" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on December 7, 2001.

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