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Ready-to-Cook Weight Down Slightly from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during September 2007 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.39 billion pounds, down slightly from the amount certified in September 2006. The August 2007 revised certified total at 3.76 billion pounds, was up 2 percent from August 2006. The August revision represented an increase of 9.56 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during September 2007 was 4.57 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 4.59 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 3.92 billion pounds, down slightly from September 2006. Mature chickens, at 57.2 million pounds, were down 8 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 581 million pounds, down 1 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 12.8 million pounds, down 15 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 2007 averaged 5.53 pounds per bird, up slightly from September 2006. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.11 pounds per bird, down 2 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2007 averaged 28.0 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from September 2006.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 2007 totaled 15.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.34 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.31 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 39.0 million pounds, were 1.14 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.20 percent a year earlier.

September 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays, while September 2006 had 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Special Note

Due to a policy change, the *Poultry Slaughter* annual report, which will be released at 8:30a.m. ET on February 28, 2008, will now contain two years of revisions. This change will align the *Poultry Slaughter* annual report with the *Livestock Slaughter* annual report which already contains two years of revisions.

**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, September, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Sep 2006	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Sep 2006	Aug 2007	2006	2007	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Number Slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	712,381	799,513	707,668	99	89	6,668,058	6,649,444	100
Mature	9,976	12,422	9,356	94	75	99,889	98,753	99
Light	4,020	5,017	3,827	95	76	41,726	41,967	101
Heavy	5,956	7,405	5,529	93	75	58,163	56,786	98
Total	722,357	811,935	717,024	99	88	6,767,947	6,748,197	100
Turkeys								
Young	20,819	23,787	20,514	99	86	185,647	192,413	104
Old	213	264	220	103	83	1,925	1,650	86
Total	21,032	24,051	20,734	99	86	187,572	194,063	103
Ducks	2,236	2,373	1,890	85	80	21,028	20,372	97
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	3,931,918	4,311,805	3,915,442	100	91	36,330,244	36,409,042	100
Mature	62,145	76,252	57,197	92	75	609,721	593,943	97
Light	13,455	16,575	13,002	97	78	139,335	138,058	99
Heavy	48,690	59,677	44,195	91	74	470,386	455,885	97
Total	3,994,063	4,388,057	3,972,639	99	91	36,939,965	37,002,985	100
Turkeys								
Young	578,122	652,050	575,183	99	88	5,271,958	5,478,141	104
Old	5,614	6,632	5,613	100	85	50,398	42,911	85
Total	583,736	658,682	580,796	99	88	5,322,356	5,521,052	104
Ducks	15,020	15,728	12,829	85	82	141,358	136,917	97
Other Poultry ²	1,327	561	1,070	81	191	3,993	4,018	101
Total Poultry	4,594,146	5,063,028	4,567,334	99	90	42,407,672	42,664,972	101
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Avg Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	5.52	5.39	5.53	100	103	5.45	5.48	101
Mature	6.23	6.14	6.11	98	100	6.10	6.01	99
Light	3.35	3.30	3.40	101	103	3.34	3.29	99
Heavy	8.17	8.06	7.99	98	99	8.09	8.03	99
Total	5.53	5.40	5.54	100	103	5.46	5.48	100
Turkeys								
Young	27.77	27.41	28.04	101	102	28.40	28.47	100
Old	26.36	25.12	25.51	97	102	26.18	26.01	99
Total	27.75	27.39	28.01	101	102	28.38	28.45	100
Ducks	6.72	6.63	6.79	101	102	6.72	6.72	100

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, September, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Sep 2006	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Sep 2006	Aug 2007	2006	2007	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pct</i>
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	2,599,646	2,864,411	2,610,132	100	91	24,394,024	24,120,322	99
Mature	39,441	46,560	35,657	90	77	379,740	366,933	97
Light	6,895	8,431	6,648	96	79	71,064	70,705	99
Heavy	32,546	38,129	29,009	89	76	308,676	296,228	96
Total	2,639,087	2,910,971	2,645,789	100	91	24,773,764	24,487,255	99
Turkeys								
Young	257,420	287,724	254,649	99	89	2,318,704	2,439,810	105
Old	3,168	3,359	3,162	100	94	31,739	26,028	82
Total	260,588	291,083	257,811	99	89	2,350,443	2,465,838	105
Ducks	5,083	5,760	5,244	103	91	50,776	47,820	94
Other Poultry ²	171	190	164	96	86	1,459	1,562	107
Total Poultry	2,904,929	3,208,004	2,909,008	100	91	27,176,442	27,002,475	99
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	285,612	310,104	276,305	97	89	2,557,409	2,579,058	101
Mature	267	769	143	54	19	3,343	4,057	121
Light	23	51				122	64	52
Heavy	244	718	143	59	20	3,221	3,993	124
Total	285,879	310,873	276,448	97	89	2,560,752	2,583,115	101
Turkeys								
Young	199,090	229,573	201,774	101	88	1,856,589	1,899,072	102
Old	1,146	1,639	1,099	96	67	6,629	6,360	96
Total	200,236	231,212	202,873	101	88	1,863,218	1,905,432	102
Ducks	5,577	5,541	4,011	72	72	50,503	50,215	99
Other Poultry ²	544	138	453	83	328	772	825	107
Total Poultry	492,236	547,764	483,785	98	88	4,475,245	4,539,587	101
Total Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	2,885,258	3,174,515	2,886,437	100	91	26,951,433	26,699,380	99
Mature	39,708	47,329	35,800	90	76	383,083	370,990	97
Light	6,918	8,482	6,648	96	78	71,186	70,769	99
Heavy	32,790	38,847	29,152	89	75	311,897	300,221	96
Total	2,924,966	3,221,844	2,922,237	100	91	27,334,516	27,070,370	99
Turkeys								
Young	456,510	517,297	456,423	100	88	4,175,293	4,338,882	104
Old	4,314	4,998	4,261	99	85	38,368	32,388	84
Total	460,824	522,295	460,684	100	88	4,213,661	4,371,270	104
Ducks	10,660	11,301	9,255	87	82	101,279	98,035	97
Other Poultry ²	715	328	617	86	188	2,231	2,387	107
Total Poultry	3,397,165	3,755,768	3,392,793	100	90	31,651,687	31,542,062	100

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, squab, and any other voluntary poultry.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, September, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Sep 2006	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Sep 2006	Aug 2007	2006	2007	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Live Weight								
Chickens								
Young	11,907	23,297	12,480	105	54	129,245	130,059	101
Mature	752	2,812	1,156	154	41	9,401	11,451	122
Light	214	531	375	175	71	2,860	3,321	116
Heavy	538	2,281	781	145	34	6,541	8,130	124
Total	12,659	26,109	13,636	108	52	138,646	141,510	102
Turkeys								
Young	1,580	2,167	1,709	108	79	15,895	16,914	106
Old	44	94	75	170	80	602	598	99
Total	1,624	2,261	1,784	110	79	16,497	17,512	106
Ducks	47	53	38	81	72	341	351	103
Other Poultry	4	2	6	150	300	5	11	220
Total Poultry	14,334	28,425	15,464	108	54	155,489	159,384	103
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Percent of Live Weight Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.30	0.54	0.32	107	59	0.36	0.36	100
Mature	1.21	3.69	2.02	167	55	1.54	1.93	125
Light	1.59	3.20	2.88	181	90	2.05	2.41	118
Heavy	1.10	3.82	1.77	161	46	1.39	1.78	128
Total	0.32	0.60	0.34	106	57	0.38	0.38	100
Turkeys								
Young	0.27	0.33	0.30	111	91	0.30	0.31	103
Old	0.78	1.42	1.34	172	94	1.19	1.39	117
Total	0.28	0.34	0.31	111	91	0.31	0.32	103
Ducks	0.31	0.34	0.30	97	88	0.24	0.26	108
Other Poultry	0.30	0.36	0.56	187	156	0.13	0.27	208
Total Poultry	0.31	0.56	0.34	110	61	0.37	0.37	100

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Pounds condemned as a percent of live weight pounds inspected.

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, September, 2006-2007 ¹**

Commodity	Sep 2006	Aug 2007	Sep 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Sep 2006	Aug 2007	2006	2007	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Carcass and Parts								
Chickens								
Young	29,330	32,787	27,992	95	85	312,296	299,555	96
Mature	2,752	3,599	2,807	102	78	26,274	27,588	105
Light	1,097	1,144	920	84	80	11,115	10,160	91
Heavy	1,655	2,455	1,887	114	77	15,159	17,428	115
Total	32,082	36,386	30,799	96	85	338,570	327,143	97
Turkeys								
Young	8,534	8,969	7,625	89	85	77,473	76,774	99
Old	208	329	261	125	79	2,168	2,284	105
Total	8,742	9,298	7,886	90	85	79,641	79,058	99
Ducks	363	299	275	76	92	3,447	2,858	83
Other Poultry	9	12	20	222	167	49	59	120
Total Poultry	41,196	45,995	38,980	95	85	421,707	409,118	97
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Percent of Weight Condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	1.01	1.02	0.96	95	94	1.15	1.11	97
Mature	6.48	7.07	7.27	112	103	6.42	6.92	108
Light	13.69	11.88	12.16	89	102	13.51	12.55	93
Heavy	4.80	5.94	6.08	127	102	4.63	5.49	118
Total	1.08	1.12	1.04	96	93	1.22	1.19	98
Turkeys								
Young	1.84	1.70	1.64	90	96	1.82	1.74	95
Old	4.60	6.18	5.77	125	93	5.35	6.59	123
Total	1.86	1.75	1.68	90	96	1.86	1.78	96
Ducks	3.29	2.58	2.89	88	112	3.29	2.83	86
Other Poultry	1.24	3.53	3.14	253	89	2.15	2.41	112
Total Poultry	1.20	1.21	1.14	95	94	1.31	1.28	97

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Pounds condemned as a percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	93,633	86,572	504,414	480,787	5.39	5.55
AR	103,714	89,817	543,187	484,469	5.24	5.39
DE	28,037	23,725	187,486	160,878	6.69	6.78
GA	118,845	107,240	612,935	569,661	5.16	5.31
KY	27,395	23,064	146,118	124,708	5.33	5.41
LA	17,337	15,541	97,900	89,773	5.65	5.78
MD	13,275	11,664	62,336	55,761	4.70	4.78
MS	70,161	63,790	380,986	354,884	5.43	5.56
MO	36,736	32,309	169,053	152,919	4.60	4.73
NC	62,192	55,174	413,924	376,988	6.66	6.83
OH	4,434	3,789	23,804	20,766	5.37	5.48
PA	10,725	8,475	59,715	47,435	5.57	5.60
SC	26,835	22,977	159,813	142,466	5.96	6.20
TN	24,768	21,750	122,582	110,168	4.95	5.07
TX	58,196	51,477	301,879	274,688	5.19	5.34
VA	28,031	24,663	143,849	128,445	5.13	5.21
Oth Sts	75,199	65,641	381,824	340,646	5.08	5.19
US	799,513	707,668	4,311,805	3,915,442	5.39	5.53

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	August	September	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	371,928	352,477	3,245	2,982	0.86	0.84
AR	392,342	352,384	4,865	3,984	1.22	1.12
DE	135,029	116,130	1,907	1,636	1.39	1.39
GA	458,548	425,373	3,531	3,105	0.76	0.72
KY	106,859	92,041	945	554	0.88	0.60
LA	71,706	65,757	348	308	0.48	0.47
MD	45,294	40,585	584	529	1.27	1.29
MS	278,744	259,899	2,618	2,489	0.93	0.95
MO	123,963	112,602	1,260	1,030	1.01	0.91
NC	315,157	288,154	4,442	3,708	1.39	1.27
OH	17,330	15,264	308	227	1.75	1.47
PA	40,955	32,478	948	622	2.26	1.88
SC	117,381	104,817	1,009	778	0.85	0.74
TN	88,245	79,291	969	785	1.09	0.98
TX	230,749	209,911	1,896	1,903	0.81	0.90
VA	100,535	90,154	735	631	0.73	0.70
Oth Sts	279,750	249,120	3,177	2,721	1.12	1.08
US	3,174,515	2,886,437	32,787	27,992	1.02	0.96

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young						
AL			175	*	81,362	75,502
AR			591	375	151,170	122,948
DE			1,655	728	88,551	73,197
GA			390	444	77,982	70,969
KY			*	*	34,953	26,838
LA			*	*	13,145	12,589
MD			*	168	24,393	21,559
MS			*	*	38,000	33,798
MO			*	215	67,808	56,722
NC			*	230	91,130	77,502
OH				*	8,328	5,184
PA			58	33	21,951	14,379
SC			*	*	*	6,303
TN			*	*	50,830	41,854
TX			*	42	43,457	33,517
VA			261	*	28,104	26,113
Oth Sts			3,381	1,249	205,495	169,197
US			6,511	3,484	1,026,659	868,171
Mature						
Light			1,515	1,465	163,822	115,715
Heavy			312	218	43,740	32,421
US			1,827	1,683	207,562	148,136
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young						
AL	29,170	23,038	575	486	2,819	*
AR	21,550	17,139	3,211	1,951	2,492	2,229
DE	22,326	16,534	*	59	*	*
GA	42,175	42,308	410	276	6,409	7,695
KY	*	7,718	*	*	*	*
LA	2,890	2,578	*	*	214	217
MD	*	*	*	*	*	*
MS	11,456	15,596	198	164	912	813
MO	5,783	5,405	*	163	1,551	1,395
NC	27,019	21,486	*	74	8,724	8,441
OH	*	*	*	*	180	*
PA	8,428	5,697	55	43	337	261
SC	2,943	*	*	17	*	*
TN	16,561	17,003	*	*	621	547
TX	7,972	6,492	163	54	1,142	923
VA	7,584	6,125	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	52,528	36,721	2,336	1,490	27,603	29,345
US	258,385	223,840	6,948	4,777	53,004	51,866
Mature						
Light	32,958	30,788	193	145	71,634	60,970
Heavy	2,186	1,187	85	81	7,468	5,917
US	35,144	31,975	278	226	79,102	66,887

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

**Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young						
AL	2,097	2,026	10,738	9,494	11,367	11,164
AR	5,532	3,805	18,559	15,593	26,210	19,154
DE	1,839	1,598	5,911	4,873	7,284	7,584
GA	2,313	1,888	28,136	25,580	12,072	11,318
KY	231	180	3,047	2,333	4,472	3,626
LA	248	249	3,038	2,078	*	1,098
MD	*	*	*	2,596	*	*
MS	1,290	1,122	3,267	2,384	3,715	3,002
MO	853	779	3,069	2,824	10,451	8,768
NC	2,275	2,048	17,803	15,140	20,147	18,682
OH	*	*	*	1,496	519	379
PA	758	468	*	*	4,254	*
SC	892	631	*	*	*	*
TN	781	597	2,454	1,780	4,248	4,105
TX	764	532	5,589	4,391	6,315	5,145
VA	1,100	1,029	3,534	2,733	5,114	3,856
Oth Sts	4,540	3,769	22,525	14,985	39,639	38,354
US	25,513	20,721	127,670	108,280	155,807	136,235
Mature						
Light	12,353	9,040	1,360	2,259	98,909	70,319
Heavy	896	888	8,543	5,423	11,502	10,229
US	13,249	9,928	9,903	7,682	110,411	80,548
State	Overscald		Other		Total ¹	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Young						
AL	10,180	8,137	108,145	93,349	256,628	226,287
AR	4,417	3,337	92,229	76,217	325,961	262,748
DE	5,553	*	33,144	*	173,646	145,226
GA	5,473	5,957	83,460	68,559	258,820	234,994
KY	*	262	*	*	*	60,697
LA	64	47	1,716	1,503	22,632	20,416
MD	1,086	*	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	52,439	59,835	114,790	119,037
MO	507	433	78,660	62,462	169,361	139,166
NC	10,867	7,054	119,959	106,506	298,280	257,163
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	117	*	*	65,266	46,179
SC	3,404	1,683	35,131	27,652	57,624	44,419
TN	2,351	*	4,367	4,811	82,410	71,833
TX	*	1,114	37,020	41,420	104,502	93,630
VA	1,895	938	16,857	*	67,505	62,770
Oth Sts	11,457	12,728	257,155	236,819	640,608	453,749
US	57,254	41,807	920,282	779,133	2,638,033	2,238,314
Mature						
Light	356	577	46,123	48,163	429,223	339,441
Heavy	2,827	2,614	79,534	66,261	157,093	125,239
US	3,183	3,191	125,657	114,424	586,316	464,680

* Included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ The sum of the individual diseases does not add to total for "Other States."

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AR	3,002	2,638	56,910	52,689	18.95	19.97
MN	3,545	3,213	91,883	84,572	25.92	26.32
MO	1,570	1,306	47,736	40,983	30.40	31.39
Oth Sts	15,670	13,357	455,521	396,939	29.07	29.72
US	23,787	20,514	652,050	575,183	27.41	28.04

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, August 2007-September 2007

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	47,077	43,787	656	649	1.37	1.46
MN	73,330	67,514	1,574	1,369	2.10	1.99
MO	37,590	32,226	811	701	2.11	2.13
Oth Sts	359,300	312,896	5,928	4,906	1.62	1.54
US	517,297	456,423	8,969	7,625	1.70	1.64

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

Turkeys Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type, United States, August 2007-September 2007

Cause	Young		Old	
	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Tuberculosis				
Leukosis	203	51		
Septicaemia	59,236	53,294	2,388	2,304
Airsacculitis	7,130	7,482	593	462
Synovitis	3,137	2,493		1
Tumors	108	123	214	181
Bruises	451	395	35	22
Cadaver	3,235	2,516	71	62
Contamination	3,810	3,411	113	59
Overscald	1,346	2,041		28
Other	21,433	15,114	1,452	1,768
Total	100,089	86,920	4,866	4,887

Reliability of Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Data for poultry slaughter estimates are collected by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA for all Federally Inspected (FI) plants. Over 99 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The number of head slaughtered daily, by species and class, as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights are obtained by shift for each plant. Approximately 305 plants slaughtered poultry in the U.S. under Federal Inspection in 2006. Young chickens were slaughtered in 35 States, young turkeys in 26 States.

Revision Policy: Data for the previous month and year-to-date totals are subject to revision the following month after the initial monthly estimates are published. Final data are published in the annual summary released in February and include any revisions made to current year's and previous year's published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports or corrections received by FSIS from plants and are usually less than one-half of 1 percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year's data after publication of the annual summary in February.

Procedures and Reliability: Plant inspectors submit data electronically for each shift a plant operates. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. Data are accumulated to monthly totals for this release.

Data for 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 included. Estimates for missing shifts are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on a shift determined to be similar to the one missing. Late reports replace imputed data as they become available. While there is a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it has only a minimal impact on the published 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.

State data are published using selected States for young chickens and young turkeys. Data for all States not published are included in the "Other States" category. Also included in this category are data for published States that are confidential (denoted by an *). Data for all States are included in the U.S. totals.

Terms and Definitions Used for Poultry Slaughter Estimates:

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. Included with young turkeys.

Mature Chickens - Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks and stags and cocks.

Old Turkeys - Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.

Other Poultry Chilled or Frozen - Includes all other ready-to-cook products which bear the USDA 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 - Young birds grown to a matured market age, about 5 months.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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Darin Jantzi, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section(202) 720-3570

David Colwell - Cold Storage(202) 720-8784

Fleming Gibson - Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Catfish Processing, Mink(202) 690-3237

Sharyn Lavender - Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey(202) 720-3244

Kim Linonis - Layers, Eggs(202) 690-8632

Toby Paterson - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture,
Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised(202) 720-0585

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