
Released November 30, 2007, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Poultry Slaughter* call Fleming Gibson at 202-690-3237, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 6 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during October 2007 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.99 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the amount certified in October 2006. The September 2007 revised certified total at 3.39 billion pounds, was down slightly from September 2006. The September revision represented an increase of 1.13 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during October 2007 was 5.37 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 5.10 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.55 billion pounds, up 5 percent from October 2006. Mature chickens, at 75.0 million pounds, were up 8 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 729 million pounds, up 7 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 16.1 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during October 2007 averaged 5.61 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from October 2006. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.16 pounds per bird, down 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during October 2007 averaged 27.7 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from October 2006.

Ante-mortem condemnations during October 2007 totaled 16.7 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.30 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 45.7 million pounds, were 1.13 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.18 percent a year earlier.

October 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays, while October 2006 had 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 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, October, 2006-2007 ¹**

Commodity	Oct 2006	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Oct 2006	Sep 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	774,780	707,937	810,298	105	114	7,442,838	7,460,011	100
Mature	11,246	9,356	12,171	108	130	111,135	110,924	100
Light	4,440	3,827	4,781	108	125	46,166	46,748	101
Heavy	6,806	5,529	7,390	109	134	64,969	64,176	99
Total	786,026	717,293	822,469	105	115	7,553,973	7,570,935	100
Turkeys								
Young	24,730	20,517	26,146	106	127	210,377	218,562	104
Old	222	220	179	81	81	2,147	1,829	85
Total	24,952	20,737	26,325	106	127	212,524	220,391	104
Ducks	2,286	1,890	2,390	105	126	23,314	22,762	98
	<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	4,325,912	3,916,963	4,545,250	105	116	40,656,156	40,955,813	101
Mature	69,720	57,197	74,995	108	131	679,441	668,938	98
Light	14,594	13,002	15,807	108	122	153,929	153,865	100
Heavy	55,126	44,195	59,188	107	134	525,512	515,073	98
Total	4,395,632	3,974,160	4,620,245	105	116	41,335,597	41,624,751	101
Turkeys								
Young	677,821	575,183	724,645	107	126	5,949,779	6,202,786	104
Old	6,000	5,613	4,612	77	82	56,398	47,523	84
Total	683,821	580,796	729,257	107	126	6,006,177	6,250,309	104
Ducks	15,319	12,829	16,085	105	125	156,677	153,002	98
Other Poultry ²	1,539	1,070	1,008	65	94	5,532	5,026	91
Total Poultry	5,096,311	4,568,855	5,366,595	105	117	47,503,983	48,033,088	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	5.58	5.53	5.61	101	101	5.46	5.49	101
Mature	6.20	6.11	6.16	99	101	6.11	6.03	99
Light	3.29	3.40	3.31	101	97	3.33	3.29	99
Heavy	8.10	7.99	8.01	99	100	8.09	8.03	99
Total	5.59	5.54	5.62	101	101	5.47	5.50	101
Turkeys								
Young	27.41	28.03	27.72	101	99	28.28	28.38	100
Old	27.03	25.51	25.77	95	101	26.27	25.98	99
Total	27.41	28.01	27.70	101	99	28.26	28.36	100
Ducks	6.70	6.79	6.73	100	99	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, October, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Oct 2006	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2006
				Oct 2006	Sep 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	2,857,535	2,611,259	3,022,471	106	116	27,251,559	27,143,920	100
Mature	43,397	35,657	47,165	109	132	423,137	414,098	98
Light	7,305	6,648	8,362	114	126	78,369	79,067	101
Heavy	36,092	29,009	38,803	108	134	344,768	335,031	97
Total	2,900,932	2,646,916	3,069,636	106	116	27,674,696	27,558,018	100
Turkeys								
Young	317,038	254,649	346,225	109	136	2,635,742	2,786,035	106
Old	3,637	3,162	2,083	57	66	35,376	28,111	79
Total	320,675	257,811	348,308	109	135	2,671,118	2,814,146	105
Ducks	5,218	5,244	5,797	111	111	55,994	53,617	96
Other Poultry ²	176	164	178	101	109	1,635	1,740	106
Total Poultry	3,227,001	2,910,135	3,423,919	106	118	30,403,443	30,427,521	100
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	319,160	276,305	326,669	102	118	2,876,569	2,905,727	101
Mature	608	143	398	65	278	3,951	4,455	113
Light	51					173	64	37
Heavy	557	143	398	71	278	3,778	4,391	116
Total	319,768	276,448	327,067	102	118	2,880,520	2,910,182	101
Turkeys								
Young	218,719	201,774	229,292	105	114	2,075,308	2,128,364	103
Old	1,003	1,099	1,393	139	127	7,632	7,753	102
Total	219,722	202,873	230,685	105	114	2,082,940	2,136,117	103
Ducks	5,693	4,011	5,676	100	142	56,196	55,891	99
Other Poultry ²	703	453	371	53	82	1,475	1,196	81
Total Poultry	545,886	483,785	563,799	103	117	5,021,131	5,103,386	102
Total Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,176,695	2,887,564	3,349,140	105	116	30,128,128	30,049,647	100
Mature	44,005	35,800	47,563	108	133	427,088	418,553	98
Light	7,356	6,648	8,362	114	126	78,542	79,131	101
Heavy	36,649	29,152	39,201	107	134	348,546	339,422	97
Total	3,220,700	2,923,364	3,396,703	105	116	30,555,216	30,468,200	100
Turkeys								
Young	535,757	456,423	575,517	107	126	4,711,050	4,914,399	104
Old	4,640	4,261	3,476	75	82	43,008	35,864	83
Total	540,397	460,684	578,993	107	126	4,754,058	4,950,263	104
Ducks	10,911	9,255	11,473	105	124	112,190	109,508	98
Other Poultry ²	879	617	549	62	89	3,110	2,936	94
Total Poultry	3,772,887	3,393,920	3,987,718	106	117	35,424,574	35,530,907	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, October, 2006-2007 ¹**

Commodity	Oct 2006	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Oct 2006	Sep 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	12,749	12,481	13,759	108	110	141,994	143,819	101
Mature	917	1,156	1,126	123	97	10,318	12,577	122
Light	270	375	201	74	54	3,130	3,522	113
Heavy	647	781	925	143	118	7,188	9,055	126
Total	13,666	13,637	14,885	109	109	152,312	156,396	103
Turkeys								
Young	1,703	1,709	1,764	104	103	17,598	18,678	106
Old	50	75	27	54	36	652	625	96
Total	1,753	1,784	1,791	102	100	18,250	19,303	106
Ducks	42	38	38	90	100	383	389	102
Other Poultry	4	6	8	200	133	9	19	211
Total Poultry	15,465	15,465	16,722	108	108	170,954	176,107	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	0.29	0.32	0.30	103	94	0.35	0.35	100
Mature	1.32	2.02	1.50	114	74	1.52	1.88	124
Light	1.85	2.88	1.27	69	44	2.03	2.29	113
Heavy	1.17	1.77	1.56	133	88	1.37	1.76	128
Total	0.31	0.34	0.32	103	94	0.37	0.38	103
Turkeys								
Young	0.25	0.30	0.24	96	80	0.30	0.30	100
Old	0.83	1.34	0.59	71	44	1.16	1.32	114
Total	0.26	0.31	0.25	96	81	0.30	0.31	103
Ducks	0.27	0.30	0.24	89	80	0.24	0.25	104
Other Poultry	0.26	0.56	0.79	304	141	0.16	0.38	238
Total Poultry	0.30	0.34	0.31	103	91	0.36	0.37	103

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, October, 2006-2007¹**

Commodity	Oct 2006	Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2006
				Oct 2006	Sep 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	31,984	28,001	32,109	100	115	344,280	331,673	96
Mature	3,170	2,807	3,551	112	127	29,444	31,139	106
Light	1,240	920	1,171	94	127	12,355	11,331	92
Heavy	1,930	1,887	2,380	123	126	17,089	19,808	116
Total	35,154	30,808	35,660	101	116	373,724	362,812	97
Turkeys								
Young	9,274	7,625	9,433	102	124	86,747	86,207	99
Old	183	261	227	124	87	2,351	2,511	107
Total	9,457	7,886	9,660	102	122	89,098	88,718	100
Ducks	373	275	373	100	136	3,820	3,231	85
Other Poultry	18	20	11	61	55	67	70	104
Total Poultry	45,002	38,989	45,704	102	117	466,709	454,831	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	1.00	0.96	0.95	95	99	1.13	1.09	97
Mature	6.72	7.27	6.95	103	96	6.45	6.92	107
Light	14.43	12.16	12.28	85	101	13.59	12.53	92
Heavy	5.00	6.08	5.72	114	94	4.67	5.51	118
Total	1.08	1.04	1.04	96	100	1.21	1.18	97
Turkeys								
Young	1.70	1.64	1.61	95	98	1.81	1.72	95
Old	3.79	5.77	6.13	162	106	5.18	6.54	126
Total	1.72	1.68	1.64	95	98	1.84	1.76	96
Ducks	3.31	2.89	3.15	95	109	3.29	2.87	87
Other Poultry	2.01	3.14	1.96	98	63	2.11	2.33	110
Total Poultry	1.18	1.14	1.13	96	100	1.30	1.26	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, September 2007-October 2007**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	86,572	99,651	480,787	562,224	5.55	5.64
AR	89,915	104,433	484,864	575,343	5.39	5.51
DE	23,725	26,928	160,878	182,501	6.78	6.78
GA	107,240	119,608	569,661	642,545	5.31	5.37
KY	23,064	27,044	124,708	149,278	5.41	5.52
LA	15,541	18,067	89,773	106,801	5.78	5.91
MD	11,664	13,237	55,761	64,511	4.78	4.87
MS	63,790	70,480	354,884	401,107	5.56	5.69
MO	32,309	37,507	152,919	180,578	4.73	4.81
NC	55,345	63,306	378,114	438,627	6.83	6.93
OH	3,789	4,218	20,766	23,401	5.48	5.55
PA	8,475	10,960	47,435	62,366	5.60	5.69
SC	22,977	27,076	142,466	171,535	6.20	6.34
TN	21,750	25,380	110,168	130,375	5.07	5.14
TX	51,477	59,316	274,688	318,582	5.34	5.37
VA	24,663	27,927	128,445	145,307	5.21	5.20
Oth Sts	65,641	75,160	340,646	390,169	5.19	5.19
US	707,937	810,298	3,916,963	4,545,250	5.53	5.61

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

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	September	October	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			September	October	September	October
	<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	352,477	412,063	2,982	3,534	0.84	0.85
AR	352,677	417,880	3,986	4,624	1.12	1.09
DE	116,130	131,489	1,636	1,851	1.39	1.39
GA	425,373	481,258	3,105	3,374	0.72	0.70
KY	92,041	109,826	554	768	0.60	0.69
LA	65,757	78,380	308	402	0.47	0.51
MD	40,585	47,256	529	653	1.29	1.36
MS	259,899	293,136	2,489	2,661	0.95	0.90
MO	112,602	132,691	1,030	1,142	0.91	0.85
NC	288,988	335,633	3,715	4,145	1.27	1.22
OH	15,264	16,916	227	319	1.47	1.85
PA	32,478	42,005	622	913	1.88	2.13
SC	104,817	126,183	778	922	0.74	0.73
TN	79,291	94,316	785	858	0.98	0.90
TX	209,911	242,760	1,903	2,051	0.90	0.84
VA	90,154	101,681	631	674	0.70	0.66
Oth Sts	249,120	285,667	2,721	3,218	1.08	1.11
US	2,887,564	3,349,140	28,001	32,109	0.96	0.95

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, September 2007-October 2007**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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			*	*	75,502	94,459
AR			375	403	123,128	132,517
DE			728	576	73,197	88,322
GA			444	321	70,969	80,494
KY			*	*	26,838	36,556
LA			*	*	12,589	14,699
MD			168	233	21,559	30,490
MS			*	*	33,798	37,481
MO			215	440	56,722	64,290
NC			230	301	77,613	85,102
OH			*	*	5,184	6,678
PA			33	56	14,379	18,156
SC			*	*	6,303	7,470
TN			*	*	41,854	47,267
TX			42	*	33,517	38,237
VA			*	*	26,113	26,151
Oth Sts			1,249	1,688	169,197	201,090
US			3,484	4,018	868,462	1,009,459
Mature						
Light			1,465	1,323	115,715	144,674
Heavy			218	597	32,421	42,478
US			1,683	1,920	148,136	187,152
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	23,038	35,187	486	431	*	*
AR	17,143	19,791	1,953	2,003	2,237	2,423
DE	16,534	19,663	59	69	*	*
GA	42,308	54,493	276	424	7,695	8,601
KY	7,718	*	*	*	*	*
LA	2,578	2,978	*	*	217	225
MD	*	21,272	*	*	*	*
MS	15,596	14,497	164	225	813	834
MO	5,405	6,684	163	*	1,395	1,631
NC	21,496	27,538	74	97	8,443	9,935
OH	*	*	*	*	*	106
PA	5,697	8,661	43	35	261	186
SC	*	4,652	17	*	*	*
TN	17,003	17,027	*	43	547	648
TX	6,492	7,022	54	*	923	1,066
VA	6,125	7,427	*	*	*	*
Oth Sts	36,721	39,782	1,490	1,623	29,345	33,441
US	223,854	286,674	4,779	4,950	51,876	59,096
Mature						
Light	30,788	34,110	145	138	60,970	56,866
Heavy	1,187	1,996	81	146	5,917	7,727
US	31,975	36,106	226	284	66,887	64,593

* 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, September 2007-October 2007**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	2,026	2,181	9,494	11,636	11,164	15,763
AR	3,806	3,830	15,595	16,540	19,154	23,264
DE	1,598	1,678	4,873	5,131	7,584	8,697
GA	1,888	1,873	25,580	28,250	11,318	13,482
KY	180	178	2,333	3,587	3,626	4,869
LA	249	222	2,078	2,758	1,098	1,533
MD	*	1,313	2,596	2,419	*	*
MS	1,122	1,223	2,384	2,829	3,002	3,224
MO	779	938	2,824	4,291	8,768	9,214
NC	2,049	1,959	15,171	16,904	18,690	21,055
OH	*	*	1,496	738	379	464
PA	468	547	*	*	*	5,119
SC	631	853	*	2,266	*	*
TN	597	651	1,780	1,498	4,105	3,065
TX	532	598	4,391	5,699	5,145	5,233
VA	1,029	1,046	2,733	3,011	3,856	3,518
Oth Sts	3,769	2,874	14,985	13,802	38,354	39,950
US	20,723	21,964	108,313	121,359	136,243	158,450
Mature						
Light	9,040	11,046	2,259	1,582	70,319	82,193
Heavy	888	1,142	5,423	6,490	10,229	15,630
US	9,928	12,188	7,682	8,072	80,548	97,823
State	Overscald		Other		Total ¹	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	8,137	11,012	93,349	116,936	226,287	292,006
AR	3,337	5,551	76,218	107,930	262,946	314,252
DE	*	2,243	*	*	145,226	172,245
GA	5,957	5,647	68,559	59,360	234,994	252,945
KY	262	208	*	13,225	60,697	82,393
LA	47	46	1,503	4,135	20,416	26,689
MD	*	1,364	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	59,835	55,474	119,037	117,297
MO	433	*	62,462	65,026	139,166	153,153
NC	7,054	11,203	106,515	85,559	257,335	259,653
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	117	46	*	*	46,179	65,896
SC	1,683	2,364	27,652	34,425	44,419	55,149
TN	*	*	4,811	3,870	71,833	75,340
TX	1,114	2,113	41,420	47,586	93,630	107,966
VA	938	*	*	19,551	62,770	65,176
Oth Sts	12,728	12,415	236,819	244,745	453,749	537,844
US	41,807	54,212	779,143	857,822	2,238,684	2,578,004
Mature						
Light	577	873	48,163	76,376	339,441	409,181
Heavy	2,614	567	66,261	86,404	125,239	163,177
US	3,191	1,440	114,424	162,780	464,680	572,358

* 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, September 2007-October 2007

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	2,638	3,567	52,689	70,324	19.97	19.71
MN	3,213	3,500	84,572	95,157	26.32	27.19
MO	1,306	1,690	40,983	52,875	31.39	31.28
Oth Sts	13,360	17,389	396,939	506,289	29.71	29.12
US	20,517	26,146	575,183	724,645	28.03	27.72

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

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	September	October	September	October	September	October
	<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	43,787	57,858	649	864	1.46	1.47
MN	67,514	76,012	1,369	1,567	1.99	2.02
MO	32,226	41,734	701	862	2.13	2.02
Oth Sts	312,896	399,913	4,906	6,140	1.54	1.51
US	456,423	575,517	7,625	9,433	1.64	1.61

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, September 2007-October 2007

Cause	Young		Old	
	September	October	September	October
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Tuberculosis				
Leukosis	51	24		2
Septicaemia	53,294	70,417	2,304	1,402
Airsacculitis	7,482	8,232	462	341
Synovitis	2,493	2,948	1	5
Tumors	123	111	181	92
Bruises	395	495	22	9
Cadaver	2,516	3,589	62	42
Contamination	3,411	3,984	59	73
Overscald	2,041	1,745	28	16
Other	15,114	22,264	1,768	2,082
Total	86,920	113,809	4,887	4,064

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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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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