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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 11 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during April 2008 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.76 billion pounds, up 11 percent from the amount certified in April 2007. The March 2008 revised certified total at 3.51 billion pounds, was up 1 percent from March 2007. The March revision represented an increase of 1.51 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during April 2008 was 5.04 billion pounds, up 10 percent from 4.59 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.30 billion pounds, up 9 percent from April 2007. Mature chickens, at 76.7 million pounds, were up 24 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 654 million pounds, up 12 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 14.0 million pounds, down 8 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during April 2008 averaged 5.59 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from April 2007. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.67 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during April 2008 averaged 29.4 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from April 2007.

Ante-mortem condemnations during April 2008 totaled 15.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.31 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.32 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 47.5 million pounds, were 1.25 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.32 percent a year earlier.

April 2008 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays, while April 2007 had 21 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, April, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Apr 2007	Mar 2008	2007	2008	
	<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	713,856	725,871	769,270	108	106	2,861,711	2,994,169	105
Mature	10,522	12,784	13,531	129	106	42,085	51,085	121
Light	4,745	6,319	6,571	138	104	18,746	24,578	131
Heavy	5,777	6,465	6,960	120	108	23,339	26,507	114
Total	724,378	738,655	782,801	108	106	2,903,796	3,045,254	105
Turkeys								
Young	20,340	20,770	22,055	108	106	81,457	86,821	107
Old	103	177	213	207	120	539	630	117
Total	20,443	20,947	22,268	109	106	81,996	87,451	107
Ducks	2,271	2,041	2,072	91	102	9,314	8,273	89
	<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	3,931,926	4,034,060	4,297,443	109	107	15,663,620	16,656,274	106
Mature	61,672	72,383	76,741	124	106	246,962	292,026	118
Light	15,562	20,681	21,482	138	104	61,327	80,472	131
Heavy	46,110	51,702	55,259	120	107	185,635	211,554	114
Total	3,993,598	4,106,443	4,374,184	110	107	15,910,582	16,948,300	107
Turkeys								
Young	581,059	610,365	648,018	112	106	2,356,748	2,579,426	109
Old	2,872	4,644	5,796	202	125	14,354	16,781	117
Total	583,931	615,009	653,814	112	106	2,371,102	2,596,207	109
Ducks	15,284	13,853	13,985	92	101	62,685	56,038	89
Other Poultry ²	161	149	166	103	111	663	656	99
Total Poultry	4,592,974	4,735,454	5,042,149	110	106	18,345,032	19,601,201	107
	<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	5.51	5.56	5.59	101	101	5.47	5.56	102
Mature	5.86	5.66	5.67	97	100	5.87	5.72	97
Light	3.28	3.27	3.27	100	100	3.27	3.27	100
Heavy	7.98	8.00	7.94	99	99	7.95	7.98	100
Total	5.51	5.56	5.59	101	101	5.48	5.57	102
Turkeys								
Young	28.57	29.39	29.38	103	100	28.93	29.71	103
Old	27.88	26.24	27.21	98	104	26.63	26.64	100
Total	28.56	29.36	29.36	103	100	28.92	29.69	103
Ducks	6.73	6.79	6.75	100	99	6.73	6.77	101

¹ Federally inspected only.

² Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, and squab.

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, April, 2007-2008 ¹**

Commodity	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Apr 2007	Mar 2008	2007	2008	
	<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	2,605,436	2,683,676	2,880,202	111	107	10,430,536	11,128,059	107
Mature	38,058	44,178	46,900	123	106	152,583	177,720	116
Light	8,003	9,876	10,375	130	105	31,246	38,671	124
Heavy	30,055	34,302	36,525	122	106	121,337	139,049	115
Total	2,643,494	2,727,854	2,927,102	111	107	10,583,119	11,305,779	107
Turkeys								
Young	263,378	289,486	305,645	116	106	1,075,802	1,204,961	112
Old	1,710	2,737	3,074	180	112	9,306	9,913	107
Total	265,088	292,223	308,719	116	106	1,085,108	1,214,874	112
Ducks								
Other	5,274	4,760	4,427	84	93	21,139	18,639	88
Poultry ²	80	81	89	111	110	315	342	109
Total	2,913,936	3,024,918	3,240,337	111	107	11,689,681	12,539,634	107
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	278,816	283,431	299,007	107	105	1,078,285	1,158,878	107
Mature	541	1,390	1,132	209	81	1,282	5,315	415
Light		1,135	903		80		4,096	
Heavy	541	255	229	42	90	1,282	1,219	95
Total	279,357	284,821	300,139	107	105	1,079,567	1,164,193	108
Turkeys								
Young	197,234	195,005	210,281	107	108	789,223	844,110	107
Old	427	774	1,292	303	167	1,499	2,673	178
Total	197,661	195,779	211,573	107	108	790,722	846,783	107
Ducks								
Other	5,707	5,201	5,601	98	108	23,718	21,519	91
Poultry ²	25	21	24	96	114	95	101	106
Total	482,750	485,822	517,337	107	106	1,894,102	2,032,596	107
Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	2,884,252	2,967,107	3,179,209	110	107	11,508,821	12,286,937	107
Mature	38,599	45,568	48,032	124	105	153,865	183,035	119
Light	8,003	11,011	11,278	141	102	31,246	42,767	137
Heavy	30,596	34,557	36,754	120	106	122,619	140,268	114
Total	2,922,851	3,012,675	3,227,241	110	107	11,662,686	12,469,972	107
Turkeys								
Young	460,612	484,491	515,926	112	106	1,865,025	2,049,071	110
Old	2,137	3,511	4,366	204	124	10,805	12,586	116
Total	462,749	488,002	520,292	112	107	1,875,830	2,061,657	110
Ducks								
Other	10,981	9,961	10,028	91	101	44,857	40,158	90
Poultry ²	105	102	113	108	111	410	443	108
Total	3,396,686	3,510,740	3,757,674	111	107	13,583,783	14,572,230	107

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, April, 2007-2008 ¹**

Commodity	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Apr 2007	Mar 2008	2007	2008	
	<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	12,264	12,580	12,782	104	102	52,932	55,096	104
Mature	798	1,109	1,062	133	96	3,602	4,977	138
Light	234	399	510	218	128	1,282	1,820	142
Heavy	564	710	552	98	78	2,320	3,157	136
Total	13,062	13,689	13,844	106	101	56,534	60,073	106
Turkeys								
Young	1,686	1,734	1,550	92	89	7,536	7,247	96
Old	59	42	51	86	121	244	189	77
Total	1,745	1,776	1,601	92	90	7,780	7,436	96
Ducks	30	22	25	83	114	127	124	98
Other Poultry			2				2	
Total Poultry	14,837	15,487	15,472	104	100	64,441	67,635	105
	<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	0.31	0.31	0.30	97	97	0.34	0.33	97
Mature	1.29	1.53	1.38	107	90	1.46	1.70	116
Light	1.50	1.93	2.37	158	123	2.09	2.26	108
Heavy	1.22	1.37	1.00	82	73	1.25	1.49	119
Total	0.33	0.33	0.32	97	97	0.36	0.35	97
Turkeys								
Young	0.29	0.28	0.24	83	86	0.32	0.28	88
Old	2.05	0.90	0.88	43	98	1.70	1.13	66
Total	0.30	0.29	0.24	80	83	0.33	0.29	88
Ducks	0.20	0.16	0.18	90	113	0.20	0.22	110
Other Poultry			1.20				0.30	
Total Poultry	0.32	0.33	0.31	97	94	0.35	0.35	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, April, 2007-2008 ¹**

Commodity	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Apr 2007	Mar 2008	2007	2008	
	<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	33,345	36,586	34,815	104	95	139,468	144,477	104
Mature	2,843	3,352	3,374	119	101	11,474	13,197	115
Light	1,152	1,376	1,268	110	92	4,714	4,857	103
Heavy	1,691	1,976	2,106	125	107	6,760	8,340	123
Total	36,188	39,938	38,189	106	96	150,942	157,674	104
Turkeys								
Young	8,753	8,418	8,714	100	104	34,879	35,364	101
Old	162	240	303	187	126	868	907	104
Total	8,915	8,658	9,017	101	104	35,747	36,271	101
Ducks	329	265	314	95	118	1,344	1,114	83
Other Poultry	2	2	2	100	100	8	7	88
Total Poultry	45,434	48,863	47,522	105	97	188,041	195,066	104
	<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	1.14	1.22	1.08	95	89	1.20	1.16	97
Mature	6.86	6.85	6.56	96	96	6.94	6.73	97
Light	12.58	11.11	10.11	80	91	13.11	10.20	78
Heavy	5.24	5.41	5.42	103	100	5.22	5.61	107
Total	1.22	1.31	1.17	96	89	1.28	1.25	98
Turkeys								
Young	1.86	1.71	1.66	89	97	1.84	1.70	92
Old	7.05	6.40	6.49	92	101	7.44	6.72	90
Total	1.89	1.74	1.70	90	98	1.87	1.73	92
Ducks	2.91	2.59	3.04	104	117	2.91	2.70	93
Other Poultry	1.87	1.92	1.74	93	90	1.91	1.56	81
Total Poultry	1.32	1.37	1.25	95	91	1.37	1.32	97

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
United States, March 2008-April 2008**

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
Chickens						
Young			5,385	6,225	1,010,098	1,033,194
Mature			2,232	2,467	212,341	201,870
Light			2,012	2,115	171,068	156,565
Heavy			220	352	41,273	45,305
Total			7,617	8,692	1,222,439	1,235,064
Turkeys						
Young			74	27	66,155	61,494
Old					3,295	3,400
Total			74	27	69,450	64,894
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
Chickens						
Young	1,344,490	786,561	3,397	3,654	73,731	79,392
Mature	37,937	10,528	476	761	83,249	65,233
Light	34,854	8,107	301	156	76,255	59,323
Heavy	3,083	2,421	175	605	6,994	5,910
Total	1,382,427	797,089	3,873	4,415	156,980	144,625
Turkeys						
Young	10,025	7,256	4,074	3,157	334	252
Old	494	385	11	68	258	164
Total	10,519	7,641	4,085	3,225	592	416
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
Chickens						
Young	18,541	19,591	97,361	92,854	143,442	148,809
Mature	11,853	10,164	4,192	3,154	101,035	96,499
Light	11,342	9,647	2,212	1,782	91,343	87,557
Heavy	511	517	1,980	1,372	9,692	8,942
Total	30,394	29,755	101,553	96,008	244,477	245,308
Turkeys						
Young	377	504	2,131	2,259	2,826	2,876
Old	6	22	21	28	78	69
Total	383	526	2,152	2,287	2,904	2,945
Commodity	Overscald		Other		Total	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
Chickens						
Young	39,782	43,822	918,835	943,745	3,655,062	3,157,847
Mature	852	1,185	138,056	159,869	592,223	551,730
Light	720	1,064	67,338	78,236	457,445	404,552
Heavy	132	121	70,718	81,633	134,778	147,178
Total	40,634	45,007	1,056,891	1,103,614	4,247,285	3,709,577
Turkeys						
Young	1,609	795	13,226	13,529	100,831	92,149
Old	11	6	1,043	832	5,217	4,974
Total	1,620	801	14,269	14,361	106,048	97,123

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008**

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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	89,267	91,641	485,983	498,720	5.44	5.44
AR	93,756	96,505	508,228	519,901	5.42	5.39
DE	23,821	26,366	157,636	177,742	6.62	6.74
GA	106,576	114,738	564,813	613,896	5.30	5.35
KY	23,116	24,482	123,015	129,558	5.32	5.29
LA	15,392	16,866	88,223	99,047	5.73	5.87
MD	11,653	12,115	54,603	58,527	4.69	4.83
MS	63,659	67,836	367,690	400,540	5.78	5.90
MO	31,577	35,007	148,590	163,962	4.71	4.68
NY	1,523	*	7,949	*	5.22	*
NC	59,821	64,154	418,359	447,973	6.99	6.98
OH	4,243	4,633	24,293	26,190	5.72	5.65
PA	9,971	10,877	57,156	63,375	5.73	5.83
SC	24,214	23,155	154,630	144,573	6.39	6.24
TN	22,305	23,182	112,956	118,811	5.06	5.13
TX	53,696	57,971	287,576	315,531	5.36	5.44
VA	25,118	27,478	130,471	142,527	5.19	5.19
US ¹	725,871	769,270	4,034,060	4,297,443	5.56	5.59

¹ Published States do not add to US total to avoid disclosure.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	March	April	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			March	April	March	April
	<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	361,463	370,119	3,383	3,263	0.93	0.87
AR	361,399	371,819	4,360	4,457	1.19	1.18
DE	113,205	127,850	2,108	2,321	1.83	1.78
GA	411,453	460,510	5,657	5,031	1.36	1.08
KY	88,662	93,558	1,690	942	1.87	1.00
LA	65,295	73,463	359	362	0.55	0.49
MD	38,999	42,099	986	905	2.47	2.10
MS	278,787	303,814	2,952	2,925	1.05	0.95
MO	109,145	120,233	1,244	1,359	1.13	1.12
NY	4,880	*	115	*	2.30	*
NC	318,952	342,246	4,439	4,250	1.37	1.23
OH	17,747	19,059	372	377	2.05	1.94
PA	39,203	43,368	738	822	1.85	1.86
SC	115,584	108,132	1,753	971	1.49	0.89
TN	81,299	85,685	1,026	989	1.25	1.14
TX	219,584	242,934	1,782	2,005	0.81	0.82
VA	90,738	99,437	654	740	0.72	0.74
US ³	2,967,107	3,179,209	36,586	34,815	1.22	1.08

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

³ Published States do not add to US total to avoid disclosure.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
AL			*	*	70,168	64,004
AR			429	488	138,496	149,079
DE			1,479	1,954	83,846	92,467
GA			330	310	89,074	91,894
KY			*	35	36,259	32,947
LA			*	*	11,299	11,821
MD			223	*	38,930	38,005
MS			*	*	39,001	38,010
MO			289	227	75,908	77,064
NY			*	*	*	*
NC			*	452	87,452	83,590
OH					7,562	9,756
PA			298	386	21,607	21,718
SC			*	*	9,301	*
TN			117	106	41,059	43,675
TX			*	52	40,305	46,462
VA			83	101	25,343	28,346
US ¹			5,385	6,225	1,010,098	1,033,194
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
AL	68,214	64,165	383	300	*	*
AR	48,046	45,973	1,235	1,331	1,835	1,775
DE	64,684	57,775	157	119	*	*
GA	*	*	*	319	10,015	*
KY	*	*	*	7	*	*
LA	4,508	3,431	*	*	199	243
MD	*	*	*	*	*	*
MS	64,643	42,851	88	105	842	803
MO	17,143	14,335	*	*	1,202	1,418
NY	*	*	85	*	*	*
NC	84,152	60,637	*	95	13,145	15,065
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	15,579	15,250	*	31	281	290
SC	*	*	*	*	*	*
TN	*	*	*	*	576	746
TX	15,974	17,073	*	75	827	832
VA	19,081	19,362	*	*	*	*
US ¹	1,344,490	786,561	3,397	3,654	73,731	79,392

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type,
by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008 (continued)**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
AL	1,979	1,981	7,329	5,751	14,699	12,989
AR	2,977	3,652	10,586	10,652	18,738	20,777
DE	1,164	1,266	4,295	5,364	5,783	6,417
GA	1,658	1,763	21,469	19,407	15,746	15,714
KY	*	172	3,161	2,551	4,324	4,299
LA	141	153	2,220	1,792	*	*
MD	1,444	1,580	3,260	2,974	*	*
MS	*	*	2,468	2,480	3,572	3,614
MO	787	796	2,572	2,178	8,232	8,118
NY	808	*	*	*	3,202	*
NC	1,554	1,506	15,960	13,915	9,046	9,083
OH	*	*	1,311	*	306	444
PA	679	556	1,154	*	2,783	3,032
SC	*	*	*	*	1,476	*
TN	757	*	2,025	1,630	2,849	*
TX	505	547	3,687	3,784	6,135	7,027
VA	757	770	1,781	1,952	2,634	3,224
US ¹	18,541	19,591	97,361	92,854	143,442	148,809
State	Overscald		Other		Total	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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>
AL	9,030	8,699	125,989	122,682	302,810	285,302
AR	3,633	2,324	84,114	84,229	310,089	320,280
DE	1,341	893	*	*	228,700	232,309
GA	3,078	5,722	87,264	84,434	634,060	461,751
KY	*	*	28,893	*	*	122,173
LA	70	*	*	*	23,946	20,065
MD	536	655	*	*	*	*
MS	687	*	72,293	74,578	185,054	164,770
MO	*	*	82,557	100,216	189,153	204,641
NY	217	*	*	*	21,214	*
NC	7,306	11,822	90,691	120,570	309,638	316,735
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	73	*	*	72,501	74,670
SC	620	*	34,735	27,741	*	63,515
TN	*	*	4,385	7,834	131,926	123,927
TX	3,957	2,080	38,429	40,716	110,056	118,648
VA	1,433	1,636	23,840	24,528	79,838	85,598
US ¹	39,782	43,822	918,835	943,745	3,655,062	3,157,847

* Included in "US" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Published States do not add to US total to avoid disclosure.

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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	2,756	3,131	55,113	61,519	20.00	19.65
MN	2,988	2,820	82,854	82,189	27.73	29.14
MO	1,367	1,466	45,224	49,025	33.07	33.43
US ¹	20,770	22,055	610,365	648,018	29.39	29.38

¹ Published States do not add to US total to avoid disclosure.

Young Turkeys Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by State and United States, March 2008-April 2008

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	<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	46,462	51,938	604	664	1.28	1.26
MN	66,207	65,547	1,329	1,431	1.97	2.14
MO	35,312	38,442	878	947	2.43	2.40
US ³	484,491	515,926	8,418	8,714	1.71	1.66

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

³ Published States do not add to US total to avoid disclosure.

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.

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.

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 320 plants slaughtered poultry in the U.S. under Federal Inspection in 2007. 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 and those published States that are confidential (denoted by an *) are included in the "US" category.

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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