

Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up Slightly from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during May 2008 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.74 billion pounds, up slightly from the amount certified in May 2007. The April 2008 revised certified total at 3.77 billion pounds, was up 11 percent from April 2007. The April revision represented an increase of 13.9 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during May 2008 was 5.01 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 5.05 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.27 billion pounds, down 1 percent from May 2007. Mature chickens, at 79.0 million pounds, were up 11 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 652 million pounds, up 1 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 12.7 million pounds, down 20 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during May 2008 averaged 5.60 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from May 2007. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.77 pounds per bird, down 5 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during May 2008 averaged 29.0 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from May 2007.

Ante-mortem condemnations during May 2008 totaled 15.1 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.30 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.32 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 44.1 million pounds, were 1.17 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.25 percent a year earlier.

May 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays, while May 2007 had 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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

Commodity	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				May 2007	Apr 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	783,900	771,439	761,979	97	99	3,645,611	3,758,317	103
Mature	11,686	13,531	13,698	117	101	53,771	64,783	120
Light	4,885	6,571	6,318	129	96	23,631	30,896	131
Heavy	6,801	6,960	7,380	109	106	30,140	33,887	112
Total	795,586	784,970	775,677	97	99	3,699,382	3,823,100	103
Turkeys								
Young	22,438	22,055	22,354	100	101	103,895	109,175	105
Old	202	213	138	68	65	741	768	104
Total	22,640	22,268	22,492	99	101	104,636	109,943	105
Ducks	2,338	2,072	1,900	81	92	11,652	10,173	87
	<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	4,324,618	4,315,387	4,266,782	99	99	19,988,238	20,941,000	105
Mature	71,077	76,741	78,998	111	103	318,039	371,024	117
Light	15,936	21,482	20,460	128	95	77,263	100,932	131
Heavy	55,141	55,259	58,538	106	106	240,776	270,092	112
Total	4,395,695	4,392,128	4,345,780	99	99	20,306,277	21,312,024	105
Turkeys								
Young	638,079	648,018	648,457	102	100	2,994,827	3,227,883	108
Old	5,262	5,796	3,798	72	66	19,616	20,579	105
Total	643,341	653,814	652,255	101	100	3,014,443	3,248,462	108
Ducks	15,754	13,985	12,667	80	91	78,439	68,705	88
Other Poultry ²	199	166	189	95	114	862	845	98
Total Poultry	5,054,989	5,060,093	5,010,891	99	99	23,400,021	24,630,036	105
	<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	5.59	5.60	101	100	5.48	5.57	102
Mature	6.08	5.67	5.77	95	102	5.91	5.73	97
Light	3.26	3.27	3.24	99	99	3.27	3.27	100
Heavy	8.11	7.94	7.93	98	100	7.99	7.97	100
Total	5.53	5.60	5.60	101	100	5.49	5.57	101
Turkeys								
Young	28.44	29.38	29.01	102	99	28.83	29.57	103
Old	26.05	27.21	27.52	106	101	26.47	26.80	101
Total	28.42	29.36	29.00	102	99	28.81	29.55	103
Ducks	6.74	6.75	6.67	99	99	6.73	6.75	100

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, May, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				May 2007	Apr 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	2,866,789	2,894,074	2,859,191	100	99	13,297,325	14,001,122	105
Mature	43,969	46,900	48,147	110	103	196,552	225,867	115
Light	8,382	10,375	9,792	117	94	39,628	48,463	122
Heavy	35,587	36,525	38,355	108	105	156,924	177,404	113
Total	2,910,758	2,940,974	2,907,338	100	99	13,493,877	14,226,989	105
Turkeys								
Young	281,141	305,645	301,524	107	99	1,356,943	1,506,485	111
Old	3,311	3,074	1,711	52	56	12,617	11,624	92
Total	284,452	308,719	303,235	107	98	1,369,560	1,518,109	111
Ducks	5,397	4,427	3,293	61	74	26,536	21,932	83
Other Poultry ²	95	89	88	93	99	410	430	105
Total Poultry	3,200,702	3,254,209	3,213,954	100	99	14,890,383	15,767,460	106
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	305,463	299,034	301,457	99	101	1,383,748	1,460,362	106
Mature	869	1,132	1,457	168	129	2,151	6,772	315
Light		903	1,129		125		5,225	
Heavy	869	229	328	38	143	2,151	1,547	72
Total	306,332	300,166	302,914	99	101	1,385,899	1,467,134	106
Turkeys								
Young	226,601	210,281	216,389	95	103	1,015,824	1,060,499	104
Old	670	1,292	1,121	167	87	2,169	3,794	175
Total	227,271	211,573	217,510	96	103	1,017,993	1,064,293	105
Ducks	5,831	5,601	5,860	100	105	29,549	27,379	93
Other Poultry ²	27	24	32	119	133	122	133	109
Total Poultry	539,461	517,364	526,316	98	102	2,433,563	2,558,939	105
Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,172,252	3,193,108	3,160,648	100	99	14,681,073	15,461,484	105
Mature	44,838	48,032	49,604	111	103	198,703	232,639	117
Light	8,382	11,278	10,921	130	97	39,628	53,688	135
Heavy	36,456	36,754	38,683	106	105	159,075	178,951	112
Total	3,217,090	3,241,140	3,210,252	100	99	14,879,776	15,694,123	105
Turkeys								
Young	507,742	515,926	517,913	102	100	2,372,767	2,566,984	108
Old	3,981	4,366	2,832	71	65	14,786	15,418	104
Total	511,723	520,292	520,745	102	100	2,387,553	2,582,402	108
Ducks	11,228	10,028	9,153	82	91	56,085	49,311	88
Other Poultry ²	122	113	120	98	106	532	563	106
Total Poultry	3,740,163	3,771,573	3,740,270	100	99	17,323,946	18,326,399	106

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

**Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, May, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				May 2007	Apr 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	13,276	12,813	12,546	95	98	66,208	67,673	102
Mature	1,020	1,062	1,088	107	102	4,622	6,065	131
Light	279	510	326	117	64	1,561	2,146	137
Heavy	741	552	762	103	138	3,061	3,919	128
Total	14,296	13,875	13,634	95	98	70,830	73,738	104
Turkeys								
Young	1,701	1,550	1,445	85	93	9,237	8,692	94
Old	74	51	36	49	71	318	225	71
Total	1,775	1,601	1,481	83	93	9,555	8,917	93
Ducks	40	25	30	75	120	167	154	92
Other Poultry	1	2				1	2	200
Total Poultry	16,112	15,503	15,145	94	98	80,553	82,811	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	0.31	0.30	0.29	94	97	0.33	0.32	97
Mature	1.44	1.38	1.38	96	100	1.45	1.63	112
Light	1.75	2.37	1.59	91	67	2.02	2.13	105
Heavy	1.34	1.00	1.30	97	130	1.27	1.45	114
Total	0.33	0.32	0.31	94	97	0.35	0.35	100
Turkeys								
Young	0.27	0.24	0.22	81	92	0.31	0.27	87
Old	1.41	0.88	0.95	67	108	1.62	1.09	67
Total	0.28	0.24	0.23	82	96	0.32	0.27	84
Ducks	0.25	0.18	0.24	96	133	0.21	0.22	105
Other Poultry	0.50	1.20				0.12	0.24	200
Total Poultry	0.32	0.31	0.30	94	97	0.34	0.34	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, May, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				May 2007	Apr 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	34,891	34,924	31,964	92	92	174,359	176,550	101
Mature	3,141	3,374	3,496	111	104	14,615	16,693	114
Light	1,114	1,268	1,162	104	92	5,828	6,019	103
Heavy	2,027	2,106	2,334	115	111	8,787	10,674	121
Total	38,032	38,298	35,460	93	93	188,974	193,243	102
Turkeys								
Young	8,777	8,714	8,191	93	94	43,656	43,555	100
Old	264	303	250	95	83	1,132	1,157	102
Total	9,041	9,017	8,441	93	94	44,788	44,712	100
Ducks	341	314	227	67	72	1,685	1,341	80
Other Poultry	2	2	2	100	100	10	9	90
Total Poultry	47,416	47,631	44,130	93	93	235,457	239,305	102
	<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	1.09	1.08	1.00	92	93	1.17	1.13	96
Mature	6.55	6.56	6.58	101	100	6.85	6.70	98
Light	11.73	10.11	9.62	82	95	12.82	10.08	79
Heavy	5.27	5.42	5.69	108	105	5.23	5.63	108
Total	1.17	1.17	1.09	94	94	1.25	1.22	97
Turkeys								
Young	1.70	1.66	1.56	92	94	1.81	1.67	92
Old	6.22	6.49	8.11	130	125	7.11	6.98	98
Total	1.74	1.70	1.60	92	94	1.84	1.70	92
Ducks	2.95	3.04	2.42	82	80	2.92	2.65	91
Other Poultry	1.61	1.74	1.64	102	94	1.85	1.57	85
Total Poultry	1.25	1.25	1.17	93	94	1.34	1.29	96

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, April 2008-May 2008**

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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			6,227	7,340	1,033,289	917,952
Mature			2,467	2,728	201,870	188,093
Light			2,115	2,583	156,565	141,983
Heavy			352	145	45,305	46,110
Total			8,694	10,068	1,235,159	1,106,045
Turkeys						
Young			27	54	60,828	60,686
Old				1	3,400	2,854
Total			27	55	64,228	63,540
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	786,593	601,673	3,656	3,814	79,392	68,989
Mature	10,528	10,778	761	332	65,233	64,245
Light	8,107	7,732	156	149	59,323	56,745
Heavy	2,421	3,046	605	183	5,910	7,500
Total	797,121	612,451	4,417	4,146	144,625	133,234
Turkeys						
Young	7,256	4,678	3,157	2,897	252	153
Old	385	452	68	3	164	105
Total	7,641	5,130	3,225	2,900	416	258
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	19,594	18,104	92,856	85,182	148,829	130,431
Mature	10,165	11,405	3,154	3,071	96,505	111,397
Light	9,648	10,268	1,782	1,443	87,563	98,955
Heavy	517	1,137	1,372	1,628	8,942	12,442
Total	29,759	29,509	96,010	88,253	245,334	241,828
Turkeys						
Young	504	373	2,259	2,111	2,876	2,852
Old	22	15	28	37	69	102
Total	526	388	2,287	2,148	2,945	2,954
Commodity	Overscald		Other		Total	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	43,824	36,030	952,059	864,802	3,166,319	2,734,317
Mature	1,185	435	159,869	170,389	551,737	562,873
Light	1,064	221	78,236	68,257	404,559	388,336
Heavy	121	214	81,633	102,132	147,178	174,537
Total	45,009	36,465	1,111,928	1,035,191	3,718,056	3,297,190
Turkeys						
Young	795	1,666	13,529	12,016	91,483	87,486
Old	6	26	832	1,840	4,974	5,435
Total	801	1,692	14,361	13,856	96,457	92,921

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

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	91,641	91,968	498,720	502,301	5.44	5.46
AR	96,505	91,387	520,067	503,699	5.39	5.51
DE	26,366	26,548	177,742	181,315	6.74	6.83
GA	114,738	112,547	613,896	601,663	5.35	5.35
KY	24,482	24,934	129,558	133,910	5.29	5.37
LA	16,866	16,412	99,047	97,410	5.87	5.94
MD	12,115	12,163	58,527	60,310	4.83	4.96
MS	67,836	68,327	400,540	399,987	5.90	5.85
MO	35,007	34,106	163,962	158,034	4.68	4.63
NY	*	1,562	*	8,210	*	5.25
NC	64,154	62,585	447,973	434,914	6.98	6.95
OH	4,633	4,641	26,190	26,444	5.65	5.70
PA	10,877	10,331	63,375	59,757	5.83	5.78
SC	25,194	24,672	161,517	156,105	6.41	6.33
TN	23,182	22,899	118,811	116,000	5.13	5.07
TX	58,099	59,349	316,357	320,763	5.45	5.40
VA	27,478	26,969	142,527	136,749	5.19	5.07
US ¹	771,439	761,979	4,315,387	4,266,782	5.59	5.60

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

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, April 2008-May 2008**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	April	May	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			April	May	April	May
	<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	370,119	372,707	3,263	3,106	0.87	0.83
AR	371,894	361,297	4,457	3,782	1.18	1.04
DE	127,850	130,051	2,321	2,084	1.78	1.58
GA	460,510	451,037	5,031	4,166	1.08	0.92
KY	93,558	96,946	942	885	1.00	0.90
LA	73,463	72,509	362	340	0.49	0.47
MD	42,099	43,596	905	707	2.10	1.60
MS	303,814	303,861	2,925	2,677	0.95	0.87
MO	120,233	116,093	1,359	1,320	1.12	1.12
NY	*	4,995	*	139	*	2.71
NC	342,246	332,911	4,250	4,045	1.23	1.20
OH	19,059	19,291	377	408	1.94	2.07
PA	43,368	40,574	822	778	1.86	1.88
SC	121,349	117,020	1,077	948	0.88	0.80
TN	85,685	83,540	989	918	1.14	1.09
TX	243,535	247,563	2,007	1,986	0.82	0.80
VA	99,437	95,121	740	791	0.74	0.82
US ³	3,193,108	3,160,648	34,924	31,964	1.08	1.00

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

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, April 2008-May 2008**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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			*	*	64,004	58,665
AR			488	422	149,079	134,318
DE			1,954	1,665	92,467	84,418
GA			310	229	91,894	73,956
KY			35	*	32,947	32,298
LA			*	*	11,821	10,293
MD			*	*	38,005	31,790
MS			*	*	38,010	31,371
MO			227	250	77,064	66,467
NY			*	*	*	*
NC			452	379	83,590	82,732
OH				*	9,756	9,150
PA			386	*	21,718	16,528
SC			*	*	*	*
TN			106	66	43,675	38,583
TX			53	66	46,557	41,574
VA			101	*	28,346	23,515
US ¹			6,227	7,340	1,033,289	917,952
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	64,165	43,778	300	320	*	*
AR	45,973	31,444	1,331	1,595	1,775	1,560
DE	57,775	46,721	119	*	*	*
GA	*	167,441	319	*	*	*
KY	*	40,754	7	*	*	*
LA	3,431	2,823	*	*	243	221
MD	*	*	*	11	*	*
MS	42,851	33,867	105	130	803	577
MO	14,335	12,415	*	*	1,418	1,265
NY	*	*	*	248	*	242
NC	60,637	46,823	95	*	15,065	13,570
OH	*	3,341	*	5	*	*
PA	15,250	*	31	18	290	270
SC	*	*	*	*	*	*
TN	*	21,985	*	*	746	868
TX	17,105	12,252	77	59	832	786
VA	19,362	*	*	*	*	*
US ¹	786,593	601,673	3,656	3,814	79,392	68,989

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, April 2008-May 2008 (continued)**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	1,981	1,812	5,751	5,305	12,989	11,098
AR	3,652	2,765	10,652	10,274	20,777	18,451
DE	1,266	1,363	5,364	4,515	6,417	6,194
GA	1,763	1,784	19,407	17,630	15,714	16,500
KY	172	*	2,551	2,421	4,299	3,570
LA	153	151	1,792	1,899	*	*
MD	1,580	1,362	2,974	*	*	*
MS	*	*	2,480	1,987	3,614	2,901
MO	796	661	2,178	2,552	8,118	8,444
NY	*	948	*	*	*	3,203
NC	1,506	1,481	13,915	11,203	9,083	8,634
OH	*	*	*	*	444	340
PA	556	419	*	*	3,032	2,523
SC	*	504	*	*	*	*
TN	*	*	1,630	1,633	*	3,189
TX	548	545	3,786	3,448	7,032	5,829
VA	770	715	1,952	1,554	3,224	2,778
US ¹	19,594	18,104	92,856	85,182	148,829	130,431

State	Overscald		Other		Total	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	8,699	6,963	122,682	106,829	285,302	239,308
AR	2,324	1,151	84,229	71,670	320,280	273,650
DE	893	796	*	*	232,309	205,100
GA	5,722	5,719	84,434	74,189	461,751	367,011
KY	*	*	*	*	122,173	111,231
LA	*	34	*	1,803	20,065	17,891
MD	655	651	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	74,578	64,970	164,770	138,193
MO	*	*	100,216	83,252	204,641	175,521
NY	*	*	*	8,895	*	23,454
NC	11,822	*	120,570	88,788	316,735	260,672
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	73	*	*	27,598	74,670	68,720
SC	*	639	36,001	34,522	71,775	55,782
TN	*	1,131	7,834	7,845	123,927	76,263
TX	2,080	2,098	40,770	54,362	118,840	121,019
VA	1,636	*	24,528	25,741	85,598	112,882
US ¹	43,824	36,030	952,059	864,802	3,166,319	2,734,317

* 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, April 2008-May 2008

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	3,131	3,036	61,519	60,707	19.65	19.99
MN	2,820	3,319	82,189	88,656	29.14	26.71
MO	1,466	1,519	49,025	52,015	33.43	34.25
US ¹	22,055	22,354	648,018	648,457	29.38	29.01

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, April 2008-May 2008

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	April	May	April	May	April	May
	<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	51,938	51,659	664	714	1.26	1.36
MN	65,547	71,114	1,431	1,302	2.14	1.80
MO	38,442	40,861	947	896	2.40	2.15
US ³	515,926	517,913	8,714	8,191	1.66	1.56

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.

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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