



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 3 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during August 2008 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.65 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the amount certified in August 2007. The July 2008 revised certified total at 3.83 billion pounds, was up 6 percent from July 2007. The July revision represented an increase of 271 thousand pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during August 2008 was 4.87 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 5.06 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.14 billion pounds, down 4 percent from August 2007. Mature chickens, at 76.9 million pounds, were up 1 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 637 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 12.6 million pounds, down 20 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during August 2008 averaged 5.57 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from August 2007. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.91 pounds per bird, down 4 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during August 2008 averaged 28.1 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from August 2007.

Ante-mortem condemnations during August 2008 totaled 16.4 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.34 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.54 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 39.7 million pounds, were 1.08 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.19 percent a year earlier.

August 2008 contained 21 weekdays and 5 Saturdays, while August 2007 had 23 weekdays and 4 Saturdays.

**Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type,
United States, August, 2007-2008 ¹**

Commodity	Aug 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Aug 2007	Jul 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	799,191	785,435	743,511	93	95	5,950,479	6,034,404	101
Mature	12,424	13,828	13,023	105	94	89,552	105,271	118
Light	5,019	5,941	5,577	111	94	38,243	48,645	127
Heavy	7,405	7,887	7,446	101	94	51,309	56,626	110
Total	811,615	799,263	756,534	93	95	6,040,031	6,139,675	102
Turkeys								
Young	23,792	24,001	22,457	94	94	172,404	178,290	103
Old	263	198	205	78	104	1,361	1,381	101
Total	24,055	24,199	22,662	94	94	173,765	179,671	103
Ducks	2,373	2,061	1,922	81	93	18,503	16,021	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	4,308,464	4,350,835	4,142,855	96	95	32,552,190	33,588,700	103
Mature	76,260	81,599	76,917	101	94	537,473	608,733	113
Light	16,583	19,451	18,166	110	93	125,441	159,066	127
Heavy	59,677	62,148	58,751	98	95	412,032	449,667	109
Total	4,384,724	4,432,434	4,219,772	96	95	33,089,663	34,197,433	103
Turkeys								
Young	652,040	682,139	631,471	97	93	4,914,693	5,192,412	106
Old	6,631	5,098	5,420	82	106	35,483	36,626	103
Total	658,671	687,237	636,891	97	93	4,950,176	5,229,038	106
Ducks	15,728	13,528	12,576	80	93	124,241	107,215	86
Other Poultry ²	373	208	239	64	115	1,638	1,509	92
Total Poultry	5,059,496	5,133,407	4,869,478	96	95	38,165,718	39,535,195	104
	<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	5.39	5.54	5.57	103	101	5.47	5.57	102
Mature	6.14	5.90	5.91	96	100	6.00	5.78	96
Light	3.30	3.27	3.26	99	100	3.28	3.27	100
Heavy	8.06	7.88	7.89	98	100	8.03	7.94	99
Total	5.40	5.55	5.58	103	101	5.48	5.57	102
Turkeys								
Young	27.41	28.42	28.12	103	99	28.51	29.12	102
Old	25.21	25.75	26.44	105	103	26.07	26.52	102
Total	27.38	28.40	28.10	103	99	28.49	29.10	102
Ducks	6.63	6.56	6.54	99	100	6.71	6.69	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, August, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	Aug 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Aug 2007	Jul 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	2,881,142	2,911,442	2,787,425	97	96	21,690,136	22,485,118	104
Mature	46,563	50,566	48,199	104	95	331,689	372,557	112
Light	8,434	10,088	9,336	111	93	64,276	77,672	121
Heavy	38,129	40,478	38,863	102	96	267,413	294,885	110
Total	2,927,705	2,962,008	2,835,624	97	96	22,021,825	22,857,675	104
Turkeys								
Young	290,882	310,946	294,329	101	95	2,204,781	2,406,300	109
Old	3,358	2,782	3,305	98	119	21,438	21,250	99
Total	294,240	313,728	297,634	101	95	2,226,219	2,427,550	109
Ducks	5,760	3,547	3,305	57	93	42,642	32,026	75
Other Poultry ²	96	91	103	107	113	685	724	106
Total Poultry	3,227,801	3,279,374	3,136,666	97	96	24,291,371	25,317,975	104
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	301,400	313,771	293,118	97	93	2,255,802	2,360,150	105
Mature	790	564	317	40	56	3,992	9,007	226
Light	51					64	6,199	9,686
Heavy	739	564	317	43	56	3,928	2,808	71
Total	302,190	314,335	293,435	97	93	2,259,794	2,369,157	105
Turkeys								
Young	226,084	233,129	209,444	93	90	1,690,342	1,728,259	102
Old	1,638	1,082	823	50	76	5,258	6,259	119
Total	227,722	234,211	210,267	92	90	1,695,600	1,734,518	102
Ducks	5,540	6,232	5,755	104	92	46,253	45,085	97
Other Poultry ²	124	33	26	21	79	299	225	75
Total Poultry	535,576	554,811	509,483	95	92	4,001,946	4,148,985	104
Chilled and Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,182,542	3,225,213	3,080,543	97	96	23,945,938	24,845,268	104
Mature	47,353	51,130	48,516	102	95	335,681	381,564	114
Light	8,485	10,088	9,336	110	93	64,340	83,871	130
Heavy	38,868	41,042	39,180	101	95	271,341	297,693	110
Total	3,229,895	3,276,343	3,129,059	97	96	24,281,619	25,226,832	104
Turkeys								
Young	516,966	544,075	503,773	97	93	3,895,123	4,134,559	106
Old	4,996	3,864	4,128	83	107	26,696	27,509	103
Total	521,962	547,939	507,901	97	93	3,921,819	4,162,068	106
Ducks	11,300	9,779	9,060	80	93	88,895	77,111	87
Other Poultry ²	220	124	129	59	104	984	949	96
Total Poultry	3,763,377	3,834,185	3,646,149	97	95	28,293,317	29,466,960	104

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

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

Commodity	Aug 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Aug 2007	Jul 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	22,320	16,127	13,319	60	83	117,078	110,472	94
Mature	2,812	1,911	1,333	47	70	10,326	10,857	105
Light	531	522	310	58	59	2,974	3,384	114
Heavy	2,281	1,389	1,023	45	74	7,352	7,473	102
Total	25,132	18,038	14,652	58	81	127,404	121,329	95
Turkeys								
Young	2,167	1,959	1,665	77	85	15,261	13,967	92
Old	94	78	62	66	79	515	435	84
Total	2,261	2,037	1,727	76	85	15,776	14,402	91
Ducks	53	54	48	91	89	314	296	94
Other Poultry	2					3	2	67
Total Poultry	27,448	20,129	16,427	60	82	143,497	136,029	95
	<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	0.52	0.37	0.32	62	86	0.36	0.33	92
Mature	3.69	2.34	1.73	47	74	1.92	1.78	93
Light	3.20	2.68	1.71	53	64	2.37	2.13	90
Heavy	3.82	2.23	1.74	46	78	1.78	1.66	93
Total	0.57	0.41	0.35	61	85	0.39	0.35	90
Turkeys								
Young	0.33	0.29	0.26	79	90	0.31	0.27	87
Old	1.42	1.53	1.14	80	75	1.45	1.19	82
Total	0.34	0.30	0.27	79	90	0.32	0.28	88
Ducks	0.34	0.40	0.38	112	95	0.25	0.28	112
Other Poultry	0.54					0.18	0.13	72
Total Poultry	0.54	0.39	0.34	63	87	0.38	0.34	89

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, August, 2007-2008 ¹**

Commodity	Aug 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Aug 2007	Jul 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	32,228	30,493	28,019	87	92	270,513	265,252	98
Mature	3,600	3,754	3,364	93	90	24,851	27,418	110
Light	1,145	1,307	1,211	106	93	9,250	9,722	105
Heavy	2,455	2,447	2,153	88	88	15,601	17,696	113
Total	35,828	34,247	31,383	88	92	295,364	292,670	99
Turkeys								
Young	8,969	8,572	7,853	88	92	69,132	68,047	98
Old	329	224	234	71	104	1,977	1,977	100
Total	9,298	8,796	8,087	87	92	71,109	70,024	98
Ducks	299	269	233	78	87	2,588	2,059	80
Other Poultry	10	2	1	10	50	25	13	52
Total Poultry	45,435	43,314	39,704	87	92	369,086	364,766	99
	<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	0.94	0.90	90	96	1.12	1.06	95
Mature	7.07	6.84	6.48	92	95	6.89	6.70	97
Light	11.89	11.47	11.48	97	100	12.57	10.39	83
Heavy	5.94	5.63	5.21	88	93	5.44	5.61	103
Total	1.10	1.03	0.99	91	96	1.20	1.15	95
Turkeys								
Young	1.71	1.55	1.53	90	99	1.74	1.62	93
Old	6.18	5.48	5.36	87	98	6.89	6.70	97
Total	1.75	1.58	1.57	90	99	1.78	1.65	93
Ducks	2.58	2.68	2.51	97	94	2.83	2.60	92
Other Poultry	4.35	1.59	0.77	18	48	2.48	1.35	55
Total Poultry	1.19	1.12	1.08	90	96	1.29	1.22	95

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, July 2008-August 2008**

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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			5,237	4,278	929,071	847,752
Mature			1,833	1,444	161,643	187,814
Light			1,486	1,048	125,376	155,877
Heavy			347	396	36,267	31,937
Total			7,070	5,722	1,090,714	1,035,566
Turkeys						
Young			178	91	54,838	48,917
Old			25	1	2,367	2,177
Total			203	92	57,205	51,094
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	272,308	228,624	5,975	6,247	54,704	49,395
Mature	11,363	11,539	291	268	70,987	54,800
Light	8,163	8,988	175	200	63,237	46,440
Heavy	3,200	2,551	116	68	7,750	8,360
Total	283,671	240,163	6,266	6,515	125,691	104,195
Turkeys						
Young	4,509	5,037	2,745	2,705	162	124
Old	392	553	50	1	147	228
Total	4,901	5,590	2,795	2,706	309	352
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	18,224	16,467	88,709	81,022	141,776	118,179
Mature	10,656	13,715	4,247	3,589	93,316	96,748
Light	9,195	12,539	2,404	2,297	82,560	87,075
Heavy	1,461	1,176	1,843	1,292	10,756	9,673
Total	28,880	30,182	92,956	84,611	235,092	214,927
Turkeys						
Young	556	472	3,958	2,496	5,569	2,815
Old	3	6	25	43	112	98
Total	559	478	3,983	2,539	5,681	2,913
Commodity	Overscald		Other		Total	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	41,082	41,437	810,259	671,224	2,367,345	2,064,625
Mature	2,244	1,015	247,548	190,457	604,128	561,389
Light	1,975	402	134,848	90,483	429,419	405,349
Heavy	269	613	112,700	99,974	174,709	156,040
Total	43,326	42,452	1,057,807	861,681	2,971,473	2,626,014
Turkeys						
Young	881	1,009	15,131	23,046	88,527	86,712
Old	2	6	1,404	2,235	4,527	5,348
Total	883	1,015	16,535	25,281	93,054	92,060

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

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	97,671	90,156	527,389	485,381	5.40	5.38
AR	96,595	90,436	542,286	508,005	5.61	5.62
DE	26,400	25,736	178,950	177,453	6.78	6.90
GA	115,610	108,502	609,137	573,455	5.27	5.29
KY	26,606	24,882	144,875	137,131	5.45	5.51
LA	16,655	16,345	97,903	95,665	5.88	5.85
MD	12,099	11,237	60,004	55,800	4.96	4.97
MS	69,037	65,987	392,504	382,196	5.69	5.79
MO	35,347	33,489	162,425	154,124	4.60	4.60
NY	1,575	1,425	8,230	7,529	5.22	5.28
NC	63,582	62,280	435,927	427,546	6.86	6.86
OH	4,864	4,610	27,625	26,164	5.68	5.68
PA	11,020	10,111	63,631	58,455	5.77	5.78
SC	26,349	23,880	163,714	147,320	6.21	6.17
TN	24,037	21,101	121,732	107,787	5.06	5.11
TX	56,812	56,704	303,255	303,797	5.34	5.36
VA	28,124	27,078	134,215	129,517	4.77	4.78
US ¹	785,435	743,511	4,350,835	4,142,855	5.54	5.57

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, July 2008-August 2008**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	July	August	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			July	August	July	August
	<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	396,243	366,214	3,139	2,847	0.79	0.77
AR	386,123	363,326	4,589	4,139	1.17	1.13
DE	128,111	127,608	1,919	1,546	1.48	1.20
GA	458,129	433,435	3,074	2,844	0.67	0.65
KY	104,593	99,366	613	538	0.58	0.54
LA	72,430	70,241	324	316	0.45	0.45
MD	43,940	40,765	609	531	1.37	1.29
MS	298,255	292,787	2,578	2,415	0.86	0.82
MO	119,252	113,248	1,235	1,233	1.03	1.08
NY	5,004	4,597	85	85	1.67	1.82
NC	333,568	327,085	4,006	3,947	1.19	1.19
OH	20,213	19,170	328	299	1.60	1.54
PA	43,903	40,690	900	813	2.01	1.96
SC	122,624	110,584	993	848	0.80	0.76
TN	87,835	78,100	738	542	0.83	0.69
TX	234,692	233,863	1,866	1,866	0.79	0.79
VA	93,808	90,833	636	580	0.67	0.63
US ³	3,225,213	3,080,543	30,493	28,019	0.94	0.90

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, July 2008-August 2008**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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			*	*	63,520	57,271
AR			*	479	145,473	136,821
DE			765	*	82,588	62,125
GA			188	*	71,263	69,179
KY			32	*	27,553	25,630
LA			*	*	9,662	8,660
MD			297	*	28,908	25,690
MS			*	*	30,234	32,665
MO			230	243	65,345	65,849
NY			*	68	2,830	*
NC			*	201	88,033	84,882
OH			4	*	10,269	8,758
PA			358	*	16,472	14,546
SC			*	*	*	*
TN			82	*	37,134	26,418
TX			56	79	36,418	40,401
VA			*	*	25,985	23,619
US ¹			5,237	4,278	929,071	847,752
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	34,592	31,846	326	573	*	*
AR	18,475	17,515	*	2,778	1,773	1,960
DE	24,170	13,378	*	*	*	*
GA	49,445	32,900	189	153	7,994	*
KY	*	10,200	*	32	*	*
LA	1,420	1,569	50	*	201	190
MD	*	*	*	*	*	*
MS	16,152	18,141	130	*	532	517
MO	6,729	*	*	195	1,184	1,282
NY	*	*	120	101	*	125
NC	35,772	30,990	*	222	11,636	11,404
OH	2,431	1,964	10	*	*	*
PA	7,603	5,704	35	*	287	209
SC	*	*	*	*	*	*
TN	14,111	8,930	*	115	475	605
TX	6,109	6,318	40	83	624	648
VA	8,558	7,470	33	18	*	*
US ¹	272,308	228,624	5,975	6,247	54,704	49,395

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, July 2008-August 2008 (continued)**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	1,683	1,365	6,058	4,799	16,995	11,072
AR	2,835	2,562	13,043	11,898	18,526	14,195
DE	1,546	1,169	4,070	3,632	5,997	5,341
GA	1,521	1,137	18,053	16,634	12,992	13,502
KY	186	132	2,906	2,827	2,861	2,848
LA	174	170	1,973	2,188	660	592
MD	1,543	1,422	*	1,822	*	*
MS	*	*	1,729	1,946	3,440	3,470
MO	793	1,071	2,406	2,095	8,907	8,303
NY	645	441	*	*	3,071	2,573
NC	1,630	1,548	10,448	10,355	8,982	8,292
OH	86	73	*	1,775	433	390
PA	366	376	*	*	3,180	1,580
SC	497	400	*	*	1,071	938
TN	*	*	1,293	833	3,249	2,843
TX	653	682	3,850	3,766	7,239	6,738
VA	1,007	901	1,721	1,852	4,096	3,104
US ¹	18,224	16,467	88,709	81,022	141,776	118,179

State	Overscald		Other		Total	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	4,609	5,207	100,331	82,202	231,924	197,476
AR	2,550	1,366	76,812	68,487	283,798	258,061
DE	1,541	1,120	*	*	183,869	125,443
GA	3,329	4,278	60,880	54,809	225,854	199,552
KY	*	*	*	*	53,165	49,246
LA	*	44	1,537	1,882	15,730	15,342
MD	813	*	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	*	*	134,272	112,362
MO	*	*	82,436	80,704	169,038	168,306
NY	*	*	*	8,106	15,408	16,350
NC	12,057	10,986	72,895	69,845	242,142	228,725
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	*	*	*	68,906	53,303
SC	*	2,265	*	*	55,829	45,312
TN	*	1,265	*	2,121	66,993	43,757
TX	1,774	1,762	52,314	46,574	109,077	107,051
VA	2,665	1,416	21,923	21,152	69,726	62,594
US ¹	41,082	41,437	810,259	671,224	2,367,345	2,064,625

* 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, July 2008-August 2008

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	3,147	2,704	58,443	51,465	18.57	19.03
MN	3,751	3,386	98,586	87,898	26.28	25.96
MO	1,585	1,477	51,880	45,259	32.73	30.64
US ¹	24,001	22,457	682,139	631,471	28.42	28.12

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, July 2008-August 2008

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	<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	49,282	43,089	798	635	1.59	1.45
MN	78,981	70,489	1,447	1,258	1.80	1.75
MO	40,944	35,851	955	856	2.28	2.33
US ³	544,075	503,773	8,572	7,853	1.55	1.53

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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