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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 9 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during September 2008 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.72 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the amount certified in September 2007. The August 2008 revised certified total at 3.65 billion pounds, was down 3 percent from August 2007. The August revision represented an increase of 22 thousand pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during September 2008 was 4.97 billion pounds, up 9 percent from 4.57 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.23 billion pounds, up 8 percent from September 2007. Mature chickens, at 76.9 million pounds, were up 34 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 648 million pounds, up 12 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 13.8 million pounds, up 7 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 2008 averaged 5.62 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from September 2007. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.93 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2008 averaged 28.5 pounds per bird, up 2 percent from September 2007.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 2008 totaled 13.8 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.28 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.33 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 40.6 million pounds, were 1.08 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.13 percent a year earlier.

September 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays, while September 2007 had 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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

Commodity	Sep 2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Sep 2007	Aug 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	708,136	743,519	752,894	106	101	6,658,615	6,787,306	102
Mature	9,356	13,023	12,959	139	100	98,908	118,230	120
Light	3,827	5,577	5,204	136	93	42,070	53,849	128
Heavy	5,529	7,446	7,755	140	104	56,838	64,381	113
Total	717,492	756,542	765,853	107	101	6,757,523	6,905,536	102
Turkeys								
Young	20,492	22,457	22,486	110	100	192,896	200,776	104
Old	235	205	214	91	104	1,596	1,595	100
Total	20,727	22,662	22,700	110	100	194,492	202,371	104
Ducks	1,890	1,922	2,044	108	106	20,393	18,065	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	3,917,650	4,142,874	4,233,367	108	102	36,469,840	37,822,086	104
Mature	57,197	76,917	76,883	134	100	594,670	685,616	115
Light	13,002	18,166	16,744	129	92	138,443	175,810	127
Heavy	44,195	58,751	60,139	136	102	456,227	509,806	112
Total	3,974,847	4,219,791	4,310,250	108	102	37,064,510	38,507,702	104
Turkeys								
Young	574,144	631,471	642,498	112	102	5,488,837	5,834,910	106
Old	6,132	5,420	5,399	88	100	41,615	42,025	101
Total	580,276	636,891	647,897	112	102	5,530,452	5,876,935	106
Ducks	12,829	12,576	13,757	107	109	137,070	120,972	88
Other Poultry ²	815	239	987	121	413	2,453	2,496	102
Total Poultry	4,568,767	4,869,497	4,972,891	109	102	42,734,485	44,508,105	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	5.53	5.57	5.62	102	101	5.48	5.57	102
Mature	6.11	5.91	5.93	97	100	6.01	5.80	97
Light	3.40	3.26	3.22	95	99	3.29	3.26	99
Heavy	7.99	7.89	7.75	97	98	8.03	7.92	99
Total	5.54	5.58	5.63	102	101	5.48	5.58	102
Turkeys								
Young	28.02	28.12	28.57	102	102	28.45	29.06	102
Old	26.09	26.44	25.23	97	95	26.07	26.35	101
Total	28.00	28.10	28.54	102	102	28.44	29.04	102
Ducks	6.79	6.54	6.73	99	103	6.72	6.70	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, September, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	Sep 2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Pct of		January to Date		Pct of 2007
				Sep 2007	Aug 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	2,623,285	2,787,447	2,853,205	109	102	24,313,421	25,338,345	104
Mature	35,658	48,199	48,666	136	101	367,347	421,223	115
Light	6,649	9,336	8,562	129	92	70,925	86,234	122
Heavy	29,009	38,863	40,104	138	103	296,422	334,989	113
Total	2,658,943	2,835,646	2,901,871	109	102	24,680,768	25,759,568	104
Turkeys								
Young	253,277	294,329	307,875	122	105	2,458,058	2,714,175	110
Old	3,548	3,305	2,555	72	77	24,986	23,805	95
Total	256,825	297,634	310,430	121	104	2,483,044	2,737,980	110
Ducks	5,241	3,305	3,519	67	106	47,883	35,545	74
Other Poultry ²	78	103	100	128	97	763	824	108
Total Poultry	2,921,087	3,136,688	3,215,920	110	103	27,212,458	28,533,917	105
Frozen Chickens								
Young	271,921	293,118	292,793	108	100	2,527,723	2,652,943	105
Mature	142	317	291	205	92	4,134	9,298	225
Light						64	6,199	9,686
Heavy	142	317	291	205	92	4,070	3,099	76
Total	272,063	293,435	293,084	108	100	2,531,857	2,662,241	105
Turkeys								
Young	203,147	209,444	203,595	100	97	1,893,489	1,931,854	102
Old	1,121	823	1,537	137	187	6,379	7,796	122
Total	204,268	210,267	205,132	100	98	1,899,868	1,939,650	102
Ducks	4,012	5,755	6,378	159	111	50,265	51,463	102
Other Poultry ²	388	26	468	121	1,800	687	693	101
Total Poultry	480,731	509,483	505,062	105	99	4,482,677	4,654,047	104
Chilled and Frozen Chickens								
Young	2,895,206	3,080,565	3,145,998	109	102	26,841,144	27,991,288	104
Mature	35,800	48,516	48,957	137	101	371,481	430,521	116
Light	6,649	9,336	8,562	129	92	70,989	92,433	130
Heavy	29,151	39,180	40,395	139	103	300,492	338,088	113
Total	2,931,006	3,129,081	3,194,955	109	102	27,212,625	28,421,809	104
Turkeys								
Young	456,424	503,773	511,470	112	102	4,351,547	4,646,029	107
Old	4,669	4,128	4,092	88	99	31,365	31,601	101
Total	461,093	507,901	515,562	112	102	4,382,912	4,677,630	107
Ducks	9,253	9,060	9,897	107	109	98,148	87,008	89
Other Poultry ²	466	129	568	122	440	1,450	1,517	105
Total Poultry	3,401,818	3,646,171	3,720,982	109	102	31,695,135	33,187,964	105

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

² Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

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

Commodity	Sep 2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Sep 2007	Aug 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	12,070	13,319	11,227	93	84	129,148	121,699	94
Mature	1,155	1,333	1,049	91	79	11,481	11,906	104
Light	375	310	254	68	82	3,349	3,638	109
Heavy	780	1,023	795	102	78	8,132	8,268	102
Total	13,225	14,652	12,276	93	84	140,629	133,605	95
Turkeys								
Young	1,598	1,665	1,450	91	87	16,859	15,417	91
Old	77	62	56	73	90	592	491	83
Total	1,675	1,727	1,506	90	87	17,451	15,908	91
Ducks	38	48	52	137	108	352	348	99
Other Poultry	5		5	100		8	7	88
Total Poultry	14,943	16,427	13,839	93	84	158,440	149,868	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	0.31	0.32	0.27	87	84	0.35	0.32	91
Mature	2.02	1.73	1.36	67	79	1.93	1.74	90
Light	2.88	1.71	1.52	53	89	2.42	2.07	86
Heavy	1.76	1.74	1.32	75	76	1.78	1.62	91
Total	0.33	0.35	0.28	85	80	0.38	0.35	92
Turkeys								
Young	0.28	0.26	0.23	82	88	0.31	0.26	84
Old	1.26	1.14	1.04	83	91	1.42	1.17	82
Total	0.29	0.27	0.23	79	85	0.32	0.27	84
Ducks	0.30	0.38	0.38	127	100	0.26	0.29	112
Other Poultry	0.61		0.51	84		0.33	0.28	85
Total Poultry	0.33	0.34	0.28	85	82	0.37	0.34	92

¹ Federally inspected only.

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

**Poultry Slaughter: Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type,
United States, September, 2007-2008¹**

Commodity	Sep 2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Percent of		January to Date		Percent of 2007
				Sep 2007	Aug 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	28,006	28,020	28,313	101	101	298,519	293,566	98
Mature	2,807	3,364	3,607	129	107	27,658	31,025	112
Light	920	1,211	1,251	136	103	10,170	10,973	108
Heavy	1,887	2,153	2,356	125	109	17,488	20,052	115
Total	30,813	31,384	31,920	104	102	326,177	324,591	100
Turkeys								
Young	7,608	7,853	8,146	107	104	76,740	76,193	99
Old	277	234	259	94	111	2,254	2,236	99
Total	7,885	8,087	8,405	107	104	78,994	78,429	99
Ducks	275	233	297	108	127	2,863	2,356	82
Other Poultry	18	1	5	28	500	43	18	42
Total Poultry	38,991	39,705	40,627	104	102	408,077	405,394	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	0.96	0.90	0.89	93	99	1.10	1.04	94
Mature	7.27	6.48	6.86	94	106	6.93	6.72	97
Light	12.15	11.48	12.75	105	111	12.53	10.61	85
Heavy	6.08	5.21	5.51	91	106	5.50	5.60	102
Total	1.04	0.99	0.99	95	100	1.18	1.13	95
Turkeys								
Young	1.64	1.53	1.57	96	102	1.73	1.61	93
Old	5.60	5.36	5.95	106	111	6.70	6.61	99
Total	1.68	1.57	1.60	95	102	1.77	1.65	93
Ducks	2.89	2.51	2.91	101	116	2.83	2.64	93
Other Poultry	3.72	0.77	0.87	23	113	2.88	1.17	41
Total Poultry	1.13	1.08	1.08	95	100	1.27	1.21	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, August 2008-September 2008**

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Chickens						
Young			4,278	3,954	847,767	832,525
Mature			1,444	1,140	187,814	190,659
Light			1,048	942	155,877	154,237
Heavy			396	198	31,937	36,422
Total			5,722	5,094	1,035,581	1,023,184
Turkeys						
Young			91	81	48,917	48,699
Old			1		2,177	3,229
Total			92	81	51,094	51,928
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Chickens						
Young	228,626	228,591	6,247	7,958	49,395	50,809
Mature	11,539	12,166	268	412	54,800	63,171
Light	8,988	9,026	200	303	46,440	54,018
Heavy	2,551	3,140	68	109	8,360	9,153
Total	240,165	240,757	6,515	8,370	104,195	113,980
Turkeys						
Young	5,037	6,570	2,705	2,646	124	103
Old	553	692	1	37	228	64
Total	5,590	7,262	2,706	2,683	352	167
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Chickens						
Young	16,470	16,253	81,023	75,786	118,195	115,826
Mature	13,715	13,748	3,589	3,595	96,748	88,045
Light	12,539	12,613	2,297	2,281	87,075	76,868
Heavy	1,176	1,135	1,292	1,314	9,673	11,177
Total	30,185	30,001	84,612	79,381	214,943	203,871
Turkeys						
Young	472	410	2,496	3,157	2,815	2,732
Old	6	5	43	31	98	134
Total	478	415	2,539	3,188	2,913	2,866
Commodity	Overscald		Other		Total	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
Chickens						
Young	41,447	45,946	671,234	663,496	2,064,682	2,041,144
Mature	1,015	583	190,457	211,349	561,389	584,868
Light	402	258	90,483	87,156	405,349	397,702
Heavy	613	325	99,974	124,193	156,040	187,166
Total	42,462	46,529	861,691	874,845	2,626,071	2,626,012
Turkeys						
Young	1,009	1,698	23,046	16,305	86,712	82,401
Old	6	52	2,235	872	5,348	5,116
Total	1,015	1,750	25,281	17,177	92,060	87,517

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

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AL	90,156	94,162	485,381	514,752	5.38	5.47
AR	90,436	93,475	508,005	529,569	5.62	5.67
DE	25,736	24,990	177,453	174,120	6.90	6.97
GA	108,502	111,465	573,455	594,527	5.29	5.33
KY	24,882	24,914	137,131	137,063	5.51	5.50
LA	16,345	15,784	95,665	92,248	5.85	5.84
MD	11,240	11,813	55,800	59,317	4.96	5.02
MS	65,987	65,864	382,196	385,169	5.79	5.85
MO	33,489	34,563	154,124	162,243	4.60	4.69
NY	1,425	1,560	7,521	8,155	5.28	5.23
NC	62,280	59,952	427,546	413,628	6.86	6.90
OH	4,610	4,745	26,164	27,317	5.68	5.76
PA	10,111	10,017	58,455	58,506	5.78	5.84
SC	23,880	25,744	147,320	166,477	6.17	6.47
TN	21,101	20,767	107,787	109,782	5.11	5.29
TX	56,704	57,997	303,797	313,949	5.36	5.41
VA	27,078	27,542	129,517	131,295	4.78	4.77
US ¹	743,519	752,894	4,142,874	4,233,367	5.57	5.62

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, August 2008-September 2008**

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	August	September	Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
			August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	366,214	388,443	2,847	2,937	0.77	0.75
AR	363,326	378,189	4,139	4,233	1.13	1.11
DE	127,608	125,697	1,546	1,450	1.20	1.14
GA	433,435	448,849	2,844	2,904	0.65	0.64
KY	99,366	99,328	538	437	0.54	0.44
LA	70,241	68,027	316	302	0.45	0.44
MD	40,765	43,616	531	540	1.29	1.22
MS	292,787	291,406	2,415	2,541	0.82	0.86
MO	113,248	119,146	1,233	1,303	1.08	1.08
NY	4,597	4,982	85	117	1.82	2.29
NC	327,085	316,755	3,947	3,983	1.19	1.24
OH	19,170	20,261	299	331	1.54	1.61
PA	40,690	40,423	813	849	1.96	2.06
SC	110,584	124,769	848	1,006	0.76	0.80
TN	78,100	79,561	542	525	0.69	0.66
TX	233,863	242,847	1,866	1,845	0.79	0.75
VA	90,833	91,879	580	499	0.63	0.54
US ³	3,080,565	3,145,998	28,020	28,313	0.90	0.89

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, August 2008-September 2008**

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
AL			*	*	57,271	57,716
AR			479	*	136,821	130,464
DE			*	548	62,125	58,195
GA			*	163	69,179	63,307
KY			*	*	25,630	27,012
LA			*	*	8,660	7,360
MD			*	*	25,690	27,985
MS			*	*	32,665	34,814
MO			243	257	65,849	63,831
NY			68	*	*	*
NC			201	*	84,882	82,259
OH			*	*	8,758	9,416
PA			*	*	14,546	15,592
SC			*	*	*	*
TN			*	*	26,418	24,854
TX			79	76	40,401	39,882
VA			*	*	23,619	22,982
US ¹			4,278	3,954	847,767	832,525
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
AL	31,846	34,564	573	380	*	*
AR	17,515	18,762	2,778	*	1,960	1,983
DE	13,378	10,950	*	94	*	7,057
GA	32,900	35,255	153	*	*	*
KY	10,200	7,233	32	*	*	*
LA	1,569	1,228	*	38	190	221
MD	*	*	*	*	*	*
MS	18,141	16,221	*	159	517	725
MO	*	8,536	195	159	1,282	1,337
NY	*	*	101	*	125	156
NC	30,990	31,335	222	*	11,404	12,331
OH	1,964	2,693	*	*	*	*
PA	5,704	6,338	*	*	209	196
SC	*	*	*	*	*	*
TN	8,930	6,602	115	*	605	522
TX	6,318	7,455	83	44	648	673
VA	7,470	5,873	18	*	*	*
US ¹	228,626	228,591	6,247	7,958	49,395	50,809

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, August 2008-September 2008 (continued)**

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
AL	1,365	1,497	4,799	5,320	11,072	9,998
AR	2,562	2,195	11,898	11,215	14,195	13,300
DE	1,169	1,137	3,632	3,459	5,341	3,936
GA	1,137	1,208	16,634	15,415	13,502	10,018
KY	132	206	2,827	2,584	2,848	2,829
LA	170	87	2,188	1,710	592	518
MD	1,422	1,453	1,822	1,831	*	*
MS	*	*	1,946	1,777	3,470	3,925
MO	1,071	884	2,095	1,802	8,303	9,314
NY	441	460	*	*	2,573	2,775
NC	1,548	1,780	10,355	9,039	8,292	7,821
OH	73	101	1,775	*	390	369
PA	376	423	*	*	1,580	2,190
SC	400	*	*	*	938	938
TN	*	*	833	1,061	2,843	*
TX	682	569	3,766	3,188	6,738	7,941
VA	901	773	1,852	1,363	3,104	2,861
US ¹	16,470	16,253	81,023	75,786	118,195	115,826
State	Overscald		Other		Total	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>	<i>Number of Head</i>
AL	5,207	6,334	82,202	73,179	197,476	192,399
AR	1,366	1,244	68,487	66,179	258,061	250,521
DE	1,120	2,450	*	17,272	125,443	105,098
GA	4,278	4,207	54,809	51,185	199,552	188,387
KY	*	*	*	*	49,246	46,698
LA	44	*	1,882	*	15,342	11,861
MD	*	778	*	*	*	*
MS	*	*	*	*	112,362	120,603
MO	*	60	80,704	87,657	168,306	173,837
NY	*	*	8,106	*	16,350	17,178
NC	10,986	12,930	69,845	79,114	228,725	237,020
OH	*	*	*	*	*	*
PA	*	323	*	*	53,303	61,542
SC	2,265	*	*	*	45,312	52,058
TN	1,265	324	2,121	*	43,757	38,914
TX	1,762	2,223	46,574	46,703	107,051	108,754
VA	1,416	1,460	21,152	*	62,594	53,163
US ¹	41,447	45,946	671,234	663,496	2,064,682	2,041,144

* 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, August 2008-September 2008

State	Number Slaughtered		Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
AR	2,704	2,842	51,465	55,799	19.03	19.63
MN	3,386	3,488	87,898	93,343	25.96	26.76
MO	1,477	1,265	45,259	44,028	30.64	34.80
US ¹	22,457	22,486	631,471	642,498	28.12	28.57

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, August 2008-September 2008

State	Total Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified ¹		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			Carcass and Parts		Percent ²	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	43,089	46,248	635	643	1.45	1.37
MN	70,489	74,877	1,258	1,347	1.75	1.77
MO	35,851	34,698	856	875	2.33	2.46
US ³	503,773	511,470	7,853	8,146	1.53	1.57

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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