



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 7 Percent from Last Year

Poultry certified wholesome during March 2012 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 3.60 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the amount certified in March 2011. The February 2012 revised certified total at 3.47 billion pounds, was up 4 percent from February 2011. The February revision represented a decrease of 515 thousand pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of all federally inspected poultry during March 2012 was 4.77 billion pounds, down 7 percent from 5.12 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.06 billion pounds, down 8 percent from March 2011. Mature chickens, at 63.5 million pounds, were down 13 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 629 million pounds, down slightly from a year ago. Ducks totaled 13.8 million pounds, down 6 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during March 2012 averaged 5.81 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from March 2011. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.18 pounds per bird, down 8 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during March 2012 averaged 30.6 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from March 2011.

Ante-mortem condemnations during March 2012 totaled 9.73 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.20 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.22 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 34.9 million pounds, were 0.96 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 1.01 percent a year earlier.

March 2011 contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

March 2012 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Number Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012	March 2012 as % of		January to March		2012 as percent of 2011
				March 2011	February 2012	2011	2012	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Number slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	764,270	674,282	699,125	91	104	2,137,154	2,080,622	97
Mature	12,982	11,056	12,264	94	111	35,577	36,165	102
Light	6,558	5,568	7,148	109	128	18,040	19,691	109
Heavy	6,424	5,488	5,116	80	93	17,537	16,474	94
Total	777,252	685,338	711,389	92	104	2,172,731	2,116,787	97
Turkeys								
Young	21,041	18,931	20,457	97	108	57,624	58,679	102
Old	125	99	108	86	109	366	317	87
Total	21,166	19,030	20,565	97	108	57,990	58,996	102
Ducks	2,142	1,977	2,037	95	103	6,079	6,118	101
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total live weight								
Chickens								
Young	4,397,350	3,931,701	4,059,881	92	103	12,372,924	12,123,079	98
Mature	72,932	61,046	63,477	87	104	197,913	192,459	97
Light	20,936	18,101	22,630	108	125	57,491	63,301	110
Heavy	51,996	42,945	40,847	79	95	140,422	129,158	92
Total	4,470,282	3,992,747	4,123,358	92	103	12,570,837	12,315,538	98
Turkeys								
Young	627,383	583,236	626,292	100	107	1,750,747	1,806,918	103
Old	3,498	2,636	2,899	83	110	9,851	8,345	85
Total	630,881	585,872	629,191	100	107	1,760,598	1,815,263	103
Ducks	14,651	13,489	13,784	94	102	41,688	41,595	100
Other ¹	141	149	170	121	114	430	496	115
Total	5,115,955	4,592,257	4,766,503	93	104	14,373,553	14,172,892	99
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
Average live weight								
Chickens								
Young	5.75	5.83	5.81	101	100	5.79	5.83	101
Mature	5.62	5.52	5.18	92	94	5.56	5.32	96
Light	3.19	3.25	3.17	99	98	3.19	3.21	101
Heavy	8.09	7.83	7.98	99	102	8.01	7.84	98
Total	5.75	5.83	5.80	101	99	5.79	5.82	101
Turkeys								
Young	29.82	30.81	30.62	103	99	30.38	30.79	101
Old	27.98	26.63	26.84	96	101	26.92	26.32	98
Total	29.81	30.79	30.60	103	99	30.36	30.77	101
Ducks	6.84	6.82	6.77	99	99	6.86	6.80	99

¹ Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, and squab.

Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012	March 2012 as % of		January to March		2012 as percent of 2011
				March 2011	February 2012	2011	2012	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	3,015,766	2,670,039	2,750,575	91	103	8,480,225	8,228,069	97
Mature	43,983	38,805	40,052	91	103	120,873	122,106	101
Light	11,401	9,566	12,110	106	127	30,924	33,575	109
Heavy	32,582	29,239	27,942	86	96	89,949	88,531	98
Total	3,059,749	2,708,844	2,790,627	91	103	8,601,098	8,350,175	97
Turkeys								
Young	323,397	292,884	305,556	94	104	895,547	894,580	100
Old	2,583	1,930	2,147	83	111	7,335	6,174	84
Total	325,980	294,814	307,703	94	104	902,882	900,754	100
Ducks	3,694	3,691	3,668	99	99	10,812	11,338	105
Other ¹	87	99	114	131	115	244	332	136
Total	3,389,510	3,007,448	3,102,112	92	103	9,515,036	9,262,599	97
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	294,616	283,991	292,716	99	103	810,013	861,045	106
Mature	100	-	-	(X)	(X)	385	-	(X)
Light	19	-	-	(X)	(X)	288	-	(X)
Heavy	81	-	-	(X)	(X)	97	-	(X)
Total	294,716	283,991	292,716	99	103	810,398	861,045	106
Turkeys								
Young	177,017	171,955	194,267	110	113	498,551	544,612	109
Old	104	31	84	81	271	269	167	62
Total	177,121	171,986	194,351	110	113	498,820	544,779	109
Ducks	6,846	6,138	6,330	92	103	19,170	18,904	99
Other ¹	7	6	6	86	100	46	19	41
Total	478,690	462,121	493,403	103	107	1,328,434	1,424,747	107
Chilled and frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,310,382	2,954,030	3,043,291	92	103	9,290,238	9,089,114	98
Mature	44,083	38,805	40,052	91	103	121,258	122,106	101
Light	11,420	9,566	12,110	106	127	31,212	33,575	108
Heavy	32,663	29,239	27,942	86	96	90,046	88,531	98
Total	3,354,465	2,992,835	3,083,343	92	103	9,411,496	9,211,220	98
Turkeys								
Young	500,414	464,839	499,823	100	108	1,394,098	1,439,192	103
Old	2,687	1,961	2,231	83	114	7,604	6,341	83
Total	503,101	466,800	502,054	100	108	1,401,702	1,445,533	103
Ducks	10,540	9,829	9,998	95	102	29,982	30,242	101
Other ¹	94	105	120	128	114	290	351	121
Total	3,868,200	3,469,569	3,595,515	93	104	10,843,470	10,687,346	99

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012	March 2012 as % of		January to March		2012 as percent of 2011
				March 2011	February 2012	2011	2012	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Live weight								
Chickens								
Young	8,817	7,591	7,486	85	99	28,117	23,248	83
Mature	917	566	707	77	125	2,895	2,317	80
Light	239	241	305	128	127	754	1,033	137
Heavy	678	325	402	59	124	2,141	1,284	60
Total	9,734	8,157	8,193	84	100	31,012	25,565	82
Turkeys								
Young	1,675	1,364	1,485	89	109	4,875	4,262	87
Old	30	13	27	90	208	92	76	83
Total	1,705	1,377	1,512	89	110	4,967	4,338	87
Ducks	46	30	29	63	97	145	93	64
Total	11,485	9,564	9,734	85	102	36,124	29,996	83
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of live weight condemned ¹								
Chickens								
Young	0.20	0.19	0.18	90	95	0.23	0.19	83
Mature	1.26	0.93	1.11	88	119	1.46	1.20	82
Light	1.14	1.33	1.35	118	102	1.31	1.63	124
Heavy	1.30	0.76	0.98	75	129	1.52	0.99	65
Total	0.22	0.20	0.20	91	100	0.25	0.21	84
Turkeys								
Young	0.27	0.23	0.24	89	104	0.28	0.24	86
Old	0.86	0.49	0.93	108	190	0.93	0.91	98
Total	0.27	0.24	0.24	89	100	0.28	0.24	86
Ducks	0.31	0.22	0.21	68	95	0.35	0.22	63
Total	0.22	0.21	0.20	91	95	0.25	0.21	84

¹ Pounds condemned as a percent of live weight pounds inspected.

Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012	March 2012 as % of		January to March		2012 as percent of 2011
				March 2011	February 2012	2011	2012	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Carcass and parts								
Chickens								
Young	28,281	25,876	25,995	92	100	83,017	77,731	94
Mature	3,062	2,058	2,044	67	99	8,540	6,265	73
Light	1,148	873	1,097	96	126	3,111	3,057	98
Heavy	1,914	1,185	947	49	80	5,429	3,208	59
Total	31,343	27,934	28,039	89	100	91,557	83,996	92
Turkeys								
Young	7,653	6,126	6,551	86	107	21,583	19,010	88
Old	133	70	83	62	119	331	252	76
Total	7,786	6,196	6,634	85	107	21,914	19,262	88
Ducks	284	262	250	88	95	835	748	90
Other	1	1	1	100	100	3	4	133
Total	39,414	34,393	34,924	89	102	114,309	104,010	91
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of weight condemned ¹								
Chickens								
Young	0.85	0.87	0.85	100	98	0.89	0.85	96
Mature	6.49	5.04	4.86	75	96	6.58	4.88	74
Light	9.13	8.36	8.31	91	99	9.06	8.35	92
Heavy	5.54	3.89	3.28	59	84	5.69	3.50	62
Total	0.93	0.92	0.90	97	98	0.96	0.90	94
Turkeys								
Young	1.51	1.30	1.29	85	99	1.52	1.30	86
Old	4.72	3.45	3.59	76	104	4.17	3.82	92
Total	1.52	1.31	1.30	86	99	1.54	1.31	85
Ducks	2.62	2.60	2.44	93	94	2.71	2.41	89
Other	1.05	0.94	0.83	79	88	1.02	1.13	111
Total	1.01	0.98	0.96	95	98	1.04	0.96	92

¹ Pounds condemned as a percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause, by Type – United States: February and March 2012

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Chickens						
Young	-	-	6,155	8,539	694,922	692,933
Mature	-	-	801	1,376	144,537	140,565
Light	-	-	723	1,282	103,833	104,745
Heavy	-	-	78	94	40,704	35,820
Total	-	-	6,956	9,915	839,459	833,498
Turkeys						
Young	-	-	30	50	34,049	33,250
Old	-	-	-	1	833	669
Total	-	-	30	51	34,882	33,919
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Chickens						
Young	596,901	520,069	3,225	2,880	31,389	30,726
Mature	8,993	10,386	435	213	38,488	43,550
Light	4,288	5,670	138	142	32,985	37,738
Heavy	4,705	4,716	297	71	5,503	5,812
Total	605,894	530,455	3,660	3,093	69,877	74,276
Turkeys						
Young	4,687	5,467	987	1,166	44	157
Old	142	225	4	1	50	86
Total	4,829	5,692	991	1,167	94	243
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Chickens						
Young	10,220	10,475	60,597	57,280	100,741	96,853
Mature	9,813	13,890	3,403	2,448	62,921	60,853
Light	9,172	13,442	2,428	1,709	48,252	55,534
Heavy	641	448	975	739	14,669	5,319
Total	20,033	24,365	64,000	59,728	163,662	157,706
Turkeys						
Young	137	122	1,233	1,382	1,572	1,419
Old	1	3	12	23	14	43
Total	138	125	1,245	1,405	1,586	1,462
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Total	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Chickens						
Young	16,240	19,979	712,151	772,958	2,232,541	2,212,692
Mature	563	657	74,646	82,651	344,303	356,589
Light	370	281	34,889	49,250	236,781	269,793
Heavy	193	376	39,757	33,401	107,522	86,796
Total	16,803	20,636	786,797	855,609	2,576,844	2,569,281
Turkeys						
Young	540	497	17,695	16,446	60,974	59,956
Old	15	2	146	217	1,217	1,270
Total	555	499	17,841	16,663	62,191	61,226

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes any portion of the carcass affected by an inflammatory process, plant-rejected carcasses, missing viscera, or ascites fluid preventing proper inspection of the carcass.

Young Chickens, Number Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: February and March 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	80,857	85,074	456,342	483,063	5.64	5.68
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	71,616	74,253	415,855	432,563	5.81	5.83
California	20,772	21,480	119,518	125,704	5.75	5.85
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware	24,206	25,768	171,971	182,029	7.10	7.06
Florida	4,875	5,145	28,702	28,963	5.89	5.63
Georgia	98,489	100,401	533,438	542,764	5.42	5.41
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	4,637	4,938	20,624	22,042	4.45	4.46
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	24,537	25,287	137,581	140,778	5.61	5.57
Louisiana	14,430	15,066	91,886	94,822	6.37	6.29
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	9,618	10,073	51,414	53,006	5.35	5.26
Massachusetts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	3,450	3,575	18,786	20,222	5.45	5.66
Mississippi	59,468	60,749	359,032	366,312	6.04	6.03
Missouri	33,873	35,363	165,053	170,279	4.87	4.82
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Jersey	190	143	793	644	4.16	4.51
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York	1,715	1,844	8,680	9,452	5.06	5.13
North Carolina	58,701	60,763	416,575	432,325	7.10	7.11
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio	3,518	3,860	24,046	25,714	6.83	6.66
Oklahoma	8,186	8,383	58,087	57,735	7.10	6.89
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	11,098	11,641	61,093	64,202	5.50	5.51
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Carolina	22,825	22,865	159,469	156,117	6.99	6.83
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	23,703	26,065	122,191	129,836	5.16	4.98
Texas	49,863	50,968	289,508	289,750	5.81	5.68
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	24,448	25,817	130,784	139,794	5.35	5.41
Washington	4,197	4,300	25,429	26,094	6.06	6.07
West Virginia	9,105	9,242	36,630	37,107	4.02	4.01
Wisconsin	4,036	4,129	17,381	17,467	4.31	4.23
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	674,282	699,125	3,931,701	4,059,881	5.83	5.81

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Young Chickens, Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: February and March 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified ¹		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent ²	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	346,410	366,984	3,357	3,338	0.96	0.90
Alaska	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Arizona	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	313,572	327,211	2,879	2,945	0.91	0.89
California	88,832	93,239	724	827	0.81	0.88
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Delaware	123,904	130,962	1,475	1,690	1.18	1.27
Florida	21,526	21,581	145	116	0.67	0.53
Georgia	400,141	403,817	3,264	3,182	0.81	0.78
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Idaho	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	15,153	15,818	78	74	0.51	0.47
Iowa	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kansas	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Kentucky	100,082	100,189	783	651	0.78	0.65
Louisiana	67,690	70,060	364	337	0.53	0.48
Maine	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Maryland	37,209	38,296	764	774	2.01	1.98
Massachusetts	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	15,362	16,510	141	142	0.91	0.85
Mississippi	281,268	285,242	1,891	1,906	0.67	0.66
Missouri	125,173	128,995	1,206	1,241	0.95	0.95
Montana	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New Jersey	545	462	14	10	2.55	2.03
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New York	5,223	5,672	194	278	3.58	4.68
North Carolina	320,520	334,695	3,001	3,117	0.93	0.92
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Ohio	17,993	19,282	221	189	1.21	0.97
Oklahoma	43,670	43,374	271	256	0.62	0.59
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	42,310	44,402	673	679	1.56	1.51
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
South Carolina	118,071	115,398	678	716	0.57	0.62
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Tennessee	89,971	95,491	886	767	0.97	0.80
Texas	220,489	218,482	1,541	1,393	0.69	0.63
Utah	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Vermont	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	93,921	100,466	697	803	0.74	0.79
Washington	18,745	19,482	110	121	0.58	0.62
West Virginia	25,861	26,633	66	78	0.25	0.29
Wisconsin	12,721	12,713	122	126	0.95	0.98
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States	2,954,030	3,043,291	25,876	25,995	0.87	0.85

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Young Chickens, Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause – States and United States: February and March 2012

[Published States do not add to United States total to avoid disclosure]

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Alabama	-	-	115	140	74,837	67,898
Arkansas	-	-	180	183	69,803	67,779
Delaware	-	-	1,794	2,451	37,864	44,155
Georgia	-	-	121	234	53,024	53,869
Mississippi	-	-	348	659	30,404	25,386
Missouri	-	-	67	74	57,630	54,629
North Carolina	-	-	764	1,125	77,785	75,406
Texas	-	-	97	112	42,792	38,171
Virginia	-	-	74	70	18,107	21,841
United States	-	-	6,155	8,539	694,922	692,933

State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Alabama	95,962	67,734	322	252	2,007	2,118
Arkansas	33,433	31,175	748	658	1,456	1,354
Delaware	43,261	52,856	35	52	3,366	3,438
Georgia	44,180	35,626	83	87	3,058	3,135
Mississippi	10,470	8,791	106	124	717	588
Missouri	22,609	21,453	174	102	1,304	1,233
North Carolina	63,033	54,709	210	158	7,204	7,140
Texas	20,288	14,724	185	119	1,047	989
Virginia	40,612	42,150	13	18	1,202	1,226
United States	596,901	520,069	3,225	2,880	31,389	30,726

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Alabama	1,562	1,165	5,138	5,063	14,240	12,226
Arkansas	686	731	5,233	5,952	4,853	5,873
Delaware	949	1,023	2,463	2,221	5,109	4,316
Georgia	501	531	12,023	11,234	10,315	8,501
Mississippi	1,115	1,141	2,176	2,363	3,978	3,820
Missouri	205	283	1,478	1,558	7,168	5,870
North Carolina	987	953	11,541	10,602	6,774	6,554
Texas	359	411	2,826	2,046	5,211	4,338
Virginia	421	487	781	740	1,676	1,703
United States	10,220	10,475	60,597	57,280	100,741	96,853

State	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Total	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)	(number head)
Alabama	1,910	2,298	108,103	101,571	304,196	260,465
Arkansas	211	520	66,958	75,981	183,561	190,206
Delaware	3,110	2,975	34,723	42,366	132,674	155,853
Georgia	1,992	2,844	75,859	86,269	201,156	202,330
Mississippi	713	749	35,958	40,322	85,985	83,943
Missouri	119	91	46,329	54,101	137,083	139,394
North Carolina	2,867	3,653	60,893	62,535	232,058	222,835
Texas	388	1,308	35,625	36,382	108,818	98,600
Virginia	231	432	30,659	50,452	93,776	119,119
United States	16,240	19,979	712,151	772,958	2,232,541	2,212,692

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes any portion of the carcass affected by an inflammatory process, plant-rejected carcasses, missing viscera, or ascites fluid preventing proper inspection of the carcass.

Young Turkeys, Number Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: February and March 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Number slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	2,790	2,921	57,572	59,235	20.63	20.28
California	834	1,092	25,296	30,836	30.32	28.25
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Florida	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	1,447	1,514	55,320	55,842	38.23	36.88
Iowa	1,236	1,255	51,075	52,526	41.33	41.84
Kansas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	3,116	3,526	83,816	94,053	26.90	26.67
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri	1,229	1,232	41,851	41,676	34.05	33.83
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Jersey	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	2,177	2,322	72,851	77,608	33.47	33.43
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio	454	477	19,722	20,412	43.42	42.77
Oklahoma	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	471	500	11,855	12,652	25.15	25.30
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	506	538	7,336	8,190	14.51	15.21
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Vermont	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	-
Virginia	2,173	2,367	59,626	63,973	27.44	27.03
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	18,931	20,457	583,236	626,292	30.81	30.62

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Young Turkeys, Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: February and March 2012

[Data may not add to totals due to rounding]

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified ¹		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent ²	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Alaska	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Arizona	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Arkansas	47,190	48,783	367	427	0.77	0.87
California	20,386	24,665	229	227	1.11	0.91
Colorado	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Delaware	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Florida	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Idaho	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Illinois	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Indiana	44,840	45,151	693	714	1.52	1.56
Iowa	40,173	41,281	656	768	1.61	1.83
Kansas	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Kentucky	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Maine	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Maryland	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Massachusetts	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Michigan	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Minnesota	67,010	74,832	1,091	1,203	1.60	1.58
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Missouri	33,970	33,896	342	348	1.00	1.02
Montana	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Nebraska	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nevada	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New Jersey	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
New York	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
North Carolina	57,056	60,008	379	412	0.66	0.68
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Ohio	15,712	16,304	317	323	1.98	1.94
Oklahoma	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Oregon	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Pennsylvania	9,231	9,872	257	190	2.71	1.89
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
South Carolina	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
South Dakota	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Tennessee	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Texas	5,795	6,654	53	47	0.90	0.69
Utah	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Vermont	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	(X)
Virginia	46,854	51,391	480	559	1.01	1.08
Washington	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
West Virginia	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Wisconsin	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States	464,839	499,823	6,126	6,551	1.30	1.29

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Terms and Definitions Used for Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Ante-Mortem Condemnations: Birds condemned prior to their entry into the slaughter plant.

Average Live Weight: The weight of the whole bird, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

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.

Dressing Percent: Usually expressed as a percentage yield of frozen and chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live bird.

Ducks: Includes all ducks regardless of age and weight.

Federally Inspected (FI) Plants: Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards.

Mature Chickens: Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks and stags and cocks.

Number of Head: Includes post-mortem condemnations.

Old Turkeys: Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.

Plant, Slaughter: An establishment where birds are killed and butchered.

Post-Mortem Condemnations: Carcasses or parts condemned by the inspector because of disease or mishandling and removed from the slaughter line and destroyed.

Slaughter: Killing and butchering of birds primarily for food.

Total Live Weight: The total weight of live birds, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

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, and other turkeys such as fryers/roasters and young breeders.

Statistical Methodology

Data Sources: Data for poultry slaughter estimates are collected by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA for all Federally Inspected plants. Over 99 percent of the total United States slaughter for any species is under Federal Inspection. 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 310 plants slaughtered poultry in the United States under Federal Inspection in 2011. Young chickens were slaughtered in 36 States, young turkeys in 29 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 one 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.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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