



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 1 Percent from Last Year

July 2024 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

July 2025 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Poultry certified wholesome during July 2025 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.63 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the amount certified in July 2024. The June 2025 revised certified total at 4.40 billion pounds, was up 5 percent from June 2024. The June revision represented an increase of 15.3 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of all federally inspected poultry during July 2025 was 6.10 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 6.01 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 5.49 billion pounds, up 2 percent from July 2024. Mature chickens, at 63.8 million pounds, were down 12 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 536 million pounds, down 2 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 14.8 million pounds, up 10 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during July 2025 averaged 6.59 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from July 2024. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.93 pounds per bird, down 4 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during July 2025 averaged 31.0 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from July 2024.

Ante-mortem condemnations during July 2025 totaled 15.1 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.25 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.23 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 26.7 million pounds, were 0.57 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 0.58 percent a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	July 2024	June 2025	July 2025	July 2025 as % of		January to July		2025 as percent of 2024
				July 2024	June 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	825,627	789,676	833,338	101	106	5,508,809	5,536,122	100
Mature	10,017	8,145	9,211	92	113	67,621	60,796	90
Light	2,662	2,747	2,767	104	101	19,146	18,924	99
Heavy	7,355	5,398	6,444	88	119	48,475	41,872	86
Total	835,644	797,821	842,549	101	106	5,576,430	5,596,918	100
Turkeys								
Young	16,883	16,320	17,126	101	105	114,149	106,764	94
Old	164	141	159	97	113	1,005	1,085	108
Total	17,047	16,461	17,285	101	105	115,154	107,849	94
Ducks	1,932	1,948	2,168	112	111	14,730	14,249	97
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total live weight								
Chickens								
Young	5,378,878	5,204,474	5,489,260	102	105	35,917,521	36,500,932	102
Mature	72,553	55,621	63,822	88	115	475,022	418,423	88
Light	9,388	9,401	9,838	105	105	66,480	65,465	98
Heavy	63,165	46,220	53,984	85	117	408,542	352,958	86
Total	5,451,431	5,260,095	5,553,082	102	106	36,392,543	36,919,355	101
Turkeys								
Young	540,501	518,359	531,266	98	102	3,752,689	3,431,430	91
Old	4,930	4,184	5,026	102	120	30,801	33,054	107
Total	545,431	522,543	536,292	98	103	3,783,490	3,464,484	92
Ducks	13,517	13,676	14,825	110	108	104,640	99,984	96
Other ¹	399	173	275	69	159	1,402	1,310	93
Total	6,010,778	5,796,487	6,104,474	102	105	40,282,075	40,485,133	101
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
Average live weight								
Chickens								
Young	6.51	6.59	6.59	101	100	6.52	6.59	101
Mature	7.24	6.83	6.93	96	101	7.02	6.88	98
Light	3.53	3.42	3.56	101	104	3.47	3.46	100
Heavy	8.59	8.56	8.38	98	98	8.43	8.43	100
Total	6.52	6.59	6.59	101	100	6.53	6.60	101
Turkeys								
Young	32.01	31.76	31.02	97	98	32.88	32.14	98
Old	30.06	29.67	31.61	105	107	30.65	30.46	99
Total	32.00	31.74	31.03	97	98	32.86	32.12	98
Ducks	7.00	7.02	6.84	98	97	7.10	7.02	99

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

Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	July 2024	June 2025	July 2025	July 2025 as % of		January to July		2025 as percent of 2024
				July 2024	June 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	3,816,728	3,684,062	3,871,755	101	105	25,379,179	25,774,773	102
Mature	50,481	38,808	43,991	87	113	330,939	288,318	87
Light	4,920	4,976	5,273	107	106	35,124	34,814	99
Heavy	45,561	33,832	38,718	85	114	295,815	253,504	86
Total	3,867,209	3,722,870	3,915,746	101	105	25,710,118	26,063,091	101
Turkeys								
Young	268,438	251,860	261,695	97	104	1,888,710	1,703,403	90
Old	3,702	3,056	3,702	100	121	22,466	22,938	102
Total	272,140	254,916	265,397	98	104	1,911,176	1,726,341	90
Ducks	3,203	3,124	4,127	129	132	25,662	22,680	88
Other ¹	130	125	129	99	103	740	779	105
Total	4,142,682	3,981,035	4,185,399	101	105	27,647,696	27,812,891	101
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	255,815	254,427	274,259	107	108	1,778,356	1,821,171	102
Mature	-	-	124	(X)	(X)	-	129	(X)
Light	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	5	(X)
Heavy	-	-	124	(X)	(X)	-	124	(X)
Total	255,815	254,427	274,383	107	108	1,778,356	1,821,300	102
Turkeys								
Young	161,330	160,576	161,127	100	100	1,096,350	1,024,954	93
Old	68	134	73	107	54	991	2,237	226
Total	161,398	160,710	161,200	100	100	1,097,341	1,027,191	94
Ducks	6,618	6,871	7,315	111	106	50,828	51,081	100
Other ¹	137	-	42	31	(X)	228	107	47
Total	423,968	422,008	442,940	104	105	2,926,753	2,899,679	99
Chilled and frozen								
Chickens								
Young	4,072,543	3,938,489	4,146,014	102	105	27,157,535	27,595,944	102
Mature	50,481	38,808	44,115	87	114	330,939	288,447	87
Light	4,920	4,976	5,273	107	106	35,124	34,819	99
Heavy	45,561	33,832	38,842	85	115	295,815	253,628	86
Total	4,123,024	3,977,297	4,190,129	102	105	27,488,474	27,884,391	101
Turkeys								
Young	429,768	412,436	422,822	98	103	2,985,060	2,728,357	91
Old	3,770	3,190	3,775	100	118	23,457	25,175	107
Total	433,538	415,626	426,597	98	103	3,008,517	2,753,532	92
Ducks	9,821	9,995	11,442	117	114	76,490	73,761	96
Other ¹	267	125	171	64	137	968	886	92
Total	4,566,650	4,403,043	4,628,339	101	105	30,574,449	30,712,570	100

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	July 2024	June 2025	July 2025	July 2025 as % of		January to July		2025 as percent of 2024
				July 2024	June 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Live weight								
Chickens								
Young	10,651	10,396	11,855	111	114	69,227	73,293	106
Mature	893	772	770	86	100	5,721	5,798	101
Light	64	71	81	127	114	371	436	118
Heavy	829	701	689	83	98	5,350	5,362	100
Total	11,544	11,168	12,625	109	113	74,948	79,091	106
Turkeys								
Young	1,991	2,101	2,216	111	105	12,550	12,624	101
Old	58	44	71	122	161	298	269	90
Total	2,049	2,145	2,287	112	107	12,848	12,893	100
Ducks	117	132	140	120	106	666	682	102
Total ¹	13,711	13,446	15,053	110	112	88,463	92,669	105
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of live weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.20	0.20	0.22	110	110	0.19	0.20	105
Mature	1.23	1.39	1.21	98	87	1.20	1.39	116
Light	0.68	0.76	0.82	121	108	0.56	0.67	120
Heavy	1.31	1.52	1.28	98	84	1.31	1.52	116
Total	0.21	0.21	0.23	110	110	0.21	0.21	100
Turkeys								
Young	0.37	0.41	0.42	114	102	0.33	0.37	112
Old	1.18	1.05	1.41	119	134	0.97	0.81	84
Total	0.38	0.41	0.43	113	105	0.34	0.37	109
Ducks	0.87	0.97	0.94	108	97	0.64	0.68	106
Total ¹	0.23	0.23	0.25	109	109	0.22	0.23	105

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

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

Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally condemned and establishment sorted and removed]

Commodity	July 2024	June 2025	July 2025	July 2025 as % of		January to July		2025 as percent of 2024
				July 2024	June 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Carcass and parts								
Chickens								
Young	17,998	17,008	18,027	100	106	127,793	126,817	99
Mature	1,938	1,478	1,373	71	93	12,393	9,544	77
Light	395	374	429	109	115	2,746	2,642	96
Heavy	1,543	1,104	944	61	86	9,647	6,902	72
Total	19,936	18,486	19,400	97	105	140,186	136,361	97
Turkeys								
Young	6,413	6,130	6,681	104	109	44,313	41,482	94
Old	164	152	205	125	135	1,058	1,190	112
Total	6,577	6,282	6,886	105	110	45,371	42,672	94
Ducks	177	190	366	207	193	1,334	1,402	105
Other ¹	4	8	6	150	75	22	34	155
Total	26,694	24,966	26,658	100	107	186,913	180,469	97
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.44	0.43	0.43	98	100	0.47	0.46	98
Mature	3.70	3.67	3.02	82	82	3.61	3.20	89
Light	7.43	6.99	7.52	101	108	7.25	7.05	97
Heavy	3.28	3.16	2.37	72	75	3.16	2.65	84
Total	0.48	0.46	0.46	96	100	0.51	0.49	96
Turkeys								
Young	1.47	1.46	1.56	106	107	1.46	1.50	103
Old	4.17	4.55	5.15	124	113	4.32	4.51	104
Total	1.49	1.49	1.59	107	107	1.49	1.53	103
Ducks	1.77	1.87	3.10	175	166	1.71	1.87	109
Other ¹	1.48	6.02	3.39	229	56	2.22	3.70	167
Total	0.58	0.56	0.57	98	102	0.61	0.58	95

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

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

Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause and Type – United States: June and July 2025

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	-	-	220	118	39,930	35,630
Mature	-	-	4	36	63,845	73,128
Light	-	-	4	6	56,394	62,715
Heavy	-	-	-	30	7,451	10,413
Total	-	-	224	154	103,775	108,758
Turkeys						
Young	-	-	10	1	3,191	3,937
Old	-	-	-	-	576	1,283
Total	-	-	10	1	3,767	5,220
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	28,497	24,142	639	798	854	895
Mature	9,968	7,331	94	10	17,452	15,491
Light	3,499	4,531	8	6	14,091	12,958
Heavy	6,469	2,800	86	4	3,361	2,533
Total	38,465	31,473	733	808	18,306	16,386
Turkeys						
Young	2,195	1,877	41	47	63	21
Old	534	667	17	16	150	225
Total	2,729	2,544	58	63	213	246
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	1,548	1,827	492	521	17,830	28,395
Mature	4,888	4,379	126	76	17,532	13,206
Light	4,197	3,876	120	74	17,129	12,892
Heavy	691	503	6	2	403	314
Total	6,436	6,206	618	597	35,362	41,601
Turkeys						
Young	56	45	155	290	554	656
Old	11	11	8	4	55	143
Total	67	56	163	294	609	799
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	1,924	3,591	47,154	55,532	1,992,784	2,038,259
Mature	570	453	28,199	30,479	30,948	41,155
Light	194	445	21,018	30,466	-	-
Heavy	376	8	7,181	13	30,948	41,155
Total	2,494	4,044	75,353	86,011	2,023,732	2,079,414
Turkeys						
Young	66	72	3,555	3,262	72,296	101,190
Old	2	2	66	73	492	267
Total	68	74	3,621	3,335	72,788	101,457

- 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.

² Birds condemned with no cause given by federal inspectors and establishment sorters.

Young Chickens Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: June and July 2025

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	101,999	106,123	575,466	597,908	5.64	5.63
Arkansas	87,765	92,018	648,269	673,836	7.39	7.32
Delaware	31,779	32,691	239,054	250,822	7.52	7.67
Georgia	105,521	117,370	643,091	729,419	6.09	6.21
Illinois	78	63	502	416	6.40	6.61
Iowa	762	746	4,264	4,034	5.59	5.41
Kentucky	25,547	25,269	169,084	163,628	6.62	6.48
Louisiana	15,319	15,205	106,634	104,088	6.96	6.85
Maryland	11,824	12,321	77,293	78,048	6.54	6.33
Mississippi	61,743	65,477	419,413	430,299	6.79	6.57
Missouri	26,756	27,827	148,770	152,240	5.56	5.47
New Jersey	257	274	1,374	1,407	5.35	5.14
New York	3,041	3,245	15,449	16,843	5.08	5.19
North Carolina	76,117	80,614	638,637	669,319	8.39	8.30
Ohio	10,546	12,153	48,205	57,701	4.57	4.75
Oklahoma	8,629	9,118	68,587	74,105	7.95	8.13
Pennsylvania	15,338	15,333	87,595	88,047	5.71	5.74
South Carolina	25,325	25,770	184,542	190,596	7.29	7.40
Tennessee	33,302	36,555	204,596	222,723	6.14	6.09
Texas	60,468	63,004	397,551	435,319	6.57	6.91
Vermont	46	50	301	337	6.57	6.68
Virginia	24,099	25,124	154,162	158,482	6.40	6.31
United States	789,676	833,338	5,204,474	5,489,260	6.59	6.59

Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: June and July 2025

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified ¹		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent ²	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	442,694	459,007	1,592	1,545	0.36	0.34
Arkansas	495,231	513,918	2,098	2,740	0.42	0.53
Delaware	186,132	195,547	888	1,021	0.47	0.52
Georgia	487,834	550,971	1,947	2,257	0.40	0.41
Illinois	359	308	(Z)	(Z)	(X)	(X)
Iowa	3,090	2,924	104	84	3.24	2.79
Kentucky	128,462	123,631	887	911	0.69	0.73
Louisiana	77,741	75,526	418	418	0.54	0.55
Maryland	57,826	58,036	394	422	0.68	0.72
Mississippi	304,556	315,366	1,011	1,054	0.33	0.33
Missouri	108,313	110,754	286	300	0.26	0.27
New Jersey	1,026	1,166	17	21	1.64	1.79
New York	9,739	10,507	59	58	0.61	0.55
North Carolina	494,193	516,062	1,196	1,252	0.24	0.24
Ohio	36,145	43,255	172	170	0.47	0.39
Oklahoma	51,488	55,622	301	348	0.58	0.62
Pennsylvania	61,745	61,860	1,063	1,054	1.69	1.68
South Carolina	139,127	143,679	1,117	1,088	0.80	0.75
Tennessee	151,670	165,357	730	429	0.48	0.26
Texas	306,925	331,587	716	710	0.23	0.21
Vermont	226	253	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Virginia	116,134	120,102	302	286	0.26	0.24
United States	3,938,489	4,146,014	17,008	18,027	0.43	0.43

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Young Chickens Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause – States and United States: June and July 2025

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	297	320
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	1	2	5,099	5,009
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-	-	-	3
Texas	-	-	2	-	72	113
Virginia	-	-	-	-	1	-
United States	-	-	220	118	39,930	35,630

State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	193	234	49	29	-	-
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	1,406	1,009	28	4	106	127
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	1	1	-	-	-	-
Texas	10	10	3	2	6	1
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	28,497	24,142	639	798	854	895

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	200
Arkansas	22	11	-	-	51	192
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	45	37	9	15	286	341
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-	1	1	-
Texas	21	17	8	10	18	20
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	1,548	1,827	492	521	17,830	28,395

State	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	209,104	201,620
Arkansas	10	8	152	155	166,077	178,565
Delaware	-	-	-	-	31,634	81,803
Georgia	59	208	2,478	2,954	193,295	208,099
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	232,818	177,438
North Carolina	3	4	2	-	107,330	113,034
Texas	11	11	809	505	53,311	58,998
Virginia	-	-	-	-	211,596	143,590
United States	1,924	3,591	47,154	55,532	1,992,784	2,038,259

- 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.

² Birds condemned with no cause given by federal inspectors and establishment sorters.

Young Turkeys Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: June and July 2025

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California	180	135	3,405	2,741	18.87	20.27
Illinois	2	(Z)	25	4	13.61	31.02
Indiana	1,636	1,848	66,425	73,402	40.60	39.71
Iowa	1,106	1,084	48,151	49,210	43.53	45.38
Michigan	312	400	13,145	16,368	42.08	40.92
Minnesota	3,438	3,641	103,559	103,600	30.12	28.45
North Carolina	1,843	1,920	72,099	74,430	39.12	38.76
Ohio	548	626	24,552	27,060	44.81	43.26
Pennsylvania	559	651	17,505	18,559	31.29	28.51
South Carolina	529	576	21,146	24,088	40.00	41.83
Vermont	(Z)	3	(Z)	96	(Z)	31.02
Wisconsin	(Z)	1	(Z)	35	(Z)	30.50
United States	16,320	17,126	518,359	531,266	31.76	31.02

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: June and July 2025

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified ¹		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent ²	
	June	July	June	July	June	July
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	2,754	2,165	3	4	0.12	0.20
Illinois	19	3	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana	53,304	58,564	868	925	1.60	1.56
Iowa	37,781	38,612	606	589	1.58	1.50
Michigan	10,021	12,692	225	165	2.20	1.28
Minnesota	83,454	83,032	969	1,052	1.15	1.25
North Carolina	56,700	58,653	338	391	0.59	0.66
Ohio	19,621	21,624	395	445	1.98	2.02
Pennsylvania	13,575	14,497	317	412	2.28	2.76
South Carolina	15,494	17,659	524	642	3.27	3.51
Vermont	-	76	-	-	(X)	(X)
Wisconsin	(Z)	28	-	-	(X)	0.16
United States	412,436	422,822	6,130	6,681	1.46	1.56

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

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 federally condemned prior to entry into the slaughter plant which includes Dead-On-Arrival (DOA) and condemned for other causes.

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 of birds condemned includes federally inspected and establishment sorted 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 361 plants slaughtered poultry in the United States under Federal Inspection in 2024. Young chickens were slaughtered in 38 States, young turkeys in 30 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 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@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink, Trout	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses, Cold Storage.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov.
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- Cornell’s Mann Library website houses NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports at <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website and subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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