



Poultry Slaughter

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

August 2024 contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

August 2025 contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

Poultry certified wholesome during August 2025 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.48 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the amount certified in August 2024. The July 2025 revised certified total at 4.65 billion pounds, was up 2 percent from July 2024. The July revision represented an increase of 17.8 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of all federally inspected poultry during August 2025 was 5.90 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 5.98 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 5.30 billion pounds, down 1 percent from August 2024. Mature chickens, at 66.8 million pounds, were down 5 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 510 million pounds, down 7 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 14.5 million pounds, up 11 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during August 2025 averaged 6.65 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from August 2024. The average live weight of mature chickens was 7.26 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during August 2025 averaged 31.3 pounds per bird, down 3 percent from August 2024.

Ante-mortem condemnations during August 2025 totaled 12.8 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.22 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.22 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 25.9 million pounds, were 0.57 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 0.59 percent a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	August 2024	July 2025	August 2025	August 2025 as % of		January to August		2025 as percent of 2024
				August 2024	July 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	814,293	836,662	797,224	98	95	6,323,102	6,336,670	100
Mature	9,393	9,210	9,205	98	100	77,014	70,000	91
Light	1,948	2,766	2,668	137	96	21,094	21,591	102
Heavy	7,445	6,444	6,537	88	101	55,920	48,409	87
Total	823,686	845,872	806,429	98	95	6,400,116	6,406,670	100
Turkeys								
Young	16,804	17,165	16,117	96	94	130,953	122,920	94
Old	164	159	154	94	97	1,169	1,239	106
Total	16,968	17,324	16,271	96	94	132,122	124,159	94
Ducks	1,858	2,168	2,086	112	96	16,588	16,335	98
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total live weight								
Chickens								
Young	5,343,123	5,511,257	5,304,405	99	96	41,260,644	41,827,334	101
Mature	70,536	63,817	66,787	95	105	545,558	485,205	89
Light	6,725	9,833	9,323	139	95	73,205	74,783	102
Heavy	63,811	53,984	57,464	90	106	472,353	410,422	87
Total	5,413,659	5,575,074	5,371,192	99	96	41,806,202	42,312,539	101
Turkeys								
Young	542,838	531,823	505,180	93	95	4,295,527	3,937,167	92
Old	4,885	5,026	4,599	94	92	35,686	37,653	106
Total	547,723	536,849	509,779	93	95	4,331,213	3,974,820	92
Ducks	13,124	14,825	14,526	111	98	117,764	114,510	97
Other ¹	519	275	383	74	139	1,921	1,693	88
Total	5,975,025	6,127,023	5,895,880	99	96	46,257,100	46,403,562	100
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
Average live weight								
Chickens								
Young	6.56	6.59	6.65	101	101	6.53	6.60	101
Mature	7.51	6.93	7.26	97	105	7.08	6.93	98
Light	3.45	3.55	3.49	101	98	3.47	3.46	100
Heavy	8.57	8.38	8.79	103	105	8.45	8.48	100
Total	6.57	6.59	6.66	101	101	6.53	6.60	101
Turkeys								
Young	32.30	30.98	31.34	97	101	32.80	32.03	98
Old	29.79	31.61	29.86	100	94	30.53	30.39	100
Total	32.28	30.99	31.33	97	101	32.78	32.01	98
Ducks	7.06	6.84	6.96	99	102	7.10	7.01	99

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

Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	August 2024	July 2025	August 2025	August 2025 as % of		January to August		2025 as percent of 2024
				August 2024	July 2025	2024	2025	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	3,778,743	3,887,915	3,754,652	99	97	29,157,922	29,545,585	101
Mature	49,566	43,986	46,960	95	107	380,505	335,273	88
Light	3,679	5,268	4,949	135	94	38,803	39,758	102
Heavy	45,887	38,718	42,011	92	109	341,702	295,515	86
Total	3,828,309	3,931,901	3,801,612	99	97	29,538,427	29,880,858	101
Turkeys								
Young	274,158	261,778	248,538	91	95	2,162,868	1,952,024	90
Old	3,634	3,702	3,386	93	91	26,100	26,324	101
Total	277,792	265,480	251,924	91	95	2,188,968	1,978,348	90
Ducks	3,429	4,127	3,280	96	79	29,091	25,960	89
Other ¹	132	129	114	86	88	872	893	102
Total	4,109,662	4,201,637	4,056,930	99	97	31,757,358	31,886,059	100
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	259,933	275,430	266,242	102	97	2,038,289	2,088,584	102
Mature	-	124	124	(X)	100	-	253	(X)
Light	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	5	(X)
Heavy	-	124	124	(X)	100	-	248	(X)
Total	259,933	275,554	266,366	102	97	2,038,289	2,088,837	102
Turkeys								
Young	157,147	161,521	153,133	97	95	1,253,497	1,178,481	94
Old	91	73	84	92	115	1,082	2,321	215
Total	157,238	161,594	153,217	97	95	1,254,579	1,180,802	94
Ducks	6,200	7,315	7,238	117	99	57,028	58,319	102
Other ¹	196	42	115	59	274	424	222	52
Total	423,567	444,505	426,936	101	96	3,350,320	3,328,180	99
Chilled and frozen								
Chickens								
Young	4,038,676	4,163,345	4,020,894	100	97	31,196,211	31,634,169	101
Mature	49,566	44,110	47,084	95	107	380,505	335,526	88
Light	3,679	5,268	4,949	135	94	38,803	39,763	102
Heavy	45,887	38,842	42,135	92	108	341,702	295,763	87
Total	4,088,242	4,207,455	4,067,978	100	97	31,576,716	31,969,695	101
Turkeys								
Young	431,305	423,299	401,671	93	95	3,416,365	3,130,505	92
Old	3,725	3,775	3,470	93	92	27,182	28,645	105
Total	435,030	427,074	405,141	93	95	3,443,547	3,159,150	92
Ducks	9,629	11,442	10,518	109	92	86,119	84,279	98
Other ¹	328	171	229	70	134	1,296	1,115	86
Total	4,533,229	4,646,142	4,483,866	99	97	35,107,678	35,214,239	100

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	August 2024	July 2025	August 2025	August 2025 as % of		January to August		2025 as percent of 2024
				August 2024	July 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	10,240	11,909	10,093	99	85	79,467	83,440	105
Mature	805	770	805	100	105	6,526	6,603	101
Light	29	81	73	252	90	400	509	127
Heavy	776	689	732	94	106	6,126	6,094	99
Total	11,045	12,679	10,898	99	86	85,993	90,043	105
Turkeys								
Young	1,979	2,216	1,717	87	77	14,529	14,341	99
Old	36	71	23	64	32	334	292	87
Total	2,015	2,287	1,740	86	76	14,863	14,633	98
Ducks	93	140	119	128	85	759	801	106
Total ¹	13,154	15,107	12,759	97	84	101,617	105,482	104
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of live weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.19	0.22	0.19	100	86	0.19	0.20	105
Mature	1.14	1.21	1.21	106	100	1.20	1.36	113
Light	0.43	0.82	0.78	181	95	0.55	0.68	124
Heavy	1.22	1.28	1.27	104	99	1.30	1.48	114
Total	0.20	0.23	0.20	100	87	0.21	0.21	100
Turkeys								
Young	0.36	0.42	0.34	94	81	0.34	0.36	106
Old	0.74	1.41	0.50	68	35	0.94	0.78	83
Total	0.37	0.43	0.34	92	79	0.34	0.37	109
Ducks	0.71	0.94	0.82	115	87	0.64	0.70	109
Total ¹	0.22	0.25	0.22	100	88	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	August 2024	July 2025	August 2025	August 2025 as % of		January to August		2025 as percent of 2024
				August 2024	July 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	17,866	18,151	17,467	98	96	145,659	144,408	99
Mature	1,803	1,373	1,376	76	100	14,196	10,920	77
Light	258	429	416	161	97	3,004	3,058	102
Heavy	1,545	944	960	62	102	11,192	7,862	70
Total	19,669	19,524	18,843	96	97	159,855	155,328	97
Turkeys								
Young	6,670	6,686	6,464	97	97	50,983	47,951	94
Old	161	205	252	157	123	1,219	1,442	118
Total	6,831	6,891	6,716	98	97	52,202	49,393	95
Ducks	183	366	352	192	96	1,517	1,754	116
Other ¹	4	6	5	125	83	26	39	150
Total	26,687	26,787	25,916	97	97	213,600	206,514	97
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.44	0.43	0.43	98	100	0.46	0.45	98
Mature	3.51	3.02	2.84	81	94	3.60	3.15	88
Light	6.55	7.53	7.75	118	103	7.19	7.14	99
Heavy	3.26	2.37	2.23	68	94	3.17	2.59	82
Total	0.48	0.46	0.46	96	100	0.50	0.48	96
Turkeys								
Young	1.52	1.55	1.58	104	102	1.47	1.51	103
Old	4.14	5.15	6.77	164	131	4.29	4.79	112
Total	1.55	1.59	1.63	105	103	1.49	1.54	103
Ducks	1.87	3.10	3.24	173	105	1.73	2.04	118
Other ¹	1.20	3.39	2.14	178	63	1.97	3.38	172
Total	0.59	0.57	0.57	97	100	0.60	0.58	97

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: July and August 2025

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	-	-	118	348	35,827	37,402
Mature	-	-	36	16	73,127	77,668
Light	-	-	6	16	62,714	68,187
Heavy	-	-	30	-	10,413	9,481
Total	-	-	154	364	108,954	115,070
Turkeys						
Young	-	-	1	6	3,899	4,188
Old	-	-	-	-	1,283	1,339
Total	-	-	1	6	5,182	5,527
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	24,240	18,903	798	729	901	773
Mature	7,331	3,986	10	7	15,491	14,158
Light	4,531	3,984	6	7	12,958	14,139
Heavy	2,800	2	4	-	2,533	19
Total	31,571	22,889	808	736	16,392	14,931
Turkeys						
Young	1,875	1,688	47	79	20	298
Old	667	1,204	16	15	225	292
Total	2,542	2,892	63	94	245	590
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	1,829	2,011	520	533	28,257	37,465
Mature	4,376	4,303	76	124	13,205	13,853
Light	3,873	4,303	74	124	12,891	13,851
Heavy	503	-	2	-	314	2
Total	6,205	6,314	596	657	41,462	51,318
Turkeys						
Young	44	90	290	181	655	960
Old	11	14	4	6	143	196
Total	55	104	294	187	798	1,156
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	3,590	2,328	55,603	60,206	2,047,213	1,869,778
Mature	453	183	30,478	35,870	41,155	64,028
Light	445	183	30,465	35,852	-	-
Heavy	8	-	13	18	41,155	64,028
Total	4,043	2,511	86,081	96,076	2,088,368	1,933,806
Turkeys						
Young	72	94	3,254	4,178	101,190	78,050
Old	2	-	73	102	267	214
Total	74	94	3,327	4,280	101,457	78,264

- 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: July and August 2025

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	106,787	99,298	601,748	558,752	5.64	5.63
Arkansas	92,108	87,312	675,127	642,994	7.33	7.36
Delaware	32,873	32,656	251,910	250,887	7.66	7.68
Georgia	117,572	109,906	730,920	681,123	6.22	6.20
Illinois	67	57	435	369	6.52	6.45
Iowa	746	753	4,034	4,177	5.41	5.54
Kentucky	25,474	25,610	164,677	186,915	6.46	7.30
Louisiana	15,205	14,338	104,088	99,215	6.85	6.92
Maryland	12,321	11,970	78,048	79,027	6.33	6.60
Mississippi	65,477	61,282	430,299	412,001	6.57	6.72
Missouri	27,827	26,656	152,240	147,080	5.47	5.52
New Jersey	274	234	1,407	1,264	5.14	5.39
New York	3,359	3,109	17,428	16,043	5.19	5.16
North Carolina	80,765	78,699	672,196	649,190	8.32	8.25
Ohio	12,153	12,051	57,701	57,718	4.75	4.79
Oklahoma	9,118	8,180	74,105	66,674	8.13	8.15
Pennsylvania	15,656	14,101	89,856	83,550	5.74	5.93
South Carolina	25,770	24,772	190,596	179,607	7.40	7.25
Tennessee	36,555	31,547	222,723	195,504	6.09	6.20
Texas	63,138	61,636	435,838	428,899	6.90	6.96
Vermont	50	46	337	303	6.68	6.64
Virginia	25,124	25,775	158,482	167,973	6.31	6.52
United States	836,662	797,224	5,511,257	5,304,405	6.59	6.65

Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: July and August 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	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	462,272	429,442	1,555	1,395	0.34	0.32
Arkansas	514,454	491,841	2,752	1,990	0.53	0.40
Delaware	196,362	201,702	1,022	869	0.52	0.43
Georgia	552,329	515,852	2,260	2,109	0.41	0.41
Illinois	322	275	(Z)	(Z)	(X)	(X)
Iowa	2,924	3,028	84	104	2.79	3.33
Kentucky	124,493	143,268	916	876	0.73	0.61
Louisiana	75,526	72,558	418	495	0.55	0.68
Maryland	58,036	58,934	422	506	0.72	0.85
Mississippi	315,366	301,858	1,054	1,023	0.33	0.34
Missouri	110,754	107,393	300	527	0.27	0.49
New Jersey	1,166	939	21	17	1.79	1.75
New York	10,827	11,281	59	71	0.54	0.62
North Carolina	519,343	499,873	1,279	1,381	0.25	0.28
Ohio	43,255	43,264	170	202	0.39	0.47
Oklahoma	55,622	50,066	348	280	0.62	0.56
Pennsylvania	63,018	59,011	1,061	950	1.66	1.58
South Carolina	143,679	134,068	1,088	1,026	0.75	0.76
Tennessee	165,357	144,802	429	412	0.26	0.28
Texas	331,977	328,973	712	679	0.21	0.21
Vermont	253	228	-	-	(X)	(X)
Virginia	120,102	127,551	286	303	0.24	0.24
United States	4,163,345	4,020,894	18,151	17,467	0.43	0.43

- 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.

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

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	320	118
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	2	42	5,132	6,251
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-	-	3	-
Texas	-	-	-	-	113	139
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	-	-	118	348	35,827	37,402
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	234	79	29	46	-	-
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	1,044	1,264	4	5	128	138
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	1	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	10	14	2	-	1	1
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	24,240	18,903	798	729	901	773
State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas	11	6	-	-	192	230
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	37	83	15	18	343	479
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	1	-	-	-
Texas	17	12	10	11	20	26
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States	1,829	2,011	520	533	28,257	37,465
State	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	-	-	201,877	193,812
Arkansas	8	3	155	92	178,411	147,943
Delaware	-	-	-	-	81,803	83,032
Georgia	208	104	3,001	3,437	208,099	193,765
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	177,438	152,124
North Carolina	4	7	-	1	113,244	108,242
Texas	11	5	505	38	59,438	54,793
Virginia	-	-	-	-	143,590	152,626
United States	3,590	2,328	55,603	60,206	2,047,213	1,869,778

- 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: July and August 2025

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California	139	119	2,845	2,563	20.54	21.59
Illinois	(Z)	2	4	36	31.02	20.83
Indiana	1,848	1,845	73,402	73,330	39.71	39.74
Iowa	1,084	1,055	49,210	47,660	45.38	45.19
Michigan	400	378	16,368	15,663	40.92	41.42
Minnesota	3,676	3,686	104,053	104,652	28.31	28.39
North Carolina	1,920	1,877	74,430	70,868	38.76	37.75
Ohio	626	581	27,060	25,062	43.26	43.16
Pennsylvania	651	621	18,559	17,701	28.51	28.53
South Carolina	576	521	24,088	21,921	41.83	42.04
Vermont	3	3	96	97	31.02	31.35
Wisconsin	1	1	35	20	30.50	31.06
United States	17,165	16,117	531,823	505,180	30.98	31.34

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: July and August 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	
	July	August	July	August	July	August
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	2,248	2,044	5	6	0.20	0.27
Illinois	3	25	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana	58,564	58,857	925	974	1.56	1.63
Iowa	38,612	37,407	589	556	1.50	1.47
Michigan	12,692	12,139	165	172	1.28	1.40
Minnesota	83,426	84,175	1,056	1,258	1.25	1.47
North Carolina	58,653	55,918	391	338	0.66	0.60
Ohio	21,624	19,845	445	415	2.02	2.05
Pennsylvania	14,497	13,876	412	381	2.76	2.67
South Carolina	17,659	16,185	642	476	3.51	2.86
Vermont	76	77	-	-	(X)	(X)
Wisconsin	28	16	(Z)	(Z)	0.16	0.25
United States	423,299	401,671	6,686	6,464	1.55	1.58

- 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.
- The national specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- 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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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Fall 2025

USDA Data Users' Meeting

October 21

1 p.m. CT

West Des Moines, IA



USDA Fall Data Users' Meeting Join Us Online or in West Des Moines October 21, 2025

Iowa Farm Bureau Facility
5400 University Avenue
West Des Moines, IA 50266

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2025 Fall Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.