



# Poultry Slaughter

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## Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 6 Percent from Last Year

**April 2025** contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**April 2026** contained 22 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**Poultry certified wholesome** during April 2026 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.62 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the amount certified in April 2025. The March 2026 revised certified total at 4.66 billion pounds, was up 10 percent from March 2025. The March revision represented an increase of 11.8 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

**The preliminary total live weight** of all federally inspected poultry during April 2026 was 6.07 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 5.76 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 5.48 billion pounds, up 5 percent from April 2025. Mature chickens, at 68.7 million pounds, were up 17 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 511 million pounds, up 10 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 13.1 million pounds, down 7 percent from last year.

**Young chickens slaughtered** during April 2026 averaged 6.63 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from April 2025. The average live weight of mature chickens was 7.15 pounds per bird, up 7 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during April 2026 averaged 34.3 pounds per bird, up 13 percent from April 2025.

**Ante-mortem condemnations** during April 2026 totaled 11.8 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.19 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.22 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 27.4 million pounds, were 0.59 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 0.60 percent a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		2026 as percent of 2025
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
<b>Slaughtered</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	796,496	831,698	825,555	104	99	3,119,054	3,212,631	103
Mature .....	8,742	9,564	9,616	110	101	34,323	36,629	107
Light .....	2,974	2,438	2,646	89	109	11,018	10,317	94
Heavy .....	5,768	7,126	6,970	121	98	23,305	26,312	113
Total .....	805,238	841,262	835,171	104	99	3,153,377	3,249,260	103
Turkeys								
Young .....	15,159	15,941	14,638	97	92	58,185	59,853	103
Old .....	150	156	248	165	159	625	719	115
Total .....	15,309	16,097	14,886	97	92	58,810	60,572	103
Ducks .....	1,973	2,066	1,806	92	87	8,001	7,597	95
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Total live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	5,219,623	5,495,430	5,476,494	105	100	20,529,551	21,321,327	104
Mature .....	58,664	69,596	68,730	117	99	233,341	259,665	111
Light .....	10,309	8,602	9,011	87	105	37,983	35,983	95
Heavy .....	48,355	60,994	59,719	124	98	195,358	223,682	114
Total .....	5,278,287	5,565,026	5,545,224	105	100	20,762,892	21,580,992	104
Turkeys								
Young .....	460,446	544,829	502,957	109	92	1,889,052	2,034,743	108
Old .....	4,352	4,824	7,632	175	158	18,714	22,540	120
Total .....	464,798	549,653	510,589	110	93	1,907,766	2,057,283	108
Ducks .....	14,097	14,558	13,115	93	90	56,436	54,393	96
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	187	162	143	76	88	677	636	94
Total .....	5,757,369	6,129,399	6,069,071	105	99	22,727,771	23,693,304	104
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
<b>Average live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	6.55	6.61	6.63	101	100	6.58	6.64	101
Mature .....	6.71	7.28	7.15	107	98	6.80	7.09	104
Light .....	3.47	3.53	3.41	98	97	3.45	3.49	101
Heavy .....	8.38	8.56	8.57	102	100	8.38	8.50	101
Total .....	6.55	6.62	6.64	101	100	6.58	6.64	101
Turkeys								
Young .....	30.37	34.18	34.36	113	101	32.47	34.00	105
Old .....	29.01	30.92	30.77	106	100	29.94	31.35	105
Total .....	30.36	34.15	34.30	113	100	32.44	33.96	105
Ducks .....	7.14	7.05	7.26	102	103	7.05	7.16	102

<sup>1</sup> Includes geese, guineas, ostriches, emus, rheas, and squab.

## Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		2026 as percent of 2025
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Chilled</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,697,776	3,903,521	3,896,558	105	100	14,513,911	15,126,108	104
Mature .....	40,178	50,209	48,163	120	96	158,962	183,596	115
Light .....	5,439	4,522	4,619	85	102	20,075	18,571	93
Heavy .....	34,739	45,687	43,544	125	95	138,887	165,025	119
Total .....	3,737,954	3,953,730	3,944,721	106	100	14,672,873	15,309,704	104
Turkeys								
Young .....	218,489	270,590	240,987	110	89	941,282	992,412	105
Old .....	3,261	3,201	5,715	175	179	12,344	16,135	131
Total .....	221,750	273,791	246,702	111	90	953,626	1,008,547	106
Ducks .....	3,000	3,130	2,950	98	94	12,341	12,395	100
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	107	117	103	96	88	405	436	108
Total .....	3,962,811	4,230,768	4,194,476	106	99	15,639,245	16,331,082	104
<b>Frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	257,593	261,909	262,210	102	100	1,012,635	1,034,467	102
Mature .....	-	93	110	(X)	118	-	203	(X)
Light .....	-	-	77	(X)	(X)	-	77	(X)
Heavy .....	-	93	33	(X)	35	-	126	(X)
Total .....	257,593	262,002	262,320	102	100	1,012,635	1,034,670	102
Turkeys								
Young .....	149,081	163,395	159,572	107	98	560,840	627,434	112
Old .....	55	448	99	180	22	1,934	918	47
Total .....	149,136	163,843	159,671	107	97	562,774	628,352	112
Ducks .....	7,350	7,550	6,677	91	88	28,994	27,659	95
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	16	-	1	6	(X)	55	1	2
Total .....	414,095	433,395	428,669	104	99	1,604,458	1,690,682	105
<b>Chilled and frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,955,369	4,165,430	4,158,768	105	100	15,526,546	16,160,575	104
Mature .....	40,178	50,302	48,273	120	96	158,962	183,799	116
Light .....	5,439	4,522	4,696	86	104	20,075	18,648	93
Heavy .....	34,739	45,780	43,577	125	95	138,887	165,151	119
Total .....	3,995,547	4,215,732	4,207,041	105	100	15,685,508	16,344,374	104
Turkeys								
Young .....	367,570	433,985	400,559	109	92	1,502,122	1,619,846	108
Old .....	3,316	3,649	5,814	175	159	14,278	17,053	119
Total .....	370,886	437,634	406,373	110	93	1,516,400	1,636,899	108
Ducks .....	10,350	10,680	9,627	93	90	41,335	40,054	97
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	123	117	104	85	89	460	437	95
Total .....	4,376,906	4,664,163	4,623,145	106	99	17,243,703	18,021,764	105

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

## Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		2026 as percent of 2025
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	9,896	10,033	9,232	93	92	41,646	40,007	96
Mature .....	855	703	775	91	110	3,115	3,002	96
Light .....	70	78	81	116	104	246	305	124
Heavy .....	785	625	694	88	111	2,869	2,697	94
Total .....	10,751	10,736	10,007	93	93	44,761	43,009	96
Turkeys								
Young .....	1,527	1,898	1,680	110	89	6,779	7,104	105
Old .....	32	37	43	134	116	130	150	115
Total .....	1,559	1,935	1,723	111	89	6,909	7,254	105
Ducks .....	70	81	79	113	98	331	340	103
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	12,381	12,752	11,809	95	93	52,002	50,603	97
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of live weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	0.19	0.18	0.17	89	94	0.20	0.19	95
Mature .....	1.46	1.01	1.13	77	112	1.33	1.16	87
Light .....	0.68	0.91	0.90	132	99	0.65	0.85	131
Heavy .....	1.62	1.02	1.16	72	114	1.47	1.21	82
Total .....	0.20	0.19	0.18	90	95	0.22	0.20	91
Turkeys								
Young .....	0.33	0.35	0.33	100	94	0.36	0.35	97
Old .....	0.74	0.77	0.56	76	73	0.69	0.67	97
Total .....	0.34	0.35	0.34	100	97	0.36	0.35	97
Ducks .....	0.50	0.56	0.60	120	107	0.59	0.63	107
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	0.22	0.21	0.19	86	90	0.23	0.21	91

<sup>1</sup> Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

<sup>2</sup> 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	April 2025	March 2026	April 2026	April 2026 as % of		January to April		2026 as percent of 2025
				April 2025	March 2026	2025	2026	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Carcass and parts</b>								
<b>Chickens</b>								
Young .....	18,954	18,533	18,383	97	99	74,586	73,832	99
Mature .....	1,329	1,324	1,527	115	115	5,327	5,674	107
Light .....	443	301	384	87	128	1,536	1,491	97
Heavy .....	886	1,023	1,143	129	112	3,791	4,183	110
Total .....	20,283	19,857	19,910	98	100	79,913	79,506	99
<b>Turkeys</b>								
Young .....	5,726	6,415	6,938	121	108	23,146	25,236	109
Old .....	158	228	295	187	129	642	948	148
Total .....	5,884	6,643	7,233	123	109	23,788	26,184	110
Ducks .....	162	153	209	129	137	680	640	94
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	7	2	2	29	100	17	8	47
Total .....	26,336	26,655	27,354	104	103	104,398	106,338	102
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
<b>Chickens</b>								
Young .....	0.48	0.44	0.44	92	100	0.48	0.45	94
Mature .....	3.20	2.56	3.07	96	120	3.24	2.99	92
Light .....	7.53	6.24	7.56	100	121	7.11	7.40	104
Heavy .....	2.49	2.19	2.56	103	117	2.66	2.47	93
Total .....	0.51	0.47	0.47	92	100	0.51	0.48	94
<b>Turkeys</b>								
Young .....	1.53	1.46	1.70	111	116	1.52	1.53	101
Old .....	4.55	5.88	4.83	106	82	4.30	5.27	123
Total .....	1.56	1.50	1.75	112	117	1.54	1.57	102
Ducks .....	1.54	1.41	2.12	138	150	1.62	1.57	97
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	5.38	1.68	1.89	35	113	3.56	1.80	51
Total .....	0.60	0.57	0.59	98	104	0.60	0.59	98

<sup>1</sup> Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as a percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

## Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause and Type – United States: March and April 2026

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	-	-	213	287	26,777	26,786
Mature .....	-	-	20	9	49,166	74,931
Light .....	-	-	15	9	39,266	66,983
Heavy .....	-	-	5	-	9,900	7,948
Total .....	-	-	233	296	75,943	101,717
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	-	-	2	1	3,668	2,163
Old .....	-	-	-	-	1,137	1,715
Total .....	-	-	2	1	4,805	3,878
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	63,851	66,717	518	482	340	307
Mature .....	2,111	2,085	13	28	10,134	10,419
Light .....	2,111	2,085	11	26	10,104	10,366
Heavy .....	-	-	2	2	30	53
Total .....	65,962	68,802	531	510	10,474	10,726
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	1,777	1,439	42	23	39	15
Old .....	1,176	1,126	68	53	124	290
Total .....	2,953	2,565	110	76	163	305
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	2,109	1,748	693	671	21,304	21,084
Mature .....	2,795	1,925	80	64	9,139	15,712
Light .....	2,789	1,922	71	57	9,136	15,708
Heavy .....	6	3	9	7	3	4
Total .....	4,904	3,673	773	735	30,443	36,796
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	131	134	301	239	369	441
Old .....	27	40	9	11	239	285
Total .....	158	174	310	250	608	726
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	1,083	682	67,895	43,292	2,262,039	2,277,777
Mature .....	250	314	25,667	17,824	43,106	59,570
Light .....	245	313	25,649	17,801	-	-
Heavy .....	5	1	18	23	43,106	59,570
Total .....	1,333	996	93,562	61,116	2,305,145	2,337,347
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	13	37	2,689	6,162	71,541	57,353
Old .....	1	41	113	118	103	265
Total .....	14	78	2,802	6,280	71,644	57,618

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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: March and April 2026

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	102,268	104,028	543,865	569,687	5.32	5.48
Arkansas .....	90,700	90,533	667,967	661,121	7.36	7.30
Delaware .....	33,134	31,955	260,332	253,528	7.86	7.93
Georgia .....	112,368	108,687	697,066	683,963	6.20	6.29
Illinois .....	48	56	307	360	6.35	6.41
Kentucky .....	25,776	27,122	177,548	183,868	6.89	6.78
Louisiana .....	13,879	14,844	98,006	101,122	7.06	6.81
Maryland .....	12,017	12,110	82,047	81,864	6.83	6.76
Mississippi .....	64,777	62,596	436,512	414,805	6.74	6.63
Missouri .....	28,439	28,074	155,697	153,301	5.47	5.46
New Jersey .....	246	226	1,306	1,240	5.30	5.49
New York .....	3,706	3,035	18,752	15,507	5.06	5.11
North Carolina .....	82,326	79,624	685,501	660,087	8.33	8.29
Ohio .....	10,805	11,222	51,636	55,591	4.78	4.95
Oklahoma .....	9,193	9,317	72,817	74,320	7.92	7.98
Pennsylvania .....	17,970	15,708	101,701	90,452	5.66	5.76
South Carolina .....	25,332	24,953	190,747	188,682	7.53	7.56
Tennessee .....	34,899	34,283	210,588	206,115	6.03	6.01
Texas .....	63,455	69,273	448,167	490,151	7.06	7.08
Vermont .....	47	44	308	294	6.59	6.68
Virginia .....	28,587	26,959	174,854	163,799	6.12	6.08
United States .....	831,698	825,555	5,495,430	5,476,494	6.61	6.63

## Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: March and April 2026

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama .....	419,840	438,412	1,495	1,452	0.35	0.33
Arkansas .....	508,876	508,550	1,522	1,437	0.30	0.28
Delaware .....	208,623	202,924	1,227	1,088	0.58	0.53
Georgia .....	524,280	517,831	2,579	2,718	0.49	0.52
Illinois .....	228	269	-	-	(X)	(X)
Kentucky .....	135,174	140,590	713	693	0.52	0.49
Louisiana .....	71,765	74,337	554	581	0.77	0.78
Maryland .....	61,463	61,389	637	629	1.03	1.01
Mississippi .....	324,259	305,173	723	677	0.22	0.22
Missouri .....	113,601	111,959	328	307	0.29	0.27
New Jersey .....	969	916	30	18	2.98	1.96
New York .....	11,986	9,755	78	93	0.65	0.95
North Carolina .....	528,698	510,649	1,341	1,921	0.25	0.37
Ohio .....	38,796	41,657	142	141	0.36	0.34
Oklahoma .....	54,807	55,926	321	252	0.58	0.45
Pennsylvania .....	72,133	63,637	1,411	1,150	1.92	1.77
South Carolina .....	143,371	142,132	1,123	1,122	0.78	0.78
Tennessee .....	155,641	152,404	480	566	0.31	0.37
Texas .....	345,674	376,837	735	756	0.21	0.20
Vermont .....	232	222	-	-	(X)	(X)
Virginia .....	132,383	124,155	266	267	0.20	0.21
United States .....	4,165,430	4,158,768	18,533	18,383	0.44	0.44

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

# Young Chickens Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause – States and United States: March and April 2026

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas .....	-	-	-	-	107	439
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia .....	-	-	-	-	3,683	2,587
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	3	4
Texas .....	-	-	23	32	400	170
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States .....	-	-	213	287	26,777	26,786
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas .....	49	105	3	12	-	-
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia .....	5,252	5,546	-	-	84	89
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	3	-	-	-	-	-
Texas .....	21	6	6	2	8	3
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States .....	63,851	66,717	518	482	340	307
State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arkansas .....	-	-	-	-	153	55
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia .....	131	169	16	19	695	1,078
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	1	2	-	-	-	-
Texas .....	33	21	15	11	12	7
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States .....	2,109	1,748	693	671	21,304	21,084
State	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	-	-	225,880	203,860
Arkansas .....	-	-	33	53	121,831	104,998
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	136,530	123,436
Georgia .....	11	46	18,422	5,130	273,781	322,452
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	108,765	102,009
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	125,033	120,224
Texas .....	6	-	1,360	799	62,157	57,866
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	273,002	286,374
United States .....	1,083	682	67,895	43,292	2,262,039	2,277,777

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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: March and April 2026

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California .....	90	80	2,184	2,302	24.28	28.86
Illinois .....	(Z)	(Z)	6	9	32.56	31.13
Indiana .....	1,953	1,619	87,334	71,804	44.72	44.36
Iowa .....	1,140	1,163	54,950	55,402	48.22	47.63
Michigan .....	316	325	14,576	15,234	46.12	46.87
Minnesota .....	3,364	3,174	99,964	95,035	29.71	29.94
North Carolina .....	1,869	1,888	78,676	78,821	42.10	41.74
Ohio .....	626	582	29,139	27,338	46.52	46.94
Pennsylvania .....	643	584	19,020	17,268	29.59	29.56
South Carolina .....	644	610	28,443	25,588	44.20	41.92
Vermont .....	-	-	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Wisconsin .....	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)	15.00	26.14
United States .....	15,941	14,638	544,829	502,957	34.18	34.36

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

## Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: March and April 2026

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	March	April	March	April	March	April
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California .....	1,745	1,838	3	4	0.15	0.21
Illinois .....	5	7	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana .....	71,048	58,364	995	815	1.38	1.38
Iowa .....	43,266	43,492	683	746	1.55	1.69
Michigan .....	11,295	11,786	181	86	1.58	0.72
Minnesota .....	79,963	75,955	817	877	1.01	1.14
North Carolina .....	61,546	62,244	367	355	0.59	0.57
Ohio .....	23,115	21,862	448	334	1.90	1.51
Pennsylvania .....	14,985	13,645	373	279	2.43	2.01
South Carolina .....	21,249	19,358	580	422	2.66	2.13
Vermont .....	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
Wisconsin .....	(Z)	(Z)	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States .....	433,985	400,559	6,415	6,938	1.46	1.70

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> 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 359 plants slaughtered poultry in the United States under Federal Inspection in 2025. Young chickens were slaughtered in 40 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 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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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, 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
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

## Access to NASS Reports

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- The national specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://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.
- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist [notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov](mailto:notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov) 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](mailto: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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist).

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