



# Poultry Slaughter

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

**September 2023** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

**September 2024** contained 21 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**Poultry certified wholesome** during September 2024 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.36 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the amount certified in September 2023. The August 2024 revised certified total at 4.53 billion pounds, was down 4 percent from August 2023. The August revision represented an increase of 14.5 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

**The preliminary total live weight** of all federally inspected poultry during September 2024 was 5.74 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 5.66 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 5.14 billion pounds, up 2 percent from September 2023. Mature chickens, at 67.5 million pounds, were down 3 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 521 million pounds, down 4 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 14.5 million pounds, down 12 percent from last year.

**Young chickens slaughtered** during September 2024 averaged 6.68 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from September 2023. The average live weight of mature chickens was 7.17 pounds per bird, up 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2024 averaged 33.0 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from September 2023.

**Ante-mortem condemnations** during September 2024 totaled 11.4 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.20 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.21 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 25.6 million pounds, were 0.58 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 0.54 percent a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024	September 2024 as % of		January to September		2024 as percent of 2023
				September 2023	August 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
<b>Slaughtered</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	761,367	814,293	769,665	101	95	7,070,012	7,092,565	100
Mature .....	9,804	9,393	9,411	96	100	91,820	86,425	94
Light .....	2,548	1,948	2,504	98	129	25,801	23,598	91
Heavy .....	7,256	7,445	6,907	95	93	66,019	62,827	95
Total .....	771,171	823,686	779,076	101	95	7,161,832	7,178,990	100
Turkeys								
Young .....	17,050	16,804	15,548	91	93	159,709	146,501	92
Old .....	168	164	246	146	150	1,496	1,415	95
Total .....	17,218	16,968	15,794	92	93	161,205	147,916	92
Ducks .....	2,331	1,858	2,036	87	110	20,941	18,624	89
	(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 .....	5,034,925	5,343,123	5,138,737	102	96	46,025,447	46,397,001	101
Mature .....	69,794	70,536	67,477	97	96	642,901	613,035	95
Light .....	8,922	6,725	8,544	96	127	90,684	81,749	90
Heavy .....	60,872	63,811	58,933	97	92	552,217	531,286	96
Total .....	5,104,719	5,413,659	5,206,214	102	96	46,668,348	47,010,036	101
Turkeys								
Young .....	538,223	542,838	512,949	95	94	5,111,102	4,808,476	94
Old .....	4,955	4,885	7,653	154	157	44,963	43,339	96
Total .....	543,178	547,723	520,602	96	95	5,156,065	4,851,815	94
Ducks .....	16,572	13,124	14,542	88	111	148,371	132,306	89
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	354	519	440	124	85	2,256	2,361	105
Total .....	5,664,823	5,975,025	5,741,798	101	96	51,975,040	51,996,518	100
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
<b>Average live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	6.61	6.56	6.68	101	102	6.51	6.54	100
Mature .....	7.12	7.51	7.17	101	95	7.00	7.09	101
Light .....	3.50	3.45	3.41	97	99	3.51	3.46	99
Heavy .....	8.39	8.57	8.53	102	100	8.36	8.46	101
Total .....	6.62	6.57	6.68	101	102	6.52	6.55	100
Turkeys								
Young .....	31.57	32.30	32.99	104	102	32.00	32.82	103
Old .....	29.49	29.79	31.11	105	104	30.06	30.63	102
Total .....	31.55	32.28	32.96	104	102	31.98	32.80	103
Ducks .....	7.11	7.06	7.14	100	101	7.09	7.10	100

<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	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024	September 2024 as % of		January to September		2024 as percent of 2023
				September 2023	August 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Chilled</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,549,431	3,778,743	3,626,252	102	96	32,473,315	32,782,186	101
Mature .....	49,274	49,566	46,982	95	95	450,583	427,487	95
Light .....	4,730	3,679	4,515	95	123	47,858	43,318	91
Heavy .....	44,544	45,887	42,467	95	93	402,725	384,169	95
Total .....	3,598,705	3,828,309	3,673,234	102	96	32,923,898	33,209,673	101
Turkeys								
Young .....	272,342	274,158	257,774	95	94	2,579,033	2,420,642	94
Old .....	3,678	3,634	5,238	142	144	29,756	31,338	105
Total .....	276,020	277,792	263,012	95	95	2,608,789	2,451,980	94
Ducks .....	5,203	3,429	3,975	76	116	37,264	33,066	89
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	134	132	124	93	94	1,151	996	87
Total .....	3,880,062	4,109,662	3,940,345	102	96	35,571,102	35,695,715	100
<b>Frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	257,088	259,933	263,556	103	101	2,302,728	2,302,017	100
Mature .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Light .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Heavy .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Total .....	257,088	259,933	263,556	103	101	2,302,728	2,302,017	100
Turkeys								
Young .....	155,151	157,147	149,772	97	95	1,500,704	1,403,269	94
Old .....	150	91	595	397	654	4,835	1,677	35
Total .....	155,301	157,238	150,367	97	96	1,505,539	1,404,946	93
Ducks .....	7,054	6,200	6,736	95	109	70,723	63,764	90
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	97	196	160	165	82	398	584	147
Total .....	419,540	423,567	420,819	100	99	3,879,388	3,771,311	97
<b>Chilled and frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,806,519	4,038,676	3,889,808	102	96	34,776,043	35,084,203	101
Mature .....	49,274	49,566	46,982	95	95	450,583	427,487	95
Light .....	4,730	3,679	4,515	95	123	47,858	43,318	91
Heavy .....	44,544	45,887	42,467	95	93	402,725	384,169	95
Total .....	3,855,793	4,088,242	3,936,790	102	96	35,226,626	35,511,690	101
Turkeys								
Young .....	427,493	431,305	407,546	95	94	4,079,737	3,823,911	94
Old .....	3,828	3,725	5,833	152	157	34,591	33,015	95
Total .....	431,321	435,030	413,379	96	95	4,114,328	3,856,926	94
Ducks .....	12,257	9,629	10,711	87	111	107,987	96,830	90
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	231	328	284	123	87	1,549	1,580	102
Total .....	4,299,602	4,533,229	4,361,164	101	96	39,450,490	39,467,026	100

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

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

## Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024	September 2024 as % of		January to September		2024 as percent of 2023
				September 2023	August 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	9,445	10,240	8,840	94	86	91,328	88,305	97
Mature .....	622	805	734	118	91	7,482	7,260	97
Light .....	47	29	52	111	179	802	452	56
Heavy .....	575	776	682	119	88	6,680	6,808	102
Total .....	10,067	11,045	9,574	95	87	98,810	95,565	97
Turkeys .....								
Young .....	1,580	1,979	1,621	103	82	15,444	16,150	105
Old .....	27	36	60	222	167	318	394	124
Total .....	1,607	2,015	1,681	105	83	15,762	16,544	105
Ducks .....	109	93	108	99	116	835	867	104
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	11,784	13,154	11,364	96	86	115,410	112,979	98
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of live weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	0.19	0.19	0.17	89	89	0.20	0.19	95
Mature .....	0.89	1.14	1.09	122	96	1.16	1.18	102
Light .....	0.53	0.43	0.61	115	142	0.88	0.55	63
Heavy .....	0.94	1.22	1.16	123	95	1.21	1.28	106
Total .....	0.20	0.20	0.18	90	90	0.21	0.20	95
Turkeys								
Young .....	0.29	0.36	0.32	110	89	0.30	0.34	113
Old .....	0.54	0.74	0.78	144	105	0.71	0.91	128
Total .....	0.30	0.37	0.32	107	86	0.31	0.34	110
Ducks .....	0.66	0.71	0.74	112	104	0.56	0.66	118
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	0.21	0.22	0.20	95	91	0.22	0.22	100

<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	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024	September 2024 as % of		January to September		2024 as percent of 2023
				September 2023	August 2024	2023	2024	
	(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 .....	15,913	17,866	17,269	109	97	165,756	162,925	98
Mature .....	1,607	1,803	1,877	117	104	16,499	16,073	97
Light .....	347	258	376	108	146	3,727	3,380	91
Heavy .....	1,260	1,545	1,501	119	97	12,772	12,693	99
Total .....	17,520	19,669	19,146	109	97	182,255	178,998	98
<b>Turkeys</b>								
Young .....	5,496	6,670	5,959	108	89	48,749	56,942	117
Old .....	147	161	282	192	175	1,639	1,501	92
Total .....	5,643	6,831	6,241	111	91	50,388	58,443	116
Ducks .....	194	183	218	112	119	1,983	1,735	87
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	5	4	5	100	125	28	31	111
Total .....	23,362	26,687	25,610	110	96	234,654	239,207	102
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
<b>Chickens</b>								
Young .....	0.42	0.44	0.44	105	100	0.47	0.46	98
Mature .....	3.16	3.51	3.84	122	109	3.53	3.62	103
Light .....	6.83	6.55	7.69	113	117	7.22	7.24	100
Heavy .....	2.75	3.26	3.41	124	105	3.07	3.20	104
Total .....	0.45	0.48	0.48	107	100	0.51	0.50	98
<b>Turkeys</b>								
Young .....	1.27	1.52	1.44	113	95	1.18	1.47	125
Old .....	3.70	4.14	4.61	125	111	4.52	4.35	96
Total .....	1.29	1.55	1.49	116	96	1.21	1.49	123
Ducks .....	1.56	1.87	1.99	128	106	1.80	1.76	98
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	2.12	1.20	1.73	82	144	1.78	1.92	108
Total .....	0.54	0.59	0.58	107	98	0.59	0.60	102

<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: August and September 2024

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	-	-	239	92	42,834	40,420
Mature .....	-	-	1	16	33,421	37,258
Light .....	-	-	1	13	25,718	30,028
Heavy .....	-	-	-	3	7,703	7,230
Total .....	-	-	240	108	76,255	77,678
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	-	-	6	4	3,657	3,671
Old .....	-	-	-	2	1,125	1,310
Total .....	-	-	6	6	4,782	4,981
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	36,574	37,293	955	1,010	1,087	1,256
Mature .....	13,943	13,749	118	79	11,248	13,038
Light .....	2,457	5,190	11	3	7,656	9,375
Heavy .....	11,486	8,559	107	76	3,592	3,663
Total .....	50,517	51,042	1,073	1,089	12,335	14,294
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	1,654	1,863	61	59	94	99
Old .....	526	679	26	32	237	315
Total .....	2,180	2,542	87	91	331	414
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	2,370	2,119	932	879	32,079	28,642
Mature .....	1,381	2,964	111	111	11,553	18,882
Light .....	702	2,300	98	101	10,866	18,239
Heavy .....	679	664	13	10	687	643
Total .....	3,751	5,083	1,043	990	43,632	47,524
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	77	97	190	218	632	604
Old .....	16	14	2	11	97	131
Total .....	93	111	192	229	729	735
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	2,681	3,118	65,169	61,884	1,836,837	1,680,975
Mature .....	137	183	30,279	38,595	38,854	36,582
Light .....	71	161	20,265	28,902	-	-
Heavy .....	66	22	10,014	9,693	38,854	36,582
Total .....	2,818	3,301	95,448	100,479	1,875,691	1,717,557
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	79	160	3,962	4,343	89,540	75,018
Old .....	10	13	93	301	201	407
Total .....	89	173	4,055	4,644	89,741	75,425

- 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: August and September 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	100,617	97,500	555,424	554,696	5.52	5.69
Arkansas .....	89,404	82,869	652,558	612,182	7.30	7.39
Delaware .....	33,068	30,447	254,554	239,706	7.70	7.87
Georgia .....	110,578	103,584	666,721	632,747	6.03	6.11
Illinois .....	74	82	478	531	6.42	6.49
Indiana .....	4,346	4,109	23,555	22,134	5.42	5.39
Iowa .....	2,082	1,691	11,608	9,630	5.57	5.70
Kentucky .....	25,062	24,630	165,681	168,693	6.61	6.85
Louisiana .....	14,881	14,785	100,421	103,007	6.75	6.97
Maryland .....	12,487	12,288	78,262	80,143	6.27	6.52
Mississippi .....	61,971	59,778	411,387	405,069	6.64	6.78
Missouri .....	27,386	26,453	148,883	145,227	5.44	5.49
Nebraska .....	11,061	9,508	74,131	64,900	6.70	6.83
New Jersey .....	274	291	1,478	1,478	5.39	5.08
New York .....	2,918	3,047	15,093	15,654	5.17	5.14
North Carolina .....	82,709	74,485	688,314	639,561	8.32	8.59
Ohio .....	11,224	9,739	51,532	45,241	4.59	4.65
Oklahoma .....	8,179	7,842	57,809	62,074	7.07	7.92
Pennsylvania .....	13,238	14,367	78,549	85,110	5.93	5.92
South Carolina .....	25,899	23,549	189,537	171,339	7.32	7.28
Tennessee .....	35,135	32,464	216,631	203,233	6.17	6.26
Texas .....	62,603	61,042	432,923	431,015	6.92	7.06
Virginia .....	26,399	23,221	173,175	155,462	6.56	6.69
United States .....	814,293	769,665	5,343,123	5,138,737	6.56	6.68

## Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: August and September 2024

[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>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama .....	425,825	427,105	1,669	1,763	0.39	0.41
Arkansas .....	490,562	463,696	1,930	1,536	0.39	0.33
Delaware .....	198,137	186,662	1,258	1,305	0.63	0.69
Georgia .....	507,644	481,549	2,896	2,765	0.57	0.57
Illinois .....	357	397	(Z)	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana .....	16,717	15,861	61	53	0.36	0.33
Iowa .....	8,522	6,957	338	414	3.81	5.62
Kentucky .....	124,896	127,154	665	704	0.53	0.55
Louisiana .....	73,841	76,410	249	313	0.34	0.41
Maryland .....	58,140	59,974	387	376	0.66	0.62
Mississippi .....	304,016	300,225	1,073	1,089	0.35	0.36
Missouri .....	108,550	105,781	291	231	0.27	0.22
Nebraska .....	56,749	49,342	142	75	0.25	0.15
New Jersey .....	1,076	1,083	12	10	1.09	0.95
New York .....	9,443	9,797	89	57	0.94	0.58
North Carolina .....	528,829	491,248	1,404	1,184	0.26	0.24
Ohio .....	38,672	34,083	234	267	0.60	0.78
Oklahoma .....	43,376	46,709	215	232	0.49	0.49
Pennsylvania .....	55,400	60,128	995	1,145	1.76	1.87
South Carolina .....	142,660	128,945	993	871	0.69	0.67
Tennessee .....	159,753	149,962	508	549	0.32	0.36
Texas .....	333,131	331,235	890	799	0.27	0.24
Virginia .....	131,972	118,445	373	343	0.28	0.29
United States .....	4,038,676	3,889,808	17,866	17,269	0.44	0.44

- 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.



## Young Chickens Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause – States and United States: August and September 2024

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	6	13	6,581	8,366
Arkansas .....	-	-	-	-	72	202
Delaware .....	-	-	-	-	1,989	-
Georgia .....	-	-	1	-	8,790	7,856
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	-	2
Texas .....	-	-	-	-	43	75
Virginia .....	-	-	-	-	4,010	3,342
United States .....	-	-	239	92	42,834	40,420
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	2,289	3,826	6	1	79	89
Arkansas .....	114	245	10	16	-	-
Delaware .....	556	-	-	-	12	-
Georgia .....	14,738	12,934	18	26	199	208
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	1	-	-	-	-
Texas .....	27	72	1	1	2	1
Virginia .....	469	297	1	1	11	14
United States .....	36,574	37,293	955	1,010	1,087	1,256
State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	333	361	171	236	1,664	1,853
Arkansas .....	9	5	-	-	43	58
Delaware .....	113	-	2	-	549	-
Georgia .....	215	193	264	203	4,492	5,553
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	2	-	-
Texas .....	-	3	-	-	36	35
Virginia .....	39	35	3	6	196	106
United States .....	2,370	2,119	932	879	32,079	28,642
State	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	300	1,082	4,615	6,608	150,958	146,340
Arkansas .....	15	9	104	113	166,651	154,653
Delaware .....	116	-	689	-	46,422	47,116
Georgia .....	554	318	10,188	9,435	242,097	235,025
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	179,459	185,884
North Carolina .....	1	1	-	1	107,107	80,984
Texas .....	3	1	21	404	74,085	70,087
Virginia .....	429	212	5,312	4,825	149,664	132,523
United States .....	2,681	3,118	65,169	61,884	1,836,837	1,680,975

- 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: August and September 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California .....	444	432	14,765	14,230	33.25	32.97
Illinois .....	5	3	134	68	29.57	25.97
Indiana .....	1,909	1,748	79,236	73,363	41.51	41.96
Iowa .....	1,110	1,034	49,835	47,119	44.88	45.57
Michigan .....	405	394	17,543	17,241	43.28	43.75
North Carolina .....	1,916	1,823	70,795	68,540	36.95	37.60
Ohio .....	583	544	23,464	23,135	40.25	42.55
Pennsylvania .....	601	755	17,198	21,433	28.61	28.39
South Carolina .....	591	556	24,992	23,538	42.30	42.33
South Dakota .....	385	266	17,455	12,254	45.39	46.13
Vermont .....	-	5	-	153	-	33.09
United States .....	16,804	15,548	542,838	512,949	32.30	32.99

- Represents zero.

## Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: August and September 2024

[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>	
	August	September	August	September	August	September
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California .....	11,804	11,346	61	86	0.51	0.75
Illinois .....	102	50	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana .....	63,462	58,721	1,148	926	1.78	1.55
Iowa .....	38,990	37,131	543	575	1.37	1.53
Michigan .....	13,639	13,362	166	182	1.20	1.34
North Carolina .....	54,974	53,384	355	321	0.64	0.60
Ohio .....	18,756	18,502	417	352	2.17	1.87
Pennsylvania .....	13,502	16,971	281	369	2.04	2.13
South Carolina .....	18,407	16,994	773	686	4.03	3.88
South Dakota .....	14,044	9,829	237	163	1.66	1.63
Vermont .....	-	119	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States .....	431,305	407,546	6,670	5,959	1.52	1.44

- 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.

## 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 352 plants slaughtered poultry in the United States under Federal Inspection in 2023. 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

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Seth Riggins – Honey, Honey Bee Colonies .....	(202) 690-4870
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- Both national and state 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” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-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](mailto: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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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