



Poultry Slaughter

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Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 5 Percent from Last Year

November 2023 contained 22 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

November 2024 contained 21 weekdays (including 2 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Poultry certified wholesome during November 2024 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.09 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the amount certified in November 2023. The October 2024 revised certified total at 4.93 billion pounds, was up 4 percent from October 2023. The October revision represented an increase of 7.37 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

The preliminary total live weight of all federally inspected poultry during November 2024 was 5.39 billion pounds, down 5 percent from 5.69 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.83 billion pounds, down 4 percent from November 2023. Mature chickens, at 53.0 million pounds, were down 17 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 496 million pounds, down 12 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 14.3 million pounds, down 18 percent from last year.

Young chickens slaughtered during November 2024 averaged 6.63 pounds per bird, up slightly from November 2023. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.88 pounds per bird, down 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during November 2024 averaged 30.3 pounds per bird, down 1 percent from November 2023.

Ante-mortem condemnations during November 2024 totaled 10.5 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.19 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.21 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 24.5 million pounds, were 0.59 percent of quantities inspected, as compared with 0.57 percent a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	November 2023	October 2024	November 2024	November 2024 as % of		January to November		2024 as percent of 2023
				November 2023	October 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Slaughtered								
Chickens								
Young	761,801	861,715	727,884	96	84	8,656,422	8,682,552	100
Mature	9,260	10,476	7,696	83	73	111,600	104,922	94
Light	2,556	2,767	2,483	97	90	31,219	28,848	92
Heavy	6,704	7,709	5,213	78	68	80,381	76,074	95
Total	771,061	872,191	735,580	95	84	8,768,022	8,787,474	100
Turkeys								
Young	18,418	19,390	16,275	88	84	198,459	182,166	92
Old	112	211	85	76	40	1,819	1,711	94
Total	18,530	19,601	16,360	88	83	200,278	183,877	92
Ducks	2,426	2,236	1,981	82	89	25,866	22,841	88
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Total live weight								
Chickens								
Young	5,037,586	5,770,035	4,827,736	96	84	56,589,187	56,998,402	101
Mature	64,108	75,238	52,953	83	70	779,455	744,149	95
Light	8,855	9,664	8,364	94	87	109,335	99,777	91
Heavy	55,253	65,574	44,589	81	68	670,120	644,372	96
Total	5,101,694	5,845,273	4,880,689	96	83	57,368,642	57,742,551	101
Turkeys								
Young	562,691	614,322	492,887	88	80	6,295,231	5,915,685	94
Old	3,365	6,614	2,746	82	42	54,781	52,699	96
Total	566,056	620,936	495,633	88	80	6,350,012	5,968,384	94
Ducks	17,459	16,154	14,282	82	88	183,567	162,742	89
Other ¹	218	468	229	105	49	2,860	3,058	107
Total	5,685,427	6,482,831	5,390,833	95	83	63,905,081	63,876,735	100
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
Average live weight								
Chickens								
Young	6.61	6.70	6.63	100	99	6.54	6.56	100
Mature	6.92	7.18	6.88	99	96	6.98	7.09	102
Light	3.46	3.49	3.37	97	97	3.50	3.46	99
Heavy	8.24	8.51	8.55	104	100	8.34	8.47	102
Total	6.62	6.70	6.64	100	99	6.54	6.57	100
Turkeys								
Young	30.55	31.68	30.28	99	96	31.72	32.47	102
Old	30.04	31.35	32.31	108	103	30.12	30.80	102
Total	30.55	31.68	30.30	99	96	31.71	32.46	102
Ducks	7.20	7.22	7.21	100	100	7.10	7.12	100

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

Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	November 2023	October 2024	November 2024	November 2024 as % of		January to November		2024 as percent of 2023
				November 2023	October 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Chilled								
Chickens								
Young	3,555,067	4,078,218	3,413,342	96	84	39,913,614	40,276,577	101
Mature	44,529	52,585	36,914	83	70	546,156	519,158	95
Light	4,800	5,179	4,513	94	87	57,823	53,010	92
Heavy	39,729	47,406	32,401	82	68	488,333	466,148	95
Total	3,599,596	4,130,803	3,450,256	96	84	40,459,770	40,795,735	101
Turkeys								
Young	290,287	313,432	246,831	85	79	3,191,353	2,980,905	93
Old	2,532	4,344	1,850	73	43	36,884	37,532	102
Total	292,819	317,776	248,681	85	78	3,228,237	3,018,437	94
Ducks	5,235	4,243	3,207	61	76	47,551	40,516	85
Other ¹	137	180	144	105	80	1,447	1,320	91
Total	3,897,787	4,453,002	3,702,288	95	83	43,737,005	43,856,008	100
Frozen								
Chickens								
Young	262,214	292,673	236,228	90	81	2,856,984	2,830,918	99
Mature	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Light	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Heavy	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Total	262,214	292,673	236,228	90	81	2,856,984	2,830,918	99
Turkeys								
Young	156,271	175,519	145,086	93	83	1,830,490	1,723,874	94
Old	70	633	246	351	39	5,257	2,556	49
Total	156,341	176,152	145,332	93	83	1,835,747	1,726,430	94
Ducks	7,640	7,671	7,276	95	95	86,297	78,711	91
Other ¹	17	123	16	94	13	514	723	141
Total	426,212	476,619	388,852	91	82	4,779,542	4,636,782	97
Chilled and frozen								
Chickens								
Young	3,817,281	4,370,891	3,649,570	96	83	42,770,598	43,107,495	101
Mature	44,529	52,585	36,914	83	70	546,156	519,158	95
Light	4,800	5,179	4,513	94	87	57,823	53,010	92
Heavy	39,729	47,406	32,401	82	68	488,333	466,148	95
Total	3,861,810	4,423,476	3,686,484	95	83	43,316,754	43,626,653	101
Turkeys								
Young	446,558	488,951	391,917	88	80	5,021,843	4,704,779	94
Old	2,602	4,977	2,096	81	42	42,141	40,088	95
Total	449,160	493,928	394,013	88	80	5,063,984	4,744,867	94
Ducks	12,875	11,914	10,483	81	88	133,848	119,227	89
Other ¹	154	303	160	104	53	1,961	2,043	104
Total	4,323,999	4,929,621	4,091,140	95	83	48,516,547	48,492,790	100

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Includes geese, guineas, and squab.

Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	November 2023	October 2024	November 2024	November 2024 as % of		January to November		2024 as percent of 2023
				November 2023	October 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Live weight								
Chickens								
Young	9,576	9,714	8,487	89	87	110,702	106,508	96
Mature	750	837	499	67	60	8,923	8,615	97
Light	45	43	35	78	81	903	530	59
Heavy	705	794	464	66	58	8,020	8,085	101
Total	10,326	10,551	8,986	87	85	119,625	115,123	96
Turkeys								
Young	1,450	1,676	1,418	98	85	18,578	19,244	104
Old	21	58	26	124	45	382	478	125
Total	1,471	1,734	1,444	98	83	18,960	19,722	104
Ducks	90	86	81	90	94	1,025	1,034	101
Total ¹	11,887	12,371	10,511	88	85	139,614	135,882	97
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of live weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.19	0.17	0.18	95	106	0.20	0.19	95
Mature	1.17	1.11	0.94	80	85	1.14	1.16	102
Light	0.51	0.44	0.42	82	95	0.83	0.53	64
Heavy	1.28	1.21	1.04	81	86	1.20	1.25	104
Total	0.20	0.18	0.18	90	100	0.21	0.20	95
Turkeys								
Young	0.26	0.27	0.29	112	107	0.30	0.33	110
Old	0.62	0.88	0.95	153	108	0.70	0.91	130
Total	0.26	0.28	0.29	112	104	0.30	0.33	110
Ducks	0.52	0.53	0.57	110	108	0.56	0.64	114
Total ¹	0.21	0.19	0.19	90	100	0.22	0.21	95

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	November 2023	October 2024	November 2024	November 2024 as % of		January to November		2024 as percent of 2023
				November 2023	October 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Carcass and parts								
Chickens								
Young	17,038	19,192	16,596	97	86	199,697	198,723	100
Mature	1,442	1,913	1,560	108	82	19,650	19,568	100
Light	273	425	433	159	102	4,352	4,238	97
Heavy	1,169	1,488	1,127	96	76	15,298	15,330	100
Total	18,480	21,105	18,156	98	86	219,347	218,291	100
Turkeys								
Young	5,899	7,093	6,052	103	85	61,009	70,087	115
Old	93	246	94	101	38	1,922	1,841	96
Total	5,992	7,339	6,146	103	84	62,931	71,928	114
Ducks	201	218	159	79	73	2,382	2,112	89
Other ¹	4	5	3	75	60	36	39	108
Total	24,677	28,667	24,464	99	85	284,696	292,370	103
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Percent of weight condemned ²								
Chickens								
Young	0.44	0.44	0.45	102	102	0.46	0.46	100
Mature	3.14	3.51	4.05	129	115	3.47	3.63	105
Light	5.38	7.58	8.75	163	115	7.00	7.40	106
Heavy	2.86	3.04	3.36	117	111	3.04	3.18	105
Total	0.48	0.47	0.49	102	104	0.50	0.50	100
Turkeys								
Young	1.30	1.43	1.52	117	106	1.20	1.47	123
Old	3.45	4.71	4.29	124	91	4.36	4.39	101
Total	1.32	1.46	1.54	117	105	1.23	1.49	121
Ducks	1.54	1.80	1.49	97	83	1.75	1.74	99
Other ¹	2.53	1.62	1.84	73	114	1.80	1.87	104
Total	0.57	0.58	0.59	104	102	0.58	0.60	103

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: October and November 2024

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	-	-	306	159	48,976	39,543
Mature	-	-	6	16	51,301	51,965
Light	-	-	5	16	43,027	45,911
Heavy	-	-	1	-	8,274	6,054
Total	-	-	312	175	100,277	91,508
Turkeys						
Young	-	-	3	45	5,216	5,634
Old	-	-	-	-	1,517	553
Total	-	-	3	45	6,733	6,187
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	51,563	52,448	1,324	1,210	1,202	1,262
Mature	14,067	10,432	111	88	17,059	16,742
Light	6,419	4,624	18	16	13,180	13,087
Heavy	7,648	5,808	93	72	3,879	3,655
Total	65,630	62,880	1,435	1,298	18,261	18,004
Turkeys						
Young	2,150	2,002	64	77	103	30
Old	575	252	40	18	323	151
Total	2,725	2,254	104	95	426	181
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	2,492	2,139	1,178	1,100	31,255	27,148
Mature	2,733	2,421	109	92	20,166	16,410
Light	1,874	1,489	97	81	19,460	15,857
Heavy	859	932	12	11	706	553
Total	5,225	4,560	1,287	1,192	51,421	43,558
Turkeys						
Young	77	67	182	225	938	769
Old	20	12	13	6	161	36
Total	97	79	195	231	1,099	805
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Chickens						
Young	2,772	1,838	66,486	61,658	1,883,469	1,674,655
Mature	161	134	44,780	40,108	40,364	31,523
Light	160	133	34,485	30,479	-	-
Heavy	1	1	10,295	9,629	40,364	31,523
Total	2,933	1,972	111,266	101,766	1,923,833	1,706,178
Turkeys						
Young	111	51	5,903	4,134	94,900	93,887
Old	34	1	233	54	228	62
Total	145	52	6,136	4,188	95,128	93,949

- 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: October and November 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama	107,442	90,911	605,865	507,633	5.64	5.58
Arkansas	95,207	79,766	709,111	589,133	7.45	7.39
Delaware	34,601	29,698	272,453	234,512	7.87	7.90
Georgia	117,559	96,850	720,237	583,928	6.13	6.03
Illinois	77	39	501	250	6.51	6.47
Indiana	4,404	3,659	23,957	20,063	5.44	5.48
Iowa	870	763	4,855	4,292	5.58	5.63
Kentucky	27,185	23,221	189,448	160,806	6.97	6.93
Louisiana	16,905	14,218	118,618	97,607	7.02	6.87
Maryland	12,980	11,775	86,199	76,472	6.64	6.49
Mississippi	66,446	56,552	450,110	384,628	6.77	6.80
Missouri	29,579	25,489	160,647	136,031	5.43	5.34
Nebraska	11,138	9,349	76,871	64,007	6.90	6.85
New Jersey	316	216	1,717	1,213	5.43	5.62
New York	2,882	2,745	14,561	14,082	5.05	5.13
North Carolina	86,315	74,209	738,697	624,965	8.56	8.42
Ohio	11,763	10,487	53,579	48,554	4.55	4.63
Oklahoma	8,924	7,869	74,026	66,601	8.30	8.46
Pennsylvania	14,158	11,426	82,348	66,760	5.82	5.84
South Carolina	28,894	23,929	219,635	177,331	7.60	7.41
Tennessee	35,864	30,466	223,984	189,045	6.25	6.21
Texas	67,351	56,923	476,373	398,263	7.07	7.00
Virginia	25,404	20,618	162,965	131,243	6.42	6.37
United States	861,715	727,884	5,770,035	4,827,736	6.70	6.63

Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: October and November 2024

[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	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama	465,017	388,128	1,899	1,526	0.41	0.39
Arkansas	538,113	444,234	2,072	1,917	0.38	0.43
Delaware	212,272	183,302	1,262	1,306	0.59	0.71
Georgia	547,876	444,435	3,211	2,419	0.58	0.54
Illinois	375	187	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana	17,055	14,351	78	60	0.46	0.41
Iowa	3,472	2,943	238	332	6.41	10.13
Kentucky	142,738	121,270	800	618	0.56	0.51
Louisiana	89,157	73,040	299	291	0.33	0.40
Maryland	64,476	56,952	423	382	0.65	0.67
Mississippi	334,433	285,173	1,243	1,104	0.37	0.39
Missouri	117,227	99,252	253	216	0.22	0.22
Nebraska	58,378	48,731	73	69	0.12	0.14
New Jersey	1,252	892	15	11	1.21	1.26
New York	9,138	8,898	57	61	0.62	0.68
North Carolina	567,615	479,813	1,472	1,255	0.26	0.26
Ohio	40,171	36,254	350	224	0.86	0.61
Oklahoma	55,616	49,951	309	246	0.55	0.49
Pennsylvania	58,778	47,192	892	788	1.49	1.64
South Carolina	165,598	133,622	1,123	963	0.67	0.72
Tennessee	165,309	139,407	614	661	0.37	0.47
Texas	366,494	305,190	811	788	0.22	0.26
Virginia	123,679	99,349	377	246	0.30	0.25
United States	4,370,891	3,649,570	19,192	16,596	0.44	0.45

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

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: October and November 2024

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	-	-	6	14	10,324	6,311
Arkansas	-	-	-	-	257	202
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	-	-	8,046	5,662
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-	-	2	1
Texas	-	-	8	-	82	74
Virginia	-	-	1	-	3,274	1,170
United States	-	-	306	159	48,976	39,543
State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	4,108	2,928	3	2	89	72
Arkansas	249	230	17	6	-	-
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	18,593	11,904	1	19	187	252
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	2	-	-	-	-
Texas	122	121	-	-	2	1
Virginia	421	402	1	-	15	1
United States	51,563	52,448	1,324	1,210	1,202	1,262
State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	286	151	248	172	1,739	1,078
Arkansas	7	6	1	-	45	77
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	130	112	317	342	4,715	2,736
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	2	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	5	24	3	8	22	39
Virginia	28	9	7	3	196	60
United States	2,492	2,139	1,178	1,100	31,255	27,148
State	Overscald		Miscellaneous ¹		Unknown ²	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama	298	437	6,304	5,916	148,279	136,259
Arkansas	11	86	192	366	192,059	184,254
Delaware	-	-	-	-	55,446	39,095
Georgia	223	55	11,213	8,091	257,657	234,461
Mississippi	-	-	-	-	208,733	182,861
North Carolina	-	-	4	-	106,848	93,363
Texas	63	4	1,584	1,842	67,086	58,557
Virginia	464	143	7,073	2,293	129,034	129,556
United States	2,772	1,838	66,486	61,658	1,883,469	1,674,655

- 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: October and November 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California	817	593	21,229	14,500	25.97	24.44
Illinois	5	23	162	677	30.08	29.25
Indiana	2,257	1,692	89,607	69,166	39.70	40.89
Iowa	1,166	935	53,854	42,036	46.19	44.94
Michigan	421	359	17,962	15,116	42.71	42.09
North Carolina	2,032	1,743	78,383	64,116	38.57	36.78
Ohio	617	598	26,902	24,181	43.60	40.45
Pennsylvania	979	866	24,215	21,410	24.74	24.73
South Carolina	642	485	27,531	21,291	42.87	43.91
South Dakota	408	333	19,302	15,633	47.26	46.97
Vermont	13	56	422	1,705	31.57	30.29
United States	19,390	16,275	614,322	492,887	31.68	30.28

Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: October and November 2024

[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	
	October	November	October	November	October	November
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California	17,139	11,596	80	79	0.47	0.68
Illinois	126	518	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana	71,051	55,263	1,126	867	1.56	1.54
Iowa	42,288	33,058	654	572	1.52	1.70
Michigan	13,920	11,716	178	146	1.26	1.23
North Carolina	61,540	50,049	392	368	0.63	0.73
Ohio	21,450	18,980	438	360	2.00	1.86
Pennsylvania	19,252	17,070	481	379	2.44	2.17
South Carolina	20,133	15,695	926	650	4.40	3.97
South Dakota	15,485	12,514	271	257	1.72	2.02
Vermont	332	1,335	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States	488,951	391,917	7,093	6,052	1.43	1.52

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Ready-to-cook weights.

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

Terms and Definitions Used for Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Ante-Mortem Condemnations: Birds 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

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Ryan Cowen, Acting Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-3040
Holly Brenize – Poultry Slaughter.....	(202) 720-0585
Liana Cuffman – Catfish and Trout, Mink, Census of Aquaculture	(202) 720-8784
Fatema Haque – Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Chicken Hatchery, Egg Products.....	(202) 690-3237
Seth Riggins – Honey, Honey Bee Colonies	(202) 690-4870
Shulonda Shaw – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

Access to NASS Reports

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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 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 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.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



USDA's 101st Annual

Agricultural Outlook Forum

Meeting Tomorrow's Challenges, Today

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The 2025 program will feature a presentation on agricultural markets and trade by USDA Chief Economist Seth Meyer, many distinguished speakers, and 30 breakout sessions covering timely agricultural, food market, and environmental issues. Onsite attendees will also have the opportunity to visit exhibit booths showcasing the important missions and activities of various USDA agencies as well recent USDA-funded innovations.

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