Poultry and Egg Situation

Economics, Statistics, and
and Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department of
Agriculture

PES-297

March
1978

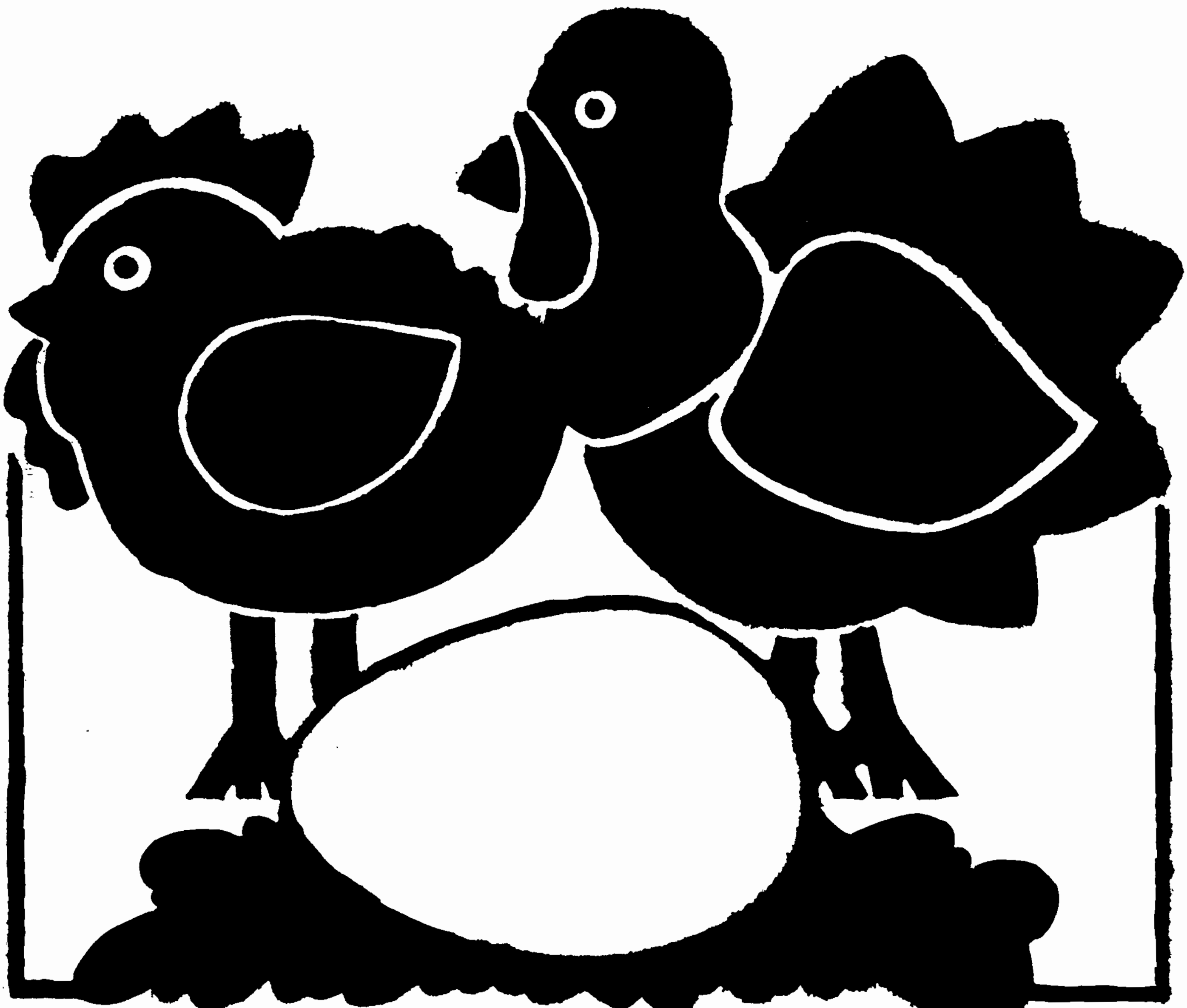
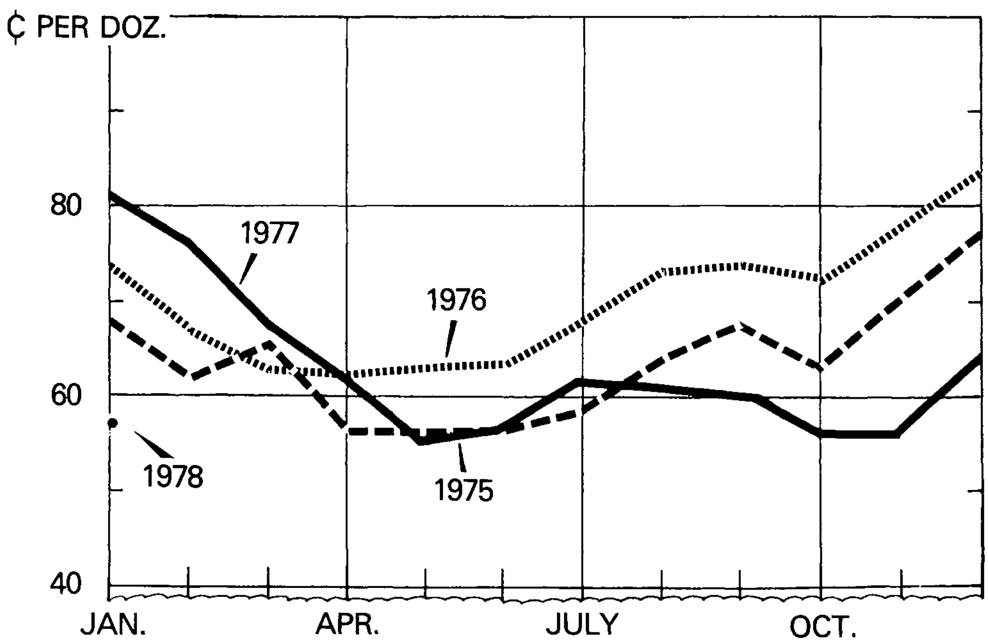


Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1976-77				1977-78			
		Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
		Eggs							
Farm production	Mil. doz.	451.8	441.4	459.3	453.7	467.4	462.3	483.8	477.0
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	275.0	278.0	279.7	278.3	282.0	285.3	287.1	285.2
Rate of lay per layer	No.	19.7	19.1	19.7	19.6	19.9	19.4	20.2	20.1
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	60.3	65.5	69.5	65.1	47.3	51.3	53.6	49.4
14 Metro areas price									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	71.4	76.7	82.5	79.0	56.3	58.4	63.3	57.9
Retail price (BLS)									
Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	87.6	87.3	94.6	98.6	76.1	77.6	72.5	82.7
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	154	151	153	156	135	141	145	147
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	7.8	8.7	9.1	8.3	7.0	7.3	7.4	6.7
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	Thous. cases	50	32	25	28	49	49	51	38
Frozen	Mil. lb.	28.7	28.9	25.5	26.1	33.8	33.1	31.2	29.7
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	37.0	36.3	36.6	40.2	37.0	34.1	32.1	36.8
		Poultry							
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	769.5	699.2	716.8	713.8	775.5	719.8	753.2	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	256.6	261.5	146.4	70.5	250.3	246.8	148.2	
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	20.6	19.4	19.3	21.5	23.1	21.0	20.2	22.8
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	30.7	31.1	33.5	32.4	36.5	38.7	40.3	38.0
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	36.4	34.9	35.0	38.8	39.2	37.3	36.2	40.2
Retail price (BLS)									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	56.7	54.4	54.3	54.7	60.4	59.8	57.7	59.8
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	72.8	71.9	70.4	69.7	75.7	76.8	77.6	77.6
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	170	169	174	174	153	159	160	162
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.8
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	176	177	179	182	168	175	177	177
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.6	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.3
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	24.3	24.3	29.1	32.9	31.7	33.5	35.8	29.8
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	459.7	512.3	298.8	203.4	408.4	445.5	269.3	167.6
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	611.0	664.5	453.2	362.8	566.4	602.3	419.9	309.1
Average weekly placement of broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	58.4	60.0	61.3	63.6	63.2	63.1	66.2	67.8

CARTONED EGG PRICES, NEW YORK*



* SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, CONSUMER GRADE A LARGE.

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NEG. ESCS 60-78 (2)

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Approved by
The World Food and Agricultural
Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
February 27, 1978

Commodity Economics Division
Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

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The next issue of the *Poultry and Egg Situation* will be published in early June.

SUMMARY

Production costs are running below a year earlier and are not expected to show the sharp increases of last spring. Corn and soybean supplies are large and, barring unforeseen circumstances, feed prices should remain farily stable in coming months. Thus broiler and turkey production likely will be profitable during most of 1978.

The outlook in coming months for poultry and eggs is for larger production and lower prices than a year earlier. Egg prices will drop sharply in coming months and average below 1977 during most of 1978. Broiler and turkey prices are both currently higher than a year ago, but broiler prices likely will come under pressure in the spring and turkey prices probably will trail 1977 by late summer.

Egg production in January was 5 percent above a year earlier, as the laying flock was 2 percent larger and output per hen was up 3 percent. Layer numbers will likely average 2 to 3 percent above a year earlier in the first quarter. However, as fewer replacement pullets become available, the margin of increase over 1977 probably will shrink. Output per hen should continue higher than last year through most of 1978. Thus, egg production will be 3 to 4 percent above last year in the first half of 1978. A smaller increase is expected this summer, and output could be near 1977 levels by the fall.

Egg prices in January were sharply below last year but they showed some unexpected strength in February. The rise in egg prices apparently was caused by difficulties in getting eggs to some markets. The strength is temporary and prices will drop well below 1977 levels in coming months. Cartoned Grade A large eggs in New York will average around 59 to 61 cents a dozen in the first quarter of 1978, compared with 75 cents in January-March 1977. Prices will decline seasonally in the spring and likely average 8 to 10 cents below the 58-cent average in the second quarter of 1977.

Broiler production in the first 6 weeks of 1978 averaged nearly 9 percent above a year earlier and will likely continue around 6 to 8 percent higher through mid-1978. Spurred by expectations of good profits in early 1978, producers are using all available hatching eggs. This limitation in hatching

eggs could slow the rate of expansion this summer. Also, expanding pork supplies later in the year will tend to slow broiler expansion.

Broiler prices in early 1978 have been higher than earlier expected and above 1977, mainly due to higher prices for red meats. Wholesale broiler prices in the 9 cities will average near the 41 cents a pound of a year ago in the first quarter. However, prices likely will slip as larger broiler and pork supplies show up. If supplies of competing meats and consumer incomes are as expected, a 6-percent increase in broiler production during July-September would indicate a 9-city broiler price averaging 1 to 3 cents below the 42 cents of last summer.

Turkey production in early 1978 is running well above last year and will continue higher throughout the year. Output in the first half of 1978 will be up around a tenth; and higher returns in the first half will lead to continued larger production in the second half of 1978. The percentage increases in output will narrow after midyear when the volume of marketings are much heavier than during January-June.

Turkey prices have declined seasonally from last fall's levels, but are still well above early 1977 levels. Cold storage stocks of turkey meat are at the lowest beginning of the year level since the early 1960's. This, combined with strong prices for competing meats, have helped hold turkey prices up. However, as turkey stocks build and sharply larger supplies of pork show up in the market, turkey prices will slip. Second-half turkey prices likely will average around a nickel below July-December 1977, if turkey output is up about 5 percent from a year earlier.

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Production and changes from a year earlier

	1976				1977				1978[1]	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
Broilers[2] (Mil. lbs.)	2,116	2,314	2,372	2,186	2,156	2,399	2,424	2,248	2,335	2,570
Percent change	+15	+12	+14	+10	+2	+4	+2	+2	+8	+7
Turkeys[2] (Mil. lbs.)	207	369	710	664	210	365	672	645	230	400
Percent change	+24	+28	+14	+5	+1	-1	-5	-3	+10	+10
Beef[3] (Mil. lbs.)	6,492	6,145	6,618	6,412	6,285	6,162	6,320	6,217	6,200	6,100
Percent change	+11	+10	+11	+2	-3	0	-5	-3	-1	-1
Pork[3] (Mil. lbs.)	2,958	2,847	3,014	3,669	3,293	3,186	3,074	3,499	3,400	3,500
Percent change	-6	-5	+18	+27	+11	+12	+2	-5	+3	+10
Total[4] (Mil. lbs.)	12,074	11,935	13,011	13,247	12,237	12,384	12,780	12,891	12,410	12,722
Percent change	+8	+6	+13	+9	+1	+4	-2	-3	+1	+3
Eggs (Mil. doz.)	1,352	1,337	1,335	1,353	1,324	1,335	1,330	1,414	1,385	1,370
Percent change	+1	0	-1	0	-2	0	0	+4	+5	+3

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Prices

	1976				1977				1978[1]	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
Broilers, 9-city[5] (Cents/lb.)	42.2	41.7	41.5	35.5	40.9	42.3	42.4	37.6	40-42	38-40
Turkeys, New York[6] (Cents/lb.)	49.3	48.2	48.5	49.0	50.2	51.5	53.1	61.3	58-60	54-56
Choice Steers, Omaha ($/cwt.)	38.7	41.4	37.3	39.0	37.9	40.8	40.5	42.4	43-45	44-46
Barrows and Gilts 7-markets ($/cwt.)	48.0	49.2	43.9	34.2	39.1	40.9	43.8	41.4	45-47	38-40
Eggs, New York[7] (Cents/dozen)	68.0	63.1	71.8	78.4	74.9	57.8	61.5	58.9	59-61	48-50

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial production. [4] Includes veal and lamb and mutton. [5] Wholesale weighted average. [6] 8-16 lb. young hens. [7] Cartoned, consumer Grade A large, sales to volume buyers.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

FACTORS AFFECTING THE POULTRY INDUSTRY

Economy Continues Expansion

The outlook for the U.S. economy is for continued growth this year, with real gross national product increasing in the range of 4 to 5 percent. Growth in the economy in recent months has resulted in a rise in total employment, a small decline in unemployment, and a rise in real personal disposable income. The unemployment rate was down to 6.3 percent in January. This compares with unemployment rates of 7 percent or above for the first 8 months of 1977. Disposable personal income in real dollars during the fourth quarter of 1977 gained 2.1 percent from the third quarter—the highest quarterly increase in 1977. On a per capita basis, the final quarter of last year also posted a record income gain for the year, up 5 percent from the same period in 1976. Continued gains in consumers' real incomes and lower unemployment than in 1977 will be a plus factor for poultry and egg prices in 1978.

Production Costs Below A Year Earlier

Production costs for eggs, broilers, and turkeys trended upward in late 1977 but remained below year-earlier levels (tables 14, 15, and 16). The higher costs were largely caused by seasonal increases in feed ingredient costs, particularly for corn and soybean meal. Prices for No. 2 Yellow Corn at Chicago rose from $1.80 a bushel in September to $2.19 for December 1977. Soybean meal (49-50 percent, Decatur) moved up from $151 a ton for October to average $175 during December.

Corn prices, while relatively stable in early 1978, may show some strength in coming months if feed demand remains strong and exports pick up as expected. Despite an expected large carryover of corn next October 1, prices will be bolstered by larger quantities of corn being placed under the Government's price support program and the farmer-held 3-year grain reserve program.

Prospects are for continued large supplies of feed grains in 1978/79. January 1 prospective plantings indicate that farmers expected to reduce 1978 corn acreage by only 2 percent from the large 1977 acreage and to reduce plantings of the four feed grains combined by about 1 percent. If the plantings are this large and yields are about average, the 1978 corn crop would likely top 6 billion bushels for the third consecutive year and feed supplies in 1978/79 would be near the record level of 1977/78. However, with the February 8 announcement of the required 10-percent set-aside, farmers may adjust their cropping plans.

High-protein feed supplies will also be plentiful as a result of the record large 1977 soybean crop. Soybean meal prices have slipped in early 1978 and they will average well below a year earlier through midyear. Also, prices likely will be more stable this year than in 1977 when meal prices rose sharply during the first half, but then dropped in the summer. Thus, meal prices during the second half of this year may not differ significantly from a year earlier.

Poultry to Compete With More Pork But Less Beef

Prospects are for expanding pork production throughout 1978. Pork output in early 1978 has not gained as much as earlier expected, partially because of a holdback of gilts for breeding purposes. As a result, the increase in hog slaughter during January-March may only be up about 3 percent from a year ago. However, the spring slaughter may exceed April-June 1977 by as much as a tenth and even larger gains are likely in the second half of 1978. If producers carry out their plans to have 9 percent more sows farrow during December through May, second half 1978 slaughter may gain around 12 percent from a year earlier.

This spring's expected larger pork output will partially offset the reduced beef output and may result in about 2 percent more red meat output than a year ago during April-June. Total red meat output is likely to continue near year-earlier levels in the second half of 1978. Total cattle slaughter will decline, but the expected 3 to 5 percent more fed cattle to be marketed during June-December would limit the drop in total beef output to 5 to 7 percent. With pork production up more than a tenth, total red meat output during the second half could be about the same.

Hog prices moved sharply higher during December and barrows and gilts at 7 markets averaged nearly $50 per 100 pounds in early February. Part of this price strength reflected the weather-related problems getting hogs to market. However, as increasing numbers of hogs go to slaughter, hog prices will move downward. Prices during April-June are expected to average in the upper $30-per-100-pound range, compared with $40.87 for the same months of 1977. With continued expansion in the second half of this year, hog prices would probably drop to the mid-30's, $5 to $7 below year-earlier levels.

Although beef production will lag, increasing pork supplies, combined with larger poultry output, may keep fed cattle prices near current levels this winter and spring. Choice steers at Omaha will likely average in the $44-to-$46-a-hundred pound range during January-June with the lowest prices likely during late winter or early spring when fed cattle marketings could be large. However, as beef supplies decline further in the second half of 1978, cattle prices should strengthen to the upper $40's.

EGGS

The outlook for egg producers does not look favorable for most of 1978. Output in early 1978 is up sharply from last year and will continue larger through most of 1978. With egg production expected to continue above 1977 during much of this year, egg prices will average below a year earlier.

Production Sharply Higher

The increase in egg production that was expected during most of 1977 finally showed up late in the year. Production trailed a year earlier by about 1 percent through the first 8 months as both a severe winter and an unusually hot summer cut production. However, as layer numbers and output per hen gained, egg production in the fall jumped sharply above a year ago. Production in October-December totaled 1,414 million dozen, up 4.5 percent from a year earlier and the largest quarterly production since July-September 1972. The increased output resulted from 2.5 percent more layers and a 2-percent rise in output per hen.

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*No.*	*No.*	*Mil. doz.*	*Mil. doz.*
I	278	276	58.3	57.6	1,352.1	1,324.3
II	270	269	59.4	59.6	1,337.1	1,335.0
III	270	271	59.3	58.8	1,334.7	1,329.9
IV	278	285	58.5	59.6	1,352.6	1,413.5
Annual .	274	275	235.4	235.6	5,376.5	5,402.7

Larger Ouput to Continue

Egg production in January was 5 percent above a year earlier. Layer numbers were up 2 percent and output per hen was 3 percent above.

The laying flock will likely average around 2 to 3 percent above last year during the first quarter of 1978. The hatch of egg-type chicks and the placement of pullets in broiler hatchery supply flocks point to about the same number of replacement chicks as a year earlier in January-March. Weekly reports in January-February indicate the slaughter of mature chicken through federally inspected plants was running above a year earlier. March's slaughter will likely be below a year ago because of the relatively high slaughter levels last March and because Easter falls in March this year. Also, the laying flock is younger this year and producers will be very reluctant to get rid of their layers until they have finished their nomal laying cycle.

The younger age of the flock is reflected by the inventory. The December 1, 1977, inventory of hens and pullets of laying age showed that pullets under 1 year of age made up almost 59 percent of the laying flock. This compares with 57.4 percent on December 1, 1976, and an average of 56.8 percent for December 1, 1971-75.

Another indication of the younger age of the flock is the smaller percentage of force-molted birds in the flock. Force-molting is a process where older layers that are producing fewer eggs are forced to molt their feathers. This is a natural process that normally occurs over an extended period of time at the end of a laying cycle. Forced molting is accomplished by the control of feed and water that causes the birds to molt faster and earlier than usual. When the birds finish their molt (about 6 to 8 weeks) they begin to lay at a much higher rate than before they were molted. Since the molted birds have completed one laying cycle and are into another, they are naturally older. On February 1, 1978, 17 of the States reported that 11.9 percent of their layers had completed at least one molt. This compares with 14.4 percent a year earlier and 14.5 percent on February 1, 1976 (table 12).

The relatively young flock not only means that producers will be reluctant to cull but also means that there will be higher outut per hen in 1978. This, plus the larger flock size points to a 4- to 5-percent increase in egg production from a year earlier in the first quarter of 1978.

Egg production in the second quarter may slip to only 2 to 3 percent above last year. The laying flock should see a gradual shrinkage in the margin of increase over 1977. There will be around a 7-percent decline in replacement layers (table 2).

Egg production in the second half of 1978 should gradually slip back closer to 1977 levels and could drop below by next fall. The hatch of chicks

Table 2—Egg-type chick hatchery operations

Month	Hatch 1976	Hatch 1977	Hatch 1978	Eggs in incubators first of month change from year earlier 1977	Eggs in incubators first of month change from year earlier 1978
	Thou.			*Pct.*	
January	35,844	40,249	36,751	12	-11
February	39,637	41,306		12	-14
March	50,055	50,991		1	
April	51,482	54,838		8	
May	48,233	52,454		11	
June	42,351	44,433		4	
July	38,609	37,373		-1	
August	38,257	37,785		0	
September	37,721	37,094		-5	
October	37,039	37,029		-6	
November	36,305	34,051		-5	
December	36,647	32,129		-9	

in the first half of 1978 for second-half replacement pullets will be below a year earlier. This would tend to reduce layer numbers and egg production. However, both layer numbers and egg production could stay high if producers force molt heavily following Easter. The period following Easter until early summer is usually the lowest period for egg prices. Many producers could decide to force-molt their birds after Easter hoping that when they begin laying 6 to 8 weeks later, egg prices will be rising seasonally.

Egg Prices Suffering From Higher Production

The price for cartoned Grade A large eggs in New York averaged 63 cents a dozen in 1977, down 7 cents from a year earlier. However, the price in the fourth quarter of 1977 was over 19 cents below October-December 1976. Prices did show fairly strong seasonal strength in December but once again dropped sharply in January. Cartoned eggs in New York averaged 57 cents a dozen in January, 24 cents below the unusually high levels of a year earlier. Some strength has occurred in recent weeks and prices moved up to 68 cents in mid-February. However, this strength was probably the result of difficulties in delivering eggs to some markets because of heavy snows. This strength was only temporary and prices are dropping again. The early Easter (March 26) may help keep prices from dropping drastically until spring. Cartoned Grade A large egg in New York probably will average around 60 cents a dozen in the first quarter, compared with the unusually high 75 cents in January-March 1977. Increased production is expected to result in egg prices dropping to the high 40's in the second quarter. April-June prices last year averaged 58 cents a dozen.

Table 3—Egg prices, 1977-78

Month & year	E.M.E.C. quotes on market values[1] East	E.M.E.C. quotes on market values[1] Midwest	Received by producers United States[2]	Cartoned Grade A large New York[3]
	Cents			
1977				
January	68.8	68.1	65.1	81.0
February	63.2	62.8	66.2	76.2
March	56.6	56.2	58.8	67.4
April	48.7	47.6	55.3	61.4
May	45.3	45.1	49.1	55.0
June	48.0	48.0	46.8	57.0
July	52.7	52.0	50.7	62.4
August	50.7	50.4	51.5	61.4
September	48.0	46.5	52.6	60.8
October	46.2	45.2	47.3	56.0
November	44.6	44.6	51.3	56.6
December	54.4	54.1	53.6	64.0
1978				
January	44.6	43.7	49.4	57.2
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				

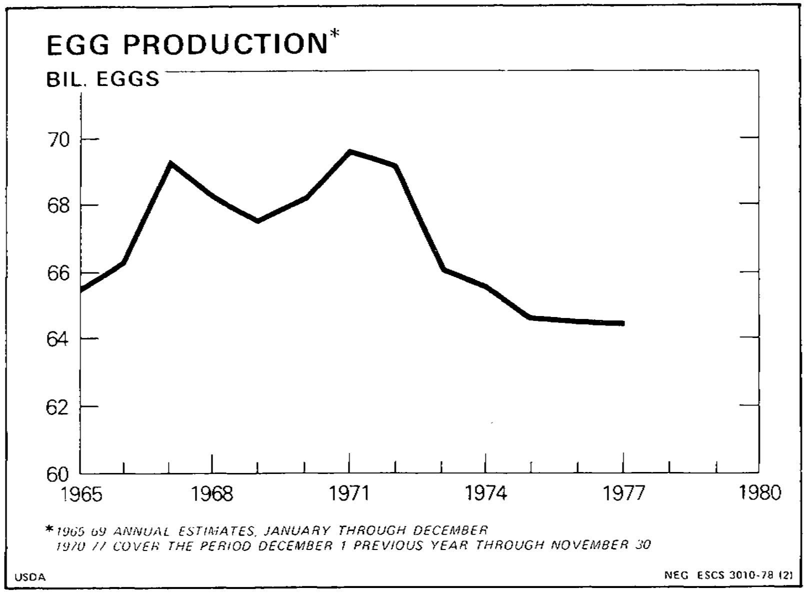
[1] Average of weekly price quotations for nest run eggs by the Egg Market Evaluation Committee. Does not necessarily represent prices at which eggs are traded in the market. [2] Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. [3] Sales to volume buyers, store door delivery, consumer Grade A large.

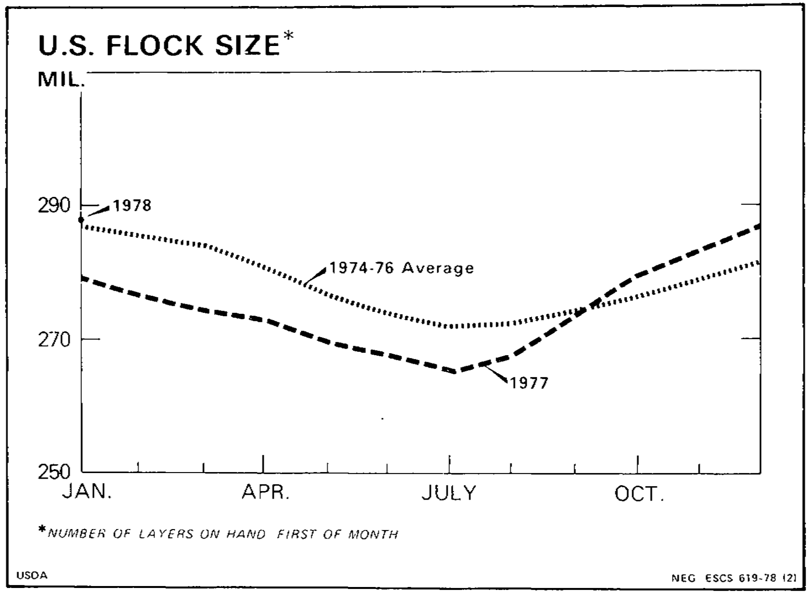
1977 Egg Consumption Down

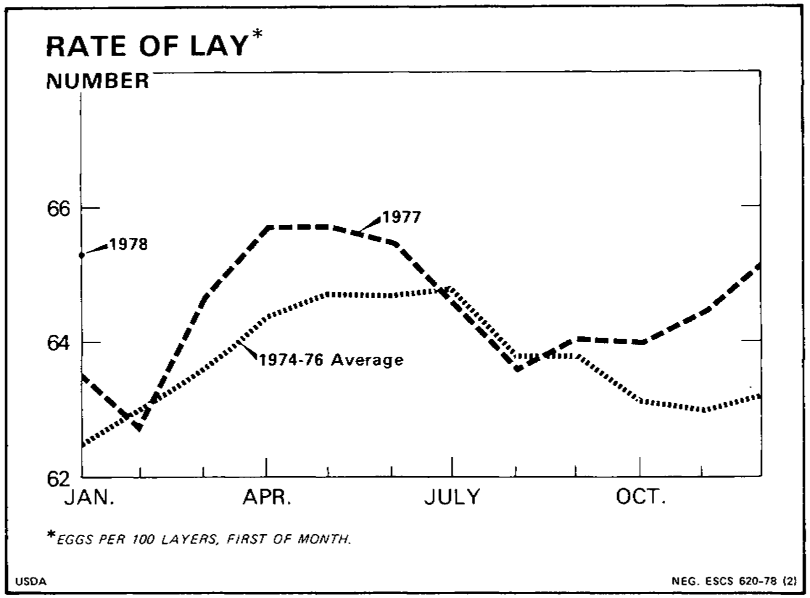
Per capita egg consumption in 1977 continued its slide of recent years even though production was up. Egg production in 1977 totaled 5,403 million dozen, up 27 million dozen from 1976. Although a small part of the total egg supply, imports of shell eggs and egg products were also up. Imports in 1977 totaled 15 million dozen, compared with the low 3.2 million dozen in 1976. Although production and imports were up, they were offset by higher exports and hatching use (table 4).

Exports of shell eggs and egg products in 1977 totaled almost 67 million dozen (shell equivalent), up 79 percent from 1976. Shell egg exports, at 48 million dozen, rose 61 percent. Exports of egg products were up almost 2½ times from a year earlier to 24 million pounds (liquid egg equivalent). Shipment of shell eggs and egg products to American territories dropped 14 percent to 24 million dozen.

Hatching egg use rose almost 5 percent to 422 million dozen. Part of the increase was due to a small increase in the egg-type hatch but most of


EGG PRODUCTION*
BIL. EGGS
70
68
66
64
62
60
1965
1968
1971
1974
1977
1980
*1965-69 ANNUAL ESTIMATES, JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER
1970-77 COVER THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1 PREVIOUS YEAR THROUGH NOVEMBER 30
USDA
NEG. ESCS 3010-78 (2)


U.S. FLOCK SIZE*
MIL.
290
270
250
1978
1974-76 Average
1977
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*NUMBER OF LAYERS ON HAND FIRST OF MONTH
USDA
NEG. ESCS 619-78 (2)


RATE OF LAY*
NUMBER
66
64
62
1977
1978
1974-76 Average
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*EGGS PER 100 LAYERS, FIRST OF MONTH.
USDA
NEG. ESCS 620-78 (2)

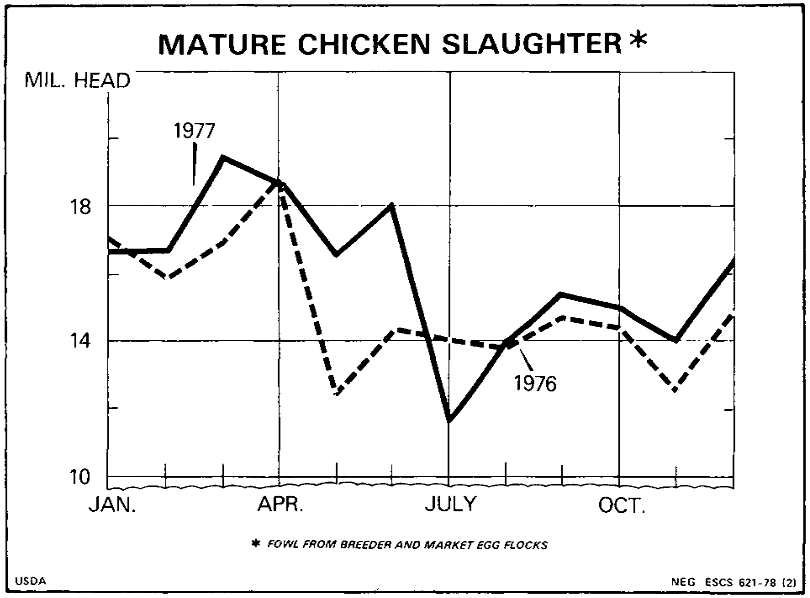

MATURE CHICKEN SLAUGHTER*
MIL. HEAD
1977
18
14
10
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* FOWL FROM BREEDER AND MARKET EGG FLOCKS
USDA
NEG. ESCS 621-78 (2)

Table 4—Egg supplies available to civilians for food

Item	Unit	January-March			April-June			July-September			October-December		
		1976	1977	Change from year earlier	1976	1977	Change from year earlier	1976	1977	Change from year earlier	1976	1977	Change from year earlier
Beginning stocks . .	Mil. doz.	28.2	20.7	-7.5	23.1	20.0	-3.1	23.6	25.2	1.6	23.3	27.2	3.9
Farm Production . .	Mil. doz.	1,352.1	1,324.3	-27.8	1,337.1	1,335.0	-2.1	1,334.7	1,329.9	-4.8	1,352.6	1,413.5	60.9
Imports	Mil. doz.	.1	1.2	1.1	.3	6.2	5.9	1.7	7.2	5.5	1.1	.3	-.8
Exports and shipments	Mil. doz.	15.2	16.1	.9	15.9	23.2	7.3	18.0	26.9	8.9	16.2	24.6	8.4
Military procurements	Mil. doz.	13.1	7.6	-5.5	10.8	10.9	.1	9.3	10.0	.7	12.2	7.8	-4.4
Eggs used for hatching	Mil. doz.	104.6	108.4	3.8	108.1	112.0	3.9	96.4	99.3	2.9	102.0	4.7	
Supplies available to civilians for food:													
Total	Mil. doz.	1,247.5	1,214.1	-33.4	1,225.7	1,215.1	-10.6	1,236.3	1,226.1	-10.2	1,251.3	1,306.6	55.3
Per capita	No.	70.4	68.0	-2.4	69.1	68.0	-1.1	69.6	68.5	-1.1	70.3	72.8	2.5
Civilian population	Mil.	212.5	214.1	1.6	212.8	214.5	1.7	213.2	214.9	1.7	213.7	215.4	1.7

the increase resulted from a larger hatch of broiler-type chicks.

Per capita consumption of eggs in 1977 is estimated at 272 eggs, down 2 eggs from a year earlier. All of the decline was in the consumption of shell eggs, since processed egg use rose from 33 eggs (shell equivalent) in 1976 to almost 37 eggs in 1977.

Breaking Use and Stocks Up

The relatively low stocks of egg products in early 1977 and the reduced shell egg prices during much of the year resulted in a sharp increase in breaking use in 1977. A total of 686 million dozen shell eggs were broken under federal inspection in 1977, up 16 percent from 1976. Liquid egg production for immediate consumption and for processing rose 11 percent to 394 million pounds. Contrary to recent years prior to 1977, liquid egg production for processing showed all the increase and was larger than that used for immediate consumption. Frozen egg production rose 14 percent to 355 million pounds. The production of dried eggs, at 75 million pounds, was up 20 percent.

Cold storage holdings of frozen egg products began last year at very low levels and 28 percent below a year earlier. However, as breaking use rose

Table 5—Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1976-77

Period[1]	Shell eggs broken	Egg products produced[2]		
		Liquid[3]	Frozen	Dried
	Thou. doz.	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*
1976				
Jan. 4-Jan. 31	36,069	21,263	20,190	3,115
Feb. 1-Feb. 28	37,569	23,729	20,670	3,079
Feb. 29-Mar. 27 . . .	44,727	26,076	24,695	4,726
Mar. 28-Apr. 24 . . .	46,143	26,107	26,550	4,443
Apr. 25-May 22 . . .	45,863	28,198	23,688	4,974
May 23-June 30 . . .	68,698	41,699	36,648	6,967
July 1-July 17	28,425	16,315	15,971	3,472
July 18-Aug. 14 . . .	48,264	29,420	23,802	6,064
Aug. 15-Sept. 11 . .	45,044	27,117	22,331	4,840
Sept. 12-Sept. 30 . .	36,847	24,106	16,381	3,986
Oct. 1-Oct. 23	42,290	26,283	21,049	4,841
Oct. 24-Nov. 20 . . .	48,982	29,278	26,585	5,447
Nov. 21-Dec. 18 . . .	42,792	25,120	23,021	4,432
1977				
Dec. 19-Jan. 15 . . .	41,440	23,638	22,606	4,225
Jan. 16-Feb. 12 . . .	41,678	25,598	21,842	4,588
Feb. 13-Mar. 12 . . .	47,126	29,246	23,375	5,725
Mar. 13-Apr. 9	48,514	29,798	24,759	5,263
Apr. 10-May 7	56,549	[illegible],807	29,849	6,518
May 8-June 4	60,437	35,012	31,644	7,001
June 5-July 2	63,793	35,114	34,044	7,688
July 3-July 30	58,114	31,106	30,533	6,349
July 31-Aug. 27 . . .	55,842	31,932	26,739	5,979
Aug. 28-Sept. 30 . .	67,236	38,286	32,030	6,693
Oct. 1-Nov. 5	66,346	37,841	34,438	6,999
Nov. 6-Dec. 3	49,725	27,184	27,330	4,994
Dec. 4-Dec. 31	47,960	25,973	26,340	5,026

[1] Weeks in 1976 and 1977. [2] Includes ingredients added. [3] Liquid egg product produced for immediate consumption and for processing.

so did cold storage holdings. Stocks surpassed a year earlier on July 1, and by January 1, 1978, they were up 16 percent.

Although stocks of egg products have increased, they are still well below other recent years. Thus, breakers will likely continue to take more eggs than last year in the seasonally low price period this spring.

BROILERS

Broiler production is expected to be up around 7 to 8 percent in the first-half of 1978 but the margin of increase is expected to narrow in the second half. Broiler prices will be under downward pressures in coming months from larger broiler supplies and expanding pork production.

Expansion to Continue in 1978

Broiler production early this year continues at record levels. Many areas of the country have again experienced severe winter storms this year, with substantial losses in some areas. However, losses in broiler output to the industry as a whole likely were well below those in early 1977. During the first 6 weeks of 1978 the number of broilers inspected for slaughter in federally inspected plants was up nearly 8 percent from the same weeks of 1977. In addition, marketing weights averaged 1 percent heavier, indicating that broiler meat output was up nearly 9 percent. This, and weekly chick placement activity, indicate that broiler output for all of January-March will total around 8 percent more than in the first quarter of 1977 (table 6).

Favorable profit margins in early 1978 have caused most producers to place all available hatching eggs in their incubators. Egg sets during the 3 weeks ending February 18 were 5 percent above a year ago. Producers likely will continue to use all of the available hatching eggs in coming months. However, as we approach the peak setting period in early spring, there may not be enough hatching eggs available to hold the present rate of increase over 1977.

Although there may be some slowing in the expansion, broiler output during this spring and summer could still be 6 to 8 percent above a year earlier. The expansion in broiler output may slacken later this year as sharply higher pork supplies become available.

Table 6—Broiler: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1976-78

Weeks*	Eggs set		Percent of previous year	Chicks placed		Percent of previous year
	1976-77	1977-78	1977-78	1976-77	1977-78	1977-78
	Thousands		*Percent*	*Thousands*		*Percent*
November						
5	74,739	78,693	105	54,404	58,569	108
12	75,892	82,229	108	60,157	61,785	103
19	74,933	82,426	110	61,816	64,802	103
26	74,888	81,729	109	60,965	64,008	105
3	74,235	82,489	111	61,886	66,475	107
December						
10	75,706	82,889	109	61,482	66,748	109
17	77,166	83,576	108	61,127	65,874	108
24	77,004	83,249	108	60,809	66,077	109
31	78,075	84,096	108	61,875	66,146	107
January						
7	78,653	84,911	108	63,003	67,215	107
14	78,350	84,828	108	62,986	68,010	108
21	77,598	85,761	111	63,984	68,139	106
28	78,715	86,348	110	64,335	67,858	105
February						
4	80,718	85,618	106	64,124	68,316	107
11	82,745	86,134	104	63,498	69,243	109
18	83,662	87,545	105	65,240	69,462	106
25						

*Weeks in 1976-77 and corresponding weeks in 1977-78.

Hatchery Supply Flock May Limit Broiler Expansion

Unlike most recent years, the broiler hatchery supply flock also may limit the increase in broiler production. Industry sources indicate that all available eggs are being used. Although the indicated size of the hatchery supply flock was near a year earlier in early February, around 5 percent more eggs were being placed in incubators.

On the basis of pullet chick placement data 7 to 14 months earlier, the hatchery supply flock during February was up around 1 percent, will drop below 1977 during March and April, and then exceed last year by 3 to 4 percent by midyear. Of course, flock size and the number of eggs available for hatching also depends on flock management, rate of production, and utilization of eggs produced. Layers can be held in the flock longer and some eggs may be used for hatching that would not normally be used in incubators during periods of more plentiful supplies.

Higher than year-earlier pullet placements since last September will begin to show in the hatchery supply flocks in the spring during the peak hatching period. This will help relieve the pressure on hatching egg supplies later in the year.

Broiler Prices

Despite larger broiler supplies and red meat supplies about the same as a year ago, broiler prices in 1978 have been near or above 1977. Winter storms have been a contributing factor to the strong prices. Wholesale prices in 9 cities for the first 6 weeks of 1978 were relatively stable, running near the 40-cents-a-pound level. However, prices have strengthened in mid-February to almost 46 cents. They likely will weaken in coming weeks as the weather returns to more normal patterns. Prices are expected to average 40 to 42 cents for January-March but begin to ease during April-June as the larger pork supplies begin to reach the market place. Higher per capita incomes and lower beef output will offset some of the downward price pressures of increased broiler and pork supplies.

Broiler prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		9-city	
	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Cents per pound			
I	24.6	23.3	42.2	40.9
II	24.1	24.4	41.7	42.3
III	24.0	24.7	41.5	42.4
IV	19.8	21.4	35.5	37.6
Annual ...	23.1	23.5	40.2	40.8

Broiler Prospects for Third Quarter 1978

Broiler producers have been in a relatively profitable situation in recent months as broiler prices have exceeded earlier expectations largely because pork prices have held up longer than expected. However, pork supplies are expected to pick up sharply in coming months and prices to decline substantially, leading to increased competition with broiler meat in the marketplace.

Production costs during July-September may not be appreciably different from current levels barring unforeseen developments in the U.S. and foreign corn and soybean crops in 1978. With large grain stocks and if near record U.S. crops are harvested in 1978/79, large supplies could limit corn and soybean meal price gains. The costs of other items used in production and marketing will probably continue their upward trend of recent years.

Broiler prices normally increase seasonally and reach their highs of the year during the summer. But the summer price rise will likely be small this year because of increasing pork supplies. However, this may be partially offset by gains in consumers' disposable incomes, more people employed, and lower beef supplies.

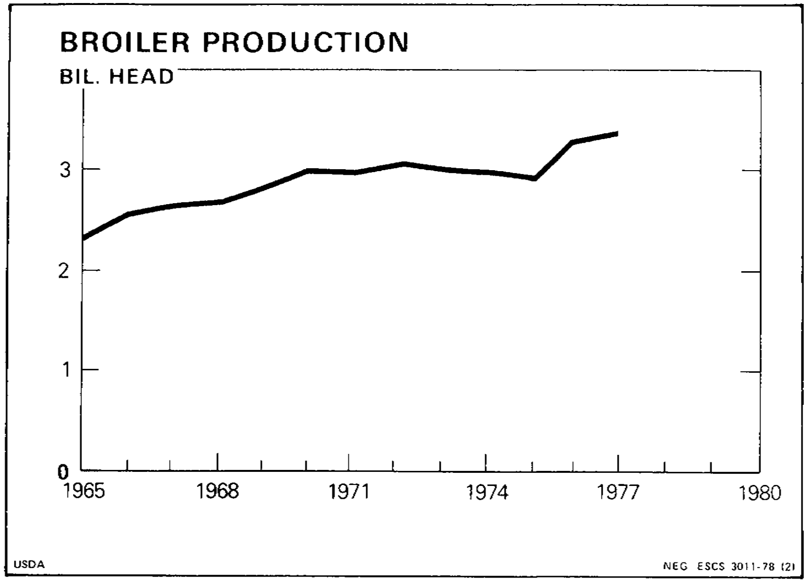
Table 7—Estimated 3rd quarter 1978 broiler price/consumption relationships[1]

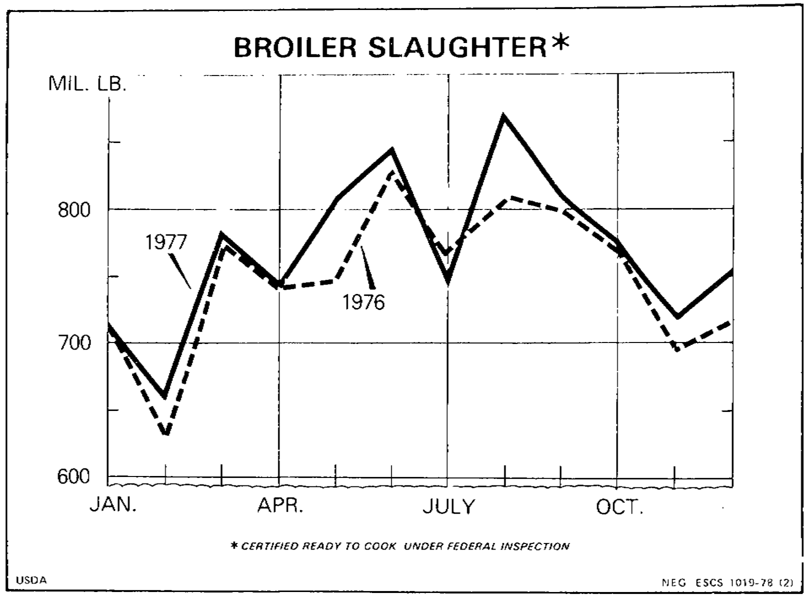
Domestic civilian per capita consumption		Estimated 9-city wholesale broiler price
Pounds	Percent change from year earlier	
		Cents per lb.
9.3	-15	51-53
9.8	-10	48-50
10.3	-5	45-47
10.8	-0-	[2] 42-44
11.3	+5	39-41
11.8	+10	36-38
12.3	+15	33-35

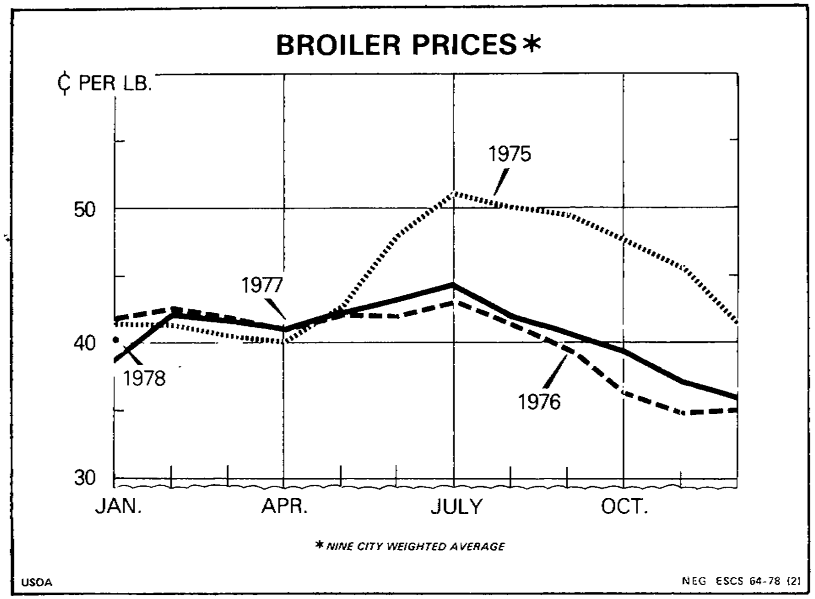
[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] The estimated 42-44 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats and general economic activity and assumes no change from a year earlier in per capita consumption of broilers.

The prices other than the base 42-44 cents per pound were estimated by assuming the same conditions for competing meats and economic activity as under the base but various changes from a year earlier in the per capita consumption of broilers.

With beef and pork supplies and consumers' incomes about as expected during next July-September, and broiler output around 6 percent above a year earlier, the 9-city broiler price likely will average 1 to 3 cents a pound below the 42.4 cents of last year (table 7). Past relationships indicate that if broiler output is held at the same level as in 1977, prices would average near a year earlier.


BROILER PRODUCTION
BIL. HEAD
0
1
2
3
1965
1968
1971
1974
1977
1980
USDA
NEG ESCS 3011-78 (2)


BROILER SLAUGHTER*
MIL. LB.
600
700
800
1977
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* CERTIFIED READY TO COOK UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
USDA
NEG ESCS 1019-78 (2)


BROILER PRICES*
¢ PER LB.
30
40
50
1975
1977
1978
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* NINE CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE
USDA
NEG ESCS 64-78 (2)

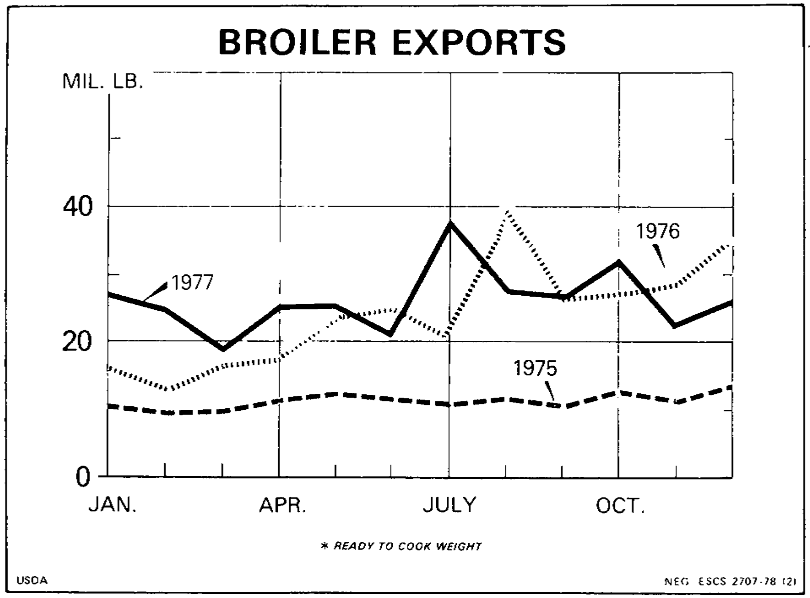

BROILER EXPORTS
MIL. LB.
0
20
40
1977
1976
1975
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* READY TO COOK WEIGHT
USDA
NEG ESCS 2707-78 (2)

Table 8— Young chicken: Supply and utilization, Third quarter 1965-77

Year	Production	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Population	Per capita
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Pounds*
1965	1,605	26	1,631	26	29	22	1,554	191.9	8.1
1966	1,748	27	1,775	38	33	19	1,684	193.6	8.7
1967	1,745	49	1,794	48	37	23	1,687	195.5	8.6
1968	1,793	28	1,822	25	40	19	1,737	197.3	8.8
1969	1,903	23	1,926	25	45	21	1,835	199.4	9.2
1970	2,020	43	2,063	42	48	15	1,958	202.0	9.7
1971	2,041	39	2,080	37	58	12	1,974	204.5	9.7
1972	2,095	24	2,119	24	47	9	2,039	206.7	9.9
1973	2,048	20	2,068	28	44	12	1,985	208.3	9.5
1974	2,110	37	2,146	35	56	10	2,044	209.9	9.7
1975	2,110	23	2,133	23	65	9	2,035	211.6	9.6
1976	2,390	20	2,410	24	117	6	2,262	213.2	10.6
1977	2,443	34	2,477	32	129	1	2,315	214.9	10.8

1977 Broiler Output High

Broiler meat production in 1977, at 9,227 million pounds (ready-to-cook weight), increased nearly 3 percent from 1976's record output. Young chickens inspected for slaughter in federally inspected plants during 1977 were up 2.5 percent to 3,334 million birds. The average liveweight increased slightly to average 3.82 pounds per bird.

Broilers slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	764.7	782.3	3.82	3.82	2,116.4	2,156.2
II	842.9	869.1	3.78	3.80	2,313.7	2,398.5
III	864.8	884.4	3.79	3.78	2,371.6	2,424.1
IV	780.4	798.3	3.87	3.90	2,185.5	2,248.4
Annual	3,252.8	3,334.1	3.81	3.82	8,987.3	9,227.3

Total production figures will be available in April but the percentage gain from the previous year will be little different from the federally inspected figures. In 1976, nearly 99 percent of the total broilers produced went through federally inspected plants.

Condemnations increased in 1977, with most of the increase occurring early in the year because of the severe winter weather. Ante-mortem condemnations in 1977 amounted to 50 million pounds liveweight, 0.40 percent of the total pounds inspected, compared with 40 million pounds and 0.33 percent in 1976. Post-mortem condemnations totaled the equivalent of about 233 million pounds liveweight, compared with 218 million pounds in 1976.

Disappearance Large in 1977

The disappearance of broiler meat in 1977 kept pace with the larger production. Domestic consumption, exports, shipments to U.S. territories, and USDA purchases were all above 1976.

Consumption of young chicken (primarily broilers) was about 41.2 pounds per person in 1977, up from 1976's 40.4 pounds per person. Consumption will continue to gain in 1978 as larger supplies move to market because of continued expansion in broiler production.

A bright spot in the broiler industry in 1977 was the continued gain in exports of broilers. Exports of young chickens gained nearly a tenth from the record 1976 level to total 313 million pounds. These exports accounted for 3.4 percent of estimated total production, compared with 3.2 percent in 1976.

Most of the gain in exports last year was to the Far East, particularly to Japan, the largest importer of U.S. broilers (table 9). Exports to Japan during 1977 increased over 14 million pounds to 61 million pounds. Exports to Mexico increased, while those to Canada and the Caribbean declined. In the Middle East, sharp gains were recorded in exports of broilers to Egypt, Saudia Arabia, and Iran, while those to Iraq were down by nearly a half. Exports to the EC-9 countries, although relatively small, increased by more than a third to 5.6 million pounds. Despite gains in exports to the 9 countries in recent years, exports are still far below the levels of 1962 when the European Economic Community was formed. Broiler production is expected to continue expanding in other countries besides the United States and this will lead to

Table 9— U.S. young chicken exports to major importers, 1962, 1965, 1970, 1975-77

Country or area	1962	1965	1970	1975	1976	1977
	1,000 pounds					
Canada	1,459	2,978	1,380	6,588	16,072	14,908
Mexico	701	780	2,068	9,569	11,651	12,088
Jamaica	670	1,241	12,057	24,148	36,982	32,055
Barbados	617	1,313	6,632	3,703	4,839	2,934
Netherlands Antilles	2,145	2,936	4,493	6,660	8,743	8,340
United Kingdom	113	741	523	298	1,259	1,938
Netherlands	19,457	5,616	152	260	580	1,493
West Germany	93,290	20,752	1,231	492	833	1,287
Greece	2,896	5,562	3,241	145	190	205
Switzerland	19,890	1,970	12,941	363	1,671	1,290
Hong Kong	10,840	8,356	17,141	20,131	37,948	40,719
Japan	612	9,219	9,800	29,114	47,037	61,074
Singapore	602	0	1,279	10,102	13,940	19,270
Iraq	0	0	0	0	62,026	31,570
Saudia Arabia	188	1,270	263	793	1,671	1,973
U.S.S.R.	0	0	0	0	4,830	13,966
Egypt	788	1,132	—	—	40	12,302
Nigeria	72	43	—	710	4,061	8,419
Other	19,096	25,178	20,506	22,365	33,036	47,458
Total	172,576	87,912	93,707	137,731	287,409	313,289

more competition for our broilers in foreign markets in 1978.

Shipments in 1977 of young chickens to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (U.S. territories) totaled 128 million pounds. This compared with 127 million pounds in 1976.

USDA Purchases

Purchases of young chickens and young chicken products for child nutrition and elderly feeding programs in calendar 1977 totaled 62.1 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chickens, and 3.5 million pounds of cooked frozen cut-up chicken at a total cost of $33.5 million. This compares with 47.1 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chicken and 576,000 pounds of cooked frozen cut-up chicken during calendar 1976 at a cost of $23.2 million.

Purchases are continuing in early 1978. Through February 22, 20.5 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chicken and 1.7 million pounds of frozen cooked cut-up chicken were purchased, This compared with 11.3 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chicken for the comparable weeks of 1977.

TURKEYS

Turkey production is running ahead of a year earlier and likely will continue to do so throughout 1978. Larger turkey production, combined with expanding supplies of competing meats, probably will push turkey prices below year-earlier levels in the second half of 1978.

Production to Gain in 1978

Turkey output this year is running ahead of 1977 and at record levels for this time of year. Weekly slaughter reports for the first 6 weeks of 1978 show turkey meat output in federally inspected plants was 9 percent ahead of the same weeks a year ago. The number of turkeys inspected for slaughter was up 5 percent and the average weight per bird slaughtered was up 4 percent.

Poult production during September-January was 7 percent above the previous year. In addition, there were 8 percent more turkey eggs in incubators on February 1 (table 10). This means that there will be signficantly more turkeys going to slaughter during the first half of 1978. The average marketing weights may continue heavier than a year ago because a larger proportion of the turkeys marketed will be heavy breeds.

Turkey poult production will increase seasonally as we move into the heavy hatching season. May is normally the heaviest hatching month and over half the season's crop is hatched during the months of March through June. Turkey marketings during the seasonally light January-June period usually account for less than a third of the year's total.

January Stocks Lowest in Over a Decade

Lower turkey production and strong demand in 1977 resulted in turkey cold storage stocks dropping to their lowest levels since the early 1960's. Stocks on January 1, 1978 totaled 168 million pounds, 18 percent below a year earlier and the lowest January 1 stocks since 1961. The relatively

Table 10—Turkey hatchery operations, United States and 9 States, 1976-78

Month	United States				9-States[1]			
	Hatch		Change from year earlier		Hatch		Change from year earlier	
	1976-77	1977-78	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month	1976-77	1977-78	Hatch	Eggs in incubators first of month
	Thou.	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*	*Thou.*	*Thou.*	*Pct.*	*Pct.*
September	4,259	4,514	6	5	3,635	3,768	4	4
October	4,967	5,163	4	7	4,055	4,056	0	5
November	6,087	5,976	-2	-1	5,075	4,510	-11	-12
December	7,633	8,472	11	11	5,974	6,528	9	10
January	10,771	11,806	10	7	8,389	9,191	10	6
February	12,733			8	9,767			5
March	18,091				13,851			
April	19,511				14,903			
May	20,967				15,963			
June	18,925				14,755			
July	15,447				12,252			
August	8,147				6,607			

[1] California, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

low January 1 turkey stocks will be a price-strengthening factor in coming months. The 36-million-pound decline in January 1 stocks is equal to 17 percent of first quarter 1977 production.

Turkey Prices Strong

Turkey prices have weakened in early 1978 but are still well above a year earlier. Price weakness has been greater for the young hens. New York wholesale prices for 8- to 16-pound young hen turkeys averaged about 59 cents a pound in mid-February, down around 8 cents from their highs in December but still 9 cents above a year earlier. Young toms averaged 60 cents a pound in mid-February, about the same as in December but also about 9 cents above a year ago.

Turkey prices are expected to decline in coming months and likely will trail year-earlier levels during the second half of 1978. Turkey meat will face much stronger competition from larger broiler and pork supplies than in 1977. However, smaller beef supplies and gains in consumers' incomes, combined with strong demand for turkeys for further processing, may hold market prices above the cost of production and marketing during much of 1978.

Turkey prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight		New York wholesale			
			Young hens 8-16 pounds		Young toms 14-20 pounds	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Cents per pound					
I	32.8	33.0	49.3	50.2	47.6	51.4
II	31.7	33.6	48.2	51.5	49.3	51.7
III	31.0	33.9	48.5	53.1	47.7	52.6
IV	31.8	38.5	49.0	61.3	50.2	59.8
Annual	31.7	34.8	48.7	54.0	48.7	53.8

Tom turkey prices, 24-26 pounds, f.o.b. New York[1]

Month	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
	Cents per pound				
January	41.5	48.9	49.8	52.4	54.2
February	44.5	47.0	46.9	50.7	55.4
March	51.1	45.6	44.6	53.7	57.3
April	52.5	39.3	46.0	54.6	58.1
May	57.6	41.1	50.0	60.0	59.3
June	62.7	41.4	53.2	56.3	59.0
July	64.2	37.4	54.4	56.3	58.1
August	75.4	45.1	56.4	55.4	56.8
September	77.0	46.5	57.9	51.3	56.8
October	67.8	45.2	60.7	51.6	59.0
November	57.7	46.9	60.1	51.6	59.9
December	56.4	49.8	56.9	55.0	60.7
Year	59.0	44.5	53.1	54.1	57.9

[1] U.S. Grade A, frozen, ready-to-cook, carlots or trucklots.

1977 Turkey Crop Down

The 1977 turkey crop totaled 136 million turkeys, down 3 percent from the record 140 million in 1976. Heavy breed turkeys totaled nearly 124 million, about the same as a year earlier, while light breeds declined 26 percent to 12 million.

Turkey output in federally inspected plants for 1977 totaled 1,892 million pounds (ready-to-cook weight), down nearly 3 percent from 1976. The number of birds inspected for slaughter dropped nearly 5 percent but the average marketing weight gained about 2 percent to 18.65 pounds liveweight.

Turkey slaughtered in Federally inspected plants

Calendar quarters	Number inspected		Average live weight		Certified	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Lb.*	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Mil. lb.*
I	14.7	15.0	17.9	17.9	206.6	209.5
II	27.1	26.3	17.2	17.6	368.5	365.4
III.....	49.6	46.2	18.1	18.4	710.4	672.2
IV	43.0	40.8	19.5	20.0	664.5	645.3
Annual .	134.3	128.3	18.3	18.6	1,950.1	1,892.5

The reduced 1977 turkey production was largely the result of unprofitability during most of 1976 and early 1977. Production lagged year-earlier levels throughout 1977.

Much of the increased demand for turkey meat in 1977 was for further processing. Further processing of turkeys other than whole birds increased nearly a tenth from 1976 and totaled 665 million pounds. This was equal to 35 percent of total turkey output, compared with 31 percent in 1976. Further processed whole bird turkeys (turkeys which have been injected, basted, marinated or smoked and packaged whole) gained 3 percent to 459 million pounds while cut-up turkey was up a tenth to 426 million pounds. The total of further processed and cut-up turkey in 1977 was equal to 82 percent of the total output in federally inspected plants.

Exports and Shipments Drop in 1977

Lower production and higher prices for U.S. turkeys in 1977 were reflected in lower exports and shipments to U.S. territories. Exports and shipments combined declined 15 million pounds to 56 million. Exports of whole turkey and turkey parts (excluding livers) totaled nearly 54 million pounds, down 17 percent from 1976. Although exports declined sharply to all areas of the world, they were up to some individual countries. West Germany, our largest customer, took slightly more turkey in 1977 and accounted for 43 percent of our total exports of turkey. Canada, our second largest customer, dropped 70 percent, taking only about 1.7 million pounds of turkey. Turkey parts continued to take a large share of the export market in 1977 and accounted for more than four-fifths of the total, compared with 68 percent in 1976.

Last year, shipments to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (U.S. territories) totaled 2.2 million pounds, down nearly 63 percent from 1976.

USDA Purchases

Purchases of young turkeys and cooked turkey rolls for use in child nutrition and elderly feeding programs in 1977 totaled the equivalent of about 73 million pounds of ready-to-cook carcass turkey—19 million pounds of ready-to-cook young turkey and 34 million pounds of cooked turkey rolls. This compares with 1976 purchases of 37 million pounds of ready-to-cook young turkey and 17 million pounds of cooked turkey rolls for an equivalent of about 64 million pounds of ready-to-cook carcass turkey. Total 1977 purchases were equal to nearly 4 percent of the total turkey meat production. Purchases of young turkeys and cooked turkey rolls continued larger into 1978, with purchases through February 23 totaling 700,000 pounds of young turkey and 9.9 million pounds of cooked turkey rolls.

Turkey Consumption About Same as 1976

Turkey meat use during 1977 was about the same as the record 9.2 pounds per person of 1976. Although production was down around 3 percent from the previous year, consumption was maintained by a drawdown in cold storage stocks and a sharp drop in exports and shipments in 1977.

Prospects for the Second Half of 1978

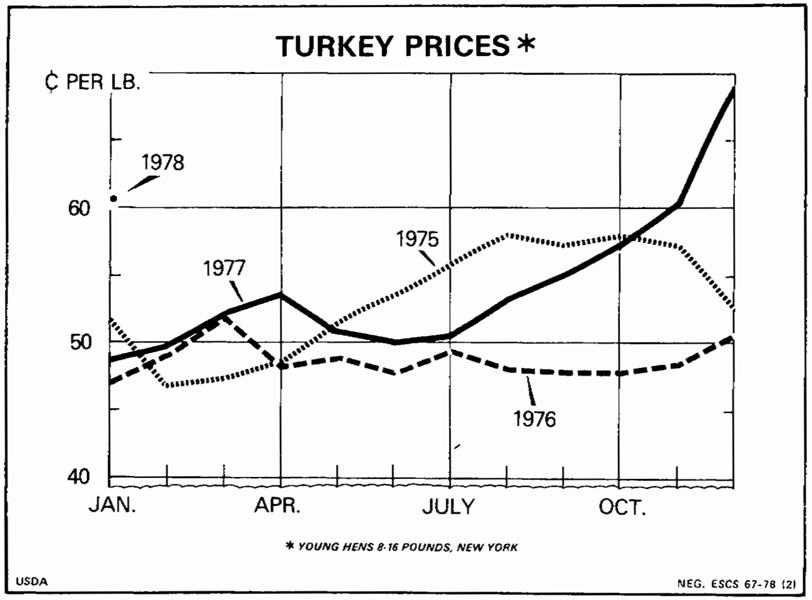
Consumer demand for turkeys after mid-1978 likely will be weaker than in 1977. Prospects are for a gain in consumers' disposable incomes, increases in the number of people employed, some easing in unemployment, and reduced beef supplies. However, these are not expected to be strong enough to offset the effect of lower broiler and pork prices and increased turkey production.

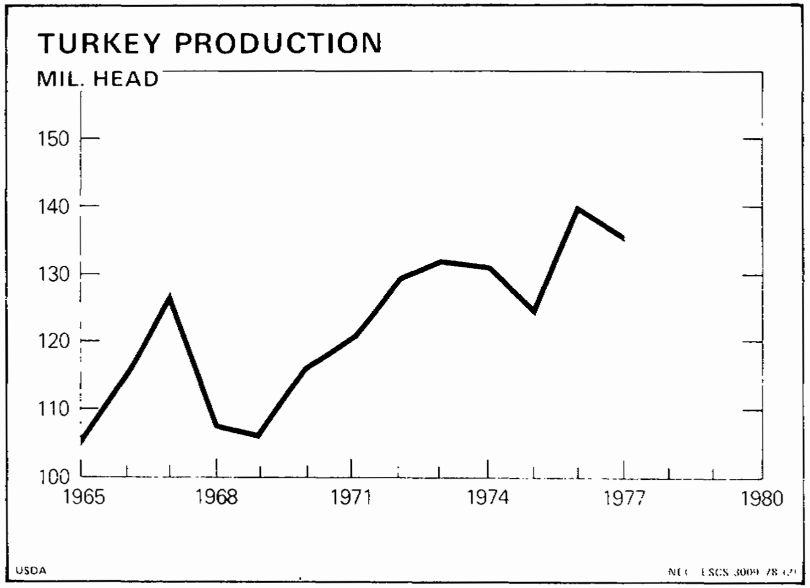
Table 11—Estimated 2nd half 1978 turkey price/production relationships[1]

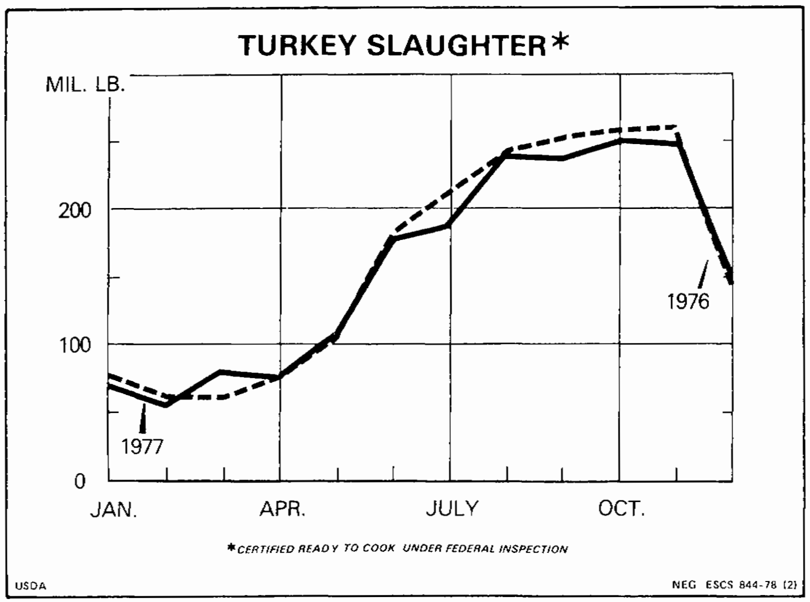
Total turkey production: Million pounds	Total turkey production: Percent change from year earlier	Estimated New York wholesale price for young hen turkey[2]
		Cents per pound
1,120	-15	59-62
1,185	-10	57-60
1,250	-5	55-58
1,317	0	[3] 53-56
1,384	+5	51-54
1,450	+10	49-52
1,515	+15	47-50

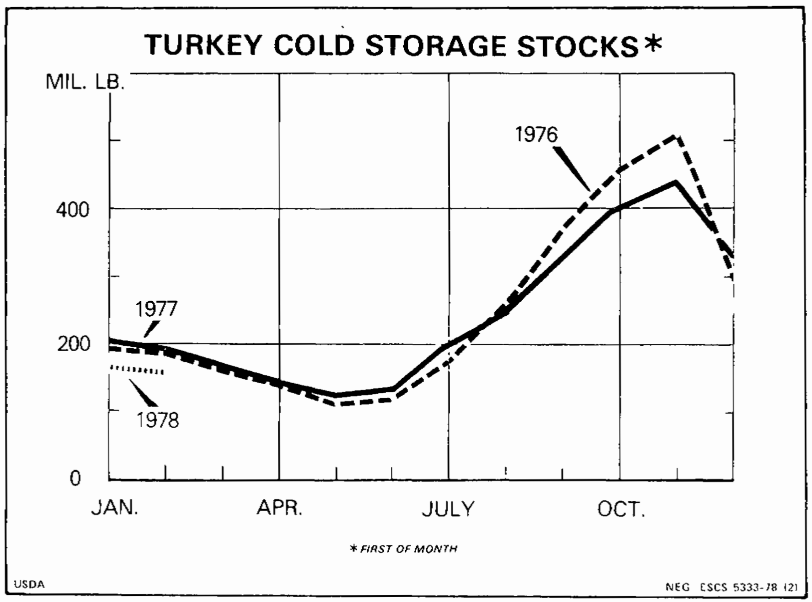
[1] Based on historical relationships. [2] Simple average for 8-16 pound young hen turkeys, f.o.b. dock or equivalent in carlots or trucklots, U.S. Grade A, frozen, ready-to-cook. [3] The estimated 53-56 cents per pound is based on prospective conditions for competing meats, general economic activity, and cold storage holdings of turkey meat and assumes no change from a year earlier in the federally inspected slaughter of turkey.

The prices, other than the base 53-56 cents per pound were estimated by assuming the same conditions as under the base for competing meats, economic activity, and cold storage holdings but various changes from a year earlier in the slaughter of turkey.


TURKEY PRICES *
¢ PER LB.
60
50
40
1978
1977
1975
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* YOUNG HENS 8-16 POUNDS, NEW YORK
USDA
NEG. ESCS 67-78 (2)


TURKEY PRODUCTION
MIL. HEAD
150
140
130
120
110
100
1965
1968
1971
1974
1977
1980
USDA


TURKEY SLAUGHTER*
MIL. LB.
200
100
0
1977
1976
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
*CERTIFIED READY TO COOK UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
USDA
NEG ESCS 844-78 (2)


TURKEY COLD STORAGE STOCKS*
MIL. LB.
400
200
0
1976
1977
1978
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
* FIRST OF MONTH
USDA
NEG ESCS 5333-78 (2)

Production costs for turkeys marketed in the second half of 1978 may be near current levels but below the relatively high costs of second half 1977. Soybean meal prices are not expected to surge as they did in 1977. Feed grains and soybeans for domestic feeding should be plentiful in 1978 and into 1979, barring unforeseen export demand or adverse weather conditions for the 1978 crops. The cost of most items, other than feed ingredients, used in production and marketing will continue to trend upward.

Cold storage stocks on July 1 may be up a little from last year's 201 million pounds but likely will not gain enough to be burdensome. However, the larger the buildup of stocks the more downward pressure there will be on market prices for turkeys. January 1 stocks were down 36 million pounds from January 1, 1977 and the lowest since the early 1960's. Total demand for turkey will be partially dependent on the continued demand for turkeys for further processing beyond the whole bird.

New York wholesale prices for 8- to 16-pound young hens next summer and fall could average 3 to 6 cents a pound below the 57-cent average of July-December 1977 if turkey meat output is around 5 percent above a year earlier (table 11). This price projection would also be dependent on gains in consumers' disposable incomes, supplies of competing meats, and turkey stocks near July 1, 1977.

Table 12— Forced molt layers as a percent of hens and pullets of laying age, first of month, selected states, 1977-78

State	Being molted				Molt completed			
	January		Debruary		January		February	
	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978	1977	1978
	Percent							
Alabama	.5	1.0	2.0	.5	6.0	9.5	5.5	8.0
Arkansas	1.5	.5	1.5	2.5	6.5	7.5	7.5	5.5
California	6.0	4.5	9.0	9.5	35.0	36.5	35.0	33.0
Florida	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	19.0	18.5	18.5	14.0
Georgia	6.5	4.0	4.5	3.0	18.5	11.5	14.5	10.0
Indiana	2.5	2.0	1.0	3.0	6.0	6.0	7.5	4.0
Iowa	1.5	2.5	1.5	2.0	7.0	5.0	8.5	5.0
Mississippi	.5	4.0	.5	2.0	.5	3.0	.5	3.0
New York	1.0	1.5	.5	1.5	6.5	4.0	7.0	3.0
North Carolina	1.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	5.0	6.5	4.0	6.0
Ohio	1.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	9.5	6.5	10.0	6.0
Oregon	3.0	4.5	3.5	8.0	32.0	24.0	26.5	23.5
Pennsylvania	1.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.5	4.5	4.0	4.0
South Carolina	3.0	.5	1.0	2.0	6.5	8.5	5.0	5.0
Tennessee	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	10.0	4.0	7.0	2.5
Texas	2.5	1.0	2.5	1.0	8.0	2.0	5.0	2.5
Washington	10.0	4.5	11.0	7.0	41.0	36.5	35.0	31.5
17 States	3.2	2.4	3.4	3.7	15.1	13.6	14.4	11.9

Table 13—Cold storage holdings of high protein foods

Item	Unit	January 1		February 1	
		1977	1978	1977	1978
		Thousands			
Total eggs[1]	Case	689	790	710	696
Shell	do.	28	39	29	33
Frozen	Pound	661	751	681	663
Total poultry	do.	362,810	309,129	334,615	299,943
Total chickens	do.	154,523	137,984	139,271	132,084
Broilers, fryers and roasters	do.	32,909	29,778	27,358	27,629
Hens	do.	42,112	27,688	40,508	30,532
Other frozen chicken	do.	79,502	80,518	71,405	73,923
Total turkey	do.	203,355	167,645	190,259	164,826
Whole	do.	147,754	108,571	134,596	106,123
Other	do.	55,601	59,074	55,663	58,703
Ducks	do.	4,932	3,500	5,085	3,033

[1] Frozen eggs converted on the basis of 39.5 pounds to the case. [2] Includes other meat and meat products.

Table 14—Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs		Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	14 metro areas price[2]	
	Cents per dozen				
Annual average[2]					
1972	17.3	28.9	43.3	40.5	-2.8
1973	29.2	41.7	58.1	64.3	6.2
1974	31.0	45.4	63.5	63.0	-0.4
1975	29.0	43.5	61.8	62.9	1.0
1976	28.6	43.1	61.6	69.9	8.2
1977[4]	27.5	42.0	61.2	63.8	2.6
1976					
I	26.9	41.4	59.9	67.7	7.9
II	27.9	42.4	60.9	62.5	1.7
III	31.4	45.9	64.4	71.2	6.8
IV	28.4	42.9	61.4	77.9	16.5
1977[4]					
I	29.6	44.1	63.3	74.4	11.1
II	31.8	46.3	65.5	58.9	-6.5
III	25.5	40.0	59.2	62.7	3.6
IV	23.4	37.9	57.1	59.4	2.3

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly egg production less estimated eggs used for hatching. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for Grade A large eggs. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 15—Estimated costs and returns for broilers[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	9-city weighted average price[2]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	9.0	14.3	28.2	28.2	-0.1
1973	16.4	22.2	39.8	42.4	2.6
1974	15.8	22.0	40.1	38.0	-2.0
1975	15.1	21.3	39.4	45.2	5.8
1976	15.0	21.3	40.2	40.2	0.0
1977[4]	15.5	21.8	40.8	40.9	0.1
1976					
I	13.7	20.0	38.4	42.1	3.8
II	14.1	20.4	38.9	41.7	2.8
III	16.5	22.8	42.2	41.5	-0.7
IV	15.8	22.1	41.2	35.5	-5.7
1977[4]					
I	15.7	22.0	41.2	40.9	-0.3
II	17.6	23.9	43.7	42.4	-1.3
III	16.0	22.3	41.6	42.3	0.7
IV	12.3	18.6	36.5	37.6	1.1

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly broiler slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for ready-to-cook broilers. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 16—Estimated costs and returns for turkeys[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	New York young hen price[2]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	13.5	20.5	34.1	36.6	2.5
1973	25.6	33.1	50.6	64.5	13.9
1974	22.5	30.7	48.8	47.0	-1.8
1975	22.1	30.7	49.4	55.1	5.8
1976	22.5	31.5	51.3	48.6	-2.8
1977[4]	22.5	31.5	51.4	55.0	3.6
1976					
I	20.2	29.2	48.5	49.4	0.9
II	20.5	29.5	48.9	48.1	-0.9
III	22.6	31.6	51.5	48.5	-3.0
IV	24.1	33.1	53.3	48.7	-4.7
1977[4]					
I	22.1	31.1	50.9	50.4	-0.6
II	24.3	33.3	53.7	51.0	-2.6
III	25.4	34.4	55.0	53.2	-1.8
IV	18.7	27.7	46.6	60.6	14.0

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly turkey slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for heavy young turkey hens. [4] Preliminary. [5] May not add across due to rounding.

Table 17—Turkey breeder hens: Number on farms, selected States, December 1, 1975-77

State	Heavy breeds			Light breeds			All breeds			1977 as % of 1976
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	
	1,000 hd.									*Percent*
Arkansas[1]							44	44	57	130
California	642	550	550	58	50	20	700	600	570	95
Georgia	38	39	46				38	39	46	118
Illinois	38	40	50				38	40	50	125
Iowa	100	131	82	3	4	3	103	135	85	63
Michigan	61	55	52	1			62	55	52	95
Minnesota	330	360	390	175	120	90	505	480	480	100
Missouri[1]							155	220	220	100
Nebraska	11	9	8				11	9	8	89
North Carolina[1]							304	320	350	109
Ohio[1]							98	109	104	95
Oregon[1]							70	60	45	75
Pennsylvania	19	16	14	8	8	3	27	24	17	71
South Carolina[1]							78	39	39	100
Texas	470	440	460	12			482	440	460	105
Utah[3]	40	37					40	37		
Virginia	80	106	127	43	56	29	123	162	156	96
West Virginia	10	10	23	4	4	5	14	14	28	
Wisconsin	91	73	73				91	73	73	100
Other States[2]							115	164	205	125
TOTAL	2,697	2,768	2,878	401	296	167	3,098	3,064	3,045	99

[1] Breakdown by breeds not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. [2] Breakdown by breeds not published for 1975 and/or 1976 to avoid disclosing individual operations. [3] Colorado, Kansas, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Washington combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Table 18—Chickens: Number on Farms by classes and by regions, December 1, 1970-77

Year	North Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	Alaska and Hawaii	United States
	1,000 head							
	TOTAL HENS AND PULLETS OF LAYING AGE							
1970	43,737	43,833	42,936	67,702	68,045	56,166	964	323,383
1971	40,842	44,839	41,143	68,204	66,364	55,607	979	317,978
1972	39,766	44,050	38,181	65,016	63,725	48,430	986	300,154
1973	37,336	41,197	37,267	65,113	61,108	50,770	1,012	293,803
1974	37,492	41,338	34,680	60,959	58,169	52,329	1,066	286,033
1975	35,821	41,168	33,754	59,842	56,923	51,256	979	279,743
1976	36,056	39,340	32,570	60,968	59,070	50,610	1,040	279,654
1977	36,692	38,625	31,394	65,757	62,045	51,034	1,031	286,578
	PULLETS 3 MONTHS OLD AND OLDER NOT OF LAYING AGE							
1970	5,123	6,323	5,374	12,398	12,194	8,613	181	50,206
1971	5,287	6,403	5,584	12,729	12,905	7,460	191	50,559
1972	4,874	6,069	4,980	12,921	12,624	7,170	195	48,833
1973	5,743	6,482	5,196	13,224	13,594	7,649	138	52,026
1974	5,157	6,775	4,967	11,578	10,851	7,269	155	46,752
1975	5,711	6,441	4,896	13,365	11,002	6,862	127	48,404
1976	5,803	5,449	4,964	12,273	12,364	6,829	87	47,769
1977	5,834	6,143	4,693	12,599	11,837	6,164	137	47,404
	PULLETS UNDER 3 MONTHS OLD							
1970	4,908	6,330	4,385	14,664	12,587	9,860	260	52,994
1971	4,928	6,334	3,833	12,062	12,350	7,131	270	46,908
1972	4,924	5,872	4,198	12,507	12,330	9,006	185	49,022
1973	5,422	7,017	5,074	15,857	13,788	9,514	182	56,854
1974	5,228	6,485	4,019	12,071	11,060	6,839	130	45,832
1975	5,220	6,595	4,185	12,051	11,348	6,700	162	46,261
1976	5,325	6,866	3,833	11,549	11,608	5,845	158	45,184
1977	5,569	6,733	4,535	11,710	11,434	6,413	160	46,554
	TOTAL ALL CHICKENS							
1970	54,327	56,882	53,293	96,921	95,306	75,145	1,406	433,280
1971	51,562	57,974	51,125	95,158	93,908	70,595	1,441	421,763
1972	50,075	56,337	47,888	92,557	91,028	64,939	1,367	404,191
1973	48,978	55,054	47,997	96,264	90,880	68,263	1,333	408,769
1974	48,286	54,919	44,116	86,502	82,064	66,862	1,352	384,101
1975	47,085	54,541	43,249	87,069	81,357	65,184	1,269	379,754
1976	47,520	51,962	41,720	86,763	85,329	63,658	1,286	378,238
1977	48,563	51,810	40,980	92,192	87,755	63,902	1,329	386,531

Table 19— Prices and price spreads for large eggs, 1975-77[1]

Item	Annual average 1975	Annual average 1976	Annual average 1977	October 1976	November 1976	December 1976	October 1977	November 1977	December 1977
	Cents per dozen								
10-City average prices									
Farm price	49.4	54.2	50.8	56.2	57.8	65.3	43.6	47.2	40.2
Price to retailer	64.9	[2] 71.5	67.6	73.3	73.5	81.3	60.1	63.9	58.3
Retail price	76.9	84.1	81.7	87.4	87.8	94.3	76.2	77.5	73.6
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	27.5	29.9	30.9	31.2	30.0	29.0	32.6	30.3	33.4
Farm to retailer	15.5	17.3	16.8	17.1	15.7	16.0	16.5	16.7	18.1
Retail	12.0	12.6	14.1	14.1	14.3	13.0	16.1	13.6	15.3
New York prices									
Farm Price	48.0	53.8	50.1	55.8	58.2	66.0	43.2	46.1	37.6
Price to retailer	64.0	69.2	64.3	71.3	73.7	81.3	55.0	62.0	54.0
Retail price	84.8	91.2	88.5	97.4	92.0	103.4	81.8	83.8	78.4
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	36.8	37.4	38.4	41.6	33.8	37.4	38.6	37.7	40.8
Farm to retailer	16.0	15.4	14.2	15.5	15.5	15.3	11.8	15.9	16.4
Retail	20.8	22.0	24.2	26.1	18.3	22.1	26.8	21.8	24.4
Boston prices									
Farm price	52.1	56.1	54.6	55.5	62.9	69.9	51.9	50.7	46.1
Price to retailer	66.6	70.5	68.7	69.5	77.5	82.5	60.5	65.5	61.5
Retail price	83.8	91.2	93.1	90.8	96.1	102.4	90.2	88.2	87.9
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	31.7	35.1	38.5	35.3	33.2	32.5	38.3	37.5	41.8
Farm to retailer	14.5	14.4	14.1	14.0	14.6	12.6	8.6	14.8	15.4
Retail	17.2	20.7	24.4	21.3	18.6	19.9	29.7	22.7	26.4
Chicago prices									
Farm price	46.1	52.7	49.1	54.8	56.5	64.6	40.2	46.1	38.2
Price to retailer	62.2	69.2	66.6	73.0	72.5	80.5	57.5	62.5	59.0
Retail price	74.1	84.5	80.9	89.9	88.0	92.9	76.5	78.8	70.2
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	28.0	31.8	31.8	35.1	31.5	28.3	36.3	32.7	32.0
Farm to retailer	16.1	16.5	17.5	18.2	16.0	15.9	17.3	16.4	20.8
Retail	11.9	15.3	14.3	16.9	15.5	12.4	19.0	16.3	11.2
St. Louis prices									
Farm price	50.4	57.1	54.0	59.2	61.2	69.2	45.2	52.2	43.7
Price to retailer	63.2	69.2	65.7	72.0	72.0	80.0	57.5	62.5	54.5
Retail price	74.8	81.7	78.2	85.8	83.3	90.5	72.0	72.7	71.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	24.4	24.6	24.2	26.6	22.1	21.3	26.8	20.5	27.3
Farm to retailer	12.8	12.2	11.7	12.8	10.8	10.8	12.3	10.3	10.8
Retail	11.6	12.4	12.5	13.8	11.3	10.5	14.5	10.2	16.5
Atlanta prices									
Farm price	46.2	53.0	49.0	55.0	57.0	65.0	43.0	44.0	35.0
Price to retailer	62.5	68.6	64.0	71.7	70.5	78.7	58.0	55.5	50.3
Retail price	76.9	82.9	79.6	86.8	88.4	96.9	75.6	77.5	67.2
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	30.7	29.9	30.6	31.8	31.4	31.9	32.6	33.5	32.2
Farm to retailer	16.3	15.6	15.0	16.7	13.5	13.7	15.0	11.5	15.3
Retail	14.4	14.3	15.6	15.1	17.9	18.2	17.6	22.0	16.9

[1] 10-city average and selected cities. [2] 11 month average.

Table 20—Prices and price spreads for frying chickens, 1975-77[1]

Item	Annual average 1975	Annual average 1976	Annual average 1977	October 1976	November 1976	December 1976	October 1977	November 1977	December 1977
	Cents per pound								
10-City average prices									
Farm price	35.7	30.9	31.2	27.3	26.3	25.8	30.9	28.7	26.9
Price to retailer	49.4	45.5	45.3	42.3	40.9	40.4	43.7	42.9	42.9
Retail price	64.3	61.2	61.9	57.6	56.1	55.3	62.4	61.7	59.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	28.6	30.3	30.7	30.3	29.8	29.5	31.5	33.0	32.1
Farm to retailer	13.7	14.6	14.1	15.0	14.6	14.6	12.8	14.2	16.0
Retail	14.9	15.7	16.6	15.3	15.2	14.9	18.7	18.8	16.1
New York prices									
Farm price	36.8	31.2	31.5	27.7	26.9	25.5	30.9	29.3	26.5
Price to retailer	48.5	43.6	44.1	40.5	39.5	38.0	43.5	42.5	40.5
Retail price	68.1	65.0	65.4	62.8	62.2	61.4	66.9	64.9	61.7
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	31.3	33.8	33.9	35.1	35.3	35.9	36.0	35.6	35.2
Farm to retailer	11.7	12.4	12.6	12.8	12.6	12.5	12.6	13.2	14.0
Retail	19.6	21.4	21.3	22.3	22.7	23.4	23.4	22.4	21.2
Boston prices									
Farm price	37.4	31.5	31.8	28.1	27.3	25.6	31.4	29.8	26.7
Price to retailer	48.0	44.7	46.0	40.3	39.7	39.3	48.0	42.3	42.5
Retail price	70.1	66.2	68.0	63.9	61.7	56.4	71.9	70.3	65.5
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	32.7	34.7	36.2	35.8	34.4	30.8	40.5	40.5	38.8
Farm to retailer	10.6	13.2	14.2	12.2	12.4	13.7	16.6	12.5	15.8
Retail	22.1	21.5	22.0	23.6	22.0	17.1	23.9	28.0	23.0
Chicago prices									
Farm price	34.9	29.6	29.7	25.6	25.2	25.3	29.0	27.6	25.5
Price to retailer	48.2	43.7	43.4	41.0	38.3	38.5	40.5	40.0	41.0
Retail price	63.8	60.4	59.4	52.3	52.9	55.8	61.6	62.4	59.7
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	28.9	30.8	29.7	26.7	27.7	30.5	32.6	34.8	34.2
Farm to retailer	13.3	14.1	13.7	15.4	13.1	13.2	11.5	12.4	15.5
Retail	15.6	16.7	16.0	11.3	14.6	17.3	21.1	22.4	18.7
St. Louis prices									
Farm price	35.2	29.9	30.3	25.8	25.4	25.5	30.1	28.0	26.1
Price to retailer	49.4	44.0	42.1	40.5	37.5	37.5	40.0	38.3	38.3
Retail price	64.6	62.4	58.3	58.8	54.8	56.7	55.5	54.5	54.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	29.4	32.5	28.0	33.0	29.4	31.2	25.4	26.5	27.9
Farm to retailer	14.2	14.1	11.8	14.7	12.1	12.0	9.9	10.3	12.2
Retail	15.2	18.4	16.2	18.3	17.3	19.2	15.5	16.2	15.7
San Francisco prices									
Farm price	35.1	32.2	32.3	29.2	27.5	27.0	33.1	30.1	29.1
Price to retailer	54.9	53.0	53.1	50.5	51.0	51.0	53.0	54.0	53.5
Retail price	65.6	64.9	67.8	62.4	59.4	61.8	68.9	68.4	69.2
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	30.5	32.7	35.5	33.2	31.9	34.8	35.8	38.3	40.1
Farm to retailer	19.8	20.8	20.8	21.3	23.5	24.0	19.9	23.9	24.4
Retail	10.7	11.9	14.7	11.9	8.4	10.8	15.9	14.4	15.7
Atlanta prices									
Farm price	34.6	29.3	29.8	25.5	24.9	25.0	28.8	27.6	25.5
Price to retailer	46.0	41.3	41.3	37.3	36.3	36.5	40.5	39.0	36.8
Retail price	60.5	58.7	56.9	59.6	49.9	50.8	53.3	51.8	52.3
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	25.9	29.4	27.1	34.1	25.0	25.8	24.5	24.2	26.8
Farm to retailer	11.4	12.0	11.5	11.8	11.4	11.5	11.7	11.4	11.3
Retail	14.5	17.4	15.6	22.3	13.6	14.3	12.8	12.8	15.5

[1] 10-city average and selected cities.

CHANGES IN LOCATION AND FLOCK SIZES IN POULTRY PRODUCTION SINCE 1969

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ABSTRACT: The regional shares of U.S. output have not changed greatly in recent years. However, concentration of egg and poultry production within regions has increased during the 1970's. Numbers of egg and turkey farms declined substantially from 1969 to 1974 with average flock sizes becoming much larger. Broiler farm numbers declined very little, and average size went up some. Increased shares of output now come from very large producing units.

KEYWORDS: Poultry, eggs, production, location, flock sizes.

During the 1970's, total U.S. egg production declined slightly, while broiler and turkey output rose about a fifth.

Since 1969, there has been a further substantial decline in the number of farms producing eggs, not much change in numbers of broiler farms, and a sizable drop in the number of turkey farms. Consequently, there has been an increase in the output per farm for all three commodities.

The number of farms with hens and pullets declined about 32 percent from 1969 to 1974, with the average number per farm increasing almost 41 percent. However, there are still many small egg producing units, as indicated by the small average number per farm in contrast to broilers and turkeys. The number of broiler farms in 1974 was about 2.9 percent lower than in 1969, with the average number sold per farm up 9 percent. There were almost 19 percent fewer turkey farms in 1974 compared with 1969, and the average number sold per farm was nearly 49 percent higher (table 1).

During the 1950's and up to the mid-1960's, there were rather drastic shifts in the regional shares of national production of eggs, broilers, and turkeys. But beginning in the mid-1960's, regional shares tended to level off. This pattern of relative stability and small shifts has generally continued in the 1970's (table 2).

Within most States, production has tended to become more clustered around fewer processing and packing units. Thus, the density of production within major producing areas is higher than a decade ago.

Table 1—Hens and pullets of laying age, broilers sold and turkeys sold, 1969 and 1974

Item and region	1969		1974	
	Farms reporting	Average per farm	Farms reporting	Average per farms
	- - - Number - - -			
Hens & pullets of laying age				
North Atlantic	22,176	1,805	18,400	2,019
East North Central	71,098	539	52,756	763
West North Central	128,081	283	79,117	412
South Atlantic	59,018	1,107	38,160	1,523
South Central	135,567	487	89,717	691
Mountain	18,155	345	15,277	484
Pacific[2]	11,213	3,946	10,496	4,491
United States[2]	445,328	666	303,923	937
Broilers sold				
North Atlantic	1,836	61,947	2,119	58,767
East North Central	1,667	18,556	3,105	8,586
West North Central	2,764	4,338	5,147	4,724
South Atlantic	12,828	79,570	10,056	100,417
South Central	11,947	91,135	12,671	95,513
Mountain	240	15,520	440	1,606
Pacific[2]	723	137,110	802	152,451
United States[2]	33,714	70,591	32,744	76,915
Turkeys sold[1]				
North Atlantic	544	5,303	423	8,216
East North Central	936	15,013	755	19,959
West North Central	1,624	18,862	1,272	30,712
South Atlantic	708	36,063	720	35,709
South Central	872	17,675	593	27,469
Mountain	296	19,662	249	28,651
Pacific[2]	444	37,773	395	45,554
United States[2]	5,424	19,017	4,407	28,305

[1] Turkeys sold on farms with sales of $2,500 and over.
[2] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: Census of Agriculture, 1969 and 1974, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 2—Regional shares of production of eggs, broilers, and turkeys, for selected years, 1964-77

Item and region	1964	1969	1971	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
				Percent				
Eggs								
North Atlantic	15	14	14	15	15	15	14	13
East North Central	15	14	14	14	13	13	13	14
West North Central	19	14	14	13	12	12	12	11
South Atlantic	17	21	21	21	22	21	22	23
South Central	18	21	20	21	21	21	21	21
Mountain	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Pacific[2]	14	14	15	14	15	16	16	15
United States[2]	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Broilers								
North Atlantic	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5
East North Central	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
West North Central	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
South Atlantic	43	43	41	41	42	42	41	41
South Central	42	44	46	48	47	47	48	47
Mountain	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Pacific[2]	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
United States[2]	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Turkeys								
North Atlantic	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
East North Central	15	12	12	11	12	11	11	10
West North Central	33	30	30	33	31	31	30	30
South Atlantic	14	17	17	18	20	20	21	23
South Central	12	15	16	14	14	14	14	15
Mountain	5	6	6	6	5	7	6	5
Pacific[2]	18	17	16	15	15	14	14	14
United States[2]	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

[1] Less than 0.05 percent. [2] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: Stat. Reptg. Serv., U.S. Dept. of Agric.

Eggs

During the 1970's, the relative share of egg production from the Midwest has leveled off at about 25 percent and the Northeast at close to 14 percent. The South supplies about 43 percent of output, and the West about 18 percent.

At present, the 10 leading egg-producing States are: California, Georgia, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Florida, Indiana, North Carolina, Texas, and Minnesota. Eggs are produced more generally across the country than are broilers or turkeys. And, there are numerous areas, not only in major producing States but elsewhere, where production is geographically concentrated. Many such pockets of concentrated production are relatively close to large metropolitan areas (figure 1).

Over 90 percent of the farms producing eggs in the United States in 1974 had fewer than 3,200 layers, except in the Northeast where small farm flocks were somewhat less numerous. Small flocks, however, accounted for only 7 percent of the total number of birds countrywide, with a range of 2 to 16 percent in various regions. In contrast, flocks of 20,000 or more accounted nationally for two-thirds of the birds and less than 2 percent of the farms. Regionally, flocks of 20,000 or more accounted for about half the birds in the Midwest to over 90 percent in the West. Between 1969 and 1974, the shares of birds in flocks of 20,000 or more tended to increase in all regions. The largest relative increases occurred in flocks with 100,000 or more birds (table 3).

Separate tabulations were made in the 1974 Census of hens and pullets used for market egg or hatching egg production. Flocks of under 3,200 birds are relatively less numerous or important in hatching egg production than in market egg production. About 61 percent of the hatching egg birds were in flocks of 3,200-49,999, compared with less than 49 percent for market egg birds. But 44 percent of the market egg birds were in flocks of 50,000 or over, compared with 26 percent of the hatching egg birds.

Broilers and Other Meat Chickens

Regional shares of broiler output have not changed much in recent years. About 89 percent originates in the South, compared with 5 percent in the Northeast, 4 percent in the West, and 2 percent in the Midwest (table 2).

HENS AND PULLETS OF LAYING AGE, INVENTORY, 1974

Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, Preliminary Report.

USDA

Figure 1

NEG. ESCS 2940-78 (2)

Table 3—Regional distribution of farms reporting hens and pullets of laying age and proportion of birds, by flock size intervals, 1969 and 1974[1]

Flock size and region	1969 Percent of farms	1969 Percent of birds	1974 Percent of farms	1974 Percent of birds
Northeast				
Under 3,200	84.2	12.3	88.0	6.7
3,200-9,999	8.3	17.1	4.5	8.6
10,000-19,999	4.4	20.2	3.8	16.3
20,000-49,999	2.2	20.9	2.8	26.0
50,000-99,999	.6	11.3	.5	10.6
100,000 & over	.3	18.2	.4	31.8
Midwest				
Under 3,200	97.4	37.2	96.7	16.3
3,200-9,999	1.7	20.7	1.5	14.2
10,000-19,999	.6	16.7	1.0	19.9
20,000-49,999	.2	12.9	.6	22.8
50,000-99,999	([2])	5.6	.1	10.2
100,000 & over	([2])	6.9	.1	16.6
South				
Under 3,200	91.4	5.6	91.9	2.9
3,200-9,999	4.3	17.1	3.0	10.5
10,000-19,999	2.4	20.4	2.6	18.5
20,000-49,999	1.4	25.2	1.9	28.4
50,000-99,999	.3	12.7	.4	14.9
100,000 & over	.2	19.0	.2	24.8
West[3]				
Under 3,200	92.6	3.5	94.7	1.8
3,200-9,999	2.5	5.5	1.1	2.2
10,000-19,999	1.9	9.9	1.3	5.6
20,000-49,999	1.8	19.5	1.5	14.3
50,000-99,999	.7	15.5	.7	14.3
100,000 & over	.5	46.1	.7	61.8
United States[3]				
Under 3,200	94.6	14.0	94.5	6.6
3,200-9,999	2.9	15.9	2.1	9.6
10,000-19,999	1.4	17.6	1.7	16.1
20,000-49,999	.8	20.7	1.2	24.0
50,000-99,999	.2	11.2	.3	13.0
100,000 & over	.1	20.6	.2	30.7

[1] Farms with sales of $2,500 and over. [2] Less than 0.05 percent. [3] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: Census of Agriculture, 1969 and 1974, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The 10 leading broiler producing States are: Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi, Maryland, Texas, Delaware, California, and Virginia. Some of the largest areas of concentrated production are in north Georgia and Alabama, southern Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, north Florida, and several areas of North Carolina, the Delmarva peninsula, the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia and adjacent West Virginia, western Arkansas, eastern Texas, and northern Louisiana, southeastern Pennsylvania, south central Maine, and central California (figure 2).

While there were many thousands of farms included in the 1974 Census that sold fewer than 4,000 broilers and other meat chickens, such flocks accounted for only 0.1 percent of the birds sold. Regionally, such flocks were most numerous in the Midwest, but accounted for under 2.5 percent of the birds. In every region, the percentages of birds sold in all size intervals from 4,000 through 99,999 per farm declined from 1969 to 1974. All regions showed gains in percentages in the category of 100,000 or more per farm. Such units accounted for 70 percent of the sales of broilers and other meat chickens nationally in 1974. Regionally, such sales ranged from 65 percent in the Midwest to over 93

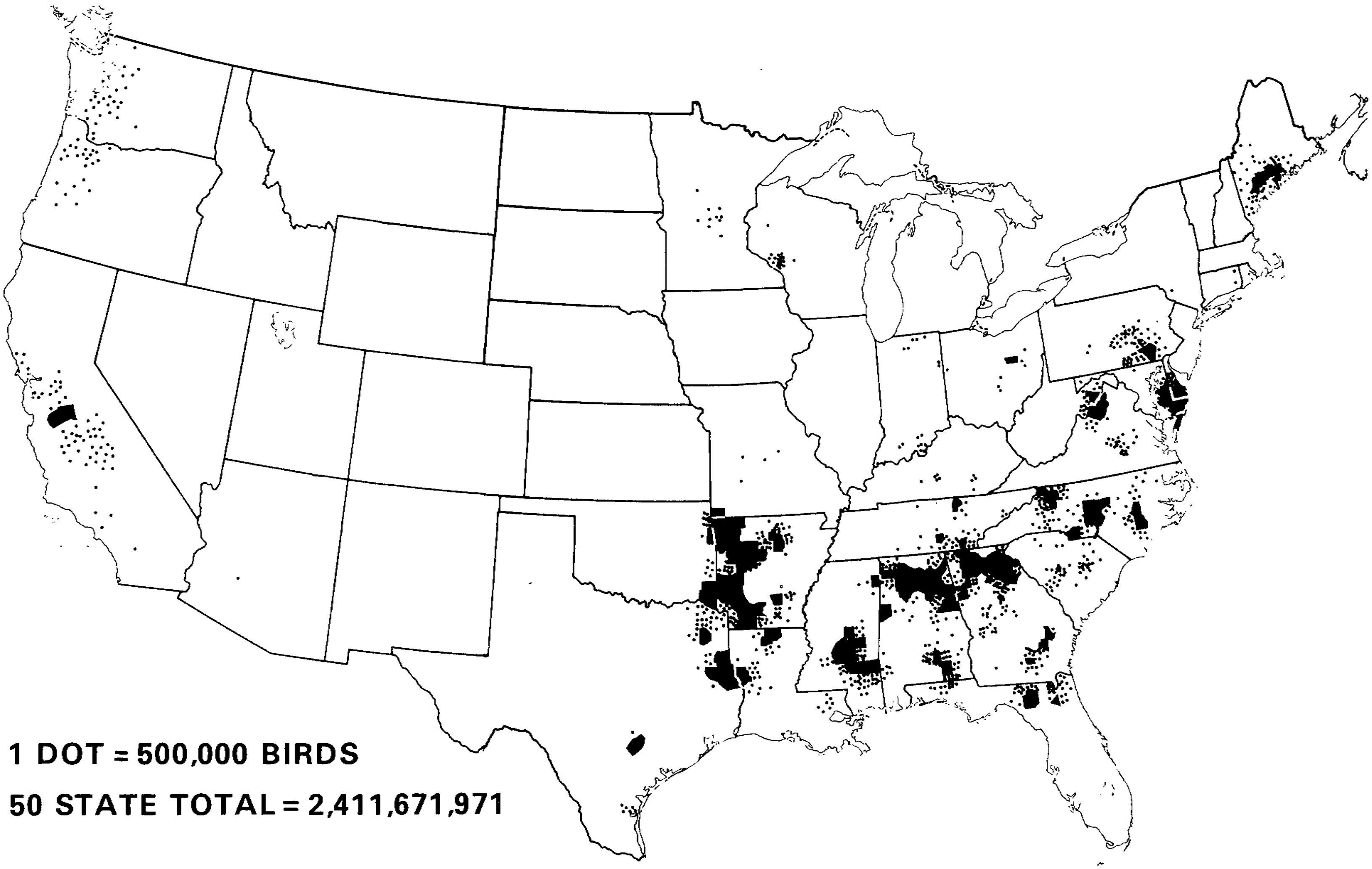
Table 4—Regional distribution of farms reporting broilers and other meat chickens sold by flock size intervals, 1969 and 1974[1]

Flock size and region	1969 Percent of farms	1969 Percent of birds	1974 Percent of farms	1974 Percent of birds
Northeast				
Under 4,000	18.9	.2	45.6	.2
4,000-7,999	5.6	.5	3.0	.3
8,000-15,999	9.8	1.6	4.9	.6
16,000-29,999	10.9	3.5	5.5	1.8
30,000-59,999	15.7	10.0	9.6	5.9
60,000-99,999	12.9	14.6	6.6	7.0
100,000 & over	26.2	69.6	24.8	84.2
Midwest				
Under 4,000	77.1	1.4	91.3	2.3
4,000-7,999	2.5	1.0	1.1	.8
8,000-15,999	4.1	3.3	1.1	1.8
16,000-29,999	3.5	5.5	1.2	3.6
30,000-59,999	5.9	18.4	1.8	10.8
60,000-99,999	3.1	16.8	1.6	15.3
100,000 & over	3.8	53.6	1.9	65.4
South				
Under 4,000	1.1	([2])	2.9	([2])
4,000-7,999	1.3	.1	.9	.1
8,000-15,999	4.9	.7	2.6	.3
16,000-29,999	9.7	2.7	5.2	1.2
30,000-59,999	30.6	16.1	20.6	9.0
60,000-99,999	26.1	23.6	28.7	21.4
100,000 & over	26.2	56.8	39.1	68.0
West[3]				
Under 4,000	27.7	.1	58.4	.1
4,000-7,999	2.2	([2])	1.2	([2])
8,000-15,999	5.5	.5	2.1	.2
16,000-29,999	9.2	1.6	3.8	.6
30,000-59,999	15.4	5.1	8.5	2.5
60,000-99,999	10.3	6.1	6.3	3.2
100,000 & over	29.7	86.6	19.7	93.4
United States[3]				
Under 4,000	11.8	.1	26.1	.1
4,000-7,999	1.7	.1	1.1	.1
8,000-15,999	5.1	.8	2.4	.3
16,000-29,999	9.0	2.7	4.3	1.2
30,000-59,999	26.5	15.4	15.6	8.6
60,000-99,999	22.3	22.2	20.9	19.7
100,000 & over	23.6	58.7	29.6	70.0

[1] Farms with sales of $2,500 and over. [2] Less than 0.05 percent. [3] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: Census of Agriculture, 1969 and 1974, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

BROILERS SOLD, 1974



Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, prelim. reports

USDA

Figure 2

NEG. ESCS 2826-78 (2)

percent in the West. Sales of 30,000 or more per farm accounted for over 98 percent of the birds nationally in 1974. The range was from almost 92 percent in the Midwest to over 99 percent in the West. Over 97 percent of the birds sold in the Northeast and over 98 percent in the South were in the 30,000-or-more-per-farm category (table 4).

Turkeys

During the 1970's, the shares of turkey output from the Midwest and West have dropped slightly. The South has increased its share several percentage points and the Northeast's share has remained about the same (table 2).

The 10 leading turkey States are: Minnesota, California, North Carolina, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Virginia, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Indiana. Areas of most concentrated production occur in these States and in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, South Carolina, Georgia, Oklahoma, Colorado, Utah, and Oregon (figure 3).

There were several thousand farms in the 1969 and 1974 Census that sold fewer than 4,000 turkeys per farm. But such farms accounted for less than 1 percent of sales nationally in 1974. Both percentages of farms and percentages of birds in all size intervals up to 29,999 turkeys sold per farm declined in most regions between 1969 and 1974. Sales of 30,000 or more turkeys accounted for over 81 percent of total sales nationally in 1974, compared with 70 percent in 1969. Regionally, sales of 30,000 or more per farm accounted for 76 percent in the Northeast to almost 87 percent in the West in 1974. In 1974, sales of 100,000 or more turkeys per farm accounted for over 43 percent of total sales nationally, compared with under 32 percent in 1969 (table 5).

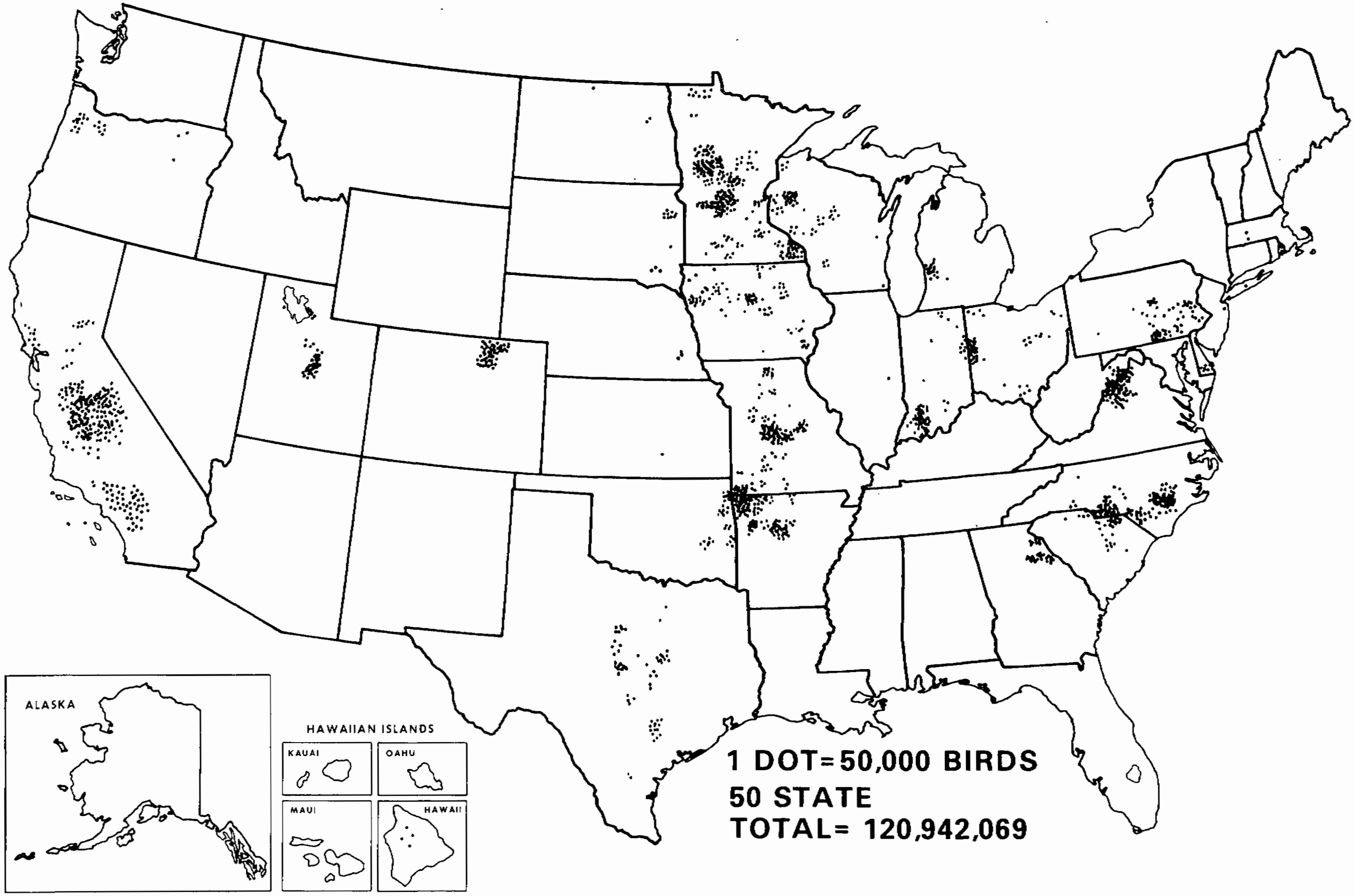
Table 5—Regional distribution of farms reporting turkeys sold, by flock size intervals, 1969 and 1974[1]

Region and flock size	1969		1974	
	Percent of farms	Percent of birds	Percent of farms	Percent of birds
Northeast				
Less than 4,000 ...	80.5	9.9	76.4	5.6
4,000-7,999	7.4	7.1	8.3	5.2
8,000-15,999	5.1	10.8	5.2	6.6
16,000-29,999	3.7	16.7	2.4	6.7
30,000-59,999	2.0	15.2	4.3	21.4
60,000-99,999	.2	3.1	1.7	14.1
100,000 & over	1.1	37.2	1.7	40.4
Midwest				
Less than 4,000 ...	33.0	1.6	32.0	.7
4,000-7,999	16.3	5.3	12.2	2.5
8,000-15,999	20.8	13.2	17.5	7.3
16,000-29,999	14.7	17.9	14.6	11.7
30,000-59,999	9.5	20.9	13.7	20.7
60,000-99,999	3.7	15.7	5.9	16.3
100,000 & over	2.0	25.4	4.1	40.8
South				
Less than 4,000 ...	42.0	.8	31.0	.4
4,000-7,999	8.8	2.4	6.5	1.2
8,000-15,999	14.1	7.4	13.1	4.6
16,000-29,999	15.2	15.3	15.2	10.1
30,000-59,999	13.5	26.0	18.8	23.8
60,000-99,999	3.5	12.0	8.8	19.7
100,000 & over	2.9	36.1	6.6	40.2
West[2]				
Less than 4,000 ...	26.5	.5	29.1	.2
4,000-7,999	9.1	1.7	8.6	1.2
8,000-15,999	17.7	6.7	15.8	4.8
16,000-29,999	15.8	11.1	12.8	7.1
30,000-59,999	17.2	22.3	16.0	16.8
60,000-99,999	8.8	21.7	8.0	15.2
100,000 & over	4.9	36.0	9.7	54.7
United States[2]				
Less than 4,000 ...	39.5	1.3	35.7	.6
4,000-7,999	12.2	3.6	9.6	1.9
8,000-15,999	16.8	9.9	14.7	5.9
16,000-29,999	13.9	15.5	13.3	10.1
30,000-59,999	11.0	22.7	14.6	20.9
60,000-99,999	4.0	15.5	6.7	17.2
100,000 & over	2.6	31.5	5.4	43.4

[1] Farms with sales of $2,500 and over. [2] Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Source: Census of Agriculture, 1969 and 1974, U.S. Dept of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

TURKEYS SOLD, 1974*



*FARMS WITH SALES OF $2,500 AND OVER.

Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, Preliminary Report.

USDA

Figure 3

NEG. ESCS 2939-78 (2)

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 1, 5-6.—Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, 50 States														
Average for the month														
Number of layers on farms														
1975	Mil.	286	283	281	277	274	272	272	273	275	278	279	280	278
1976	Mil.	280	279	276	273	270	269	268	270	273	275	278	280	274
1977	Mil.	278	276	274	271	269	267	266	271	277	282	285	287	275
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1975	No.	1,952	1,771	1,971	1,920	1,990	1,933	1,995	1,990	1,915	1,966	1,905	1,968	233
1976	No.	1,970	1,855	2,005	1,954	2,020	1,962	2,016	1,994	1,917	1,971	1,906	1,970	235
1977	No.	1,956	1,782	2,021	1,971	2,034	1,951	1,987	1,978	1,919	1,989	1,945	2,022	236
Total monthly egg production														
1975	Mil. cs.	15.5	13.9	15.4	14.8	15.2	14.6	15.0	15.1	14.6	15.2	14.8	15.3	179.4
1976	Mil. cs.	15.3	14.4	15.4	14.8	15.1	14.6	15.0	15.0	14.5	15.1	14.7	15.3	179.2
1977	Mil. cs.	15.1	13.6	15.4	14.9	15.2	14.4	14.7	14.9	14.8	15.6	15.4	16.1	180.1
First of month														
Number of layers on farms														
1975	Mil.	287	285	282	279	275	273	272	272	274	277	279	280	
1976	Mil.	280	280	278	275	270	269	268	268	272	274	276	280	
1977	Mil.	280	277	274	273	270	268	265	268	274	280	284	287	
Eggs laid per 100 layers														
1975	No.	62.6	63.2	63.2	64.0	64.1	64.3	64.5	64.1	64.3	63.3	63.3	63.6	
1976	No.	63.3	63.7	64.2	65.1	65.2	65.1	65.5	64.4	64.1	63.7	63.4	63.6	
1977	No.	63.5	62.7	64.6	65.7	65.7	65.4	64.6	63.6	64.0	63.9	64.4	65.1	
Daily rate of egg production														
1975	Mil.	180	180	178	179	177	175	175	174	176	175	177	178	
1976	Mil.	177	178	178	179	176	175	176	173	174	174	175	178	
1977	Mil.	178	174	177	180	177	175	171	170	175	179	183	187	
Tables 7-9.—Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 50 States														
Eggs produced on farms														
1975	1,000 cs.	15,492	13,942	15,381	14,797	15,150	14,614	15,053	15,078	14,647	15,175	14,783	15,294	179,406
1976	1,000 cs.	15,308	14,364	15,397	14,797	15,136	14,636	15,011	14,953	14,525	15,061	14,714	15,311	179,214
1977	1,000 cs.	15,122	13,644	15,378	14,864	15,189	14,447	14,703	14,872	14,756	15,581	15,411	16,125	180,092
Storage movement of shell eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	-4	16	-16	-6	42	14	2	-4	-8	-17	-15	-18	-14
1976	1,000 cs.	-8	7	5	0	-4	1	11	11	5	-18	-7	3	6
1977	1,000 cs.	1	15	-2	0	-9	7	-2	9	2	0	2	-12	11
Eggs broken commercially														
1975	1,000 cs.	1,441	1,218	1,215	1,455	1,651	1,898	1,957	1,738	1,698	1,702	1,234	1,229	18,436
1976	1,000 cs.	1,262	1,252	1,722	1,690	1,571	1,866	1,752	1,753	1,781	1,753	1,739	1,590	19,731
1977	1,000 cs.	1,462	1,521	1,876	1,899	2,168	2,338	2,043	2,142	1,961	1,827	1,868	1,773	22,878
Eggs used for hatching														
1975	1,000 cs.	933	1,096	1,093	1,128	1,069	1,046	1,027	953	965	959	1,025	1,066	12,360
1976	1,000 cs.	1,043	1,218	1,227	1,251	1,191	1,160	1,132	1,049	1,034	1,030	1,083	1,130	13,548
1977	1,000 cs.	1,061	1,267	1,285	1,319	1,236	1,178	1,125	1,074	1,110	1,071	1,145	1,185	14,056
Balance														
1975	1,000 cs.	13,122	11,612	13,089	12,220	12,388	11,656	12,067	12,391	11,992	12,531	12,539	13,017	148,624
1976	1,000 cs.	13,011	11,887	12,443	11,856	12,378	11,609	12,116	12,140	11,705	12,296	11,899	12,588	145,928
1977	1,000 cs.	12,598	10,841	12,219	11,646	11,794	10,924	11,537	11,647	11,683	12,683	12,396	13,179	143,147
Tables 13-14.—Commercial production of poultry and red meat, 48 States														
Chicken and turkey meat, Ready-to-cook weight[1]														
1975	Mil. lb.	781	676	736	825	831	884	967	942	978	1,067	834	914	10,434
1976	Mil. lb.	857	758	912	897	910	1,077	1,045	1,115	1,125	1,094	1,021	928	11,739
1977	Mil. lb.	849	780	938	895	988	1,095	988	1,179	1,115	1,092	1,028	969	11,916
Total red meat, carcass weight[2]														
1975	Mil. lb.	3,315	2,880	2,959	3,089	2,873	2,832	2,842	2,860	3,088	3,339	2,978	3,159	36,213
1976	Mil. lb.	3,267	2,907	3,515	3,109	2,928	3,150	3,048	3,350	3,467	3,497	3,453	3,367	39,058
1977	Mil. lb.	3,273	3,084	3,549	3,200	3,122	3,298	2,925	3,405	3,354	3,344	3,416	3,239	39,173
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Young														
1975	Mil. lb.	646.2	570.2	616.6	688.3	690.1	683.1	714.2	680.5	684.9	739.8	560.7	691.4	7,966
1976	Mil. lb.	712.3	632.3	771.9	742.5	745.4	825.9	766.0	805.2	800.3	769.5	699.2	716.8	8,987
1977	Mil. lb.	713.8	659.2	783.2	744.9	809.9	843.7	745.5	870.4	808.2	775.5	719.8	753.2	9,227
Mature														
1975	Mil. lb.	47.8	39.1	43.6	44.6	37.0	39.0	34.5	34.0	38.7	42.2	31.7	40.5	473
1976	Mil. lb.	44.1	42.2	46.4	48.9	34.4	41.1	38.6	38.0	42.6	39.6	34.9	40.4	491
1977	Mil. lb	43.6	42.6	51.5	48.6	44.3	48.3	30.4	37.5	42.6	40.7	38.0	44.0	512

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 25.—Chicken certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights—Continued														
Total														
1975	Mil. lb.	694.0	609.4	660.2	732.9	727.0	722.1	748.7	714.6	723.5	782.0	592.4	732.0	8,439
1976	Mil. lb.	756.4	674.4	818.3	791.4	779.8	867.0	804.7	843.2	842.9	809.1	734.1	757.2	9,479
1977	Mil. lb.	757.4	701.8	834.7	793.5	854.1	892.0	775.9	907.9	850.9	816.2	757.7	797.2	9,739
Table 26.—Turkey certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Fryer-roasters														
1975	Mil. lb.	7.0	6.9	7.5	7.7	6.9	7.2	8.3	7.0	6.8	8.8	8.2	7.0	89
1976	Mil. lb.	6.5	6.4	8.1	6.9	7.5	9.2	9.5	8.3	8.2	7.9	8.2	5.0	92
1977	Mil. lb.	3.2	5.8	7.8	5.1	5.8	7.6	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.5	6.2	3.4	69
Young turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	56.8	39.9	45.8	60.5	73.6	128.3	181.3	194.7	221.1	248.3	211.9	150.1	1,612
1976	Mil. lb.	68.9	54.5	58.8	72.1	98.3	170.0	200.3	233.1	243.3	248.4	252.8	141.2	1,842
1977	Mil. lb.	66.1	51.9	71.0	73.1	103.3	165.4	180.2	236.7	231.2	244.5	240.3	144.7	1,808
Old turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	1.1	.3	1.2	.6	1.5	2.9	3.7	1.6	1.0	.4	.1	.3	15
1976	Mil. lb.	.8	.8	1.8	.9	.7	3.1	4.1	2.4	1.3	.3	.4	.3	17
1977	Mil. lb.	1.3	1.1	1.4	.7	.9	3.4	2.9	1.3	1.2	.2	.3	.2	15
Total turkeys														
1975	Mil. lb.	64.9	47.1	54.4	68.7	81.9	138.4	193.2	203.3	229.0	257.5	220.2	157.5	1,716
1976	Mil. lb.	76.3	61.7	68.6	79.9	106.5	182.2	213.9	243.8	252.8	256.6	261.5	146.4	1,950
1977	Mil. lb.	70.5	58.7	80.3	78.9	110.0	176.5	189.6	244.4	238.2	250.3	246.8	148.2	1,892
Table 27.—Ducks, and total poultry certified as wholesome in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weights														
Ducks														
1975	Mil. lb.	2.5	2.2	2.8	4.7	5.0	5.8	5.3	4.6	4.8	4.7	3.7	3.9	50
1976	Mil. lb.	3.2	2.7	3.4	4.7	5.2	6.4	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.3	4.9	4.2	58
1977	Mil. lb.	3.4	3.2	3.9	4.5	5.4	6.5	5.6	6.4	6.0	5.2	4.8	4.5	59
Total poultry														
1975	Mil. lb.	761.6	658.7	717.6	806.5	814.1	866.5	947.5	922.7	957.5	1,045.6	817.7	893.5	10,210
1976	Mil. lb.	836.0	739.0	890.4	876.1	891.7	1,055.8	1,024.7	1,093.2	1,101.9	1,072.5	1,001.9	908.2	11,491
1977	Mil. lb.	831.5	763.9	918.9	877.1	969.7	1,075.2	971.4	1,159.1	1,095.4	1,073.4	1,010.9	950.1	11,697
Table 28.—Chicken and turkey inspected for further processing in Federally inspected plants, ready-to-cook weight														
Chicken														
Young														
1975	Mil. lb.	39.6	35.6	38.4	41.9	40.9	47.3	48.2	48.0	50.3	55.3	45.4	49.7	541
1976	Mil. lb.	51.8	47.5	55.6	53.6	52.2	61.0	54.4	56.3	54.0	54.3	50.0	52.8	643
1977	Mil. lb.	50.5	52.9	66.0	58.3	53.1	67.8	59.8	65.8	60.3	60.4	61.0	59.9	716
Mature														
1975	Mil. lb.	31.2	24.4	25.6	29.1	21.8	28.3	25.5	27.7	31.9	38.3	34.1	38.2	356
1976	Mil. lb.	43.2	39.6	44.7	40.0	36.8	32.3	26.9	35.5	32.3	33.8	34.0	36.8	436
1977	Mil. lb.	37.8	38.5	43.1	39.5	35.9	33.1	22.4	35.7	32.4	34.8	31.4	33.4	418
Total														
1975	Mil. lb.	70.8	60.0	64.0	71.0	62.7	75.6	73.8	75.7	82.2	93.7	79.6	87.9	897
1976	Mil. lb.	95.0	87.1	100.3	93.6	89.0	93.3	81.3	91.8	86.3	88.1	84.0	89.6	1,079
1977	Mil. lb.	88.2	91.4	109.1	97.8	89.0	100.9	82.2	101.5	92.7	95.2	92.5	93.3	1,134
Turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	45.8	40.4	44.7	49.1	45.3	69.1	99.1	107.4	111.8	129.1	98.9	67.2	908
1976	Mil. lb.	47.9	44.4	54.5	49.1	69.0	97.9	113.6	124.9	132.1	133.9	119.0	67.5	1,054
1977	Mil. lb.	50.2	50.8	69.2	60.6	74.9	100.6	110.8	134.1	141.3	143.1	118.0	71.1	1,125
Table 32.—Per capita consumption of shell eggs														
Shell equivalent:														
1975	no.	22.0	19.4	21.9	20.4	20.6	19.2	20.1	20.6	19.9	20.9	20.9	21.7	248
1976	do.	21.7	19.6	20.5	19.6	20.5	19.2	20.1	20.1	19.3	20.3	19.5	20.8	241
1977	do.	20.9	17.9	20.1	19.1	19.3	18.1	19.1	19.1	19.0	20.8	20.3	21.4	235
Tables 34-41.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per dozen for shell eggs														
United States, received by farmers[3]														
1975	Cents	57.2	54.1	54.1	47.4	47.1	45.6	46.5	50.8	55.8	52.9	58.2	63.4	52.8
1976	do.	61.2	58.5	53.5	52.7	54.7	53.3	55.1	60.0	61.4	60.3	65.5	69.5	58.8
1977	do.	65.1	66.2	58.8	55.3	49.1	46.8	50.7	51.5	52.6	47.3	51.3	53.6	54.0
Grade A large eggs in retail stores[4] [5]														
1975	do.	84.2	83.9	74.9	77.2	70.6	66.9	70.6	73.7	79.9	77.7	78.1	86.1	77.0
1976	do.	89.1	90.1	78.2	77.6	75.2	74.4	80.0	85.7	89.0	87.6	87.3	94.6	84.1
1977	do.	98.6	103.4	89.0	81.2	75.4	68.7	80.9	82.0	81.7	76.1	77.6	72.5	82.3

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 34-41.—Monthly average price per dozen shell eggs—Continued														
Iowa, received by farmers														
Buyer quality and volume incentive														
Large														
1975	Cents	50.25	43.34	45.26	36.09	36.86	36.90	39.27	44.64	49.43	45.12	51.05	58.52	44.73
1976	do.	56.21	50.26	44.91	44.20	45.80	45.64	50.31	56.50	57.40	55.68	60.98	66.50	52.87
1977	do.	62.45	59.42	51.13	46.24	39.33	39.61	45.83	45.00	45.14	38.84	40.67	45.19	46.57
Medium														
1975	do.	44.32	37.21	37.38	30.48	26.26	25.90	27.89	34.02	39.31	38.55	42.95	53.25	36.46
1976	do.	48.93	43.63	34.78	35.43	39.42	37.52	40.57	45.84	47.71	46.53	55.57	60.52	44.70
1977	do.	56.67	54.82	41.98	37.43	30.12	28.05	29.62	32.61	34.10	31.32	34.10	38.60	37.45
Price to volume buyers[6]														
14 Metro areas:														
Large														
1975	do.	67.82	62.49	64.24	55.78	55.37	54.88	56.76	62.28	66.85	62.37	69.08	75.81	62.81
1976	do.	73.30	67.42	62.40	62.05	63.27	62.30	67.38	72.22	63.52	71.44	76.66	82.52	69.54
1977	do.	78.98	76.61	67.99	63.28	56.09	57.52	63.07	62.67	62.49	56.33	58.44	63.34	63.90
Los Angeles, Grade AA:														
Large														
1975	do.	68.32	68.71	68.55	58.74	60.26	58.50	55.73	61.64	66.78	63.74	70.00	75.48	64.70
1976	do.	75.33	69.00	66.96	66.36	65.75	66.04	69.86	75.00	74.57	68.97	73.67	78.42	70.83
1977	do.	78.29	76.47	70.13	67.29	61.05	64.00	66.50	69.00	68.30	60.68	65.10	65.62	67.02
Medium														
1975	do.	67.32	67.71	65.67	53.85	54.55	50.50	49.27	52.74	59.78	60.93	69.00	74.48	60.48
1976	do.	74.33	66.56	63.96	62.91	62.50	60.86	59.71	66.23	69.57	63.39	70.19	76.15	66.36
1977	do.	76.81	73.84	65.96	62.29	55.00	56.00	54.25	54.22	54.80	53.58	61.90	62.60	60.94
New York, wholesale prices, white														
Large, 75 percent A														
1975	do.	62.18	55.44	59.24	50.17	49.26	50.55	52.59	58.21	61.56	56.65	65.67	71.85	57.78
1976	do.	68.44	60.50	56.78	55.44	58.38	58.83	63.06	68.56	69.19	67.50	75.19	78.17	65.00
1977	do.	75.06	69.94	63.12	56.92	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Medium														
1975	do.	57.75	50.58	53.24	46.18	40.76	41.43	42.58	48.28	53.07	53.61	59.42	70.50	51.45
1976	do.	64.22	57.94	49.56	49.50	53.88	50.94	55.39	60.83	60.33	61.87	71.94	74.94	59.28
1977	do.	71.19	66.44	TF	49.58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Midwest, paid delivered[7]														
Large														
1975	do.	66.20	59.62	61.38	53.25	53.20	52.75	55.20	60.50	65.25	60.90	67.75	74.50	60.88
1976	do.	72.75	66.25	60.75	59.85	62.31	61.12	65.85	71.44	72.12	70.20	76.00	81.60	68.35
1977	do.	78.50	75.38	67.00	62.60	55.12	54.62	61.60	60.88	61.70	55.62	57.75	62.70	62.79
Medium														
1975	do.	62.00	54.88	55.50	49.50	45.20	44.25	45.60	50.50	56.38	56.60	61.00	72.50	54.49
1976	do.	68.30	62.62	53.00	52.60	56.88	53.94	56.65	62.25	63.75	63.20	72.50	77.60	61.94
1977	do.	74.00	71.38	58.44	54.55	45.75	44.00	47.45	50.25	51.25	48.62	52.75	56.85	54.61
Table 42.—Egg prices: Monthly average price per pound for frozen egg products														
New York and Philadelphia														
Frozen egg														
Whole egg, light colored														
1975	Cents	36.06	33.81	32.48	32.72	37.94	37.59	38.38	39.80	42.31	41.39	42.16	41.79	38.04
1976	do.	41.31	42.75	42.56	40.52	41.84	42.64	43.83	47.86	52.50	52.06	54.02	52.50	46.20
1977	do.	50.47	48.28	45.46	41.61	41.11	39.53	38.56	37.19	37.08	36.14	37.50	35.03	40.66
White														
1975	do.	17.57	16.97	16.41	16.38	18.75	20.44	21.38	22.27	23.11	22.69	22.94	22.92	20.15
1976	do.	22.31	22.59	22.58	21.92	23.88	25.56	26.97	28.75	31.75	32.37	34.28	34.00	27.25
1977	do.	32.31	32.16	31.03	30.19	30.69	29.75	28.76	27.17	26.47	25.39	25.97	25.06	28.75
Yolks, light colored, sugared,														
43 percent solids														
1975	do.	69.39	64.69	60.69	57.69	60.58	61.75	62.69	64.72	67.69	67.42	67.94	68.11	64.45
1976	do.	67.42	67.78	67.50	65.46	66.07	67.40	69.28	76.22	83.34	83.43	84.16	82.02	73.34
1977	do.	79.20	76.62	71.78	65.50	64.11	63.00	63.19	62.50	63.03	61.75	62.53	59.31	66.04
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound														
Liveweight														
United States, at farm														
1975	do.	23.8	24.3	23.5	23.2	24.6	27.6	29.7	29.1	29.6	28.5	27.0	23.9	26.2
1976	do.	24.2	25.2	24.4	23.5	24.6	24.3	25.4	23.8	22.8	20.6	19.4	19.3	23.1
1977	do.	21.5	24.0	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.7	26.2	23.9	24.0	23.1	21.0	20.2	23.5

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 44-47.—Average broiler prices per pound—Continued														
Broilers, weighted average, delivered to major areas[8]														
9-City average[9]														
1975	Cents	41.64	41.37	40.72	40.06	42.88	48.05	51.20	49.96	49.66	47.73	45.82	41.79	45.07
1976	do.	41.89	42.68	41.93	41.00	42.07	42.11	43.16	41.61	39.72	36.45	34.92	35.00	40.21
1977	do.	38.78	42.13	41.92	41.44	42.17	43.34	44.28	42.03	40.90	39.24	37.30	36.23	40.81
Chicago														
1975	do.	42.8	40.9	40.2	39.8	42.3	46.9	50.9	49.6	49.6	47.2	45.6	41.7	44.8
1976	do.	41.7	42.6	41.6	40.9	42.0	41.7	43.3	41.4	39.8	36.2	34.9	35.0	40.1
1977	do.	38.7	41.4	42.0	41.1	41.8	42.7	43.8	41.9	40.6	38.8	36.9	35.9	40.5
New York														
1975	do.	41.6	41.3	40.3	39.7	42.0	47.2	51.4	49.6	49.7	47.6	45.2	40.6	44.7
1976	do.	41.6	41.9	41.3	40.8	41.8	41.6	42.8	41.4	39.6	36.0	34.2	34.2	39.8
1977	do.	38.0	40.7	41.1	41.0	41.8	43.7	43.8	41.6	40.3	38.8	36.0	35.5	40.2
Los Angeles														
1975	do.	43.4	42.5	42.0	42.0	44.2	48.0	52.2	51.0	50.9	48.9	47.2	43.3	46.3
1976	do.	43.4	44.4	43.7	42.2	43.0	42.6	44.4	43.0	40.9	38.0	36.6	36.9	41.6
1977	do.	40.7	42.9	43.3	42.5	43.9	43.8	45.7	43.6	42.8	41.4	38.9	38.6	42.3
Frying chicken in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	59.3	58.6	58.8	57.6	57.9	61.5	68.3	68.6	69.9	66.9	66.5	65.5	63.3
1976	do.	63.6	61.4	60.8	60.7	59.4	62.0	62.6	60.7	59.4	56.7	54.4	54.3	59.7
1977	do.	54.7	58.8	61.3	61.2	60.7	60.5	62.1	62.1	61.5	60.4	59.8	57.7	60.1
Chicken breasts, in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	102.3	103.4	102.9	101.3	103.0	107.2	116.7	117.1	118.0	116.1	115.8	115.3	109.9
1976	do.	112.3	111.8	109.3	109.6	110.0	111.8	113.7	111.9	110.4	107.0	106.0	106.5	101.6
1977	do.	105.9	108.1	110.5	113.0	111.3	112.7	115.0	113.9	114.2	113.5	112.2	111.4	111.8
Tables 50-54.—Average turkey prices per pound														
Liveweight[3]														
U.S., at farm														
1975	Cents	32.4	31.2	30.7	29.4	31.1	32.7	34.4	35.7	36.3	36.4	36.7	36.2	33.6
1976	do.	33.4	32.1	32.9	31.8	32.1	31.2	31.1	31.1	30.7	30.7	31.1	33.5	31.8
1977	do.	32.4	32.5	34.2	33.6	33.2	33.9	33.7	33.7	34.3	36.5	38.7	40.3	34.8
Turkeys in retail stores[4]														
1975	do.	69.2	71.6	70.4	69.0	69.1	70.9	71.4	74.5	75.5	76.7	77.4	75.8	72.6
1976	do.	76.6	75.0	73.5	74.4	74.1	74.7	73.9	74.4	72.9	72.8	71.9	70.4	73.7
1977	do.	69.7	70.6	71.4	68.2	72.2	72.3	72.7	73.5	74.0	75.7	76.8	77.6	72.9
Wholesale frozen (average f.o.b. or equivalent)														
New York:														
Young hens, 8-16 pounds														
1975	do.	51.6	46.9	47.3	48.3	51.6	53.4	56.0	58.0	57.2	58.1	57.3	52.6	53.2
1976	do.	47.1	49.1	51.7	48.2	48.9	47.6	49.5	48.1	48.0	47.8	48.4	50.6	48.7
1977	do.	48.7	49.7	52.3	53.6	50.8	50.0	50.8	53.4	55.0	57.4	60.7	65.8	54.0
Young toms, 14-20 pounds														
1975	do.	49.1	46.0	43.7	43.3	46.9	49.6	52.7	56.2	57.0	57.2	56.7	54.4	51.8
1976	do.	46.8	46.1	49.8	49.4	50.8	47.8	48.5	47.9	46.8	46.9	49.6	54.0	48.7
1977	do.	50.9	51.2	52.1	53.0	51.4	50.6	49.8	52.4	55.6	58.8	60.5	59.9	53.8
Paid at seller's dock, frozen														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1975	do.	57.5	50.2	57.2	52.3	55.3	57.0	59.3	61.2	61.2	61.2	61.2	57.9	57.0
1976	do.	51.8	51.8	55.3	52.8	52.9	51.4	52.2	52.0	51.6	51.2	51.7	54.8	52.4
1977	do.	51.9	52.6	55.4	56.6	54.4	53.9	53.9	53.4	57.5	60.3	64.2	70.1	57.0
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1975	do.	59.0	56.7	55.0	52.0	52.6	56.5	59.5	61.8	64.3	66.8	69.9	70.0	60.3
1976	do.	69.0	69.0	69.9	70.0	70.6	71.0	71.0	71.0	71.0	71.0	72.8	73.0	70.8
1977	do.	72.5	72.2	68.8	68.8	69.0	70.1	72.1	70.1	73.6	74.6	75.5	78.2	72.1
Chicago														
Hens, 12-14 pounds														
1975	do.	58.7	52.2	50.5	50.6	53.3	54.7	57.1	58.8	58.5	59.3	60.5	57.0	55.9
1976	do.	51.2	50.0	53.5	51.1	50.8	50.2	51.0	50.4	49.7	48.6	50.4	52.9	50.9
1977	do.	50.6	50.6	53.7	55.2	53.4	52.1	52.5	55.2	56.8	60.0	64.0	68.4	56.0
Toms, heaviest weights quoted														
1975	do.	57.0	56.7	55.2	55.0	55.0	56.0	57.0	60.3	62.1	65.1	67.2	68.0	59.6
1976	do.	68.0	68.0	67.8	68.4	69.4	70.0	70.0	69.6	69.6	70.0	70.2	70.5	69.3
1977	do.	70.5	68.3	67.0	66.9	67.7	69.2	70.1	71.8	72.5	72.5	73.1	74.7	70.4
Tables 57-60.—Prices paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios														
All poults each														
1975	Cents	68.7	69.5	70.1	70.0	70.2	71.0	73.9	70.6	70.4	68.6	67.6	68.8	69.9
1976	do.	68.9	69.6	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.2	71.3	69.8	68.5	67.7	66.4	67.1	69.3
1977	do.	67.9	70.6	72.9	73.1	74.0	74.9	75.0	75.0	72.0	71.0	70.0	69.0	72.1

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in–	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Tables 57-60.—Price paid for poults, poultry feed, and feed ingredients; and product-feed price ratios—Continued														
Feed per ton														
Laying feed														
1975	Dol.	160	151	143	146	145	144	145	150	149	148	143	143	147
1976	do.	143	143	144	144	146	156	162	157	159	154	151	153	151
1977	do.	156	161	161	163	166	162	153	143	138	135	141	145	152
Broiler grower feed														
1975	do.	176	167	161	164	161	162	161	163	164	164	158	160	163
1976	do.	158	160	160	159	161	172	181	177	179	170	169	174	168
1977	do.	174	178	179	183	187	184	175	164	154	153	159	160	171
Turkey grower feed														
1975	do.	178	168	161	165	164	165	163	168	170	170	164	165	167
1976	do.	165	165	165	162	165	178	187	181	181	176	177	179	174
1977	do.	182	186	188	195	200	196	188	176	172	168	175	177	184
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (per bushel)														
1975	Cents	309	300	296	304	288	291	286	317	301	276	264	259	291
1976	do.	262	270	268	268	284	296	296	287	277	249	233	244	270
1977	do.	253	254	252	250	241	227	205	178	180	184	214	219	221
Soybean meal, 49-50 percent, Decatur (per ton, bulk)														
1975	Dol.	138	127	126	132	129	140	134	144	144	136	127	132	134
1976	do.	136	139	136	136	162	200	208	187	192	182	193	213	174
1977	do.	224	230	247	299	284	247	183	161	162	151	178	175	212
Product-feed price ratios														
Broiler[10]														
1975	Lbs.	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.2
1976	do.	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.8
1977	do.	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.8
Turkey[11]														
1975	do.	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.2
1976	do.	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7
1977	do.	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.6	3.8
Egg[12]														
1975	do.	7.2	7.2	7.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.8	7.5	7.1	8.1	9.0	7.2
1976	do.	8.6	8.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	6.8	6.8	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.7	9.1	7.9
1977	do.	8.3	8.2	7.3	6.8	5.9	5.8	6.6	7.2	7.6	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.1
Tables 61-62.—Chicks hatched by types and pullet chicks placed														
Chicks hatched														
Broiler-type														
1975	Mil.	253.7	239.0	278.1	275.3	285.1	274.7	270.8	268.3	247.6	249.9	254.6	271.9	3,169.1
1976	Mil.	278.9	268.2	309.5	310.6	321.1	309.2	303.9	295.9	271.9	268.2	267.9	283.0	3,488.3
1977	Mil.	293.3	272.0	322.9	324.4	336.9	320.3	310.4	294.2	279.9	290.7	282.0	305.8	3,632.7
Egg-type														
1975	Mil.	34.8	36.6	45.4	47.4	48.0	40.9	38.1	34.9	33.9	34.8	28.4	30.7	453.8
1976	Mil.	35.8	39.6	50.1	51.5	48.2	42.4	38.6	38.3	37.7	37.0	36.3	36.6	492.2
1977	Mil.	40.2	41.3	51.0	54.8	52.5	44.4	37.4	37.8	37.1	37.0	34.1	32.1	499.7
Pullet chicks placed domestically for broiler hatchery supply flocks[13]														
Total														
1975	Thou.	2,211	2,134	2,754	2,492	2,874	2,459	2,466	2,645	2,647	2,449	2,306	2,379	29,816
1976	Thou.	2,423	2,556	2,907	3,104	3,164	2,648	2,797	2,836	2,584	2,668	2,434	2,547	32,668
1977	Thou.	2,585	2,419	2,919	3,275	3,025	2,730	2,782	2,618	2,701	3,013	2,702	3,013	33,782
Cumulation relevant to breeder flock[14]														
1975	Thou.	20,632	20,585	20,490	20,161	19,828	19,093	18,600	18,057	17,666	18,161	18,365	19,079	
1976	Thou.	19,397	19,692	20,035	20,471	20,786	20,338	20,225	19,774	19,871	20,312	20,771	21,288	
1977	Thou.	21,487	21,978	22,435	22,596	22,708	22,235	21,678	21,099	20,870	20,992	21,431	21,872	
1978	Thou.	21,934	22,282	22,353	22,469	23,063	22,846	22,584	22,246					
Table 63.—Poults hatched by breeds														
Poults hatched														
Light breeds														
1975	Thou.	1,202	1,367	1,406	1,657	1,526	1,400	1,524	1,319	747	1,008	1,244	1,518	15,918
1976	Thou.	1,815	1,497	1,996	2,079	1,931	1,930	1,997	1,215	625	955	1,265	1,257	18,562
1977	Thou.	1,203	1,126	1,270	1,372	1,374	1,265	1,380	1,057	362	632	606	712	12,359
Total heavy breeds														
1975	Thou.	7,487	10,657	14,719	16,960	17,568	16,140	12,734	7,329	3,590	3,457	4,147	6,370	121,158
1976	Thou.	8,767	12,278	16,758	18,031	18,417	17,679	13,417	6,950	3,634	4,012	4,822	6,376	131,141
1977	Thou.	9,568	11,607	16,821	18,139	19,593	17,660	14,067	7,090	4,152	4,531	5,370	7,760	136,358
All breeds														
1975	Thou.	8,689	12,024	16,125	18,617	19,094	17,540	14,258	8,648	4,337	4,465	5,391	7,888	137,076
1976	Thou.	10,582	13,775	18,754	20,110	20,348	19,609	15,414	8,165	4,259	4,967	6,087	7,633	149,703
1977	Thou.	10,771	12,733	18,091	19,511	20,967	18,925	15,447	8,147	4,514	5,163	5,976	8,472	148,717

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 21—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Table 66.—Cold storage holdings of shell and frozen eggs, first of month

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
All frozen eggs														
1975	Mil. lb.	54.2	52.1	51.0	46.7	42.8	44.7	47.8	52.1	51.9	51.0	46.6	42.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	36.3	31.7	28.7	29.4	29.7	28.9	30.1	31.6	31.0	28.7	28.9	25.5	
1977	Mil. lb.	26.1	26.9	24.9	24.7	25.4	28.1	31.6	35.1	34.8	33.8	33.1	31.2	
Shell eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	36	32	48	32	26	68	82	84	80	72	55	40	
1976	1,000 cs.	22	14	21	26	26	22	23	34	45	50	32	25	
1977	1,000 cs.	28	29	44	42	42	33	40	38	47	49	49	51	
Shell equivalent of all eggs														
1975	1,000 cs.	1,408	1,350	1,340	1,214	1,110	1,200	1,291	1,402	1,393	1,364	1,235	1,108	
1976	1,000 cs.	940	818	747	769	778	754	786	835	830	776	764	671	
1977	1,000 cs.	689	710	675	666	686	744	839	927	929	905	888	840	

Tables 68-69.—Cold storage holdings of poultry, first of the month

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Total frozen														
Turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	275.0	267.1	239.9	207.3	180.2	162.7	193.2	248.6	328.3	409.8	472.4	286.2	
1976	Mil. lb.	195.2	186.8	160.7	140.7	114.5	120.8	177.3	261.9	370.3	459.7	512.3	298.8	
1977	Mil. lb.	203.4	190.3	167.8	142.3	130.3	137.9	201.2	251.6	327.6	408.4	445.5	269.3	
Chicken														
Hens														
1975	Mil. lb.	54.0	55.7	55.6	56.6	59.1	57.1	56.9	54.3	52.9	49.1	44.7	41.6	
1976	Mil. lb.	39.2	34.7	31.4	29.4	32.3	30.1	34.2	36.8	38.6	37.9	40.5	40.3	
1977	Mil. lb.	42.1	40.5	38.8	35.7	38.2	40.0	38.8	41.4	39.2	38.6	33.6	27.5	
Broilers, fryers and roasters														
1975	Mil. lb.	37.2	31.5	32.9	28.0	27.8	24.1	22.6	21.7	22.5	22.7	21.9	21.5	
1976	Mil. lb.	22.3	20.2	19.7	19.4	19.1	17.4	20.0	25.6	27.4	24.3	24.3	29.1	
1977	Mil. lb.	32.9	27.4	24.6	26.6	24.8	27.9	34.1	33.1	30.5	31.7	33.5	35.8	

Tables 70-71.—Exports of fresh or frozen poultry

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Broilers														
1975	Thou. lb.	10,268	9,841	9,903	11,620	12,595	11,858	10,851	11,931	10,615	13,046	11,483	13,720	137,731
1976	Thou. lb.	16,263	12,881	16,254	17,226	23,950	24,940	20,438	39,409	26,048	26,555	28,906	34,537	287,408
1977	Thou. lb.	27,105	24,963	18,891	25,826	25,795	20,536	35,790	27,530	26,788	31,867	22,312	25,883	313,286
Turkeys														
1975	Thou. lb.	1,384	2,551	2,979	2,952	2,851	3,807	4,389	4,023	5,293	7,139	5,368	4,507	47,244
1976	Thou. lb.	5,135	5,993	7,719	3,958	3,864	6,267	4,050	4.513	4,923	6,327	6,268	6,152	65,170
1977	Thou. lb.	2,947	3,303	2,138	2,435	3,909	5,033	5,210	6,875	6,133	4,383	5,470	6,036	53,872

Tables 72-75.—USDA contracts to purchase chicken, and turkey

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Young chickens, ready-to-cook wt.														
1975	Mil. lb.	3.8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7.3	6.8	7.0	5.2	30.0
1976	Mil. lb.	7.6	7.3	8.4	---	---	---	---	4.5	5.2	3.3	6.2	4.6	47.1
1977	Mil. lb.	5.0	6.4	4.5	---	---	---	---	6.6	6.3	8.4	13.4	11.4	62.1
Canned boned chicken														
1975	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	2.3	---	---	1.3	1.9	2.3	7.3	15.1
1976	Mil. lb.	5.0	3.0	2.4	---	---	---	---	1.3	.4	4.1	2.1	1.8	20.2
1977	Mil. lb.	3.5	3.0	7.6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.9	3.5	19.5
Canned boney turkey														
1975	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1976	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.7	.5	.7	---	3.0
1977	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Turkey, ready-to-cook wt.														
1975	Mil. lb.	2.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.1	6.9	10.4	---	---	21.5
1976	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10.5	20.7	20.7	8.9	3.4	64.3
1977	Mil. lb.	6.2	7.2	---	---	---	---	5.8	16.6	14.3	3.9	10.3	9.0	73.3

[1] Chicken and turkey meat, excludes slaughter on farms. [2] Excludes farm slaughter, lard and rendered pork fat. [3] Price reported as a price at mid-month. [4] Reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics. Prices are collected on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the week that includes the first Tuesday of the month. [5] Includes price for Grade AA eggs in Anchorage, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle, and Grade AA and ungraded eggs in some small cities. [6] Weighted average price to volume buyers for Consumer Grade A white eggs in cartons delivered to store door. [7] Prices paid by first receivers for cartoned Grade A eggs delivered FOB Midwestern cities. Prior to January 1974, reported as average price paid delivered to Chicago, loose, white, minimum 80 percent A. [8] Trucklot sales of U.S. Grade A and plant grade ready-to-cook, ice-packed broiler-fryers. [9] Computed by weighting the city averages by their metropolitan area populations. The 9 cities are: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco. [10] Pounds of broiler grower equal in value to 1 lb. of broiler liveweight. [11] Pounds of turkey grower equal in value to 1 lb. of turkey liveweight. [12] Pounds of laying feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. [13] Placements reported by leading breeders. [14] Sum of domestic placements 7-14 months previous.

LIST OF TABLES

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