

Poultry Slaughter



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released February 2, 1996, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Poultry Slaughter" call Jim Brewster at (202) 720-8784, office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET. For assistance with general agricultural statistics, information about NASS, its products or services, contact the NASS Information Hotline at 1-800-727-9540 or E-mail: NASS@NASS.USDA.GOV. This summary relates to preliminary inspection totals for December 1995 and updated November 1995 totals.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Up 1 Percent

Poultry Certified Wholesome during December (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.44 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the amount certified in December 1994. Updated totals for November 1995 show that 2.60 billion pounds were certified. The preliminary January through December cumulative total of pounds certified, at 30.7 billion pounds, was up 4 percent from the same period the previous year.

The preliminary total Live Weight of Poultry Inspected during December 1995 was 3.33 billion pounds. Inspections included 2.76 billion pounds of young chickens, 59.7 million pounds of mature chickens, 497 million pounds of turkeys, and 11.4 million pounds of ducks.

Young chickens slaughtered during December 1995 averaged 4.80 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from 4.68 pounds per bird a year ago. The average live weight of mature chickens increased 2 percent from 4.90 pounds per bird the previous year to 4.98 pounds. Turkeys slaughtered during December 1995 averaged 23.8 pounds per bird, up 3 percent from December 1994.

Ante-mortem condemnations during December 1995 totaled 12.3 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.37 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.33 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 56.5 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.89 percent of quantities inspected, unchanged from a year earlier.

December 1995 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays, while December 1994 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. Each weekday represents approximately 5 percent of the month's total.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature 2/	Total		

	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Nov 1995	596,523	11,910	608,432	1,707	-----
Dec 1994	581,276	14,234	595,509	1,691	-----
Dec 1995	574,559	11,988	586,548	1,692	-----
Jan-Dec 1994	7,071,569	168,026	7,239,595	20,051	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	7,368,748	159,349	7,528,097	19,528	-----

	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Nov 1995	2,843,272	62,896	2,906,168	11,493	1,219
Dec 1994	2,720,836	69,680	2,790,516	11,454	416
Dec 1995	2,757,426	59,705	2,817,131	11,422	525
Jan-Dec 1994	32,765,941	829,465	33,595,407	133,275	6,378
Jan-Dec 1995	34,338,720	811,670	35,150,390	129,873	8,282

	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Nov 1995	4.77	5.28	4.78	6.73	-----
Dec 1994	4.68	4.90	4.69	6.78	-----
Dec 1995	4.80	4.98	4.80	6.75	-----
Jan-Dec 1994	4.63	4.94	4.64	6.65	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	4.66	5.09	4.67	6.65	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys				Total
		Fryer-	Young 3/	Old	Total	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys		
		1,000 Head				
Number Inspected	:					
Nov 1995	:	27	25,649	178	25,854	-----
Dec 1994	:	---	21,598	129	21,728	-----
Dec 1995	:	17	20,731	117	20,865	-----
Jan-Dec 1994	:	348	276,570	1,994	278,912	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	:	358	278,391	1,868	280,617	-----
		1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight	:					
Nov 1995	:	265	585,723	4,742	590,730	3,509,610
Dec 1994	:	2	499,291	3,320	502,613	3,304,999
Dec 1995	:	140	493,795	3,019	496,955	3,326,032
Jan-Dec 1994	:	3,388	6,279,731	49,285	6,332,404	40,067,464
Jan-Dec 1995	:	3,137	6,450,048	46,415	6,499,600	41,788,144
		Pounds				
Average Live Weight	:					
Nov 1995	:	9.88	22.84	26.59	22.85	-----
Dec 1994	:	10.19	23.12	25.65	23.13	-----
Dec 1995	:	8.15	23.82	25.89	23.82	-----
Jan-Dec 1994	:	9.74	22.71	24.72	22.70	-----
Jan-Dec 1995	:	8.75	23.17	24.85	23.16	-----

- 1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.
- 2/ Of the Mature Chickens inspected, the number reported in thousands as heavy fowl (broiler breeding stock) was: December 1994: 4,856, December 1995: 4,155.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: December 1994: 68, December 1995: 59.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
1,000 Pounds					
Nov 1995					
Chilled	1,885,507	35,846	1,921,354	3,128	134
Frozen	197,345	2,750	200,095	5,088	613
Total	2,082,852	38,596	2,121,448	8,216	747
Dec 1994					
Chilled	1,807,569	41,298	1,848,867	2,968	91
Frozen	171,641	1,658	173,299	5,204	169
Total	1,979,209	42,956	2,022,166	8,172	260
Dec 1995					
Chilled	1,826,538	34,802	1,861,340	3,163	131
Frozen	181,673	1,453	183,126	5,032	230
Total	2,008,210	36,255	2,044,466	8,196	360
Jan-Dec 1994					
Chilled	21,904,422	478,024	22,382,446	30,101	866
Frozen	1,941,747	29,389	1,971,136	65,578	3,169
Total	23,846,169	507,413	24,353,582	95,680	4,034
Jan-Dec 1995					
Chilled	22,824,487	463,635	23,288,122	30,574	1,143
Frozen	2,186,055	30,480	2,216,535	62,487	3,960
Total	25,010,542	494,115	25,504,657	93,061	5,103

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
 United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Nov 1995					
Chilled	1	249,643	2,612	252,256	2,176,872
Frozen	178	213,320	906	214,405	420,200
Total	179	462,964	3,518	466,661	2,597,073
Dec 1994					
Chilled	1	204,824	873	205,698	2,057,624
Frozen	---	190,196	1,595	191,792	370,464
Total	1	395,020	2,468	397,490	2,428,088
Dec 1995					
Chilled	3	199,328	1,662	200,993	2,065,626
Frozen	86	188,922	646	189,653	378,041
Total	89	388,249	2,308	390,646	2,443,667
Jan-Dec 1994					
Chilled	227	2,379,743	20,778	2,400,748	24,814,161
Frozen	2,334	2,572,996	16,147	2,591,477	4,631,360
Total	2,560	4,952,739	36,926	4,992,225	29,445,522
Jan-Dec 1995					
Chilled	4	2,492,475	24,356	2,516,835	25,836,673
Frozen	2,337	2,592,605	10,782	2,605,724	4,888,706
Total	2,341	5,085,080	35,138	5,122,559	30,725,379

1/ Ready-to-cook weights. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Nov 1995	9,539	730	10,269	9	5
Dec 1994	8,923	898	9,821	10	3
Dec 1995	10,072	841	10,913	9	1
Jan-Dec 1994	108,987	14,170	123,157	142	37
Jan-Dec 1995	127,502	13,717	141,219	165	37
Percent 2/					
Dec 1994	0.33	1.29	0.35	0.09	0.76
Dec 1995	0.37	1.41	0.39	0.08	0.28
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Nov 1995	41,527	3,276	44,803	190	14
Dec 1994	43,301	3,320	46,621	190	8
Dec 1995	43,080	3,387	46,467	172	6
Jan-Dec 1994	468,780	38,790	507,571	2,212	118
Jan-Dec 1995	527,909	40,275	568,184	2,182	125
Percent 3/					
Dec 1994	1.77	5.29	1.86	1.84	2.10
Dec 1995	1.74	6.30	1.83	1.67	1.21

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, December 1995 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

		Turkeys			Total
		Fryer-	Young	Old	Poultry
		Roasters		Turkeys	
		1,000 Pounds			
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Nov 1995	12	1,359	36	1,406	11,689
Dec 1994	---	1,075	21	1,096	10,930
Dec 1995	1	1,318	44	1,363	12,287
Jan-Dec 1994	8	15,918	390	16,316	139,652
Jan-Dec 1995	25	16,940	417	17,382	158,804
Percent 2/					
Dec 1994	---	0.22	0.63	0.22	0.33
Dec 1995	1.05	0.27	1.47	0.27	0.37
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Nov 1995	13	10,298	312	10,624	55,630
Dec 1994	---	9,197	226	9,423	56,243
Dec 1995	29	9,643	188	9,860	56,505
Jan-Dec 1994	46	121,352	3,447	124,846	634,746
Jan-Dec 1995	78	121,664	3,094	124,836	695,327
Percent 3/					
Dec 1994	7.79	2.05	7.56	2.08	1.89
Dec 1995	23.02	2.17	6.92	2.20	1.89

- 1/ Federally inspected only. Totals may not add due to rounding.
2/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds (live weight) inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.
3/ Pounds condemned as percent of pounds N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AL	71,912	67,734	333,031	327,170	4.63	4.83
AR	91,041	89,617	418,842	421,765	4.60	4.71
CA	14,968	17,291	73,433	88,713	4.91	5.13
DE	23,703	22,523	125,588	125,594	5.30	5.58
FL	12,336	11,833	54,177	53,316	4.39	4.51
GA	78,900	79,910	376,467	383,206	4.77	4.80
LA	12,663	12,217	57,965	55,812	4.58	4.57
MD	16,720	16,407	76,238	78,414	4.56	4.78
MS	51,131	46,578	237,120	221,938	4.64	4.76
MO	19,165	23,660	81,789	101,159	4.27	4.28
NC	50,253	49,782	261,093	262,056	5.20	5.26
PA	7,572	7,378	37,695	37,824	4.98	5.13
SC	19,116	17,637	75,638	77,553	3.96	4.40
TN	11,962	12,365	53,206	55,772	4.45	4.51
TX	32,282	33,644	144,726	156,083	4.48	4.64
VA	28,478	28,121	134,182	136,342	4.71	4.85
WA	2,036	2,436	10,008	12,420	4.92	5.10
US	581,276	574,559	2,720,836	2,757,426	4.68	4.80

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Total		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	Certified 1/		N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AL	245,661	240,044	6,136	6,476	2.05	2.20
AR	296,844	298,736	5,781	5,646	1.53	1.49
CA	54,331	64,775	1,744	1,612	2.64	2.02
DE	90,600	90,045	2,302	2,902	2.04	2.57
FL	38,234	39,152	534	601	1.09	1.25
GA	277,237	283,628	5,838	5,858	1.72	1.70
LA	42,187	41,310	839	864	1.61	1.72
MD	53,669	55,371	1,092	1,353	1.59	1.92
MS	179,932	166,962	2,775	2,456	1.30	1.23
MO	58,987	72,686	1,019	1,588	1.38	1.74
NC	192,068	192,853	5,716	3,841	2.43	1.63
PA	26,432	26,734	1,209	1,034	3.56	3.04
SC	55,386	56,966	944	1,267	1.39	1.82
TN	37,553	40,061	553	645	1.15	1.29
TX	107,755	118,043	1,956	1,873	1.50	1.33
VA	95,378	95,619	1,615	1,921	1.34	1.57
WA	7,207	9,385	226	325	2.51	2.91
US	1,979,209	2,008,210	43,301	43,080	1.77	1.74

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, December 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
AL	---	---	232,121	175,111	5,757	19,994
AR	---	7,451	325,957	208,038	7,457	16,023
CA	---	10,035	90,913	14,025	1,182	10,773
DE	---	---	138,072	112,596	---	---
FL	---	658	---	21,613	---	---
GA	---	2,730	179,036	202,240	2,160	18,915
LA	---	890	45,916	27,890	---	4,530
MD	---	8,520	96,421	64,225	---	5,278
MS	---	3,185	107,574	55,612	1,030	19,491
MO	---	8,523	98,805	55,291	2,384	2,190
NC	---	7,010	136,964	79,866	129	41,691
PA	---	---	42,877	45,934	443	3,206
SC	---	1,691	35,494	77,661	---	4,943
TN	---	---	51,784	19,431	---	---
TX	---	1,095	121,799	44,632	814	2,389
VA	---	9,920	95,043	70,915	196	---
WA	---	---	17,996	650	---	973
US	---	139,328	2,034,874	1,319,089	41,857	200,523
Number						
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AL	13,194	34,344	78,852	8,506	207,338	775,217
AR	16,176	29,945	73,806	5,825	122,946	813,624
CA	720	8,097	3,800	---	76,347	215,892
DE	3,890	7,859	19,578	2,081	44,172	328,248
FL	1,139	3,616	7,173	---	32,830	67,029
GA	16,856	38,662	67,268	14,078	179,995	721,940
LA	1,914	3,490	13,913	195	32,740	131,478
MD	1,631	6,595	---	---	21,327	203,997
MS	5,486	20,632	31,764	1,652	122,673	369,099
MO	2,618	11,042	16,040	1,571	34,180	232,644
NC	6,411	28,210	57,360	2,972	156,427	517,040
PA	2,138	2,880	---	---	25,409	122,887
SC	3,204	17,607	16,740	2,347	50,019	209,706
TN	2,417	6,393	---	1,216	24,631	105,872
TX	1,131	7,049	12,633	497	3,899	195,938
VA	3,606	7,863	24,115	---	71,255	282,913
WA	397	---	586	---	13,876	34,478
US	90,933	250,837	510,506	51,561	1,292,343	5,931,851

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	14,234	11,988	69,680	59,705	4.90	4.98

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1994	1995	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	42,956	36,255	3,320	3,387	5.29	6.30

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, December 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors	
							Number
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	---	3,413	232,343	13,314	500	117,857	
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total	
							Number
CA	---	---	255	---	772	1,027	
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---	
US	25,459	43,246	136,060	2,025	34,663	608,880	

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,042	1,952	43,331	39,524	21.22	20.25
CA	1,994	1,843	42,286	38,111	21.21	20.68
IA	976	1,019	28,986	30,533	29.69	29.96
MN	2,704	2,784	55,752	57,995	20.62	20.83
MO	1,656	1,625	40,143	41,049	24.25	25.26
NC	3,855	3,571	88,850	83,772	23.05	23.46
PA	850	859	16,195	17,218	19.05	20.04
VA	2,830	2,203	49,312	42,781	17.43	19.42
US	21,598	20,731	499,291	493,795	23.12	23.82

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, December 1994-95

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1994	1995	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AR	34,922	31,900	905	716	2.32	2.01
CA	34,509	30,865	491	467	1.29	1.36
IA	22,818	23,755	644	895	2.47	3.26
MN	44,406	46,305	1,166	1,454	2.32	2.79
MO	30,977	32,271	1,041	1,025	2.88	2.77
NC	70,221	66,131	1,500	1,381	1.88	1.83
PA	13,071	13,694	255	282	1.75	1.82
VA	38,555	31,389	786	573	1.77	1.49
US	395,020	388,249	9,197	9,643	2.05	2.17

1/ Ready-to-cook weights.

2/ Pounds condemned as percent of equivalent N.Y. dressed weight of quantity inspected. Percentages based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number Condemed Post-Mortem by Cause,
Selected States and United States, December 1995

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	7,678	750	---	---
CA	---	---	7,620	70	---	---
IA	---	---	---	4,027	---	---
MN	---	---	17,780	5,655	---	---
MO	---	---	17,809	5,367	---	12
NC	---	9	9,948	1,217	---	7
PA	---	---	3,652	---	---	---
VA	---	---	7,690	525	---	---
US	---	181	108,791	23,995	8,403	195
	Number					
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
AR	190	592	1,117	---	569	10,896
CA	---	---	414	8	---	8,112
IA	49	---	---	---	190	4,266
MN	216	1,779	2,339	282	3,441	31,492
MO	92	---	970	---	---	24,250
NC	195	1,447	954	---	1,555	15,332
PA	50	---	---	---	---	3,702
VA	33	690	246	---	907	10,091
US	1,134	7,633	8,804	1,176	13,109	173,421

Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection-Daily Summary forms (FSIS 6000-21) completed by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA. This form provides actual counts of birds slaughtered in Federally Inspected (FI) plants. Over 99 percent of the total U.S. slaughter for any species is under FI. The FSIS 6000-21 forms collect number of head slaughtered daily under FI by species and class as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights. Approximately 350 plants in the U.S. are operated under Federal Inspection. Annual totals of poultry slaughtered under State-administered Non-Federal Inspection (NFI) are published in the April release.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late reports received by FSIS from plants and are usually less than one-half of 1 percent of the preliminary totals. Revisions for the previous month and year-to-date totals are published in each monthly release. Final data are published in the annual summary released in April and reflect any late reports or corrections which occurred after the monthly revisions were published.

Procedures and Reliability: Plant inspectors submit forms (FSIS 6000-21) weekly summarizing the plant's activity. When inconsistencies in the data are detected, the reports are returned to the inspectors for correction. Inspectors correct or validate the report and resubmit it. The reports cover weekly activities through Saturday night and reported data are allocated to the appropriate month as it enters the database.

A NASS computer program provides a review of current data with historical data for each plant. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. The program also generates a missing reports listing for a telephone follow-up. Data are summarized weekly and accumulated to a monthly total for this release.

Major slaughter plants with missing reports are adjusted prior to publication to assure that all plants slaughtering a significant portion of a specific class are accounted for each week. Estimates for missing weeks are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on either the previous week's information or a week determined to be similar to the one missing. Late reports replace imputed data as they become available. While there will continue to be a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it is expected to have only a minimal impact on the final totals.

Poultry slaughter estimates are based on a census of operating plants and, therefore, have no sampling error. However, they may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Generally, no State data are published if less than three plants operate for a species in a State, or if one plant has 60 percent or more of the total head for that species. These data are included in the U.S. totals.

Definitions Used To Report Federally Inspected Slaughter

Ante-Mortem Condemnations - Birds condemned prior to their entry into the slaughter plant.

Certified Ready-to-Cook - The weight of poultry certified wholesome by inspection after post-mortem condemnation pounds are removed. Ready-to-cook represents poultry meat ready for the marketing channel.

Ducks - Includes all ducks regardless of age and weight.

Frozen - Poultry products which have been at 0 degrees F. or below.

Fryer-Roaster Turkeys - Young immature birds, usually under 16 weeks of age.

Mature Chickens - Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks and stags and cocks.

New York Dressed Weight - Carcass weight after only feathers and blood are removed. This weight is approximately 90% of live weight.

Old Turkeys (Breeders) - Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.

Other Poultry - Includes all other ready-to-cook products which bear the U.S.D.A. Inspected for Wholesomeness legend.

Post-Mortem Condemnations - Carcasses or parts condemned by the inspector because of disease or mishandling and removed from the slaughter line and destroyed.

Young Chickens - Commercially grown broilers-fryers and other young immature birds such as roasters and capons.

Young Turkeys (Mature) - Young birds grown to a matured market age, about 5 months.

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The next "**Poultry Slaughter**" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on March 4, 1996.

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