



Poultry Slaughter

Released November 3, 2000, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Poultry Slaughter" call John Lange (202) 720-0585 or Mike Barker (202) 720-3243, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 7 Percent

Poultry certified wholesome during September (ready-to-cook weight), totaled 2.81 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the amount certified in September 1999. Updated totals for August 2000 show that 3.29 billion pounds were certified.

The preliminary total live weight of poultry inspected during September 2000 was 3.79 billion pounds, down 7 percent from a year ago. Inspections included 3.17 billion pounds of young chickens, 7 percent below last year; 66.1 million pounds of mature chickens, down 11 percent; 538 million pounds of turkeys, down 7 percent; and 12.9 million pounds of ducks, down 2 percent from September 1999.

Young chickens slaughtered during September 2000 averaged 4.98 pounds per bird, unchanged from September 1999. The average live weight of mature chickens was 5.38 pounds per bird, down 1 percent from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during September 2000 averaged 25.0 pounds per bird, down slightly from September 1999.

Ante-mortem condemnations during September 2000 totaled 15.1 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.40 percent of the live weight inspected, compared with 0.39 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 51.0 million pounds (N.Y. dressed weight), were 1.50 percent of quantities inspected, compared with 1.70 percent a year earlier.

September 2000 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. September 1999 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	: Mature 2/	: Total		
	1,000 Head				
Number Inspected					
Aug 2000	758,249	14,959	773,208	2,111	-----
Sep 1999	682,486	13,680	696,166	1,994	-----
Sep 2000	637,308	12,274	649,582	1,976	-----
Jan-Sep 1999	6,128,975	134,002	6,262,977	17,313	-----
Jan-Sep 2000	6,238,331	127,202	6,365,533	17,860	-----
	1,000 Pounds				
Live Weight					
Aug 2000	3,732,233	82,162	3,814,394	13,744	1,247
Sep 1999	3,395,418	74,571	3,469,989	13,167	1,920
Sep 2000	3,172,379	66,090	3,238,468	12,926	1,557
Jan-Sep 1999	30,468,925	694,063	31,162,988	114,072	10,208
Jan-Sep 2000	31,075,628	672,734	31,748,362	118,032	9,474
	Pounds				
Average Live Weight					
Aug 2000	4.92	5.49	4.93	6.51	-----
Sep 1999	4.98	5.45	4.98	6.60	-----
Sep 2000	4.98	5.38	4.99	6.54	-----
Jan-Sep 1999	4.97	5.18	4.98	6.59	-----
Jan-Sep 2000	4.98	5.29	4.99	6.61	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight
by Type, United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys					Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	3/ Old	Total Turkeys		
	1,000 Head					
Number Inspected						
Aug 2000	---	24,573	254	24,826	-----	
Sep 1999	---	22,949	185	23,133	-----	
Sep 2000	---	21,258	227	21,485	-----	
Jan-Sep 1999	56	193,797	1,409	195,261	-----	
Jan-Sep 2000	81	195,884	1,576	197,541	-----	

- 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: September 1999: 6,231, September 2000: 5,378.
- 3/ Of the Young Turkeys inspected, the number reported in thousands as young breeders was: September 1999: 62, September 2000: 48.

Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Aug 2000					
Chilled	2,513,717	46,219	2,559,936	3,894	232
Frozen	229,996	3,500	233,496	6,051	522
Total	2,743,713	49,719	2,793,432	9,944	755
Sep 1999					
Chilled	2,291,131	42,188	2,333,319	3,550	356
Frozen	206,817	3,121	209,938	5,555	766
Total	2,497,948	45,309	2,543,257	9,105	1,122
Sep 2000					
Chilled	2,143,217	37,587	2,180,804	3,612	319
Frozen	195,549	3,152	198,701	5,744	619
Total	2,338,766	40,740	2,379,505	9,355	938
Jan-Sep 1999					
Chilled	20,432,818	388,106	20,820,924	30,799	3,076
Frozen	1,941,512	30,105	1,971,617	49,121	2,801
Total	22,374,330	418,211	22,792,541	79,921	5,877
Jan-Sep 2000					
Chilled	20,886,240	377,197	21,263,437	32,787	2,507
Frozen	1,971,262	29,015	2,000,277	51,832	3,279
Total	22,857,502	406,212	23,263,715	84,619	5,786

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Chilled and Frozen, Pounds Certified by Type,
United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Aug 2000					
Chilled	---	216,081	2,964	219,046	2,783,107
Frozen	---	261,916	1,876	263,792	503,861
Total	---	477,998	4,840	482,838	3,286,969
Sep 1999					
Chilled	---	202,042	1,905	203,947	2,541,171
Frozen	---	249,287	1,660	250,947	467,207
Total	---	451,329	3,564	454,894	3,008,378
Sep 2000					
Chilled	---	199,047	2,782	201,830	2,386,565
Frozen	---	219,202	1,897	221,099	426,162
Total	---	418,249	4,679	422,929	2,812,727
Jan-Sep 1999					
Chilled	35	1,752,792	18,000	1,770,827	22,625,626
Frozen	313	2,122,985	9,758	2,133,056	4,156,595
Total	348	3,875,777	27,758	3,903,883	26,782,222
Jan-Sep 2000					
Chilled	219	1,888,573	20,810	1,909,602	23,208,333
Frozen	276	2,087,604	10,242	2,098,122	4,153,511
Total	495	3,976,177	31,052	4,007,724	27,361,843

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

Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/

	Chickens			Ducks	Other Poultry
	Young	Mature	Total		
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Aug 2000	19,806	2,715	22,520	30	5
Sep 1999	13,552	952	14,505	44	8
Sep 2000	11,748	1,561	13,308	27	4
Jan-Sep 1999	135,128	13,375	148,503	188	56
Jan-Sep 2000	127,831	12,225	140,057	204	35
Percent 2/					
Sep 1999	0.40	1.28	0.42	0.34	0.43
Sep 2000	0.37	2.36	0.41	0.21	0.27
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Aug 2000	44,996	4,494	49,490	331	12
Sep 1999	45,513	4,237	49,750	262	27
Sep 2000	35,882	3,695	39,576	349	15
Jan-Sep 1999	455,455	42,589	498,043	2,565	93
Jan-Sep 2000	412,615	41,638	454,254	2,673	97
Percent 3/					
Sep 1999	1.49	6.31	1.59	2.21	1.56
Sep 2000	1.26	6.21	1.36	3.00	1.05

See footnotes at end of table.

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Poultry Slaughter: Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Condemnations
by Type, United States, September 2000 with Comparisons 1/ (continued)

	Turkeys				Total Poultry
	Fryer- Roasters	Young	Old	Total Turkeys	
	1,000 Pounds				
Ante-Mortem (Live Weight)					
Aug 2000	---	2,314	74	2,388	24,943
Sep 1999	---	1,419	27	1,447	16,004
Sep 2000	---	1,711	51	1,763	15,102
Jan-Sep 1999	1	13,867	378	14,246	162,993
Jan-Sep 2000	17	14,906	409	15,332	155,628
Percent 2/					
Sep 1999	---	0.25	0.56	0.25	0.39
Sep 2000	---	0.32	0.84	0.33	0.40
	1,000 Pounds				
Post-Mortem (N.Y. Dressed Weight)					
Aug 2000	---	12,051	363	12,414	62,247
Sep 1999	---	11,773	302	12,074	62,113
Sep 2000	---	10,771	320	11,091	51,031
Jan-Sep 1999	5	98,834	2,539	101,378	602,080
Jan-Sep 2000	9	103,678	2,620	106,307	563,330
Percent 3/					
Sep 1999	---	2.27	6.87	2.31	1.70
Sep 2000	---	2.25	5.83	2.29	1.50

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, September 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AL	81,300	75,580	421,210	386,938	5.18	5.12
AR	99,356	93,231	480,201	436,785	4.83	4.68
DE	23,475	20,945	135,905	125,426	5.79	5.99
FL	10,093	9,979	53,429	53,177	5.29	5.33
GA	96,617	86,724	482,888	431,257	5.00	4.97
LA	13,572	11,915	59,403	51,965	4.38	4.36
MD	17,390	17,010	85,674	82,009	4.93	4.82
MS	58,426	54,642	293,022	276,216	5.02	5.06
MO	30,242	27,793	136,242	121,892	4.51	4.39
NC	48,754	48,857	273,142	284,656	5.60	5.83
PA	9,276	9,236	49,265	47,956	5.31	5.19
SC	16,631	15,483	79,715	78,824	4.79	5.09
TN	18,580	18,197	86,231	83,038	4.64	4.56
TX	46,241	45,694	212,529	207,147	4.60	4.53
VA	31,376	28,101	151,592	138,101	4.83	4.91
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	682,486	637,308	3,395,418	3,172,379	4.98	4.98

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, September 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				-- Percent --	
AL	308,475	281,709	7,753	5,319	2.05	1.53
AR	352,015	318,980	5,653	5,121	1.31	1.30
DE	98,683	90,364	2,251	1,919	1.84	1.70
FL	37,635	37,532	1,088	844	2.26	1.76
GA	350,637	319,586	6,224	4,102	1.43	1.06
LA	41,849	38,240	1,157	467	2.16	1.00
MD	60,597	58,608	1,242	931	1.61	1.26
MS	225,504	213,016	2,833	2,056	1.07	0.83
MO	100,904	88,854	1,449	1,494	1.18	1.36
NC	206,134	216,248	3,837	3,793	1.56	1.48
PA	34,704	33,492	1,100	1,036	2.48	2.40
SC	57,725	57,608	1,089	894	1.52	1.26
TN	63,438	60,185	807	613	1.04	0.82
TX	165,827	161,877	2,368	2,061	1.24	1.11
VA	105,686	93,190	1,262	1,117	0.93	0.90
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	2,497,948	2,338,766	45,513	35,882	1.49	1.26

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, September 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AL	---	1,393	166,043	82,005	1,788	8,687
AR	---	3,545	222,421	80,963	13,909	4,637
DE	---	2,659	111,595	19,949	---	---
FL	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	1,761	111,664	89,308	563	14,684
LA	---	---	19,987	6,642	160	383
MD	---	2,497	69,288	14,068	27	7,354
MS	---	---	79,894	15,431	321	1,579
MO	---	2,309	75,023	30,165	1,792	---
NC	---	1,600	129,051	43,692	580	33,277
PA	---	820	31,643	11,094	377	---
SC	---	495	19,723	---	---	---
TN	---	192	39,429	12,440	405	678
TX	---	434	118,012	31,145	671	2,439
VA	---	---	57,941	13,638	---	---
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	27,963	1,542,281	511,415	27,658	115,795
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AL	9,199	42,115	46,753	14,795	108,623	481,401
AR	9,124	30,348	43,886	3,561	94,570	506,964
DE	2,508	11,747	14,254	2,318	32,111	197,141
FL	1,830	3,344	4,219	---	---	9,393
GA	8,644	30,827	25,785	8,975	129,414	421,625
LA	---	2,746	3,114	38	7,949	41,019
MD	1,999	15,333	---	2,906	17,281	130,753
MS	3,015	12,593	15,671	686	44,655	173,845
MO	2,380	20,043	14,177	1,610	35,801	183,300
NC	7,600	38,715	30,436	6,149	92,701	383,801
PA	1,906	3,911	11,257	188	32,560	93,756
SC	3,415	13,004	---	---	13,338	49,975
TN	2,222	12,176	12,053	3,289	31,773	114,657
TX	1,547	14,193	12,855	897	18,863	201,056
VA	1,725	12,642	---	1,754	16,348	104,048
WA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	63,184	298,576	331,149	66,403	802,497	3,786,921

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight,
Selected States and United States, September 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	13,680	12,274	74,571	66,090	5.45	5.38

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Mature Chickens Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations,
Selected States and United States, September 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
			N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	45,309	40,740	4,237	3,695	6.31	6.21

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, September 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
CA	---	---	---	---	---	---
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	---	2,615	254,551	21,381	819	118,035
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
CA	---	11	---	---	---	11
GA	---	---	---	---	---	---
US	30,452	24,509	149,245	3,932	72,765	678,304

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, and Average Live Weight, Selected States and United States, September 1999-2000

State	Number Inspected		Live Weight Inspected		Average Live Weight Inspected 1/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 -----		---- 1,000 Pounds ----		--- Pounds ---	
AR	2,205	1,918	40,067	33,967	18.17	17.71
CA	1,915	1,530	50,402	36,033	26.32	23.56
IA	1,466	1,395	42,261	40,156	28.84	28.79
MN	3,993	3,421	94,804	81,482	23.74	23.82
MO	2,082	1,972	56,864	49,922	27.32	25.32
NC	2,572	2,746	61,287	67,944	23.83	24.74
PA	767	587	17,257	13,533	22.50	23.04
VA	3,147	2,977	69,692	64,488	22.15	21.66
US	22,949	21,258	576,284	531,779	25.11	25.02

1/ Average weight based on unrounded data.

Young Turkeys (Mature) Slaughtered: Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations, Selected States and United States, September 1999-2000

State	Total Certified 1/		Post-Mortem Condemnations			
	1999	2000	N.Y. Dressed Weight		Percent 2/	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----		-- Percent --			
AR	31,560	28,205	680	613	1.89	2.01
CA	40,022	28,681	820	582	1.81	1.80
IA	32,732	31,045	1,028	960	2.70	2.66
MN	75,326	64,067	2,472	1,877	2.90	2.56
MO	43,803	38,814	1,343	1,173	2.62	2.61
NC	48,515	53,436	1,301	1,557	2.36	2.55
PA	13,565	10,607	435	234	2.80	1.92
VA	52,994	50,325	999	831	1.59	1.43
US	451,329	418,249	11,773	10,771	2.27	2.25

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, September 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
	Number					
AR	---	---	4,457	---	---	---
CA	---	---	---	267	---	---
IA	---	---	7,383	1,979	---	---
MN	---	456	13,165	1,255	---	---
MO	---	---	16,082	4,200	---	---
NC	---	---	4,617	3,784	---	---
PA	---	---	1,988	---	23	---
VA	---	---	4,370	308	---	---
US	---	1,668	80,300	17,093	5,402	142
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
	Number					
AR	---	274	---	---	---	4,731
CA	---	---	---	---	208	475
IA	130	---	795	88	---	10,375
MN	173	651	816	---	1,524	18,040
MO	54	534	---	---	1,379	22,249
NC	104	1,220	---	---	1,489	11,214
PA	---	---	---	---	---	2,011
VA	14	1,618	---	79	---	6,389
US	796	7,615	10,020	2,345	11,635	137,016

Old Turkeys (Breeders) Slaughtered: Number Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause,
United States, September 2000

State	Tuber- culosis	Leukosis	Septicemia	Airsac- culitis	Synovitis	Tumors
Number						
US	---	---	2,224	853	69	117
	Bruises	Cadaver	Contam- ination	Overscald	Other	Total
Number						
US	6	233	304	23	1,113	4,942

Poultry Slaughter Estimates

Data Sources: Primary data for commercial poultry slaughter estimates are obtained from the Poultry Inspection Form (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.

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 revision 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.

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 3:00 p.m. ET on December 6, 2000.

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