



# Poultry Slaughter

ISSN: 1949-1581

---

Released April 25, 2024, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Ready-to-Cook Weight Down 10 Percent from Last Year

**March 2023** contained 23 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**March 2024** contained 21 weekdays (including 0 holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

**Poultry certified wholesome** during March 2024 (ready-to-cook weight) totaled 4.10 billion pounds, down 10 percent from the amount certified in March 2023. The February 2024 revised certified total at 4.22 billion pounds, was up 4 percent from February 2023. The February revision represented an increase of 8.15 million pounds from last month's preliminary pounds certified.

**The preliminary total live weight** of all federally inspected poultry during March 2024 was 5.41 billion pounds, down 10 percent from 5.98 billion pounds a year ago. Young chickens inspected totaled 4.82 billion pounds, down 9 percent from March 2023. Mature chickens, at 62.2 million pounds, were down 15 percent from the previous year. Turkey inspections totaled 514 million pounds, down 15 percent from a year ago. Ducks totaled 15.0 million pounds, down 8 percent from last year.

**Young chickens slaughtered** during March 2024 averaged 6.47 pounds per bird, down slightly from March 2023. The average live weight of mature chickens was 6.96 pounds per bird, down slightly from a year ago. Turkeys slaughtered during March 2024 averaged 33.2 pounds per bird, up 4 percent from March 2023.

**Ante-mortem condemnations** during March 2024 totaled 11.4 million pounds. Condemnations were 0.21 percent of the live weight inspected, as compared with 0.22 percent a year earlier. Post-mortem condemnations, at 25.7 million pounds, were 0.62 percent of quantities inspected, unchanged from a year earlier.

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

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		2024 as percent of 2023
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
<b>Slaughtered</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	816,085	762,964	744,883	91	98	2,351,182	2,323,120	99
Mature .....	10,510	9,079	8,940	85	98	29,139	27,841	96
Light .....	3,037	2,447	2,581	85	105	8,497	7,911	93
Heavy .....	7,473	6,632	6,359	85	96	20,642	19,930	97
Total .....	826,595	772,043	753,823	91	98	2,380,321	2,350,961	99
Turkeys								
Young .....	18,774	16,181	15,395	82	95	51,481	47,943	93
Old .....	150	165	113	75	68	486	438	90
Total .....	18,924	16,346	15,508	82	95	51,967	48,381	93
Ducks .....	2,304	2,008	2,096	91	104	6,823	6,674	98
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Total live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	5,289,405	4,951,320	4,816,338	91	97	15,294,364	15,129,717	99
Mature .....	73,509	63,901	62,196	85	97	203,405	194,400	96
Light .....	10,345	8,384	8,924	86	106	29,405	27,359	93
Heavy .....	63,164	55,517	53,272	84	96	174,000	167,041	96
Total .....	5,362,914	5,015,221	4,878,534	91	97	15,497,769	15,324,117	99
Turkeys								
Young .....	600,755	526,344	510,572	85	97	1,672,881	1,583,260	95
Old .....	4,593	5,074	3,640	79	72	14,731	13,508	92
Total .....	605,348	531,418	514,212	85	97	1,687,612	1,596,768	95
Ducks .....	16,338	14,367	15,012	92	104	48,800	47,835	98
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	182	164	148	81	90	516	488	95
Total .....	5,984,782	5,561,170	5,407,906	90	97	17,234,697	16,969,208	98
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
<b>Average live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	6.48	6.49	6.47	100	100	6.50	6.51	100
Mature .....	6.99	7.04	6.96	100	99	6.98	6.98	100
Light .....	3.41	3.43	3.46	101	101	3.46	3.46	100
Heavy .....	8.45	8.37	8.38	99	100	8.43	8.38	99
Total .....	6.49	6.50	6.47	100	100	6.51	6.52	100
Turkeys								
Young .....	32.00	32.53	33.16	104	102	32.50	33.02	102
Old .....	30.62	30.75	32.21	105	105	30.31	30.84	102
Total .....	31.99	32.51	33.16	104	102	32.47	33.00	102
Ducks .....	7.09	7.15	7.16	101	100	7.15	7.17	100

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

## Chilled and Frozen Pounds Certified by Type – United States

[Ready-to-cook weights]

Commodity	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		2024 as percent of 2023
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Chilled</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,728,214	3,489,495	3,400,230	91	97	10,792,940	10,660,670	99
Mature .....	51,870	45,045	42,854	83	95	142,208	135,267	95
Light .....	5,419	4,385	4,649	86	106	15,570	14,425	93
Heavy .....	46,451	40,660	38,205	82	94	126,638	120,842	95
Total .....	3,780,084	3,534,540	3,443,084	91	97	10,935,148	10,795,937	99
Turkeys								
Young .....	308,295	268,535	254,668	83	95	833,973	798,466	96
Old .....	2,461	3,702	2,687	109	73	9,588	9,828	103
Total .....	310,756	272,237	257,355	83	95	843,561	808,294	96
Ducks .....	3,924	3,505	3,763	96	107	11,904	12,474	105
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	110	104	93	85	89	329	304	92
Total .....	4,094,874	3,810,386	3,704,295	90	97	11,790,942	11,617,009	99
<b>Frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	264,023	252,357	236,574	90	94	756,157	769,350	102
Mature .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Light .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Heavy .....	-	-	-	(X)	(X)	-	-	(X)
Total .....	264,023	252,357	236,574	90	94	756,157	769,350	102
Turkeys								
Young .....	172,410	151,487	152,076	88	100	503,319	459,795	91
Old .....	1,076	188	68	6	36	1,746	484	28
Total .....	173,486	151,675	152,144	88	100	505,065	460,279	91
Ducks .....	7,936	7,008	7,272	92	104	23,430	22,614	97
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	18	13	11	61	85	34	40	118
Total .....	445,463	411,053	396,001	89	96	1,284,686	1,252,283	97
<b>Chilled and frozen</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	3,992,237	3,741,852	3,636,804	91	97	11,549,097	11,430,020	99
Mature .....	51,870	45,045	42,854	83	95	142,208	135,267	95
Light .....	5,419	4,385	4,649	86	106	15,570	14,425	93
Heavy .....	46,451	40,660	38,205	82	94	126,638	120,842	95
Total .....	4,044,107	3,786,897	3,679,658	91	97	11,691,305	11,565,287	99
Turkeys								
Young .....	480,705	420,022	406,744	85	97	1,337,292	1,258,261	94
Old .....	3,537	3,890	2,755	78	71	11,334	10,312	91
Total .....	484,242	423,912	409,499	85	97	1,348,626	1,268,573	94
Ducks .....	11,860	10,513	11,035	93	105	35,334	35,088	99
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	128	117	104	81	89	363	344	95
Total .....	4,540,337	4,221,439	4,100,296	90	97	13,075,628	12,869,292	98

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

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

## Ante-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally inspected only]

Commodity	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		2024 as percent of 2023
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Live weight</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	10,202	9,623	8,910	87	93	30,741	30,402	99
Mature .....	949	812	727	77	90	2,628	2,449	93
Light .....	85	40	41	48	103	316	146	46
Heavy .....	864	772	686	79	89	2,312	2,303	100
Total .....	11,151	10,435	9,637	86	92	33,369	32,851	98
Turkeys .....								
Young .....	1,639	1,690	1,624	99	96	4,897	5,235	107
Old .....	26	50	40	154	80	109	140	128
Total .....	1,665	1,740	1,664	100	96	5,006	5,375	107
Ducks .....	81	83	84	104	101	230	275	120
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	12,897	12,258	11,385	88	93	38,605	38,501	100
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of live weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	0.19	0.19	0.18	95	95	0.20	0.20	100
Mature .....	1.29	1.27	1.17	91	92	1.29	1.26	98
Light .....	0.82	0.48	0.46	56	96	1.07	0.53	50
Heavy .....	1.37	1.39	1.29	94	93	1.33	1.38	104
Total .....	0.21	0.21	0.20	95	95	0.22	0.21	95
Turkeys								
Young .....	0.27	0.32	0.32	119	100	0.29	0.33	114
Old .....	0.57	0.99	1.10	193	111	0.74	1.04	141
Total .....	0.28	0.33	0.32	114	97	0.30	0.34	113
Ducks .....	0.50	0.58	0.56	112	97	0.47	0.57	121
Total <sup>1</sup> .....	0.22	0.22	0.21	95	95	0.22	0.23	105

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

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as a percent of live weight pounds inspected.

## Post-Mortem Condemnations by Type – United States

[Federally condemned and establishment sorted and removed]

Commodity	March 2023	February 2024	March 2024	March 2024 as % of		January to March		2024 as percent of 2023
				March 2023	February 2024	2023	2024	
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
<b>Carcass and parts</b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	20,293	18,097	18,025	89	100	59,909	55,816	93
Mature .....	1,883	1,626	1,578	84	97	5,420	4,940	91
Light .....	403	381	419	104	110	1,226	1,218	99
Heavy .....	1,480	1,245	1,159	78	93	4,194	3,722	89
Total .....	22,176	19,723	19,603	88	99	65,329	60,756	93
Turkeys								
Young .....	5,513	6,566	5,821	106	89	15,544	18,956	122
Old .....	176	139	126	72	91	571	422	74
Total .....	5,689	6,705	5,947	105	89	16,115	19,378	120
Ducks .....	236	206	171	72	83	691	602	87
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	2	3	3	150	100	7	9	129
Total .....	28,103	26,637	25,724	92	97	82,142	80,745	98
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Percent of weight condemned <sup>2</sup></b>								
Chickens								
Young .....	0.51	0.48	0.49	96	102	0.52	0.49	94
Mature .....	3.50	3.48	3.55	101	102	3.67	3.52	96
Light .....	6.92	7.99	8.27	120	104	7.30	7.79	107
Heavy .....	3.09	2.97	2.94	95	99	3.21	2.99	93
Total .....	0.55	0.52	0.53	96	102	0.56	0.52	93
Turkeys								
Young .....	1.13	1.54	1.41	125	92	1.15	1.48	129
Old .....	4.74	3.45	4.37	92	127	4.80	3.93	82
Total .....	1.16	1.56	1.43	123	92	1.18	1.50	127
Ducks .....	1.95	1.92	1.53	78	80	1.92	1.69	88
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	1.54	2.50	2.80	182	112	1.89	2.55	135
Total .....	0.62	0.63	0.62	100	98	0.62	0.62	100

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

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as a percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

## Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause and Type – United States: February and March 2024

Commodity	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	-	-	146	379	94,804	107,710
Mature .....	-	-	1	24	47,223	46,905
Light .....	-	-	1	22	39,140	39,816
Heavy .....	-	-	-	2	8,083	7,089
Total .....	-	-	147	403	142,027	154,615
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	-	-	3	5	6,086	3,877
Old .....	-	-	1	2	654	920
Total .....	-	-	4	7	6,740	4,797
Commodity	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	176,771	187,422	741	462	2,373	1,945
Mature .....	11,046	12,970	97	90	17,512	20,324
Light .....	4,750	5,729	3	10	13,951	15,884
Heavy .....	6,296	7,241	94	80	3,561	4,440
Total .....	187,817	200,392	838	552	19,885	22,269
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	1,838	1,281	3	10	141	36
Old .....	420	506	19	14	278	252
Total .....	2,258	1,787	22	24	419	288
Commodity	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	4,856	4,312	1,343	1,480	37,742	44,708
Mature .....	3,219	2,204	102	328	15,196	18,877
Light .....	2,607	1,720	86	298	14,537	18,106
Heavy .....	612	484	16	30	659	771
Total .....	8,075	6,516	1,445	1,808	52,938	63,585
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	63	74	493	240	931	845
Old .....	13	7	13	14	62	41
Total .....	76	81	506	254	993	886
Commodity	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
<b>Chickens</b>						
Young .....	5,058	4,857	114,562	129,803	1,845,254	1,840,300
Mature .....	144	36	29,995	29,385	34,506	24,423
Light .....	57	31	22,538	22,032	-	-
Heavy .....	87	5	7,457	7,353	34,506	24,423
Total .....	5,202	4,893	144,557	159,188	1,879,760	1,864,723
<b>Turkeys</b>						
Young .....	59	91	3,304	1,644	83,336	71,495
Old .....	19	1	45	100	281	100
Total .....	78	92	3,349	1,744	83,617	71,595

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> Includes any portion of the carcass affected by an inflammatory process, plant rejected carcasses, missing viscera, or ascites fluid preventing proper inspection of the carcass.

<sup>2</sup> Birds condemned with no cause given by federal inspectors and establishment sorters.

## Young Chickens Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: February and March 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Alabama .....	94,284	93,629	517,309	505,661	5.49	5.40
Arkansas .....	84,238	79,431	614,252	574,212	7.29	7.23
Delaware .....	30,557	29,539	237,847	226,744	7.78	7.68
Georgia .....	104,026	101,944	621,996	609,595	5.98	5.98
Illinois .....	58	50	366	316	6.35	6.31
Indiana .....	5,678	3,536	27,583	19,130	4.86	5.41
Iowa .....	1,685	1,988	9,780	11,727	5.80	5.90
Kentucky .....	23,770	24,302	153,788	159,825	6.47	6.58
Louisiana .....	14,670	14,443	97,105	96,372	6.62	6.67
Maryland .....	11,762	11,608	73,062	71,782	6.21	6.18
Mississippi .....	57,370	55,235	380,888	363,175	6.64	6.58
Missouri .....	25,572	25,027	134,639	133,031	5.27	5.32
Nebraska .....	9,538	9,533	62,516	61,934	6.55	6.50
New Jersey .....	268	224	1,463	1,171	5.46	5.23
New York .....	2,768	2,743	13,476	13,412	4.87	4.89
North Carolina .....	75,621	73,861	627,469	619,223	8.30	8.38
Ohio .....	10,054	9,987	45,861	45,295	4.56	4.54
Oklahoma .....	7,766	7,837	61,611	59,087	7.93	7.54
Pennsylvania .....	13,772	13,455	78,160	76,773	5.68	5.71
South Carolina .....	24,207	23,974	176,737	171,953	7.30	7.17
Tennessee .....	33,042	32,388	198,976	192,870	6.02	5.95
Texas .....	58,386	56,642	397,150	378,910	6.80	6.69
Virginia .....	24,092	24,346	151,231	155,010	6.28	6.37
United States .....	762,964	744,883	4,951,320	4,816,338	6.49	6.47

# Young Chickens Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: February and March 2024

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
Alabama .....	398,941	387,330	1,771	1,795	0.44	0.46
Arkansas .....	458,120	429,907	2,108	1,883	0.46	0.44
Delaware .....	184,055	175,423	1,018	1,068	0.55	0.61
Georgia .....	471,884	460,621	2,668	2,701	0.56	0.58
Illinois .....	272	235	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana .....	19,880	13,701	130	54	0.65	0.39
Iowa .....	7,082	8,586	390	307	5.22	3.45
Kentucky .....	116,478	120,938	560	638	0.48	0.52
Louisiana .....	73,236	72,182	300	329	0.41	0.45
Maryland .....	54,333	53,316	518	578	0.94	1.07
Mississippi .....	281,623	269,111	906	875	0.32	0.32
Missouri .....	98,154	96,969	243	355	0.25	0.36
Nebraska .....	47,907	47,461	239	232	0.50	0.49
New Jersey .....	1,078	857	8	9	0.70	1.04
New York .....	8,347	8,266	113	119	1.33	1.42
North Carolina .....	483,880	477,125	1,220	1,143	0.25	0.24
Ohio .....	34,288	33,962	198	209	0.57	0.61
Oklahoma .....	46,219	44,256	138	167	0.30	0.38
Pennsylvania .....	55,227	54,402	782	713	1.40	1.29
South Carolina .....	133,284	129,777	978	1,005	0.73	0.77
Tennessee .....	146,832	142,585	307	299	0.21	0.21
Texas .....	305,414	291,159	842	968	0.27	0.33
Virginia .....	115,248	117,611	360	358	0.31	0.30
United States .....	3,741,852	3,636,804	18,097	18,025	0.48	0.49

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.



## Young Chickens Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause – States and United States: February and March 2024

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

State	Tuberculosis		Leukosis		Septicaemia	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	-	-	17	6	10,461	10,875
Arkansas .....	-	-	-	-	120	18
Delaware .....	-	-	37	1	8,980	10,503
Georgia .....	-	-	2	-	13,573	11,998
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	1	-
Texas .....	-	-	-	-	12,697	17,798
Virginia .....	-	-	1	3	1,572	2,085
United States .....	-	-	146	379	94,804	107,710

  

State	Airsacculitis		Synovitis		Tumors	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	4,621	4,300	5	1	134	93
Arkansas .....	9	49	13	2	-	-
Delaware .....	7,550	8,675	1	44	36	45
Georgia .....	33,768	37,413	36	11	276	255
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas .....	14,167	16,912	14	2	394	231
Virginia .....	531	387	3	1	29	13
United States .....	176,771	187,422	741	462	2,373	1,945

  

State	Bruises		Cadaver		Contamination	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	322	355	134	133	2,249	2,407
Arkansas .....	-	1	-	-	5	8
Delaware .....	303	284	31	14	1,406	1,542
Georgia .....	1,744	1,199	396	352	4,528	3,970
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina .....	2	-	5	-	-	-
Texas .....	130	120	4	6	285	408
Virginia .....	14	21	6	4	195	181
United States .....	4,856	4,312	1,343	1,480	37,742	44,708

  

State	Overscald		Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>		Unknown <sup>2</sup>	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
Alabama .....	1,010	466	17,175	34,184	163,105	151,749
Arkansas .....	-	-	50	42	218,917	186,008
Delaware .....	770	344	3,498	2,017	8,046	11,298
Georgia .....	440	440	18,820	19,803	202,774	209,627
Mississippi .....	-	-	-	-	138,848	137,323
North Carolina .....	-	-	-	1	98,845	93,067
Texas .....	360	660	1,252	1,679	69,401	79,392
Virginia .....	136	10	6,192	5,778	129,760	151,222
United States .....	5,058	4,857	114,562	129,803	1,845,254	1,840,300

- Represents zero.

<sup>1</sup> Includes any portion of the carcass affected by an inflammatory process, plant rejected carcasses, missing viscera, or ascites fluid preventing proper inspection of the carcass.

<sup>2</sup> Birds condemned with no cause given by federal inspectors and establishment sorters.

## Young Turkeys Slaughtered, Total Live Weight, and Average Live Weight – States and United States: February and March 2024

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

State	Slaughtered		Total live weight		Average live weight	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
California .....	295	286	10,848	11,257	36.78	39.35
Illinois .....	(Z)	1	(Z)	21	27.17	33.23
Indiana .....	1,899	1,847	81,599	78,034	42.96	42.24
Iowa .....	1,134	1,040	53,323	49,212	47.02	47.33
Michigan .....	457	414	19,760	18,132	43.28	43.75
North Carolina .....	1,617	1,745	60,271	66,357	37.27	38.02
Ohio .....	554	494	26,162	23,192	47.22	46.95
Pennsylvania .....	553	558	17,071	17,500	30.89	31.34
South Carolina .....	574	501	26,377	22,134	45.94	44.21
South Dakota .....	160	157	7,160	7,293	44.84	46.54
Vermont .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States .....	16,181	15,395	526,344	510,572	32.53	33.16

- Represents zero.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

## Young Turkeys Pounds Certified and Post-Mortem Condemnations – States and United States: February and March 2024

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

State	Total chilled and frozen pounds certified <sup>1</sup>		Post-mortem condemnations			
			Carcass and parts		Percent <sup>2</sup>	
	February	March	February	March	February	March
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(percent)
California .....	8,655	9,003	69	43	0.79	0.48
Illinois .....	(Z)	16	-	-	(X)	(X)
Indiana .....	65,715	62,577	998	893	1.50	1.41
Iowa .....	42,138	38,503	745	575	1.74	1.47
Michigan .....	15,314	14,052	234	207	1.50	1.45
North Carolina .....	47,635	52,422	247	271	0.51	0.51
Ohio .....	20,920	18,522	360	344	1.69	1.83
Pennsylvania .....	13,491	13,691	238	273	1.73	1.96
South Carolina .....	19,374	16,434	1,080	705	5.28	4.11
South Dakota .....	5,728	5,846	116	96	1.98	1.61
Vermont .....	-	-	-	-	(X)	(X)
United States .....	420,022	406,744	6,566	5,821	1.54	1.41

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> Ready-to-cook weights.

<sup>2</sup> Pounds condemned as percent of pounds certified plus post-mortem condemnations.

## Terms and Definitions Used for Poultry Slaughter Estimates

**Ante-Mortem Condemnations:** Birds federally condemned prior to entry into the slaughter plant which includes Dead-On-Arrival (DOA) and condemned for other causes.

**Average Live Weight:** The weight of the whole bird, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

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

**Dressing Percent:** Usually expressed as a percentage yield of frozen and chilled carcass in relation to the weight of the live bird.

**Ducks:** Includes all ducks regardless of age and weight.

**Federally Inspected (FI) Plants:** Plants that transport meat interstate must employ federal inspectors to assure compliance with USDA standards.

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

**Number of Head:** Includes post-mortem condemnations.

**Old Turkeys:** Fully matured birds held for egg production, usually over 15 months of age.

**Plant, Slaughter:** An establishment where birds are killed and butchered.

**Post-Mortem Condemnations:** Carcasses or parts of birds condemned includes federally inspected and establishment sorted because of disease or mishandling and removed from the slaughter line and destroyed.

**Slaughter:** Killing and butchering of birds primarily for food.

**Total Live Weight:** The total weight of live birds, before slaughter. Excludes post-mortem condemnations.

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

**Young Turkeys:** Young birds grown to a matured market age, and other turkeys such as fryers/roasters and young breeders.

Statistical Methodology

**Data Sources:** Data for poultry slaughter estimates are collected by inspectors of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA for all Federally Inspected plants. Over 99 percent of the total United States slaughter for any species is under Federal Inspection. The number of head slaughtered daily, by species and class, as well as condemnations and total live and dressed weights are obtained by shift for each plant. Approximately 352 plants slaughtered poultry in the United States under Federal Inspection in 2023. Young chickens were slaughtered in 38 States, young turkeys in 30 States.

**Revision Policy:** Data for the previous month and year-to-date totals are subject to revision the following month after the initial monthly estimates are published. Final data are published in the annual summary released in February and include any revisions made to current and previous year’s published data. Revisions are generally the result of late reports or corrections received by FSIS from plants and are usually less than one-half of one percent. No revisions will be made to the previous year’s data after publication of the annual summary in February.

**Procedures and Reliability:** Plant inspectors submit data electronically for each shift a plant operates. An edit provides checks for the detection of errors such as invalid plant information, duplication, and erroneous data. Data are accumulated to monthly totals for this release.

Data for major slaughter plants with missing reports are adjusted prior to publication to assure that all plants slaughtering a significant portion of a specific class are included. Estimates for missing shifts are made only after verifying that the plant was in operation. Adjustments are based on a shift determined to be similar to the one missing. Late reports replace imputed data as they become available. While there is a varying degree of incompleteness from month to month, it has only a minimal impact on the published totals.

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

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

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

## Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.
- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist [notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu](mailto:notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu) in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@usda.gov](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at [www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).