



Turkeys Raised

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Turkeys Raised Down 4 Percent from 2003

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2004 is 263 million, down 4 percent from the number raised during 2003.

The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2004:

Minnesota, at 46.5 million birds, is expected to raise the largest number of any state, showing a 3 percent increase from last year.

North Carolina ranks second with 39.0 million birds, down 8 percent from 2003.

Arkansas is in third place by producing 28.0 million birds, 7 percent less than a year ago.

Missouri growers expect to produce 21.5 million birds in 2004, down 9 percent from the previous year.

Virginia, at 19.0 million birds is down 17 percent from 2003.

California expects to raise 16.0 million turkeys, 8 percent less than a year earlier.

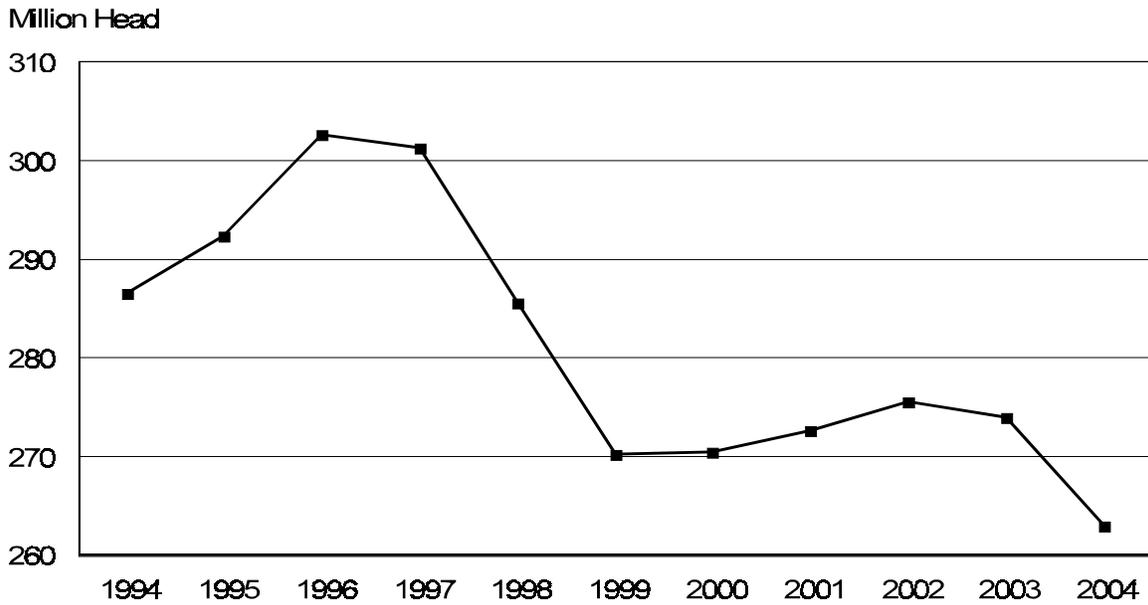
Turkeys: Number Raised by State and United States, 2003-2004 ¹

State	Number		2004 as % of 2003
	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	30,000	28,000	93
CA	17,300	16,000	92
CT	5	5	100
IL	2,900	2,800	97
IN	12,800	13,100	102
IA	8,500	9,000	106
MD	500	750	150
MA	73	70	96
MI	5,000	5,000	100
MN	45,000	46,500	103
MO	23,500	21,500	91
NH	5	6	120
NJ	33	38	115
NY	570	580	102
NC	42,500	39,000	92
ND	1,300	1,000	77
OH	5,500	5,700	104
PA	9,500	12,000	126
SC	12,000	12,000	100
SD	4,600	4,500	98
VT	52	52	100
VA	23,000	19,000	83
WV	4,300	3,400	79
Oth Sts ²	25,110	22,949	91
US	274,048	262,950	96

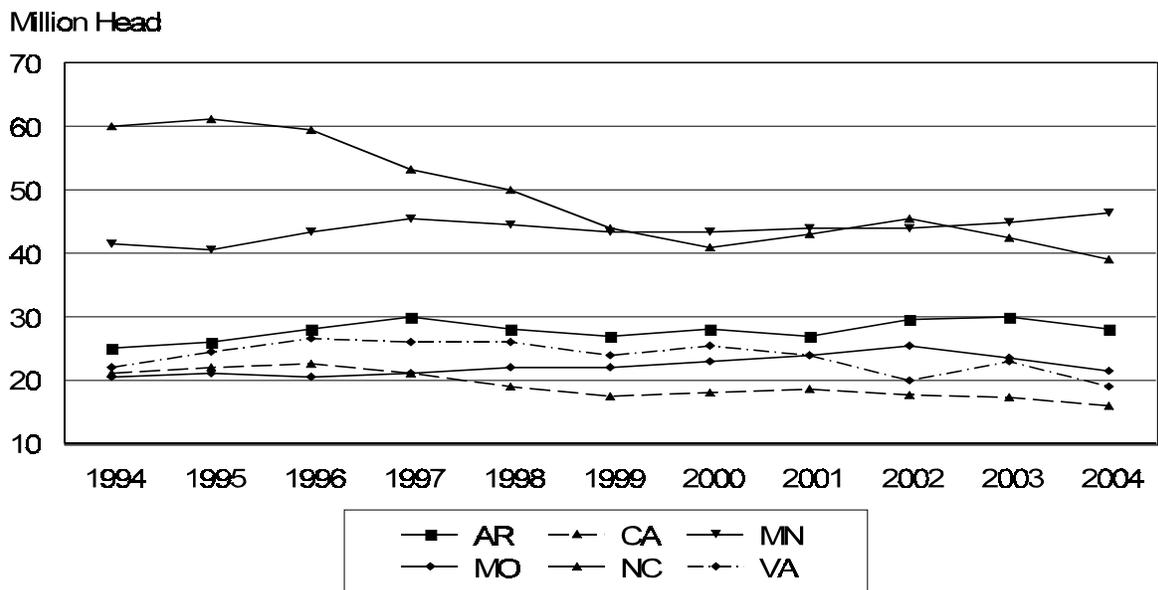
¹ Revised.

² CO, DE, KS, NE, OK, OR, TX, UT, and WI combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Number of Turkeys Raised United States, 1994-2004



Number of Turkeys Raised Major States, 1994-2004



Turkeys Raised Estimates

Data Sources: The Turkey Hatchery Survey provides the basis for the preliminary Turkeys Raised estimate published in August. Turkey hatchery estimates are made in 18 States each month and provide the number of eggs in incubators and poults placed in production. Data on poults placed into the United States from Canadian hatcheries are also included in the preliminary estimate.

Estimation Procedures: Turkeys Raised preliminary estimates include young turkeys intended for meat production, as well as breeder turkeys which reach maturity during the calendar year. These estimates exclude turkeys lost to disease or those destroyed. Placement of turkey poults from the monthly "Turkey Hatchery" survey provides the basis for the preliminary estimates published in August. Final estimates, published in January, use indications from the December Growers Survey in addition to updated hatchery data. Other indications for the final estimates are obtained from monthly slaughter totals and check-off data provided by individual State turkey or poultry associations.

Generally, individual State data are not published if there are less than three operations in a State, or if any one operation has 60 percent or more of the total turkeys in the State. These data are combined into the "Other States" category.

Reliability: Turkeys raised preliminary estimates are based on a census of known active hatcheries and, therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of 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.

Revision Policy: Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when preliminary raised estimates are made in August. Revisions are primarily based on updated hatchery and slaughter data, and at the U.S. level, are usually less than one-half of one percent of the final estimate published in January. Estimates are also reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions are made after that date.

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