

Turkeys



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Turkeys Raised 1 Percent Above 1995

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 1996 is 297 million, 1 percent above the 293 million raised during 1995. If realized, this total will represent a new record number of turkeys raised, surpassing last year's previous record.

The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 1996:

North Carolina is forecast to continue as the nation's leader in turkey production with 59.5 million birds, down 6 percent from the January 1996 Intentions and 3 percent less than 1995.

Minnesota ranks second with 43.0 million, 2 percent more than the January Intentions and up 6 percent from a year ago.

Arkansas is in third place by producing 27.0 million birds. This is 10 percent less than January Intentions but 4 percent more than a year ago.

Virginia is now the nation's fourth largest producing State with 25.0 million birds, up 2 percent from January Intentions and 6 percent above a year ago.

California is in fifth place with 23.0 million birds, matching the January Intentions but 5 percent more than last year's production.

Missouri expects to raise 21.5 million turkeys, down 14 percent from January Intentions and 4 percent below a year earlier.

Turkeys: Number Raised by Selected States
and United States, 1995-96

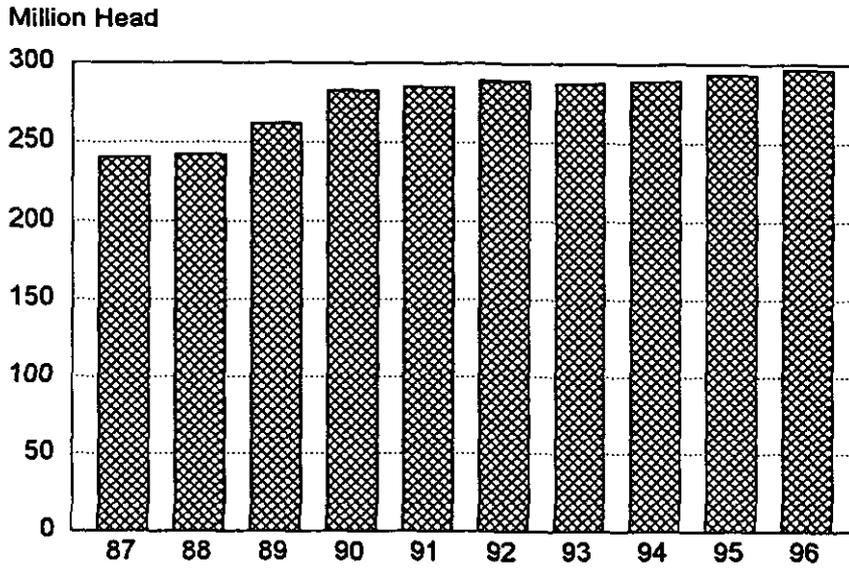
State	Number		1996 as % of 1995
	1995 1/	1996	
	----- 1,000 Head -----		Percent
AR	26,000	27,000	104
CA	22,000	23,000	105
CO	4,300	4,200	98
CT	15	13	87
GA	1,450	600	41
IL	3,600	3,300	92
IN	14,200	14,200	100
IA	8,000	8,000	100
KS	1,600	1,770	111
MD 2/	260	310	119
MA	105	100	95
MN	40,500	43,000	106
MO	22,500	21,500	96
NH	17	20	118
NJ	88	81	92
NY	505	510	101
NC	61,200	59,500	97
ND	1,750	2,300	131
OH	6,500	6,500	100
PA	11,500	11,700	102
SC	6,120	8,000	131
SD	2,800	2,800	100
VT	31	31	100
VA	23,500	25,000	106
WV	4,800	4,500	94
Oth Sts 3/	29,515	28,767	97
US	292,856	296,702	101

1/ Revised.

2/ Includes DE.

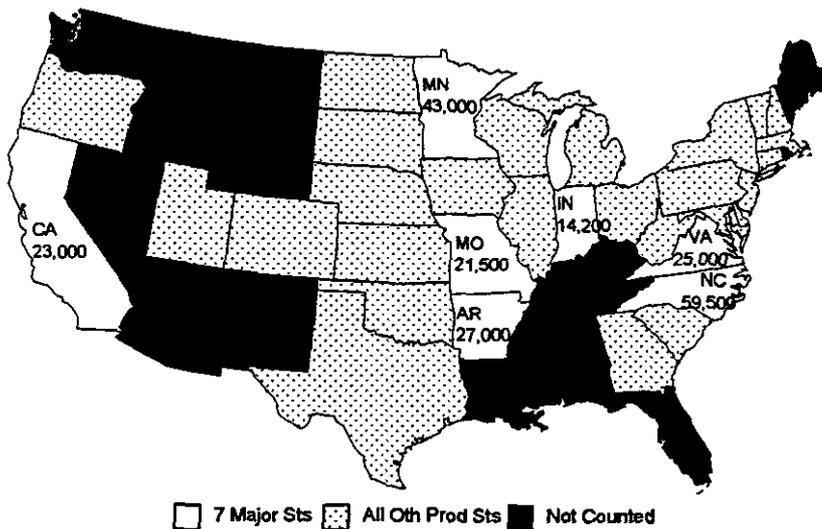
3/ MI, NE, OK, OR, TX, UT, and WI combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Number of Turkeys Raised United States 1987-96



Turkeys Raised, 1996

Total 296,702
(1,000 Head)



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 19 States each month and provide the number of eggs in incubators and poults placed in production. Another additional seven States survey hatcheries periodically to collect data for the Turkey Raised estimates and for the "**Annual Hatchery Summary**". 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 reached 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 provide 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 Department of Commerce's five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions are made after that date.

The next "Turkeys" report will be released in January 1997.

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