

Turkeys



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Turkeys Raised Fractionally Above 1996

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 1997 is 303 million, fractionally above the 303 million raised during 1996. 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 1997:

North Carolina is forecast to continue as the nation's leader in turkey production with 55.5 million birds, down 2 percent from the January 1997 Intentions and 7 percent less than 1996.

Minnesota ranks second with 46.0 million, 6 percent more than the January Intentions and last year's production.

Arkansas is in third place by producing 29.0 million birds. This is 6 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, down 9 percent from January Intentions but unchanged from a year ago.

Missouri is in fifth place with 22.5 million birds, 4 percent less than the January Intentions but 2 percent more than last year's production.

California expects to raise 21.5 million turkeys, matching the January Intentions but 4 percent below a year earlier.

Turkeys: Number Raised by Selected States
and United States, 1996-97

State	Number		1997
	1996 1/	1997	as % of 1996
	1,000 Head		Percent
AR	28,000	29,000	104
CA	22,500	21,500	96
CO	4,800	4,400	92
CT	8	5	63
GA	550	3/	3/
IL	3,300	3,300	100
IN	14,000	14,200	101
IA	8,000	7,500	94
KS	1,750	1,750	100
MD 2/	360	460	128
MA	80	80	100
MN	43,500	46,000	106
MO	22,000	22,500	102
NH	15	10	67
NJ	73	70	96
NY	520	520	100
NC	59,500	55,500	93
ND	2,300	2,500	109
OH	6,800	6,900	101
PA	11,700	12,000	103
SC	9,100	10,500	115
SD	3,100	3,200	103
VT	35	35	100
VA	25,000	25,000	100
WV	4,500	4,600	102
Oth Sts 3/	31,217	31,289	100
US	302,708	302,819	100

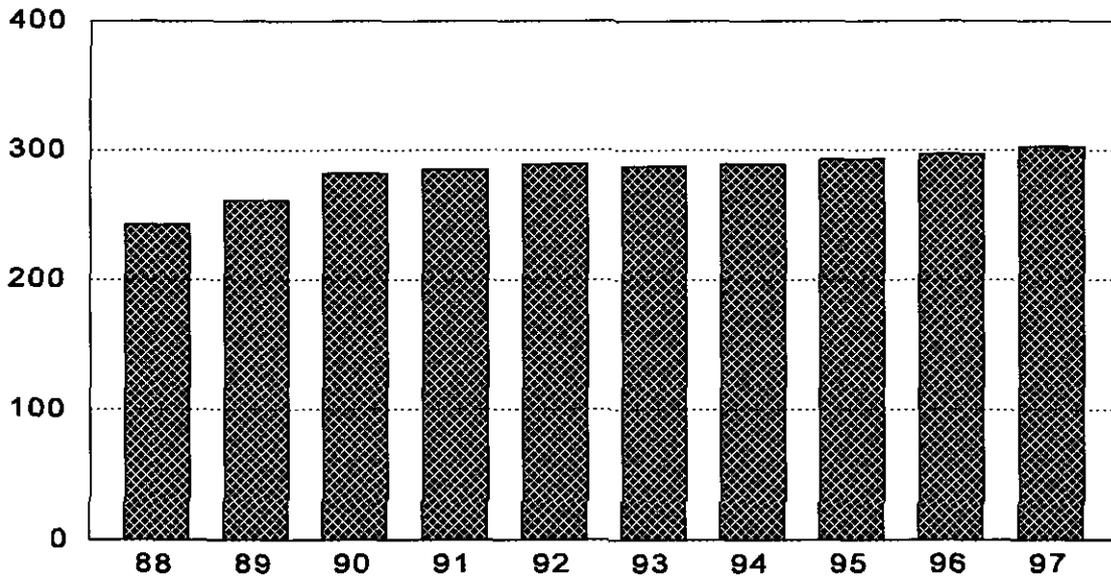
1/ Revised.

2/ Includes DE.

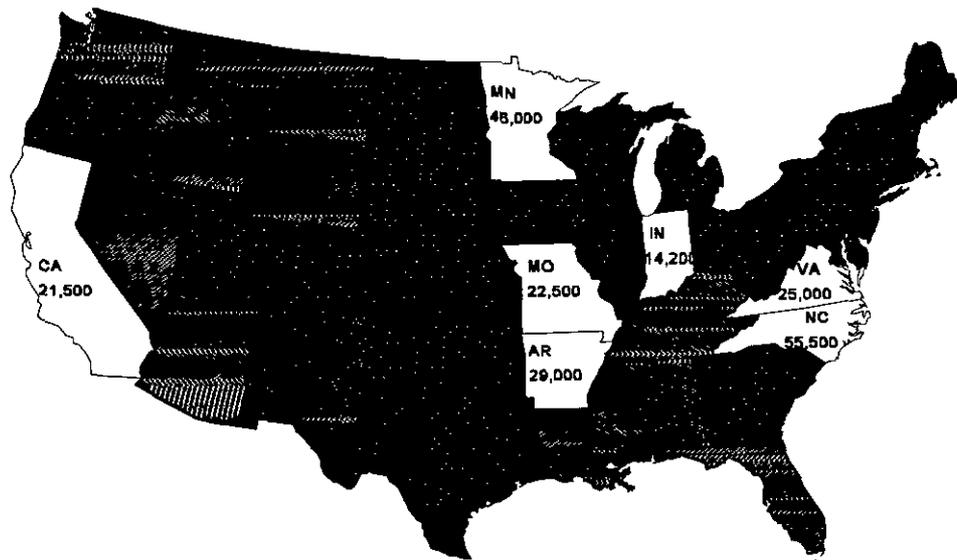
3/ MI, NE, OK, OR, TX, UT and WI combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Includes GA beginning in 1997.

Number of Turkeys Raised United States 1988-97

Million Head



Turkeys Raised, 1997 Total 302,819 (1,000 Head)



7 Major Sts
 All Oth Prod Sts
 Not Estimated

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 23 States each month and provide the number of eggs in incubators and poults placed in production. Another state surveys 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 1998.

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