

Turkeys



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Turkeys Raised in 1998 Down 6 Percent

Turkeys raised in the United States during 1998 totaled 284 million birds, down 6 percent from the 301 million turkeys raised during 1997.

North Carolina ranked first in the number raised with 50.0 million, followed by Minnesota with 44.5 million, Arkansas with 28.0 million, Virginia with 26.0 million, Missouri with 22.0 million, California with 19.0 million, and Indiana with 13.5 million. These States accounted for 72 percent of the turkeys produced in the United States during 1998.

Turkey Growers Plan to Raise 2 Percent Fewer Birds in 1999

Turkey growers in 20 States which produced 94% of the turkeys raised in 1998 intend to raise 2 percent fewer birds in 1999 than they did in 1998. Intentions for the top seven producing States compared with 1998 are as follows: North Carolina and Minnesota both down 4 percent, Arkansas, Virginia, and Missouri unchanged, California up 2 percent, and Indiana unchanged.

The number of turkeys actually raised in 1999 may vary from growers' intentions shown in this report depending on feed costs, supply of hatching eggs, cost of poults, and prices growers receive for turkeys during the next few months.

Turkeys: Number Raised in 1997 and 1998 ¹

State	Number		1998 as % of 1997
	1997	1998	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	30,000	28,000	93
CA	21,000	19,000	90
CO ²	3,900		
CT	5	5	100
GA ²	175		
IL	3,500	3,200	91
IN	14,500	13,500	93
IA ²	7,000		
KS ²	1,900		
MD & DE	740	600	81
MA	82	80	98
MN	45,500	44,500	98
MO	21,000	22,000	105
NH	15	14	93
NJ	74	71	96
NY	510	500	98
NC	53,500	50,000	93
ND	2,600	1,800	69
OH	6,700	5,500	82
PA	11,600	10,500	91
SC	11,200	10,600	95
SD	3,600	3,800	106
VT	39	41	105
VA	26,000	26,000	100
WV	4,500	4,300	96
Oth Sts ²	31,611	39,492	
US	301,251	283,503	94

¹ Revised.

² Estimates for CO, GA, IA, and KS not published for 1998 to avoid disclosure of individual operations, but are included in Other States for 1998. Estimates for MI, NE, OK, OR, TX, UT, and WI are included in Other States for 1997 and 1998 to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Turkeys: Death Loss by Geographic Region and United States, 1996-98

Geographic Region	Young Turkeys Lost as a Percent of Total Poults Placed		
	1996 <i>Percent</i>	1997 <i>Percent</i>	1998 <i>Percent</i>
East North Central	10.3	10.5	10.8
West North Central	10.5	10.8	11.0
North & South Atlantic	10.2	11.2	10.2
South Central	11.1	10.5	11.9
West	9.5	10.2	10.7
US	10.3	10.8	10.8

Regional Listing:

North Atlantic: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI.

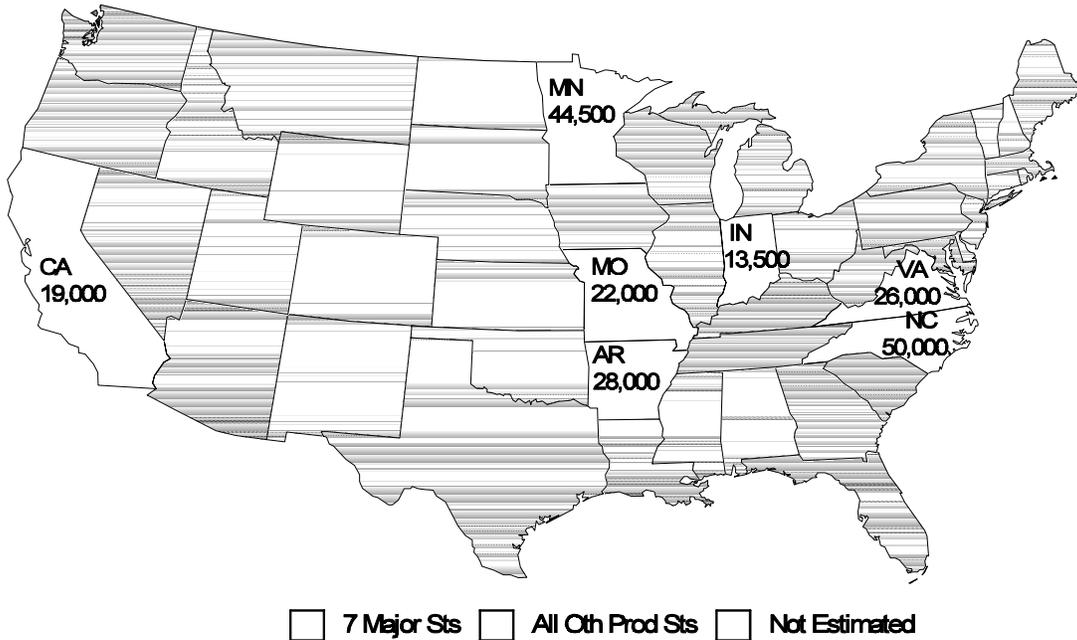
West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD.

South Atlantic: DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV.

South Central: AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN, TX.

West: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY.

**Turkeys Raised, Major States, 1998
(Thousand Head)**



**Turkeys: Number Raised in 1998 and Intentions for 1999,
Selected States and 20 State Total**

State	Number		1999 as % of 1998
	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AR	28,000	28,000	100
CA	19,000	19,400	102
IN	13,500	13,500	100
MN	44,500	42,500	96
MO	22,000	22,000	100
NC	50,000	48,000	96
ND	1,800	1,700	94
OH	5,500	5,200	95
PA	10,500	10,000	95
SC	10,600	8,200	77
SD	3,800	3,800	100
VA	26,000	26,000	100
Oth Sts ¹	30,192	30,511	101
20 State Total	265,392	258,811	98

¹ CO, GA, IA, OK, OR, TX, UT, and WI combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Turkey Hatchery Production: Monthly Poults Placements,
United States, 1996-98 ¹**

Month	Total All Breeds		Percent of Previous Year	Cumulative Total		Percent of Previous Year
	1996-97	1997-98		1996-97	1997-98	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Sep	24,154	23,907	99	24,154	23,907	99
Oct	25,354	24,587	97	49,508	48,494	98
Nov	23,830	23,281	98	73,338	71,775	98
Dec	27,119	25,711	95	100,457	97,486	97
Jan	27,121	26,240	97	127,578	123,726	97
Feb	27,145	25,093	92	154,723	148,819	96
Mar	27,610	26,362	95	182,333	175,181	96
Apr	28,220	25,747	91	210,553	200,928	95
May	29,111	25,677	88	239,664	226,605	95
Jun	28,381	26,957	95	268,045	253,562	95
Jul	30,092	26,247	87	298,137	279,809	94
Aug	26,321	24,450	93	324,458	304,259	94

¹ Excludes exported poults.

Turkeys Raised Estimates

Survey Procedures: Survey data for the turkeys raised estimate are collected from a list of contractors and independent growers during December. States use all known sources of producer names to ensure that the list is as complete as possible. Turkey producers are then contacted either by mail, telephone, or in person. Diligent effort is made to ensure that all operations are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimation Procedures: Turkeys raised 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. Placements 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 estimates are based on a census of known active producers 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 Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions are made after that date.

The next "Turkeys" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on August 26, 1999.

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