



Turkeys Raised

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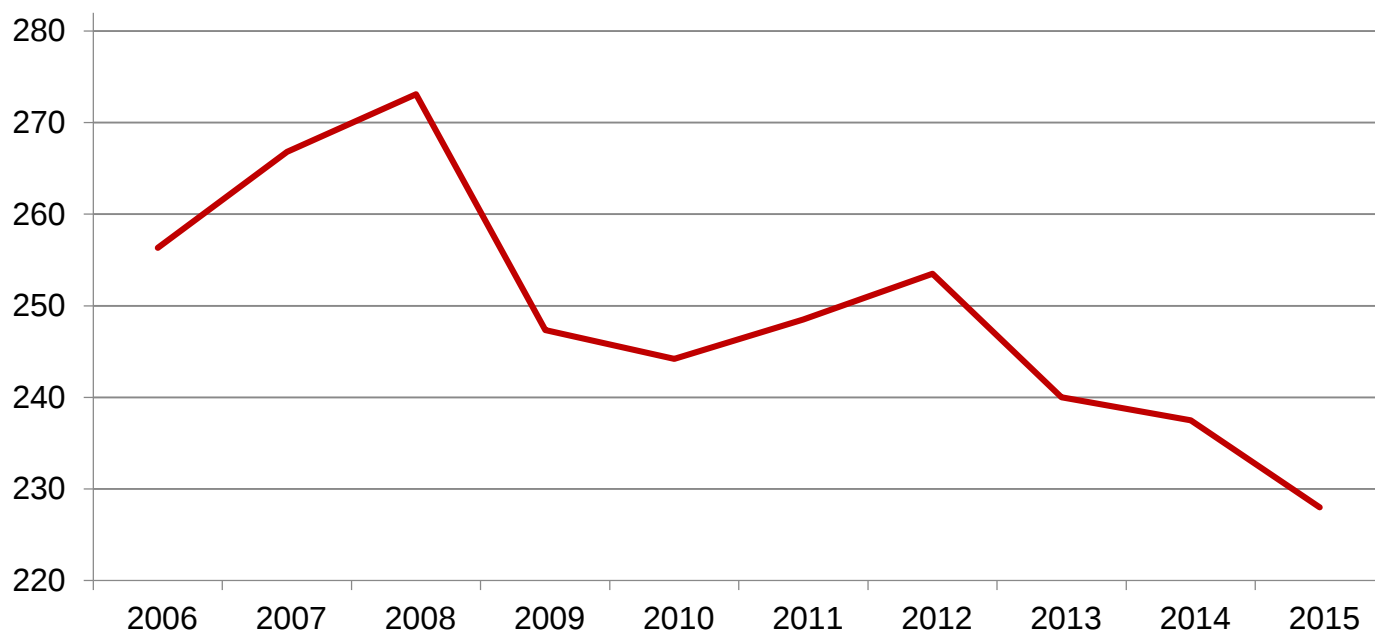
Turkeys Raised Down 4 Percent from 2014

Turkeys Raised in the United States during 2015 is forecasted at 228 million, down 4 percent from the number raised during 2014.

A combination of six states account for nearly two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2015. The largest turkey producing state is Minnesota, at 40.0 million turkeys, down 12 percent from the previous year. North Carolina is up 2 percent from last year, producing 29.0 million turkeys. Arkansas produced 27.0 million turkeys, which is down 10 percent from the previous year. Indiana is up 1 percent from a year ago to 19.1 million turkeys. Missouri is up 6 percent from last year, producing 18.0 million turkeys. Virginia is up compared to the previous year by 4 percent at 17.4 million turkeys.

Number of Turkeys Raised – United States

Million head



Number of Turkeys Raised – States and United States: 2014 and 2015

State	Number raised		2015 as percent of 2014
	2014	2015	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Arkansas	30,000	27,000	90
California	11,000	11,100	101
Indiana	19,000	19,100	101
Iowa	10,500	8,400	80
Michigan	5,100	5,200	102
Minnesota	45,500	40,000	88
Missouri	17,000	18,000	106
North Carolina	28,500	29,000	102
Ohio	5,100	5,100	100
Pennsylvania	7,000	7,100	101
South Dakota	4,500	4,000	89
Utah	4,000	3,600	90
Virginia	16,800	17,400	104
West Virginia	3,100	3,100	100
Other States ¹	30,400	29,900	98
United States	237,500	228,000	96

¹ Includes State estimates not shown and States withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkey raised estimates are collected from all known operations raising 1,000 or more turkeys annually. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known turkey grow-out operations. Approximately 400 turkey grow-out operations are contacted in September and February. The data collected were received by electronic data reporting (EDR), mail, telephone, and face-to-face personal interviews.

Estimating Procedures: Turkeys raised preliminary estimates include young turkeys intended for meat production and breeder turkeys reaching 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 and indications from the September Turkeys Raised Survey provide the basis for the preliminary estimates published in September. Final estimates, published in April, use indications from the February Turkeys Raised 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.

Revision Policy: Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when final raised estimates are made in April. Revisions are primarily based on updated hatchery and slaughter data. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Turkey raised estimates are based on a census of all known turkey grow-out operations, and therefore have no sampling error. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process, and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the “Root Mean Square Error” for number of turkeys raised is shown in the following table. The “Root Mean Square Error” is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The “Root Mean Square Error” for number of turkeys raised over the past 10 years is 1.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 228 million turkeys by more than 1.6 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 2.9 percent.

Reliability of September Turkeys Raised Estimates

[Based on data for the past ten years]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Number raised	1.6	2.9	3,240	500	8,540	6	4

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@nass.usda.gov

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