



Turkeys Raised

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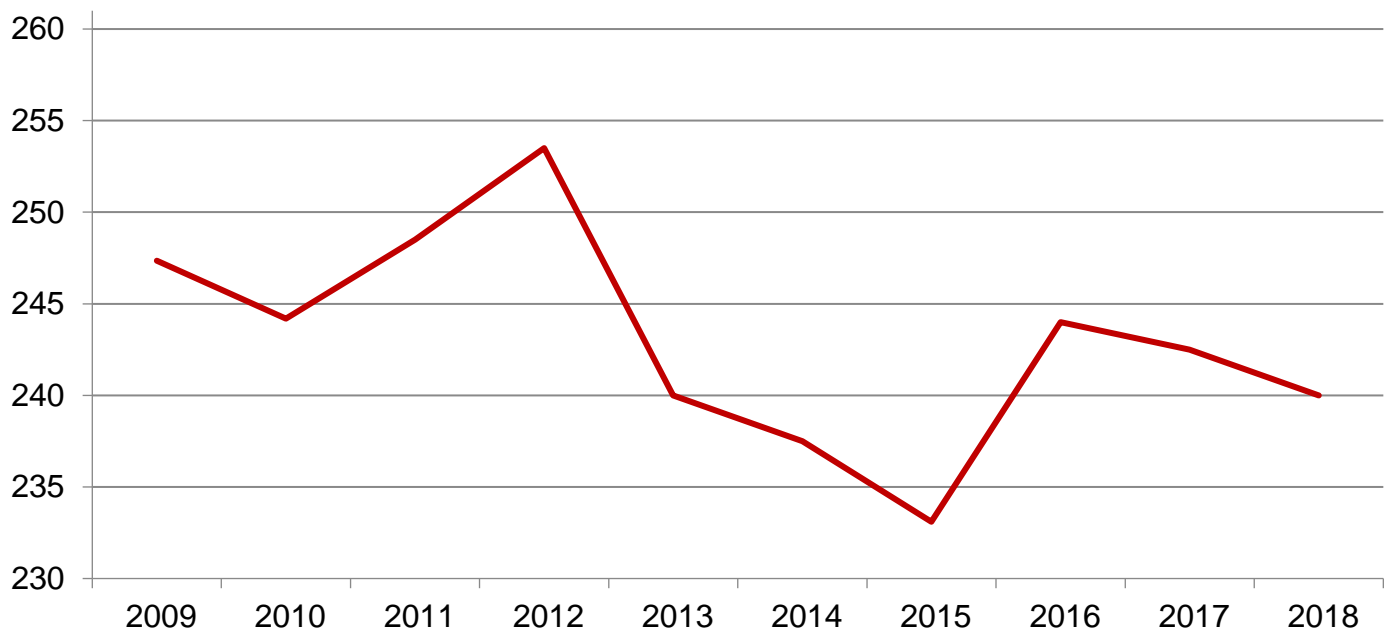
Turkeys Raised Down 1 percent from 2017

Turkeys Raised in the United States during 2018 is forecasted at 240 million, down 1 percent from the number raised during 2017.

A combination of six states account for nearly two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2018. The largest turkey producing state is Minnesota, at 42.5 million turkeys, up 1 percent from the previous year. North Carolina is down 5 percent from last year, producing 31.0 million turkeys. Arkansas produced 28.5 million turkeys, which is up 8 percent from the previous year. Indiana is up 3 percent from a year ago to 20.5 million turkeys. Missouri is down 8 percent from last year, producing 17.3 million turkeys. Virginia is up 1 percent from the previous year at 17.0 million turkeys.

Number of Turkeys Raised – United States

Million head



Number of Turkeys Raised – States and United States: 2017 and 2018

State	Number raised		2018 as percent of 2017
	2017	2018	
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Arkansas	26,500	28,500	108
California	11,500	11,000	96
Indiana	20,000	20,500	103
Iowa	12,000	11,400	95
Michigan	5,100	5,400	106
Minnesota	42,000	42,500	101
Missouri	18,800	17,300	92
North Carolina	32,500	31,000	95
Ohio	6,700	6,700	100
Pennsylvania	7,500	7,000	93
South Dakota	4,100	4,200	102
Utah	5,200	(D)	(D)
Virginia	16,800	17,000	101
West Virginia	3,700	3,600	97
Other States ¹	30,100	33,900	113
United States	242,500	240,000	99

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for turkeys raised estimates are collected from all known operations raising 1,000 or more turkeys annually. NASS regional offices maintain a list of all known turkey grow-out operations. Approximately 340 turkey grow-out operations are contacted in September and February. The data collected were received by electronic data reporting, 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 state turkey or poultry associations.

Revision Policy: Estimates from 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: Turkeys 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, mistakes in reporting or 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 1.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 240 million turkeys by more than 1.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 1.8 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	1.0	1.8	2,053	500	5,100	4	6

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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