

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



1010770001

PROPERTY OF THE
LIBRARY
Memorandum

1956 No. 1

Price: 10 cents per copy

REPORT ON THE POULTRY SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1955

These estimates of the number of poultry on farms in Canada ^{1/} at December 1 are based on farmers' replies in the semi-annual mail survey and were prepared in co-operation with provincial officials.

Total poultry on farms at December 1, 1955 were estimated at 41,829,000 birds. This was a reduction of 2,143,000, or 5 per cent, from the total of 43,972,000 on hand at December 1, 1954. The December, 1955 estimate is composed of 38,850,000 hens and chickens, 2,254,000 turkeys, 316,000 geese and 409,000 ducks.

The estimate of 38,850,000 hens and chickens showed a decline of 4 per cent from the previous December estimate of 40,536,000. This decline in numbers is shown by all classes except chicks up to 6 weeks old. Hens and pullets 6 months old and over dropped to 25,040,000 (9 per cent from December 1, 1954), pullets 6 weeks to 6 months old, to 6,359,000 (11 per cent below last year), cocks and cockerels over 6 weeks, to 3,480,000 (a 9 per cent decrease), but chicks up to 6 weeks old increased to 3,971,000 (86 per cent over the previous December). This large increase in chick numbers on farms at December 1 was due partly to increased activity in broiler production and partly to the incidence of a heavier fall output of layer stock than in 1954. Placement of chicks for egg production was accelerated by favourable egg prices during the fall, and early hatch followed the fall pattern of 1953 rather than that of 1954.

There were small increases in numbers of hens and pullets 6 months old and over in Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, in pullets 6 weeks to 6 months old in Manitoba, and large increases in chick numbers in all provinces except Nova Scotia. Saskatchewan, with a decrease of less than one per cent, showed the smallest decrease in total number of hens and chickens from the previous December 1 estimate.

By provinces, the estimates for hens and pullets over 6 months old which comprise the laying flock, except for pullets under 6 months old that have already started to lay, (with December 1, 1954 figures in brackets) were: Prince Edward Island, 390,000 (425,000); Nova Scotia, 985,000 (970,000); New Brunswick, 690,000 (780,000); Quebec, 3,295,000 (3,700,000); Ontario, 9,500,000 (11,500,000); Manitoba, 2,460,000 (2,550,000); Saskatchewan, 2,590,000 (2,380,000); Alberta, 3,330,000 (3,200,000); British Columbia, 1,800,000 (1,900,000).

Turkeys, estimated at 2,254,000 were 15 per cent less than at December 1, 1954, while geese at 316,000, and ducks at 409,000, decreased 6 and 10 per cent respectively.

^{1/} Current estimates for Newfoundland are not available. The Census of June 1, 1951 reports 76,429 head of poultry on farms. By classes, the number reported was: hens and chickens, 73,714; turkeys, 1,553; geese, 548; ducks, 614. Elsewhere than on farms there were 206,167 hens and chickens and 9,074 other poultry.

5503-514-125

Prepared in Livestock Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

TABLE 1. TOTAL POULTRY ON FARMS IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1955

Province	Hens and Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	Total	Dec. 1, 1955 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1954
						%
- thousand birds -						
Prince Edward Island	650	12	19	20	701	88
Nova Scotia	1,300	25	4	3	1,332	94
New Brunswick	960	32	6	5	1,003	91
Quebec	6,280	400	12	40	6,732	96
Ontario	14,750	575	120	155	15,600	94
Manitoba	3,500	350	43	55	3,948	97
Saskatchewan	4,010	330	40	50	4,430	98
Alberta	4,650	330	60	65	5,105	95
British Columbia	2,750	200	12	16	2,978	97
CANADA	38,850	2,254	316	409	41,829	95

TABLE 2. HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1955

	Dec. 1, 1955	June 1, 1955	Dec. 1, 1954	Dec. 1, 1955 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1954
	- thousand birds -			%
A. Total Hens and Chickens				
Prince Edward Island	650	930	739	88
Nova Scotia	1,300	1,623	1,390	94
New Brunswick	960	1,250	1,050	91
Quebec	6,280	9,282	6,462 <u>1/</u>	97
Ontario	14,750	20,860	15,700	94
Manitoba	3,500	6,600	3,605	97
Saskatchewan	4,010	8,200	4,020	100
Alberta	4,650	9,400	4,770	97
British Columbia	2,750	3,900	2,800	98
CANADA	38,850	62,045	40,536 <u>1/</u>	96
B. Hens and Pullets, 6 Months and Over				
Prince Edward Island	390	470	425	92
Nova Scotia	985	740	970	102
New Brunswick	690	540	780	88
Quebec	3,295	3,476	3,700	89
Ontario	9,500	7,055	11,500	83
Manitoba	2,460	2,120	2,550	96
Saskatchewan	2,590	2,600	2,380	109
Alberta	3,330	2,850	3,200	104
British Columbia	1,800	1,550	1,900	95
CANADA	25,040	21,401	27,405	91

1/ Revised.

TABLE 2. (CONCL'D) HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1955^{3.}

Province	Dec. 1, 1955	June 1, 1955	Dec. 1, 1954	Dec. 1, 1955 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1954
- thousand birds -				%
<u>C. Pullets, 6 Weeks to 6 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	164	140	210	78
Nova Scotia	110	600	175	63
New Brunswick	160	290	160	100
Quebec	965	2,142	1,288	75
Ontario	1,980	6,685	2,050	97
Manitoba	680	1,680	660	103
Saskatchewan	980	1,300	1,080	91
Alberta	920	2,165	1,140	81
British Columbia	400	1,200	400	100
CANADA	6,359	16,202	7,163	89
<u>D. Cocks and Cockerels Over 6 Weeks Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	90	55	102	88
Nova Scotia	40	68	70	57
New Brunswick	80	120	100	80
Quebec	850	1,354	744	114
Ontario	1,170	1,955	1,250	94
Manitoba	290	940	380	76
Saskatchewan	420	1,100	548	77
Alberta	320	1,435	400	80
British Columbia	220	250	240	92
CANADA	3,480	7,277	3,834	91
<u>E. Chicks Up To 6 Weeks Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	6	265	2	300
Nova Scotia	165	215	175	94
New Brunswick	30	300	10	300
Quebec	1,170	2,310	730 ^{1/}	160
Ontario	2,100	5,165	900	233
Manitoba	70	1,860	15	467
Saskatchewan	20	3,200	12	167
Alberta	80	2,950	30	267
British Columbia	330	900	260	127
CANADA	3,971	17,165	2,134	186

^{1/} Revised.

4.

TABLE 3. TURKEYS, GEESE AND DUCKS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1955

Province	Dec. 1, 1955	June 1, 1955	Dec. 1, 1954	Dec. 1, 1955 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1954
	- thousand birds -			%
	<u>TURKEYS</u>			
Prince Edward Island	12	8	19	63
Nova Scotia	25	35	23 <u>1/</u>	109
New Brunswick	32	46	40	80
Quebec	400	420	460	87
Ontario	575	700	690	83
Manitoba	350	630 <u>1/</u>	360	97
Saskatchewan	330	600	375	88
Alberta	330	570	430	77
British Columbia	200	328	250	80
CANADA	2,254	3,337 <u>1/</u>	2,647 <u>1/</u>	85
	<u>G E E S E</u>			
Prince Edward Island	19	21	18	106
Nova Scotia	4	4	4	100
New Brunswick	6	7	6	100
Quebec	12	14	12	100
Ontario	120	120	125	96
Manitoba	43	60	45	96
Saskatchewan	40	45	43	93
Alberta	60	72	70	86
British Columbia	12	14	14	86
CANADA	316	357	337	94
	<u>D U C K S</u>			
Prince Edward Island	20	16	20	100
Nova Scotia	3	3	3	100
New Brunswick	5	5	5	100
Quebec	40	57	60	67
Ontario	155	180	157	99
Manitoba	55	70	40	138
Saskatchewan	50	70	63	79
Alberta	65	114	90	72
British Columbia	16	20	14	114
CANADA	409	535	452	90

1/ Revised.