



REPORT ON THE POULTRY SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1958

These estimates of poultry numbers on farms in Canada ^{1/} at December are based on farmers' replies in the semi-annual mail survey and were prepared in co-operation with Provincial Officials. The estimates for December 1, 1957, are included for purposes of comparison.

Total poultry on farms at December 1, 1958 estimated at 56,008,000 birds, showed an increase of 12 per cent from the total of 49,990,000 on hand at December 1, 1957. The estimate for December 1, 1958 is composed of 51,770,000 hens and chickens, 3,609,000 turkeys, 280,000 geese and 349,000 ducks.

The estimate of 51,770,000 hens and chickens is 13 per cent higher than the December 1957 estimate of 45,979,000. With little emphasis on broiler production Saskatchewan showed a decrease of 6 per cent while all the other provinces registered increases ranging from 5 per cent in Alberta to 20 per cent in British Columbia.

Hens and pullets 6 months old and over decreased 2 per cent to 27,570,000. Although the number of chicks hatched in hatcheries for egg production up to the end of May was 13.9 per cent lower than in 1957 this was largely offset by the retention of more older hens than usual for a second year. Pullets from 2 to 6 months of age, increased 20 per cent to 6,534,000 as compared with 5,451,000 last year. Estimates of 5,611,000 cocks and cockerels and 12,055,000 chicks were respectively 23 and 54 per cent higher than estimates for these categories at December 1, 1957. Increases in the number of chicks, cocks and cockerels and pullets reflect the considerably higher hatchery output of both broiler and laying type chicks during the last half of 1958 as compared with 1957.

The number of turkeys on farms at December 1, 1958 was 6 per cent greater than a year earlier. While this increase is much less than the reported increase in poult hatch, which was 22 per cent greater, the 1958 hatch included a much larger proportion of broiler poults. This coupled with a tendency to earlier finishing resulted in heavy output of turkeys prior to December and accounts for the quite moderate increase in numbers on hand at December 1. Geese increased 3 per cent and ducks increased 2 per cent from the estimates for December 1, 1957.

^{1/} Current estimates for Newfoundland are not available. The Census of June 1, 1956 reports 108,707 head of poultry on farms. By class, the number reported was: hens and chickens, 105,783; turkeys, 2,084; geese, 307; ducks, 533. Elsewhere than on farms there were 180,041 hens and chickens and 2,910 other poultry.

Prepared in Livestock and Animal Products Section, AGRICULTURE DIVISION

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TABLE 1. TOTAL POULTRY ON FARMS IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1957 & 58

PROVINCE	1958					1957 Total	Dec. 1, 1958 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1957
	Hens and Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	Total		
	-thousand birds-						%
Prince Edward Island	550	13	9	8	580	547	106
Nova Scotia	1,760	50	2	1	1,813	1,543	117
New Brunswick	780	56	4	2	842	744	113
Quebec	8,930	670	12	60	9,672	8,335	116
Ontario	23,580	1,500	105	140	25,325	22,222	114
Manitoba	3,700	430	35	25	4,190	3,600	116
Saskatchewan	3,700	280	38	40	4,058	4,322	94
Alberta	5,200	410	65	55	5,730	5,475	105
British Columbia	3,570	200	10	18	3,798	3,202	119
CANADA	51,770	3,609	280	349	56,008	49,990	112

TABLE 2. HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1957 & 58

	Dec. 1, 1958	June 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1958 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1957
		-thousand birds-		
A. Total Hens and Chickens				
Prince Edward Island	550	745	516	107
Nova Scotia	1,760	1,960	1,500	117
New Brunswick	780	1,125	698	112
Quebec	8,930	11,310	7,725	116
Ontario	23,580	31,165	20,500	115
Manitoba	3,700	6,980	3,200	116
Saskatchewan	3,700	8,300	3,930	94
Alberta	5,200	9,800	4,940	105
British Columbia	3,570	4,345	2,970	120
CANADA	51,770	75,730	45,979	113
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B. Hens and Pullets, 6 Months and Over				
Prince Edward Island	320	370	320	100
Nova Scotia	1,150	900	1,020	113
New Brunswick	490	395	480	102
Quebec	3,500	3,325	3,575	98
Ontario	11,600	8,910	12,000	97
Manitoba	2,650	2,215	2,475	107
Saskatchewan	2,650	2,650	2,800	95
Alberta	3,210	3,010	3,375	95
British Columbia	2,000	1,720	2,065	97
CANADA	27,570	23,495	28,110	98

TABLE 2. (CONCL'D) HENS AND CHICKENS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1957 & 58

	Dec. 1, 1958	June 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1958 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1957
	-thousand birds-			%
C. <u>Pullets, 2 Months to 6 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	150	66	138	109
Nova Scotia	160	470	120	133
New Brunswick	74	215	63	117
Quebec	1,200	1,735	1,125	107
Ontario	2,400	5,965	1,600	150
Manitoba	460	765	350	131
Saskatchewan	700	475	755	93
Alberta	920	1,340	940	98
British Columbia	470	750	360	131
CANADA	6,534	11,781	5,451	120
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D. <u>Cocks and Cockerels Over 2 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	68	24	53	128
Nova Scotia	70	50	60	117
New Brunswick	61	90	45	136
Quebec	1,330	1,250	1,025	130
Ontario	2,800	2,290	2,400	117
Manitoba	240	520	160	150
Saskatchewan	342	475	360	95
Alberta	550	950	345	159
British Columbia	150	200	120	125
CANADA	5,611	5,849	4,568	123
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E. <u>Chicks Up to 2 Months Old</u>				
Prince Edward Island	12	285	5	240
Nova Scotia	380	540	300	127
New Brunswick	155	425	110	141
Quebec	2,900	5,000	2,000	145
Ontario	6,780	14,000	4,500	151
Manitoba	350	3,480	215	163
Saskatchewan	8	4,700	15	53
Alberta	520	4,500	280	186
British Columbia	950	1,675	425	224
CANADA	12,055	34,605	7,850	154

TABLE 3. TURKEYS, GESE AND DUCKS: NUMBERS ON FARMS, BY PROVINCES, AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1957 & 58

	Dec. 1, 1958	June 1, 1958	Dec. 1, 1957	Dec. 1, 1958 as a per cent of Dec. 1, 1957
	-thousand birds-			%
<u>TURKEYS</u>				
Prince Edward Island	13	12	12	108
Nova Scotia	50	75	40	125
New Brunswick	56	55	40	140
Quebec	670	670	550	122
Ontario	1,500	1,950	1,485	101
Manitoba	430	950	345	125
Saskatchewan	280	1,145	310	90
Alberta	410	975	410	100
British Columbia	200	325	205	98
CANADA	3,609	6,157	3,397	106
<u>GESE</u>				
Prince Edward Island	9	9	10	90
Nova Scotia	2	2	2	100
New Brunswick	4	4	4	100
Quebec	12	12	10	120
Ontario	105	110	97	108
Manitoba	35	42	30	117
Saskatchewan	38	50	38	100
Alberta	65	78	70	93
British Columbia	10	11	11	91
CANADA	280	318	272	103
<u>DUCKS</u>				
Prince Edward Island	8	6	9	89
Nova Scotia	1	1	1	100
New Brunswick	2	2	2	100
Quebec	60	46	50	120
Ontario	140	130	140	100
Manitoba	25	44	25	100
Saskatchewan	40	70	44	91
Alberta	55	90	55	100
British Columbia	18	30	16	112
CANADA	349	419	342	102