

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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REPORT ON THE POULTRY SURVEY OF DECEMBER 1, 1966

The total of all poultry on farms in Canada (1) at December 1, 1966 estimated at 65.9 million birds, was about 6 per cent higher than at December 1, 1965 when the comparable total was 62.4 million birds. The estimate for December 1, 1966 includes 60,843,000 hens and chickens; 4,652,000 turkeys; 165,700 geese and 272,300 ducks.

The estimate of 60.8 million hens and chickens is 5 per cent higher than the December 1965 estimate of 57.7 million. Although the number of laying hens 6 months old and over was down 3 per cent and the number of pullets 2 months to 6 months old was up 24 per cent from December 1, 1965 and the number of chicks increased by 9 per cent. There were 25 per cent more egg-type pullet chicks placed during the latter half of 1966 compared to the same period in 1965. The number of layers is expected to be above year earlier levels until at least August. Spring placements will determine whether or not this situation will persist through the balance of the year. There were 3 per cent fewer layers in 1966 than in 1965.

There were 11 per cent more turkeys on farms at December 1, 1966 than at December 1, 1965. Increases in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia more than offset declines in the other four provinces. There were fewer geese on farms but about the same number of ducks as a year ago. Year-to-year changes in the numbers left on farms at December 1 do not directly reflect changes in production. The proportion of total production marketed before December 1 varies from year to year.

Estimates of poultry numbers on farms are based on semi-annual mailed questionnaire surveys conducted in co-operation with Provincial Government Departments at June 1 and December 1 and on hatchery statistics compiled by the Canada Department of Agriculture. The semi-annual estimates of poultry numbers provide a basis for monthly estimates of number of layers and egg production. Revised monthly estimates of egg production will appear in the January report "Production of Eggs", Catalogue Number 23-003.

(1) Current estimates for Newfoundland are not available. The census of June 1, 1961 reports 231,385 head of poultry on farms. By class, the number reported were: hens and chickens, 227,929; turkeys, 2,468; geese, 467; ducks, 521. Elsewhere than farms there were 61,003 hens and chickens and 1,305 other poultry.

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TABLE 1. Poultry on Farms in Canada, by Province, as at December 1, 1965-66

	1965 Total	1966					Dec. 1/66 as a % of Dec. 1/65 %
		Hens and Chickens	Turkeys	Geese	Ducks	Total	
		thousand birds					
Prince Edward Island	305.0	263.0	3.0	4.0	2.0	272.0	89
Nova Scotia	2,180.8	2,245.0	19.0	0.8	0.8	2,265.6	104
New Brunswick	989.0	1,095.0	40.0	0.9	0.5	1,136.4	115
Quebec	16,385.0	16,670.0	970.0	7.0	54.0	17,701.0	108
Ontario	23,850.0	22,600.0	2,600.0	53.0	135.0	25,388.0	106
Manitoba	4,590.0	4,635.0	240.0	40.0	15.0	4,930.0	107
Saskatchewan	2,535.0	2,300.0	95.0	15.0	20.0	2,430.0	96
Alberta	5,320.0	4,810.0	230.0	40.0	35.0	5,115.0	96
British Columbia ...	6,221.0	6,225.0	455.0	5.0	10.0	6,695.0	108
Canada	62,375.8	60,843.0	4,652.0	165.7	272.3	65,933.0	106

TABLE 2. Hens and Chickens on Farms, by Province, as at December 1, 1965-66

	Dec. 1,	June 1,	Dec. 1,	Dec. 1/66
	1965	1966	1966	as a % of Dec. 1/65 %
	thousand birds			
A. Total hens and chickens				
Prince Edward Island	295.0	355.0	263.0	89
Nova Scotia	2,119.0	2,478.0	2,245.0	106
New Brunswick	975.0	1,200.0	1,095.0	112
Quebec	15,500.0	16,530.0	16,670.0	108
Ontario	21,250.0	24,230.0	22,600.0	106
Manitoba	4,335.0	5,940.0	4,635.0	107
Saskatchewan	2,400.0	4,735.0	2,300.0	96
Alberta	4,940.0	8,310.0	4,810.0	97
British Columbia	5,900.0	6,745.0	6,225.0	106
Canada	57,714.0	70,523.0	60,843.0	105
B. Hens and Pullets, 6 months and over:				
Prince Edward Island	245.0	205.0	210.0	86
Nova Scotia	984.0	1,050.0	925.0	94
New Brunswick	560.0	450.0	510.0	91
Quebec	4,170.0	3,810.0	4,210.0	101
Ontario	9,500.0	8,700.0	9,200.0	97
Manitoba	2,550.0	2,360.0	2,360.0	93
Saskatchewan	1,675.0	1,465.0	1,410.0	84
Alberta	2,630.0	2,255.0	2,575.0	98
British Columbia	2,790.0	2,695.0	2,880.0	103
Canada	25,104.0	22,990.0	24,280.0	97

TABLE 2. Hens and Chickens on Farms, by Province, at December 1, 1965-66 - Concl.

	Dec. 1, 1965	June 1, 1966	Dec. 1, 1966	Dec. 1/66 as a % of Dec. 1/65
	thousand birds			%
C. Pullets - Pullets, 2 months to 6 months old intended for laying:				
Prince Edward Island	29.0	40.0	30.0	103
Nova Scotia	215.0	250.0	210.0	98
New Brunswick	70.0	108.0	80.0	114
Quebec	1,040.0	1,220.0	1,200.0	115
Ontario	1,850.0	2,200.0	2,300.0	124
Manitoba	590.0	600.0	790.0	134
Saskatchewan	250.0	370.0	320.0	128
Alberta	340.0	765.0	425.0	125
British Columbia	640.0	835.0	865.0	135
Canada	5,024.0	6,388.0	6,220.0	124
D. Chicks - Chicks under 2 months old:				
Prince Edward Island	9.0	98.0	15.0	167
Nova Scotia	800.0	1,100.0	920.0	115
New Brunswick	315.0	610.0	470.0	149
Quebec	8,950.0	10,300.0	9,600.0	107
Ontario	8,700.0	12,230.0	9,600.0	110
Manitoba	945.0	2,695.0	1,155.0	122
Saskatchewan	325.0	2,685.0	400.0	123
Alberta	1,640.0	4,750.0	1,570.0	96
British Columbia	2,130.0	2,990.0	2,220.0	104
Canada	23,814.0	37,458.0	25,950.0	109
E. Others - All chickens, 2 months and older not intended for laying:				
Prince Edward Island	12.0	12.0	8.0	67
Nova Scotia	120.0	78.0	190.0	158
New Brunswick	30.0	32.0	35.0	117
Quebec	1,340.0	1,200.0	1,660.0	124
Ontario	1,200.0	1,100.0	1,500.0	125
Manitoba	250.0	285.0	330.0	132
Saskatchewan	150.0	215.0	170.0	113
Alberta	330.0	540.0	240.0	73
British Columbia	340.0	225.0	260.0	76
Canada	3,772.0	3,687.0	4,393.0	116



TABLE 3. Turkeys, Geese and Ducks on Farms, by Province, at December 1, 1965-66

	Dec. 1, 1965	June 1, 1966	Dec. 1, 1966	Dec. 1/66 as a % of Dec. 1/65
	thousand birds			%
A. Turkeys:				
Prince Edward Island	4.0	5.0	3.0	75
Nova Scotia	60.0	38.0	19.0	32
New Brunswick	12.0	58.0	40.0	333
Quebec	830.0	1,230.0	970.0	117
Ontario	2,400.0	4,060.0	2,600.0	108
Manitoba	200.0	980.0	240.0	120
Saskatchewan	100.0	735.0	95.0	95
Alberta	300.0	835.0	230.0	77
British Columbia	300.0	630.0	455.0	152
Canada	4,206.0	8,571.0	4,652.0	111
B. Geese:				
Prince Edward Island	4.0	5.0	4.0	100
Nova Scotia	0.9	0.8	0.8	89
New Brunswick	1.0	0.8	0.9	90
Quebec	7.0	7.0	7.0	100
Ontario	65.0	55.0	53.0	82
Manitoba	40.0	100.0	40.0	100
Saskatchewan	15.0	30.0	15.0	100
Alberta	45.0	75.0	40.0	89
British Columbia	6.0	7.0	5.0	83
Canada	183.9	280.6	165.7	90
C. Ducks:				
Prince Edward Island	2.0	2.0	2.0	100
Nova Scotia	0.9	0.9	0.8	89
New Brunswick	1.0	0.4	0.5	50
Quebec	48.0	66.0	54.0	113
Ontario	135.0	145.0	135.0	100
Manitoba	15.0	40.0	15.0	100
Saskatchewan	20.0	55.0	20.0	100
Alberta	35.0	80.0	35.0	100
British Columbia	15.0	20.0	10.0	67
Canada	271.9	409.3	272.3	100