

Please note that this is a short summary of a longer unpublished report. In the summary report the sources and citations that are generally the most comprehensive or relevant are the 1-3 that were found while not being the only ones considered. These reports were 1-5 hour time-limited, depending on the animal, and thus are not fully comprehensive.

Turkey - Factory Farmed

Characteristic	Summary	Score
Odds of feeling pain	>70% OPP report	70%
Death rate/reason	Research indicates pre-slaughter mortality rates of 5% to 15% , caused primarily by starvation, disease, rapid growth, lameness , and pecking (p271) . Heat stress causes an average mortality rate of 7.5% across males and females , and newborns face a 6%-10% mortality rate during the first 4 weeks . Most common form of slaughter is electric shock (p77).	-13/20
Human preference from behind the veil of ignorance	Given the high rate of painful death and disease, as well as the suffering caused by standard industry practices like debeaking and stressful environmental challenges, I'm very confident I would not enjoy this life.	-16/20
Disease/injury/functional impairment	Electrocution process generally involves inversion, causing stress and leg bone injury (up to 45.3%) prior to slaughter. Turkeys can regain consciousness during the process. Pain and lameness are caused by foot-pad lesions from poor housing conditions, with up to 41% severe cases . Pecking is a serious problem, accounting for 58% of mortalities with a 32% injury rate amongst males . Stress can harm the immune system and increase the risk of bacterial infection and pneumonia, exacerbated by the need for antibiotic free meat .	-12/17
Thirst/hunger/malnutrition	Because of a high nutrient diet, factory turkeys grow rapidly , causing leg abnormalities and foot lesions. In turn, this can prevent turkeys from seeking adequate supplies of food/water .	1/15
Anxiety/pain/fear/distress	Turkeys experience a number of stressful events throughout the production cycle, including handling, catching, loading, transportation, noises, and unpredictable events, as well as other social stressors. Debeaking (100% of breeding birds, 10% meat birds), desnooding, and detoeing all occur without anesthesia, causing high levels of pain/stress. All stages of the transportation process present a significant challenge to welfare, causing stress, thermal stress, and injury . Slaughter process causes leg injuries and birds can regain consciousness during.	-10/15
Environmental challenge	Turkeys face fairly high environmental challenges from continuous lighting , poor air quality , overcrowding , forced rapid growth (3x weight of wild turkey), and floor surface . All can negatively impact welfare.	-3/5
Index of biological markers of happiness	No information on the level of biological markers was found. High during transportation and slaughter (look "death and death reasons").	-1/4
Behavioural/interactive restriction	Wild turkeys spend 86%-95% of the day foraging , while factory turkeys are unable to perform this behaviour. Recommended minimum space is 5 sq ft . Factory conditions prevent normal social group formation and encourage antagonistic behaviour.	-3/4
Overall		/100