



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY  
APRIL 02, 1999  
VOL. 46 NO. 39

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



### DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trade sentiment steady to firm on hens and 16-24 lb. toms. Demand light for current shipments, light to good for deferred. Frozen open priced commodity trading heavy for April-July shipments. Some had price ceilings on hens of 65 April, May 64, June 66, July 68 and on toms 65 May, 67 June and 69 cents delivered July. Offerings short to adequate. Bulk parts, meat, rib breast and open priced canner pack demand and trading light with some processors closed for the long holiday weekend.

### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Demand and trading heavy on frozen thigh meat, balance light. Some improvement noted in the frozen thigh meat undertone as excess inventories start to become better balance.

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **APRIL 02, 1999**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/			FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/		
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-62	-	-	-	68.00	80	MAY	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,800	APR-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,800	APR-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **APRIL 01, 1999**

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/			FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/		
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-62.5	61	61.00	40	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,080	MAY-AUG
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	60-61	60.5	60.50	20	-	-	-	8,360	MAY-AUG
WESTERN REGION 5/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days. 3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF APRIL 02, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO	MONTH OF MARCH	CURRENT MONTH	LAST MONTH	SAME MONTH YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS				8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	61.00	*61.75	57.20	EASTERN REGION	61.69	58.84	55.49
CENTRAL REGION	*60.50	*60.50	55.00	CENTRAL REGION	60.39	57.37	54.51
WESTERN REGION	*61.50	*61.50	*57.40	WESTERN REGION	61.20	59.39	55.25
16-24 LB TOMS				16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	*61.40	*61.00	58.00	EASTERN REGION	60.89	59.16	56.48
CENTRAL REGION	60.50	*60.50	55.00	CENTRAL REGION	60.40	57.84	55.18
WESTERN REGION	*61.50	61.00	*57.50	WESTERN REGION	61.34	59.42	56.32

\*BASED ON OFFERS

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY,  
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	75-87
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	75-92
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	66-67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	66-67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	71-75

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY  
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	82-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	79-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	79-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	82-115
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	88-115

**FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT** U.S. GRADE A,  
DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION, CENTS  
PER POUND, WEEK OF 05-APR-99

	<u>(8-16#)</u>		<u>(16-24#)</u>	
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>LBS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>LBS</u>
	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	67.29	140	67.00	60
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	67.29	140	67.00	60
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)				
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)		80		

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**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 20-Mar-99  
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	<u>---YOUNG TURKEYS---</u>			<u>FRYER</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TKY</u>
	<u>THOUSAND</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>RSTR</u>	<u>BAND</u>		
	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>----THOUSAND</u>	<u>HEAD----</u>	<u>WT</u>
N EAST	941	-6	21.72	(A)	(A)	953	21.76
S ATL	818	-46	31.33	NONE	NONE	818	31.35
N CENT	1,997	10	28.93	(A)	(A)	2,010	28.91
S CENT	401	-33	15.84	NONE	NONE	401	15.84
WEST	457	19	21.03	(A)	(A)	462	21.17
U.S.TOTAL	4,614(B)	-13	25.97	0	30	4,644	25.98

TO DATE  
1999 50,386(B) 0 327 50,713

TO DATE  
1998 56,853(B) 8 435 57,296

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 0 for the year 167,000; last year to date 215,000.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING** 20-Mar-99

	<u>FRYER-</u>	<u>YOUNG</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>ROASTERS</u>	<u>TURKEYS</u>	<u>BANDED</u>	
	<u>THOUSANDS</u>			
HEAD	0	4,614	30	4,644
AVGWT	0.00	25.97	27.50	25.98
LAST WEEK	0	5,294	20	5,314
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	5,789	17	5,806
AVGWT	0.00	24.94(A)	28.82	24.95
TO-DATE/1999	0	50,386(A)	327	50,713
TO-DATE/1998	8	56,853(A)	435	57,296

(A) Includes 167,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 215,000 in 1998.

**CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** 20-Mar-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 457 HD, 9,612 LBS,  
TO DATE 3,046 HD, 72,060 LBS; OLD 5 HD, TO DATE 50 HD;  
TOTAL 462 HD, TO DATE 3,096 HD.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND**

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

FEBRUARY	401,140 *
MARCH 1-20, 1999	272,728 *
To date 1999	1,046,696 *
To date 1998	1,170,341 *

\* PRELIMINARY

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 01 APRIL 1999.

Undertone steady to barely steady on fresh tom breast meat, tenderloins steady, frozen thigh meat about steady. Demand and trading slow on tom breast meat, however, activity continues to be noted on tenderloins. Export demand and trading light to fair to individual countries, yet, when demand for individual countries is summed together thigh meat is considered active. Wing drummettes (part loads) 22-28 mostly 22, Grade A breasts (part loads): 10-12 lb. 130-133, 12-14 lb. 140, 14-16 lb. 150-153, open Grade A hock-lock hens (3 loads) delivered current.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	94.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	129.00-138.00		134.40	100
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		T	92.00	20
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	18.00		18.00	16
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		F	19.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	17.00		17.00	15
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	24.00		24.00	10
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		T	24.70	33
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	27.00	7
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN				
NECKS, TOM	21.00		21.00	10
NECKS, HEN	17.00		17.00	20
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/		T	188.00	21
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/		M	189.40	400
THIGH MEAT		W	42.00	80
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	42.40	100
BREAST TRIM MEAT				
SCAPULA MEAT		F	112.00	25
TENDERLOINS	139.00		139.00	12
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	160.00		160.00	20
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		W	68.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	18.00	20
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		W	23.00	20
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	17.00-18.00		17.39	132
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	24.57	70
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		W	19.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	39.00-40.00		39.65	800

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 02 APRIL 1999.

The market continues to be active on frozen thigh meat for mostly export shipments, light on the balance of items. Some plants closed for the long holiday weekend. The frozen thigh meat market is starting to show signs of strength as the good export demand starts cleaning up excess inventories. Offerings of bulk parts and meats available. For export: frozen whole tenderloins (1 load) 138 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	94.00	40	95.33	120
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	134.40	100	134.40	100
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	90.00		90.00	200	90.18	220
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	18.00		18.00	20	18.00	56
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		F	19.00	40		
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		R	17.00	15	18.41	51
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	25.00		25.00	40	24.80	50
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		T	24.70	33	24.70	33
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN						
NECKS, TOM	18.00		18.00	40	19.29	70
NECKS, HEN		R	17.00	20	19.21	53
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	180.00-190.0		182.59	27	184.96	48
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	195.00-198.5		195.70	100	190.66	500
THIGH MEAT	36.00		36.00	120	38.40	200
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	41.00-47.00		43.49	89	43.49	89
BREAST TRIM MEAT						
SCAPULA MEAT		F	112.00	25		
TENDERLOINS	142.00		142.00	8	140.20	20
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	160.00		160.00	40	160.22	180
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	65.00		65.00	40	66.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	18.00		18.00	40	18.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	21.00-22.00		21.57	70	21.89	90
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	18.00-18.50		18.20	100	17.93	272
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS	21.00		21.00	40	20.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	16.00-19.50		17.52	92	17.52	92
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	39.00-44.00		42.90	1,508	41.55	3,040

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.