



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY  
APRIL 09, 1999  
VOL. 46 NO. 42

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



### DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trade sentiment fully steady to firm on whole turkeys. Demand was occasionally fair for current shipments, moderate to good for deferred shipments. No trading reported. Offerings were tight on toms and hens were adequate. Fresh breast meat and fresh mechanically separated turkey were both irregular in availability and market tone.

### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading was active with tom v-type wings, tom drums, hen necks and thigh meat to Asia, and tom drums also moved to the border.

### WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) APRIL 08, 1999

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/			VOLUME (000)	FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/		
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG		WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	62-63	-	-	-	68.00	822.4	SEP	-	1160	JUN
CENTRAL REGION 4/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	62-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	63	-	-	-	68.00	557.2	SEP	-	1600	JUN
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) APRIL 09, 1999

	CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/			VOLUME (000)	FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/		
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG		WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	62-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	61-62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	62-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	62-63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	63-64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degree 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 09, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	61.90**	61.00	58.00
CENTRAL REGION	61.96	60.50**	56.70**
WESTERN REGION	62.00	61.50**	57.50**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	62.20**	61.40**	55.75
CENTRAL REGION	64.00	60.50	56.00**
WESTERN REGION	63.00	61.50**	57.50**

\*\*BASED ON OFFERS

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	77-87
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	77-92
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	66-67
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	67-68
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	71-75

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	82-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	79-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	79-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	82-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	88-103

**FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT** U.S. GRADE A,  
DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION, CENTS  
PER POUND, WEEK OF 12-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)	64.80	100	67.00	20
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	64.80	100	67.00	20
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)				
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)				

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,  
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	

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

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 27-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>HEAD</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>----</u>	<u>THOUSAND</u>	<u>HEAD----</u>
							<u>WT</u>
N EAST	626	-33	24.21	(A)	(A)	641	24.19
S ATL	491	-40	31.10	(A)	(A)	492	31.17
N CENT	2,094	5	28.30	(A)	(A)	2,104	28.28
S CENT	1,110	177	22.40	NONE	NONE	1,110	22.40
WEST	179	-61	24.06	(A)	(A)	186	24.01
U.S.TOTAL	4,500(B)	-2	26.41	0	33	4,533	26.40
TO DATE							
1999	54,886(B)			0	360	55,246	
TO DATE							
1998	63,099(B)			8	468	63,575	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.  
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 38,000 for the year 205,000; last year to date 256,000.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING** 27-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	4,500	33	4,533
AVGWT	0.00	26.41	25.06	26.40
LAST WEEK	0	4,614	30	4,644
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	6,246	33	6,279
AVGWT	0.00	23.42(A)	28.36	23.44
TO-DATE/1999	0	54,886(A)	360	55,246
TO-DATE/1998	8	63,099(A)	468	63,575

(A) Includes 205,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 256,000 in 1998.

**CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** 27-Mar-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 179 HD, 4,307 LBS,  
TO DATE 3,225 HD, 76,367 LBS; OLD 7 HD, TO DATE 57 HD;  
TOTAL 186 HD, TO DATE 3,282HD.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND**

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

FEBRUARY	401,140 *
MARCH 1-27, 1999	368,478 *
To date 1999	1,142,446 *
To date 1998	1,287,358 *

\* PRELIMINARY

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 08 APRIL 1999.

Undertone on full-cut wings and hen 2-joint wings steady, tom drums ranged from instances fully steady for selected export destinations to barely steady. Mechanically separated skin added turkey unsettled with some noting improved interest on fresh while others find it disappointing and are willing to negotiate on frozen. Tom 2-joint wing trading improving at the lower trending price levels. Fresh destrapped tenderloins (1 load) 159, Grade A 12-14 lb. breasts (part load) 140, plant grade breasts (part loads): 10-12 lb. 120-130, 12-14 lb. 130-140 cents. For export: hen necks (1 container) 16, hen drums (2 containers) 17.

<b>DOMESTIC TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE RANGE</b>	<b>L.S.T. CODE 1/</b>	<b>WTD AVG PRICE</b>	<b>VOLUME (000)</b>
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/				
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	129.00		129.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	88.00-90.00		89.00	800
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	17.00-19.00		18.33	60
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH				
DRUMSTICKS, HEN	20.00		20.00	6
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	24.00-25.00		24.60	25
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN	37.00		37.00	51
NECKS, TOM	20.00		20.00	27
NECKS, HEN		T	19.00	1
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	178.00		178.00	20
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	195.00-196.00		195.57	140
THIGH MEAT		W	41.06	128
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	43.49	89
BREAST TRIM MEAT				
SCAPULA MEAT		W	108.00	40
TENDERLOINS		W	140.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS		W	155.56	360
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	68.00		68.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	15.00		15.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		F	21.57	70
<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	17.00		17.00	60
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	24.00		24.00	30
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	17.00-18.00		17.40	520
TAILS	22.50		22.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	13.00		13.00	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	39.00-42.50		41.42	720

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 09 APRIL 1999.

Undertone about steady on fresh tom breast meat with premiums noted for prompt shipments while others call offerings adequate to fully adequate for current shipment. Trading noted on frozen tom breast meat 195 cents delivered May-June with fresh inquiry noted for the same time frame. Market barely steady to weak on frozen 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey (MST), fresh mixed, tom 2-joint wings improved. Some Midwest processors note improved interest on fresh MST, while others call demand slow and question any strength. Tenderloins: fresh 140, frozen +6 months 128. Hen necks (2 containers) 16 cents delivered port.

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/						
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	129.00	40	135.60	150
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		R	89.00	800	89.00	800
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	18.00		18.00	20	18.19	166
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH	19.00		19.00	40	19.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		R	20.00	6	20.00	6
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	24.50		24.50	10	24.81	67
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	19.00-19.50		19.25	160	19.25	160
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		R	37.00	51	37.00	91
NECKS, TOM	18.50-19.00		18.70	50	18.26	221
NECKS, HEN		T	19.00	1	19.00	1
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	177.00		177.00	80	177.20	100
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	195.00-200.00		196.00	100	192.65	520
THIGH MEAT	44.00		44.00	20	41.46	148
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	43.49	89		
BREAST TRIM MEAT						
SCAPULA MEAT		W	108.00	40	108.00	40
TENDERLOINS	136.00		136.00	80	137.33	120
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	159.00		159.00	20	155.74	380
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		R	68.00	40	68.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	19.00		19.00	15	16.09	55
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	16.00-21.00		17.85	54	17.85	54
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	16.00-19.00		16.54	224	16.93	324
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	24.00	30	24.00	30
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	18.50		18.50	728	18.04	1,248
TAILS		R	22.50	80	22.50	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		R	13.00	160	13.00	160
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	40.00-42.00		41.16	248	41.37	1,115

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.