



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The undertone for hens and 16-24 lb. toms fully steady. Multiple loads of private and packer label hens and 16-24 lb. toms noted with firm prices of 64 cents for hens and 65 cents for toms. Demand light, instances fair. Offerings for whole birds continue to be limited for prompt shipments, fair for forward sales. Trading and demand for parts and meats continued to be slow and cautious as some sellers unwilling to participate at current price levels. High meat trading at steady prices, necks and drums available and trading steady to lower.



EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Demand and trading fair to fairly good. Most activity continues to center on frozen thigh meat going to Asia, also interest noted from various other countries. Interest from Mexico limited.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **APRIL 29, 1999**

| | CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/ | | | FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/ | | | OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/ | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------|------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | OFFERS | SALES | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | DEL. PER | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | DEL. PER |
| 8-16 LB HENS | | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION 3/ | 64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 63-64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 64-66 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION 3/ | 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1120 | MAY-JUN |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 65-66 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **APRIL 30, 1999**

| | CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/ | | | FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/ | | | OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/ | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------|------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | OFFERS | SALES | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | DEL. PER | WTD AVG | VOLUME (000) | DEL. PER |
| 8-16 LB HENS | | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION 3/ | 64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 63-64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 64-66 | 64 | 64.00 | 280 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION 3/ | 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 65-66 | 65 | 65.00 | 240 | - | - | - | - | - | - |

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 30, 1999 | CURRENT WEEK | LAST WEEK | SAME WEEK YEAR AGO | MONTH OF APRIL | CURRENT MONTH | LAST MONTH | SAME MONTH YEAR AGO |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|
| 8-16 LB HENS | | | | 8-16 LB HENS | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 64.00** | 64.00** | 58.00 | EASTERN REGION | 63.02 | 61.69 | 58.14 |
| CENTRAL REGION | 63.70** | 64.00** | 56.50 | CENTRAL REGION | 62.57 | 60.39 | 56.77 |
| WESTERN REGION | 64.00 | 64.00** | 58.00** | WESTERN REGION | 63.36 | 61.20 | 57.77 |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | | 16-24 LB TOMS | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 65.00** | 65.00** | 57.00 | EASTERN REGION | 63.73 | 60.89 | 57.35 |
| CENTRAL REGION | 65.00** | 65.00** | 57.00 | CENTRAL REGION | 63.61 | 60.40 | 55.93 |
| WESTERN REGION | 65.00 | 65.30** | 57.00** | WESTERN REGION | 64.20 | 61.34 | 57.41 |

**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# | 77-87 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16# | 69-70 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24# | 70-71 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28# | 74-77 |

**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 03-MAY-99

| | <u>(8-16#)</u> | <u>(16-24#)</u> |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | <u>HENS LBS</u> | <u>TOMS LBS</u> |
| | <u>PRICE (000)</u> | <u>PRICE (000)</u> |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED) | |
| SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED) | |
| SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY) | |
| SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED) | 100 |

**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 17-Apr-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>% CHG</u> | <u>WT</u> | <u>----THOUSAND HEAD----</u> | | <u>WT</u> | |
| N EAST | 951 | 26 | 22.27 | NONE | NONE | 951 | 22.27 |
| S ATL | 762 | 31 | 27.24 | (A) | (A) | 779 | 27.16 |
| N CENT | 1,942 | -15 | 25.72 | (A) | (A) | 1,954 | 25.74 |
| S CENT | 618 | -3 | 18.75 | NONE | NONE | 618 | 18.75 |
| WEST | 263 | -4 | 22.97 | (A) | (A) | 274 | 23.21 |
| U.S.TOTAL | 4,536(B) | 0 | 24.14 | 0 | 40 | 4,576 | 24.17 |

TO DATE
1999 67,553(B) 0 469 68,022

TO DATE
1998 76,517(B) 8 570 77,095

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 12,000 for the year 267,000; last year to date 301,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 17-Apr-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 | 4,536 | 40 | 4,576 |
| AVGWT | 0.00 | 24.14 | 26.93 | 24.17 |
| LAST WEEK | 0 | 4,521 | 43 | 4,564 |
| SAME WEEK YR AGO | 0 | 4,694 | 18 | 4,712 |
| AVGWT | 0.00 | 25.06(A) | 28.50 | 25.07 |
| TO-DATE/1999 | 0 | 67,553(A) | 469 | 68,022 |
| TO-DATE/1998 | 8 | 76,517(A) | 570 | 77,095 |

(A) Includes 267,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 301,000 in 1998.

CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP 17-Apr-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 263 HD, 6,040 LBS,
TO DATE 4,042 HD, 96,049 LBS; OLD 11 HD, TO DATE 74 HD;
TOTAL 274 HD, TO DATE 4,116 HD.

TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| MARCH | 412,534 * |
| APRIL 1-17, 1999 | 215,419 * |
| To date 1999 | 1,401,921 * |
| To date 1998 | 1,564,140 * |

* PRELIMINARY

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 29 APRIL 1999.

Trade sentiment steady to fully steady on frozen thigh meat with new production at stronger price levels than older product. Tom full-cut wings trade sentiment steady to barely steady, tom necks and drums barely steady to weak. Export demand continues to drive the thigh meat market ranging from fair to good. Tom drum demand light with exports the main source of inquiry. Demand from further processors for mechanically separated skin added turkey (MST) slow in developing for the upcoming Memorial Holiday weekend resulting in ample offerings. Some sellers moving current production of MST to pet foods to stay balanced.

| DOMESTIC TRADING | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/ | | | | |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/ | | R | 138.00 | 98 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/ | 89.50 | | 89.50 | 400 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM | | | | |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH | | W | 16.00 | 40 |
| DRUMSTICKS, HEN | | T | 16.23 | 26 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM | | T | 23.00 | 40 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN | | T | 22.00 | 7 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | T | 22.00 | 20 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN | 37.00 | | 37.00 | 80 |
| NECKS, TOM | 13.00-15.00 | | 14.00 | 160 |
| NECKS, HEN | | T | 16.00 | 6 |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/ | | | | |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/ | | W | 190.00 | 20 |
| THIGH MEAT | | W | 44.00 | 20 |
| THIGH MEAT—FRESH | | | | |
| BREAST TRIM MEAT | | W | 110.00 | 20 |
| SCAPULA MEAT | | | | |
| TENDERLOINS | | | | |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS | | F | 160.00 | 40 |
| WING MEAT WITH SKIN | | W | 67.00 | 40 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | W | 15.00 | 20 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/ | 12.50 | | 12.50 | 40 |
| EXPORT TRADING | | | | |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS | 15.50 | | 15.50 | 104 |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS | | W | 22.50 | 20 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | W | 19.00 | 104 |
| TAILS | | W | 18.00 | 80 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | W | 12.00 | 80 |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN | 39.00-45.50 | | 43.00 | 364 |

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 30 APRIL 1999.

Undertone steady to weak on fresh tom breast meat, steady to barely steady on destrapped tenderloins and frozen tom breast meat. Demand light to fair on institutional breasts with offers not as tight when compared to previous weeks. Tom breast meat demand light with some older frozen noted at 160 cents delivered. Export demand and trading continues active on frozen thigh meat for multiple destinations. Some areas noting an improved export call on frozen 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey at lower price levels, while others remain slow. Grade A 10-12 lb. breasts (part load) 137 cents delivered domestic.

| 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/ | 95.00 | | 95.00 | 80 | 95.00 | 80 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/ | | | | | | |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/ | 91.00-92.00 | | 91.33 | 60 | 89.86 | 580 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM | 14.00-16.00 | | 14.50 | 240 | 14.50 | 240 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH | 16.00 | | 16.00 | 120 | 16.00 | 160 |
| DRUMSTICKS, HEN | | T | 16.23 | 26 | 16.23 | 26 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM | 23.00 | | 23.00 | 20 | 23.00 | 60 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN | | T | 22.00 | 7 | 22.00 | 7 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | T | 22.00 | 20 | 22.00 | 20 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN | 39.00 | | 39.00 | 40 | 38.33 | 240 |
| NECKS, TOM | 13.00-18.50 | | 13.61 | 180 | 13.79 | 340 |
| NECKS, HEN | | T | 16.00 | 6 | 16.00 | 6 |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/ | | | | | | |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/ | 187.00-192.00 | | 187.94 | 256 | 188.09 | 276 |
| THIGH MEAT | 42.00 | | 42.00 | 20 | 43.00 | 40 |
| THIGH MEAT—FRESH | | | | | | |
| BREAST TRIM MEAT | 110.00 | | 110.00 | 20 | 107.33 | 120 |
| SCAPULA MEAT | | | | | | |
| TENDERLOINS | | | | | | |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS | | F | 160.00 | 40 | | |
| WING MEAT WITH SKIN | 68.00 | | 68.00 | 100 | 67.78 | 180 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | W | 15.00 | 20 | 15.00 | 20 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/ | 13.00-15.00 | | 14.40 | 200 | 14.14 | 280 |
| EXPORT TRADING | | | | | | |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS | 15.00 | | 15.00 | 40 | 15.50 | 164 |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS | | W | 22.50 | 20 | 22.50 | 20 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | W | 19.00 | 104 | 19.00 | 104 |
| TAILS | 18.00 | | 18.00 | 28 | 18.00 | 108 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 10.00-13.00 | | 11.48 | 1,352 | 11.51 | 1,432 |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN | 43.00-45.00 | | 44.08 | 1,160 | 43.56 | 2,148 |

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.