



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The trade sentiment for hens and 16-24 lb. tom's steady to firm. Limited trading on whole birds. Offerings for whole birds light for immediate deliveries and light to moderate for forward sales with tom's in the closest position. Trading and demand for parts and meats light to moderate with some sellers only participating at higher price levels.



EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

A heavy volume of thigh meat moved to Asia and Mexico mostly Asia, drums moved to Mexico and Asia at light to fair volumes. Increased interest noted on drums.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) MAY 06, 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/	65-66	-	-	-	71.00	800	OCT	-	1120	OCT-NOV
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2020	MAY-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1280	JUL-NOV
CENTRAL REGION 4/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1735	MAY-JUL
WESTERN REGION 5/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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	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/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	64.5-65	64.5	64.50	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS										
EASTERN REGION 3/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65-66	65	65.00	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	66	-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 MAY 07, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	65.40**	64.00**	58.00
CENTRAL REGION	64.50	63.70**	57.00
WESTERN REGION	65.40**	64.00	58.10**
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	65.70**	65.00**	57.00
CENTRAL REGION	65.00	65.00**	55.50**
WESTERN REGION	65.80**	65.00	57.00**

**BASED ON OFFERS

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	79-87
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	80-87
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	69-70
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	71
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	75-77

**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 10-MAY-99

	<u>(8-16#)</u>	<u>(16-24#)</u>
	<u>HENS PRICE (000)</u>	<u>LBS PRICE (000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	68.85	169
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	68.78	117
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)	69.00	52
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)	140	40

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NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 24-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	704	-26	23.50	(A)	(A)	705	23.52
S ATL	1,774	133	20.72	(A)	(A)	1,787	20.76
N CENT	2,353	21	29.30	(A)	(A)	2,378	29.28
S CENT	1,126	82	21.71	NONE	NONE	1,126	21.71
WEST	336	28	21.46	(A)	(A)	342	21.52
U.S.TOTAL	6,293(B)	39	24.45	0	45	6,338	24.48
TO DATE							
1999	73,846(B)			0	514	74,360	
TO DATE							
1998	81,732(B)			8	595	82,335	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 16,000 for the year 283,000; last year to date 302,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 24-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	6,293	45	6,338
AVGWT	0.00	24.45	27.51	24.48
LAST WEEK	0	4,536	40	4,576
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	5,215	25	5,240
AVGWT	0.00	25.99(A)	26.52	25.99
TO-DATE/1999	0	73,846(A)	514	74,360
TO-DATE/1998	8	81,732(A)	595	82,335

(A) Includes 283,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 302,000 in 1998.

CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP 24-Apr-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 233 HD, 5,075 LBS,
TO DATE 4,275 HD, 101,124 LBS; OLD 6 HD, TO DATE 80 HD;
TOTAL 239 HD, TO DATE 4,355 HD.

TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

MARCH	412,534 *
APRIL 1-24, 1999	339,523 *
To date 1999	1,526,025 *
To date 1998	1,672,553 *

* PRELIMINARY

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 06 MAY 1999.

Undertone continues to improve on 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey with fresh strongest due to increased sausage making activity for the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend. Demand light to fair on 4-8 lb. breasts with only light open priced trading noted. Bulk parts demand light with best interest noted for exports. Offerings of fresh 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey light to adequate, frozen available. Grade A 4-8 lb. +8% breasts (1 load) 99 cent price ceiling delivered October. For export: tom necks (3 rail-cars)15 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	95.00	240
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	145.00		145.00	90
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	92.00		92.00	20
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	16.50		16.50	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		F	16.00	120
DRUMSTICKS, HEN				
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	22.50		22.50	20
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		W	39.00	160
NECKS, TOM	16.00		16.00	20
NECKS, HEN				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/				
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/		W	185.00	40
THIGH MEAT		W	47.00	20
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	43.00		43.00	40
BREAST TRIM MEAT		W	110.00	20
SCAPULA MEAT	94.00		94.00	40
TENDERLOINS		T	140.00	15
DESTRAPPED TENDERS				
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		W	68.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	11.50-14.00		13.17	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	16.00-17.00		16.33	240
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	16.00-16.50		16.22	92
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	22.50		22.50	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS		F	18.00	28
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	13.15	602
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	46.00-47.00		46.45	224

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 07 MAY 1999.

Tom drum undertone improved with increased activity noted for domestic and export shipments. Thigh meat market fully steady with the strength due mostly to export interest, however, some increased fresh domestic inquiry is noted. The overall dark meat undertone is being helped by the strength of the chicken leg quarter and pork complexes. Offerings of 4-8 lb. breasts light to instances adequate with some processors reluctant to cut up hens due to the profitability of bagging operations. Grade A rib breasts: 8-10 lb. 104, 16-18 lb. 145-150 cents delivered. For export: hen drums 19, hen defatted gizzards 51 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	95.00	240	95.00	240
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	129.00		129.00	40	140.08	130
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	90.00		90.00	40	90.45	440
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	15.00-16.00		15.73	216	15.88	262
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH		F	16.00	120		
DRUMSTICKS, HEN						
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	22.00-23.00		22.80	25	22.85	59
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		W	39.00	160	39.00	160
NECKS, TOM		R	16.00	20	15.74	78
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	173.00		173.00	40	173.00	40
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	187.00-189.00		187.67	120	185.80	400
THIGH MEAT		W	47.00	20	47.00	20
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	43.00		43.00	40	43.00	80
BREAST TRIM MEAT	107.00-109.00		107.67	60	108.25	80
SCAPULA MEAT	101.00		101.00	40	97.50	80
TENDERLOINS	140.00-150.00		146.67	18	143.64	33
DESTRAPPED TENDERS						
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	67.00-70.00		68.00	80	68.00	160
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	14.00		14.00	40	13.38	160
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	15.00-19.00		16.93	228	15.72	1,188
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	14.50-19.00		17.13	224	16.28	420
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	22.50	20	19.16	436
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	19.00-20.00		19.67	312	19.67	312
TAILS		F	18.00	28		
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	13.15	602	13.15	602
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	42.00-46.00		44.36	686	44.64	1,588

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.