



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Market News Branch

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

### DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The trade sentiment for hens and 16-24 lb. toms continued to be steady to firm. No trading reported. Demand mixed, best for deferred. Offerings closely balanced and held with confidence. Trading on parts and meats light to moderate. Thigh meat clearing well and moving mostly to export at steady to firm price levels. Limited trading on destrapped tenders and full tenderloins at steady to firm price levels. Tom breast meat unsettled for current shipments and steady to firm for deferred.

### EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading light as most sales centering on frozen thigh meat going to Asia. Demand remains good even in the face of higher asking prices for current production. Inquiry light to fair 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 20, 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/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	66.5-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	840	AUG
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65.5-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	1040	SEP
WESTERN REGION 5/	66.5-67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MAY 21, 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/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	240	AUG-DEC
WESTERN REGION 5/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	67-69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	160	AUG-DEC
WESTERN REGION 5/	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 21, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	65.40**	65.50**	58.60**
CENTRAL REGION	65.00**	65.00**	56.50
WESTERN REGION	65.40**	65.00	58.00
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	67.10**	66.05**	57.50**
CENTRAL REGION	66.80**	69.00	55.47
WESTERN REGION	66.70**	66.00	57.75**

\*\*BASED ON OFFERS

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	80-88
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	81-88
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	70-71
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	70-72
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	76-78

**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 24-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)	70.29 140	
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	70.29 140	
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)		
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)	140	20

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**NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS**  
BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 08-May-99  
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	<u>---YOUNG TURKEYS---</u>			<u>FRYER RSTR</u>	<u>OLD BAND</u>	<u>TOTAL HEAD</u>	<u>TKY AVG WT</u>
	<u>THOUSAND</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>AVG WT</u>				
	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>% CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>				
N EAST	402	-77	24.22	NONE	NONE	402	24.22
S ATL	1,247	59	19.45	(A)	(A)	1,263	19.54
N CENT	2,585	35	29.56	(A)	(A)	2,586	29.58
S CENT	710	21	20.30	NONE	NONE	710	20.30
WEST	520	113	30.06	NONE	NONE	520	30.06
U.S.TOTAL	5,464(B)	4	25.71	0	17	5,481	25.72
TO DATE							
1999	84,561(B)			0	571	85,132	
TO DATE							
1998	90,952(B)			8	658	91,618	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.  
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 10,000 for the year 295,000; last year to date 331,000.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING** 08-May-99

	<u>FRYER-ROASTERS</u>	<u>YOUNG TURKEYS</u>	<u>OLD BANDED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>THOUSANDS</u>			
HEAD	0	5,464	17	5,481
AVGWT	0.00	25.71	28.65	25.72
LAST WEEK	0	5,251	40	5,291
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	4,545	16	4,561
AVGWT	0.00	24.82(A)	27.69	24.83
TO-DATE/1999	0	84,561(A)	571	85,132
TO-DATE/1998	8	90,952(A)	658	91,618

(A) Includes 295,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 331,000 in 1998.

**CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** 08-May-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 401HD, 13,233 LBS, TO DATE 4,920 HD, 121,119 LBS; OLD 0 HD, TO DATE 88 HD; TOTAL 401 HD, TO DATE 5,008 HD.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND**

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

APRIL	444,541 *
MAY 1-8, 1999	112,761 *
To date 1999	1,743,804 *
To date 1998	1,861,818 *

\* PRELIMINARY

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT**, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 20 MAY 1999.

The market is trending higher on tom breast meat with light fresh volumes noted at higher numbers for both prompt and early June shipments as the upcoming holiday processing schedules start affecting markets. Undertone unsettled on 15-20% skin added mechanically separated turkey with a barely steady to fully steady trade sentiment. Bulk parts demand light to fair. Some sellers asking higher prices for Avian Influenza free certified product for Mexico. Plant grade 16-18 lb. breasts (part load) 145 cents delivered. For export: ground drum meat (2 containers and 8 loads) 35-36 and some drums 14 cents delivered to traders.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		W	97.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	128.81	315
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/	94.00		94.00	20
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	16.00-17.00		16.44	25
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH				
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		M	18.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	23.00		23.00	19
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		M	23.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		T	20.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		F	40.00	80
NECKS, TOM	16.00-17.00		16.66	61
NECKS, HEN		R	16.00	9
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	183.00		183.00	18
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	193.00-197.00		195.00	80
THIGH MEAT		F	46.00	64
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	54.00		54.00	40
BREAST TRIM MEAT		W	105.00	20
SCAPULA MEAT		F	95.14	35
TENDERLOINS		W	143.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	151.00-153.00		152.00	80
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	68.00		68.00	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	14.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	15.00-18.00		16.40	200
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	14.00		14.00	208
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	22.50	30
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	19.00	208
TAILS	18.50-19.75		19.33	120
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	13.67	608
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	50.00-51.00		50.25	416

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 21 MAY 1999.

Trade sentiment barely steady to firm with some weakness noted on tom breast meat out of pre-holiday production. Some tom breast meat noted for June shipments being frozen from new production noted at higher price levels. Demand light to fair on tom breast meat and tenderloins, fair on wing meat at steady prices and on drums. Yearling hen drums (2 loads) 14, Grade A breasts (part loads): 10-12 lb. 130-135, 12-14 lb. 140-145, 14-16 lb. 150, 16-18 lb. 155, fresh destrapped tenderloins (part loads) 151-152 delivered. For export: tom necks (4 containers) 14.50-15, hen 2-joint wings (1 rail-car) 37, 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/	97.00		97.00	40	97.00	80
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	141.00		141.00	85	141.00	85
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		R	94.00	20	91.33	180
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	16.00		16.00	205	15.97	270
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH	16.00		16.00	40	16.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		M	18.00	40	18.00	40
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM		R	23.00	19	22.38	128
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		M	23.00	40	23.00	40
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	20.00		20.00	40	20.00	80
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		F	40.00	80		
NECKS, TOM		R	16.66	61	16.47	85
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	180.00		180.00	320	179.26	438
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	188.00		188.00	80	190.26	380
THIGH MEAT	50.00		50.00	80	50.00	80
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	48.00		48.00	54	50.23	119
BREAST TRIM MEAT		W	105.00	20	105.00	20
SCAPULA MEAT		F	95.14	35		
TENDERLOINS	142.00-148.00		142.73	220	142.27	300
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	151.00-152.00		151.33	120	151.77	260
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	68.00-70.00		68.26	78	68.26	331
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		T	14.00	80	14.00	80
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	15.00-17.00		15.33	84	15.94	714
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	16.00		16.00	260	15.21	732
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		F	22.50	30		
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		M	19.00	208	19.00	208
TAILS		R	19.33	120	18.20	200
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		F	13.67	608		
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	50.00-55.00		51.75	416	50.24	1,616

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

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