



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



Trade sentiment for 8-16 lb. hens generally steady, 16-24 lb. toms unsettled. Heavy trading reported for open priced and forward priced. Offerings adequate. Demand for whole birds ranged from light to moderate for prompt shipments and generally good for deferred shipping. Heavy trading on open priced hens and toms. Hens for March 64-65.5, toms 63-64.5 cents; April hens 66-67.5, toms 65-66.5 cents; May hens 67-68.5, toms 66-67.5 cents; June hens 69-70.5, toms 68-69.5 cents; July hens 71-72.5, toms 70-71.5 cents; August hens 72-73.5, toms 71-72.5 cents; September hens 73-74.5, toms 72-73.5 cents; and October hens 73-75.5, toms 71.5-74.5 cents; which includes some transferred in storage. Bulk parts and meats trading light to moderate with a heavy volume of grade A 4-8 lb. breasts taking place for March - May shipments. Inventories remain closely balanced and held with confidence.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading light to moderate, best for mechanically separated turkey meat and frozen thigh meat. Demand moderate in-stances good. One load of hens sold to the East Coast port at 61 cents. The industry continues to watch developments in the European Union and other major areas of animal production to see if these difficulties will impact the US market.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) MARCH 16, 2001

| | 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/ | 60.5-64 | 60.5 | 60.50 | 160 | 63.00 | 2,400 | APR | - | - |
| | | | | | 65.00 | 2,400 | MAY | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 60-63 | - | - | - | 66.25 | 780 | MAY-JUL | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 61-62 | - | - | - | 78.00 | 1,030 | NOV | 7,421 | MAR-OCT |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 59-63 | 59.5 | 59.50 | 160 | 62.00 | 1,600 | APR | - | - |
| | | | | | 63.00 | 1,600 | MAY | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION | 58-61 | - | - | - | 66.25 | 1,400 | MAY-JUL | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION | 59-61 | - | - | - | 78.00 | 592 | NOV | 14,395 | MAR-OCT |

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) MARCH 15, 2001

| | 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/ | 61-64 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION 4/ | 60-63 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION 5/ | 61-62 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | | | | | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 59-63 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CENTRAL REGION | 58-61 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| WESTERN REGION | 59-61 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

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 ENDING MARCH 16, 2001

| | CURRENT WEEK | LAST WEEK | SAME WEEK YEAR AGO |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 8-16 LB HENS | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 61.23 | 61.50 | 65.00 |
| CENTRAL REGION | 62.00 | 62.00 | 64.50** |
| WESTERN REGION | 61.50** | 61.50** | 64.75** |
| 16-24 LB TOMS | | | |
| EASTERN REGION | 59.67 | 60.50 | 61.00 |
| CENTRAL REGION | 59.99 | 59.94 | 61.45** |
| WESTERN REGION | 60.20** | 60.50** | 62.25** |

**BASED ON OFFERS

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

| | <u>RANGE</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16# | 98 |
| FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24# | 98 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16# | 67-81 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24# | 66-73 |
| FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28# | 68-83 |

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

| | <u>RANGE</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| TURKEYS Y HENS | 93-99 |
| TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22# | 88-99 |
| TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24# | 89-99 |
| TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26# | 89-99 |
| TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER | 88-101 |

**FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT U.S. GRADE A,
DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION, CENTS
PER POUND, WEEK OF 19-MAR-2001**

| | <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) | 67.59 | 170 | 68.43 | 70 |
| SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED) | 67.59 | 170 | 68.43 | 70 |
| SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY) | | | | |
| SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED) | | | | |

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND
(IN THOUSAND POUNDS)****SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS**

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| FEBRUARY | 456,272* |
| MARCH 1-10, 2001 | 140,556* |
| To date 2001 | 988,468* |
| To date 2000 | 954,376* |

* PRELIMINARY

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTSBY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 10-Mar-2001
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

| | <u>-----YOUNG TURKEYS-----</u> | | | <u>TOTAL TURKEYS</u> | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|
| | <u>-THOUSAND HEAD-</u> | <u>PCT</u> | <u>AVG</u> | <u>OLD</u> | <u>AVG</u> | |
| | <u>CHG</u> | <u>LIVE</u> | <u>BANDED</u> | <u>WT</u> | <u>LIVE</u> | |
| | <u>PW</u> | <u>WT</u> | <u>-THOUSAND HEAD-</u> | <u>WT</u> | | |
| N EAST | 851 | 1 | 22.97 | (A) | 854 | 22.97 |
| S ATL | 890 | 10 | 26.59 | (A) | 894 | 26.59 |
| N CENT | 2,065 | 1 | 29.75 | (A) | 2,069 | 29.75 |
| S CENT | 632 | -1 | 21.32 | (A) | 635 | 21.32 |
| WEST | 309 | -5 | 25.19 | (A) | 312 | 25.19 |
| U.S.TOTAL | 4,747(B) | 2 | 26.54 | 17 | 4,764 | 26.54 |
| TO DATE | | | | | | |
| 2001 | 45,753(B) | | | 159 | 45,912 | |
| TO DATE | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 44,572(B) | | | 355 | 44,927 | |

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 41,000 for the year 365,000; last year to date 61,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED

WEEK ENDING 10-Mar-2001

| | <u>YOUNG</u> | | <u>YOUNG</u> | <u>OLD</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| | <u>HENS</u> | <u>TOMS</u> | <u>BREEDERS</u> | | |
| | <u>-----THOUSANDS-----</u> | | | | |
| HEAD | 2,016 | 2,690 | 41 | 17 | 4,764 |
| AVG WT | 16.54 | 34.04 | 24.77 | 23.09 | 26.54 |
| LAST WEEK | 1,969 | 2,619 | 57 | 28 | 4,673 |
| SAME WK YR AGO | 4,408(B) | | 20 | 33 | 4,461 |
| AVG WT | 27.16(B) | | 25.85 | 28.00 | 27.16 |
| TO-DATE/2001 | 45,388(B) | | 365 | 159 | 45,912 |
| TO-DATE/2000 | 44,511(B) | | 61 | 355 | 44,927 |

(B) Comparable data not available for last year, this data is comprised of hens and toms.

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NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED),
CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS
AS OF 15 MARCH 2001.

Trade sentiment on tom drums in a full range, mostly steady at best. Full-cut wing trade sentiment fully steady to firm with the balance of bulk parts mostly fully steady. Thigh meat trade sentiment was mixed, mostly steady. Trade sentiment steady to instances weak on Grade A 4-8 lb. breasts with some sellers still demonstrating a willingness to negotiate. Domestic demand ranged slow to moderate. Trading centered on a heavy volume of Grade A 4-8 lb. breasts, balance light. Grade A breasts: nonbasted 8-10 lb. 110, basted 10-12 lb. breasts 95.50 cents delivered. Plant grade non basted 16-18 lb. breasts traded at 106 cents delivered and scapula at 114 cents transferred in storage. Export demand ranged light to fair, best on mechanically separated turkey for export. Trading centered on a light volume of frozen thigh meat. Some industry members are watching the export markets for positive market ramifications from Europe's animal health problems.

| DOMESTIC TRADING | PRICE RANGE | L.S.T. CODE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/ | 97.00-99.00 | | 98.83 | 920 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/ | 152.00 | | 152.00 | 10 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/ | | W | 93.00 | 170 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM | 29.00 | | 29.00 | 12 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH | | R | 31.00 | 40 |
| DRUMSTICKS, HEN | | | | |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM | 30.00-33.00 | | 32.55 | 94 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN | | T | 28.00 | 40 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | 28.00-29.00 | | 28.61 | 99 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN | | W | 37.00 | 80 |
| NECKS, TOM | 24.00-25.00 | | 24.54 | 26 |
| NECKS, HEN | | | | |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/ | | W | 162.00 | 60 |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/ | 175.50 | | 175.50 | 40 |
| THIGH MEAT | 65.00 | | 65.00 | 16 |
| THIGH MEAT—FRESH | 62.00-66.00 | | 62.80 | 200 |
| BREAST TRIM MEAT | | W | 115.00 | 80 |
| SCAPULA MEAT | | | | |
| TENDERLOINS | 131.00 | | 131.00 | 14 |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS | | W | 147.00 | 80 |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS—FRESH | | W | 154.95 | 74 |
| WING MEAT WITH SKIN | | W | 58.50 | 160 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | T | 17.00 | 20 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/ | | W | 16.67 | 60 |
| EXPORT TRADING | | | | |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS | 29.50 | | 29.50 | 52 |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS | | W | 30.00 | 160 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | M | 27.50 | 104 |
| TAILS | 26.00 | | 26.00 | 80 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | W | 17.00 | 120 |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN | 64.50-66.00 | | 65.30 | 372 |

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/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 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 16 MARCH 2001.

The white meat undertone ranged mostly steady to fully steady. Light trading was noted on scapula and whole tenderloins at higher trending prices. The undertone was unsettled on Grade A 4-8 lb. breasts with trading noted at higher prices for March - May shipments, yet, others still note offers at 98-99 cents delivered with a few willing to negotiate. Plant grade 4-8 lb. breast undertone steady. The thigh meat undertone ranged from fully steady in the East into select export channels to mostly steady in the Midwest with offers noted at 64-66 cents delivered. Frozen 15-20% mechanically separated turkey was fully steady into export channels, fresh steady. Trading centered on a heavy volume of Grade A 4-8 lb. breast for March - May shipments, balance of export and domestic trading light.

| DOMESTIC TRADING | PRICE RANGE | LST CDE 1/ | WTD AVG PRICE | VOLUME (000) | WEEKLY | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | WTD AVG PRICE | WEEKLY VOLUME (000) |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/ | 103.00 | | 103.00 | 1,400 | 101.28 | 2,930 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/ | | R | 152.00 | 10 | 152.00 | 10 |
| BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/ | 92.00-93.00 | | 92.33 | 240 | 92.80 | 810 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM | 30.00-31.00 | | 30.50 | 80 | 30.40 | 172 |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH | 29.00-31.00 | | 30.00 | 80 | 30.00 | 80 |
| DRUMSTICKS, HEN | 26.00 | | 26.00 | 76 | 26.00 | 76 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM | | R | 32.55 | 94 | 32.55 | 94 |
| WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN | | T | 28.00 | 40 | 28.00 | 40 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | R | 28.61 | 99 | 28.11 | 279 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN | | W | 37.00 | 80 | 37.33 | 120 |
| NECKS, TOM | 24.00 | | 24.00 | 40 | 24.50 | 226 |
| NECKS, HEN | | | | | | |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/ | 162.00 | | 162.00 | 40 | 159.33 | 180 |
| BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/ | 175.00-177.00 | | 175.75 | 240 | 174.46 | 1,135 |
| THIGH MEAT | | R | 65.00 | 16 | 65.38 | 26 |
| THIGH MEAT—FRESH | 63.50-64.00 | | 63.67 | 120 | 63.93 | 371 |
| BREAST TRIM MEAT | | W | 115.00 | 80 | 115.00 | 160 |
| SCAPULA MEAT | 116.00-122.00 | | 118.33 | 98 | 118.33 | 98 |
| TENDERLOINS | 133.00 | | 133.00 | 15 | 132.03 | 29 |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS | 149.00 | | 149.00 | 80 | 148.00 | 160 |
| DESTRAPPED TENDERS—FRESH | 153.00 | | 153.00 | 40 | 152.36 | 214 |
| WING MEAT WITH SKIN | 62.00 | | 62.00 | 40 | 59.63 | 320 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | | T | 17.00 | 20 | 17.00 | 20 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/ | | W | 16.67 | 60 | 16.83 | 820 |
| EXPORT TRADING | | | | | | |
| DRUMSTICKS, TOMS | 29.50 | | 29.50 | 40 | 29.10 | 584 |
| WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS | | W | 30.00 | 160 | 30.00 | 160 |
| WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM | | M | 27.50 | 104 | 27.50 | 104 |
| TAILS | | R | 26.00 | 80 | 24.09 | 280 |
| MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/ | 17.00-19.50 | | 17.69 | 144 | 17.38 | 264 |
| THIGH MEAT - FROZEN | 66.00-67.50 | | 67.00 | 312 | 64.88 | 1,164 |

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/ Boneless and skinless without tenderloins.

4/ 15-20% fat with skin added.