



# USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

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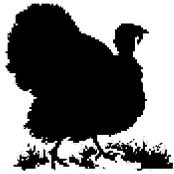
THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 30, 2004  
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## DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

The market tone on frozen 8-16 lb. hens and 16-24 lb. toms was steady to weak. Demand was very light. No trading was reported. Offerings of whole birds was light to moderate. Bulk parts and meats trading was slow in this pre-holiday period. Offerings are light to moderate. Demand was mixed as buyers continue to be cautious and selective toward the market.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS Trading was slow. Demand was light. Interest was improving for next week as processors return to full schedules. Interest was noted from Mexico, China and Hong Kong. Offerings were moderate.

## NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

**WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS**, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **DECEMBER 30, 2004**

	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
<b>8-16 LB HENS</b>									
EASTERN REGION 3/	73-75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>16-24 LB TOMS</b>									
EASTERN REGION 3/	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**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 DECEMBER 31, 2004

	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO	MONTH OF DECEMBER	CURRENT MONTH	LAST MONTH	SAME MONTH YEAR AGO
<b>8-16 LB HENS</b>				<b>8-16 LB HENS</b>			
EASTERN REGION	74.00**	74.75**	64.00**	EASTERN REGION	76.05	78.29	66.85
CENTRAL REGION	75.00**	75.75**	63.00**	CENTRAL REGION	77.00	77.93	65.80
WESTERN REGION	76.00**	76.75**	64.50**	WESTERN REGION	78.07	79.35	67.02
<b>16-24 LB TOMS</b>				<b>16-24 LB TOMS</b>			
EASTERN REGION	67.00**	68.50**	59.50**	EASTERN REGION	69.69	74.21	60.45
CENTRAL REGION	67.00**	68.00**	57.50**	CENTRAL REGION	69.44	74.46	59.48
WESTERN REGION	68.00**	69.25**	59.00**	WESTERN REGION	70.87	75.85	60.98

\*\*BASED ON OFFERS

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS	
Y HENS 8-16#	88-96
Y TOMS 14-24#	88-96
FROZEN TURKEYS:	
Y HENS 8-16#	80-85
Y TOMS 14-24#	69-78
Y TOMS 24-28#	69-74

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

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	105-123
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	99-123
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	99-116
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	98-120
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	98-122

**NATIONAL FRESH TURKEYS -**

U.S. GRADE A, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS  
(prices reflect turkeys with timers) Week of 03-Jan-2005

	Price (cents/lb.)	Volume (lbs.)
<b>PRICED AT TIME OF SALE</b>		
8-16 lbs.	89.60	25,000
16-24 lbs.	82.00	15,000
<b>PRICE TO BE DETERMINED</b>		
8-16 lbs.	--	20,000
16-24 lbs.	--	12,000
Total Volume:		72,000

**TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED IN FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS**

W/E 25-Dec-2004 BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS (PRELIMINARY)

	<u>YOUNG TURKEYS</u>		<u>TOTAL TURKEYS</u>		
	<u>PCT CHG</u>	<u>AVG LIVE WT</u>	<u>OLD BANDED</u>	<u>AVG LIVE WT</u>	
<u>-THOUSAND HEAD-</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>-THOUSAND HEAD-</u>	<u>WT</u>	
North East	556	-24	22.73	(A) 556	22.73
South Atlantic	325	-42	36.87	(A) 325	36.87
North Central	1,331	-33	33.52	(A) 1,331	33.52
South Central	390	-24	21.25	(A) 390	21.25
West	216	-50	23.53	(A) 216	23.53
U.S. total	2,818(B)	-33	29.32	0 2,818	29.32
To-date					
2004	220,690(B)			353	221,043
To-date					
2003	239,238(B)			598	239,836

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.  
(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: this week 10,000; for the current year to date 2,547,000; for last year to date 3,121,000.

**TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND (IN THOUSAND POUNDS)**

Slaughter-certified ready-to-cook turkeys

November	429,899*
December 1-25, 2004	329,617*
To date 2004	4,968,807*
To date 2003	5,304,305*

\*Preliminary

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

W/E 25-Dec-2004

	<u>YOUNG</u>		<u>YOUNG OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>BREEDERS</u>	
	<u>Thousands</u>			
Head	125,118	1,102	1,175	2,277
Avg Wt	5.27	3.45	7.75	5.67
Last week	159,224	1,499	1,462	2,961
Same wk yr ago	113,075	918	808	1,726
Avg Wt	5.22	3.39	8.24	5.66
To-date/2004	7,954,897	69,513	69,222	138,735
To-date/2003	7,805,484	71,716	70,992	142,708

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

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats, Chief
	Fax	(202)720-2403	
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(404)562-5875	
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown, Southern States Area Supervisor
	Fax	(601)965-4661	
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby, Officer-in-Charge
	Fax	(213)534-1333	
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 30 DECEMBER 2004.**

Pre-holiday market activity was limited to spot loads and less than truck lot volumes for domestic delivery. Buyers and sellers were watching for further developments after the first of the year. Supplies generally balanced and held at steady to instances barely steady prices. Export activity was moderate on fresh tom drums at 38 to 40 cents for January shipment, otherwise light. Fresh thigh meat moved to the border at 89 cents and fresh mechanically separated turkey at 18 cents.

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/						
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A--FRESH 2/	140.00		140.00	4	150.47	9
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/						
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	39.00		39.00	40	39.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM--FRESH						
DRUMSTICKS, HEN						
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM						
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN						
NECKS, TOM	27.00-28.00		27.50	80	27.50	80
NECKS, HEN						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/						
BREASTS, B/S, TOM--FRESH 3/	200.00		200.00	31	207.67	147
THIGH MEAT						
THIGH MEAT--FRESH						
BREAST TRIM MEAT						
SCAPULA MEAT	119.00		119.00	20	119.00	20
TENDERLOINS						
DESTRAPPED TENDERS	174.00-175.00		174.50	80	174.50	80
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	98.00		98.00	20	98.00	20
DESTRAPPED TENDERS--FRESH	192.00-193.00		192.50	60	192.62	117
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED--FRESH 4/	18.00-19.00		18.78	67	18.78	67
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	39.00		39.00	40	39.00	40
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/						
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN						

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.