



# HONEY

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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There were 150,000 honey producing colonies in Florida in 2008. Colonies were not included that were only for pollination or from which honey was not harvested. Honey production in 2008 from producers with five or more colonies was 11,850,000 pounds, four percent above 2007. Florida ranked fourth in production behind North Dakota, South Dakota and California. The average honey yield was 79 pounds per colony, eight pounds more than in 2007. Producers received an average of \$1.30 per pound for the honey, up 31 cents per pound from the previous year. The value of Florida honey production in 2008 was \$15.4 million, up from the 2007 value of \$11.2 million.

**FLORIDA: Number of Colonies, Honey Production, Value, and Stocks, 1999-2008**

Year	Colonies of bees <sup>1/</sup>	Honey				
		Yield per colony	Production	Price Per pound	Value	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup>
	<i>1,000 colonies</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>
1999	228	102	23,256	53	12,326	4,186
2000	232	105	24,360	54	13,154	2,923
2001	220	100	22,000	64	14,080	3,432
2002	220	93	20,460	114	23,324	2,026
2003	210	71	14,910	132	19,681	1,491
2004	205	98	20,090	100	20,090	2,009
2005	160	86	13,760	86	11,834	2,477
2006	170	81	13,770	101	13,908	1,790
2007	160	71	11,360	99	11,246	1,363
2008	150	79	11,850	130	15,405	1,304

<sup>1/</sup> Operations with 5 or more colonies.

<sup>2/</sup> Stocks in producers' hands.

**UNITED STATES:** Honey production in 2008 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 161 million pounds, up eight percent from 2007. There were 2.30 million colonies producing honey in 2008, down six percent from 2007. Yield per colony averaged 69.9 pounds, up 15 percent from the 60.7 pounds in 2007. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 50.4 million pounds on December 15, 2008, down four percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

The 2008 all honey price was 141.0 cents, up 31 percent from 107.7 cents in 2007. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, cooperatives, and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2007 crop reflect honey sold in 2007 and 2008.

**UNITED STATES: Number of Colonies, Honey Production, Value and Stocks, 1999-2008**

Year	Colonies of bees <sup>1/</sup>	Honey				
		Yield per colony	Production	Price per pound <sup>2/</sup>	Value	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>3/</sup>
	<i>1,000 colonies</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>
1999	2,688	76.4	205,250	60.1	126,075	79,375
2000	2,620	84.1	220,339	59.7	132,742	85,328
2001	2,506	74.0	185,461	70.4	132,225	64,556
2002	2,574	66.7	171,718	132.7	228,338	39,393
2003	2,599	70.0	181,727	138.7	253,106	40,785
2004	2,556	71.8	183,582	106.9	196,259	61,222
2005	2,413	72.4	174,818	91.8	160,428	62,478
2006	2,393	64.7	154,907	103.6	160,484	60,548
2007 <sup>4/</sup>	2,443	60.7	148,341	107.7	159,763	52,635
2008 <sup>5/</sup>	2,301	69.9	160,861	141.0	226,814	50,445

<sup>1/</sup> Operations with 5 or more colonies.

<sup>2/</sup> Weighted by reported sales.

<sup>3/</sup> Stocks in producers' hands.

<sup>4/</sup> Revised.

<sup>5/</sup> Preliminary.

**UNITED STATES: Honey Prices by Color Class and Buyer, 2007 and 2008**

Color class	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>Cents per pound</i>					
Water white, extra white, and white	103.0	138.6	172.8	192.4	104.6	141.2
Extra light amber	97.5	133.6	188.0	205.4	106.4	139.1
Light amber, amber, and dark amber	93.8	125.5	218.3	235.7	112.5	139.6
All other honey, area specialties	132.7	135.7	291.1	302.9	175.6	197.6
All honey	99.9	134.0	204.6	219.7	107.7	141.0

**HONEY: Number of Colonies, Production, Stocks, and Value, 2007-2008 <sup>1/</sup>**

State	Number of colonies		Yield per colony		Production		Stocks Dec 15 <sup>2/</sup>		Average price per pound		Value of production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 colonies</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 pounds</i>				<i>Cents</i>		<i>1,000 dollars</i>	
Alabama	11	9	56	66	616	594	209	214	149	186	918	1,105
Arizona	30	25	64	64	1,920	1,600	902	336	126	125	2,419	2,000
Arkansas	28	28	80	75	2,240	2,100	672	525	95	131	2,128	2,751
California	340	360	40	51	13,600	18,360	3,672	4,039	104	141	14,144	25,888
Colorado	31	27	51	45	1,581	1,215	838	656	115	150	1,818	1,823
<b>Florida</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>11,360</b>	<b>11,850</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>11,246</b>	<b>15,405</b>
Georgia	60	55	58	71	3,480	3,905	522	312	119	149	4,141	5,818
Hawaii	10	10	92	90	920	900	285	225	170	148	1,564	1,332
Idaho	92	90	41	40	3,772	3,600	1,848	1,440	115	142	4,338	5,112
Illinois	9	8	63	56	567	448	374	116	249	246	1,412	1,102
Indiana	8	6	53	67	424	402	119	129	150	161	636	647
Iowa	26	24	81	62	2,106	1,488	1,221	580	131	156	2,759	2,321
Kansas	14	10	40	61	560	610	196	128	118	152	661	927
Kentucky	4	4	61	39	244	156	54	27	212	236	517	368
Louisiana	29	29	89	77	2,581	2,233	413	246	108	133	2,787	2,970
Maine	9	7	26	42	234	294	59	79	132	150	309	441
Michigan	72	71	64	73	4,608	5,183	2,350	2,021	119	143	5,484	7,412
Minnesota	130	122	68	78	8,840	9,516	2,564	2,569	104	139	9,194	13,227
Mississippi	15	14	92	98	1,380	1,372	166	110	91	130	1,256	1,784
Missouri	14	11	46	53	644	583	148	152	112	178	721	1,038
Montana	135	134	68	70	9,180	9,380	2,479	4,596	99	137	9,088	12,851
Nebraska	45	36	49	67	2,205	2,412	1,477	1,254	103	142	2,271	3,425
Nevada	10	10	28	29	280	290	67	52	299	237	837	687
New Jersey	9	9	57	40	513	360	185	122	196	158	1,005	569
New Mexico	6	6	59	48	354	288	138	95	142	148	503	426
New York	53	50	57	70	3,021	3,500	1,843	1,260	138	150	4,169	5,250
North Carolina	12	12	45	52	540	624	76	137	249	212	1,345	1,323
North Dakota	420	390	74	90	31,080	35,100	9,013	8,424	96	135	29,837	47,385
Ohio	14	14	61	53	854	742	376	371	177	188	1,512	1,395
Oregon	46	50	43	43	1,978	2,150	1,088	1,097	131	148	2,501	3,182
Pennsylvania	25	23	42	48	1,050	1,104	326	276	170	165	1,785	1,822
South Dakota	255	225	52	95	13,260	21,375	10,608	11,970	102	134	13,525	28,643
Tennessee	7	7	65	61	455	427	114	149	199	204	905	871
Texas	105	77	82	64	8,610	4,928	1,550	1,380	96	134	8,266	6,604
Utah	28	28	42	48	1,176	1,344	270	242	113	156	1,329	2,097
Vermont	5	5	64	66	320	330	96	119	170	179	544	591
Virginia	6	6	46	42	276	252	63	45	243	218	671	549
Washington	46	41	44	44	2,024	1,804	648	722	125	150	2,530	2,706
West Virginia	6	6	48	43	288	258	95	49	209	198	602	511
Wisconsin	60	58	84	80	5,040	4,640	3,024	2,366	122	140	6,149	6,496
Wyoming	43	39	80	61	3,440	2,379	894	381	100	137	3,440	3,259
Other States <sup>3/</sup>	15	15	48	51	720	765	230	130	266	229	1,915	1,752
United States <sup>4/</sup>	2,443	2,301	60.7	69.9	148,341	160,861	52,635	50,445	107.7	141.0	159,763	226,814

<sup>1/</sup> 2007 data revised.

<sup>2/</sup> Does not include stocks under loan.

<sup>3/</sup> CT, DE, MD, NH, OK, RI, and SC not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>4/</sup> U.S. price weighted by survey expanded sales.