



PRESS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507

Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov

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Regional Contacts

Phone: 1-800-435-5883

Email: nassrfonwr@usda.gov

- Washington – Dennis Koong, Regional Director
- Idaho – Ben Johnson, State Statistician
- Oregon – Dave Losh, State Statistician
- Alaska – Andrew Brosier, State Statistician

January 1 Honey Bee Colonies Down 1 Percent for Operations with Five or More Colonies

Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in the United States on January 1, 2024 totaled 2.71 million colonies, down 1 percent from January 1, 2023. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2024, was 2.71 million colonies. During 2023, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.73 million, 2.71 million, 2.92 million, and 2.82 million colonies, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2024, was 396,820 colonies, or 15 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2024, was 288,190 colonies, or 11 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2023, colonies lost totaled 378,190 colonies, or 14 percent, the highest number lost of any quarter surveyed in 2023. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the lowest number of colonies lost was October through December, with 254,520 colonies lost, or 9 percent.

Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2024 was 404,100 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April through June 2024 was 617,420. During the quarter of April through June 2023, the number of colonies added were 618,350 colonies, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2023. The quarter of October through December 2023 added 118,840 colonies, the least number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2023.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2024 was 215,070 colonies, or 8 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2024, the number of colonies renovated were 521,790 colonies, or 19 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April through June 2023 with 485,640 colonies renovated, or 18 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2023 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was January through March 2023, with 113,440, or 4 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nucleus (nuc) colony or package.

Varroa Mites Top Colony Stressor for Operations with Five or More Colonies

Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies during all quarters surveyed in 2023. The period with the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites was April through June 2023 at 52.0 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January through March 2024 and April through June 2024 are 43.3 percent and 54.8 percent, respectively.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: January 1, 2023 and January-March 2023

State	January 1 number of colonies	January-March					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	165,000	167,000	12,500	7	4,000	8,000	5
Oregon.....	77,000	97,000	8,000	8	1,500	500	1
Washington.....	65,000	99,000	13,500	14	270	250	(Z)
United States	2,729,750	(X)	373,880	14	324,400	113,440	4

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ January 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the January 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the January 1 number of colonies.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: April 1, 2023 and April-June 2023

State	April 1 number of colonies	April-June					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	82,000	132,000	7,000	5	22,000	11,000	8
Oregon.....	91,000	95,000	23,000	24	29,000	31,000	33
Washington.....	87,000	123,000	4,400	4	18,500	15,500	13
United States	2,706,270	(X)	378,190	14	618,350	485,640	18

(X) Not applicable.

¹ April 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the April 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the April 1 number of colonies.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: July 1, 2023 and July-September 2023

State	July 1 number of colonies	July-September					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	125,000	154,000	8,000	5	1,800	11,000	7
Oregon.....	101,000	112,000	11,500	10	5,000	28,000	25
Washington.....	67,000	82,000	2,400	3	1,900	3,300	4
United States	2,923,860	(X)	281,720	10	147,310	209,200	7

(X) Not applicable.

¹ July 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the July 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the July 1 number of colonies.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: October 1, 2023 and October-December 2023

State	October 1 number of colonies	October-December					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	148,000	215,000	4,000	2	1,400	5,000	2
Oregon	107,000	113,000	6,500	6	760	10,000	9
Washington	80,000	92,000	19,000	21	40	1,700	2
United States	2,815,960	(X)	254,520	9	118,840	139,300	5

(X) Not applicable.

¹ October 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the October 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the October 1 number of colonies.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: January 1, 2024 and January-March 2024

State	January 1 number of colonies	January-March					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	195,000	195,000	23,000	12	4,200	760	(Z)
Oregon	90,000	101,000	8,000	8	1,300	5,500	5
Washington	45,000	107,000	6,500	6	3,500	570	1
United States	2,705,350	(X)	396,820	15	404,100	215,070	8

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ January 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the January 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the January 1 number of colonies.

Number of Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: April 1, 2024 and April-June 2024

State	April 1 number of colonies	April-June					
		Maximum colonies ¹	Lost colonies	Percent lost ²	Added colonies	Renovated colonies ³	Percent renovated ⁴
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho	112,000	130,000	8,000	6	26,000	29,000	22
Oregon	95,000	105,000	9,000	9	21,000	13,500	13
Washington	106,000	128,000	35,000	27	20,000	24,000	19
United States	2,709,370	(X)	288,190	11	617,420	521,790	19

(X) Not applicable.

¹ April 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

² Percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent lost is the number of lost colonies divided by the April 1 number of colonies.

³ Defined as any surviving colony that was requeened or received new honey bees through nuc or package.

⁴ Percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by maximum colonies except for the United States, where percent renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by the April 1 number of colonies.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: January-March 2023

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	12.1	2.8	(Z)	5.3	1.2	6.0
Oregon.....	28.7	13.1	6.0	(Z)	11.4	2.0
Washington.....	12.1	2.4	2.3	2.5	6.4	4.5
United States	39.9	13.4	7.3	9.9	14.7	11.1

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: April-June 2023

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	40.9	6.7	5.9	5.7	1.3	1.4
Oregon.....	27.9	9.3	3.5	14.3	4.3	(Z)
Washington.....	41.6	1.0	6.1	9.2	4.3	(Z)
United States	52.0	14.3	6.6	10.5	13.8	6.1

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: July-September 2023

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	18.3	3.1	4.4	1.7	1.8	1.7
Oregon	64.0	21.2	26.6	24.2	26.4	1.2
Washington	12.0	1.9	1.4	4.7	(Z)	0.9
United States	32.5	7.6	4.0	7.7	6.8	3.5

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: October-December 2023

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	55.3	1.0	10.2	8.3	0.8	1.2
Oregon	51.1	2.5	3.0	0.5	0.7	1.4
Washington	46.5	1.2	6.9	0.9	8.9	24.2
United States	46.5	11.1	4.1	10.2	9.3	5.9

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: January-March 2024

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	27.4	5.4	6.0		5.7	1.0
Oregon.....	24.3	1.5	22.6	22.3		(Z)
Washington.....	18.4		(Z)	-	2.8	8.8
United States	43.3	15.0	10.9	12.4	10.6	9.1

- Represents zero.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.

Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: April-June 2024

[Percent of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during the quarter]

State	Varroa mites	Other pests and parasites ¹	Diseases ²	Pesticides	Other ³	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho	32.7	6.6	3.0	1.2	12.2	(Z)
Oregon.....	5.3	0.9	3.5	2.2	(Z)	
Washington.....	54.0	11.7	2.3	9.8	19.1	11.6
United States	54.8	27.5	3.3	15.4	18.0	4.3

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

¹ Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

² Includes American and European foulbrood, chalkbrood, stonebrood, paralysis (acute and chronic), kashmir, deformed wing, sacbrood, IAPV, Lake Sinai II, etc.

³ Includes weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damage/destroyed, etc.



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