



# PRESS RELEASE



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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## **January 1 Honey Bee Colonies in the U.S. Down Slightly for Operations with Five or More Colonies**

**Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies** in the United States on January 1, 2017 totaled 2.62 million colonies, down slightly from January 1, 2016. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2017 was 2.89 million colonies. During 2016, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.62 million, 2.80 million, 3.18 million, and 3.03 million colonies, respectively.

**Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies** from January through March 2017, was 362 thousand colonies, or 14 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2017 was 226 thousand colonies, or 8 percent. During the quarter of October through December 2016, colonies lost totaled 502 thousand colonies, or 17 percent, the highest of any quarter in 2016. The quarter in 2016 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April through June, with 330 thousand colonies lost, or 12 percent.

**Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies** from January through March 2017 was 586 thousand colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April through June 2017 was 653 thousand. During the quarter of April through June 2016, 737 thousand colonies were added, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2016. The quarter of October through December 2016 added 125 thousand colonies, the least number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter of 2016.

**Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies** from January through March 2017 was 240 thousand colonies, or 9 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2017, 806 thousand colonies, or 28 percent, were renovated. The quarter in 2016 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April through June with 561 thousand colonies renovated, or 20 percent. The quarter in 2016 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was October through December 2016, with 60.4 thousand or 2 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nuc or package.

**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, 2016 and January-March 2016**

State	January 1 number of colonies	January-March					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	91,000	98,000	8,500	9	5,500	3,300	3
Oregon.....	68,000	92,000	2,900	3	3,800	1,300	1
Washington.....	77,000	146,000	13,500	9	5,500	1,200	1
United States .....	2,619,940	(X)	416,100	16	571,880	245,060	9

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> January 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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, 2016 and April-June 2016**

State	April 1 number of colonies	April-June					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	60,000	80,000	6,000	8	19,000	5,500	7
Oregon.....	77,000	132,000	4,300	3	19,000	16,000	12
Washington.....	91,000	143,000	6,000	4	21,000	11,500	8
United States .....	2,801,470	(X)	329,820	12	736,920	561,160	20

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> April 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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, 2016 and July-September 2016**

State	July 1 number of colonies	July-September					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	79,000	131,000	13,000	10	1,900	2,800	2
Oregon.....	107,000	112,000	7,500	7	2,900	4,300	4
Washington.....	57,000	74,000	5,000	7	7,500	2,000	3
United States .....	3,181,180	(X)	397,290	12	217,320	282,130	9

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> July 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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, 2016 and October-December 2016**

State	October 1 number of colonies	October-December					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	121,000	143,000	15,500	11	5,000	420	(Z)
Oregon .....	98,000	124,000	9,500	8	1,500	1,000	1
Washington .....	65,000	97,000	9,000	9	3,100	130	(Z)
United States .....	3,032,060	(X)	502,350	17	124,660	60,390	2

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> October 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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, 2017 and January-March 2017**

State	January 1 number of colonies	January-March					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	95,000	99,000	8,500	9	2,000	280	(Z)
Oregon .....	71,000	90,000	8,000	9	7,500	1,400	2
Washington .....	68,000	104,000	9,000	9	8,500	-	-
United States .....	2,615,590	(X)	361,850	14	586,240	239,580	9

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> January 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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, 2017 and April-June 2017**

State	April 1 number of colonies	April-June					
		Maximum colonies <sup>1</sup>	Lost colonies	Percent lost <sup>2</sup>	Added colonies	Renovated colonies <sup>3</sup>	Percent renovated <sup>4</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(percent)	(number)	(number)	(percent)
Idaho .....	61,000	78,000	9,500	12	24,000	31,000	40
Oregon .....	84,000	108,000	5,000	5	18,000	24,000	22
Washington .....	89,000	132,000	6,500	5	36,000	21,000	16
United States .....	2,886,030	(X)	225,680	8	653,470	806,170	28

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> January 1 number of colonies plus all colonies moved into that state during the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

**Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies—Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and United States: January-March 2016**

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	31.5	2.3	2.1	5.9	5.4	1.4
Oregon.....	20.4	15.0	5.3	(Z)	2.4	0.3
Washington.....	23.3	10.5	1.3	1.7	1.9	5.1
United States .....	34.6	12.6	6.2	10.9	6.9	5.4

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2016**

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	21.2	4.8	2.7	3.1	5.4	2.7
Oregon.....	52.7	14.5	9.9	2.6	16.7	6.0
Washington.....	40.9	11.4	3.3	3.1	11.1	0.6
United States .....	53.4	16.3	9.5	12.4	12.3	4.1

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2016**

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	25.3	4.7	4.5	7.6	6.0	3.3
Oregon.....	52.9	18.5	12.5	9.6	5.1	1.5
Washington.....	65.2	1.4	0.9	19.1	4.3	0.1
United States .....	46.1	15.6	6.7	15.1	9.3	4.5

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2016

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	31.9	0.8	4.8	0.2	4.2	3.0
Oregon .....	25.5	2.8	13.0	2.8	2.6	1.3
Washington .....	21.4	4.6	3.7	9.1	4.5	0.3
United States .....	46.6	16.9	8.3	9.4	10.1	6.4

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2017

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	74.2	42.3	42.3	21.2	1.7	0.4
Oregon .....	28.7	8.5	10.1	9.1	15.4	8.5
Washington .....	6.8	0.1	(Z)	(Z)	8.1	4.4
United States .....	42.2	15.6	7.1	8.9	7.2	7.4

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2017

[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 <sup>1</sup>	Diseases <sup>2</sup>	Pesticides	Other <sup>3</sup>	Unknown
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Idaho .....	31.2	7.4	3.9	8.2	7.7	4.7
Oregon .....	32.7	9.0	10.2	3.6	14.8	9.6
Washington .....	19.5	4.7	3.6	6.7	3.1	0.4
United States .....	41.6	11.7	4.3	12.9	6.6	4.4

<sup>1</sup> Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetle, wax moths, etc.

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

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

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