



# NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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## 2021 KANSAS HONEY BEE COLONIES

**MANHATTAN, Kan. August 2, 2021 - Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies** in Kansas as of January 1, 2021 totaled 5,000 according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The number of colonies in Kansas on April 1, 2021 was 7,500. During 2020, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 4,500, 7,500, 7,000, and 6,000, respectively.

**Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies**, during the quarter of January-March 2021, was 1,400 colonies or 22% lost. During the quarter of April-June 2021, 870 colonies or 11% of colonies were lost. The 2020 October-December quarter showed the highest number of lost honey bee colonies of any quarter in 2020, at 2,400, or 34%. The quarter in 2020 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April-June, with 680 colonies lost, or 9%.

**Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies**, during the quarter of January-March 2021, was 2,300 colonies. The number of colonies added during the April-June 2021 quarter was 4,900. The quarter of January-March 2020, added 2,000 colonies, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter in 2020. The quarter of October-December 2020, at 460 added, showed the lowest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter in 2020.

**Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies**, during the quarter of January-March 2021, was 10 colonies. The number of colonies renovated during the quarter of April-June 2021 was 1,600. During April-June 2020, 1,800 colonies were renovated, the highest number of colonies renovated during 2020. The lowest number of honey bee colonies renovated for any quarter in 2020, at 130, occurred during January-March 2020. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nuc or package.

**Varroa mites were the number one stressor for operations with five or more colonies** during all quarters of 2020. The quarter of July-September 2020 showed the highest percentage of varroa mites in 2020, at 93.8%. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January-March 2021, and April-June 2021 were 25.7% and 45.7%, respectively.

Access the National publication for this release at:

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