



NORTHEASTERN REGION HONEY BEE COLONIES REPORT

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
4050 Crums Mill Rd, Harrisburg PA 17112



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April 1 Honey Bee Colonies in U.S. Unchanged from a Year Earlier for Operations with Five or More Colonies

HARRISBURG, PA ---- The number of honey bee colonies in the U.S. on April 1, 2018 totaled 2.69 million for operations with at least five colonies, unchanged from a year earlier, according to King Whetstone, Director of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Northeastern Regional Field Office. On January 1, 2018, the number of honey bee colonies in the U.S. for such operations was 2.63 million, down slightly from 2.64 million a year earlier. The U.S. honey bee colony inventories on July 1 and October 1 in 2017 were 2.99 million and 2.85 million, respectively, for operations with five or more colonies.

Honey bee colony loss in the U.S. during January-March 2018 for operations with at least five colonies totaled 425 thousand colonies, or 16 percent of the colonies at the start of the quarter for such operations, compared to 399 thousand colonies lost during January-March 2017, or 15 percent of the colonies at the start of that quarter. This was tied with October-December 2017 as the highest quarterly percentage loss in 2017. The April-June 2017 and July-September 2017 quarterly percentage losses were 11 percent and 13 percent, respectively.

The number of honey bee colonies added in the U.S. during April-June 2018 by operations with five or more colonies was 726 thousand, compared to the 613 thousand colonies added during the same quarter in 2017 and the 513 thousand colonies added during January-March 2018. The April-June 2017 quarter had the highest quarterly number of added colonies last year.

Renovated honey bee colonies totaled 715 thousand in the U.S. during April-June 2018 for operations with at least five colonies, or 27 percent of the colonies at the start of the quarter for such operations. In 2017, the April-June quarter had the highest quarterly percentage of starting colonies that were renovated, at 28 percent.

Varroa mites were the leading honey bee colony stressor in the U.S. during the first two quarters of this year and all four quarters of 2017.

Please see the tables below for detailed quarterly statistics for the eight published Northeastern Region states (CT, ME, MD, MA, NJ, NY, PA, and VT) and the U.S. Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

These statistics are from the Colony Loss Survey, which the National Agricultural Statistics Service conducted for the first time in May 2015. The survey collects information required by the White House Pollinator Health Task Force's National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators. It provides a statistical benchmark on colony numbers and death loss.

The Honey Bee Colonies report and all other NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

April-June 2018

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies, April-June 2018, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	April 1, 2018 Number of Colonies	April-June 2018					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	3,600	3,600	120	3	340	170	5
Maine	2,200	17,000	1,100	6	430	880	5
Maryland	7,000	8,000	370	5	2,400	1,200	15
Massachusetts	3,600	7,500	260	3	910	350	5
New Jersey	4,400	15,000	270	2	1,200	170	1
New York	20,000	36,000	3,300	9	8,000	2,300	6
Pennsylvania	15,500	19,500	1,100	6	6,000	1,600	8
Vermont	5,500	6,500	520	8	2,600	140	2
United States	2,692,660	(X)	270,000	10	725,650	715,110	27

(X) Not applicable.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by April 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by April 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, April-June 2018, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	11.1	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.4
Maine	1.9	1.1	0.2	1.8	0.6	0.1
Maryland	11.8	3.4	0.8	0.3	4.4	0.4
Massachusetts	6.3	1.1	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.1
New Jersey	16.5	3.3	(Z)	0.1	3.4	0.1
New York	40.8	20.3	15.4	6.0	17.3	3.6
Pennsylvania	31.3	16.2	2.2	2.1	1.6	1.9
Vermont	21.8	1.5	0.7	16.7	1.8	0.1
United States	53.4	19.0	11.4	13.0	14.4	9.1

- Represents zero.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Percentages of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during a quarter.

2 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

January-March 2018

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies, January-March 2018, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	January 1, 2018 Number of Colonies	January-March 2018					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	2,900	2,900	140	5	220	330	11
Maine	1,900	1,900	240	13	40	30	2
Maryland	8,000	8,000	1,500	19	-	190	2
Massachusetts	3,800	3,800	1,000	26	240	290	8
New Jersey	6,500	6,500	730	11	180	190	3
New York	26,000	26,000	3,700	14	400	170	1
Pennsylvania	14,500	14,500	1,500	10	1,600	670	5
Vermont	5,500	5,500	570	10	20	-	-
United States	2,631,220	(X)	425,220	16	512,940	288,750	11

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by January 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by January 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, January-March 2018, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	14.5	0.7	-	0.8	7.7	3.5
Maine	23.6	0.6	0.2	-	5.2	7.4
Maryland	18.2	5.6	4.4	1.5	14.3	3.1
Massachusetts	19.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	9.3	7.2
New Jersey	14.9	1.9	-	0.4	3.8	0.8
New York	25.3	11.9	1.4	1.9	8.0	6.0
Pennsylvania	34.4	5.6	3.3	9.3	5.9	9.9
Vermont	17.0	1.2	0.3	0.6	2.0	0.8
United States	40.8	12.7	4.3	10.3	8.7	7.2

- Represents zero.

1 - Percentages of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during a quarter.

2 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

January-March 2017

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies, January-March 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	January 1, 2017 Number of Colonies	January-March 2017					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	3,100	3,100	380	12	100	110	4
Maine	2,700	3,100	1,000	32	100	-	-
Maryland	9,000	9,000	2,100	23	770	260	3
Massachusetts	3,300	3,300	1,500	45	120	110	3
New Jersey	6,000	6,000	490	8	10	-	-
New York	32,000	33,000	6,000	18	520	-	-
Pennsylvania	17,000	18,000	4,000	22	810	390	2
Vermont	6,500	6,500	440	7	-	-	-
United States	2,641,090	(X)	398,650	15	478,240	241,210	9

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by January 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by January 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, January-March 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	51.5	1.5	-	-	6.1	5.6
Maine	23.9	20.9	30.5	8.1	26.3	-
Maryland	11.3	3.3	1.0	1.0	11.9	4.3
Massachusetts	32.5	5.6	3.0	4.5	10.5	5.6
New Jersey	16.3	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.6
New York	20.4	9.4	9.8	4.4	13.2	10.8
Pennsylvania	20.9	2.4	0.8	2.9	3.6	7.2
Vermont	6.0	0.7	2.1	0.2	0.9	2.2
United States	42.2	15.5	7.0	8.9	7.2	7.4

- Represents zero.

1 - Percentages of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during a quarter.

2 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

April-June 2017

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, April-June 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	April 1, 2017 Number of Colonies	April-June 2017					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	3,000	3,000	140	5	2,200	350	12
Maine	2,200	33,000	910	3	1,100	1,400	4
Maryland	8,000	9,500	190	2	3,400	930	10
Massachusetts	2,500	8,000	140	2	1,400	490	6
New Jersey	5,500	21,000	430	2	1,900	660	3
New York	25,000	43,000	1,300	3	16,500	7,500	17
Pennsylvania	15,500	17,500	540	3	7,500	2,300	13
Vermont	6,000	8,000	170	2	390	190	2
United States	2,694,150	(X)	285,590	11	613,360	762,550	28

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by April 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by April 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, April-June 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	9.1	0.2	-	0.5	1.9	0.7
Maine	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.3	2.0	14.8
Maryland	3.3	6.9	0.8	0.3	2.1	1.1
Massachusetts	14.8	12.5	12.9	11.0	0.4	1.6
New Jersey	21.4	5.6	2.3	1.9	0.3	0.8
New York	22.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	8.9	0.1
Pennsylvania	13.5	1.0	0.7	1.5	2.4	1.5
Vermont	3.3	0.3	0.3	-	0.2	0.5
United States	40.9	10.9	4.6	12.3	7.0	4.9

- Represents zero.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Percentages of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during a quarter.

2 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

July-September 2017

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies, July-September 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	July 1, 2017 Number of Colonies	July-September 2017					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	3,500	3,500	130	4	50	20	1
Maine	5,500	6,000	400	7	210	290	5
Maryland	8,500	8,500	1,600	19	1,300	600	7
Massachusetts	9,000	9,000	760	8	790	460	5
New Jersey	16,000	16,000	420	3	280	110	1
New York	59,000	59,000	6,500	11	3,100	9,000	15
Pennsylvania	18,500	18,500	1,500	8	6,000	1,600	9
Vermont	7,500	7,500	180	2	520	270	4
United States	2,994,500	(X)	394,810	13	284,370	449,550	15

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by July 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by July 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, July-September 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	25.1	1.5	0.1	-	13.0	-
Maine	3.4	0.9	0.9	3.9	1.2	0.1
Maryland	8.8	10.1	0.7	1.6	5.1	9.1
Massachusetts	82.0	0.9	0.7	2.3	0.8	0.1
New Jersey	10.7	2.9	-	0.8	0.4	1.9
New York	45.1	19.8	6.2	9.4	13.6	1.8
Pennsylvania	41.4	5.7	2.7	3.7	2.2	0.9
Vermont	16.8	9.0	4.7	(Z)	7.0	0.7
United States	45.5	15.0	4.8	10.9	11.6	4.9

- Represents zero.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Percentages of colonies affected by stressors anytime during the quarter. A colony may be affected by multiple stressors during a quarter.

2 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

October-December 2017

Colony Inventory and Lost, Added, and Renovated Colonies for Operations with Five or More Colonies, October-December 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ¹	October 1, 2017 Number of Colonies	October-December 2017					
		Maximum Colonies ²	Lost Colonies	Percentage Lost ³	Added Colonies	Renovated Colonies ⁴	Percentage Renovated ⁵
Connecticut	4,000	4,000	330	8	190	110	3
Maine	5,500	6,000	60	1	220	110	2
Maryland	8,000	10,500	1,300	12	20	410	4
Massachusetts	6,000	6,000	1,100	18	120	550	9
New Jersey	15,500	15,500	1,200	8	330	270	2
New York	51,000	51,000	3,900	8	820	460	1
Pennsylvania	24,000	24,000	5,500	23	2,500	1,100	5
Vermont	6,500	6,500	470	7	10	10	(Z)
United States	2,849,770	(X)	424,860	15	204,510	213,990	8

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.

1 - Delaware, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island are not published to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

3 - Number of colonies lost divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage lost is the number of lost colonies divided by October 1 number of colonies.

4 - Surviving colonies that were requeened or received new honey bees through nucs or packages.

5 - Number of renovated colonies divided by maximum number of colonies, except for United States, where percentage renovated is the number of renovated colonies divided by October 1 number of colonies.

Percentages of Colonies Affected by Health Stressors for Operations with Five or More Colonies¹, October-December 2017, Published Northeastern States and the United States

State ²	Varroa Mites	Other Pests and Parasites ³	Diseases ⁴	Pesticides	Other ⁵	Unknown
Connecticut	36.4	2.8	-	0.6	1.6	1.6
Maine	24.9	6.2	0.4	-	0.6	-
Maryland	7.9	3.1	0.2	1.1	1.8	7.8
Massachusetts	13.2	1.2	6.7	2.7	1.5	0.3
New Jersey	18.9	6.8	4.4	4.4	3.3	-
New York	22.3	12.7	8.0	5.4	0.4	2.6
Pennsylvania	44.7	5.4	1.0	6.9	2.9	2.3
Vermont	96.6	44.5	22.1	55.2	5.7	1.8
United States	55.3	18.9	9.4	15.0	11.1	7.6

- Represents zero.

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3 - Tracheal mites, nosema, hive beetles, wax moths, etc.

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

5 - Weather, starvation, insufficient forage, queen failure, hive damaged/destroyed, etc.

For the complete "Honey Bee Colonies" report, go to:

<https://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1943>

The "Honey Bee Colonies" report and all other NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

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