



PRESS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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January 1 Honey Bee colonies Up 2 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, 2021 totaled 2.92 million colonies, up 2 percent from January 1, 2020. The number of colonies in the United States on April 1, 2021 was 2.86 million colonies. During 2020, honey bee colonies on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 2.88 million, 2.97 million, 3.18 million, and 3.14 million colonies, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2021, was 372,630 colonies, or 13 percent. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2021 was 255,860 colonies, or 9 percent. During the quarter of October through December 2020, colonies lost totaled 484,920 colonies, or 15 percent, the highest number lost of any quarter surveyed in 2020. The quarter surveyed in 2020 with the lowest number of colonies lost was April through June, with 300,990 colonies lost, or 10 percent.

Honey bee colonies added for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2021 was 308,530 colonies. The number of colonies added during the quarter of April through June 2021 was 677,690. During the quarter of April through June 2020, the number of colonies added were 536,170 colonies, the highest number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2020. The quarter of October through December 2020 added 271,500 colonies, the least number of honey bee colonies added for any quarter surveyed in 2020.

Honey bee colonies renovated for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2021 was 156,270 colonies, or 5 percent. During the quarter of April through June 2021, the number of colonies renovated were 480,380 colonies, or 17 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2020 with the highest number of colonies renovated was April through June with 626,870 colonies renovated, or 21 percent. The quarter surveyed in 2020 with the lowest number of colonies renovated was October through December 2020, with 128,990, or 4 percent. Renovated colonies are those that were requeened or received new honey bees through a nuc 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 2020. The period with the highest percentage of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites was July through September 2020 at 55.7 percent. The percent of colonies reported to be affected by varroa mites during January through March 2021 and April through June 2021 are 31.3 percent and 48.7 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, 2020 and January-March 2020

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	156,000	168,000	18,500	11	4,400	920	1
Oregon.....	97,000	108,000	4,800	4	9,000	1,700	2
Washington.....	49,000	74,000	1,500	2	580	150	(Z)
United States	2,876,100	(X)	415,110	14	511,160	153,390	5

(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, 2020 and April-June 2020

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	48,000	81,000	18,000	22	22,000	29,000	36
Oregon.....	89,000	96,000	2,500	3	11,000	19,000	20
Washington.....	50,000	114,000	3,500	3	5,000	3,300	3
United States	2,972,000	(X)	300,990	10	536,170	626,870	21

(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, 2020 and July-September 2020

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	70,000	85,000	11,000	13	18,500	8,500	10
Oregon.....	102,000	124,000	12,000	10	13,000	28,000	23
Washington.....	94,000	104,000	7,000	7	5,000	8,500	8
United States	3,175,330	(X)	411,490	13	348,280	381,620	12

(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, 2020 and October-December 2020

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	94,000	180,000	19,000	11	8,000	1,700	1
Oregon	122,000	123,000	15,500	13	7,000	2,600	2
Washington	102,000	103,000	16,500	16	6,000	2,000	2
United States	3,135,340	(X)	484,920	15	271,500	128,990	4

(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, 2021 and January-March 2021

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	168,000	171,000	15,000	9	9,000	8,500	5
Oregon	76,000	79,000	3,100	4	2,600	610	1
Washington	48,000	67,000	6,000	9	5,500	850	1
United States	2,923,240	(X)	372,630	13	308,530	156,270	5

(X) Not applicable.

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, 2021 and April-June 2021

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	86,000	120,000	19,500	16	40,000	19,000	16
Oregon	80,000	84,000	3,300	4	25,000	19,500	23
Washington	66,000	122,000	2,900	2	9,500	2,600	2
United States	2,855,070	(X)	255,860	9	677,690	480,380	17

(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 2020

[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	10.4	0.8	(Z)	2.8	2.1	1.9
Oregon.....	24.4	10.4	10.8	14.5	1.3	(Z)
Washington.....	1.7	(Z)	(Z)	0.5	(Z)	(Z)
United States	25.5	8.0	4.4	5.0	5.6	5.4

(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 2020

[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	44.2	10.9	11.1	8.6	6.9	5.8
Oregon.....	28.0	1.7	7.5	2.2	5.9	0.7
Washington.....	10.6	(Z)	0.7	1.0	1.3	(Z)
United States	43.1	12.5	5.5	6.2	11.2	5.4

(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 2020

[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	45.0	2.6	6.7	10.9	9.0	3.8
Oregon	42.4	2.5	3.8	0.5	7.1	2.4
Washington	19.2	(Z)	(Z)	10.5	1.3	0.6
United States	55.7	12.8	6.1	21.7	13.8	4.1

(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: October-December 2020

[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	52.1	8.9	4.3	4.8	4.8	5.4
Oregon	28.5	4.6	3.7	1.6	3.8	3.9
Washington	25.5	20.2	22.9	2.6	4.7	4.4
United States	48.6	11.0	6.8	8.0	4.1	6.3

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 2021

[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	33.3	10.7	-	9.5	1.8	1.7
Oregon.....	12.9	10.7	1.4	(Z)	1.2	0.6
Washington.....	15.5	2.4	1.0	(Z)	5.3	(Z)
United States	31.3	8.8	2.2	6.3	6.5	3.3

- 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 2021

[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	31.9	1.9	5.4	9.9	2.0	6.2
Oregon.....	17.2	8.3	6.2	10.1	6.5	1.8
Washington.....	31.7	19.1	18.4	1.2	4.7	(Z)
United States	48.7	12.8	5.5	12.3	11.3	3.9

(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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