



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Honey Bee Colonies

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Cooperating with the Arkansas Department of Agriculture,  
Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

This report contains the results from the **Quarterly Colony Loss** surveys. These data are also posted in a more detailed report at <https://www.nass.usda.gov>. Thanks to all who responded to these surveys.

**January 1, 2024 Honey Bee Colonies Up 11 Percent for Operations with Five or More Colonies**

Honey bee colonies for operations with five or more colonies in the Delta Region on January 1, 2024 totaled 88,000 colonies. This is up 11 percent from 79,000 colonies on January 1, 2023. On April 1, 2024, honey bee operations in the Delta Region totaled 104,500 colonies. During 2023, honey bee colonies for the Delta Region on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 were 79,000 colonies, 131,000 colonies, 92,500 colonies, and 101,000 colonies, respectively.

Honey bee colonies lost for operations with five or more colonies from January through March 2024 was 13,900 colonies, or 13 percent, in the Delta Region. The number of colonies lost during the quarter of April through June 2024 was 9,600 colonies, or 9 percent.

**Colonies, Maximum, Lost, Percent Lost, Added, Renovated, and Percent Renovated with Five or More Colonies – Delta Region and United States: January 1, 2024, January-March 2024, April 1, 2024, and April-June 2024**

State	January 1 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)
Arkansas .....	16,000	21,000	1,700	8	260	120	1
Louisiana .....	44,000	44,000	8,500	19	5,500	2,300	5
Mississippi .....	28,000	42,000	3,700	9	10,500	1,500	4
United States .....	2,705,350	(X)	396,820	15	404,100	215,070	8
State	April 1 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)
Arkansas .....	19,500	21,000	2,800	13	5,000	430	2
Louisiana .....	36,000	36,000	1,800	5	3,700	300	1
Mississippi .....	49,000	49,000	5,000	10	13,500	6,000	12
United States .....	2,709,370	(X)	288,190	11	617,420	521,790	19

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Number of colonies on the first day of the quarter 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 number of colonies on the first day of the quarter.

<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 number of colonies on the first day of the quarter.

**Colony Health Stressors with Five or More Colonies – Delta Region and United States:  
January-March 2023, April-June 2023, July-September 2023, October-December 2023,  
January-March 2024, and April-June 2024**

State	January-March 2023					
	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)
Arkansas .....	62.2	51.4	5.3	24.7	2.0	5.9
Louisiana .....	48.2	10.0	2.4	2.0	2.9	6.0
Mississippi .....	19.6	9.6	1.1	7.5	15.4	2.7
United States .....	39.9	13.4	7.3	9.9	14.7	11.1
State	April-June 2023					
	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)
Arkansas .....	22.4	13.1	2.8	7.4	1.9	3.1
Louisiana .....	32.0	3.6	(Z)	17.5	24.7	0.8
Mississippi .....	12.8	3.6	1.0	3.3	9.0	2.5
United States .....	52.0	14.3	6.6	10.5	13.8	6.1
State	July -September 2023					
	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)
Arkansas .....	38.6	16.7	3.1	24.3	5.0	4.2
Louisiana .....	29.4	20.5	(Z)	-	5.6	2.0
Mississippi .....	34.9	2.9	(Z)	1.3	12.0	1.3
United States .....	32.5	7.6	4.0	7.7	6.8	3.5
State	October-December 2023					
	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)
Arkansas .....	60.8	9.6	8.5	8.3	0.6	2.6
Louisiana .....	10.1	1.1	-	1.1	1.7	1.4
Mississippi .....	16.0	0.6	-	0.8	12.9	3.1
United States .....	46.5	11.1	4.1	10.2	9.3	5.9
State	January-March 2024					
	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)
Arkansas .....	32.0	14.2	0.9	2.0	3.4	4.3
Louisiana .....	11.0	2.8	3.1	3.5	5.5	4.7
Mississippi .....	25.0	7.5	3.9	4.1	3.1	7.8
United States .....	43.3	15.0	10.9	12.4	10.6	9.1
State	April-June 2024					
	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)
Arkansas .....	34.4	14.6	2.7	12.7	15.0	8.6
Louisiana .....	17.5	1.4	-	1.0	16.8	1.1
Mississippi .....	24.7	1.3	-	(Z)	(Z)	14.3
United States .....	54.8	27.5	3.3	15.4	18.0	4.3

- Represents zero.

(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.