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United States Honey Production Down 14 Percent in 2025

United States honey production in 2025 totaled 116 million pounds, down 14 percent from 2024. There were 2.41 million colonies producing honey in 2025, down 7 percent from 2024. Yield per colony averaged 48.0 pounds, down 7 percent from 2024. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 34.8 million pounds on December 15, 2025, down 15 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey Prices Up 27 Percent in 2025

United States honey prices increased 27 percent during 2025 to \$3.05 per pound, compared to \$2.41 per pound in 2024. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2024 crop reflect honey sold in 2024 and 2025. Some 2024 crop honey was sold in 2025, which caused some revisions to the 2024 crop prices.

Price Paid per Queen was 22 Dollars in 2025

The average prices paid in 2025 for honey bee queens, packages, and nucs were \$22, \$110, and \$130, respectively. Pollination income for 2025 was \$225 million, down 1 percent from 2024. Other income from honey bees in 2025 was \$48.0 million, down 7 percent from 2024. These estimates, along with expenditure and apiary worker information, can be found on page 4 of this report.

Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2024

[Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State]

State	Honey producing colonies ¹	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks December 15 ²	Average price per pound ³	Value of production ⁴
	(1,000)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
California	310	43	13,330	3,466	1.96	26,127
Florida	124	33	4,092	532	3.14	12,849
Georgia	64	29	1,856	204	3.46	6,422
Idaho	114	22	2,508	351	2.19	5,493
Iowa	41	67	2,747	577	3.82	10,494
Louisiana	68	50	3,400	1,156	2.53	8,602
Michigan	82	61	5,002	850	3.07	15,356
Minnesota	127	54	6,858	3,360	1.90	13,030
Mississippi	29	80	2,320	278	3.42	7,934
Montana	142	71	10,082	2,823	2.21	22,281
New York	52	53	2,756	965	5.42	14,938
North Carolina	15	40	600	168	6.30	3,780
North Dakota	490	74	36,260	7,977	1.85	67,081
Ohio	22	57	1,254	715	5.44	6,822
Oregon	84	34	2,856	800	2.58	7,368
Pennsylvania	23	52	1,196	502	5.58	6,674
South Dakota	250	53	13,250	8,745	2.75	36,438
Texas	89	46	4,094	2,252	2.41	9,867
Washington	72	30	2,160	626	3.37	7,279
Wisconsin	57	44	2,508	1,104	3.74	9,380
Other States ^{5 6}	342	45	15,264	3,356	4.03	61,514
United States ^{6 7}	2,597	51.7	134,393	40,807	2.41	323,887

¹ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was harvested during the year. It is possible to harvest honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

⁴ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

⁵ Includes data for States not published in this table.

⁶ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

⁷ United States value of production will not equal summation of States.

Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2025

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State	Honey producing colonies ¹	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks December 15 ²	Average price per pound ³	Value of production ⁴
	(1,000)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
California	315	35	11,025	2,426	2.57	28,334
Florida	113	32	3,616	723	3.94	14,247
Georgia	67	32	2,144	429	3.68	7,890
Idaho	104	29	3,016	754	2.07	6,243
Iowa	34	62	2,108	843	5.43	11,446
Louisiana	62	53	3,286	887	2.47	8,116
Michigan	89	42	3,738	748	3.27	12,223
Minnesota	113	50	5,650	2,656	2.38	13,447
Mississippi	25	89	2,225	200	2.32	5,162
Montana	123	85	10,455	3,346	2.18	22,792
New York	52	56	2,912	1,077	5.14	14,968
North Carolina	16	42	672	161	7.99	5,369
North Dakota	460	67	30,820	5,856	1.89	58,250
Ohio	17	45	765	474	6.45	4,934
Oregon	87	27	2,349	916	2.09	4,909
Pennsylvania	25	57	1,425	456	4.33	6,170
South Dakota	205	40	8,200	5,658	2.44	20,008
Texas	72	30	2,160	1,080	3.91	8,446
Washington	66	31	2,046	818	4.36	8,921
Wisconsin	50	30	1,500	1,140	4.52	6,780
Other States ^{5 6}	317	49	15,604	4,192	3.75	58,515
United States ^{6 7}	2,412	48.0	115,716	34,840	3.05	352,934

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⁵ Includes data for States not published in this table.

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Honey Price by Color Class – United States: 2024 and 2025

Color class	Co-op and private		Retail		All	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
Water white, extra white, white	1.92	2.12	5.34	5.96	1.98	2.29
Extra light amber	2.19	2.55	4.72	7.08	2.44	2.92
Light amber, amber, dark amber	2.50	2.63	6.33	7.25	3.25	3.54
All other honey, area specialties	3.95	4.42	8.53	8.94	5.31	5.91
All honey	2.11	2.45	5.90	7.15	2.41	3.05

Income and Expenditures – United States: 2024 and 2025

[Represents income and expenditures on the total number of colonies, regardless of whether honey was harvested]

Item	2024	2025
	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)
Income		
Pollination income	225,935	224,726
Other income ¹	51,778	47,964
Expenditures		
Varroa control and treatment	16,634	22,231
Other colony issues ²	4,178	6,174
Feed ³	45,423	54,931
Foundation	6,170	5,950
Hives/woodenware	12,684	11,882

¹ Includes sales of queens, queen cells, beeswax, propolis, etc.

² Includes Nosema, tracheal mites, foulbrood, paralysis, Kashmir, cloudy wing, etc.

³ Includes syrup, sugar water, honey, pollen patties, and other feeds.

Queen, Package, and Nuc Prices Paid – United States: 2024 and 2025

[Represents prices paid on the total number of colonies, regardless of whether honey was harvested]

Item	2024	2025
	(dollars)	(dollars)
Queen	18	22
Package	89	110
Nuc	109	130

Apiary Workers – United States: 2024 and 2025

[Represents number of paid and unpaid workers that worked with colonies, regardless of whether honey was harvested]

Item	2024	2025
	(workers)	(workers)
Apiary workers	26,000	27,000

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for honey producing operations are collected from a stratified sample of all known operations with at least 5 honey bee colonies that also meet USDA’s definition of a farm. To qualify as a farm, an operation must be any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year. NASS Regional Field Offices maintain a list of all known operations and use known sources of operations to update their lists. All sampled operations are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail or electronic data reporting (EDR). Those that do not respond by mail or EDR are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person. Prices are collected by color class and marketing channel from operations with five or more colonies.

Estimation Procedures: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. State offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

Revision Policy: The previous year’s estimates are subject to revision when current year’s estimates are made. Revisions are the result of late reports or corrected data. Price revisions can be the result of additional sales reported the following year. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the 5-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date.

Reliability: Since all operations are not included in the sample, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist in evaluating the reliability of the estimates in this report, the “Root Mean Square Error” is shown for selected items in the following table. The “Root Mean Square Error” is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and final estimates. The “Root Mean Square Error” for honey producing colonies over the past 10 years is 0.4 percent. This means that chances are 1 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 2.41 million colonies by more than 0.4 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.8 percent.

Reliability of Honey Estimates

[Based on data for the previous ten years]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Years	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
Honey producing colonies	0.4	0.8	7	-	25	6	-
Honey production	0.5	0.9	475	-	1,660	6	-

- Represents zero.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 692-0069
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter	(202) 690-8632
Tiffany Byrne – Dairy Products.....	(651) 440-7789
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed.....	(202) 720-3040
Kim DaPra – Milk Production and Milk Cows	(202) 720-3278
Fatema Haque – Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised, Poultry	(202) 720-3244
Derron Martin – Catfish, Trout, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products	(202) 690-3237
Ralph Mondesir – Hogs and Pigs	(202) 720-3106
Suzanne Richards – Cost of Pollination, Honey, Honey Bee Colonies, Sheep and Goats	(202) 720-4448
Shulonda Shaw – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses.....	(202) 720-3240
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Chicken Hatchery, Broiler Hatchery.....	(202) 720-6147

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For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@usda.gov.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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Spring 2026

USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 22, 2026

1 p.m. CST

Join in-person or virtually

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USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

Join Us Online or in Kansas City

April 22, 2026

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

1 Memorial Drive

Kansas City, MO 64198

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2026 Spring Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users).