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## **Pelt Production Down 15 Percent**

**Mink pelt production** in the United States in 2019 totaled 2.70 million pelts, down 15 percent from 2018. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 1.02 million pelts. Utah, the second largest producing State, produced 556,710 pelts.

The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total United States production in 2019 is as follows: Black at 52 percent, Mahogany at 17 percent, White at 8 percent, and Sapphire at 6 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 17 percent.

**Value of pelts produced** during the 2019 crop year was \$59.2 million, down 30 percent from \$84.3 million the prior year. The average price per pelt for the 2019 crop year was \$21.90, down \$4.70 from \$26.60 in 2018.

**Female mink bred** to produce kits in 2020 totaled 359,850, down 48 percent from the previous year.

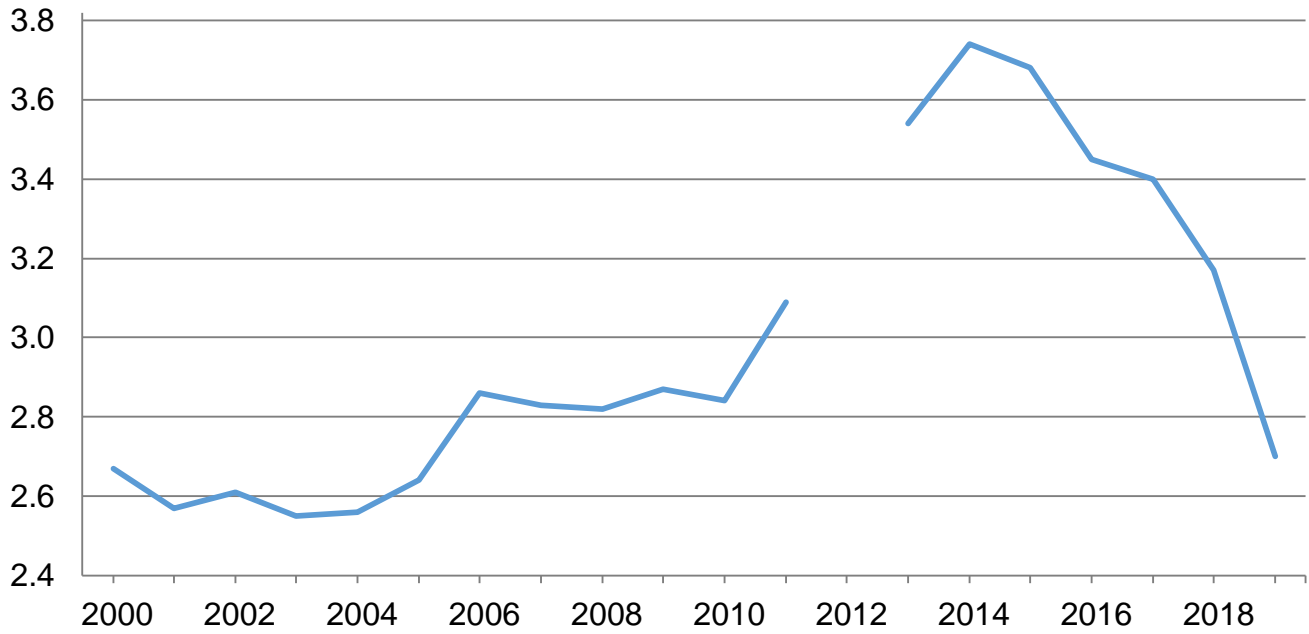
Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2020 by color class as is follows: Black at 52 percent, Mahogany at 20 percent, White at 6 percent, and Sapphire at 5 percent. The remaining classes accounted for 17 percent.

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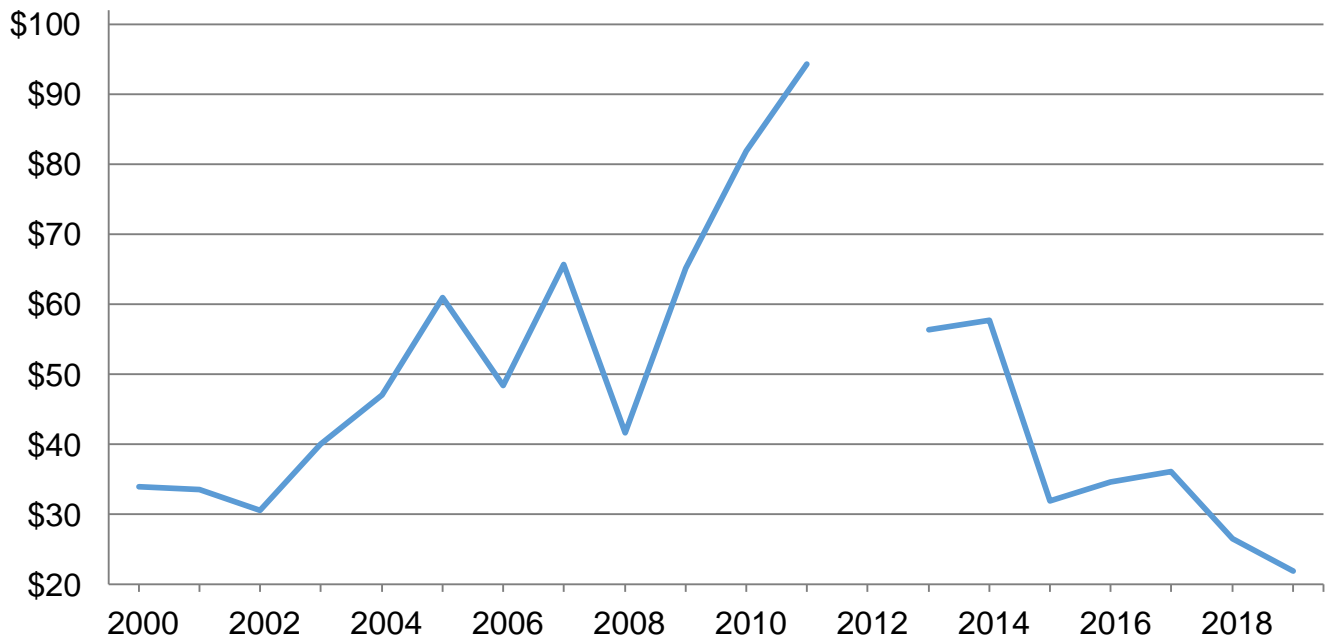
## Pelts Produced – United States

Million



## Average Price Per Pelt – United States

Dollars



### Mink Pelts Produced and Females Bred by Color Class – United States: 2018-2020

Color class	Pelts produced		Females bred to produce kits	
	2018 (number)	2019 (number)	2019 (number)	2020 (number)
Black .....	1,588,170	1,404,600	364,280	186,580
Demi/Wild .....	103,510	90,440	22,890	12,220
Pastel .....	85,470	84,340	22,720	15,060
Sapphire .....	186,890	155,130	38,780	19,220
Blue Iris .....	182,510	118,540	29,830	12,630
Mahogany .....	584,800	468,680	124,760	72,090
Pearl .....	106,600	79,000	21,220	11,810
Lavender .....	38,120	25,790	7,360	2,260
Violet .....	59,870	56,790	12,880	5,000
White .....	220,630	209,030	46,820	20,420
Other .....	12,990	11,860	4,110	2,560
Total .....	3,169,560	2,704,200	695,650	359,850

### Mink Pelts Produced, Average Price, and Value – United States: 2000-2019

Year	Pelts produced	Average price	Value of mink pelts
	(number)	(dollars)	(dollars)
2000 .....	2,666,100	34.00	90,647,400
2001 .....	2,565,300	33.50	85,937,550
2002 .....	2,607,300	30.60	79,783,380
2003 .....	2,549,000	40.10	102,214,900
2004 .....	2,558,100	47.10	120,486,510
2005 .....	2,637,800	60.90	160,642,020
2006 .....	2,858,800	48.40	138,365,920
2007 .....	2,828,200	65.70	185,812,740
2008 .....	2,820,700	41.60	117,341,120
2009 .....	2,866,700	65.10	186,622,170
2010 .....	2,840,200	81.90	232,612,380
2011 .....	3,091,470	94.30	291,525,621
2012 <sup>1</sup> .....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2013 .....	3,544,610	56.30	199,561,543
2014 .....	3,741,150	57.70	215,864,355
2015 .....	3,682,960	32.00	117,854,720
2016 .....	3,454,410	34.70	119,868,027
2017 .....	3,400,080	36.10	122,742,888
2018 .....	3,169,560	26.60	84,310,296
2019 .....	2,704,200	21.90	59,221,980

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Due to sequestration the *Mink* report was suspended.

**Pelts Produced by Color Class – States and United States: 2018**

State	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho .....	103,000	(D)	13,500	14,500	420	145,000
Illinois .....	54,000	-	-	-	-	(D)
Iowa .....	62,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Michigan .....	49,000	-	(D)	350	(D)	1,200
Minnesota .....	(D)	11,000	4,100	(D)	(D)	32,000
Oregon .....	210,000	-	-	2,400	38,000	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	41,000	(D)	(D)	11,000	(D)	(D)
Utah .....	265,000	20,000	30,000	43,000	(D)	270,000
Washington .....	27,000	-	-	-	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin .....	640,000	-	(D)	38,000	93,000	(D)
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	137,170	72,510	37,870	77,640	51,090	136,600
United States .....	1,588,170	103,510	85,470	186,890	182,510	584,800
State	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Other	Total <sup>2</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	302,220
Illinois .....	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	85,000
Iowa .....	-	-	-	(D)	-	106,760
Michigan .....	(D)	3,700	1,200	7,000	(D)	63,200
Minnesota .....	-	-	(D)	31,000	(D)	172,670
Oregon .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	-	258,910
Pennsylvania .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	75,580
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	3,900	708,000
Washington .....	-	-	-	-	-	44,500
Wisconsin .....	-	24,000	(D)	125,000	3,600	1,030,600
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	106,600	10,420	58,670	57,630	5,490	322,120
United States .....	106,600	38,120	59,870	220,630	12,990	3,169,560

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data for states not published in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Pelts Produced by Color Class – States and United States: 2019**

State	Black (number)	Demi/Wild (number)	Pastel (number)	Sapphire (number)	Blue Iris (number)	Mahogany (number)
Idaho .....	88,000	(D)	14,000	13,000	(D)	136,000
Illinois .....	25,000	-	-	-	-	(D)
Iowa .....	35,000	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	36,000
Michigan .....	49,000	-	400	4,100	(D)	(D)
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	3,200	-	(D)	(D)
Oregon .....	182,000	-	-	1,500	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	28,000	(D)	(D)	1,500	(D)	(D)
Utah .....	185,000	33,000	36,000	40,000	(D)	196,000
Washington .....	27,000	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin .....	630,000	-	(D)	42,000	81,000	47,000
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	155,600	57,440	30,740	53,030	37,540	53,680
United States .....	1,404,600	90,440	84,340	155,130	118,540	468,680
State	Pearl (number)	Lavender (number)	Violet (number)	White (number)	Other (number)	Total <sup>2</sup> (number)
Idaho .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	267,740
Illinois .....	(D)	-	-	(D)	-	33,200
Iowa .....	-	-	-	(D)	-	80,450
Michigan .....	-	(D)	1,900	6,000	(D)	65,020
Minnesota .....	-	-	(D)	17,500	(D)	141,950
Oregon .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	-	202,920
Pennsylvania .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	46,270
Utah .....	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	556,710
Washington .....	-	-	-	-	-	27,000
Wisconsin .....	-	15,500	(D)	149,000	720	1,016,220
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	79,000	10,290	54,890	36,530	11,140	266,720
United States .....	79,000	25,790	56,790	209,030	11,860	2,704,200

- Represents zero.

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<sup>1</sup> Includes data for states not published in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits by Color Class – States and United States: 2019**

State	Black	Demi/Wild	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Mahogany
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho .....	22,000	(D)	3,100	3,100	(D)	34,000
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa .....	12,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	440	9,500
Michigan .....	13,000	-	(D)	1,000	(D)	350
Minnesota .....	(D)	3,400	1,200	-	(D)	9,500
Oregon .....	41,000	-	-	580	7,000	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	12,000	(D)	(D)	390	(D)	(D)
Utah .....	59,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	670	54,000
Washington .....	8,000	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin .....	155,000	-	(D)	10,000	18,000	(D)
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	42,280	19,490	18,420	23,710	3,720	17,410
United States .....	364,280	22,890	22,720	38,780	29,830	124,760
State	Pearl	Lavender	Violet	White	Other	Total <sup>2</sup>
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)
Idaho .....	-	(D)	2,800	-	(D)	67,700
Illinois .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Iowa .....	-	-	-	(D)	-	24,250
Michigan .....	-	530	670	1,600	(D)	17,340
Minnesota .....	-	-	(D)	4,500	(D)	40,120
Oregon .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	-	49,150
Pennsylvania .....	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	15,770
Utah .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	158,330
Washington .....	-	-	-	-	-	8,000
Wisconsin .....	-	5,000	(D)	32,000	500	244,000
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	21,220	1,830	9,410	8,720	3,610	70,990
United States .....	21,220	7,360	12,880	46,820	4,110	695,650

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data for states not published in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Female Mink Bred to Produce Kits by Color Class – States and United States: 2020**

State	Black (number)	Demi/Wild (number)	Pastel (number)	Sapphire (number)	Blue Iris (number)	Mahogany (number)
Idaho .....	13,000	(D)	(D)	1,300	(D)	26,000
Illinois .....	(D)	-	-	-	-	(D)
Iowa .....	8,000	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	7,000
Michigan .....	340	-	-	(D)	(D)	-
Minnesota .....	(D)	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	(D)
Oregon .....	27,000	-	-	(D)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania .....	(D)	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	-
Utah .....	35,000	8,000	10,500	(D)	(D)	27,000
Washington .....	4,200	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin .....	77,000	-	(D)	4,600	(D)	4,500
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	22,040	4,220	4,560	13,320	12,630	7,590
United States .....	186,580	12,220	15,060	19,220	12,630	72,090
State	Pearl (number)	Lavender (number)	Violet (number)	White (number)	Other (number)	Total <sup>2</sup> (number)
Idaho .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	42,610
Illinois .....	-	-	-	-	-	(D)
Iowa .....	-	-	-	(D)	-	17,050
Michigan .....	-	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	1,270
Minnesota .....	(D)	-	(D)	3,600	(D)	9,860
Oregon .....	-	-	(D)	-	-	31,440
Pennsylvania .....	-	(D)	(D)	-	(D)	7,920
Utah .....	(D)	-	(D)	-	(D)	103,500
Washington .....	-	-	-	-	-	4,200
Wisconsin .....	-	1,400	550	11,000	(D)	107,670
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	11,810	860	4,450	5,820	2,560	34,330
United States .....	11,810	2,260	5,000	20,420	2,560	359,850

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Includes data for states not published in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Published color classes may not add to the State total to avoid disclosing individual operations.



## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Mink production data are collected from early May through late May from all known producers. Individual NASS Regional Field Offices maintain a list of all known mink producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. All known mink producers are mailed a questionnaire and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those who do not respond by mail are telephoned or enumerated in person.

**Estimation Procedures:** 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 are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS headquarters prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State and US estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year-to-year and item-to-item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made.

**Reliability:** Mink production estimates are based on a census of all known active producers and therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality control 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 mink pelts produced over the past 10 years is 1.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 2.70 million pelts by more than 1.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 3.3 percent.

### Reliability of Mink Estimates

[Based on data for the past 10 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)	
Pelts produced .....	1.8	3.3	45	0	137	6	2
Females bred .....	2.9	5.3	14	0	45	5	2

## 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

Travis Averill, Chief, Livestock Branch .....	(202) 692-0069
Tony Dorn, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section .....	(202) 690-3223
Holly Brenize – Poultry Slaughter.....	(202) 720-0585
Alissa Cowell-Mytar – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses .....	(202) 720-4751
Liana Cuffman – Catfish and Trout, Mink, Census of Aquaculture .....	(202) 720-8784
Fatema Haque – Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 690-3244
Adam Peters – Honey, Honey Bee Colonies .....	(202) 690-4870
Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs, Egg Products .....	(202) 690-3676
Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery .....	(202) 720-6147

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist [notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu](mailto:notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu) in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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](mailto:nass@usda.gov).

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