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Special Note: Color class is no longer published at state level. Future publications will not include mink pelts produced and females bred to produce kits by state.

## **Pelt Production Down 28 Percent**

Mink pelt production in the United States in 2023 totaled 973,510 million pelts, down 28 percent from 2022. Wisconsin, the largest mink producing State, produced 514,130 pelts. Utah, the second largest producing State, produced 138,550 pelts.

The number of pelts, by color class, as a percent of the total United States production in 2023 is as follows: Black at 57 percent, White at 20 percent, Mahogany at 8 percent, and Sapphire at 6 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 9 percent.

Value of pelts produced during the 2023 crop year was \$33.1 million, down 10 percent from \$36.6 million the prior year. The average price per pelt for the 2023 crop year was \$34.00, up 6.80 from \$27.20 in 2022.

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2024 totaled 216,470, down 14 percent from the previous year.

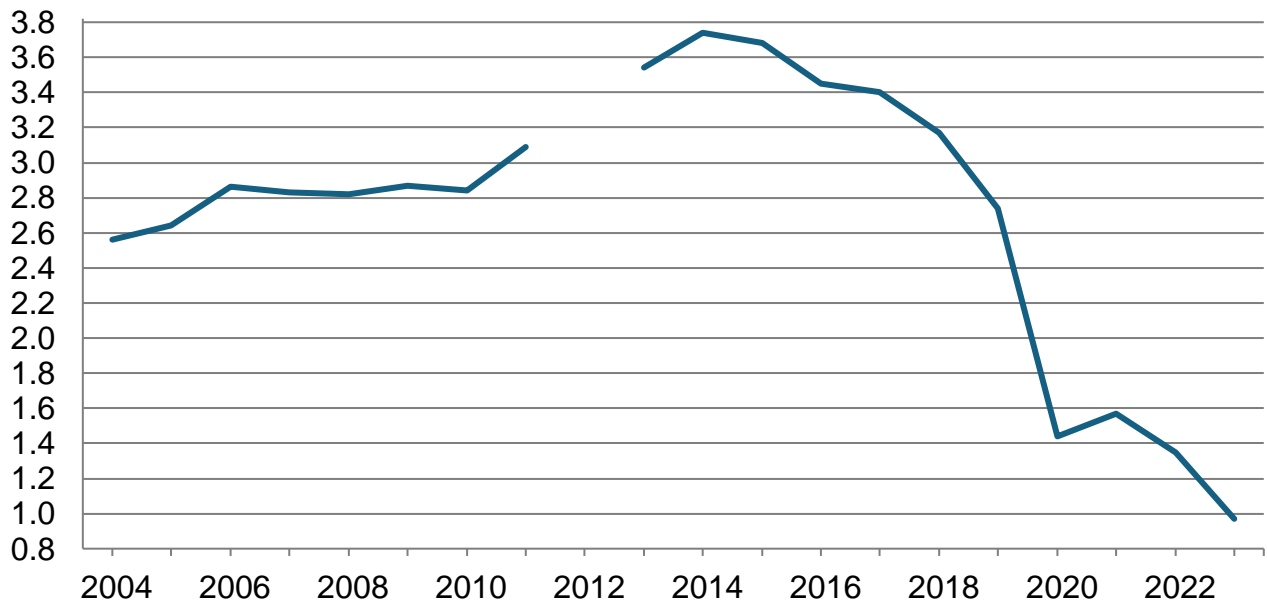
Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2024 by color class as is follows: Black at 58 percent, White at 21 percent, Mahogany at 9 percent, and Sapphire at 7 percent. The remaining classes accounted for 5 percent.

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## Pelts Produced – United States

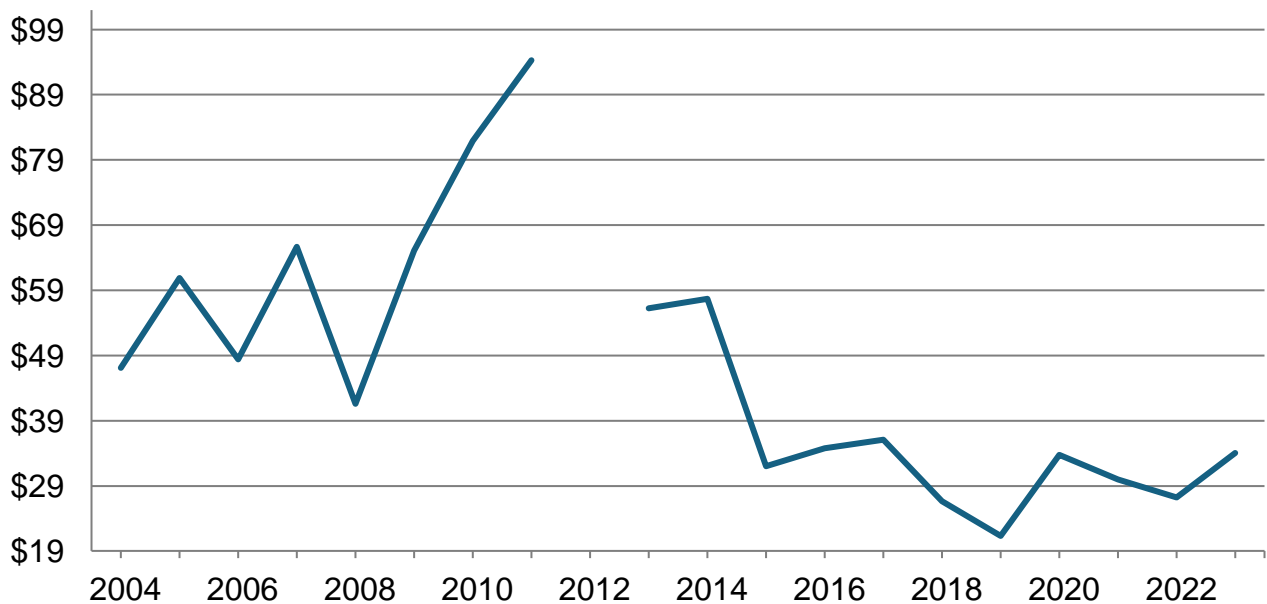
Million



Due to sequestration the Mink Report was suspended in 2012.

## Average Price Per Pelt – United States

Dollars



Due to sequestration the Mink Report was suspended in 2012.

### Mink Pelts Produced and Females Bred by Color Class – United States: 2022-2024

| Color class     | Pelts produced   |                  | Females bred to produce kits |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
|                 | 2022<br>(number) | 2023<br>(number) | 2023<br>(number)             | 2024<br>(number) |
| Black .....     | 691,060          | 552,070          | 143,070                      | 125,550          |
| Demi/Wild ..... | 44,660           | 15,890           | 4,020                        | 330              |
| Pastel .....    | 35,670           | 24,460           | 6,260                        | 4,960            |
| Sapphire .....  | 98,740           | 59,340           | 15,170                       | 14,310           |
| Blue Iris ..... | 26,380           | 21,600           | 5,680                        | 2,960            |
| Mahogany .....  | 133,450          | 79,400           | 20,450                       | 18,570           |
| Pearl .....     | 46,650           | 4,500            | 1,130                        | 210              |
| Lavender .....  | 5,250            | 4,050            | 1,020                        | 1,170            |
| Violet .....    | 15,770           | 4,090            | 1,030                        | 950              |
| White .....     | 219,850          | 195,200          | 49,250                       | 44,510           |
| Other .....     | 28,610           | 12,910           | 3,240                        | 2,950            |
| Total .....     | 1,346,090        | 973,510          | 250,320                      | 216,470          |

### Mink Pelts Produced, Average Price, and Value – United States: 2004-2023

| Year                    | Pelts produced<br>(number) | Average price<br>(dollars) | Value of mink pelts<br>(dollars) |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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 .....              | 2,742,200                  | 21.30                      | 58,408,860                       |
| 2020 .....              | 1,441,760                  | 33.70                      | 48,587,312                       |
| 2021 .....              | 1,565,520                  | 30.00                      | 46,965,600                       |
| 2022 .....              | 1,346,090                  | 27.20                      | 36,613,648                       |
| 2023 .....              | 973,510                    | 34.00                      | 33,099,340                       |

(NA) Not available.

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

**Mink Pelts Produced and Females Bred by State - States and United States: 2022-2024**

| State                           | Pelts produced   |                  | Females bred to produce kits |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
|                                 | 2022<br>(number) | 2023<br>(number) | 2023<br>(number)             | 2024<br>(number) |
| Idaho .....                     | 102,750          | 81,130           | 21,430                       | 15,660           |
| Illinois .....                  | (D)              | (D)              | (D)                          | (D)              |
| Iowa .....                      | 17,250           | (D)              | 1,650                        | (D)              |
| Michigan .....                  | 98,550           | (D)              | 11,930                       | (D)              |
| Minnesota .....                 | (D)              | 9,770            | 2,500                        | 2,600            |
| Oregon .....                    | 75,520           | 75,530           | 19,130                       | 17,600           |
| Pennsylvania .....              | (D)              | (D)              | (D)                          | (D)              |
| Utah .....                      | 276,700          | 138,550          | 35,620                       | 28,650           |
| Washington .....                | (D)              | (D)              | (D)                          | (D)              |
| Wisconsin .....                 | 573,600          | 514,130          | 132,360                      | 118,800          |
| Other States <sup>1</sup> ..... | 201,720          | 154,400          | 25,700                       | 33,160           |
| United States .....             | 1,346,090        | 973,510          | 250,320                      | 216,470          |

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

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

## 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 3.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 973,510 pelts by more than 3.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 5.8 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 ..... | 3.2                    | 5.8                         | 59   | 0        | 137      | 7            | 2            |
| Females bred .....   | 5.8                    | 10.6                        | 20   | 0        | 59       | 6            | 3            |

## 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 |
| Greg Lemmons, Acting Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section ..... | (202) 720-9526 |
| Holly Brenize – Poultry Slaughter .....                                    | (202) 720-0585 |
| Liana Cuffman – Catfish and Trout, Mink, Census of Aquaculture .....       | (202) 720-8784 |
| Fatema Haque – Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....                       | (202) 720-3244 |
| Derron Martin – Chicken Hatchery, Egg Products .....                       | (202) 690-3237 |
| Seth Riggins – Honey, Honey Bee Colonies .....                             | (202) 690-4870 |
| Shulonda Shaw – Cold Storage, Capacity of Refrigerated Warehouses .....    | (202) 720-3240 |
| Autumn Stone – Layers, Eggs .....  | (202) 690-3676 |
| Takiyah Walker – Broiler Hatchery .....                                    | (202) 720-6147 |

## Access to NASS Reports

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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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