

**LOUISIANA BIG AND SMALL GAME HARVEST SURVEY FOR 2024-2025**

**Prepared by**

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Big and small game harvest indices for the 2024-25 hunting season were obtained through an online survey based on responses from purchasers of basic resident hunting licenses or any other resident license that included the basic resident hunting privileges for 2024-25. An email was sent to randomly selected hunters with up to two follow-up emails at one-week intervals for non-respondents. Since the 2012-13 season, senior license holders (those 60 and older that now are required to have a license) have been included in the survey. This was done because senior license holders make up a significant proportion of the total license holders (20.4% for the 2024-25 hunting season). The 2024-25 Game Harvest Survey (Appendix 1) was emailed to 17,748 (6% sample) residents with a valid email address. The email had a link to the online survey, only one response per computer IP address was allowed. Only responses from respondents that hunted during the 2024-25 hunting season were included in the report. The survey questionnaires were completed and returned by 2,379 individuals (13.4% return rate) before the cutoff date of 31 May. The estimated harvest and hunter efforts for the 2024-25 hunting seasons (Tables 1 and 8) utilized 1,641 responses. The procedures used to calculate the 2024-25 estimates were the same as those used for the 2023-24 harvest estimates. The 2024-25 harvest estimates were extrapolated based on the current year's license sales (including all lifetime license holders) of 293,667 (includes senior license holders and senior lifetime license holders that consider themselves to be hunters). When including all senior license holders and all senior lifetime license holders the number of licenses for the 2024-25 hunting season was 394,233. However, senior license holders, whether they hunt, fish, or hunt and fish receive the same license. Some of those license holders do not hunt. Therefore, the number of senior license holders was reduced to reflect an estimate of the percentage of senior hunters which did not hunt during the 2024-25 hunting season (51.0%). Hunter numbers reflect those that hunted a species even if they did not harvest. No attempt was made to adjust the statistics to compensate for the lack of inclusion of hunters under 16 years old who are not required to purchase a basic license. Values presented are *indices* and are not necessarily the actual number of hunters and harvests.

## **WHITE-TAILED DEER**

Deer hunters (213,500) spent about 5.0 million days afield during the 2024-25 deer hunting seasons and harvested 239,000 deer (Table 1). The total number of deer hunters remained basically the same as last year's estimate (213,500 vs 221,500). The number of deer harvested (8.9% decrease) and number of days spent afield (0.04% increase) did not change significantly over last year's estimates. The number of deer harvested by firearm type (modern firearms, bow, crossbow, primitive) did not change significantly over last year's estimates. Beginning with the 2012-13 hunting season, senior license holders were included in the survey which resulted in an increased number of hunters. The number of deer hunters ( $P = 0.6698$ ) has not change significantly during the 12 year period from the 2012-13 to 2024-25 hunting seasons (Figure 1). The deer harvest, in contrast, ( $P = 0.0054$ ) has increased significantly during this 12 year period (Figure 2). The total number of license holders from the 2012-13 hunting season to the current hunting season has not changed significantly ( $P = 0.193$ ) (Figure 3). Many deer hunters used 2 or 3 types of weapons. The number of hunters using modern firearms to take deer during the 2024-25 hunting season was 204,500 (Table 1) and their harvest was 193,900. They reported kills ranging from 0 to 6 (Table 2) and averaged hunting 18.1 days with modern firearms (Table 3). Still hunting (without dogs) accounted for about 98% of the modern firearm harvest and 97% of the modern firearm days. Deer

hunting and harvest characteristics for persons hunting with and without dogs are also provided (Table 2 and 3). About 3.8% of the modern firearm deer hunters used dogs at least once.

Deer hunters using bows and arrows (53,900) did not change significantly from last year's estimate of 54,700 hunters and they averaged 11.4 days afield per person (Table 3). They reported from 0 to 4 deer killed (Table 2). The number of deer taken with bows and arrows was 15,500. Persons with bow licenses could use bows that used a mechanical means to hold and release the arrow (crossbows) for the first time in 2008-09. An estimated 28,500 persons took advantage of this opportunity during the 2024-25 hunting season. Persons hunting with crossbows averaged 8.3 days afield (Table 3) and their reported harvest ranged from 0 to 2 deer (Table 2).

Primitive firearm hunters numbered 113,400 and they averaged 5.7 primitive firearm hunts per hunter (Table 3) and reported taking 0 to 4 deer with primitive firearms (Table 2) for a total deer harvest of 24,800 (Table 2).

State-wide, antlered deer comprised a greater percentage (54%) of the deer harvest than did non-antlered deer (44%) or button-bucks (2%) (Table 4).

This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year that an estimate for hog hunting has been produced. During the 2024-25 hunting season, it is estimated that 71,400 hunters took 674,000 hogs (up 34.6% over last year's estimate) while expending 597,900 efforts, which is up 6.8% from last year's estimate of 560,000 efforts (Table 1, 5).

## **TURKEY**

The number of turkey hunters remained similar to the 2024 spring turkey hunting season, with 22,000 turkey hunters (Table 5). The number of recreational days spent turkey hunting was up 11.6% compared to last year's estimate (147,600 vs 132,300). In 2024, turkey hunters spent an average of 6.8 days hunting (Table 6). Hunters reported bagging from 0 to 2 turkeys (Table 7). The statewide harvest of gobblers was 8,400 in 2025 and 6,000 in 2024, an increase of 40.0%.

## **SMALL GAME**

The number of small game hunters (83,400) was down significantly (-15.7%) over last year's estimate (98,900). There was a significant decline ( $P = 0.0008$ ) in the number of small game hunters from the 2012-13 hunting season to the present hunting season (Figure 4).

Small game hunters took about 975,000 trips in pursuit of small game during the 2024-25 hunting season for an average of 11.8 hunts per person. The number of hunters and harvest varied greatly among species (Tables 8 and 9). Nevertheless, 50-70 percent of the hunters for a particular species usually accounts for less than 20 percent of the harvest (Tables 10 and 11). In addition, large proportions of hunters go afield 5 days or fewer per season for a given species (Tables 12 and 13). The highest mean seasonal kill per hunter was recorded for duck (21.6 per hunter). Pen reared quail (17.8 per hunter) and mourning dove (16.1 per hunter) had the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest seasonal bags, respectively, and the lowest was for wild quail (no harvest reported), followed by rails (2.5 per hunter) (Tables 10 and 11). Rail, Pen-reared quail, and wild quail accounted for the lowest number of hunts per hunter (1.3, 1.7, 2.3, respectively), while raccoon hunters went hunting the

most (12.5 per hunter), followed by duck hunters (10.3 per hunter) and goose hunters (8.5 per hunter) (Tables 12 and 13).

### Resident Small Game

Squirrels remained the most popular small game animals in Louisiana with 725,400 harvested by 49,200 hunters (Tables 8 and 9). Rabbits also continued to be the second most sought after resident small game animal. Rabbit hunters (19,300) bagged 137,600 rabbits (down 17.0% over last year's estimate). Persons hunting wild quail numbered 500. However, no wild quail harvest was reported.

Pen-raised quail seasonal harvest was estimated this year for the 20<sup>th</sup> season because the *quail* (unspecified but assumed wild) estimate appeared relatively high for several years prior to the 2005-06 survey compared to the expected harvest. This could have been due to the inclusion of pen-raised birds in the harvest value. Several responses were excluded from those recent surveys before the addition of the pen-raised category because the respondents indicated that the quail were pen-raised. The number of persons hunting pen-raised quail and their harvest far exceeded those hunting wild quail, particularly the harvest. The results suggest that pen-raised quail had been included at least in estimates immediately prior to changing the format in 2005. The pen-raised harvest was estimated at 25,300.

For the ninth year we asked hunters if they harvested coyotes and if so how many they harvested. It was estimated that 13,200 hunters harvested 55,000 coyotes during the 2024-25 hunting season, up 11.6% from last year's estimate of 49,300 (Table 8). Bobcat harvest was estimated to be 4,500.

### Migratory Game Birds

#### Webless

Doves continued to be the most sought after webless migratory game bird. During the 2024-25 hunting season, 30,600 hunters harvested 478,100 mourning doves during 96,200 days of dove hunting. The snipe harvest was 29,400 while snipe hunters numbered 4,100. Snipe hunters spent 18,900 days afield in 2024-25 (Tables 8 and 9). For the sixth year we asked questions concerning gallinule hunting. There were an estimated 1,600 gallinule hunters that harvested 13,900 gallinules during 7900 days of hunting. The harvest index for woodcock was 25,500 and the number of woodcock hunters was 4,300. Woodcock hunters made 18,600 hunts (Tables 8 and 9). There were an estimated 1,100 rail hunters in 2024-25, and their harvest estimate was 2,700 (Tables 8 and 9).

Although Eurasian collared-doves are frequently associated with urban/suburban settings, this species also is increasing in rural settings. This year the harvest of this non-native dove was estimated to be 15,200 (Tables 8 and 9). White-winged doves were able to be taken during the dove season for the 18<sup>th</sup> year during the 2024-25 season. During the 2024-25 season 51,800 white-winged doves were estimated to be harvested (Tables 8 and 9).

#### Waterfowl

There were an estimated 72,500 duck hunters for the 2024-25 hunting season. Duck hunters harvested 1,775,900 ducks, a decrease of 12.9% over last year's estimate (Table 8, 9). Goose hunters numbered 12,500. The goose harvest was estimated to be 66,200 (Tables 9 and 10). These values include participation and geese taken during the Special Goose Season (Conservation Order). Coot, while not technically waterfowl, are usually taken by persons hunting ducks. About 4,100 hunters bagged approximately 50,100 coots (Tables 8 and 9).

## SPECIAL QUESTIONS

### *Age*

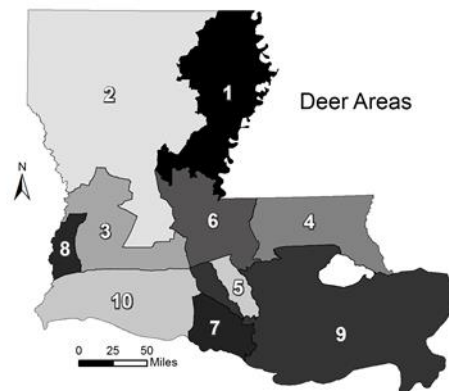
Hunters were asked their age. Of the 1,263 respondents to this question, ages ranged from 17 to 87 years of age. The average age was 52.8 years (down 3.0 years from last year's average of 55.8), the median age was 54 years (57 years last year) and the mode was 61 years of age (62 last year).

### *Deer tags*

Survey respondents were asked if they obtained deer tags for the 2024-25 hunting season, if they hunted in Louisiana during the 2024-25 hunting season, and if they hunted deer in Louisiana during the 2024-25 hunting season. Twenty-six percent (26.2%; 192 of 732 respondents) of survey respondents indicating that they did not hunt in Louisiana during the 2023-24 hunting season obtained deer tags. Twenty-three percent (22.8%; 66 of 289 respondents) of Louisiana hunters that did not hunt deer in Louisiana during the 2024-25 hunting season obtained deer tags. Most individuals (97.5%) hunting deer during the 2024-25 hunting season in Louisiana indicated that they obtained deer tags.

### *Deer Areas*

We asked hunters on which of the Deer Areas (DA) they hunted deer during the 2024-25 hunting season, how many days they hunted within each DA and how many deer they harvested on each of the DAs. DA 2 had the most hunter days reported with 8,810 and DA 7 had the fewest with 155. DA 2 also had the highest harvest reporting rate with 500 harvested deer reported and DAs 7 and 8 had the least with 5 harvested deer reported within each of these DAs (Table 14).



### *Percent Buck Harvest by antler points by Deer Area*

Within each Deer Area (DA) respondents were asked how many points (6 or less, 7 or more) each harvested buck had. Of the 525 bucks reported harvested by DA, 44% had 6 or fewer antler points and 56% had 7 or more antler points (Table 15).

Table. 15. Percent of bucks with six or fewer points and seven or more points harvested by Deer Area.

<b>Deer Area</b>	<b>Total Reported Harvested Bucks</b>	<b>% of Bucks with 6 or Fewer Points</b>	<b>% of Bucks with 7 or More Points</b>
1	77	34%	66%
2	271	47%	53%
3	20	80%	20%
4	31	42%	58%
5	9	44%	56%
6	52	31%	69%
7	1	0%	100%
8	5	0%	100%
9	49	47%	53%
10	10	40%	60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>56%</b>

### *Deer Season Length*

Survey respondents indicating that they hunt deer were asked if they would like the deer firearms season as well as the archery season to be shorter, no change, or longer. For both the firearms and archery season, respondents preferred no change in season length (firearms: longer = 37%, no change = 50%, shorter = 12%; archery: longer = 19%; no change = 74%; shorter = 8%).

### *Chronic Wasting Disease*

Survey respondents were asked three questions pertaining to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). With regard to how concerned they were that CWD will irreparably damage the Louisiana herd,

37% were somewhat concerned, 21% were very concerned, 18% were unconcerned, 14% were neither concerned nor unconcerned and 9% indicated they did not know enough about CWD to have an opinion.

Survey respondents were asked if they supported LDWF efforts to control CWD in Louisiana, such as carcass restrictions and feeding bans. The majority of respondents (54%) indicated that they support LDWF efforts to control CWD, 30% were undecided, and 16% indicated they did not support LDWF efforts to control CWD.

Knowing that CWD has been detected in Louisiana, we asked survey respondents how likely they were to voluntarily request that their harvested deer be tested for CWD next hunting season. Thirty percent (30%) indicated that they were neither likely nor unlikely to get their deer tested. Twenty-seven percent (27%) indicated they were somewhat likely to get their deer tested, 21% indicated they were very likely to get their deer tested, followed by 14% that were very unlikely to get their deer tested and 8% were somewhat unlikely to get their deer tested.

### *Turkey Tags*

Survey respondents were asked if they obtained turkey tags for the 2025 turkey season and if they hunted in Louisiana during the 2024-25 hunting season. Of those not hunting in Louisiana during the 2024-25 hunting season, thirteen percent (13.4%; 98 of 729) obtained turkey tags. Seventy percent (69.6%; 273 of 392) of hunters reporting that they hunt in Louisiana but did not hunt turkeys received turkey tags. Seventy-six percent (75.7%; 371 of 490) of all license holders that received turkey tags did not hunt turkeys in Louisiana during the 2025 turkey season.

### *HIP*

Hunters were asked if they obtained a HIP (Harvest Information Program) certification for the 2024-2025 migratory bird season. Most individuals (n = 398; 88%) hunting ducks indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2024-25 migratory bird season. Likewise, most goose hunters (n = 66; 89%) indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2024-25 hunting season. Most individuals hunting mourning doves (n = 171; 92%), woodcock (n = 24; 83%), snipe (n = 23; 100%), rail (n = 6; 100%), and gallinule (n = 9; 78%) indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2024-25 hunting season.

Table 1. Hunting statistics for the 2024-25 deer hunting seasons based on 293,667 licensed hunters. Values include senior license holders.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Hunters</b>	<b>Bag Harvest</b>	<b>Man Days</b>
<b>Deer (All Methods)</b>	213,500 ± 6,300 <sup>a</sup>	239,000 ± 18,800	5,008,900 ± 306,500
<b>Deer (Modern Firearms)</b>	204,500 ± 6,500	193,900 ± 15,300	3,592,200 ± 217,300
<b>Deer (MF Still Hunting)</b>	203,300 ± 6,600	190,800 ± 15,200	3,492,400 ± 210,800
<b>Deer (MF With Dogs)</b>	7,000 ± 2,300	3,000 ± 1,700	99,800 ± 39,400
<b>Deer (Bow and Arrow)</b>	53,900 ± 5,500	15,500 ± 4,500	602,700 ± 93,600
<b>Deer (Crossbow)</b>	28,500 ± 4,200	4,800 ± 2,000	232,300 ± 56,500
<b>Deer (Primitive Firearms)</b>	103,400 ± 6,800	24,800 ± 4,900	581,800 ± 58,000
<b>Turkey (Excludes Youth)</b>	22,000 ± 3,700	8,400 ± 2,800	147,600 ± 32,800
<b>Hogs</b>	71,400 ± 6,100	674,000 ± 254,700	597,900 ± 129,800

<sup>a</sup> Confidence intervals are calculated at  $P = 0.05$

Table 2. Reported proportion of hunter kill for deer hunters by weapon type.

Kill Per Person	<sup>a</sup> % Modern Firearms Hunters*	% Still Hunters	% Dog Hunters	% Primitive Firearm Hunters	% Archery Hunters	% Crossbow Hunters
0	45	45	65	79	80	84
1	30	30	28	17	13	14
2	15	15	8	3	4	2
3	7	6	0	1	2	0
4	2	2	0	< 1	1	0
5	1	1	0	0	0	0
6	1	1	0	0	0	0
7+	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><sup>b</sup>Mean</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.18</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean kill per hunter.

\*Modern firearm hunters consist of still and dog hunters.

Table 3. Reported proportion of deer hunter efforts by days and weapon type.

Days Hunted Per Person	<sup>a</sup> % Modern Firearms Hunters*	% Still Hunters	% Dog Hunters	% Primitive Firearm Hunters	% Archery Hunters	% Crossbow Hunters
1-5	21	22	37	69	40	53
6-10	22	23	19	23	27	28
11-15	14	13	12	5	12	11
16-20	13	13	7	2	9	3
21-25	6	6	9	1	3	1
26-30	11	11	12	1	5	2
31-35	2	2	0	0	< 1	0
36-40	3	3	2	0	1	0
41-45	2	2	2	0	< 1	1
46-50	1	1	0	< 1	< 1	1
50+	4	4	0	0	2	1
<b><sup>b</sup>Mean</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean days hunted per hunter.

\*Modern firearm hunters consist of still and dog hunters.

Table 4. Percent state-wide deer harvest for antlered, non-antlered, and button bucks by weapon type for 293,667 survey respondents, 2024-25 hunting season.

Weapon Type	Antlered Deer	Button Bucks	Non-Antlered
Still hunt	56.0%	1.9%	42.2%
Dog hunt	60.0%	4.0%	36.0%
Bow and Arrow	42.0%	0.0%	58.0%
Crossbow	56.0%	2.0%	42.0%
Primitive	51.9%	5.3%	42.7%
<b>Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>43.4%</b>

<sup>a</sup>Total consists of the average percent harvest for all weapon types combined.

Table 5. A comparison of hunting statistics for the 2024-25 and 2023-24 deer hunting seasons and the 2025 and 2024 spring turkey hunting seasons and wild hog.

	Hunters		% Change	Harvest		% Change	Days		% Change
	2024-25	2023-24	For	2024-25	2023-24	For	2024-25	2023-24	For Days
			Hunters			Harvest			
<b>Deer (All Methods)</b>	213,500	221,500	-3.6 <sup>a</sup>	239,000	262,400	-8.9	5,008,900	5,007,100	0.04
<b>Deer (Modern Firearms)</b>	204,500	207,900	-1.6	193,900	208,600	-7.0	3,592,200	3,525,900	1.9
<b>Deer (MF Still Hunt)</b>	203,300	206,000	-1.3	190,800	203,300	-6.1	3,492,400	3,400,700	2.7
<b>Deer (MF Dog Hunt)</b>	7,700	7,700	0.0	3,000	5,300	-43.4	99,800	81,000	23.2
<b>Deer (Bow and Arrow)</b>	53,900	54,700	-1.5	15,500	14,300	8.4	602,700	605,600	-0.5
<b>Deer (Crossbow)</b>	28,500	31,500	-9.5	4,800	8,000	-40.0	232,300	243,900	-4.8
<b>Deer (Primitive Firearms)</b>	103,400	115,800	-10.7	24,800	31,500	-21.3	581,800	631,800	-7.9
<b>Turkey (Excludes Youth)</b>	22,000	22,300	-1.3	8,400	6,000	40.0	147,600	132,300	11.6
<b>Hogs</b>	712,400	75,700	-5.7	674,000	500,900	34.6	597,900	560,000	6.8

<sup>a</sup> P value for difference is  $\leq 0.05$  based on non-overlap of confidence intervals.

Table 6. Reported proportion of turkey hunter efforts.

Days Hunted Per Person	% Turkey Hunters
1-5	57
6-10	25
11-15	9
16-20	7
21-25	1
26+	1

Table 7. Reported proportion of hunter kill for turkey hunters.

Kill Per Person	% Turkey Hunters
0	69
1	24
2	7

Table 8. Hunting statistics for the 2024-25 Small Game and Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons based on 293,667 licensed hunters.

Species	Hunters	Harvest	Days
Resident Game			
<b>Squirrel</b>	49,200 ± 5,300 <sup>a</sup>	725,400 ± 159,600	294,600 ± 49,200
<b>Rabbit</b>	19,300 ± 3,500	137,600 ± 54,900	84,600 ± 29,400
<b>Wild Quail</b>	500 ± 600	-	1,200 ± 1,800
<b>Pen-raised Quail</b>	1,600 ± 1,100	25,300 ± 25,600	2,700 ± 2,000
<b>Raccoon</b>	5,400 ± 1,900	26,800 ± 15,500	55,800 ± 40,600
<b>Coyote</b>	13,200 ± 2,900	55,000 ± 26,500	
<b>Bobcat</b>	4,500 ± 1,700	4,500 ± 1,700	
Migratory Game			
<b>Mourning Dove</b>	30,600 ± 4,300	478,100 ± 113,600	96,200 ± 19,700
<b>Eurasian Collared-Dove</b>	3,800 ± 1,600	15,200 ± 7,900	
<b>White-winged Dove</b>	7,000 ± 2,200	51,800 ± 23,800	
<b>Woodcock</b>	4,300 ± 1,700	25,500 ± 21,600	18,600 ± 11,100
<b>Snipe</b>	4,100 ± 1,700	29,400 ± 21,100	18,900 ± 20,000
<b>Gallinule</b>	1,600 ± 1,000	13,900 ± 12,300	7,900 ± 6,600
<b>Duck</b>	72,500 ± 6,100	1,775,900 ± 327,800	774,500 ± 103,900
<b>Goose</b>	12,500 ± 2,900	66,200 ± 30,000	100,300 ± 41,900
<b>Coot</b>	4,100 ± 1,700	50,100 ± 30,300	28,900 ± 17,900
<b>Rails</b>	1,100 ± 900	2,700 ± 2,900	1,400 ± 1,300

<sup>a</sup> Confidence intervals are calculated at  $P=0.05$ .

Table 9. A comparison of small game hunting statistics by species for the 2024-25 and 2023-24 hunting seasons.

	Hunters		% Change For Hunters	Harvest		% Change For Harvest	Days		% Change For Days
	2024-2025	2023-2024		2024-2025	2023-2024		2024-2025	2023-2024	
Resident Game									
<b>Squirrel</b>	49,200	55,600	-11.5 <sup>a</sup>	725,400	711,200	2.0	294,600	327,200	-10.0
<b>Rabbit</b>	19,300	20,800	-7.2	137,600	165,800	-17.0	84,600	94,100	-10.1
<b>Wild quail</b>	500	500	0.0	0 <sup>b</sup>	1,700	-	1,200	2,000	-40.0
<b>Pen-raised quail</b>	1,600	2,200	-27.3	25,300	42,600	-40.6	2,700	6,800	-60.3
<b>Raccoon</b>	5,400	4,900	10.2	26,800	34,300	-21.9	55,800	56,600	-1.4
<b>Coyote</b>	13,200	18,400	-28.3	55,000	49,300	11.6			
<b>Bobcat</b>	4,500	4,600	-2.2	4,500	4,600	-2.2			
Migratory Game									
<b>Mourning dove</b>	30,600	31,200	-1.9	478,100	566,200	-15.6	96,200	110,100	-12.6
<b>E. collared-dove</b>	3,800	4,900	-22.4	15,200	29,300	-48.1			
<b>W.-winged dove</b>	7,000	5,500	27.3	51,800	51,100	1.4			
<b>Woodcock</b>	4,300	4,300	0.0	25,500	12,300	107.3	18,600	13,600	36.8
<b>Snipe</b>	4,100	2,200	86.4	29,400	22,500	30.7	18,900	7,300	158.9
<b>Gallinule</b>	1,600	2,400	-33.3	13,900	22,800	-39.0	7,900	27,300	-71.1
<b>Duck</b>	72,500	77,400	-6.3	1,775,900	2,039,700	-12.9	774,500	856,100	-9.5
<b>Goose</b>	12,500	13,300	-6.0	66,200	122,000	-45.7	100,300	141,500	-29.1
<b>Coot</b>	4,100	6,700	-38.8	50,100	117,800	-57.5	28,900	58,600	-50.7
<b>Rail</b>	1,100	680	61.8	2,700	1,700	58.8	1,400	5,100	-72.5

<sup>a</sup>P value for difference is  $\leq 0.05$  based on non-overlap of confidence intervals.

<sup>b</sup>No quail reported harvested.

Table 10. Reported proportion of hunter kill for resident small game and wild hog, 2024-25 hunting season.

Kill Per Person	% Squirrel <sup>a</sup> Hunters	% Rabbit Hunters	% Wild Quail Hunters	% Raccoon Hunters	% Wild Hog Hunters
0	10	11	100	13	14
1-5	20	60	0	60	57
6-10	28	17	0	17	12
11-15	12	2	0	3	5
16-20	13	2	0	0	3
21-25	6	0	0	7	1
26-30	3	3	0	0	2
31-35	1	1	0	0	1
36-40	3	2	0	0	1
41-45	2	0	0	0	1
46-50	1	0	0	0	< 1
51+	3	2	0	0	2
<sup>b</sup> Mean	<b>14.8</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.2</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean kill per hunter.

Table 11. Reported proportion of hunter kill for migratory small game, 2024-25 hunting season.

Kill Per Person	% Mourning <sup>a</sup> Dove Hunters	% Woodcock Hunters	% Snipe Hunters	% Gallinule Hunters	% Duck Hunters	% Goose Hunters	% Coot Hunters	% Rail Hunters
0	11	33	17	0	6	22	13	17
1-5	20	46	39	38	23	57	35	67
6-10	23	4	26	25	22	7	13	0
11-15	16	0	9	25	10	3	17	0
16-20	7	4	0	0	8	2	0	17
21-25	5	4	0	13	6	4	0	0
26-30	5	0	0	0	4	2	13	0
31-35	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0
36-40	4	8	9	0	3	3	0	0
41-45	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
46-50	3	0	0	8	2	0	4	0
51+	5	0	0	0	13	4	0	0
<sup>b</sup> Mean	<b>16.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean kill per hunter.

Table 12. Reported proportion of hunter efforts by days for resident small game and wild hog, 2024-25 hunting season.

Days Hunted per Person	% Squirrel <sup>a</sup> Hunters	% Rabbit Hunters	% Wild Quail Hunters	% Raccoon Hunters	% Wild Hog Hunters
1-5	66	78	100	68	55
6-10	21	13	0	4	18
11-15	6	6	0	4	6
16-20	3	1	0	8	7
21-25	2	1	0	4	3
26-30	< 1	0	0	0	4
31-35	< 1	0	0	0	1
36-40	< 1	0	0	0	1
41-45	0	0	0	0	0
46-50	< 1	0	0	4	2
51+	0	1	0	8	3
<sup>b</sup> Mean	<b>6.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>11.7</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean days hunted per hunter.

Table 13. Reported proportion of hunter efforts by days for migratory small game, 2024-25 hunting season.

Days Hunted per Person	% Mourning <sup>a</sup> Dove Hunters	% Woodcock Hunters	% Snipe Hunters	% Gallinule Hunters	% Duck Hunters	% Goose Hunters	% Coot Hunters	% Rail Hunters
1-5	87	75	91	56	46	63	57	100
6-10	12	13	0	44	22	18	19	0
11-15	0	8	4	0	8	5	5	0
16-20	0	4	0	0	10	6	14	0
21-25	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0
26-30	1	0	0	0	5	2	5	0
31-35	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
36-40	0	0	0	0	< 1	0	0	0
41-45	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
46-50	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
51+	0	0	4	0	2	3	0	0
<b>Mean</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>

<sup>a</sup>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Mean days hunted per hunter.

Table 14. Total days hunted and total deer harvest by Deer Area (DA) for 1,635 survey respondents, 2024-25 hunting season.

<b>DA</b>	<b>Total Days Hunted</b>	<b>Total Harvest</b>
1	2804	161
2	8810	500
3	1313	59
4	1666	55
5	278	17
6	2423	89
7	155	5
8	228	5
9	1315	78
10	315	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19307</b>	<b>981</b>

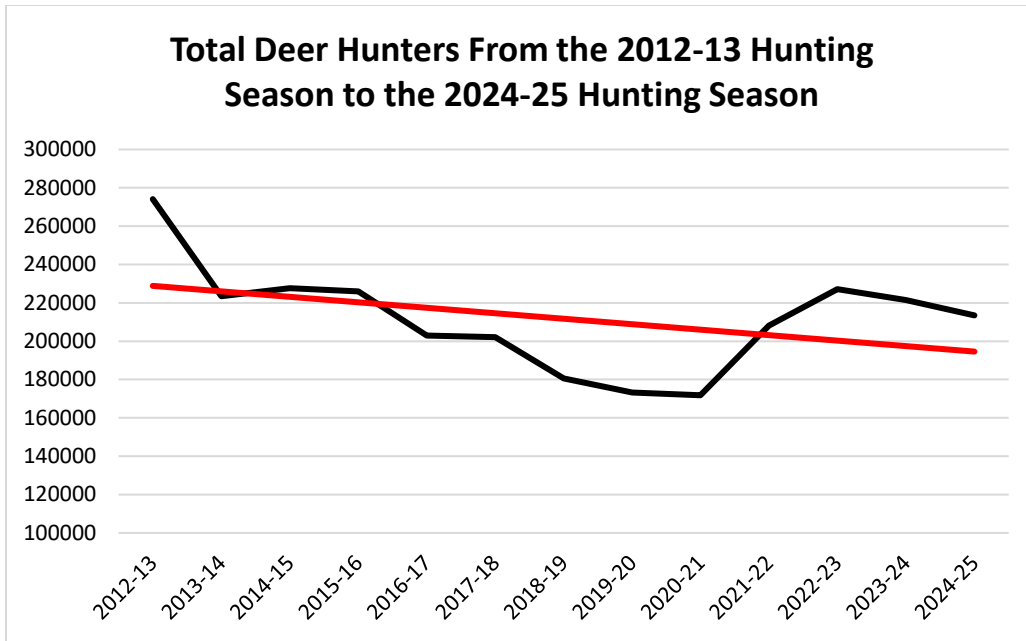


Figure 1. Regression of total number of deer hunters from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2024-25 hunting season.

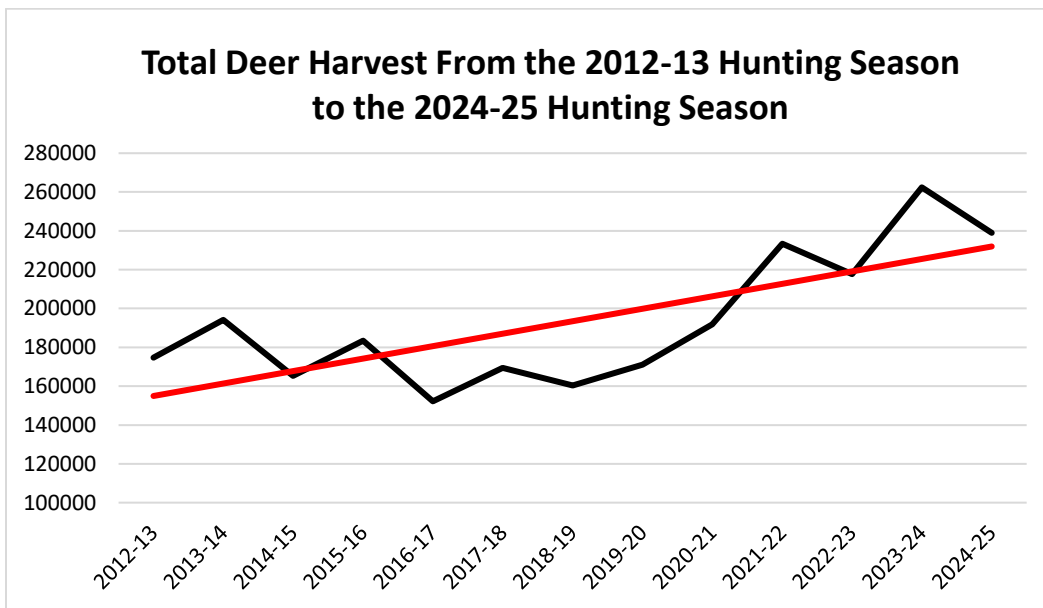


Figure 2 Regression of total deer harvest from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2024-25 hunting season.

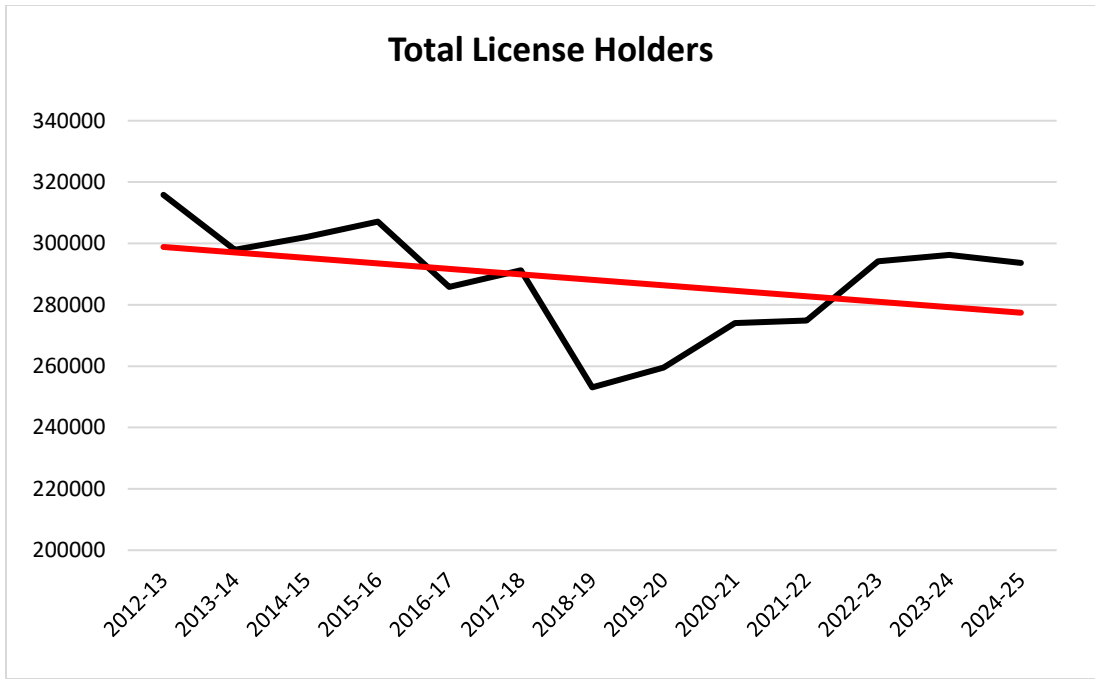


Figure 3. Regression of total number of license holders from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2024-25 hunting season.

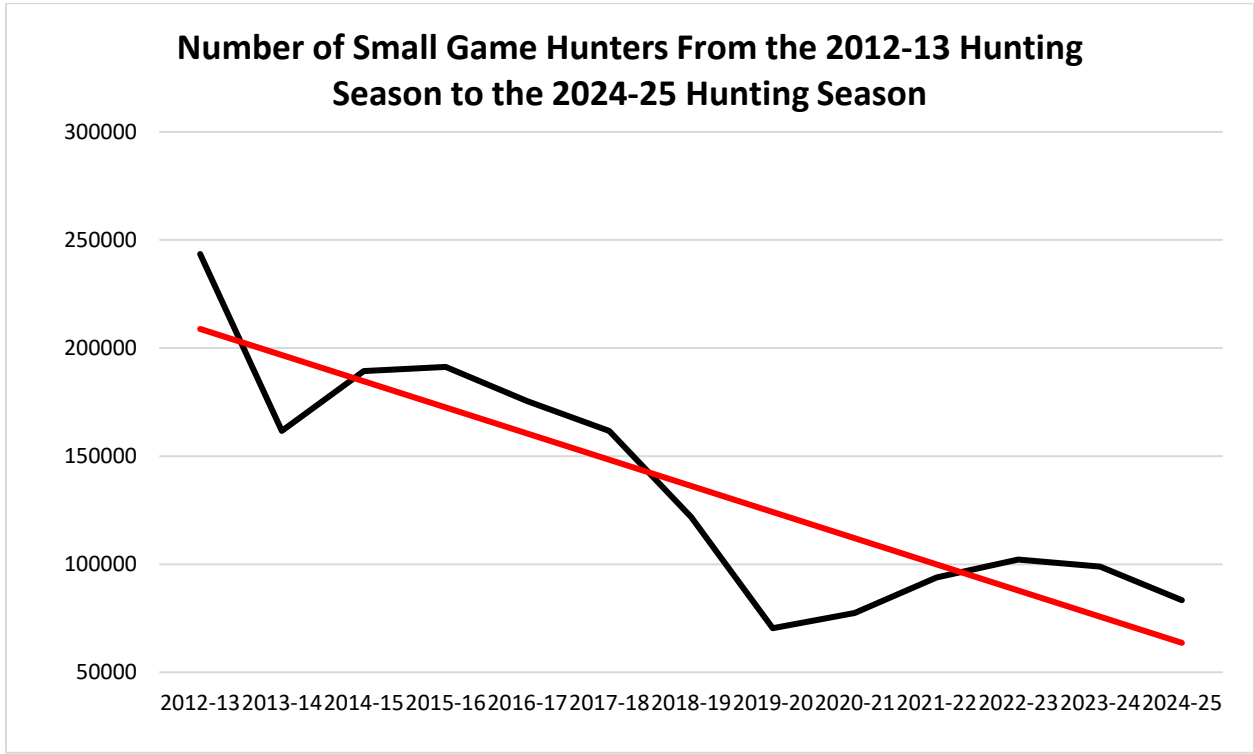


Figure 4. Regression of number of small game hunters from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2024-25 hunting season.

Appendix 1. Hunter harvest survey.

**2024-2025 LOUISIANA GAME HARVEST SURVEY - Online**

Did you obtain **deer tags** for the 2024-25 deer season?     Yes             No

Did you obtain **turkey tags** for the 2024-25 deer season?     Yes             No

Did you hunt in Louisiana during the 2024-25 season?     Yes             No

Did you hunt white-tailed deer in Louisiana during the 2024-25 season?     Yes             No

Please list the number of days you hunted **deer** in Louisiana and your respective harvest by weapon during the 2024-25 deer season:

**Modern firearm**

- a. Still Hunt                      Days \_\_\_\_\_      Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Hunt with dogs                Days \_\_\_\_\_      Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_
- c. **Primitive firearm**            Days \_\_\_\_\_      Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_
- d. **Bow and Arrow**                Days \_\_\_\_\_      Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_
- e. **Crossbow**                      Days \_\_\_\_\_      Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** Deer Hunting Days \_\_\_\_\_ **Total** Deer harvested \_\_\_\_\_

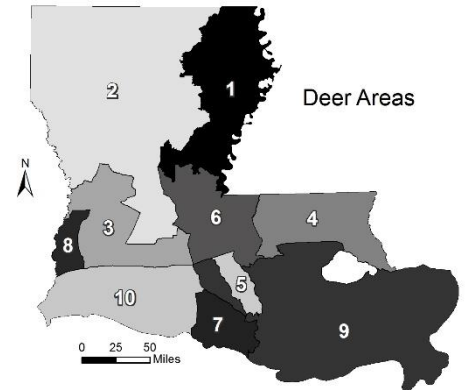
Please list sex of deer harvested.

	Antlered Buck	Button Buck	Doe
Deer 1.	_____	_____	_____
Deer 2.	_____	_____	_____
Deer 3.	_____	_____	_____
Deer 4.	_____	_____	_____
Deer 5.	_____	_____	_____
Deer 6.	_____	_____	_____

For each of the Deer Areas (DA) that you hunted deer in during the 2024-25 deer season, record the total number of days you hunted deer by DA, regardless of type of weapon used, and total deer harvested within each DA. Please record the same for the total number of days and deer harvested on public land. If you hunted in a DA or Public Area but did not harvest a deer, record total deer harvested as 0 for that DA or Public Area.

**Using the map to determine which Deer Areas (DA) you hunted in, write the total number of days you hunted in each DA and total deer harvested in each DA.**

Deer Area	Total Days Hunted	Total Deer Harvested
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Public Area		



If an antlered deer was harvested, how many points did each buck have? (\*This is by DA on the online version).

	Buck 1	Buck 2	Buck 3
6 or less points	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 or more points	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Would you like the deer **firearms** season to be:

- Shorter
- No change
- Longer

Would you like the deer **archery** season to be:

- Shorter
- No change
- Longer

How concerned are you that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) will irreparably damage the Louisiana deer herd?

- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Neither concerned nor unconcerned
- Unconcerned
- I do not know enough about CWD to have an opinion on this

Do you support LDWF efforts to show the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Louisiana, such as carcass restrictions and feeding bans?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

Knowing that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been detected in Louisiana, how likely are you to voluntarily request that your harvested deer be tested for CWD next hunting season?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

Did you harvest a **bobcat** during the 2024 calendar year?

- Yes
- No

B. If you harvested a **bobcat**, in what parish was the bobcat harvested? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you hunt or opportunistically shoot feral **hogs** during the 2024-25 hunting season?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how many times did you specifically go hunting for **hogs** and how many hogs did you harvest (kill) during the 2024-2025 hunting season even if you weren't specifically hunting for them?

#Days \_\_\_\_\_ Hogs harvested \_\_\_\_\_

Did you hunt wild **turkey this spring (2025)** in Louisiana?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how many days did you hunt turkeys in Louisiana this spring (2025)?  
Days hunted \_\_\_\_\_

How many **turkeys** did you bag in Louisiana this spring (2025)?  
Turkeys harvested \_\_\_\_\_

Did you harvest **coyotes** during the 2024 calendar year?

- Yes
- No

B. If yes, how many coyotes did you harvest? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you obtain a HIP (Harvest Information Program) certification for the 2024-2025 migratory bird season?

- Yes
- No

Did you hunt light geese during the 2024-25 Conservation Order (special goose season when electronic calls can be used)? The special light goose season dates were December 04-15 and January 29-March 03 for the East Zone and December 04-10, January 08-12, and January 29-March 03 for the West Zone.

- Yes       No

. How many days did you hunt light geese during the Conservation Order in December? \_\_\_\_\_

How many days did you hunt light geese during the Conservation Order in February and March? \_\_\_\_\_

In what parish did you hunt light geese most often during the Conservation Order? \_\_\_\_\_

How many light geese did you personally shoot and retrieve during this Conservation Order?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many light geese did you personally shoot, but were UNABLE to retrieve? \_\_\_\_\_

How many of the last 5 years have you participated in the light goose Conservation Order?

0      1      2      3      4      5 Years

Compared to other wildlife management and conservation issues, how important is the population control of light geese?

- Not at all important
- Slightly important
- Moderately important
- Very important
- Extremely important

Since being enacted in 1999, how effective or ineffective do you feel the light goose conservation order has been at controlling light goose populations?

- Very ineffective
- Ineffective
- Neither effective nor ineffective
- Effective
- Very effective

What do you believe the current status of the light goose population to be?

- Increasing
- Decreasing
- About the same
- Don't know

How do you view your participation in the light goose conservation order?

- It is the most enjoyable hunting activity I do.
- It is one of the most enjoyable hunting activities I do.
- It is not any more important than other types of hunting I do.
- I would not miss it if were discontinued.

Did you use a professional guide or outfitter the last time you participated in the light goose conservation order?

- No
- Yes

Did you hunt small game mammals OR birds (including waterfowl) in Louisiana during the 2024-2025 hunting season?

Yes                       No

If you hunted **small game animals and birds** in Louisiana, list the total number of days hunted and the total number harvested for each of the following during the 2024-25 hunting season:

**Squirrels**-Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Rabbits**-Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Raccoons** -Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Wild Quail**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Pen-Reared Quail**-Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Mourning Doves**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

White-Winged Doves - Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Collared**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Woodcock**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Ducks**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Geese**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Coots**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Snipe**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Rails**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

**Gallinules**- Days Hunted \_\_\_\_\_ harvested \_\_\_\_\_

How many total days did you hunt **small game animals and birds** during the 2024-25 hunting season?

Note:

If you hunted more than one species in a day (such as ducks & geese or squirrels & rabbits) count it as only one day of hunting.    **Total Days** \_\_

What is your age?

What is the zip code of your residence?

Please write any comments or questions you have about this survey or hunting in Louisiana in the space below: