

LOUISIANA BIG AND SMALL GAME HARVEST SURVEY FOR 2025-2026

Prepared by

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Big and small game harvest indices for the 2025-26 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 2025-26 hunting season. 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 (31.2% for the 2025-26 hunting season). The 2025-26 Game Harvest Survey (Appendix 1) was emailed to 17,745 (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 2025-26 hunting season were included in the report. The survey questionnaires were completed and returned by 1,669 individuals (9.4% return rate) before the cutoff date of 31 May. The estimated harvest and hunter efforts for the 2025-26 hunting seasons (Tables 1 and 8) utilized 1,261 responses. The procedures used to calculate the 2025-26 estimates were the same as those used for the 2024-25 harvest estimates. The 2025-26 harvest estimates were extrapolated based on the current year's license sales (including all lifetime license holders) of 300,206 (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 (including those that do not consider themselves to be hunters) the number of licenses for the 2025-26 hunting season was 378,884. 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 2025-26 hunting season (36.6% did not consider themselves to be hunters). 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 (226,200) spent about 5.5 million days afield during the 2025-26 deer hunting seasons and harvested 276,200 deer (Table 1). The total number of deer hunters was approximately the same as last year's estimate (226,200 vs 213,500). The number of deer harvested (15.6% increase) and number of days spent afield (11.2% 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 ($P = 0.9901$) has not change significantly during the 13 year period from the 2012-13 to 2025-26 hunting seasons (Figure 1). The deer harvest, in contrast, ($P = 0.0009$) has increased significantly during this 13 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 ($P = 0.3797$) (Figure 3). Many deer hunters used 2 or 3 methods of harvest. The number of hunters using modern firearms to take deer during the 2025-26 hunting season was 212,400 (Table 1) and their harvest was 216,700. They reported harvests ranging from 0 to 12 deer (Table 2) and averaged hunting 18.9 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 4.5% of the modern firearm deer hunters used dogs at least once.

Deer hunters using archery equipment (61,600) did not change significantly from last year's estimate of 53,900 hunters and they averaged 12.8 days afield per person (Table 3). They reported from 0 to 6 deer harvested (Table 2). The number of deer taken with bows and arrows was 23,300, a 50.3% increase over last year's estimate of 15,500 deer taken with bow and arrows. 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 33,100 persons took advantage of this opportunity during the 2025-26 hunting season. Persons hunting with crossbows averaged 8.1 days afield (Table 3) and their reported harvest ranged from 0 to 3 deer (Table 2).

Primitive firearm hunters numbered 108,200 and they averaged 5.7 primitive firearm days per hunter (Table 3) and reported taking 0 to 6 deer with primitive firearms (Table 2) for a total deer harvest of 28,300 (Table 2).

State-wide, antlered deer comprised a greater percentage (56.3%) of the deer harvest than did non-antlered deer (41.3%) or button-bucks (2.4%) (Table 4).

This is the 19th year that an estimate for hog hunting has been produced. During the 2025-26 hunting season, it is estimated that 78,000 hunters took 422,000 hogs (down 37.4% over last year's estimate of 674,000) while expending 498,100 efforts, which is down 16.7% from last year's estimate of 597,900 efforts (Table 1, 5).

TURKEY

The number of turkey hunters was up 29.5% compared to the 2025 spring turkey hunting season, with 28,500 turkey hunters (22,000 in 2025; Table 5). The number of recreational days spent turkey hunting was up 11.9% compared to last year's estimate (165,100 vs 147,600). In 2026, turkey hunters spent an average of 5.8 days hunting (Table 6). Hunters reported bagging from 0 to 2 turkeys (Table 7). The statewide harvest of gobblers was 8,300 in 2026 and 8,400 in 2025.

SMALL GAME

Although the number of small game hunters (107,800) was up significantly (29.3%) over last year's estimate (83,400). There was a significant decline ($P = 0.0013$) 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 1,240,800 trips in pursuit of small game during the 2025-26 hunting season for an average of 11.5 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 harvest per hunter was recorded for duck (26.5 per hunter). Pen reared quail (20.4 per hunter) and mourning dove (19.2 per hunter) had the 2nd and 3rd highest seasonal

bags, respectively, and the lowest was for collared doves (1.6 per hunter), followed by rails (2.4 per hunter) (Tables 10 and 11). Snipe, Pen-reared quail, and mourning dove accounted for the lowest number of hunts per hunter (1.8, 2.1, 3.4, respectively), while coot hunters went hunting the most (11.1 per hunter), followed by duck hunters (10.9 per hunter) and wild quail hunters (10.5 per hunter) (Tables 12 and 13).

Resident Small Game

Squirrels remained the most popular small game animals in Louisiana with 850,900 harvested (up 17.3% over last year's estimate of 725,400) by 59,700 hunters (Tables 8 and 9). Rabbits also continued to be the second most sought after resident small game animal. Rabbit hunters (20,500) bagged 139,600. Persons hunting wild quail numbered 1,900 and the estimated harvest was 7,400.

Pen-raised quail seasonal harvest was estimated this year for the 21st 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 34,000, an increase of 34.4% over last year's estimate of 25,300.

For the tenth year we asked hunters if they harvested coyotes and, if so, how many they harvested. It was estimated that 19,300 hunters harvested 45,700 coyotes during the 2025-26 hunting season, down 16.9% from last year's estimate of 55,000 (Table 8). Bobcat harvest was estimated to be 6,400, up 42.7% from last year's estimate of 4,500.

Migratory Game Birds

Webless

Doves continued to be the most sought after webless migratory game bird. During the 2025-26 hunting season, 30,400 hunters harvested 574,000 mourning doves during 103,000 days of dove hunting. The snipe harvest was 15,900 while snipe hunters numbered 2,600. Snipe hunters spent 3,800 days afield in 2025-26 (Tables 8 and 9). For the seventh year we asked questions concerning gallinule hunting. There were an estimated 2,100 gallinule hunters that harvested 20,000 gallinules during 13,800 days of hunting. The harvest index for woodcock was 66,600, up 161% from last year's estimate of 25,500, and the number of woodcock hunters was 5,500. Woodcock hunters made 43,100 hunts (Tables 8 and 9). There were an estimated 1,200 rail hunters in 2025-26, and their harvest estimate was 2,900 (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 18,800 (Tables 8 and 9). White-winged doves were able to be taken during the dove season for the 19th year during the 2025-26 season. During the 2025-26 season 38,500 white-

winged doves were estimated to be harvested (Tables 8 and 9).

Waterfowl

There were an estimated 80,200 duck hunters for the 2025-26 hunting season. Duck hunters harvested 2,180,900 ducks, an increase of 22.8% over last year's estimate of 1,775,900 (Table 8, 9). Goose hunters numbered 15,200. The goose harvest was estimated to be 245,300, up 270.5% over last year's estimate of 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 5,700 hunters bagged approximately 79,700 coots (Tables 8 and 9).

SPECIAL QUESTIONS

Age

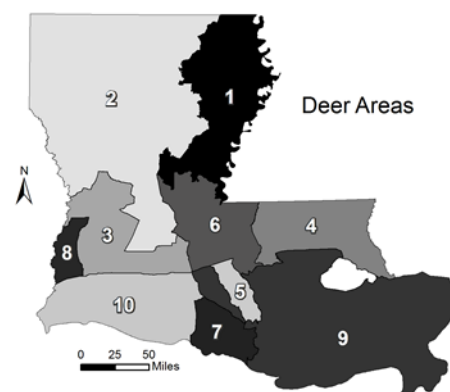
Hunters were asked their age. Of the 1,035 respondents to this question, ages ranged from 17 to 86 years of age. The average age was 54.5 years (up 1.7 years from last year's average of 52.8), the median age was 56 years (54 years last year) and the mode was 64 years of age (61 last year).

Deer tags

Survey respondents were asked if they obtained deer tags for the 2025-26 hunting season, if they hunted in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season (this includes those senior license holders that do not consider themselves to be hunters), and if they hunted deer in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season. Twenty-four percent (24.3%; 99 of 407 respondents) of survey respondents indicating that they did not hunt in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season obtained deer tags. Twenty-three percent (22.6%; 53 of 234 respondents) of Louisiana hunters that did not hunt deer in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season obtained deer tags. Most individuals (97.3%) hunting deer during the 2025-26 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 2025-26 hunting season, how many days they hunted within each DA and how many deer they harvested in each of the DAs. DA 2 had the most hunter days reported with 7,207 and DA 7 had the fewest with 297. DA 2 also had the highest harvest reporting rate with 382 harvested deer reported and DA 5 had the least with 9 harvested deer reported within each of these DAs (Table 14).



Chronic Wasting Disease

Survey respondents that indicated they hunted deer in Louisiana were asked three questions pertaining to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). With regard to if they hunted deer in a CWD zone during the 2025-26 season, 79% indicated that they did not hunt deer in a CWD zone, 12% were unsure if where they hunted deer was in a CWD zone and 8% indicated that they did hunt deer in a CWD zone.

Survey respondents were asked if they supported prohibition of bait and supplemental feed for deer within 25 miles of a confirmed case of CWD in a wild deer population. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of deer hunters indicated they did not support the prohibition, 34% indicated they supported the prohibition and 26% were undecided.

Survey respondents were asked if they supported a prohibition of the movement of certain deer carcass parts within 25 miles of a confirmed case of CWD in a wild deer population. Forty-one percent (41%) of deer hunters indicated they supported a prohibition, 33% did not support the prohibition and 26% were undecided.

Turkey Tags

Survey respondents were asked if they obtained turkey tags for the 2026 turkey season and if they hunted in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season. Of those not hunting in Louisiana during the 2025-26 hunting season, thirteen percent (13.4%; 54 of 404) obtained turkey tags. Sixty-eight percent (68.1%; 256 of 376) of hunters reporting that they hunt in Louisiana but did not hunt turkeys received turkey tags. Seventy-two percent (72.1%; 310 of 430) of all license holders that received turkey tags did not hunt turkeys in Louisiana during the 2026 turkey season (this includes those senior license holders that do not consider themselves to be hunters). All individuals hunting turkey during the 2026 turkey hunting season in Louisiana indicated that they obtained turkey tags.

HIP

Hunters were asked if they obtained a HIP (Harvest Information Program) certification for the 2025-2026 migratory bird season. Most individuals (n = 311; 93%) hunting ducks indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2025-26 migratory bird season. Likewise, most goose hunters (n = 59; 95%) indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2025-26 hunting season. Most individuals hunting mourning doves (n = 115; 91%), woodcock (n = 22; 96%), snipe (n = 8; 89%), rail (n = 4; 100%), and gallinule (n = 9; 100%) indicated that they obtained a HIP certification for the 2025-26 hunting season.

Table 1. Hunting statistics for the 2025-26 deer hunting seasons based on 300,206 licensed hunters. Values include senior license holders.

Species	Hunters	Bag Harvest	Man Days
Deer (All Methods)	226,200 $\pm$ 7,100 ^a	276,200 $\pm$ 24,600	5,569,300 $\pm$ 363,500
Deer (Modern Firearms MF)	212,400 $\pm$ 7,500	216,700 $\pm$ 18,400	3,893,900 $\pm$ 264,400
Deer (MF Still Hunting)	211,700 $\pm$ 7,600	213,600 $\pm$ 18,200	3,782,500 $\pm$ 258,400
Deer (MF With Dogs)	9,500 $\pm$ 2,900	3,100 $\pm$ 2,500	111,300 $\pm$ 42,900
Deer (Bow and Arrow)	61,600 $\pm$ 6,700	23,300 $\pm$ 6,900	776,900 $\pm$ 132,200
Deer (Crossbow)	33,100 $\pm$ 5,200	7,900 $\pm$ 4,100	288,300 $\pm$ 75,700
Deer (Primitive Firearms)	108,200 $\pm$ 6,800	28,300 $\pm$ 7,100	610,200 $\pm$ 67,800
Turkey (Excludes Youth)	25,500 $\pm$ 4,900	8,300 $\pm$ 3,000	165,100 $\pm$ 37,400
Hogs	78,000 $\pm$ 7,300	422,000 $\pm$ 104,600	498,100 $\pm$ 106,500

^a Confidence intervals are calculated at $P = 0.05$

Table 2. Reported proportion of hunter harvest for deer hunters by method type.

Kill Per Person	^a % Modern Firearms Hunters*	% Still Hunters	% Dog Hunters	% Primitive Firearm Hunters	% Archery Hunters	% Crossbow Hunters
0	40	40	80	82	76	86
1	34	34	13	14	16	9
2	17	17	5	3	5	3
3	6	6	0	1	2	1
4	2	2	3	< 1	1	1
5	1	1	0	< 1	< 1	1
6	1	1	0	< 1	< 1	0
7+	< 1	< 1	0	0	0	0
^b Mean	1.0	1.0	0.33	0.26	0.38	0.16

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean kill per hunter.

*Modern firearm hunters consist of still and dog hunters.

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

Days Hunted Per Person	^a % Modern Firearms Hunters*	% Still Hunters	% Dog Hunters	% Primitive Firearm Hunters	% Archery Hunters	% Crossbow Hunters
1-5	19	20	33	68	41	59
6-10	22	23	18	22	23	20
11-15	13	13	13	5	12	7
16-20	14	15	26	4	8	6
21-25	8	7	3	0	3	3
26-30	11	10	5	1	7	2
31-35	3	2	3	0	2	1
36-40	3	3	0	0	1	1
41-45	1	1	0	0	< 1	0
46-50	2	2	0	0	1	0
50+	5	5	0	0	2	1
^b Mean	18.9	18.5	12.0	5.7	12.8	8.1

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean 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 method type for 941 survey respondents, 2025-26 hunting season.

Method Type	Antlered Deer	Button Bucks	Non-Antlered
Still hunt	60.5%	1.9%	37.6%
Dog hunt	68.8%	0.0%	31.3%
Bow and Arrow	43.3%	3.3%	53.3%
Crossbow	51.9%	3.9%	44.2%
Primitive	49.7%	2.6%	47.7%
Total^a	56.3	2.4	41.3%

^aTotal consists of the average percent harvest for all method types combined.

Table 5. A comparison of hunting statistics for the 2025-26 and 2024-25 deer hunting seasons and the 2026 and 2025 spring turkey hunting seasons and wild hog.

	Hunters 2025-26	Hunters 2024-25	% Change For Hunters	Harvest 2025-26	Harvest 2024-25	% Change For Harvest	Days 2025-26	Days 2024-25	% Change For Days
Deer (All Methods)	226,200	213,500	5.9 ^a	276,200	239,000	15.6	5,569,300	5,008,900	11.2
Deer (Modern Firearms)	212,400	204,500	3.9	216,700	193,900	11.8	3,893,900	3,592,200	8.4
Deer (MF Still Hunt)	211,700	203,300	4.1	213,600	190,800	11.9	3,782,500	3,492,400	8.3
Deer (MF Dog Hunt)	9,500	7,700	23.4	3,100	3,000	3.3	111,300	99,800	11.5
Deer (Bow and Arrow)	61,600	53,900	14.3	23,300	15,500	50.3	776,900	602,700	28.9
Deer (Crossbow)	33,100	28,500	16.1	7,900	4,800	64.6	288,300	232,300	24.1
Deer (Primitive Firearms)	108,200	103,400	4.6	28,300	24,800	14.1	610,200	581,800	4.9
Turkey (Excludes Youth)	28,500	22,000	29.5	8,300	8,400	-1.2	165,100	147,600	11.9
Hogs	78,000	71,400	9.2	422,000	674,000	-37.4	498,100	597,900	-16.7

^a *P* value for difference is ≤ 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	63
6-10	22
11-15	13
16-20	2
21-25	2
26+	0

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

Harvest Per Person	% Turkey Hunters
0	74
1	23
2	3

Table 8. Hunting statistics for the 2025-26 Small Game and Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons based on 300,206 licensed hunters.

Species	Hunters	Harvest	Days
Resident Game			
Squirrel	59,700 $\pm$ 6,600 ^a	850,900 $\pm$ 164,000	394,200 $\pm$ 76,900
Rabbit	20,500 $\pm$ 4,200	139,600 $\pm$ 66,800	113,200 $\pm$ 46,800
Wild Quail	1,900 $\pm$ 1,300	7,400 $\pm$ 8,300	20,000 $\pm$ 18,700
Pen-raised Quail	1,700 $\pm$ 1,200	34,000 $\pm$ 31,300	3,600 $\pm$ 2,900
Raccoon	4,800 $\pm$ 2,100	20,200 $\pm$ 13,700	39,700 $\pm$ 32,500
Coyote	19,300 $\pm$ 4,100	45,700 $\pm$ 13,000	
Bobcat	6,400 $\pm$ 2,400	6,400 $\pm$ 2,400	
Migratory Game			
Mourning Dove	30,400 $\pm$ 5,000	574,000 $\pm$ 186,200	103,000 $\pm$ 23,700
Eurasian Collared-Dove	4,500 $\pm$ 2,000	18,800 $\pm$ 10,900	
White-winged Dove	5,500 $\pm$ 2,200	38,500 $\pm$ 28,100	
Woodcock	5,500 $\pm$ 2,200	66,600 $\pm$ 56,900	43,100 $\pm$ 30,200
Snipe	2,600 $\pm$ 1,500	15,900 $\pm$ 11,700	3,800 $\pm$ 3,000
Gallinule	2,100 $\pm$ 1,400	20,000 $\pm$ 16,700	13,800 $\pm$ 12,500
Duck	80,200 $\pm$ 7,300	2,180,900 $\pm$ 375,100	880,900 $\pm$ 125,000
Goose	15,200 $\pm$ 3,600	245,300 $\pm$ 190,400	145,600 $\pm$ 49,900
Coot	5,700 $\pm$ 2,300	79,700 $\pm$ 48,100	60,900 $\pm$ 42,000
Rails	1,200 $\pm$ 1,000	2,900 $\pm$ 3,100	4,000 $\pm$ 5,300

^a Confidence intervals are calculated at $P=0.05$.

Table 9. A comparison of small game hunting statistics by species for the 2025-26 and 2024-25 hunting seasons.

	Hunters		% Change	Harvest		% Change	Days		% Change
	2025-2026	2024-2025	For Hunters	2025-2026	2024-2025	For Harvest	2025-2026	2024-2025	For Days
Resident Game									
Squirrel	59,700	49,200	21.3 ^a	850,900	725,400	17.3	394,200	294,600	33.8
Rabbit	20,500	19,300	6.2	139,600	137,600	1.5	113,200	84,600	33.8
Wild quail	1,900	500	280.0	7,400	0 ^b	-	20,000	1,200	1,566.7
Pen-raised quail	1,700	1,600	6.3	34,000	25,300	34.4	3,600	2,700	33.3
Raccoon	4,800	5,400	-11.1	20,200	26,800	-24.6	39,700	55,800	-28.9
Coyote	19,300	13,200	46.2	45,700	55,000	-16.9			
Bobcat	6,400	4,500	42.7	6,400	4,500	42.7			
Migratory Game									
Mourning dove	30,400	30,600	-0.7	574,000	478,100	20.1	103,000	96,200	7.1
E. collared-dove	4,500	3,800	18.4	18,800	15,200	23.7			
W.-winged dove	5,500	7,000	-21.4	38,500	51,800	-25.7			
Woodcock	5,500	4,300	27.9	66,600	25,500	161.2	43,100	18,600	131.7
Snipe	2,600	4,100	-36.6	15,900	29,400	-45.9	3,800	18,900	-79.9
Gallinule	2,100	1,600	31.3	20,000	13,900	43.9	13,800	7,900	74.7
Duck	80,200	72,500	10.6	2,180,900	1,775,900	22.8	880,900	774,500	13.7
Goose	15,200	12,500	21.6	245,300	66,200	270.5	145,600	100,300	45.2
Coot	5,700	4,100	39.0	79,700	50,100	59.1	60,900	28,900	110.7
Rail	1,200	1,100	9.1	2,900	2,700	7.4	4,000	1,400	185.7

^a*P* value for difference is ≤ 0.05 based on non-overlap of confidence intervals.

^bNo quail reported harvested.

Table 10. Reported proportion of hunter harvest for resident small game and wild hog, 2025-26 hunting season.

Harvest Per Person	% Squirrel ^a Hunters	% Rabbit Hunters	% Wild Quail Hunters	% Raccoon Hunters	% Wild Hog Hunters
0	8	18	38	15	16
1-5	27	45	38	70	59
6-10	29	24	13	5	18
11-15	8	4	13	0	10
16-20	10	6	0	10	2
21-25	4	1	0	0	1
26-30	3	0	0	0	1
31-35	1	0	0	0	1
36-40	4	0	0	0	2
41-45	< 1	0	0	0	0
46-50	1	0	0	0	< 1
51+	5	2	0	0	1
^b Mean	14.4	7.0	3.9	4.3	5.4

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean kill per hunter.

Table 11. Reported proportion of hunter harvest for migratory small game, 2025-26 hunting

Harvest Per Person	% Mourning ^a Dove Hunters	% Woodcock Hunters	% Snipe Hunters	% Gallinule Hunters	% Duck Hunters	% Goose Hunters	% Coot Hunters	% Rail Hunters
0	7	43	9	0	8	19	17	17
1-5	23	26	55	40	21	34	29	67
6-10	26	4	18	40	17	27	13	0
11-15	13	4	9	10	11	5	17	0
16-20	5	4	9	0	5	5	0	17
21-25	8	0	0	0	5	0	4	0
26-30	6	0	0	10	5	5	8	0
31-35	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
36-40	2	4	0	0	5	0	4	0
41-45	2	9	0	0	2	0	4	0
46-50	2	0	0	8	5	2	0	0
51+	7	4	0	0	17	5	4	0
^b Mean	19.2	12.2	6.1	8.4	26.5	16.1	14.0	2.4

season.

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean harvest per hunter.

Table 12. Reported proportion of hunter efforts by days for resident small game and wild hog, 2025-26 hunting season.

Days Hunted per Person	% Squirrel ^a Hunters	% Rabbit Hunters	% Wild Quail Hunters	% Raccoon Hunters	% Wild Hog Hunters
1-5	65	84	38	68	60
6-10	21	3	38	16	19
11-15	6	6	0	0	5
16-20	4	2	13	5	7
21-25	< 1	1	0	0	3
26-30	2	1	13	0	3
31-35	0	0	0	0	< 1
36-40	1	0	0	5	0
41-45	0	0	0	0	< 1
46-50	0	1	0	5	< 1
51+	< 1	1	0	0	2
^b Mean	6.7	5.5	10.5	8.8	8.9

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean days hunted per hunter.

Table 13. Reported proportion of hunter efforts by days for migratory small game, 2025-26 hunting season.

Days Hunted per Person	% Mourning ^a Dove Hunters	% Woodcock Hunters	% Snipe Hunters	% Gallinule Hunters	% Duck Hunters	% Goose Hunters	% Coot Hunters	% Rail Hunters
1-5	86	70	100	78	46	65	70	75
6-10	11	9	0	0	20	24	0	25
11-15	2	9	0	11	9	11	4	0
16-20	0	0	0	11	10	3	4	0
21-25	1	0	0	0	5	8	4	0
26-30	0	0	0	0	4	6	9	0
31-35	0	13	0	0	2	0	0	0
36-40	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0
41-45	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
46-50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51+	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0
Mean	3.4	7.9	1.8	6.4	10.9	9.9	11.1	4.3

^aPercentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

^bMean days hunted per hunter.

Table 14. Total days hunted and total deer harvest by Deer Area (DA) for 1,261 survey respondents, 2025-26 hunting season.

DA	Total Days Hunted	Total Harvest
1	1438	127
2	7207	382
3	1067	66
4	2125	83
5	364	9
6	2392	102
7	297	14
8	485	15
9	1343	42
10	464	18
Totals	17182	858

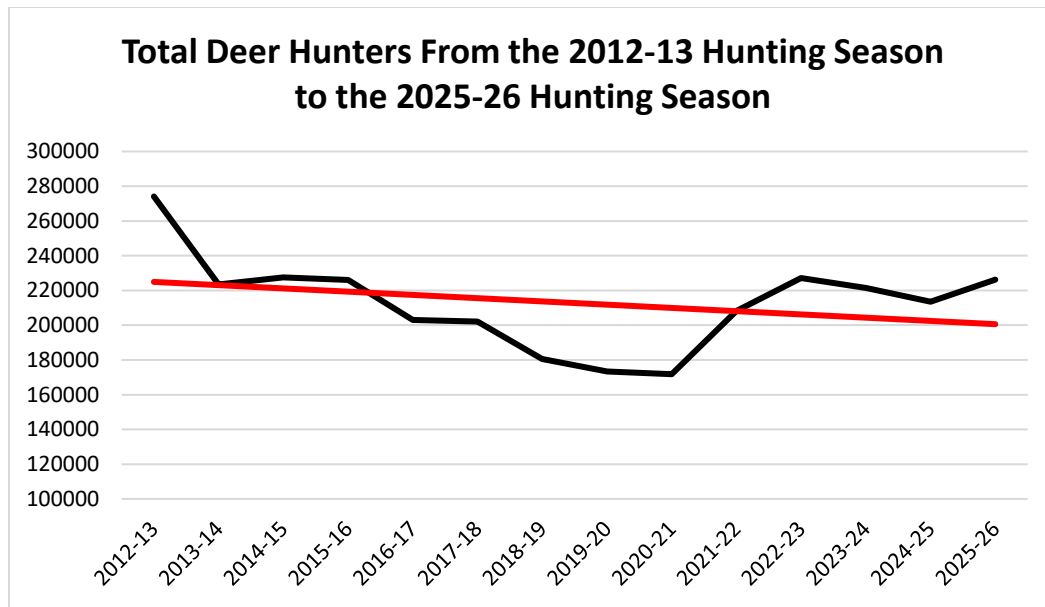


Figure 1. Regression of total number of deer hunters from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2025-26 hunting season.

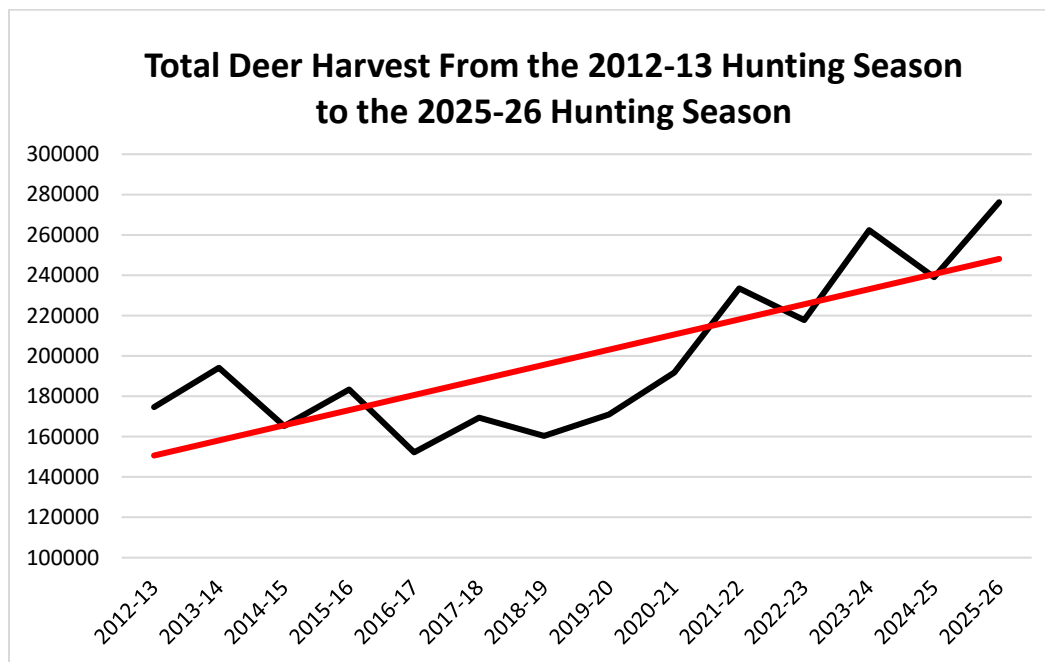


Figure 2 Regression of total deer harvest from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2025-26 hunting season.

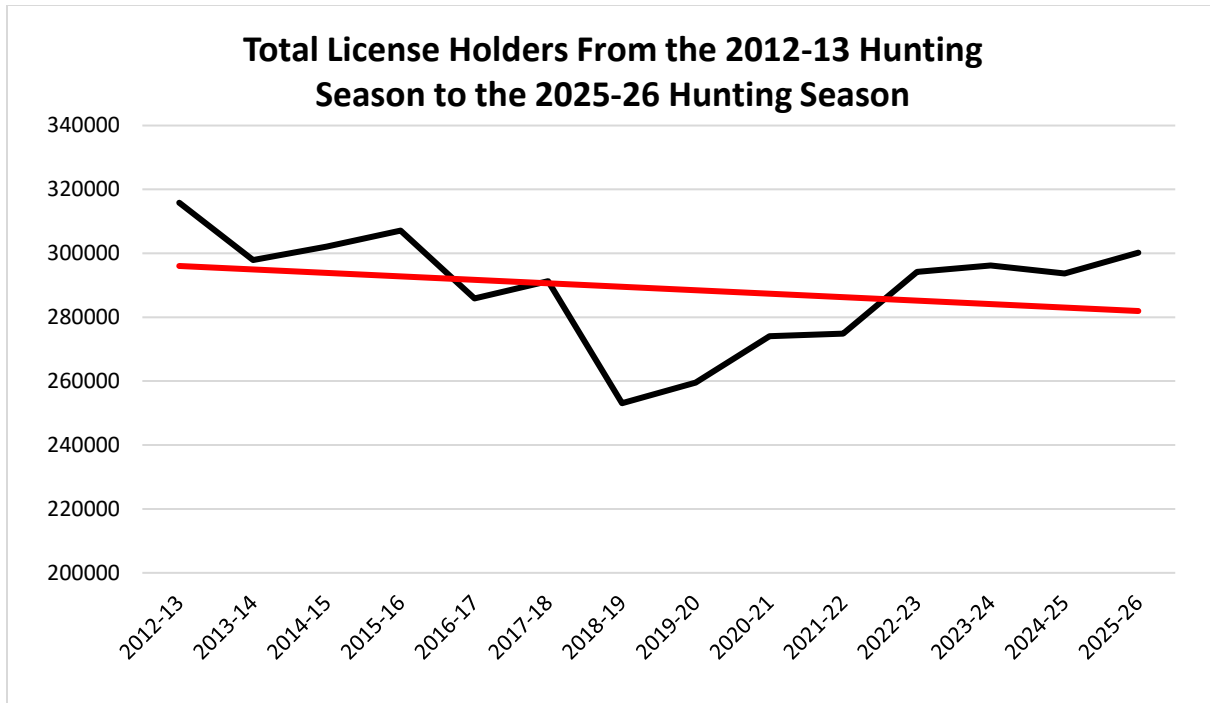


Figure 3. Regression of total number of license holders from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2025-26 hunting season.

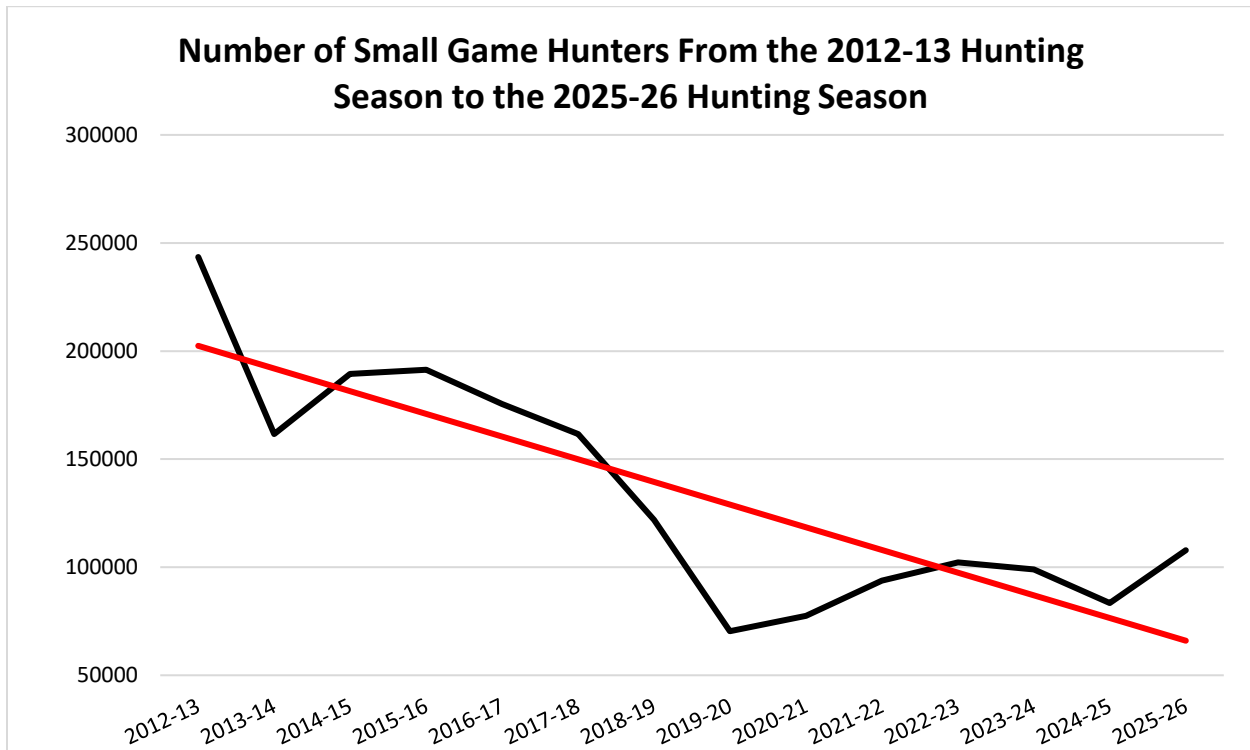


Figure 4. Regression of number of small game hunters from the 2012-13 hunting season to the 2025-26 hunting season.

Appendix 1. Hunter harvest survey.

2025-2026 LOUISIANA GAME HARVEST SURVEY - Online

Did you obtain **deer tags** for the 2025-26 deer season? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did you obtain **turkey tags** for the 2025-26 deer season? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did you hunt in Louisiana during the 2025-26 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did you hunt white-tailed deer in Louisiana during the 2025-26 season? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please list the number of days you hunted **deer** in Louisiana and your respective harvest by weapon during the 2025-26 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 _____

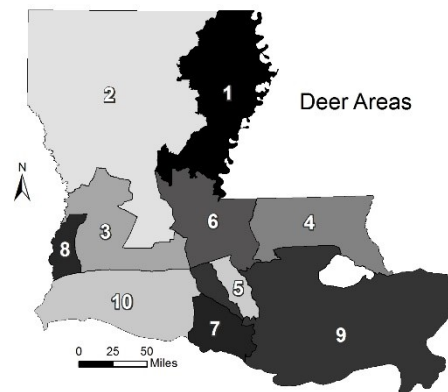
Please list sex of deer harvested.

	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 2025-26 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		



Did you hunt deer in a Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Control Area during the 2025-2026 Season?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Current LDWF efforts to slow the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Louisiana includes early detection and disease mitigation. CWD Control Areas are established where CWD has been detected. Do you support the following CWD Control Area regulations?

Prohibition of bait and supplemental feed for deer within 25 miles of a confirmed case of CWD in a wild deer population.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Undecided

Prohibition of the movement of certain deer carcass parts within 25 miles of a confirmed case of CWD in a wild deer population?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Undecided

Did you harvest a **bobcat** during the 2025 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 2025-26 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 2025-26 hunting season even if you weren't specifically hunting for them?

#Days _____ Hogs harvested _____

Did you hunt wild **turkey this spring (2026)** in Louisiana?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how many days did you hunt turkeys in Louisiana this spring (2026)?

Days hunted _____

How many **turkeys** did you bag in Louisiana this spring (2026)?

Turkeys harvested _____

Did you harvest **coyotes** during the 2025 calendar year?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

Did you obtain a HIP (Harvest Information Program) certification for the 2025-26 migratory bird season?

☐ Yes ☐ No

The Conservation Order (special goose season when electronic calls can be used) season dates were December 09-19 and February 08-March 15 for the East Zone and December 08-19, January 08-12, and February 12-March 15 for the West Zone.

Did you hunt light geese during the 2025-2026 Conservation Order?

☐ 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? _____

Did you hunt small game **mammals** OR **birds** (birds include **waterfowl**) in Louisiana during the 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 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: