

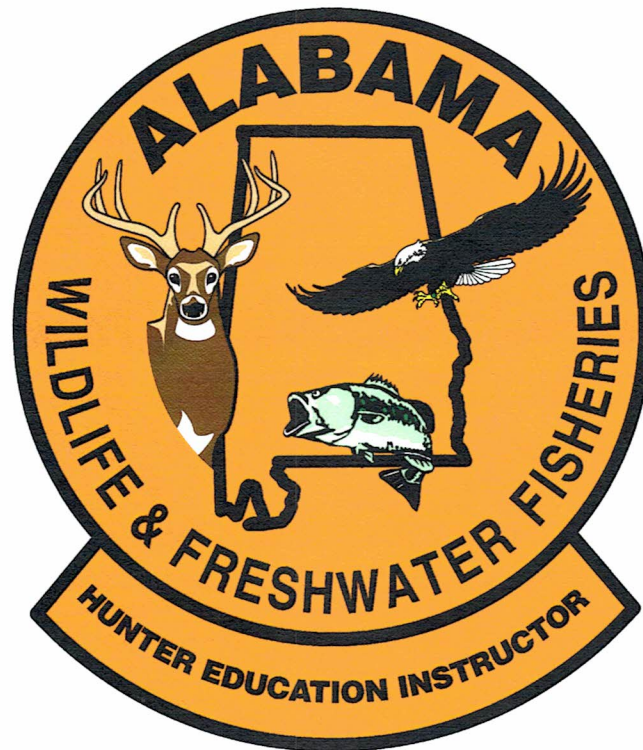
ALABAMA

HUNTER EDUCATION

AND

HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

2021-2022



COMPILED BY THE

ALABAMA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ALABAMA
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INTRODUCTION

This annual report contains statistics and information from hunting incident reports submitted to the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries from September 1, 2021 – August 30, 2022.

For the purpose of this report, a hunting incident is any event outside of a building that results in injury or death to any person as a result of a person's actions while hunting game which is attributable directly or indirectly to a firearm or bow while in game habitat.

The purpose of this report is to provide statistical information on the similarities, causes, and frequency of hunting incidents in Alabama. This information is compiled and analyzed to direct activities and education designed to reduce Alabama's hunting accident rate. While hunting accidents are very low as compared to other outdoor activities, by publishing this information, the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries hopes the increased awareness will help reduce the hunting accident rate even further.

Compared to other sports, hunting is not only safe, but getting safer. According to *American Sports Data* and *the National Shooting Sports Foundation*, hunting ranks lower than basketball, football, tennis, cheerleading, bicycling, golf, and even bowling in the total number of injuries per 100 participants. We can thank hunters for demanding a high standard from each other. We can also thank hunter safety education instructors, many whom volunteer to serve, for passing on safe, responsible, knowledgeable and involved actions by shooters and hunters and for passing on the heritage of hunting. It is because of their efforts that hunting has such a high safety record.

ALABAMA HUNTING INCIDENT SUMMARY 2021-2022

- 15 TOTAL INCIDENTS
- 10 NON-FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS
 - 6 - Two Party Accident
(1 – victim covered by shooter swinging on game, 2 - careless handling, 1 – victim out of sight of shooter)
 - 4 - Self-Inflicted
- 0 FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENT
- 5 NON-FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS
- 0 FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS

ALABAMA HUNTER EDUCATION AND HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

Hunting Season	Fatal Incidents			Non-fatal Incidents			Total Accidents	# Licenses Sold	Students Trained	Incident Rate (Incidents/100,000 licenses sold)		
	Firearms	Treestand	Total	Firearms	Treestand	Total				Firearms	Treestand	Total
1973-74	19	0	19	25	2	27	46	332,391	1,193	13.2	0.6	13.8
1974-75	5	0	5	20	0	20	25	347,999	2,686	7.2	0.0	7.2
1975-76	5	0	5	25	0	25	30	332,112	2,478	9.0	0.0	9.0
1976-77	11	0	11	25	0	25	36	336,991	3,217	10.7	0.0	10.7
1977-78	9	0	9	22	1	23	32	342,831	2,515	9.0	0.3	9.3
1978-79	6	1	7	17	4	21	28	353,779	1,622	6.5	1.4	7.9
1979-80	7	0	7	27	3	30	37	308,350	3,092	11.0	1.0	12.0
1980-81	7	1	8	35	1	36	44	322,100	3,203	13.0	0.7	13.7
1981-82	9	0	9	34	5	39	48	312,939	6,251	13.7	1.6	15.3
1982-83	6	2	8	33	3	36	44	299,272	6,124	13.0	1.7	14.7
1983-84	8	0	8	39	6	45	53	296,042	4,689	15.9	2.0	17.9
1984-85	15	0	15	37	4	41	56	294,027	4,098	17.7	1.3	19.0
1985-86	11	0	11	31	6	37	48	290,951	4,156	14.4	2.1	16.5
1986-87	6	0	6	34	8	42	48	303,538	6,403	13.2	2.6	15.8
1987-88	3	0	3	34	6	40	43	294,980	5,701	12.5	2.1	14.6
1988-89	6	2	8	37	12	49	57	291,042	5,875	14.8	4.8	19.6
1989-90	3	0	3	36	7	43	46	275,677	5,641	14.2	2.5	16.7
1990-91	3	0	3	29	6	35	38	279,100	5,879	11.5	2.1	13.6
1991-92	5	2	7	24	13	37	44	286,075	6,681	10.1	5.3	15.4
1992-93	7	0	7	31	9	40	47	287,500	11,511	13.2	3.1	16.3
1993-94*	5	1	6	22	8	30	36	282,366	11,814	9.6	3.2	12.8
1994-95	7	1	8	24	24	48	56	279,369	11,114	11.1	8.9	19.0
1995-96	4	1	5	26	10	36	41	285,014	11,810	10.5	3.9	14.4
1996-97	3	2	5	19	18	37	42	272,998	12,241	8.1	7.3	15.4
1997-98	2	1	3	22	14	36	39	273,199	12,232	8.8	5.5	14.3
1998-99	1	2	3	15	7	22	25	270,481	12,452	5.9	3.3	9.2
1999-00	1	3	4	15	19	34	38	272,222	13,815	5.9	8.1	14.0
2000-01	4	0	4	13	14	27	31	271,328	13,294	6.3	5.2	11.5
2001-02	3	0	3	18	17	35	38	272,005	11,275	7.8	6.3	14.1
2002-03	4	0	4	23	7	30	34	257,252	10,949	10.4	2.7	13.1
2003-04	2	1	3	11	9	20	23	267,099	10,654	4.9	3.7	8.8
2004-05	2	3	5	7	9	16	21	259,651	9,683	3.3	4.4	7.7
2005-06	3	0	3	5	9	14	17	256,063	6,478	3.1	3.5	6.6
2006-07	0	1	1	10	9	19	19	260,378	12,071	3.8	3.5	7.3
2007-08	2	0	2	4	12	16	18	256,122	12,959	2.3	4.7	7.0
2008-09	3	0	3	9	10	19	22	258,332	12,519	4.7	3.9	8.6
2009-10	1	1	2	10	13	23	25	260,000	13,883	4.2	5.3	9.5
2010-11	1	5	6	3	13	16	22	255,771	12,507	1.6	7.1	8.7
2011-12	2	0	2	13	9	22	24	249,686	14,521	6.0	3.6	9.6
2012-13	4	1	5	14	15	29	34	256,099	14,843	7.0	6.3	13.3
2013-14	5	1	6	6	13	19	25	248,069	18,962	4.4	5.6	10.1

* Program became mandatory

ALABAMA HUNTER EDUCATION AND HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

Fatal
Incidents

Non-fatal
Incidents

Incident Rate
(Incidents/100,000 licenses sold)

Hunting Season	Fatal Incidents			Non-fatal Incidents			Total Accidents	# Licenses Sold	Students Trained	Incident Rate (Incidents/100,000 licenses sold)		
	Firearms	Treestand	Total	Firearms	Treestand	Total				Firearms	Treestand	Total
2014-15	3	1	4	11	15	26	30	264,991	16,418	5.3	6.0	11.3
2015-16	1	2	3	5	10	15	18	261,568	15,061	2.3	4.6	6.9
2016-17	1	2	3	6	10	16	19	260,077	13,852	2.7	4.6	7.3
2017-18	2	1	3	4	10	14	17	291,720	13,499	2.1	3.8	5.8
2018-19	3	3	6	2	12	14	20	286,908	13,330	1.7	5.2	6.9
2019-20	1	3	4	8	10	18	22	307,309	11,629	3.0	4.3	7.3
2020-21	1	0	1	6	10	16	17	324,234	13,937	2.1	3.1	5.3
2021-22	0	0	0	10	5	15	15					

* Program became mandatory

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 2021-2022 Non-fatal Firearms Incident

Date of Accident	County	Age of Victim	Age of Shooter	Was shooter intoxicated?	Game	Type Gear	Muzzle to wound distance (yds.)	Self-inflicted or two-party	Victim wearing hunter orange in two party accidents	Was shooter a hunter education graduate?	Cause of accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1 9/26/2021	Cherokee	27	19	No	Duck	Shotgun	3	Other	No	Yes	Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	9/26/2021
2 11/2/2021	Baldwin	74	46	Unk	Quail	Shotgun	15	Other	Yes	Yes	Careless handling of firearm	11/4/2021
3 12/16/2021	Dekalb		60	No	Deer	Shotgun	20	Self	Yes	No	Drop Firearm	12/16/2021
4 12/23/2021	Cherokee	17	47	Unk	Deer	Muzzleloa	6	Other	Yes	No	Careless handling of firearm	12/29/2021
5 1/4/2022	Madison		48	No	Deer	Rifle		Self	Yes	Yes	Trigger caught on object	1/6/2022
6 1/18/2022	Barbour		49	Unk	Deer	Rifle	Inches	Self	No	Unknown	Careless handling of firearm	1/28/2022
7 1/15/2022	Jackson	23	23	No	Waterfow	Shotgun	2	Other	No	Yes	Firearm Fell	8/28/2022
8 1/19/2022	Walker		20	Unk	Hog	Rifle		Self	No	No	Shooter Stumbled and Fell	2/7/2022
9 3/27/2022	Elmore	45	26	Unk	Turkey	Shotgun	130	Other	NA	Yes	Victim out of sight of shooter	3/27/2022
10 4/26/2022	Jackson	46	23	unkn	Turkey	Shotgun	50	Other	NA	Yes	Failure to check beyond target	8/28/2022

Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 2021-2022 Treestand Incidents

Fatal or Non-fatal	County	Date of Accident	Victim's Age	Game	Type of Weapon	Type of Treestand	Was victim wearing a safety belt and secured to tree?	Stand Height (ft)	Climbing, Sitting, Climbing Down	Cause of Accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1 Non-Fatal	Hale	10/15/2021	56	Deer	Bow	Saddle	No	15	Climbing	Fell - no harness	10/27/2021
2 Non-Fatal	Escambia	11/21/2021	60	Deer		Ladder	No	15	Climbing	Fell moving stand	11/22/2021
3 Non-fatal	Tuscaloosa	12/28/2021	58	Deer	Rifle	Ladder	No	15	Sitting	Fell sitting in stand	12/29/2021
4 Non-Fatal	Tallapoosa	12/4/2020	72	Deer	None	Ladder	No	16	Climbing	Fell taking down stand	1/4/2022
5 Non-Fatal	Date	11/25/2021	63	Deer	Rifle	Homemade	No	30	Climbing	Fell climbing into stand	2/16/2022