

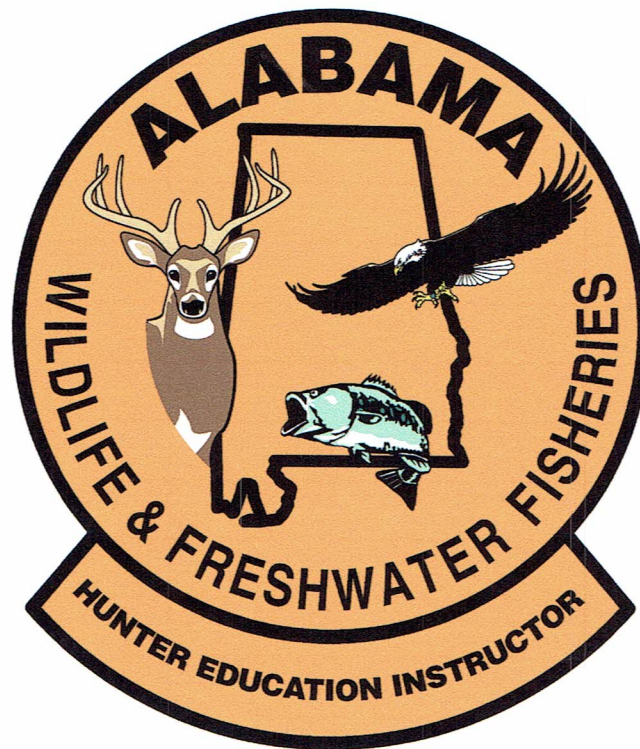
ALABAMA

HUNTER EDUCATION

AND

HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

2018-2019



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, 2018 – August 30, 2019.

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 2018-2019

- 20 TOTAL INCIDENTS
- 2 NON-FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS
 - ALL TWO-PARTY (1- Victim covered by shooter swinging on game (dove), 1- Failure to check beyond the target (deer))
- 3 FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS
 - 1 -TWO-PARTY (Mistaken for game)
 - 2 – SELF - INFLICTED
- 12 NON-FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS
- 3 FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 2018-2019 Non-fatal Firearms Incidents

	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	9/16/2018	Macon	51	46	No	Dove	Shotgun	100	Other	N/A	Yes	Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	9/19/2018
2	1/6/2019	Marion	46	47	No	Deer	Rifle	100	Other	No	No	Failure to check beyond target	2/4/2019

Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 2018-2019 Fatal Firearms Accidents

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 accidents	Was shooter a hunter education graduate?	Cause of accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
2	1/13/2019	Dallas	11	0	Deer	Rifle	Inches	Self	No	No	Careless handling of firearm	1/14/2019
3	2/9/2019	Pike		0	Deer	Rifle		Other	No	Yes		
4	2/6/2019	Dale	70	0	Deer	Handgun	inches	Self			Shooter fell	2/27/2019

Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries 2018-2019 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, Coming Down	Cause of Accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1 Non-Fatal	Shelby	9/15/2018	53	Deer	N/A	Hang-on	No	21	Climbing	Fell putting up stand - cable broke	9/24/2018
2 Non-Fatal	Covington	10/23/2018	27	Deer		Hang-on	Yes	14	Sitting	Fell while in stand - possibly fell asleep	11/14/2018
3 Non-Fatal	Pickens	10/29/2018	38	Deer		Hang-on	No	21	Climbing	Fell while moving to sit down on stand	11/1/2018
4 Non-Fatal	Baldwin	11/17/2018	24	Deer		Climbing	No	8	Climbing	Fell while climbing into position	12/16/2018
5 Non-Fatal	Tallapoosa	11/23/2018	74	Deer		Permanent	No	15	Climbing	Fell while climbing into stand	11/23/2018
6 Non-Fatal	Talladega	11/29/2018	69	Deer	Bow	Hang-on	No	15	Climbing	Fell while climbing into stand	12/2/2018
7 Fatal	Calhoun	12/2/2018	65	Deer	Rifle	Climbing	No	25	Sitting	Fell while in stand	12/4/2018
8 Non-Fatal	Barbour	12/6/2018	62	Deer		Hang-on	No	25	Sitting	Fell while in stand	1/19/2019
9 Non-fatal	Cherokee	10/21/2018	38			Ladder	No	10	Climbing	Fell while removing stand	10/21/2018
10 Non-Fatal	Madison	12/13/2018	65	Deer		Ladder	No	13	Climbing	fellwhile climbing into stand	12/19/2018
11 Non-Fatal	Limestone	12/18/2018	64	Deer		Permanent	No	24	Sitting	Fell asleep in stand and fell	1/7/2019
12 Fatal	St. Clair	12/29/2018	69	Deer	Rifle	Hang-on	No	25	Climbing	Fell while climbing into stand	12/30/2018
13 Fatal	Barbour	1/13/2019	45	Deer	Rifle	Climbing	No	25	Climbing	Fell while climbing into stand - straps rusted	1/16/2019
14 Non-Fatal	Washington	1/10/2019	29	Deer	Bow	Hang-on	No	14	Climbing	Fell while climbing into stand	1/18/2019
15 Non-Fatal	Butler	2/9/2019	62	Deer		Permanent	No	12	Climbing	Fell while climbing down	3/12/2019

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

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	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					