

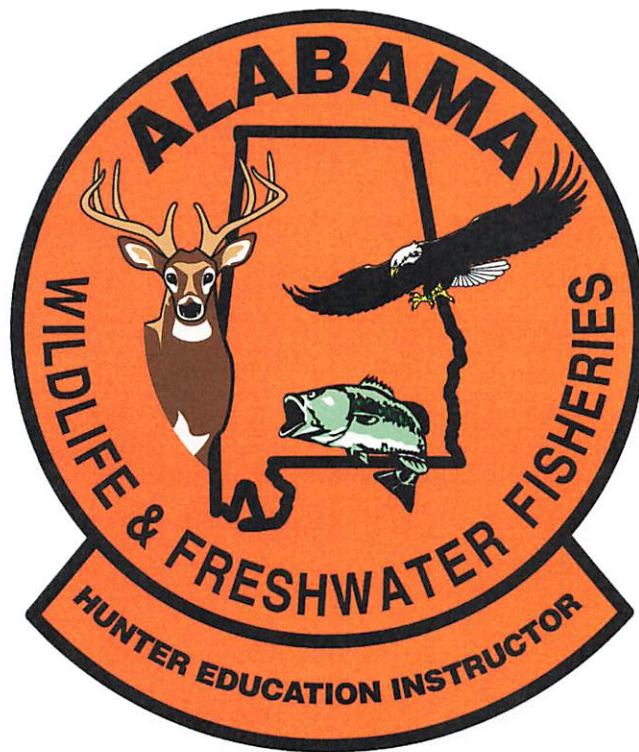
ALABAMA

HUNTER EDUCATION

AND

HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

2019-2020



COMPILED BY THE

ALABAMA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ALABAMA
KAY IVEY - GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
CHRIS BLANKENSHIP – COMMISSIONER

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES
CHARLES F. SYKES - DIRECTOR

WILDLIFE SECTION
KEITH GAULDIN - CHIEF

MARISA FUTRAL
HUNTER EDUCATION COORDINATOR



INTRODUCTION

This annual report contains statistics and information from hunting incident reports submitted to the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries from September 1, 2019 – August 30, 2020.

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 2019-2020

- 22 TOTAL INCIDENTS
- 8 NON-FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS
 - 4 Two Party Accident (All Failure to identify target)
 - 4 Self-Inflicted
- 1 FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENT
- 10 NON-FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS
- 3 FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS

**Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
2019-2020 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	Bullock	10/19/2019	51	Deer	bow	Permanent	No	14	other	treestand failure, leaned against & side fell off	10/19/2019
2	Non-Fatal	Marengo	10/19/2019	39	Deer	bow	Hang-on	No	16	Climbing	straps broke on stand	10/31/2019
3	Non-Fatal	Jackson	10/27/2019	59	Deer			No	10	Climbing	Lineman Belt Broke	11/4/2019
4	Fatal	Fayette	11/2/2019	33	Deer	Bow	Climber	No	31	Sitting	Fell while in stand	11/7/2019
5	Non-Fatal	Madison	11/5/2019	30	Deer	Bow	Hang-On	No	20	Climbing	Fell climbing up to the stand	11/5/2019
6	Non-Fatal	Franklin	11/26/2019	22	Deer	Rifle	Ladder	No	15	Climbing	Fell Climbing down stand	12/2/2019
7	Fatal	Pickens	1/1/2020	65	Deer	Rifle	Permanent	No	6	Climbing	Fell Climbing down stand	1/27/2020
8	Fatal	Jackson	10/27/2020	57	Deer	Crossbow	Permanent	No	30	Unknown	Unknown	1/14/2020
9	Non-Fatal	Henry	1/19/2020	64	Deer	Rifle	Permanent	No	9	climbing	House fell over while climbing down	1/23/2020
10	Non-Fatal	Covington	1/20/2020	46	Deer	Crossbow	Permanent	No	14	Climbing	Fell while climbing down	3/19/2020
11	Non-fatal	Marshall	1/25/2020	51	Deer		Climber	No	7	Climbing	Fell while climbing up	
12	Non-Fatal	Escambia	2/9/2020	53	Deer	Rifle	Climber	No	18	Sitting	Stand fell while he was sitting	2/10/2020
13	Non-Fatal	Sumter	12/27/2019	46	Deer		Climber	No	25	Climbing	Stand broke while climbing down	1/1/2020

**Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
2019-2020 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 10/28/2019	Autagua		67	No	Deer	Crossbow	inches	Self		Yes	Careless handling of archery equipment	10/31/2019
2 11/24/2019	Macon		11	No	Deer	Rifle	Inches	Self		Yes	careless handling of firearm	11/24/2019
3 12/11/2019	Randolph		24	No	Squirrel	Rifle	1 foot	Self		No	Careless handling, tripped	12/12/2019
4 12/16/2019	St. Clair	20	34	No	Deer	Shotgun	35	Other	No	Yes	Failure to identify target	12/16/2019
5 1/18/2020	Butler		53	No	Deer	Rifle	Inches	Self	Yes	No	Careless handling of firearm	2/6/2020
6 4/5/2020	Dallas	36	48	No	Turkey	Shotgun	72	Other	No	Yes	Failure to identify target	4/5/2020
7 4/11/2020	Choctaw	42	9	No	Turkey	Shotgun	40	Other	No	No	Failure to identify target	4/12/2020
8 5/1/2020	Jefferson	39	35	Yes	Turkey	Shotgun	65 feet	Other	No	No	Failure to identify target	5/22/2020

Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
2019-2020 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 two party accidents	Was shooter a hunter education graduate?	Cause of accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1 5/1/2020	Jefferson	11	35	Yes	Turkey	Shotgun	65 feet	Other	No	No	Failure to identify target	5/22/2020

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	Incident Rate (Incidents/100,000 licenses sold)			
	Firearms	Treestand	Total	Firearms	Treestand	Total			Students Trained	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					