

### **ALABAMA HUNTER HARVEST 2024-2025**

#### 2025

### **Responsive Management**

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This study was conducted for the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (the Division), to determine Alabama licensed hunters' participation in hunting and harvest of various species. This marks the eighth annual hunter harvest survey conducted by Responsive Management for the Division, starting with the 2017-2018 hunting seasons. The study entailed a scientific, probability-based telephone survey of Alabama licensed hunters.

The researchers chose to use telephones as the preferred sampling mode primarily because Responsive Management's past experience on harvest surveys has shown that license holders who do not actively participate in hunting or who do not successfully harvest an animal are less likely to respond to a mail or online survey than to a telephone survey, as there is more effort involved in responding via mail or online. Mail and online surveys, therefore, obtain more avid samples than do telephone surveys because hunters who did not hunt or harvest will readily tell an interviewer verbally that they did not do so but are much less motivated to answer even a single survey question on paper and mail it or go to a web address and respond online. Thus, harvest surveys performed via mail or online have an inherent risk of overestimating harvest because of the decreased response from those who did not hunt and/or harvest during the season. Additional reasons for selecting telephones as the preferred survey mode are detailed in the body of the report.

Responsive Management, in collaboration with the Division, developed the telephone survey questionnaire based on the aforementioned previous surveys conducted from 2018 to 2024. Responsive Management computer coded the survey for its computer-assisted telephone interviewing system.

After the surveys were obtained, the Survey Center managers and statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness. Responsive Management obtained 3,289 completed interviews with Alabama licensed hunters, 2,953 of whom went hunting.

The analysis of the data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results were weighted by license type and residency status so that the overall sample was representative of Alabama licensed hunters as a whole. For the entire sample of Alabama licensed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 1.79 percentage points.

## HUNTING DEER: PARTICIPATION, TYPES OF LAND, EQUIPMENT, DAYS, HARVEST, AND REPORTING COMPLIANCE

- In 2024-2025, there were nearly 236,000 hunters who hunted deer during the deer seasons in Alabama.
  - These hunters hunted deer for more than 5.2 million days.
  - More than 330,000 deer were harvested during the 2024-2025 seasons.

#### Deer Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Deer Hunting. Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024 2025)									
Deer / Equipment / Land / Deer Type	Number of Hunters	Hunter-Days	Number Harvested						
Deer-All	235,865	5,230,249	330,413						
Archery	96,225	1,444,400	63,672						
Modern	212,833	3,620,476	255,945						
Primitive	22,573	165,372	11,248						
Private Land		4,738,519	311,822						
WMAs		270,605	9,221						
Other Public		221,124	9,371						
Buck			144,828						
Doe			176,220						

WMAs refers to Wildlife Management Areas.

- Most deer harvesters (83%) reported all of their deer.
- Nearly three quarters of those who harvested deer in 2024-2025 (71%) have used a commercial processor to process at least some of their deer harvest over the past 3 years.
- Overall, 17% of deer hunters hunted deer with a gun on a WMA in the past 5 years. Also, among deer hunters who hunted deer with a gun on a WMA in the past 5 years, their most preferred schedules for a WMA gun deer hunt are for a Thursday through Sunday hunt day structure or an intermittent weeklong hunt day structure. (These two questions were new to the survey.)

## HUNTING TURKEY: PARTICIPATION, SEASONS, EQUIPMENT, DAYS, HARVEST, AND REPORTING COMPLIANCE

- ➤ About 72,000 hunters hunted turkey in Alabama during the 2024-2025 seasons.
  - Turkey hunters spent over 734,000 days hunting turkey.
  - Nearly 42,000 turkeys were harvested in the 2024-2025 seasons in Alabama.

Turkey Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Turkey / Equipment / Season / Turkey Type	Number of Hunters	Hunter-Days	Number Harvested
Turkey-All	71,746	734,443	41,869
Archery		14,220	
Modern		714,815	
Primitive		5,408	
Fall	1,415	8,577	452
Spring	70,330	725,866	41,417
Jakes			3,011
Gobblers			38,858

Overall, 95% of turkey harvesters reported all of their harvest.

#### **HUNTING QUAIL: PARTICIPATION, TYPES OF QUAIL HUNTED, DAYS, AND HARVEST**

Nearly 11,000 quail hunters hunted nearly 77,000 days and harvested over 371,000 quail. Most of the quail hunting and harvest was for pen-raised quail.

Quail Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Quail /	Number of	Hunter Dave	Number
Quail Type	Hunters	Hunter-Days	Harvested
Quail-All	10,550	76,751	371,330
Wild	3,396	27,869	40,305
Pen-Raised	8,780	48,882	331,025

#### **HUNTING DOVE: PARTICIPATION, SPLIT HUNTED, DAYS, AND HARVEST**

➤ Over 66,000 hunters harvested over 1.6 million dove in the 2024-2025 seasons over the course of nearly 272,000 hunting days.

Dove Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

	Number of Hunters	Hunter-Days	Number Harvested						
Dove-All	66,354	271,747	1,620,306						
First Split		182,838	1,167,663						
Remaining Splits		78,049	484,878						
Unknown Splits			47,523						

#### **HUNTING OTHER SPECIES: PARTICIPATION, DAYS, AND HARVEST**

➤ Data regarding hunting of other small game species are shown in the tables below. In the 2024-2025 seasons, the most popular of these other species among hunters were wild hog, squirrel, duck, and coyote, each hunted by over 20,000 hunters.

Small Game Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Species	Number of Hunters	Hunter-Days	Number Harvested					
Bobcat	3,918	8,326	2,554					
Coot	1,997	6,584	18,139					
Coyote	26,156	171,749	102,702					
Duck	27,784	276,410	421,921					
Fox	1,650	9,626	2,478					
Goose	8,132	26,386	37,406					
Opossum	2,229	4,216	6,351					
Rabbit	9,736	84,942	61,433					
Raccoon	11,008	170,547	117,705					
Snipe	310	346	71					
Squirrel	28,374	156,372	360,036					
Wild hog	38,384	208,204	285,162					
Woodcock	780	2,669	3,814					

#### **TRENDS**

- > Detailed trend tables are shown in the body of the report. Some key findings include:
  - The number of deer hunters is almost exactly the same as last year, with a higher harvest due to a higher success rate.
  - Turkey harvest increased compared to last year, which corresponds to increases in turkey hunters and hunting days, as well as a slight increase in the harvest success rate.
  - Harvest increased substantially for quail. Although there was little change in the number
    of hunters and harvest success rate, a substantial increase in the number of hunting
    days resulted in harvest increases for both wild and pen-raised quail.

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#### INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (the Division), to determine Alabama licensed hunters' participation in hunting and harvest of various species. This marks the eighth annual hunter harvest survey conducted by Responsive Management for the Division, starting with the 2017-2018 hunting seasons. The study entailed a scientific, probability-based telephone survey of Alabama licensed hunters. Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

#### **USE OF TELEPHONES FOR THE SURVEY**

The researchers chose to use telephones as the preferred sampling mode for several reasons. Responsive Management's past experience on harvest surveys has shown that license holders who do not actively participate in hunting or who do not successfully harvest an animal are less likely to respond to a mail or online survey than to a telephone survey, as there is more effort involved in responding via mail or online. Mail and online surveys, therefore, obtain more avid samples than do telephone surveys because hunters who did not hunt or harvest will readily tell an interviewer verbally that they did not do so but are much less motivated to answer even a single survey question on paper and mail it or go to a web address and respond online. Thus, harvest surveys performed via mail or online have an inherent risk of overestimating harvest because of the decreased response from those who did not hunt and/or harvest during the season.

Another important reason for choosing telephones as the preferred survey mode is that mail and online surveys systematically exclude those who have difficulty reading. In 2016, the U.S. Department of Education's National Institute of Literacy estimated that 43% of the general population of the United States cannot read beyond a "basic level," suggesting that many might be reticent to complete a mail or online survey they must read to themselves. Additionally, people with poor or limited internet service or who are not comfortable with technology may be hesitant to complete a survey online. However, telephone surveys allow respondents who cannot or will not respond to a mail or online survey to participate. In a telephone survey, a live interviewer reads the survey questions, clarifies them if necessary, and assists the respondent with completing the survey, making it an excellent option to reduce bias and increase response to the survey.

The last reason that the researchers chose to use telephones for this survey is because telephone surveys have fewer negative effects on the environment than do mail surveys because of the reduced use of paper, reduced energy consumption for delivering and returning the questionnaires, and reduced quantity of material to be disposed of after the survey.

#### **QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN**

Responsive Management, in collaboration with the Division, developed the telephone survey questionnaire based on the aforementioned previous surveys conducted from 2018 to 2024. Responsive Management computer coded the survey for its computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system. An important aspect of this CATI system is that the computer

controls which questions are asked, but each telephone survey is administered by a live interviewer.

Responsive Management also developed an online version of the questionnaire that was given to those who had cell phones and who could not be reached after repeated call attempts, as explained further on. This version was the same as the telephone version with slight wording adjustments to account for the online mode. Note that the online survey was closed, meaning it was available only to respondents who were specifically selected for the survey; it was offered only to those who were in the telephone sample.

This year's survey included two new questions regarding deer hunting with a gun on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Also, a question was removed regarding small game hunting on public lands, including WMAs. Responsive Management conducted pre-tests of the questionnaire to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the survey and to ensure that the survey was updated for the 2024-2025 hunting seasons. The survey included screener questions to confirm that hunters were 16 years old or older and were licensed to hunt in the 2024-2025 seasons. A further question asked if they had hunted in Alabama during the 2024-2025 hunting seasons to determine the participation rate, and those who had hunted were then given the full survey.

#### **SURVEY SAMPLE**

The Department provided the sample of Alabama licensed hunters for this study. The sample was stratified based on residents/nonresidents and by lifetime license holders/non-lifetime license holders (i.e., lifetime versus any other type of hunting license). Within each of these sub-samples, a probability-based selection process ensured that each eligible hunter had an equal chance of being selected for the survey. All groups were then proportioned properly during the data analyses, using the proportions in the entire dataset of license holders (resident vs. non-resident, and lifetime license holder vs. any other license holder).

#### TELEPHONE SURVEY DATA COLLECTION AND QUALITY CONTROL

The interviews were conducted using Responsive Management's CATI system, which utilizes software for telephone data collection. The survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted, eliminating manual data entry after the completion of the survey and the concomitant data entry errors that may occur with manual data entry. The survey instrument was programmed so that the CATI system branched, coded, and substituted phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The software also allowed for error checks during the interview to help ensure that the data were accurate and valid.

For quality control of the telephone surveys, Survey Center managers monitored interviews in real time and provided feedback to the interviewers. To ensure that the data collected by telephone are of the highest quality, the interviewers are trained through lectures, role-playing, and video training, according to the standards established by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. The Survey Center managers conducted briefings with the interviewers prior to the administration of this survey. Interviewers were instructed on type of

study, study goals and objectives, handling of survey questions, interview length, termination points and qualifiers for participation, interviewer instructions within the survey questionnaire, reading of the survey questions, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey questionnaires, thereby ensuring the integrity of the data.

Telephone surveying times were Monday through Friday from noon to 9:00 p.m., local time. A multi-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all hunters to participate. When a hunter could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day.

When potential cell phone respondents could not be reached after repeated call attempts, they were sent a text message from an Alabama number inviting them to take the survey online as a self-administered survey. The text provided a link to the online survey that had an introduction with more information and instructions to begin the survey. This online option helped to raise the response rate. A copy of the text and online introduction are shown below.

**Text Message Sent to Cell Phone Nonrespondents to Encourage Participation in the Survey**Hello [name], I'm Jeremiah with Responsive Management. The Alabama Division of Wildlife and
Freshwater Fisheries would like feedback on your hunting in state. Please consider participating in this brief survey: [link].

#### Online Survey Introduction for Cell Phone Nonrespondents Who Were Provided the Link

The <u>Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries</u> is conducting its annual hunting study to get feedback from hunters in order to better understand hunting participation, experiences, preferences, and opinions in the state.

As one of the hunters selected to participate in the study, your answers are very important to this study and to future management decisions.

Your answers will be kept completely confidential and will not be associated with your name or contact information in any way. The survey will only take 5-10 minutes, based on your level of activity.

Responsive Management, an independent research firm that specializes in natural resource and fish and wildlife issues, has been contracted by the Division to conduct this study. If you need technical assistance with the survey, please contact Responsive Management via email at research@responsivemanagement.com.

Thank you for your time and willingness to participate.

Please click "Next" or the arrow below to begin the survey.

After the surveys were obtained, the Survey Center managers and statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness. Responsive Management obtained 3,289 completed surveys with Alabama licensed hunters, 2,953 of whom went hunting.

#### **DATA ANALYSIS**

The data were collected and weighted by license type. The sample was divided into three distinct groups:

- Lifetime license holders.
- Resident non-lifetime license holders.
- Nonresident non-lifetime license holders.

Survey interviews from these groups were then obtained in their proper proportions. Once the data were collected, response rates were computed for each of these groups individually, and these were used to estimate the total number of participants and to weight the final data, as lifetime licensees had a considerably lower rate of participation in hunting than the other license categories.

The analysis of the data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results were weighted by the aforementioned stratification variables so that the overall sample was representative of Alabama licensed hunters as a whole. As indicated, residents and nonresidents were in their proper proportions, as were lifetime license holders and non-lifetime license holders.

The data analysis for this survey included a trends analysis, in which the results of this survey are shown alongside those from the previous surveys for comparison. It is important to note that an additional license, the Resident Bait Privilege License, was added to the database of licensed Alabama hunters in the 2021 survey (for the 2020-2021 seasons) and subsequent years. This additional license added nearly 30,000 hunters to the overall sample; therefore, comparisons of hunting and harvest numbers before and after this addition should take the change into consideration.

#### SAMPLING ERROR

Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Alabama licensed hunters, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 1.79 percentage points. This means that if the survey were conducted 100 times on different samples that were selected in the same way, the findings of 95 out of the 100 surveys would fall within plus or minus 1.79 percentage points of each other. Sampling error was calculated using the standard formula described on the following page, with a sample size of 2,953 and an estimated population size of 260,470 Alabama licensed hunters.

#### **Sampling Error Equation**

$$B = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\frac{N_p(.25)}{N_s} - .25}{N_p - 1}}\right) (1.96)$$
 Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal) 
$$N_P = \text{population size (i.e., total number who could be surveyed)}$$
$$N_S = \text{sample size (i.e., total number of respondents surveyed)}$$

Derived from formula: p. 206 in Dillman, D. A. 2000. Mail and Internet Surveys. John Wiley & Sons, NY.

**Note**: This is a simplified version of the formula that calculates the <u>maximum</u> sampling error using a 50:50 split (the most conservative calculation because a 50:50 split would give maximum variation).

# HUNTING DEER: PARTICIPATION, TYPES OF LAND, EQUIPMENT, DAYS, HARVEST, AND REPORTING COMPLIANCE

- There were nearly 236,000 hunters who hunted deer in the 2024-2025 seasons in Alabama.
  - These hunters hunted deer for more than 5.2 million days.
  - More than 330,000 deer were harvested during the 2024-2025 seasons.
  - Hunters most commonly hunted deer with modern firearms, by far, which accounted for the most deer hunters, days, and harvest. This was followed, at about half the number of hunters, by archery equipment, with primitive firearms being the least used.
  - Most deer hunting and harvest was on private lands.
    - County data are shown, as well.

Deer Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Deer /	Number of Hunters				Hunter-Days		Number Harvested		
Equipment / Land / Deer Type	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Deer-All	235,865	233,117	238,614	5,230,249	4,987,560	5,472,938	330,413	313,220	347,607
Archery	96,225	91,690	100,760	1,444,400	1,321,496	1,567,305	63,672	52,189	75,156
Modern	212,833	209,200	216,465	3,620,476	3,445,286	3,795,667	255,945	241,358	270,533
Primitive	22,573	19,929	25,216	165,372	130,593	200,151	11,248	299	22,197
Private Land				4,738,519	4,506,616	4,970,423	311,822	294,857	328,786
WMAs				270,605	217,287	323,924	9,221	0	18,990
Other Public				221,124	176,219	266,029	9,371	319	18,423
Buck							144,828	135,928	153,728
Doe							176,220	163,854	188,587

WMAs refers to Wildlife Management Areas.

## Deer Hunting: Mean Days, Deer Harvest per Hunter, Days per Harvest, and Buck-Doe Percentages (2024-2025)

	Mean Days per Hunter	Deer Harvest per Hunter	Days per Harvest	Percentage
Deer Overall	22.2	1.40	15.8	
Archery		0.66	14.1	
Modern		1.20	22.7	
Primitive		0.50	14.7	
Buck				43.8
Doe				56.2

## Deer Hunting: Harvest of Bucks, Does, and Fawns by County (2024-2025)

	H	arvest of Bucks		Н	larvest of Doe		Harvest of Fawns			
County	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
Autauga	1,766	869	2,663	5,086	3,014	7,158	0	0	C	
Baldwin	4,495	2,705	6,285	6,968	4,462	9,474	80	0	244	
Barbour	3,626	1,626	5,625	3,152	1,200	5,103	319	0	722	
Bibb	1,312	354	2,270	2,261	743	3,779	80	0	244	
Blount	1,713	796	2,631	2,079	884	3,273	0	0	C	
Bullock	2,486	1,315	3,656	5,206	2,880	7,532	679	0	2,119	
Butler	3,141	1,625	4,657	3,748	1,805	5,691	457	64	850	
Calhoun	1,472	569	2,374	1,837	569	3,105	0	0	C	
Chambers	1,360	462	2,258	1,550	496	2,603	0	0	C	
Cherokee	2,679	1,533	3,825	3,028	1,306	4,749	0	0	С	
Chilton	2,829	1,514	4,145	2,421	1,031	3,810	230	0	594	
Choctaw	2,677	1,440	3,914	4,379	2,313	6,446	240	0	607	
Clarke	2,832	1,467	4,197	5,221	2,936	7,507	160	0	489	
Clay	1,153	319	1,986	1,529	536	2,523	0	0	C	
Cleburne	767	161	1,373	1,075	320	1,830	222	0	496	
Coffee	1,290	486	2,093	1,862	499	3,226	71	0	226	
Colbert	1,418	510	2,325	1,422	49	2,795	0	0	C	
Conecuh	3,233	1,968	4,498	3,504	1,937	5,071	75	0	235	
Coosa	2,275	1,066	3,484	2,115	780	3,450	80	0	244	
Covington	2,452	1,338	3,566	2,977	1,102	4,852	80	0	244	
Crenshaw	2,386	961	3,811	3,383	1,140	5,625	75	0	235	
Cullman	993	292	1,694	514	43	984	0	0	C	
Dale	899	158	1,641	781	94	1,468	0	0	C	
Dallas	2,837	1,526	4,149	5,595	2,787	8,403	0	0	C	
DeKalb	1,764	739	2,789	1,764	822	2,706	80	0	244	
Elmore	3,107	1,731	4,484	1,586	485	2,687	240	0	607	
Escambia	1,968	981	2,955	3,663	1,825	5,502	0	0	C	
Etowah	1,241	322	2,161	2,355	657	4,053	75	0	235	
Fayette	1,511	527	2,496	2,761	1,009	4,514	80	0	244	
Franklin	3,537	1,798	5,276	3,467	1,700	5,233	0	0	C	
Geneva	1,559	574	2,543	1,239	443	2,036	468	70	866	
Greene	700	161	1,240	1,125	158	2,093	0	0	C	
Hale	1,837	176	3,498	1,258	225	2,290	80	0	244	
Henry	3,565	2,049	5,080	3,804	1,933	5,675	75	0	235	
Houston	1,463	569	2,357	2,927	1,081	4,774	142	0	361	
Jackson	5,693	3,759	7,626	4,822	2,860	6,785	221	0	495	
Jefferson	1,191	557	1,825	1,962	844	3,080	240	0	733	
Lamar	1,299	464	2,133	2,793	1,002	4,585	0	0	С	
Lauderdale	2,305	1,104	3,506	2,189	921		292	0	675	
Lawrence	2,916	1,402	4,431	1,969	372	3,566	142	0	451	
Lee	1,764	769	2,759	2,503	1,253	3,752	151	0	377	
Limestone	2,688	1,473	3,904	1,529	543	2,515	80	0	244	
Lowndes	2,703	1,377	4,028	3,124	1,445	4,802	221	0	495	
Macon	1,299	403	2,194	1,551	313	2,789	719	0	2,199	
Madison	2,877	1,508	4,246	2,820	1,371	4,269	151	0	377	
Marengo	2,268	861	3,676	3,327	1,672	4,983	0	0	C	
Marion	2,457	1,276	3,639	2,610	1,013	4,208	0	0	C	
Marshall	869	194	1,544	1,579	351	2,806	71	0	226	
Mobile	1,444	524	2,365	1,719	681	2,756	0	0	C	
Monroe	1,228	442	2,015	2,526	1,137	3,915	160	0	392	
Montgomery	2,083	1,047	3,119	2,599	765	4,432	306	0	628	
Morgan	773	212	1,335	160	0		0	0	C	
Perry	1,778	739	2,816	1,109	0		0	0	C	
Pickens	1,618	608	2,628	3,031	1,355		80	0	244	
Pike	1,986	920	3,053	1,685	667	2,703	0	0		
Randolph	1,268	433	2,104	2,291	910	3,671	240	0	733	
Russell	3,232	1,777	4,687	2,545	642	4,448	527	0	1,057	

## Deer Hunting: Harvest of Bucks, Does, and Fawns by County (2024-20245 (continued)

	H	arvest of Buck	is	Н	larvest of Doe	S	H	arvest of Fawi	ıs
County	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
St. Clair	853	268	1,438	2,163	871	3,455	0	0	0
Shelby	3,055	1,480	4,630	3,666	1,443	5,889	0	0	0
Sumter	2,029	881	3,178	1,673	800	2,546	80	0	244
Talladega	2,147	1,016	3,279	2,229	1,028	3,430	0	0	0
Tallapoosa	2,015	827	3,202	1,671	612	2,729	235	0	517
Tuscaloosa	3,311	1,702	4,920	3,476	1,716	5,235	80	0	244
Walker	2,207	1,109	3,304	2,952	1,277	4,627	80	0	244
Washington	1,586	727	2,446	1,883	676	3,090	0	0	0
Wilcox	1,148	348	1,948	2,638	1,252	4,025	552	61	1,043
Winston	1,771	198	3,344	860	187	1,533	310	0	709
Unknown	3,786	2,467	5,105	3,932	2,466	5,398	155	0	385

### Deer Hunting: Days by County (2024-2025)

County	Days							
County	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound					
Autauga	118,247	58,727	177,768					
Baldwin	164,576	120,666	208,486					
Barbour	81,209	51,764	110,654					
Bibb	53,434	30,273	76,595					
Blount	88,836	55,928	121,743					
Bullock	63,220	37,543	88,898					
Butler	77,395	46,183	108,608					
Calhoun	58,173	28,724	87,621					
Chambers	87,975	50,467	125,484					
Cherokee	77,966	40,832	115,100					
Chilton	100,156	57,938	142,373					
Choctaw	82,922	53,099	112,746					
Clarke	106,525	69,185	143,866					
Clay	40,681	20,798	60,564					
Cleburne	52,223	31,625	72,821					
Coffee	69,964	38,893	101,034					
Colbert	58,012	29,078	86,946					
Conecuh	100,107	62,137	138,077					
Coosa	94,676	58,957	130,395					
Covington	95,892	60,666	131,118					
Crenshaw	58,495	34,165	82,825					
Cullman	32,784	15,642	49,925					
Dale	55,397	30,036	80,758					
Dallas	132,697	90,850	174,544					
DeKalb	54,948	31,127	78,769					
Elmore	97,719	63,530	131,907					
Escambia	74,369	45,230	103,508					
Etowah	51,998	12,283	91,713					
Fayette	87,612	42,420	132,804					
Franklin	83,367	38,536	128,198					
Geneva	71,467	43,387	99,547					
Greene	35,115	11,983	58,246					
Hale	60,272	35,776	84,768					
Henry	102,981	62,546	143,415					
Houston	54,482	29,002	79,962					
Jackson	232,920	70,615	395,225					
Jefferson	75,996	44,797	107,196					
Lamar	49,726	26,375	73,078					
Lauderdale	66,004	35,787	96,221					
Lawrence	77,284	44,022	110,546					

More Than 6

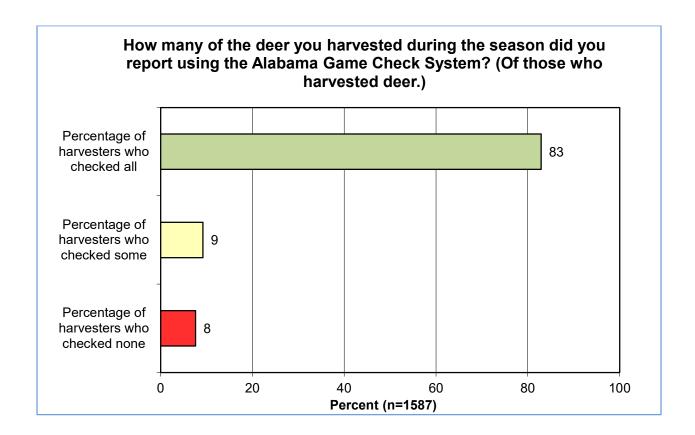
### Deer Hunting: Days by County (2024-2025) (continued)

County		Days	
	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Lee	63,776	36,991	90,560
Limestone	62,765	35,284	90,246
Lowndes	71,689	41,898	101,480
Macon	91,765	55,393	128,137
Madison	80,315	43,041	117,589
Marengo	63,120	39,462	86,777
Marion	82,871	48,786	116,957
Marshall	51,144	25,745	76,544
Mobile	102,223	60,744	143,703
Monroe	64,445	39,521	89,369
Montgomery	75,814	47,147	104,480
Morgan	49,085	24,206	73,964
Perry	56,148	29,398	82,897
Pickens	41,594	23,127	60,062
Pike	44,357	25,721	62,994
Randolph	67,444	37,454	97,435
Russell	89,949	57,201	122,697
St. Clair	77,446	46,443	108,449
Shelby	144,255	48,143	240,367
Sumter	62,723	40,652	84,794
Talladega	81,249	45,636	116,861
Tallapoosa	84,731	51,087	118,374
Tuscaloosa	111,256	75,995	146,517
Walker	76,987	45,598	108,376
Washington	48,242	25,904	70,580
Wilcox	73,258	44,191	102,325
Winston	67,259	36,268	98,249
Unknown	90,437	59,677	121,197

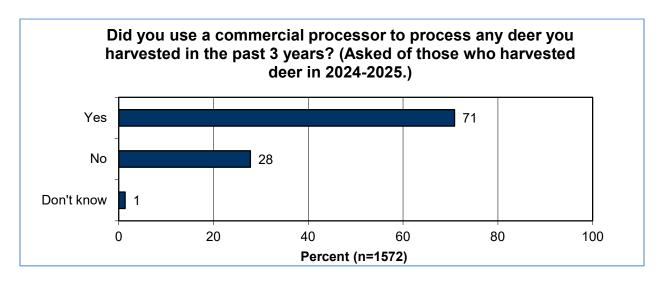
The matrix below and the graph that follows show compliance data among hunters who harvested deer (with "don't know" responses excluded). Overall, 83% of harvesters reported all of their deer, as represented by the green-shaded cells and the green bar on the graph.

Compliance With Deer Reporting Requirements (Cells Show Percentage Out of All Those Who Harvested Excluding "Don't Know" Responses)

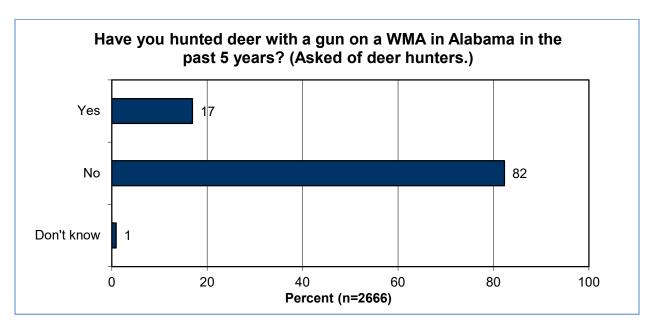
Harvested E	excluding L	on t know	kesponses	5)			
Deer	Reported 0	Reported 1	Reported 2	Reported 3	Reported 4	Reported 5	Reported 6
Harvested 1	3.1	38.3	0	0	0	0	0
Harvested 2	1.9	1.8	19.5	0	0	0	0
Harvested 3	0.9	0.6	1.3	14	0	0	0
Harvested 4	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.5	4.9	0	0
Harvested 5	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	2.8	0
Harvested 6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.7
	Reported none Reported some		d some Re	ported all			
Harvested	0.0						

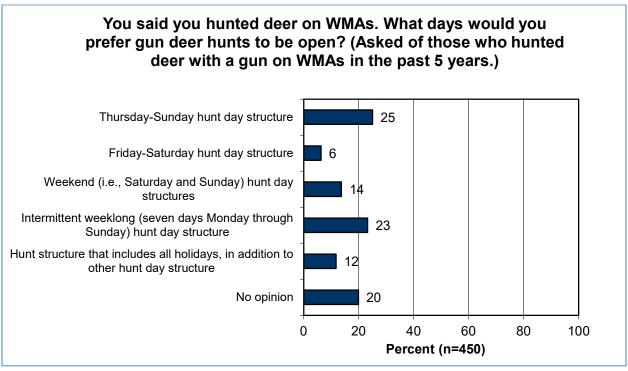


➤ Nearly three quarters of those who harvested deer in 2024-2025 (71%) have used a commercial processor to process at least some of their deer harvest over the past 3 years. (Although the question has a 3-year timeframe, it was asked only of those who harvested in 2024-2025 to ensure that the respondent had harvested some deer before being asked the question.)



Two new questions were added to the survey this year regarding deer hunting on WMAs. First, 17% of deer hunters hunted deer with a gun on a WMA in the past 5 years. Also, among deer hunters who hunted deer with a gun on a WMA in the past 5 years, their most preferred schedules for a WMA gun deer hunt are for a Thursday through Sunday hunt day structure or an intermittent weeklong hunt day structure.





# HUNTING TURKEY: PARTICIPATION, SEASONS, EQUIPMENT, DAYS, HARVEST, AND REPORTING COMPLIANCE

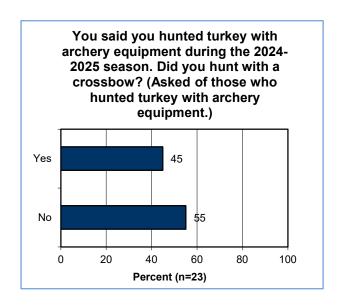
- ➤ About 72,000 hunters hunted turkey in Alabama during the 2024-2025 seasons.
  - Turkey hunters spent over 734,000 days hunting turkey.
  - Nearly 42,000 turkeys were harvested in the 2024-2025 seasons in Alabama.
  - Modern firearms were the most popular way to hunt turkey, accounting for most of the days of turkey hunting.
    - Nearly half (45%) of those who hunted turkey with archery equipment used a crossbow.
  - By far, the spring season accounted for most of the turkey hunters, days, and harvest.
    - County data are also shown.

#### Turkey Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Turkey /	Number of Hunters		Number of Hunters Hunter-Days				Nur	nber Harvest	ted
Equipment / Season / Turkey Type	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Turkey-All	71,746	67,549	75,944	734,443	660,031	808,855	41,869	36,036	47,702
Archery				14,220	5,309	23,132			
Modern				714,815	641,303	788,328			
Primitive				5,408	209	10,606			
Fall	1,415	724	2,105	8,577	1,963	15,191	452	0	996
Spring	70,330	66,158	74,501	725,866	651,741	799,992	41,417	35,605	47,229
Jakes							3,011	833	5,189
Gobblers							38,858	33,492	44,224

## Turkey Hunting: Mean Days, Turkey Harvest per Hunter, and Days per Harvest (2024-2025)

	Mean Days per Hunter	Turkey Harvest per Hunter	Days per Harvest					
Turkey Overall	10.2	0.58	17.5					
Fall	6.1	0.32	19.0					
Spring	10.3	0.59	17.5					



## Turkey Hunting: Harvest and Days by County (2024-2025)

rarkey man		Dunity (2024-2025)  Days of Turkey Hunting				
County		rvest of Turke Lower	Upper	Days	Lower	Upper
County	Estimate	Bound	Bound	Estimate	Bound	Bound
Autauga	612	56	1,167	17,850	7,490	28,211
Baldwin	1,787	232	3,341	26,027	13,318	38,737
Barbour	621	16	1,226	17,125	5,524	28,725
Bibb	151	0	377	7,774	2,265	13,283
Blount	685	72	1,297	13,998	6,479	21,518
Bullock	470	8	932	12,527	2,184	22,869
Butler	1,136	343	1,930	23,456	9,391	37,521
Calhoun	470	0	987	7,258	2,434	12,083
Chambers	550	60	1,040	12,675	5,251	20,099
Cherokee	550	7	1,092	9,722	0	19,589
Chilton	1,109	0	2,650	11,659	886	22,431
Choctaw	1,237	291	2,182	15,468	7,694	23,242
Clarke	984	188	1,779	12,301	3,887	20,716
Clay	429	0	1,088	6,758	1,635	11,880
Cleburne	452	0	997	8,270	2,549	13,991
Coffee	301	0	753	8,685	2,006	15,364
Colbert	612	101	1,122	8,717	2,815	14,619
Conecuh	612	0	1,260	21,337	8,855	33,820
Coosa	639	69	1,208	16,316	7,255	25,377
Covington	904	0	1,810	11,191	2,969	19,413
Crenshaw	377	20	734	5,708	1,080	10,335
Cullman	0	0	0	283	0	903
Dale	399	0	1,077	2,047	0	4,470
Dallas	860	42	1,678	17,987	9,032	26,943
DeKalb	311	0	706	3,309	0	7,103
Elmore	230	0	510	8,548	22	17,075
Escambia	443	0	990	7,161	1,520	12,801
Etowah	762	0	1,646	4,382	61	8,703
Fayette	301	0	621	6,910	294	13,526
Franklin	842	0	1,710	11,543	4,270	18,815
Geneva	80	0	244	2,874	0	5,923
Greene	230	0	510	4,226	1,168	7,284
Hale	240	0	524	8,707	3,748	13,666
Henry	974	155	1,794	20,004	6,675	33,332
Houston	160	0	392	4,656	106	9,206
Jackson	1,157	344	1,970	23,373	12,214	34,533
Jefferson	543	114	972	22,110	4,518	39,702
Lamar	160	0	489	10,189	166	20,211
Lauderdale	1,193	0	2,894	11,934	2,874	20,994
Lawrence	310	0	634	5,438	1,558	9,317
Lee	639	24	1,254	11,927	1,365	22,488
Limestone	0	0	0	2,528	0	5,429
Lowndes	1,022	275	1,770	16,547	6,879	26,215
Macon	700	0	1,515	9,348	233	18,463
Madison	541	0	1,123	5,245	930	9,561
Marengo	1,134	221	2,047	14,372	4,885	23,859
Marion	514	97	930	10,623	4,132	17,113
Marshall	310	0	634	4,017	760	7,275
Mobile	399	32	767	12,418	2,434	22,402
Monroe	390	0	822	10,601	2,595	18,607
Montgomery	372	0	789	7,411	3,094	11,728
Morgan	80	0	244	1,301	0	3,676
Perry	632	114	1,149	9,173	3,281	15,064
Pickens	212	0	677	8,447	203	16,691
Pike	1,561	533	2,589	13,824	6,241	21,408
Randolph	527	0	1,095	10,883	3,382	18,384
Russell	514	0	1,161	10,462	3,429	17,496
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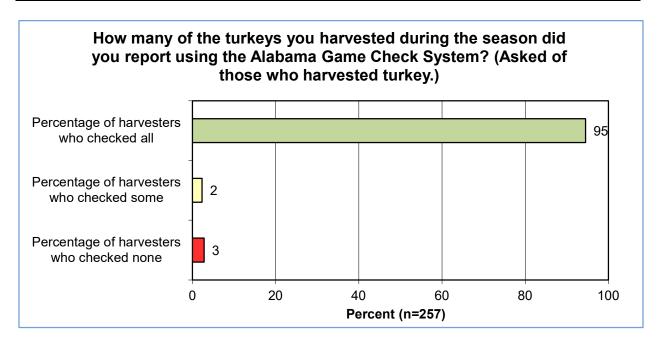
Turkey Hunting: Harvest and	Days by County	y (2024-2025)	(continued)

						•	
	Harvest of Turkeys			Days	of Turkey Hu	of Turkey Hunting	
County	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
St. Clair	951	218	1,685	18,938	8,570	29,306	
Shelby	160	0	392	7,213	1,691	12,735	
Sumter	1,442	580	2,305	23,311	10,623	35,998	
Talladega	447	1	894	6,222	2,397	10,046	
Tallapoosa	160	0	392	15,091	5,498	24,683	
Tuscaloosa	771	85	1,457	16,286	6,811	25,762	
Walker	71	0	226	4,405	449	8,360	
Washington	2,163	531	3,796	5,987	305	11,668	
Wilcox	735	0	1,503	9,294	2,055	16,533	
Winston	1,085	247	1,922	12,338	4,266	20,410	

The turkey harvest reporting compliance data are shown in the matrix and graph below; the matrix and graph exclude "don't know" responses. Overall, 95% of turkey harvesters reported all of their harvest, as represented by the green-shaded cells and the green bar on the graph.

Compliance With Turkey Reporting Requirements (Cells Show Percentage Out of All Those Who Harvested Excluding "Don't Know" Responses)

	Reported 0	Reported 1	Reported 2	Reported 3	Reported 4		
Harvested 1	2.1	53.8	0	0	0		
Harvested 2	0.7	0.4	24.1	0	0		
Harvested 3	0	0.4	1.1	10.5	0		
Harvested 4	0	0.4	0	0	6.1		



# HUNTING QUAIL: PARTICIPATION, TYPES OF QUAIL HUNTED, DAYS, AND HARVEST

Nearly 11,000 quail hunters hunted nearly 77,000 days and harvested over 371,000 quail. Most of the quail hunting and harvest was for pen-raised quail.

Quail Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

Oueil /	Num	nber of Hun	ters		Hunter-Days		Nun	nber Harves	ted
Quail / Quail Type	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Quail-All	10,550	8,698	12,403	76,751	53,750	99,753	371,330	235,337	507,322
Wild	3,396	2,330	4,462	27,869	12,967	42,771	40,305	18,624	61,986
Pen-Raised	8,780	7,084	10,476	48,882	32,852	64,912	331,025	196,978	465,071

Quail Hunting: Mean Days and Days per Harvest (2024-2025)

Quail						
Mean Days per Hunter	Days per Harvest					
7.3	0.21					

# HUNTING DOVE: PARTICIPATION, SPLIT HUNTED, DAYS, HARVEST, AND WILLINGNESS TO TRAVEL

➤ Over 66,000 hunters harvested over 1.6 million dove in the 2024-2025 seasons over the course of nearly 272,000 hunting days.

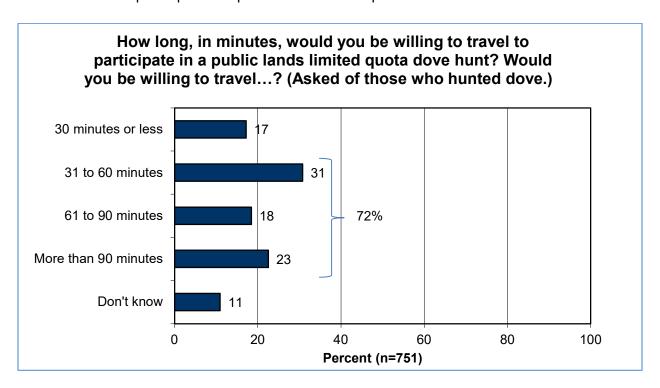
Dove Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

	Nui	mber of Hun	iters		Hunter-Days		Nu	mber Harvest	ted
Dove / Split	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Dove-All	66,354	62,260	70,448	271,747	228,015	315,478	1,620,306	1,425,721	1,814,892
First Split				182,838	160,809	204,866	1,167,663	1,035,883	1,299,443
Remaining Splits				78,049	52,957	103,141	484,878	302,071	667,684
Unknown Splits							47,523	30,722	64,324

Dove Hunting: Mean Days and Days per Harvest (2024-2025)

Dove						
Mean Days per Hunter	Days per Harvest					
4.1	0.17					

Nearly three quarters of dove hunters (72%) would be willing to travel more than 30 minutes to participate in a public lands limited quota dove hunt.



# HUNTING OTHER SPECIES: PARTICIPATION, TYPES OF LAND, DAYS, AND HARVEST

➤ Data regarding hunting of other small game species are shown in the tables below. In the 2024-2025 seasons, the most popular of these other species among hunters were wild hog, squirrel, duck, and coyote, each hunted by over 20,000 hunters.

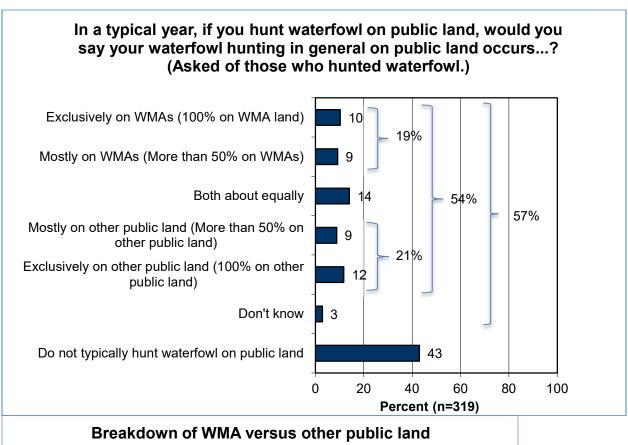
Small Game Hunting: Hunters, Days, and Harvest (2024-2025)

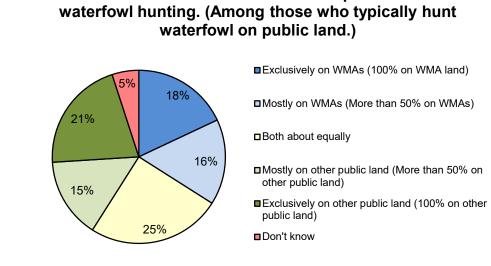
	Nun	nber of Hunt	ers		Hunter-Days		Nur	nber Harves	ted
Species	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Estimate	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
Bobcat	3,918	2,775	5,062	8,326	0	43,618	2,554	1,437	3,670
Coot	1,997	1,177	2,816	6,584	0	18,015	18,139	5,399	30,878
Coyote	26,156	23,332	28,980	171,749	97,281	246,216	102,702	71,118	134,285
Duck	27,784	24,883	30,685	276,410	221,850	330,970	421,921	330,826	513,015
Fox	1,650	905	2,396	9,626	0	24,359	2,478	306	4,650
Goose	8,132	6,498	9,766	26,386	17,631	35,142	37,406	21,358	53,453
Opossum	2,229	1,364	3,095	4,216	0	15,890	6,351	2,729	9,973
Rabbit	9,736	7,953	11,518	84,942	25,202	144,682	61,433	42,212	80,654
Raccoon	11,008	9,117	12,898	170,547	74,768	266,326	117,705	78,736	156,674
Snipe	310	0	634	346	0	781	71	0	226
Squirrel	28,374	25,446	31,301	156,372	92,205	220,539	360,036	296,475	423,597
Wild hog	38,384	35,053	41,715	208,204	136,846	279,562	285,162	209,466	360,858
Woodcock	780	267	1,294	2,669	0	5,423	3,814	0	8,618

## Small Game Hunting: Mean Days and Days per Harvest (2024-2025)

Species	Mean Days per Hunter	Days per Harvest
Bobcat	2.1	3.26
Coot	3.3	0.36
Coyote	6.6	1.67
Duck	9.9	0.66
Fox	5.8	3.89
Goose	3.3	0.71
Opossum	1.9	0.66
Rabbit	8.7	1.38
Raccoon	15.5	1.45
Snipe	1.1	4.88
Squirrel	5.5	0.43
Wild hog	5.4	0.73
Woodcock	3.4	0.70

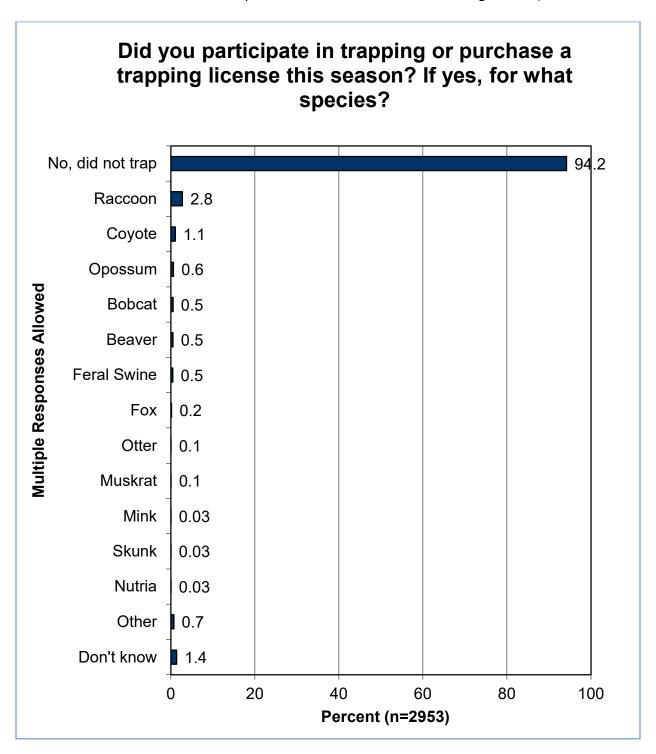
Over half of waterfowl hunters (57%) hunt waterfowl on public land. (This assumes that 3% do not know their public land locations, not that they do not know if they hunted on public land. When excluding "don't know" responses, 54% definitely indicate hunting on public land). Of these waterfowl hunters, 19% hunt primarily on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), 21% do so primarily on other public land, and 14% hunt both WMAs and other public land about equally.





#### **TRAPPING**

Raccoon was the most popular species to trap, as shown below. (One or two decimal places were used so that most of the species did not round to 0 at the integer level.)



#### **TRENDS**

The following pages show the trend tables. The number of deer hunters is almost exactly the same as last year, with a higher harvest due to a higher success rate.

#### **Deer Hunting: Number of Hunters Trends**

Equipment		Number of Hunters									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Deer-All	191,054	198,924	228,015	237,878	233,450	235,205	235,865				
Archery	75,815	80,300	89,664	97,580	100,021	100,686	96,225				
Modern	171,293	180,746	201,464	216,348	208,853	205,944	212,833				
Primitive	16,895	16,909	21,627	22,773	20,436	23,566	22,573				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

**Deer Hunting: Days Trends** 

Deer maneing	s. Days inc.	143								
Equipment / Land	<b>Hunter-Days</b>									
Туре	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Deer-All	4,093,081	4,494,715	4,909,537	5,377,945	5,439,545	5,429,865	5,230,249			
Archery	1,121,685	1,210,213	1,361,344	1,487,788	1,574,418	1,539,138	1,444,400			
Modern	2,848,141	3,154,406	3,468,873	3,694,619	3,704,334	3,683,573	3,620,476			
Primitive	123,254	130,095	190,393	196,225	160,251	207,154	165,372			
Private Land	3,731,519	4,089,566	4,461,649	4,932,552	4,952,426	4,892,733	4,738,519			
WMAs	217,415	211,673	238,625	226,059	262,037	263,082	270,605			
Other Public	144,147	193,475	243,304	219,335	213,060	274,050	221,124			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

WMAs refers to Wildlife Management Areas.

#### **Deer Hunting: Harvest Trends**

Equipment /			1	Number Harveste	d		
Land / Deer Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Deer-All	203,040	218,358	272,731	301,122	308,729	314,496	330,413
Archery	39,086	42,221	55,352	63,367	66,931	61,048	63,672
Modern	157,433	169,497	209,699	228,129	231,965	240,572	255,945
Primitive	6,522	6,640	8,154	10,005	10,078	13,046	11,248
Private Land	192,142	205,620	253,511	286,179	292,181	293,809	311,822
WMAs	6,650	6,161	6,765	7,697	9,205	8,862	9,221
Other Public	4,248	6,433	12,456	7,246	7,342	11,826	9,371
Buck	83,162	94,034	123,561	134,113	141,749	147,880	144,828
Doe	114,553	118,418	141,850	160,172	160,313	158,212	176,220

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

WMAs refers to Wildlife Management Areas.

#### **Deer Hunting: Mean Days per Hunter Trends**

		Mean Days per Hunter								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Deer Overall	21.4	22.6	21.5	22.6	23.3	23.1	22.2			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Deer Hunting: Deer Harvest per Hunter Trends**

Equipment Type	Mean Deer Harvest per Hunter									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Deer Overall	1.06	1.10	1.20	1.27	1.32	1.34	1.40			
Archery	0.52	0.53	0.62	0.65	0.67	0.61	0.66			
Modern	0.92	0.94	1.04	1.05	1.11	1.17	1.20			
Primitive	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.44	0.49	0.55	0.50			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Deer Hunting: Days per Harvest Trends**

<b></b>	200. Hamanig. 24/5 pc. Hamada										
	Mean Days per Harvest										
Equipment Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Deer Overall	20.2	20.6	18.0	17.9	17.6	17.3	15.8				
Archery	18.1	18.6	16.5	16.2	16.0	15.3	14.1				
Modern	28.7	28.7	24.6	23.5	23.5	25.2	22.7				
Primitive	18.9	19.6	23.4	19.6	15.9	15.9	14.7				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Deer Hunting: Buck-Doe Percentage Trends**

Door Turns		Percentage									
Deer Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Buck	41.0	43.1	45.3	44.5	45.9	47.0	43.8				
Doe	59.0	56.9	54.7	55.5	54.1	53.0	56.2				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

The trends for other species are shown. Turkey harvest increased compared to last year, which corresponds to increases in turkey hunters and hunting days, as well as a slight increase in the harvest success rate. Trends for small game hunting are shown as well. Harvest increased substantially for quail; although there was little change in the number of hunters and harvest success rate, a substantial increase in the number of hunting days resulted in harvest increases for both wild and pen-raised quail.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Number of Hunters Trends**

Season Type		Number of Hunters									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Turkey-All	49,878	61,224	59,988	72,332	70,359	69,130	71,746				
Fall	1,833	1,616	2,837	1,779	1,963	2,307	1,415				
Spring	48,194	59,946	57,567	70,750	68,756	67,380	70,330				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Days Trends**

Equipment /	Hunter-Days										
Season Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Turkey-All	521,678	711,202	548,417	710,374	752,783	701,496	734,443				
Archery	14,700	22,759	11,604	11,684	11,933	13,016	14,220				
Modern	494,233	684,115	534,370	682,702	714,404	674,813	714,815				
Primitive	12,744	4,328	2,443	15,988	26,446	13,668	5,408				
Fall	9,497	6,621	14,644	12,897	17,975	24,196	8,577				
Spring	512,181	690,156	533,773	697,477	734,808	677,301	725,866				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Harvest Trends**

Tarkey Harr	rance y transmig. Transcess tremas										
Season / Turkey	Number Harvested										
Туре	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025				
Turkey-All	25,750	34,882	25,468	35,997	47,131	35,906	41,869				
Fall	98	217	472	257	47	250	452				
Spring	25,652	34,666	24,995	35,740	47,084	35,655	41,417				
Jakes	1,208	1,760	1,928	3,644	3,485	1,380	3,011				
Gobblers	24,542	33,122	23,540	32,354	43,646	34,525	38,858				

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Mean Days per Hunter Trends**

Season	Mean Days per Hunter								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Turkey Overall	10.5	11.6	9.1	9.8	10.7	10.1	10.2		
Fall	5.2	4.1	5.2	7.3	9.2	10.5	6.1		
Spring	10.6	11.5	9.3	9.9	10.7	10.1	10.3		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Harvest per Hunter Trends**

	Turkey Harvest per Hunter								
Season	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Turkey Overall	0.52	0.57	0.42	0.50	0.67	0.52	0.58		
Fall	**	0.13	0.17	0.14	0.02	0.11	0.32		
Spring	0.53	0.58	0.43	0.51	0.68	0.53	0.59		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Turkey Hunting: Days per Harvest Trends**

Cassan		Mean Days per Harvest								
Season	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Turkey Overall	20.3	20.4	21.5	19.7	16.0	19.5	17.5			
Fall	**	30.6	31.0	50.1	*** 384.4	*** 96.7	19.0			
Spring	20.0	19.9	21.4	19.5	15.6	19.0	17.5			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Quail Hunting: Number of Hunters Trends**

Oveil Type		Number of Hunters								
Quail Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Quail-All	8,953	7,796	6,696	8,470	9,427	11,046	10,550			
Wild	2,144	2,903	2,093	2,566	2,765	1,762	3,396			
Pen-Raised	8,087	6,218	5,477	7,465	6,662	9,661	8,780			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Quail Hunting: Days Trends**

Oueil Tune		<b>Hunter-Days</b>								
Quail Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Quail-All	52,336	39,541	40,046	36,323	55,350	62,199	76,751			
Wild	12,710	11,491	13,021	8,383	13,252	12,273	27,869			
Pen-Raised	39,603	27,019	27,009	27,940	42,098	49,926	48,882			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Sample size too small for calculations.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Sample size too small for calculations.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The relatively low number of hunters hunting in the fall combined with their low success rate produces a relatively large number of days per harvest.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not determined for the 2017-2018 season.

#### **Quail Hunting: Harvest Trends**

Quail Type		Number Harvested							
Quali Type	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Quail-All	321,589	154,063	253,176	282,450	370,665	258,996	371,330		
Wild	37,851	21,662	27,234	22,068	27,640	17,635	40,305		
Pen-Raised	283,738	132,379	225,942	260,381	343,026	241,331	331,025		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Quail Hunting: Mean Days per Hunter Trends**

		<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	M	ean Days per Hun	ter		
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Quail-All	5.8	5.1	6.0	4.3	5.9	5.6	7.3

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Quail Hunting: Mean Days per Harvest Trends**

		Mean Days per Harvest								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Quail-All	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Dove Hunting: Number of Hunters Trends**

		Number of Hunters								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Dove-All	35.955	55.800	49.990	60.309	65.648	63.387	66.354			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Dove Hunting: Days Trends**

Split	<b>Hunter-Days</b>								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Dove-All	194,068	233,234	207,038	218,995	263,019	227,258	271,747		
First Split	143,766	162,116	146,306	145,872	196,957	160,110	182,838		
Remaining Splits	49,601	57,688	53,930	61,251	58,856	55,630	78,049		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Dove Hunting: Harvest Trends**

Split	Number Harvested									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Dove-All	1,257,006	1,345,741	1,159,243	1,370,878	1,475,191	1,395,747	1,620,306			
First Split	884,211	967,728	814,933	973,791	1,121,051	1,045,925	1,167,663			
Remaining Splits	317,444	323,922	313,903	318,697	322,819	295,491	484,878			
Unknown Splits	55,351	54,116	30,440	78,389	31,321	54,330	47,523			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Dove Hunting: Mean Days per Hunter Trends**

		Mean Days per Hunter								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Dove-All	5.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.6	4.1			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Dove Hunting: Mean Days per Harvest Trends**

		Mean Days per Harvest							
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Dove-All	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Small Game Hunting: Number of Hunters Trends**

Species	Number of Hunters								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Bobcat	2,594	3,339	2,375	2,050	3,337	3,328	3,918		
Coot	895	1,009	704	726	1,469	1,690	1,997		
Coyote	14,117	19,721	14,340	14,287	23,154	22,012	26,156		
Duck	22,421	23,603	20,323	27,258	29,893	25,399	27,784		
Fox	296	1,009	880	984	735	1,202	1,650		
Goose	4,927	6,444	3,959	5,726	7,536	6,541	8,132		
Opossum	718	1,087	704	1,156	2,461	1,399	2,229		
Rabbit	4,527	8,774	7,478	7,847	10,043	9,613	9,736		
Raccoon	4,199	5,668	3,783	5,901	6,622	7,767	11,008		
Snipe	148	388	264	172	341	448	310		
Squirrel	14,549	21,429	16,892	17,704	22,640	23,732	28,374		
Wild hog	27,076	35,094	30,968	32,330	37,061	38,195	38,384		
Woodcock	74	311	352	258	1,029	505	780		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

## Small Game Hunting: Days Trends

Species	Hunter-Days									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Bobcat	14,493	4,037	4,399	1,435	3,233	5,001	8,326			
Coot	7,053	543	1,320	3,609	4,455	1,841	6,584			
Coyote	60,219	85,173	108,036	46,601	122,508	100,334	171,749			
Duck	227,003	237,273	192,758	334,067	312,652	248,497	276,410			
Fox	2,296	5,124	6,422	1,031	4,148	6,363	9,626			
Goose	25,653	34,939	11,525	30,471	43,006	28,121	26,386			
Opossum	1,163	17,547	5,543	4,210	4,851	3,521	4,216			
Rabbit	41,386	55,980	56,041	43,554	57,629	111,532	84,942			
Raccoon	74,479	144,336	124,224	130,374	89,079	166,681	170,547			
Snipe	1,628	311	264	258	481	1,260	346			
Squirrel	90,910	108,466	112,171	108,845	122,715	142,122	156,372			
Wild hog	174,767	190,067	211,849	206,354	252,717	196,023	208,204			
Woodcock	**	543	1,672	430	4,005	1,149	2,669			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Small Game Hunting: Harvest Trends**

Species	Number Harvested								
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Bobcat	3,109	3,028	2,364	1,900	2,451	3,045	2,554		
Coot	24,660	10,249	4,650	2,578	12,838	10,729	18,139		
Coyote	65,668	56,523	60,154	49,139	74,626	83,036	102,702		
Duck	540,023	431,067	373,242	598,518	525,867	458,747	421,921		
Fox	148	1,553	1,074	1,203	1,343	2,201	2,478		
Goose	40,148	41,849	17,299	35,840	61,527	39,277	37,406		
Opossum	2,194	11,025	4,644	2,835	8,363	6,452	6,351		
Rabbit	45,403	73,139	55,675	49,458	47,438	71,550	61,433		
Raccoon	37,783	65,685	31,936	49,482	35,047	94,205	117,705		
Snipe	2,222	466	709	1,031	1,316	3,157	71		
Squirrel	179,245	276,172	240,401	226,875	225,927	287,589	360,036		
Wild hog	258,924	255,364	295,418	340,697	335,421	313,410	285,162		
Woodcock	222	621	946	601	2,825	921	3,814		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

<sup>\*\*</sup>No hunters in the survey specifically hunted woodcock (i.e., 0 days hunting woodcock) but there was reported harvest in that season.

#### **Small Game Hunting: Mean Days per Hunter Trends**

Species		Mean Days per Hunter							
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025		
Bobcat	5.6	1.2	1.9	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.1		
Coot	7.9	0.5	1.9	5.0	3.0	1.1	3.3		
Coyote	4.3	4.3	7.5	3.3	5.3	4.6	6.6		
Duck	10.1	10.1	9.5	12.3	10.5	9.8	9.9		
Fox	7.8	5.1	7.3	1.0	5.6	5.3	5.8		
Goose	5.2	5.4	3.9	5.3	5.7	4.3	3.2		
Opossum	1.6	16.1	7.9	3.6	2.0	2.5	1.9		
Rabbit	9.1	6.4	7.5	5.6	5.7	11.6	8.7		
Raccoon	17.7	25.5	32.8	22.1	13.5	21.5	15.5		
Snipe	11.0	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.4	2.8	1.1		
Squirrel	6.2	5.1	6.6	6.1	5.4	6.0	5.5		
Wild hog	6.5	5.4	6.8	6.4	6.8	5.1	5.4		
Woodcock	0.0	1.8	4.8	1.7	3.9	2.3	3.4		

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

#### **Small Game Hunting: Days per Harvest Trends**

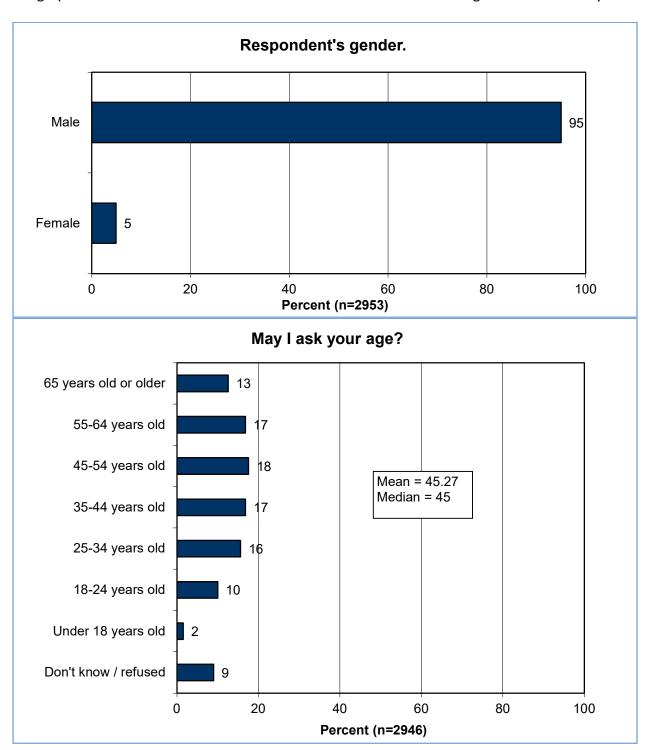
Species	Mean Days per Harvest									
	2018-2019	2019-2020	*2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Bobcat	4.7	1.3	1.9	0.8	1.3	1.6	3.3			
Coot	0.3	0.1	0.3	1.4	0.3	0.2	0.4			
Coyote	0.9	1.5	1.8	0.9	1.6	1.2	1.7			
Duck	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7			
Fox	15.5	3.3	6.0	0.9	3.1	2.9	3.9			
Goose	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7			
Opossum	0.5	1.6	1.2	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.7			
Rabbit	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.4			
Raccoon	2.0	2.2	3.9	2.6	2.5	1.8	1.4			
Snipe	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	4.9			
Squirrel	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4			
Wild hog	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7			
Woodcock	**	0.9	1.8	0.7	1.4	1.2	0.7			

<sup>\*</sup> The Resident Bait Privilege License was added in 2020-2021 and all subsequent years, so use comparisons with caution.

<sup>\*\*</sup>No hunters in the survey specifically hunted woodcock (i.e., 0 days hunting woodcock) but there was reported harvest.

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**

➤ The age and gender of Alabama licensed hunters in the 2024-2025 seasons are shown below. The overwhelming majority of hunters are male, and the median age is 45 years. The graphs are of licensed hunters who hunted in 2024-2025 and were given the full survey.



#### ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is an internationally recognized survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Our mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies, businesses, and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Focusing only on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, over the past 35 years, Responsive Management has conducted multimodal, telephone, mail, and online surveys, as well as on-site intercepts, focus groups, public meetings, personal interviews, needs assessments, program evaluations, marketing and communication plans, and other forms of human dimensions research measuring how people relate to the natural world. Utilizing our in-house, full-service survey facilities with 75 professional interviewers, we have conducted studies in all 50 states and 15 countries worldwide, totaling more than 1,200 human dimensions projects *only* on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Responsive Management has conducted research for every state fish and wildlife agency and every federal natural resource agency, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Additionally, we have also provided research for all the major conservation NGOs including the Archery Trade Association, the American Sportfishing Association, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Hunters' Leadership Forum, Ducks Unlimited, the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the National Wildlife Federation, the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited, and the Wildlife Management Institute.

Other nonprofit and NGO clients include the American Museum of Natural History, the BoatUS Foundation, the National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, and the Ocean Conservancy. As well, Responsive Management conducts market research and product testing for numerous outdoor recreation manufacturers and industry leaders, such as Winchester Ammunition, Vista Outdoor (whose brands include Federal Premium, CamelBak, Bushnell, Primos, and more), Trijicon, Yamaha, and others.

Responsive Management also provides data collection for the nation's top universities, including Auburn University; Boise State University; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; Clemson University; Colorado State University; Cornell University; Duke University; George Mason University; Michigan State University; Mississippi State University; North Carolina State University; Oregon State University; Penn State University; Rutgers University; Stanford University; State University of New York; Stony Brook University; Texas Tech; University of Alaska; University of California-Davis; University of California-San Diego; University of Connecticut; University of Florida; University of Hawai'i; University of Montana; University of New Hampshire; University of Southern California; Virginia Commonwealth University; Virginia Tech; West Virginia University; Yale University; and many more.

Our research has been upheld in U.S. Courts, used in peer-reviewed journals, and presented at major wildlife and natural resource conferences around the world. Responsive Management's research has also been featured in many of the nation's top media, including *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, Fox News, CNN, National Public Radio, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.