

WEST VIRGINIA

DNR

2025 BIG GAME BULLETIN



almost heaven

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WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION BULLETIN 26-1

BLACK BEAR

BY COLIN CARPENTER

Season Results and Highlights

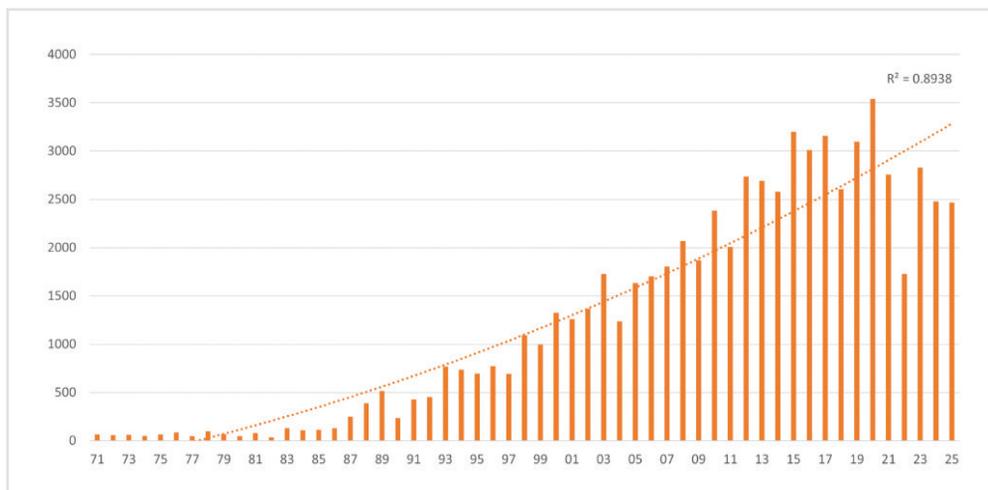
West Virginia hunters harvested 2,469 black bears during the combined 2025 archery and firearms seasons (Tables 1, 2 and 3). The 2025 harvest was 10 bears below the 2,479 bears killed in 2024. The black bear harvest of 2025 is the 13th highest recorded harvest (Figure 1, Table 4).

The statewide mast index for all species combined in 2025 was up 16% compared to 2024. All hard mast production in 2025 was above 2024 levels and above the long-term average. Mast species showing the largest increases in production in 2025 were beech (+268%), chestnut oak (+119%), scrub oak (+100%) and hickory (+76%).

Hunters killed 543 bears during the first segment of the 2025 bow/crossbow season, which ran from Sept. 27 to Nov. 23 (252 with vertical bows and 291 with crossbows). The top five counties were Fayette (47), Raleigh (35), Greenbrier (29), Logan (28) and Boone (27).

Firearms hunters harvested 1,926 bears during 2025. Hunters took 506 bears in September and October (152 bears during the September youth, class Q/QQ, XS season, five during the October youth and class Q/QQ XS season, 33 bears during the concurrent antlerless deer/bear season and 316 during three early firearms seasons). Hunters harvested 290 bears during the concurrent buck-gun bear season and 1,129 during the traditional December season. One bear was harvested during the Mountaineer Heritage Season with a muzzleloader. The top five counties were Boone (169), Kanawha (136), Randolph (124), Webster (122) and Pocahontas (102).

Figure 1. West Virginia black bear harvest, 1971–2025



Non-hunting Mortalities

A total of 167 bears were killed on highways, were killed illegally, were destroyed or succumbed from other non-hunting causes (electrocution, mange, etc.) (Tables 4 and 5). This is up 21% from the 138 non-hunting mortalities recorded in 2024 (Table 4). There were 55 deaths from vehicles in 2025 compared to 80 in 2024. The number of illegal deaths recorded in 2025 (two) was nearly identical to the one death reported in 2024. Miscellaneous deaths increased from three in 2024 to four in 2025. In 2025, all miscellaneous deaths were attributed to unknown causes. Bears killed for nuisance or damage activity nearly doubled from 54 in 2024 to 106 in 2025. Ten bears were dispatched or found dead due to clinical mange infestation in 2025.

Damage Payments and Nuisance Complaints

All hunters who pursue bears are required to buy bear damage stamps (Class DS). Funds derived from stamp sales are deposited in a special bear damage account to reimburse property owners for real and personal property damage caused by bears.

The number of bear damage claims were up 23% from 84 in 2024 to 103 in 2025 (Table 6). Total payments of \$125,818 were 28% lower than the \$175,931 paid out in 2024. Claims were reported in 28 counties in 2025, which is an increase from the 25 counties reporting damage claims in 2024. There were 18 claims for bees (compared to 13 in 2024) totaling \$23,800, 14 for livestock at \$3,898 (10 in 2024), 35 for corn at \$82,004 (40 in 2023) and 36 for miscellaneous claims at \$16,116 (21 in 2024).

Greenbrier County had the greatest dollar amount in compensation at \$34,930, followed by Monroe (\$24,950), Preston (\$17,712), Raleigh (\$14,200) and Calhoun (\$5,145). Greenbrier County had the highest number of claims (17), followed by Preston and Monroe (11 each), Raleigh (nine), Braxton (seven) and Pocahontas (six).

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources employees received 905 nuisance bear calls in 2025 compared to 554 in 2024. The 5 counties with the most complaints were Raleigh (148), Fayette (104), Greenbrier (89), Nicholas (56) and Kanawha (48).

Black Bear Monitoring

Radio collars have only been left on a small number of females in the northern and southern part of the state (two functioning collars in 2025). These sows are used as surrogates for orphaned cubs whenever possible. In 2025, the dens of two sows with cubs were visited ($x = 2.5$). Three orphan cubs were placed with these two sows.

Monitoring the status of West Virginia's black bear population has always been a top priority for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. Trends in bear population size are more realistic to obtain than absolute population numbers. Trends in bear population size are calculated by reconstructing the bear population using bear ages from the harvest. These data allow managers to make informed decisions regarding bear seasons and bag limits. Liberal hunting seasons in the eastern mountain counties from 2008-2021 (excluding 2009) reduced the bear population to the point where reduced hunting opportunities were justified. The decreasing trend in the bear population in the eastern mountain counties was detected in the reconstructed estimates of abundance derived from the bear teeth submitted by bear hunters.

TOOTH COLLECTIONS

Age data from the 2024 tooth samples have been received and hunters have been notified of their bear's age. Hunters submitted 1,705 usable teeth (correct tooth, tooth not broken, etc.) for age consideration. There were 21 cubs (1%), 586 yearlings (35%), 480 2-year-olds (28%), 190 3-year-olds (11%), and the remaining 428 were 4 years old or older (25%). Biologists use age data from hunter-harvested bear teeth to calculate population estimates and mortality rates for black bears in West Virginia. The 1,705 usable teeth submitted in 2024 represent 69% of the total black bear harvest. Hunters submitted 49% of the harvest in 2016, 53% of the harvest in 2017, 63% in 2018, 68% in 2019, 67% in 2020, 72% in 2021, 70% in 2022 and 68% in 2023.

REPRODUCTIVE TRACT COLLECTIONS

The data gathered from reproductive tracts (cubs/female) mirrors data collected from visiting the dens of radio-tagged females. The information collected from examining female reproductive tracts can be obtained at far less cost than maintaining a large sample of radio-tagged females.

Managers collected 24 reproductive tracts in 2024 that supplied useful information. Reproductive tract data lags one year behind because researchers are waiting on age data. Information from reproductive tracts obtained in 2024 cannot be fully analyzed until ages are determined. Seven yearling tracts were examined in 2024. None contained corpora lutea, indicating they had not bred. Three 2-year-olds were examined in 2024 with two of the tracts containing six corpora lutea ($x = 2$). These bears would have given birth at age 3 to their first litters. Five sows over the age of 3 showed evidence of breeding and averaged 2.60 corpora lutea. Six females over the age of 3 showed evidence of giving birth in 2024 and averaged 2.33 placental scars. Three sows aged 4, 5, and 7 years old showed no evidence of corpora lutea or placental scars. The dates at which the 5- and 7-year-old sows were collected makes it likely that they hadn't bred yet that year. One sow would have given birth to two cubs at the age of 31 if she had lived until the following winter!

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources offered hunters who turned in complete reproductive tracts a \$20 gift card for their cooperation for the ninth time in 2024.

Table 1. 2025 West Virginia Black Bear Harvest

COUNTY	BOW/ CROSSBOW	SEPT./OCT. GUN	BUCK GUN	DECEMBER FIREARMS	MOUNTAINEER HERITAGE	TOTAL
Barbour	13	1	13	10	0	37
Brooke	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harrison	2	3	3	0	0	8
Marion	1	0	0	0	0	1
Marshall	3	0	4	0	0	7
Monongalia	2	1	3	0	0	6
Ohio	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preston	26	4	1	51	0	82
Taylor	9	1	1	1	0	12
Tucker	14	9	0	48	0	71
Wetzel	2	0	4	0	0	6
District 1 Subtotal	72	19	29	110	0	230
Berkeley	1	1	2	0	0	4
Grant	4	3	0	23	0	30
Hampshire	2	1	15	3	0	21
Hardy	7	6	0	24	0	37
Jefferson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mineral	4	1	4	9	0	18
Morgan	1	0	2	0	0	3
Pendleton	6	6	0	68	0	80
District 2 Subtotal	26	18	23	127	0	194
Braxton	12	5	8	35	0	60
Clay	4	5	4	29	0	42
Lewis	12	2	13	4	0	31
Nicholas	21	9	0	67	0	97
Pocahontas	13	13	1	88	0	115
Randolph	21	23	2	99	0	145
Upshur	7	6	5	13	0	31
Webster	24	16	0	106	0	146
District 3 Subtotal	114	79	33	441	0	667
Fayette	47	44	24	33	0	148
Greenbrier	29	7	3	88	0	127
McDowell	25	40	1	52	0	118
Mercer	11	4	8	2	0	25
Monroe	14	8	11	19	0	52
Raleigh	35	45	17	32	1	130
Summers	14	5	13	1	0	33
Wyoming	27	44	1	15	0	87
District 4 Subtotal	202	197	78	242	1	720
Boone	27	54	43	72	0	196
Cabell	2	0	0	0	0	2
Kanawha	27	51	31	54	0	163
Lincoln	4	0	2	0	0	6
Logan	28	39	1	54	0	122
Mason	1	0	1	1	0	3
Mingo	14	42	0	13	0	69
Putnam	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wayne	4	1	5	0	0	10
District 5 Subtotal	108	187	83	194	0	572
Calhoun	2	1	9	1	0	13
Doddridge	3	0	3	0	0	6
Gilmer	5	4	8	8	0	25
Jackson	0	0	1	0	0	1
Pleasants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ritchie	1	1	6	4	0	12
Roane	5	0	8	0	0	13
Tyler	1	0	3	0	0	4
Wirt	4	0	6	2	0	12
Wood	0	0	0	0	0	0
District 6 Subtotal	21	6	44	15	0	86
STATE TOTAL	543	506	290	1,129	1	2,469

Bears listed for Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties as "Buck Gun" are bow or crossbow kills from Nov. 24 - Dec. 7.

Bow/Crossbow refers to bears killed with a bow or crossbow from Sept. 27 - Nov. 23. All other bow and crossbow kills have been separated based on the seasons in which they were killed.

Sept/Oct gun includes bears killed during the youth, Class Q/QQ and class XS seasons Sept. 13-14 (152 bears) and Oct. 18-19 (five bears) and bears killed during concurrent deer/bear season (Oct. 23-26 (33 bears) and bears killed during three early firearms seasons (316).

Table 2. Sex ratios of West Virginia black bears for September or November gun season, bow season, December and Mountaineer Heritage season, 1964-2025.

YEAR	BOW OR GUN SEASON SEPT./OCT.		BOW SEASON AND/OR EARLY NOV. GUN SEASON		LATE NOV. OR DEC. OR JAN. GUN SEASON		ANNUAL HARVEST		TOTAL*
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1964-1993	0	0							
30-Yr Total	0	0	561	417	1,531	890	2,092	1,307	4,671
Sex Ratios	0	0	57%	43%	63%	37%	62%	38%	
1994	0	0	111	73	290	258	401	331	732
1995	0	0	152	75	310	153	462	228	690
1996	0	0	114	101	355	198	469	299	768
1997	0	0	225	198	178	85	403	283	686
1998	0	0	167	97	481	337	648	434	1,082
1999	0	0	256	168	369	201	625	369	994
2000	0	0	196	102	655	364	851	466	1,317
2001	0	0	302	165	482	301	784	466	1,250
2002	0	0	540	321	327	169	867	490	1,357
2003	0	0	605	422	450	222	1,055	644	1,699
2004	0	0	319	219	479	218	798	437	1,235
2005	0	0	432	285	616	301	1048	586	1,634
2006	0	0	399	266	727	312	1,126	578	1,704
2007	0	0	521	328	637	318	1,158	646	1,804
2008	348	322	283	177	597	343	1,228	842	2,070
2009	118	79	575	417	464	215	1,157	711	1,868
2010	215	248	314	146	932	530	1,461	924	2,385
2011	332	306	356	254	483	276	1,171	836	2,007
2012	380	310	462	261	844	478	1,686	1,049	2,735
2013	375	309	523	330	743	412	1,641	1,051	2,692
2014	265	240	402	165	1008	501	1,675	906	2,581
2015	423	303	685	406	843	541	1,951	1,250	3,201
2016	457	426	600	419	741	369	1,798	1,214	3,012
2017	349	274	399	212	1,220	704	1,968	1,190	3,158
2018	319	246	421	216	965	439	1,705	901	2,606
2019	507	374	636	330	779	473	1,922	1,177	3,099
2020	652	573	641	454	796	425	2,089	1,452	3,541
2021	430	350	426	213	857	480	1,713	1,043	2,756
2022	125	88	330	191	680	313	1,135	592	1,727
2023	299	239	594	338	942	418	1,835	995	2,830
2024	376	235	623	276	667	302	1,666	813	2,479
2025	321	185	387	156	932	488	1,639	829	2,469
32-YEAR TOTAL	6,291	5,107	12,996	7,781	20,849	11,144	40,135	24,032	64,168
Average Sex Ratios	55%	45%	63%	37%	65%	35%	63%	37%	
2025 Sex Ratios	63%	37%	71%	29%	66%	34%	66%	34%	

*Represents bears of known sex and not the total harvest in each year.

Table 3. West Virginia total black bear harvest by county, 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	32	31	51	41	37
Brooke	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0	0	0
Harrison	6	11	13	10	8
Marion	1	4	4	5	1
Marshall	2	5	3	3	7
Monongalia	3	10	9	12	6
Ohio	0	2	0	1	0
Preston	76	68	59	99	82
Taylor	7	16	13	16	12
Tucker	90	39	82	30	71
Wetzel	8	11	7	16	6
District 1 Subtotal	225	197	241	233	230
Berkeley	3	6	3	6	4
Grant	75	31	47	44	30
Hampshire	20	24	19	14	21
Hardy	36	16	41	47	37
Jefferson	4	4	3	2	1
Mineral	12	10	14	8	18
Morgan	10	2	7	2	3
Pendleton	147	47	104	55	80
District 2 Subtotal	307	140	238	178	194
Braxton	62	38	75	62	60
Clay	36	29	26	49	42
Lewis	28	34	33	36	31
Nicholas	209	119	206	209	97
Pocahontas	199	101	137	88	115
Randolph	185	100	171	109	145
Upshur	33	17	36	32	31
Webster	145	70	158	112	146
District 3 Subtotal	897	508	842	697	667
Fayette	174	118	186	164	148
Greenbrier	152	86	151	86	127
McDowell	119	72	151	118	118
Mercer	45	19	51	39	25
Monroe	76	48	69	58	52
Raleigh	98	59	136	102	130
Summers	33	30	45	56	33
Wyoming	98	49	126	93	87
District 4 Subtotal	795	481	915	716	720
Boone	188	132	193	196	196
Cabell	1	0	2	1	2
Kanawha	130	94	150	147	163
Lincoln	6	7	6	12	6
Logan	91	59	99	129	122
Mason	0	1	1	2	3
Mingo	52	42	42	60	69
Putnam	3	4	1	2	1
Wayne	7	2	8	14	10
District 5 Subtotal	478	341	502	563	572
Calhoun	8	7	8	12	13
Doddridge	2	3	9	7	6
Gilmer	14	22	25	28	25
Jackson	1	2	5	2	1
Pleasants	1	1	0	3	0
Ritchie	12	4	17	16	12
Roane	4	6	12	14	13
Tyler	3	3	1	1	4
Wirt	7	8	10	9	12
Wood	2	4	5	0	0
District 6 Subtotal	54	60	92	92	86
STATE TOTAL	2,756	1,727	2,830	2,479	2,469

Table 4. Number of black bears killed each year in West Virginia and cause of death.

YEAR	BOW	GUN	ILLEGAL	ROADKILLS	DESTROYED	MISC.	TOTAL
70s SUBTOTAL	14	523	70s AVERAGE ANNUAL BAG: BOW 2; GUN 65				
80s SUBTOTAL	261	1,542	80s AVERAGE ANNUAL BAG: BOW 26; GUN 154				
90s SUBTOTAL	2,363	4,506	90s AVERAGE ANNUAL BAG: BOW 236; GUN 450				
2000	305	1,023	6	16	8	4	1,362
2001	475	785	18	43	22	1	1,344
2002	726	670	14	82	28	10	1,530
2003	774	958	17	87	61	7	1,904
2004	374	861	7	55	22	11	1,330
2005	585	1,076	15	62	18	10	1,766
2006	516	1,188	8	61	36	10	1,819
2007	728	1,076	4	62	155	7	2,032
2008	460	1,610	3	38	34	6	2,151
2009	992	876	11	70	184	9	2,142
00s SUBTOTAL	5,935	10,123	00s AVERAGE ANNUAL BAG: BOW 600; GUN 1,002				
2010	460	1,925	6	66	35	5	2,497
2011	610	1,397	8	107	85	6	2,213
2012	723	2,012	5	72	104	2	2,918
2013	853	1,839	4	65	94	12	2,867
2014	593	1,988	2	81	86	7	2,757
2015	1,091	2,110	3	60	83	8	3,355
2016	1,019	1,993	1	108	127	8	3,256
2017	611	2,547	1	63	73	3	3,298
2018	637	1,969	0	119	72	6	2,803
2019	966	2,133	7	100	128	30	3,364
10s SUBTOTAL	7,563	19,913	10s AVERAGE ANNUAL BAG: BOW 756; GUN 1,991				
2020	1,095	2,446	7	125	254	11	3,938
2021	639	2,117	1	103	51	6	2,917
2022	521	1,206	1	63	57	3	1,851
2023	932	1,898	3	101	64	2	3,000
2024	899	1,580	1	80	54	3	2,617
2025	543	1,926	2	55	106	4	2,636

November Gun Seasons held in 1989, and 2002–2025 in certain counties.

September Season held in 2008–2022 in certain counties.

Check tags without season (<0.05 percent) marked were assumed gun kills for this table.

Bow kill for 2015–2025 indicates bears killed between the first day of archery season and the first day of buck firearms season, not all bears killed with a bow or crossbow.

Table 5. West Virginia 2025 non-hunting black bear mortalities by county and type.

COUNTY	ROADKILLS	ILLEGAL	DESTROYED	MISC.	TOTAL
Barbour	0	0	0	0	0
Brooke	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0	0	0
Harrison	0	0	0	0	0
Marion	0	0	0	0	0
Marshall	0	0	0	0	0
Monongalia	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
Preston	0	0	0	0	0
Taylor	0	0	0	0	0
Tucker	0	0	0	0	0
Wetzel	0	0	1	0	1
District 1 Subtotal	0	0	1	0	1
Berkeley	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0
Hardy	0	0	1	0	1
Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral	0	0	0	0	0
Morgan	0	0	0	0	0
Pendleton	0	0	0	0	0
District 2 Subtotal	0	0	1	0	1
Braxton	4	0	8	0	12
Clay	1	0	0	0	1
Lewis	5	0	3	0	8
Nicholas	5	1	8	0	14
Pocahontas	0	0	11	0	11
Randolph	0	0	5	0	5
Upshur	2	0	1	0	3
Webster	0	0	1	0	1
District 3 Subtotal	17	1	37	0	55
Fayette	2	0	6	0	8
Greenbrier	8	0	31	1	40
McDowell	0	0	0	0	0
Mercer	8	0	3	0	11
Monroe	0	0	5	1	6
Raleigh	11	0	6	0	17
Summers	2	0	2	0	4
Wyoming	1	0	0	0	1
District 4 Subtotal	32	0	53	2	87
Boone	2	0	0	2	4
Cabell	0	0	0	0	0
Kanawha	2	0	10	0	12
Lincoln	0	1	0	0	1
Logan	1	0	0	0	1
Mason	0	0	0	0	0
Mingo	0	0	4	0	4
Putnam	1	0	0	0	1
Wayne	0	0	1	0	1
District 5 Subtotal	6	1	15	2	24
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	0
Doddridge	0	0	0	0	0
Gilmer	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasants	0	0	0	0	0
Ritchie	0	0	0	0	0
Roane	0	0	0	0	0
Tyler	0	0	0	0	0
Wirt	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	0	0	0	0	0
District 6 Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL	55	2	107	4	168

Table 6. Black bear damage claims paid and payments by county 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	CLAIMS	PAYMENTS	CLAIMS	PAYMENTS	CLAIMS	PAYMENTS	CLAIMS	PAYMENTS	CLAIMS	PAYMENTS
Barbour	1	\$1,050	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$519
Berkeley	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$330	0	\$0	0	\$0
Boone	2	\$2,079	2	\$647	1	\$725	1	\$953	1	\$809
Braxton	2	\$439	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$750	7	\$2,375
Brooke	1	\$8,479	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Cabell	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$3,147	0	\$0
Calhoun	1	\$69	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$5,145
Clay	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Doddridge	1	\$832	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$280
Fayette	4	\$949	4	\$5,091	2	\$403	0	\$0	1	\$57
Gilmer	2	\$951	2	\$1,486	1	\$3,200	3	\$1,141	2	\$908
Grant	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$89
Greenbrier	19	\$35,612	8	\$68,325	22	\$143,522	15	\$56,013	17	\$34,930
Hampshire	1	\$1,428	3	\$5,735	1	\$483	2	\$3,007	0	\$0
Hancock	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Hardy	1	\$5,758	1	\$227	0	\$0	3	\$17,670	2	\$3,252
Harrison	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$2,528	2	\$1,674
Jackson	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$1,882	0	\$0
Jefferson	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Kanawha	0	\$0	1	\$1,594	3	\$3,702	2	\$367	0	\$0
Lewis	1	\$451	2	\$620	3	\$754	1	\$154	3	\$1,723
Lincoln	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,026
Logan	5	\$2,087	0	\$0	3	\$1,698	0	\$0	1	\$1,875
Marion	2	\$610	0	\$0	2	\$807	0	\$0	1	\$812
Marshall	1	\$560	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$1,039	0	\$0
Mason	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$733	0	\$0
McDowell	0	\$0	1	\$226	1	\$200	0	\$0	0	\$0
Mercer	1	\$319	3	\$2,099	4	\$4,606	4	\$2,041	2	\$1,070
Mineral	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Mingo	1	\$3,081	0	\$0	1	\$630	0	\$0	0	\$0
Monongalia	4	\$2,342	1	\$491	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Monroe	9	\$16,045	6	\$27,402	10	\$65,036	7	\$53,336	11	\$24,950
Morgan	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,000	0	\$0	1	\$1,643
Nicholas	6	\$3,428	5	\$868	5	\$2,619	2	\$581	2	\$340
Ohio	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Pendleton	8	\$2,098	4	\$930	3	\$2,124	4	\$1,678	3	\$814
Pleasants	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Pocahontas	6	\$3,210	5	\$4,454	5	\$4,059	8	\$9,784	6	\$1,535
Preston	2	\$1,866	5	\$11,411	9	\$9,768	10	\$15,261	11	\$17,712
Putnam	1	\$486	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$674
Raleigh	4	\$1,936	7	\$3,470	13	\$19,491	2	\$371	9	\$14,200
Randolph	3	\$905	0	\$0	11	\$5,985	2	\$627	1	\$2,333
Ritchie	1	\$227	1	\$1,630	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Roane	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Summers	2	\$2,758	0	\$0	1	\$1,874	1	\$360	1	\$1,400
Taylor	0	\$0	0	\$0	4	\$3,304	0	\$0	0	\$0
Tucker	2	\$1,534	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,358	0	\$0
Tyler	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Upshur	2	\$159	0	\$0	3	\$401	2	\$753	4	\$2,273
Wayne	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Webster	0	\$0	1	\$120	1	\$500	0	\$0	2	\$148
Wetzel	1	\$130	1	\$1,526	2	\$0	2	\$397	5	\$1,252
Wirt	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,785	0	\$0	0	\$0
Wood	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Wyoming	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$277	0	\$0	0	\$0
TOTAL	97	\$101,878	63	\$138,352	114	\$279,283	84	\$175,931	103	\$125,818

Harvest

SPRING HARVEST

Prior to 1966, turkey hunting in West Virginia consisted only of a fall season. The spring gobbler season, in which only bearded turkeys could be harvested, began in 1966 on our wildlife management areas. In 1968 this season expanded statewide to include private land as well. In 1983, a mere seventeen years later, the spring harvest (2,627 birds) exceeded the fall harvest (2,224 birds) and has done so ever since.

West Virginia hunters harvested 10,694 bearded turkeys during the 2025 spring turkey season (Table 7). This is 8.2% below last year's harvest (11,650), 1.1% below the five-year average (10,812), and 8.7% below the ten-year average (11,790) (Figure 2). With 55.1% of the total harvest occurring the first week of the five-week season, the first week remained the primary week to harvest a bird followed by the second week (17.7%), the third week (10.7%), and the fourth and fifth week (5.5% and 4.6%, respectively). Bearded hens remained a small portion of birds harvested making up only 0.20% of the total harvest.

The youth season included the two days prior to the opening day of the regular season. This was the second-year youths could harvest a bird on each of the youth season days, which counted towards their two-bird spring season limit. Youth hunters harvested 682 birds, 502 and 180 on Saturday and Sunday, respectively. The youth season harvest made up approximately 6.4% of the entire 2025 spring turkey harvest and was 13.5% above last year's youth harvest of 601 birds (Table 8).

All six districts harvested fewer birds than last year (Table 7). District 1 harvested the most birds (2,459), followed by District 6 (1,945), District 5 (1,889), District 4 (1,641), District 3 (1,547) and District 2 (1,213). The top five counties with the highest turkey harvest were Mason (476), Jackson (366), Preston (362), Harrison (345) and Kanawha (306) counties.

MOUNTAINEER HERITAGE SEASON

The 2026 January Mountaineer Heritage Season marked the fifth year turkeys could be harvested during the primitive weapons season. A total of 15 birds were harvested (three females and 12 males). All 15 were harvested on private land. Birds were killed under landowner privilege (three), lifetime (five), resident (six) and senior (one) licenses. All 15 were killed with a muzzleloader. Twenty-one birds were harvested last year, 31 in 2024 and 36 in 2023.

FALL HARVEST

All 55 counties had at least a one week fall turkey season which had a one bird either-sex bag limit. Twenty-eight counties had a one-week season. Thirteen counties, which had a spring harvest of at least 0.75 birds per square mile, were open to a split two-week season. Fourteen traditional counties had a four-week split season, and one had a two-week split season.

Hunters harvested 539 turkeys (Table 9), 52.3% below last year's harvest (1,130 birds), 37.9% below the five-year average (868 birds) and 49.7% below the ten-year average (1,072 birds) (Figure 3). The 2025 harvest consisted of 275 (51.0%) females and 264 (49.0%) males.

The fall turkey harvest depends on hunter participation, the current year's brood production, and mast conditions. This year's harvest is the result of almost the perfect storm. This past spring, DNR staff observed a fair number of broods (i.e., 189 broods), which is above the five-year average (i.e., 168 broods). However, the poult per hen ratio, an index to reproductive success, was the lowest it has been in the past five years (1.78 pph). This was probably the result of the very rainy conditions in spring that lasted into early summer, impacting poult survival.

Additionally, this year's mast survey revealed that hard mast production was widely abundant across the whole state. Many game species are more difficult to hunt under these mast conditions, including turkeys, because they are dispersed across the entire landscape and not concentrated in areas with good mast production.

All districts and counties, except Pendleton, Logan, and Fayette, were below their five-year average. District 3 harvested the most birds (112), followed by District 4 (106), District 2 (100), District 5 (95), District 1 (76) and District 6 (50).

Mason County led the state with hunters harvesting 27 birds, followed by Monroe (26), Nicholas (24), Pendleton (23), and Pocahontas and Upshur (22 each). All of these counties, except Mason and Upshur, had a four-week season.

Overall, the combined 2025 spring and fall turkey harvest was 11,233 birds (Table 10). This is down 12.1% from 2024's total harvest (12,780). Since 1966, 2025 ranked 28th in the highest total harvest.

Surveys

SPRING GOBBLER SURVEY

The Wildlife Resources Section and the West Virginia Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) conduct an annual survey of spring gobbler hunters. The survey is done entirely by volunteer hunters who donate their time and effort to gather information to help the DNR manage wild turkeys. While any interested hunter is encouraged to participate, the Wildlife Resources Section also mails surveys to a random sample of hunters who successfully harvested a spring gobbler the previous year. The Wildlife Resources Section compiles the data from all participants, and a survey report is written and provided free to cooperators. The results of this survey were not available at the time of this printing.

Hunters desiring a copy of the annual survey report need to participate in the survey. Spring gobbler hunters wanting to help are encouraged to contact:

Spring Gobbler Survey
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241
(304) 637-0245.

Those wishing to participate will be sent the necessary forms and a questionnaire prior to the spring hunting season. The survey is simple to conduct and a hunter does not have to harvest a gobbler to provide useful data. Most of the information collected deals with what hunters hear, see, or have an opinion on in relation to turkeys.

BROOD SURVEY

Statewide, 45 observers (out of a potential 69) documented 585 encounters with turkeys in 2025, including 883 hens, 1,311 poults, 292 gobblers, 90 unknown birds and 71 “seen before” observations. This was a 24.7% increase compared to 2024 (469 observations). The increase in observations may have resulted from vacant agency positions being filled. Also, this was the first year using the Survey123 application, and staff may have done a better job recording observations with this method. Removing the repeated observations yielded 752 hens, 1,085 poults, 270 gobblers, 83 unknowns. This yielded a 1.44 poult per hen ratio for the entire observation period. The 2025 poult per hen ratio was 8.3% below 2024 observations (1.75 poults/hen).

Slight modifications were made to West Virginia’s observations to standardize them with the Northeast and Southeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies for regional indices. Currently both associations and the NWTf Technical Committee have adopted the SEAFWA methodology for a standardized national survey. This index uses the average of poults per hen for each observation of hens with broods compared to all observations of hens during July and August. This index takes into consideration those hens that either lost their nests or broods, which more accurately reflects the status of recruitment. There were 256 observations statewide of hens or hens with broods in July and August. This included 515 hens and 786 poults. The statewide poult per hen ratio in 2025 was 1.78, down 11.0% from 2024 (i.e., 2.00 poults/hen) and the lowest ratio in the past five years. The Eastern Panhandle Region had the highest poults per hen ratio (3.18 poults/hen), followed by the Southern Region (2.30 poults/hen), Mountains Region (1.64 poults/hen) and lastly the Western Region (1.11 poults/hen) (Table 11).

A total of 21,991.75 hours were worked between July 1 and Aug. 31 by 69 potential observers. Using the national standardized method above resulted in a statewide 0.08 poults/hen/1,000 hours. This is the lowest estimate of production associated with effort since we began looking at this metric (2024: 0.11 poults/hen/1,000 hours, 2023: 0.12 poults/hen/1,000 hours, 2022: 0.30 poults/hen/1,000 hours, 2021: 0.14 poults/hen/1,000 hours, 2020: 0.11 poults/hen/1,000 hours).

A total of 189 turkey broods were observed in 2025 (Table 12). This is a 15.2% increase compared to last year’s observations and 12.5% above the five-year average. Again, this increase in observations could be the result of the new method of recording observations.

Research

The WVDNR is in its third and final year of a statewide wild turkey hen study. This is a cooperative project between the WVDNR, WVU, and the West Virginia Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Unit. It is funded through hunting license dollars, federal grant money, and NWTF.

The main objective is to repeat and compare the results of this study with the previous “hen study” completed from 1989 through 1994 which focused on reproductive parameters and hen survival and mortality. This study is taking advantage of new advanced technologies for tracking and monitoring hens and their activities and will provide additional confidence in current and future management and harvest strategies. In addition, a human dimensions portion of the study will provide information needed to develop a spring and fall turkey hunter profile as well as identifying the elements of hunter satisfaction, both necessary to recognize and address the desires of hunters. By combining the biological and sociological aspects of the study, WVDNR plans to develop predictive population models looking at varying season lengths of the spring and fall season. This study will produce two Master and one Doctoral candidates.

Turkeys have been trapped in 12 counties at 42 sites between 2024 and 2025. Each captured hen received a uniquely numbered leg band with a portion also getting a transmitter. Between the two years, 381 hens were banded.

A total of 216 GPS transmitters have been deployed on hens, 118 and 98 in 2024 and 2025, respectively. These transmitters, equipped with accelerometers, enable the detection of movement and non-movement activities (e.g. feeding, roosting and nesting). With the combined GPS and accelerometer data, it can be determined when, where, and what these marked hens are doing. It is anticipated that an additional 56 transmitters will be deployed in the spring of 2026.

Twenty-eight Autonomous Recording Units (ARUs) were placed in three study regions across the state in both the spring of 2024 and 2025. It is hoped that these units will detect gobbling activity to identify peak gobbling activity and allow gobbling activity to be compared to nesting activity.

Both a spring and fall turkey hunter survey was conducted following the closing of each of the respective 2025 seasons. A postcard and an email was sent inviting hunters to participate with the online survey. A total of 7,995 invitations were sent to spring hunters and 7,035 to fall hunters.

Table 7. Spring harvest of wild turkeys in West Virginia, 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	163	139	216	199	187
Brooke	134	106	115	129	107
Hancock	190	123	131	134	120
Harrison	271	224	357	336	345
Marion	226	191	228	238	248
Marshall	252	247	291	337	286
Monongalia	235	229	258	307	230
Ohio	119	111	122	128	109
Preston	343	357	390	441	362
Taylor	102	100	129	131	124
Tucker	87	80	83	114	99
Wetzel	176	159	243	254	242
District 1 Subtotal	2,298	2,066	2,563	2,748	2,459
Berkeley	131	170	236	190	158
Grant	146	141	207	172	171
Hampshire	209	210	347	232	240
Hardy	137	154	267	205	189
Jefferson	115	135	162	128	87
Mineral	114	145	215	151	143
Morgan	58	92	147	113	75
Pendleton	138	126	185	157	150
District 2 Subtotal	1,048	1,173	1,766	1,348	1,213
Braxton	183	157	207	185	193
Clay	123	73	126	87	95
Lewis	225	183	212	238	259
Nicholas	219	217	256	258	252
Pocahontas	146	165	193	186	152
Randolph	225	223	261	275	238
Upshur	260	209	265	244	231
Webster	103	84	143	112	127
District 3 Subtotal	1,484	1,311	1,663	1,585	1,547
Fayette	254	284	300	261	241
Greenbrier	259	321	288	315	259
McDowell	118	65	124	143	129
Mercer	194	248	203	239	179
Monroe	256	295	255	254	204
Raleigh	218	276	255	272	258
Summers	194	230	236	194	159
Wyoming	180	158	210	186	212
District 4 Subtotal	1,673	1,877	1,871	1,864	1,641
Boone	119	86	150	129	154
Cabell	127	109	149	129	134
Kanawha	299	210	310	278	306
Lincoln	174	144	214	179	175
Logan	151	113	178	149	151
Mason	364	351	559	501	476
Mingo	119	75	146	127	121
Putnam	222	199	284	255	209
Wayne	126	105	158	150	163
District 5 Subtotal	1,701	1,392	2,148	1,897	1,889
Calhoun	154	96	155	153	145
Doddridge	143	134	177	231	166
Gilmer	133	85	158	119	136
Jackson	323	309	416	400	366
Pleasants	97	76	106	98	85
Ritchie	252	176	271	288	228
Roane	244	166	272	251	226
Tyler	157	138	192	237	199
Wirt	157	125	174	148	132
Wood	270	242	285	283	262
District 6 Subtotal	1,930	1,547	2,206	2,208	1,945
STATE TOTAL	10,134	9,366	12,217	11,650	10,694

WILD TURKEY

Table 8. Spring wild turkey harvest in West Virginia by week of season, 2024–2025.

WEEK OF SEASON	2024		2025	
	NUMBER HARVESTED	% OF TOTAL HARVEST	NUMBER HARVESTED	% OF TOTAL HARVEST
Youth	601	5.2	682	6.4
Week 1	6,183	53.1	5,891	55.1
Week 2	2,238	19.2	1,896	17.7
Week 3	1,262	10.8	1,142	10.7
Week 4	757	6.5	590	5.5
Week 5	609	5.2	493	4.6
STATE TOTAL	11,650	100	10,694	100

Figure 2. West Virginia’s spring turkey harvest, 1966–2025.

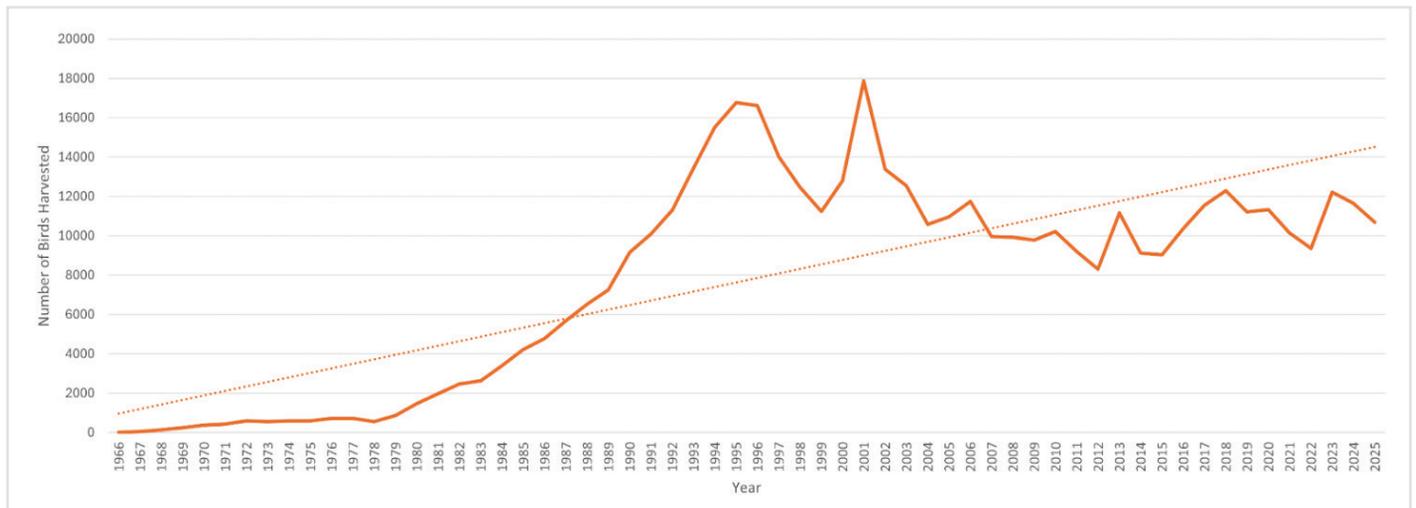


Figure 3. West Virginia’s fall turkey harvest, 1940–2025.

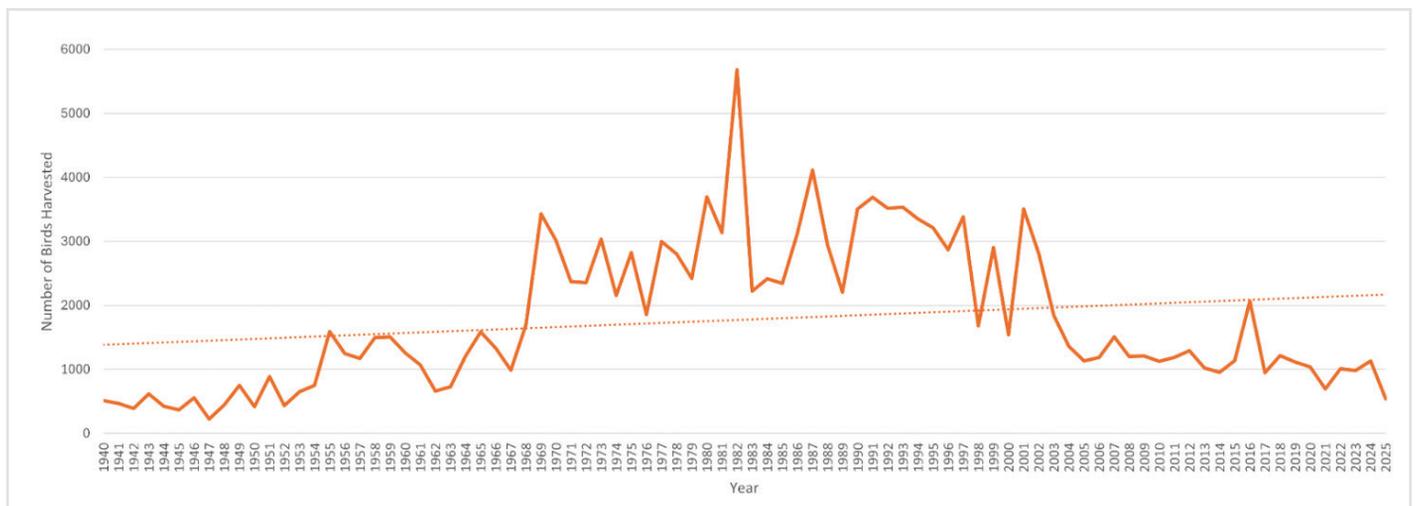


Table 9. Fall harvest of wild turkeys in West Virginia, 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	AVERAGE
Barbour	6	13	13	18	10	12
Brooke	1	11	6	4	3	5
Hancock	6	6	8	10	6	7
Harrison	9	6	24	16	7	12
Marion	9	8	20	26	1	13
Marshall	2	16	12	16	5	10
Monongalia	12	14	11	16	8	12
Ohio	4	7	7	3	3	5
Preston	10	33	27	34	15	24
Taylor	3	7	17	15	3	9
Tucker	3	16	17	24	12	14
Wetzel	7	13	3	9	3	7
District 1 Subtotal	72	150	165	191	76	131
Berkeley	17	20	14	21	15	17
Grant	26	25	25	26	12	23
Hampshire	31	29	26	30	11	25
Hardy	36	37	25	27	15	28
Jefferson	4	5	6	4	2	4
Mineral	18	26	13	22	15	19
Morgan	17	23	11	13	7	14
Pendleton	19	22	22	26	23	22
District 2 Subtotal	168	187	142	169	100	153
Braxton	8	11	14	17	11	12
Clay	7	4	13	9	5	8
Lewis	5	10	11	6	3	7
Nicholas	23	65	57	66	24	47
Pocahontas	34	34	28	53	22	34
Randolph	16	72	42	77	13	44
Upshur	16	26	24	26	22	23
Webster	12	39	26	35	12	25
District 3 Subtotal	121	261	215	289	112	200
Fayette	7	15	14	29	17	16
Greenbrier	41	57	13	57	20	38
McDowell	7	3	11	5	4	6
Mercer	16	8	57	14	6	20
Monroe	36	41	28	39	26	34
Raleigh	20	15	42	14	14	21
Summers	19	8	24	10	2	13
Wyoming	16	19	26	12	17	18
District 4 Subtotal	162	166	215	180	106	166
Boone	13	14	12	21	13	15
Cabell	5	11	6	7	6	7
Kanawha	10	10	20	23	5	14
Lincoln	13	15	6	12	6	10
Logan	16	14	7	13	16	13
Mason	33	21	20	41	27	28
Mingo	7	10	14	9	10	10
Putnam	10	27	22	31	8	20
Wayne	2	6	4	3	4	4
District 5 Subtotal	109	128	111	160	95	121
Calhoun	5	4	14	7	3	7
Doddridge	8	9	7	9	4	7
Gilmer	2	5	6	7	2	4
Jackson	12	25	14	30	8	18
Pleasants	1	1	5	3	1	2
Ritchie	6	12	7	18	3	9
Roane	8	20	21	17	10	15
Tyler	2	9	14	15	6	9
Wirt	3	13	10	7	2	7
Wood	15	22	21	28	11	19
District 6 Subtotal	62	120	119	141	50	98
STATE TOTAL	694	1,012	967	1,130	539	868

Table 10. Total spring and fall turkey harvest West Virginia, 1966–2025.

YEAR	SPRING	FALL	TOTAL	RANK
1966	12	1,334	1,346	59
1967	42	989	1,031	60
1968	134	1,697	1,831	58
1969	243	3,430	3,673	48
1970	370	3,020	3,390	51
1971	421	2,374	2,795	55
1972	589	2,353	2,942	54
1973	554	3,038	3,592	49
1974	596	2,158	2,754	56
1975	585	2,827	3,412	50
1976	721	1,860	2,581	57
1977	719	2,998	3,717	47
1978	566	2,803	3,369	52
1979	873	2,421	3,294	53
1980	1,459	3,696	5,155	44
1981	1,970	3,135	5,105	45
1982	2,458	5,684	8,142	40
1983	2,627	2,224	4,851	46
1984	3,387	2,414	5,801	43
1985	4,215	2,343	6,558	42
1986	4,774	3,130	7,904	41
1987	5,665	4,114	9,779	36
1988	6,526	2,939	9,465	38
1989	7,245	2,204	9,449	39
1990	9,152	3,504	12,656	18
1991	10,097	3,690	13,787	13
1992	11,299	3,518	14,817	8
1993	13,428	3,536	16,964	6
1994	15,501	3,351	18,852	4
1995	16,770	3,211	19,981	2
1996	16,618	2,870	19,488	3
1997	14,021	3,385	17,406	5
1998	12,467	1,678	14,145	11
1999	11,241	2,901	14,142	12
2000	12,794	1,541	14,335	10
2001	17,875	3,505	21,380	1
2002	13,385	2,808	16,193	7
2003	12,535	1,841	14,376	9
2004	10,573	1,357	11,930	25
2005	10,957	1,130	12,087	24
2006	11,735	1,186	12,921	16
2007	9,965	1,511	11,476	26
2008	9,929	1,206	11,135	29
2009	9,787	1,208	10,995	30
2010	10,209	1,126	11,335	27
2011	9,190	1,186	10,376	33
2012	8,303	1,294	9,597	37
2013	11,162	1,019	12,181	23
2014	9,128	956	10,084	35
2015	9,037	1,140	10,177	34
2016	10,361	2,066	12,427	20
2017	11,545	948	12,493	19
2018	12,287	1,215	13,502	14
2019	11,215	1,113	12,328	22
2020	11,320	1,038	12,358	21
2021	10,134	694	10,828	31
2022	9,366	1,012	10,378	32
2023	12,217	981	13,198	15
2024	11,650	1,130	12,780	17
2025	10,694	539	11,233	28
TOTAL	464,698	131,579	596,277	

Table 11. Wild turkey poults per hen (pph) reported in July and August by region and statewide, 2021-2025.

YEAR	REGION	PPH
2021	1 E. Panhandle	3.00
	2 Mountains	2.00
	3 Western	2.67
	4 Southern	2.95
	Statewide	2.70
2022	1 E. Panhandle	0.91
	2 Mountains	2.77
	3 Western	3.12
	4 Southern	2.23
	Statewide	2.63
2023	1 E. Panhandle	2.19
	2 Mountains	1.98
	3 Western	2.64
	4 Southern	1.46
	Statewide	2.12
2024	1 E. Panhandle	2.64
	2 Mountains	2.60
	3 Western	1.60
	4 Southern	2.04
	Statewide	2.00
2025	1 E. Panhandle	3.18
	2 Mountains	1.64
	3 Western	1.11
	4 Southern	2.30
	Statewide	1.78
FIVE YEAR AVERAGE		2.25

Table 12. Wild turkey broods reported by ecological region and month, 2021-2025.

YEAR	REGION	MONTH			TOTAL
		JUNE	JULY	AUG.	
2021	1 E. Panhandle	3	0	6	9
	2 Mountains	2	4	6	12
	3 Western	17	49	25	91
	4 Southern	29	27	17	73
	Subtotal	51	80	54	185
2022	1 E. Panhandle	1	0	2	3
	2 Mountains	3	6	7	16
	3 Western	17	32	17	66
	4 Southern	17	25	16	58
	Subtotal	38	63	42	143
2023	1 E. Panhandle	8	7	6	21
	2 Mountains	2	10	8	20
	3 Western	28	23	25	76
	4 Southern	13	9	18	40
	Subtotal	51	49	57	157
2024	1 E. Panhandle	1	8	6	15
	2 Mountains	4	8	6	18
	3 Western	14	16	20	50
	4 Southern	34	18	29	81
	Subtotal	53	50	61	164
2025	1 E. Panhandle	2	2	6	10
	2 Mountains	3	2	5	10
	3 Western	15	18	28	61
	4 Southern	27	47	34	108
	Subtotal	47	69	73	189
FIVE YEAR TOTAL		240	311	287	838
FIVE YEAR AVERAGE		48	62	57	168

WILD BOAR

BY TAYLOR WILCOX

Table 13. Wild boar harvest by weapon, 2025.

COUNTY	CROSSBOW	ARCHERY	FIREARM	TOTAL
Boone	14	9	61	84
Logan	10	16	56	82
Raleigh	0	0	0	0
Wyoming	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	24	25	117	166

Table 14. West Virginia wild boar harvest, 1979-2025.

YEAR	TOTAL HARVEST
1979	3
1980	10
1981	33
1982	72
1983	54
1984	81
1985	58
1986	35
1987	74
1988	34
1989	116
1990	86
1991	59
1992	130
1993	82
1994	86
1995	158
1996	139
1997	141
1998	58
1999	96
2000	46
2001	43
2002	38
2003	5
2004	7
2005	12
2006	14
2007	22
2008	14
2009	35
2010	16
2011	37
2012	62
2013	49
2014	51
2015	99
2016	46
2017	91
2018	137
2019	88
2020	145
2021	144
2022	111
2023	142
2024	91
2025	166
TOTAL	3,316

Hunters harvested 166 boars during the 2025 season, representing a new record (Table 13). Hunters once again had the opportunity to hunt in early February, which also produced a record harvest of 104 boars (50 from Logan County and 54 from Boone County). Heavy snowfall before and during the three-day season created good conditions for finding and tracking animals. Across seasons, firearms hunters harvested a total of 117 boars (56 from Logan County and 61 from Boone County) and archers harvested 49 boars (26 from Logan County and 23 from Boone County). Crossbow hunters accounted for 49% of the archery harvests. No harvests were reported in Raleigh County or Wyoming County. Mast production in the region was above the long-term average.

Wild Boar were introduced in 1971 to supplement big game populations and did well enough to accommodate a hunting season in 1979. Harvests have ranged from three in 1979 to 166 this year (Table 14). During the 47-year history of wild boar hunting in West Virginia’s southern coalfields, regulated hunting seasons have enabled the successful management of this game species.

The February season provides hunters with a unique big game hunting opportunity and is a useful management tool for stabilizing the wild boar population. Biologists will continue to monitor the impact of this February season and make proposals accordingly. The February season is proposed to continue for next year. Annual big game seasons are set by the West Virginia Natural Resources Commission at their spring meeting.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

BY BRETT SKELLY

Deer Season 2025 and January 2026

Tables 15-22 contain the 2025 white-tailed deer hunter harvest information for West Virginia's 55 counties. During the 2025 and January 2026 seasons, hunters harvested 92,533 deer. This was a decrease of 17% from the 2024 and January 2025 harvest of 111,646 and was 14% below the previous five-year harvest average of 107,434. The total deer harvest represents one deer killed for every 159 acres of deer habitat in the state (Table 21). From 1945 through January 2026, a total of 7,205,436 deer have been recorded as harvested in West Virginia.

In 2025, the traditional buck-only firearms season harvest of antlered bucks was 33,823, an 18% decrease from the 2024 harvest (Table 15). This is 20% less than the five-year average buck-only firearms season harvest of 42,220.

A total of 25,453 antlerless deer (Table 18) were harvested with a firearm during the antlerless deer season and the Youth, Class Q/ QQ (physically challenged) and Senior Lifetime Class XS deer seasons. This is a decrease of 23% compared to 2024 and was 13% below the five-year average of 29,303. This year marked the 14th year for an October firearm antlerless deer season and was the eighth year for a four-day season (Oct. 23-26). For the eighth year, the traditional December antlerless season was increased from three to four days (Dec. 11-14) and followed buck firearms season rather than muzzleloader season. For the seventh-year, qualifying youth, Class Q/ QQ, and Senior Lifetime Class XS license holders had an additional day in 2025, which totaled to a four-day, antlerless-only season on private and public land in counties having a firearms deer hunting season.

The 2025 deer statewide archery (bow/crossbow) season opened Sept. 27, 2025, four days later than the 2024 season. In the 2025 archery season, a harvest of 29,654 was recorded, which includes 17,429 deer harvested during the archery season with a crossbow (Table 17). Deer reported as harvested with a crossbow represented 59% of the total archery season harvest and ranges from 24% to 82% of the archery antlered deer harvested by county. This year's archery harvest was 8% below the 2024 archery season and 5% below the five-year average of 31,139.

The 2025 muzzleloader harvest was 3,102 which was 26% less than the 2024 harvest of 4,173 but does not include 472 deer taken with side lock and flintlock muzzleloaders in the Mountaineer Heritage season. This is 22% below the five-year average of 3,979.

The harvest of antlerless deer is the key to healthier, heavier and more productive deer herds. This is because there are natural limits to the number of deer the land can support. When these natural limits are exceeded, deer body weights, reproductive rates, antler development, and herd health declines, including an increased likelihood that deer will die over winter. If deer exceed natural limits long enough, habitat quality is reduced, which produces a long-term reduction in the natural limits of deer the land can support. To avoid these problems a minimum of 70 females for every 100 bucks in the harvest is generally required just to stabilize the deer herd. If a decrease in the herd is warranted, the percentage of females needs to be above 40%. The 2025 deer harvest records indicate the percentage of female deer in the harvest was 35.4%, which is expected to slightly increase the statewide deer herd. However, the percentage of female deer in the harvest of individual counties in 2025 varied from 22% to 46%, which reflects the antlerless deer season frameworks designed for individual counties to grow, reduce or stabilize the deer population on a county basis.

Overall deer hunting opportunities for hunters across the state in 2026 are proposed to be similar to those in 2025 with the exception of increased antlerless deer season hunting opportunities in counties where recorded deer harvest data and habitat impacts indicate female deer harvest should be increased to stabilize or decrease current deer populations. Hunters have helped manage deer in the state since mandatory game checking began in 1929, and the information provided by hunters is the foundation for tracking deer herd trends and monitoring doe harvest impacts. To register your harvest, visit WVDnr.gov, call 1-844-982-4325 (1-844-WVCheck) or visit a license agent.

Proposed seasons and bag limits for 2026 have not been approved by the West Virginia Natural Resources Commission at this time. For details on future deer hunting seasons, please refer to the 2026-2027 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary, which will be published and available to hunters in July 2026. This publication contains complete information on gun, archery, muzzleloading, and antlerless deer hunting, plus other hunting regulations on turkey, bear, boar, and small game. Hunters will be able to obtain a copy at wvdnr.gov, from any WVDNR office, and any business that sells West Virginia hunting licenses.

Table 15. West Virginia Antlered Buck Harvest, 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	732	938	710	780	614
Brooke	241	318	317	302	289
Hancock	197	227	232	236	296
Harrison	658	993	822	769	641
Marion	570	945	667	578	527
Marshall	703	941	871	650	557
Monongalia	629	937	740	608	603
Ohio	276	342	355	288	249
Preston	1,239	1,726	1,412	1,565	1,349
Taylor	345	547	434	396	323
Tucker	616	765	664	763	607
Wetzel	713	994	718	773	620
District 1 Subtotal	6,919	9,673	7,942	7,708	6,675
Berkeley	544	682	637	636	555
Grant	1,065	1,070	1,217	1,179	1,040
Hampshire	1,475	1,428	1,121	1,231	926
Hardy	1,254	1,160	1,331	1,188	1,166
Jefferson	386	496	395	359	414
Mineral	990	961	834	970	809
Morgan	491	560	426	536	414
Pendleton	1,180	1,130	1,408	1,329	1,140
District 2 Subtotal	7,385	7,487	7,369	7,428	6,464
Braxton	1,230	1,137	1,389	853	824
Clay	601	449	631	275	351
Lewis	944	1,261	1,080	932	738
Nicholas	916	1,065	1,161	1,013	865
Pocahontas	1,021	1,185	1,231	1,269	1,090
Randolph	1,338	1,644	1,593	1,583	1,199
Upshur	1,049	1,170	853	1,033	792
Webster	662	842	723	797	589
District 3 Subtotal	7,761	8,753	8,661	7,755	6,448
Fayette	993	1,123	1,222	859	993
Greenbrier	1,595	1,838	1,884	1,756	1,733
McDowell	0	0	0	0	0
Mercer	692	697	1,014	531	671
Monroe	1,212	1,168	1,389	1,095	1,059
Raleigh	793	844	1,039	722	893
Summers	716	663	913	592	635
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	0
District 4 Subtotal	6,001	6,333	7,461	5,555	5,984
Boone	637	769	733	523	514
Cabell	459	496	441	463	359
Kanawha	1,200	1,319	1,233	902	832
Lincoln	1,045	906	765	645	582
Logan	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	1,122	1,397	905	1,097	701
Mingo	0	0	0	0	0
Putnam	739	974	571	680	453
Wayne	818	679	702	645	576
District 5 Subtotal	6,020	6,540	5,350	4,955	4,017
Calhoun	776	625	855	530	432
Doddridge	640	1,035	654	846	550
Gilmer	796	906	945	639	478
Jackson	1,336	1,509	992	1,285	569
Pleasants	200	397	288	305	99
Ritchie	996	1,620	946	1,229	555
Roane	1,186	1,081	1,163	891	650
Tyler	505	900	687	734	417
Wirt	617	783	630	606	267
Wood	1,005	1,168	945	969	218
District 6 Subtotal	8,057	10,024	8,105	8,034	4,235
STATE TOTAL	42,143	48,810	44,888	41,435	33,823

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 16. West Virginia White-Tailed Deer Archery Harvest (Traditional Bow Only), 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	197	206	180	217	182
Brooke	105	103	136	170	153
Hancock	156	104	120	208	270
Harrison	226	200	178	241	249
Marion	213	238	202	169	215
Marshall	141	165	179	147	111
Monongalia	309	274	293	419	437
Ohio	132	100	114	124	134
Preston	444	500	412	534	519
Taylor	118	142	142	100	117
Tucker	146	154	131	142	109
Wetzel	124	139	115	112	94
District 1 Subtotal	2,311	2,325	2,202	2,583	2,590
Berkeley	232	245	219	306	310
Grant	148	165	152	149	145
Hampshire	215	218	147	192	133
Hardy	155	159	169	161	172
Jefferson	209	222	185	217	238
Mineral	144	177	138	171	145
Morgan	105	114	69	140	102
Pendleton	166	161	187	183	144
District 2 Subtotal	1,374	1,461	1,266	1,519	1,389
Braxton	298	243	288	221	260
Clay	128	72	106	62	98
Lewis	188	236	201	177	139
Nicholas	225	274	257	250	295
Pocahontas	95	132	107	120	107
Randolph	259	255	225	266	168
Upshur	264	292	200	233	221
Webster	149	132	97	111	98
District 3 Subtotal	1,606	1,636	1,481	1,440	1,386
Fayette	318	328	324	297	345
Greenbrier	264	252	227	228	246
McDowell	551	478	586	490	655
Mercer	382	291	372	251	367
Monroe	211	209	213	178	230
Raleigh	429	410	445	400	498
Summers	206	167	211	171	237
Wyoming	945	826	1,036	723	923
District 4 Subtotal	3,306	2,961	3,414	2,738	3,501
Boone	182	198	199	207	205
Cabell	146	152	144	170	107
Kanawha	533	408	388	468	416
Lincoln	268	205	195	197	144
Logan	593	553	559	469	463
Mason	378	415	340	431	286
Mingo	425	305	464	355	410
Putnam	268	273	203	236	196
Wayne	193	167	179	173	179
District 5 Subtotal	2,986	2,676	2,671	2,706	2,406
Calhoun	132	106	117	68	73
Doddridge	122	158	101	156	114
Gilmer	119	117	110	63	70
Jackson	416	474	340	455	202
Pleasants	42	68	57	58	12
Ritchie	221	261	192	264	118
Roane	289	191	213	197	147
Tyler	104	139	111	131	103
Wirt	163	148	131	139	49
Wood	330	350	281	403	65
District 6 Subtotal	1,938	2,012	1,653	1,934	953
STATE TOTAL	13,521	13,071	12,687	12,920	12,225

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 17. West Virginia White-Tailed Deer Archery Harvest (Crossbow Only), 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	332	398	290	434	354
Brooke	129	129	157	167	182
Hancock	170	157	170	254	298
Harrison	261	308	291	349	348
Marion	290	418	354	310	287
Marshall	194	276	275	246	190
Monongalia	337	391	414	400	405
Ohio	154	120	157	150	146
Preston	813	1,033	852	969	1,054
Taylor	201	237	193	210	203
Tucker	307	367	291	328	294
Wetzel	211	296	219	270	213
District 1 Subtotal	3,399	4,130	3,663	4,087	3,974
Berkeley	384	419	354	460	449
Grant	264	239	255	301	305
Hampshire	278	312	216	270	248
Hardy	262	255	230	297	267
Jefferson	308	320	247	245	303
Mineral	283	297	255	341	275
Morgan	201	283	144	235	191
Pendleton	310	272	278	339	283
District 2 Subtotal	2,290	2,397	1,979	2,488	2,321
Braxton	427	374	532	343	399
Clay	239	155	231	146	205
Lewis	366	437	324	335	295
Nicholas	454	522	520	501	594
Pocahontas	217	234	249	281	238
Randolph	764	831	670	878	692
Upshur	586	668	474	640	513
Webster	341	385	297	341	288
District 3 Subtotal	3,394	3,606	3,297	3,465	3,224
Fayette	546	616	665	575	687
Greenbrier	511	511	483	559	575
McDowell	173	187	223	176	221
Mercer	432	405	536	378	525
Monroe	391	364	401	398	443
Raleigh	650	584	721	736	880
Summers	295	261	318	233	356
Wyoming	225	224	286	221	301
District 4 Subtotal	3,223	3,152	3,633	3,276	3,988
Boone	257	268	237	285	307
Cabell	216	189	185	231	193
Kanawha	693	654	571	631	629
Lincoln	322	247	253	275	251
Logan	191	176	186	172	138
Mason	348	414	313	491	264
Mingo	131	132	197	178	192
Putnam	289	352	217	349	196
Wayne	173	160	194	176	201
District 5 Subtotal	2,620	2,592	2,353	2,788	2,371
Calhoun	326	244	312	195	208
Doddridge	186	251	139	254	170
Gilmer	253	256	297	199	175
Jackson	386	474	294	494	203
Pleasants	86	136	81	124	20
Ritchie	316	524	317	511	188
Roane	427	343	394	309	267
Tyler	171	232	166	234	111
Wirt	207	229	193	255	96
Wood	514	613	482	641	113
District 6 Subtotal	2,872	3,302	2,675	3,216	1,551
STATE TOTAL	17,798	19,179	17,600	19,320	17,429

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 18. West Virginia Antlerless Deer Harvest, 2021-2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	725	849	754	859	695
Brooke	189	201	251	315	318
Hancock	104	135	138	162	302
Harrison	492	597	615	622	610
Marion	471	655	616	585	484
Marshall	384	463	524	467	351
Monongalia	534	673	680	626	535
Ohio	155	151	217	273	254
Preston	1,327	1,516	1,485	1,657	1,442
Taylor	320	407	365	440	340
Tucker	328	425	318	419	361
Wetzel	454	568	465	554	390
District 1 Subtotal	5,483	6,640	6,428	6,979	6,082
Berkeley	543	676	629	689	617
Grant	558	552	520	651	509
Hampshire	1,031	1,056	739	793	651
Hardy	778	777	721	796	775
Jefferson	363	427	386	406	449
Mineral	693	786	628	790	670
Morgan	464	589	394	520	472
Pendleton	585	495	532	579	557
District 2 Subtotal	5,015	5,358	4,549	5,224	4,700
Braxton	821	739	947	860	680
Clay	216	187	301	213	240
Lewis	913	1,244	1,090	1,262	836
Nicholas	317	406	509	480	646
Pocahontas	308	314	321	412	354
Randolph	674	815	738	1,101	774
Upshur	1,048	1,228	1,050	1,203	907
Webster	221	320	278	297	183
District 3 Subtotal	4,518	5,253	5,234	5,828	4,620
Fayette	403	400	601	543	514
Greenbrier	594	686	759	817	877
McDowell	0	0	0	0	0
Mercer	375	381	502	393	414
Monroe	891	863	921	998	876
Raleigh	211	237	315	484	455
Summers	391	358	494	471	410
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	0
District 4 Subtotal	2,865	2,925	3,592	3,706	3,546
Boone	197	213	211	190	162
Cabell	246	249	208	261	211
Kanawha	391	376	314	387	354
Lincoln	472	492	411	477	391
Logan	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	1,078	1,240	837	1,298	841
Mingo	0	0	0	0	0
Putnam	633	711	456	746	503
Wayne	218	228	200	215	217
District 5 Subtotal	3,235	3,509	2,637	3,574	2,679
Calhoun	579	533	619	569	421
Doddridge	411	620	429	605	414
Gilmer	568	617	629	603	447
Jackson	1,092	1,314	890	1,321	606
Pleasants	174	170	130	210	53
Ritchie	883	1,234	891	1,129	462
Roane	945	926	955	925	652
Tyler	489	728	559	648	327
Wirt	451	566	434	494	246
Wood	906	1,060	964	1,242	198
District 6 Subtotal	6,498	7,768	6,500	7,746	3,826
STATE TOTAL	27,614	31,453	28,940	33,057	25,453

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 19. West Virginia Muzzleloader Harvest, 2021–2025.

COUNTY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barbour	107	117	95	119	90
Brooke	14	37	27	31	31
Hancock	30	44	39	30	54
Harrison	49	65	74	75	62
Marion	59	82	84	55	55
Marshall	74	74	97	79	68
Monongalia	53	74	86	60	65
Ohio	25	45	46	28	25
Preston	138	202	187	171	179
Taylor	38	56	58	46	40
Tucker	49	66	90	72	72
Wetzel	53	96	70	85	47
District 1 Subtotal	689	958	953	851	788
Berkeley	60	77	76	68	46
Grant	75	64	83	74	64
Hampshire	99	72	84	93	47
Hardy	69	71	93	75	54
Jefferson	51	52	54	36	35
Mineral	72	52	54	73	43
Morgan	42	46	35	41	32
Pendleton	59	66	74	57	54
District 2 Subtotal	527	500	553	517	375
Braxton	133	137	193	100	70
Clay	22	39	61	40	26
Lewis	111	139	104	101	64
Nicholas	116	187	225	207	186
Pocahontas	52	52	72	70	63
Randolph	125	193	199	206	158
Upshur	131	154	134	150	115
Webster	67	106	98	110	72
District 3 Subtotal	757	1,007	1,086	984	754
Fayette	88	125	127	102	111
Greenbrier	116	153	160	145	131
McDowell	0	0	0	0	0
Mercer	60	72	98	55	80
Monroe	66	76	95	82	57
Raleigh	66	90	116	76	95
Summers	59	72	90	72	62
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	0
District 4 Subtotal	455	588	686	532	536
Boone	57	98	97	96	52
Cabell	41	53	38	33	33
Kanawha	59	79	68	87	88
Lincoln	95	85	61	82	46
Logan	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	107	133	111	110	93
Mingo	0	0	0	0	0
Putnam	59	84	60	74	37
Wayne	45	31	43	42	19
District 5 Subtotal	463	563	478	524	368
Calhoun	62	57	71	54	26
Doddridge	44	78	60	63	39
Gilmer	67	77	72	65	32
Jackson	140	152	114	114	49
Pleasants	17	37	19	29	1
Ritchie	63	132	84	116	36
Roane	90	107	106	82	36
Tyler	43	69	60	63	21
Wirt	63	69	71	50	20
Wood	89	136	108	129	21
District 6 Subtotal	678	914	765	765	281
STATE TOTAL	3,569	4,530	4,521	4,173	3,102

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 20. Deer Mortality by Type of Season in West Virginia, 2025.

COUNTY	BUCK GUN	ANTLERLESS	ARCHERY	CROSSBOW	MUZZLELOADER	MOUNTAINEER HERITAGE	TOTAL
Barbour	614	695	182	354	90	17	1,952
Brooke	289	318	153	182	31	3	976
Hancock	296	302	270	298	54	14	1,234
Harrison	641	610	249	348	62	11	1,921
Marion	527	484	215	287	55	9	1,577
Marshall	557	351	111	190	68	8	1,285
Monongalia	603	535	437	405	65	5	2,050
Ohio	249	254	134	146	25	10	818
Preston	1,349	1,442	519	1,054	179	27	4,570
Taylor	323	340	117	203	40	12	1,035
Tucker	607	361	109	294	72	4	1,447
Wetzel	620	390	94	213	47	10	1,374
District 1 Subtotal	6,675	6,082	2,590	3,974	788	130	20,239
Berkeley	555	617	310	449	46	13	1,990
Grant	1,040	509	145	305	64	2	2,065
Hampshire	926	651	133	248	47	5	2,010
Hardy	1,166	775	172	267	54	12	2,446
Jefferson	414	449	238	303	35	3	1,442
Mineral	809	670	145	275	43	6	1,948
Morgan	414	472	102	191	32	5	1,216
Pendleton	1,140	557	144	283	54	9	2,187
District 2 Subtotal	6,464	4,700	1,389	2,321	375	55	15,304
Braxton	824	680	260	399	70	9	2,242
Clay	351	240	98	205	26	3	923
Lewis	738	836	139	295	64	16	2,088
Nicholas	865	646	295	594	186	30	2,616
Pocahontas	1,090	354	107	238	63	10	1,862
Randolph	1,199	774	168	692	158	13	3,004
Upshur	792	907	221	513	115	27	2,575
Webster	589	183	98	288	72	14	1,244
District 3 Subtotal	6,448	4,620	1,386	3,224	754	122	16,554
Fayette	993	514	345	687	111	23	2,673
Greenbrier	1,733	877	246	575	131	15	3,577
McDowell	0	0	655	221	0	0	876
Mercer	671	414	367	525	80	12	2,069
Monroe	1,059	876	230	443	57	12	2,677
Raleigh	893	455	498	880	95	23	2,844
Summers	635	410	237	356	62	9	1,709
Wyoming	0	0	923	301	0	3	1,227
District 4 Subtotal	5,984	3,546	3,501	3,988	536	97	17,652
Boone	514	162	205	307	52	10	1,250
Cabell	359	211	107	193	33	2	905
Kanawha	832	354	416	629	88	19	2,338
Lincoln	582	391	144	251	46	5	1,419
Logan	0	0	463	138	0	1	602
Mason	701	841	286	264	93	8	2,193
Mingo	0	0	410	192	0	0	602
Putnam	453	503	196	196	37	5	1,390
Wayne	576	217	179	201	19	4	1,196
District 5 Subtotal	4,017	2,679	2,406	2,371	368	54	11,895
Calhoun	432	421	73	208	26	4	1,164
Doddridge	550	414	114	170	39	4	1,291
Gilmer	478	447	70	175	32	7	1,209
Jackson	569	606	202	203	49	4	1,633
Pleasants	99	53	12	20	1	1	186
Ritchie	555	462	118	188	36	6	1,365
Roane	650	652	147	267	36	8	1,760
Tyler	417	327	103	111	21	3	982
Wirt	267	246	49	96	20	2	680
Wood	218	198	65	113	21	4	619
District 6 Subtotal	4,235	3,826	953	1,551	281	43	10,889
STATE TOTAL	33,823	25,453	12,225	17,429	3,102	501	92,533

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 21. West Virginia 2025 deer kill per square mile of habitat by season.* (Calculated using deer habitat open by county for season, all seasons combined kill based on total deer habitat for county).

COUNTY	AREA	BUCKS	ANTLERLESS	ARCHERY BOW/CROSSBOW	MUZZLELOADER	ALL SEASONS COMBINED
Barbour	328	1.87	2.12	1.63	0.33	5.95
Brooke	72	4.01	4.42	4.65	0.47	13.56
Hancock	64	4.63	4.72	8.88	1.06	19.28
Harrison	379	1.69	1.61	1.58	0.19	5.07
Marion	286	1.84	1.69	1.76	0.22	5.51
Marshall	294	1.89	1.19	1.02	0.26	4.37
Monongalia	310	1.95	1.73	2.72	0.23	6.61
Ohio	82	3.04	3.10	3.44	0.40	9.98
Preston	632	2.13	2.28	2.49	0.32	7.23
Taylor	160	2.02	2.13	2.00	0.33	6.47
Tucker	402	1.51	0.90	1.00	0.19	3.60
Wetzel	350	1.77	1.11	0.88	0.16	3.93
District 1 Subtotal	3,359	1.99	1.81	1.96	0.27	6.03
Berkeley	297	1.87	2.08	2.56	0.20	6.70
Grant	471	2.21	1.08	0.96	0.14	4.38
Hampshire	631	1.47	1.03	0.61	0.08	3.19
Hardy	569	2.05	1.36	0.77	0.11	4.30
Jefferson	198	2.09	2.27	2.74	0.19	7.28
Mineral	319	2.54	2.10	1.32	0.15	6.11
Morgan	213	1.94	2.22	1.38	0.17	5.71
Pendleton	690	1.65	0.81	0.62	0.09	3.17
District 2 Subtotal	3,388	1.91	1.39	1.10	0.13	4.52
Braxton	501	1.64	1.36	1.32	0.16	4.48
Clay	338	1.04	0.71	0.90	0.09	2.73
Lewis	373	1.98	2.24	1.16	0.21	5.60
Nicholas	632	1.37	1.02	1.41	0.34	4.14
Pocahontas	911	1.20	0.39	0.38	0.08	2.04
Randolph	1,019	1.18	0.76	0.84	0.17	2.95
Upshur	343	2.31	2.64	2.15	0.41	7.51
Webster	535	1.10	0.34	0.72	0.16	2.33
District 3 Subtotal	4,652	1.39	0.99	0.99	0.19	3.56
Fayette	629	1.58	0.82	1.64	0.21	4.25
Greenbrier	991	1.75	0.88	0.83	0.15	3.61
McDowell	515	0.00	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.70
Mercer	380	1.77	1.09	2.35	0.24	5.44
Monroe	463	2.29	1.89	1.45	0.15	5.78
Raleigh	562	1.59	0.81	2.46	0.20	5.06
Summers	341	1.86	1.20	1.74	0.21	5.01
Wyoming	481	0.00	0.00	2.55	0.00	2.55
District 4 Subtotal	4,362	1.37	0.81	1.72	0.14	4.05
Boone	485	1.06	0.33	1.06	0.13	2.58
Cabell	240	1.50	0.88	1.25	0.15	3.77
Kanawha	798	1.04	0.44	1.31	0.13	2.93
Lincoln	426	1.37	0.92	0.93	0.12	3.33
Logan	422	0.00	0.00	1.43	0.00	1.43
Mason	413	1.70	2.04	1.33	0.24	5.31
Mingo	404	0.00	0.00	1.49	0.00	1.49
Putnam	320	1.42	1.57	1.23	0.13	4.34
Wayne	485	1.19	0.45	0.78	0.05	2.47
District 5 Subtotal	3,993	1.01	0.67	1.20	0.11	2.98
Calhoun	276	1.57	1.53	1.02	0.11	4.22
Doddridge	316	1.74	1.31	0.90	0.14	4.09
Gilmer	330	1.45	1.35	0.75	0.12	3.66
Jackson	447	1.27	1.36	0.91	0.12	3.65
Pleasants	125	0.79	0.42	0.26	0.02	1.49
Ritchie	443	1.25	1.04	0.69	0.09	3.08
Roane	476	1.37	1.37	0.87	0.09	3.70
Tyler	252	1.65	1.30	0.85	0.10	3.90
Wirt	230	1.16	1.07	0.63	0.10	2.96
Wood	325	0.67	0.61	0.55	0.08	1.90
District 6 Subtotal	3,220	1.32	1.19	0.78	0.10	3.38
STATE TOTAL	22,972	1.47	1.11	1.29	0.16	4.03

*NOTE: Counties or portions thereof not open to Class N antlerless deer season include special youth, Class Q/QQ and Class XS season harvest. Antlerless kill per square mile is calculated only on area open to Class N season if a portion of the county is closed to Class N season.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Table 22. West Virginia 2025 Deer Harvest by Deer Type.

COUNTY	ANTLERED	ANTLERS LESS THAN 3 INCHES	BUTTON BUCK	FEMALE DEER	SHED	GRAND TOTAL
Barbour	1,003	41	36	867	5	1,952
Brooke	530	21	22	400	3	976
Hancock	672	25	42	491	4	1,234
Harrison	1,096	43	37	745	0	1,921
Marion	937	34	24	579	3	1,577
Marshall	819	22	20	423	1	1,285
Monongalia	1,172	40	45	785	8	2,050
Ohio	438	15	24	337	4	818
Preston	2,549	80	92	1,846	3	4,570
Taylor	558	14	23	440	0	1,035
Tucker	923	27	18	474	5	1,447
Wetzel	881	32	20	438	3	1,374
District 1 Subtotal	11,578	394	403	7,825	39	20,239
Berkeley	1,006	58	46	874	6	1,990
Grant	1,426	36	20	583	0	2,065
Hampshire	1,176	58	34	739	3	2,010
Hardy	1,464	61	46	871	4	2,446
Jefferson	759	31	22	629	1	1,442
Mineral	1,104	59	28	754	3	1,948
Morgan	591	46	25	553	1	1,216
Pendleton	1,488	44	27	627	1	2,187
District 2 Subtotal	9,014	393	248	5,630	19	15,304
Braxton	1,288	59	58	837	0	2,242
Clay	568	18	19	317	1	923
Lewis	1,019	51	49	965	4	2,088
Nicholas	1,490	38	64	1,019	5	2,616
Pocahontas	1,320	39	31	472	0	1,862
Randolph	1,864	57	52	1,020	11	3,004
Upshur	1,302	65	80	1,120	8	2,575
Webster	874	18	12	337	3	1,244
District 3 Subtotal	9,725	345	365	6,087	32	16,554
Fayette	1,754	40	42	834	3	2,673
Greenbrier	2,322	58	61	1,124	12	3,577
McDowell	655	11	10	198	2	876
Mercer	1,317	39	35	673	5	2,069
Monroe	1,533	71	48	1,024	1	2,677
Raleigh	1,796	58	53	930	7	2,844
Summers	1,082	39	31	555	2	1,709
Wyoming	833	14	20	360	0	1,227
District 4 Subtotal	11,292	330	300	5,698	32	17,652
Boone	868	23	17	340	2	1,250
Cabell	598	15	22	269	1	905
Kanawha	1,538	63	39	695	3	2,338
Lincoln	892	37	20	469	1	1,419
Logan	436	5	2	158	1	602
Mason	1,122	62	64	944	1	2,193
Mingo	457	6	4	133	2	602
Putnam	736	50	34	570	0	1,390
Wayne	890	20	14	272	0	1,196
District 5 Subtotal	7,537	281	216	3,850	11	11,895
Calhoun	647	36	22	459	0	1,164
Doddridge	771	41	21	455	3	1,291
Gilmer	670	26	35	478	0	1,209
Jackson	849	56	50	677	1	1,633
Pleasants	121	12	5	48	0	186
Ritchie	764	60	45	495	1	1,365
Roane	962	46	46	705	1	1,760
Tyler	563	28	19	369	3	982
Wirt	349	29	28	274	0	680
Wood	340	17	25	234	3	619
District 6 Subtotal	6,036	351	296	4,194	12	10,889
STATE TOTAL	55,182	2,094	1,828	33,284	145	92,533



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