

SUMMARY OF 2021-2022 ILLINOIS DEER SEASONS

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General Information

Season Dates:

Archery Season: Oct. 1, 2021 - Jan. 16, 2022; closed during firearm deer season in counties open to firearm deer hunting

Youth Season: Oct. 9 - 11, 2021 (hunting also allowed during 1st firearm season, Nov. 19 - 21, 2021)

Firearm Season: Nov. 19 - 21, 2021 and Dec. 2 - 5, 2021

Muzzleloader Season: Dec. 10 - 12, 2021 (hunting also allowed during 2nd firearm season, Dec. 2 - 5, 2021)

Late-Winter Antlerless Season/CWD Season: Dec. 30, 2021 - Jan. 2, 2022 and Jan. 14 - 16, 2022

Total Days of Deer Hunting: 108

Bag Limit: One deer per legal permit, with no set limit for total number of deer allowed. No more than 2 antlered deer during the year, except additional antlered deer may be taken during the special CWD season only.

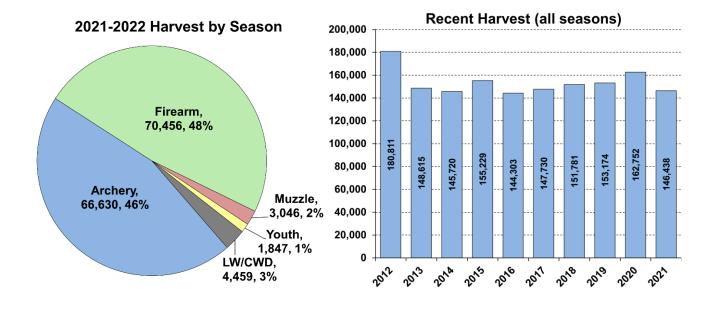
Significant Changes: Check stations for chronic wasting disease (CWD) monitoring were reinstated this year following their cancellation in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Successful archery hunters in CWD-positive counties were encouraged to have their deer tested by taking the head to a participating vendor or dropping it off at a collection barrel.

Harvest Reporting: Successful deer hunters in non-CWD counties were required to register their harvest by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day as the deer was taken by using an automated harvest reporting system (telephone or internet). CWD testing was available by taking the head to a participating vendor.

Total Harvest (all seasons): 146,438

Record Harvest: 201,209 (2005)

Harvest Sex Ratio (all seasons): 56.2% male: 43.8% female; (47.3% antlered: 52.7% antlerless)



Permitting

IDNR's Permit Office issued 544,938 deer permits for all seasons, including both lottery-issued and over-the-counter permits. This represents a decrease (-1.7%) from the 554,180 permits issued for 2020. Decreases occurred in archery (-0.9%), firearm (-2.0%), muzzleloader (-0.9%), youth (-9.0%), late winter (-34.3%), and CWD antierless seasons (2.1%).

Number and types of permits i	ssued for the	e 2021-2022 d	deer seaso	ns
Archery	Number of Resident Permits	Number of Nonresident Permits	Total Permits	Percent Nonresident
Landowner POH Permit, Either-Sex ¹	31,875	1,249	33,124	3.77%
Landowner POH Permit, Antlerless-only ¹	31,875	1,249	33,124	3.77%
Single Either-Sex Permit	490	0	490	0.00%
Single Antlerless-Only Permit	5,628	3,444	9,072	37.96%
Combination OTC Permit (1 ES + 1 AO)	130,446	21,547	151,993	14.18%
TOTAL	200,314	27,489	227,803	12.07%
Firearm				
Landowner POH Permit, Either-Sex ¹	33,660	1,365	35,025	3.90%
Landowner POH Permit, Antlerless-only ¹	33,660	1,365	35,025	3.90%
Either-Sex Permit	130,879	9,887	140,766	7.02%
Antlerless-only Permit	58,628	6,167	64,795	9.52%
TOTAL	256,827	18,784	275,611	6.82%
Muzzleloader				
Either-Sex Permit	20,030	1,260	21,290	5.92%
Antlerless-only Permit	6,266	679	6,945	9.78%
TOTAL	26,296	1,939	28,235	7.00%
Other Seasons				
Late Winter Antlerless-only Permit	1,186	0	1,186	0.00%
CWD Antlerless-only Permit ²	814	0	814	0.00%
Youth Either-Sex Permit ²	11,289	0	11,289	0.00%
TOTAL	13,289	0	13,289	0.00%
Total: All Seasons/Permit Types	496,726	48,212	544,938	8.85%

¹ POH = "property only hunting"; a landowner permit that is valid only on the property owned/leased by that landowner

² Permits for these seasons are issued without respect to residency status (i.e., the same permit is issued to both residents & nonresidents)

2021-2022 Archery Deer Season Results

Length: 108 days (101 days in counties open to firearm deer hunting)

Number of Counties Open: 102

Special Regulations: Resident combination permits (one either-sex and one antlerless-only tag) were available over-the-counter (OTC) in unlimited quantities. Nonresident combination permits were limited to a quota of 25,000 and issued via lottery with any remaining permits available OTC. Single resident either-sex permits (limit 1 per hunter) were available by application to the Permit Office prior to September 1. Single antlerless-only permits were available to both resident and nonresident hunters OTC without limit, with a 2-tiered fee structure for non-residents dependent upon whether an either-sex archery permit was held. This was the fifth year in which crossbows were legal for all hunters for the entire archery season.

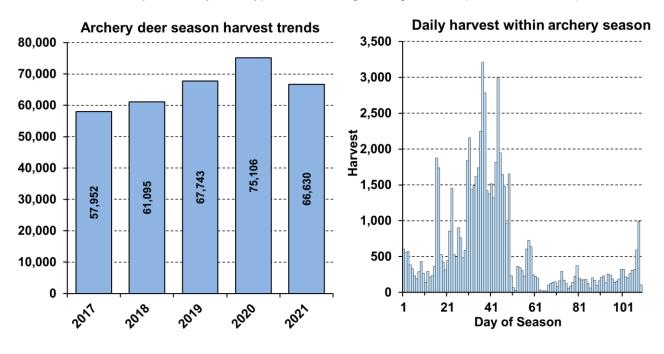
Harvest: 66,630

Harvest Record: 75,106 (2020)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 55.9% male: 44.1% female (48.4% antlered: 51.6% antlerless)

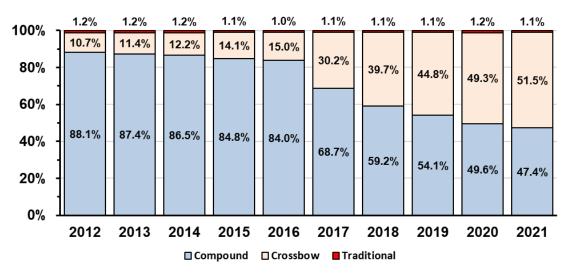
Top 5 Counties: Pike (2,243), Jefferson (1,833), Fulton (1,586), Adams (1,428), Williamson (1,345)

Harvest by Type of Bow: 47.4% compound, 51.5% crossbow, 1.1% traditional bows. Crossbow harvest continued to increase as a result of 2017 legislation that removed restrictions on crossbow use, treating the crossbow just like any other type of bow during hunting seasons (see included chart).



Trends in the number of archery deer season permits issued statewide														
Permit Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021									
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Either-Sex	32,336	26,020	29,728	30,192	33,124									
Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Antlerless-Only	32,336	26,020	29,728	30,192	33,124									
Single Either-Sex Permit	396	477	437	512	490									
Single Antlerless-Only Permit	7,048	7,594	8,634	10,196	9,072									
Combination Over-the-Counter Permit (double permit)	136,826	138,346	141,764	156,226	151,993									
TOTAL	208,942	198,457	210,291	229,936	227,803									

Archery Deer Harvest by Bow Type, 2012-2021

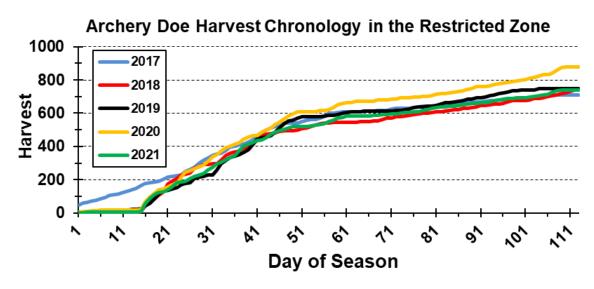


Harvest Results in the 5-County Restricted Archery Zone

Special Regulations: In order to reduce doe harvest and help grow deer populations to their appropriate county goals, archery hunters in the counties of Champaign, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie, and Piatt were permitted to harvest only antlered deer during the first 15 days of the season (October 1-15). This restriction was introduced in 2018 and will continue as necessary as county deer populations grow toward their objectives. Previous use of this type of regulation was highly successful in east-central Illinois, with no compensatory increase in doe harvest after resumption of unrestricted regulations.

Results: Aside from a few days which were unseasonably warm and windy, the first 15 days of Illinois' archery season had near average temperatures within the 5-county restricted archery zone. Harvest of antlered deer in the restricted archery zone continues to increase and was 1,466 in 2021, compared to 1,117 in 2020, 956 in 2019, 838 in 2018, and 821 in 2017. Aside from an increase in harvest in 2020, doe harvest in the restricted zone has been stable since the institution of the restriction but remain at historically high levels. The final doe harvest in the zone was 741 in 2021, compared to 873 in 2020, 747 in 2019, 741 in 2018, and 709 in 2017.

Outlook: The increase in doe harvest in 2018-2021 suggest that further action may be needed to grow the deer herd in these counties. If the current 15-day restrictions on harvest do not result in significant decreases in harvest in the 2022-2023 season and populations remain below goal, then we will likely recommend that the restriction be increased to a month-long prohibition on antlerless harvest. Harvest would be 'buck-only' until from October 1 to November 1. Additionally, other counties with deer populations below their objective, and in which firearm permit quotas have already been greatly reduced, may be considered for inclusion into the Restricted Archery Zone in coming years.



2021 Youth Deer Season Results

Length: 3 days

Number of Counties Open: 99 (closed in Cook, DuPage, and Lake)

Special Regulations: Participation limited to youths under the age of 18 (changed from 16 in 2016), and hunters must be accompanied by a responsible supervising adult. One either-sex permit (available OTC) or one special hunt area permit (issued via lottery) allowed per hunter. Unfilled youth permits were also valid during 1st segment of firearm deer season but are not included in harvest numbers for youth season. Due to changes brought about by Illinois Public Act 101-0444, beginning in 2021, youth deer permits became valid statewide and could be used in any open county. Prior to the 2021 youth deer season, permits were county-specific.

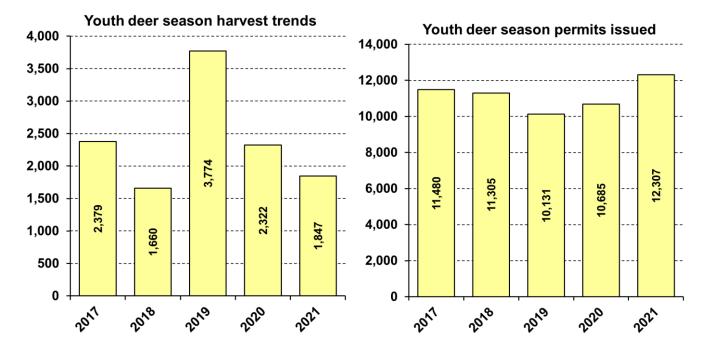
Harvest: 1,847

Record Harvest: 3,774 (2019)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 50.5% male: 49.5% female (39.6% antlered: 60.4% antlerless)

Hunter Success Rate: 16.4% (does not include deer taken during 1st regular firearm season)

Top 5 Counties: Randolph (100), Pike (83), Jefferson (64), Effingham (55), Adams (50), Marion (50)



2021 Firearm Deer Season Results

Length: 7 days (split; one 3-day [Fri-Sun] + one 4-day [Thu-Sun] segment)

Number of Counties Open: 99 (closed in Cook, DuPage, Lake)

Special Regulations: County-specific (or special hunt area-specific) permits issued via lotteries; unallocated permits subsequently available OTC through end of season. Mandatory check stations were in effect for 15 northern Illinois counties (Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, JoDaviess, Kane, Kendall, Kankakee, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Winnebago, and Will) for chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance; the remaining open counties used automated harvest reporting. Archery equipment remained legal for use during firearm deer season with a valid firearm permit on private land only.

Weather Conditions: Opening weekend had average to slightly above average temperatures, providing good hunting conditions. During second season, conditions were also favorable throughout the weekend with negligible precipitation.

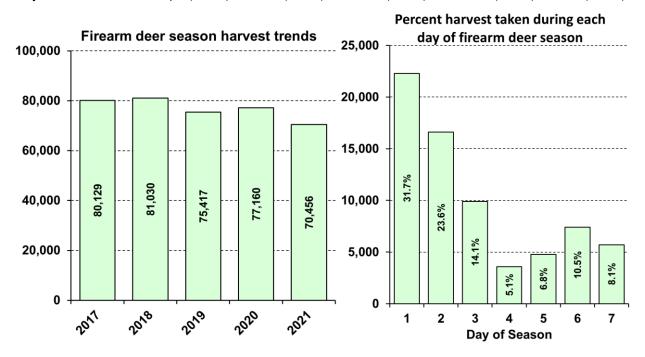
Corn Harvest: Statewide corn harvest was 95% complete in the week going into first season.

Deer Harvest: 70,456

Season Record: 123,792 (2005)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 59.4% male: 40.6% female (49.6% antlered: 50.4% antlerless)

Top 5 Counties: Randolph (2,106), Adams (1,990), Jackson (1,865), Jefferson (1,818), Fulton (1,667)



Trends in the number of firearm deer season permits issued statewide **Permit Type** 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Either-Sex 37,988 29,342 33,530 33,906 35,025 29,342 Landowner Property-Only Hunting Permit, Antlerless-Only 37,988 33.530 33.906 35.025 Either-Sex Permit 149,733 143,340 141,947 140,766 141,190 Antlerless-Only Permit 74,691 70,248 68,387 68,269 64,795 **TOTAL** 300,400 272,272 276,637 281,028 275,611

2021 Muzzleloader Deer Season Results

Length: 3 days

Number of Counties Open: 99 (closed in Cook, DuPage, Lake)

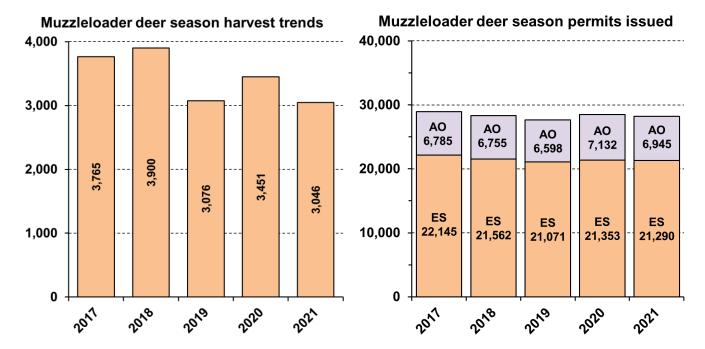
Special Regulations: County-specific (or special hunt area-specific) permits issued via lotteries; unallocated permits subsequently available OTC through end of season. Hunters with muzzleloader permits were also allowed to hunt with a muzzleloader during the 2nd Firearm Deer Season (4 days). Recipients of landowner permits (for their own property only) valid during the Firearm Deer Season could use those unfilled permits during the Muzzleloader Deer Season so long as they used a muzzleloading rifle.

Harvest: 3,046

Season Record: 5,973 (2006)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 42.6% male: 57.4% female (32.6% antlered: 67.4% antlerless)

Top 5 Counties: Pike (122), Adams (104), Randolph (101), Schuyler (81), Jefferson (77)



2021-2022 Late-Winter Deer Season Results

Length: 7 days

Number of Counties Open: 20 (Brown, Clay, Crawford, Effingham, Fulton, Hamilton, Henderson, Knox, Lee, Macoupin, Madison, Marion, McDonough, Mercer, Monroe, Perry, Putnam, Rock Island, Saline, Shelby)

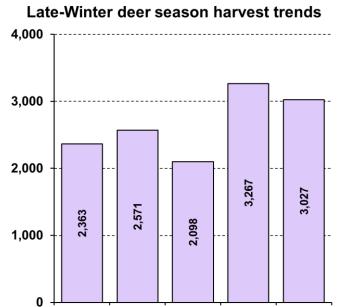
Special Regulations: Legal weapons were shotguns, muzzleloaders, or handguns. County-specific resident antlerless-only permits available OTC from license vendors (unlimited availability). Hunters with unfilled permits for the Firearm, Muzzleloader, or Youth deer seasons were allowed to hunt the Late-Winter Deer Season to harvest antlerless deer, so long as the permit was issued for an open county. Persons with an unfilled Muzzleloader Season permit must use a muzzleloading rifle.

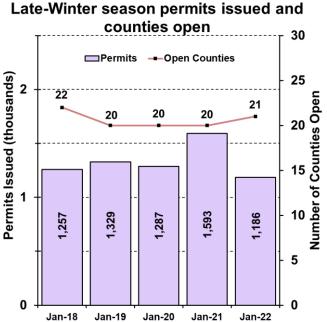
Harvest: 3,027

Season Record: 17,434 (Jan. 2010)

Harvest Sex Ratio: 16.4% male: 83.6% female

Top 5 Counties: Fulton (353), Perry (281), Marion (250), Macoupin (215), Brown (209),





2021-2022 Special CWD Deer Season Results

Jan-22

Length: 7 days (concurrent with Late-Winter Season)

Jan-20

Jan-21

Number of Counties Open: 16 (Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, JoDaviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Winnebago and Will)

Special Regulations: Legal weapons were shotguns, muzzleloaders, or handguns. County-specific antlerless-only permits available OTC without limit to residents and nonresidents. Unfilled firearm, muzzleloader, and youth permits valid for open counties may be used during this season as long as the hunter uses only the weapon(s) allowed by that permit, and only harvests the sex of deer allowed by that permit. The limit of 2 antlered deer was waived during this season.

Harvest: 1,477

Jan-18

Previous Record: 1,825 (Jan. 2015)

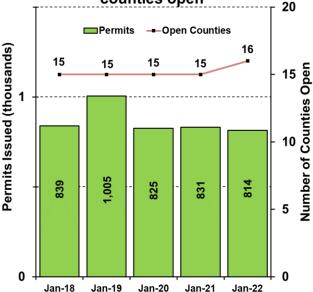
Jan-19

Harvest Sex Ratio: 39.1% male: 60.9% female (27.4% antlered: 72.6% antlerless)

Special CWD deer season harvest trends

1,500 1,000 Jan-18 Jan-19 Jan-20 Jan-21 Jan-22

Special CWD season permits issued and counties open



Harvest Age/Sex Summary (All Seasons)

Deer reported via the automated harvest reporting system were placed into age classes based on morphological data reported by the hunter. Age classes were female adult (≥1.5 years), female fawn, male adult (≥2.5 years), male yearling (1.5 years), and male fawn.

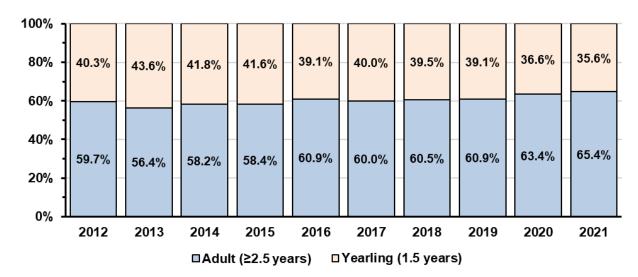
2021 Illinois deer harvest composition by season by sex/age class ¹														
Sex/Age Class Archery		Youth	Firearm	Muzzleloader	Late-Winter	CWD	All Seasons							
Female adult	38.0%	41.6%	33.8%	49.1%	69.7%	52.7%	37.0%							
Female fawn	6.1%	7.9%	6.8%	8.3%	13.9%	8.2%	6.7%							
Male adult	31.3%	17.9%	32.1%	21.6%	0.0%	15.8%	30.5%							
Male yearling	17.1%	21.8%	17.5%	11.0%	1.7%	11.6%	16.9%							
Male fawn	7.5%	10.9%	9.8%	10.0%	14.7%	11.6%	8.9%							
Total Harvest	66,630	1,847	70,456	3,046	2,982	1,477	146,438							

¹ Only harvested deer for which there was complete age/sex information were used in calculating percentages.

Age structure of antlered bucks in the 2021 Illinois deer harvest ¹												
	Archery Season All Gun Seasons All Harve											
Male yearling (1.5 years)	35.4%	35.8%	35.6%									
Male adult (≥2.5 years)	62.6%	64.2%	64.4%									
¹ Only harvested deer for which there was complete age/sex information were used in calculating percentages.												

Р	Proportion of antlered deer harvest by number of antler points														
		Number of Points													
	Spike	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	>14							
Archery Season	2.6%	6.0%	9.2%	36.4%	32.1%	10.0%	2.6%	1.1%							
All Gun Seasons	4.4%	8.4%	12.4%	39.3%	26.1%	7.2%	1.6%	0.6%							
All Seasons	3.5%	7.3%	10.9%	38.0%	28.9%	8.5%	2.1%	0.9%							

Trend in antlered buck age structure (all seasons), 2011-2020



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Iroquois 6 5 11 14 16 30 0 0 0 310 107 417 256 178 434 586	

2021 ILLINOIS COUNTY DEER HARVEST BY SEX FOR EACH SEASON (state sites included in county totals)																		
		Youth)	Mu	zzleloa	der	Late	-Winter	CWD	Firearm Archery								
County	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	М	F	Total
Jackson	19	25	44	27	30	57	0	0	0	1128	737	1865	569	519	1088	1743	1311	3054
Jasper	15	20	35	14	24	38	0	0	0	593	434	1027	457	409	866	1079	887	1966
Jefferson	29	35	64	26	51	77	0	0	0	1080	738	1818	956	877	1833	2091	1701	3792
Jersey	3	8	11	10	11	21	0	0	0	339	249	588	356	249	605	708	517	1225
JoDaviess	19	9	28	25	27	52	112	180	292	682	553	1235	587	395	982	1425	1164	2589
Johnson	7	7	14	22	27	49	0	0	0	694	465	1159	402	394	796	1125	893	2018
Kane	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	6	10	19	12	31	203	132	335	228	150	378
Kankakee	3	1	4	4	5	9	24	27	51	127	59	186	158	119	277	316	211	527
Kendall	0	0	0	5	1	6	13	13	26	45	26	71	109	85	194	172	125	297
Knox	9	5	14	20	25	45	34	104	138	593	471	1064	564	412	976	1220	1017	2237
Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	163	91	254	165	92	257
LaSalle	4	8	12	7	12	19	57	106	163	347	216	563	392	320	712	807	662	1469
Lawrence	4	3	7	13	13	26	0	0	0	333	206	539	267	223	490	617	445	1062
Lee	5	8	13	13	9	22	39	75	114	266	178	444	282	185	467	605	455	1060
Livingston	4	6	10	2	5	7	23	28	51	244	137	381	134	97	231	407	273	680
Logan	8	3	11	10	10	20	0	0	0	208	104	312	213	160	373	439	277	716
Macon	8	4	12	5	19	24	0	0	0	153	67	220	271	213	484	437	303	740
Macoupin	13	24	37	20	25	45	37	178	215	813	618	1431	677	519	1196	1560	1364	2924
Madison	8	13	21	8	12	20	12	36	48	407	230	637	573	483	1056	1008	774	1782
Marion	31	19	50	28	19	47	35	215	250	857	542	1399	681	526	1207	1632	1321	2953
Marshall	7	9	16	10	12	22	0	0	0	330	217	547	208	162	370	555	400	955
Mason	5	6	11	6	9	15	0	0	0	249	103	352	284	220	504	544	338	882
Massac	5	5	10	11	10	21	0	0	0	227	155	382	190	177	367	433	347	780
McDonough	10	9	19	31	23	54	10	78	88	403	324	727	379	262	641	833	696	1529
McHenry	1	0	1	3	5	8	30	36	66	159	84	243	439	205	644	632	330	962
McLean	9	8	17	6	13	19	0	0	0	321	211	532	272	244	516	608	476	1084
Menard	5	1	6	10	16	26	0	0	0	183	146	329	219	181	400	417	344	761
Mercer	1	5	6	16	17	33	12	96	108	441	302	743	299	199	498	769	619	1388
Monroe	9	15	24	11	14	25	16	99	115	597	338	935	267	212	479	900	678	1578
Montgomery	13	17	30	7	12	19	0	0	0	478	324	802	485	402	887	983	755	1738
Morgan	9	6	15	14	16	30	0	0	0	358	222	580	411	256	667	792	500	1292
Moultrie	6	5	11	3	7	10	0	0	0	142	67	209	214	206	420	365	285	650
Ogle	6	12	18	8	9	17	68	127	195	352	194	546	326	215	541	760	557	1317
Peoria	9	9	18	13	23	36	0	0	0	467	347	814	585	447	1032	1074	826	1900
Perry	16	18	34	28	28	56	30	251	281	647	461	1108	469	407	876	1190	1165	2355
Piatt	1	1	2	3	5	8	0	0	0	88	23	1111	137	105	242	229	134	363
Pike	52	31	83	43	79	122	0	0	0	858	775	1633	1251	992	2243	229	1877	4081
	52 8	10	ია 18	43 12	79 16	28	0	0			439	1220			2243 871	1266	871	
Pope	Ø	10	ΙŎ	12	10	28	U	U	0	781	439	1220	465	406	0/1	1200	0/1	2137

	2021 ILLINOIS COUNTY DEER HARVEST BY SEX FOR EACH SEASON (state sites included in county totals)																		
		Youth)	Mu	zzleloa	der	Late	-Winter/	CWD		Firearm Archery					All Seasons			
County	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
Pulaski	3	4	7	6	7	13	0	0	0	192	87	279	129	139	268	330	237	567	
Putnam	1	3	4	4	6	10	9	34	43	188	124	312	144	137	281	346	304	650	
Randolph	30	70	100	33	68	101	0	0	0	1202	904	2106	674	588	1262	1939	1630	3569	
Richland	3	5	8	10	18	28	0	0	0	388	284	672	273	247	520	674	554	1228	
Rock Island	6	7	13	16	13	29	15	59	74	342	243	585	330	279	609	709	601	1310	
Saline	19	11	30	13	10	23	15	151	166	475	283	758	312	282	594	834	737	1571	
Sangamon	12	13	25	15	16	31	0	0	0	318	210	528	472	394	866	817	633	1450	
Schuyler	25	15	40	39	42	81	37	155	192	663	606	1269	688	431	1119	1452	1249	2701	
Scott	2	3	5	3	12	15	0	0	0	195	132	327	187	146	333	387	293	680	
Shelby	22	13	35	19	18	37	31	103	134	733	446	1179	595	462	1057	1400	1042	2442	
St. Clair	9	10	19	9	9	18	0	0	0	455	244	699	451	360	811	924	623	1547	
Stark	1	2	3	2	4	6	0	0	0	91	61	152	71	66	137	165	133	298	
Stephenson	7	2	9	7	6	13	51	70	121	283	197	480	225	182	407	573	457	1030	
Tazewell	4	5	9	9	12	21	0	0	0	274	206	480	387	313	700	674	536	1210	
Union	8	15	23	16	35	51	0	0	0	705	439	1144	376	470	846	1105	959	2064	
Vermilion	8	6	14	25	20	45	0	0	0	357	240	597	625	448	1073	1015	714	1729	
Wabash	0	1	1	4	4	8	0	0	0	120	43	163	126	101	227	250	149	399	
Warren	0	1	1	9	13	22	0	0	0	239	192	431	170	116	286	418	322	740	
Washington	16	4	20	18	27	45	0	0	0	560	364	924	343	288	631	937	683	1620	
Wayne	17	23	40	18	25	43	0	0	0	809	561	1370	581	521	1102	1425	1130	2555	
White	9	8	17	16	29	45	0	0	0	402	311	713	336	297	633	763	645	1408	
Whiteside	3	6	9	9	12	21	0	0	0	279	228	507	289	229	518	580	475	1055	
Will	4	0	4	3	4	7	28	45	73	106	61	167	419	311	730	560	421	981	
Williamson	9	12	21	26	28	54	0	0	0	1018	595	1613	711	634	1345	1764	1269	3033	
Winnebago	2	1	3	6	8	14	39	41	80	167	81	248	303	165	468	517	296	813	
Woodford	12	15	27	17	16	33	0	0	0	317	256	573	363	389	752	709	676	1385	
Totals	933	914	1847	1297	1749	3046	1074	3430	4504	41820	28591	70411	37242	29388	66630	82366	64072	146438	
Proportion	0.51	0.49		0.43	0.57		0.24	0.76		0.59	0.41		0.56	0.44		0.56	0.44		