



Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source of Population and Economic Statistics

November 22, 2002

2002 Deer Season To Begin Statewide On December 2nd

MIDDLETOWN, Pa – The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports that the 2002 statewide rifle-hunting season for antlered and antlerless deer will take place from December 2nd through December 14th.

Based on a report issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Census Bureau, over \$941 million was spent by hunters 16 years or older on hunting-related expenses in Pennsylvania in 2001. Over \$417 million (44.3 percent) was spent on equipment, \$189.9 million (20.2 percent) was spent on trip-related expenses and nearly \$334 million (35.5 percent) was spent on other hunting-related expenses.

According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, 1,047,820 general hunting licenses were sold in 2001. This is an increase of 0.9 percent from the 1,038,846 general hunting licenses sold in 2000.

Antlerless deer hunting licenses are allocated for each county on a limited basis in order to manage the deer population. The Pennsylvania Game Commission estimates that the deer population has grown from 1.2 million in 1990 to 1.5 million in 2000. The 2002 deer population is estimated to be about 1.3 million. This number, as indicated by the Pennsylvania Game Commission, still needs to be substantially reduced in order to balance Pennsylvania's natural habitat. As a result, the antlerless deer hunting license allocation was increased from 780,250 in 2001 to 1,029,350 in 2002.

According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the unseasonably warm weather probably had an impact on the 2001 hunting season. Both deer and hunter are more apt to sit in warm weather. Statewide deer harvests were 504,600 in 2000 and 486,014 in 2001. This represents a decrease of 3.7 percent from 2000 to 2001. The total number of antlered deer harvested was 203,221 in 2000 and 203,247 in 2001, representing an increase of less than .01 percent. The total number of antlerless deer harvested was 301,379 in 2000 and 282,767 in 2001, representing a decrease of 6.2 percent.

At the county level (Table 1), Bradford County had the largest antlered deer harvest at 6,631. Washington County was second with 6,225, followed by Clearfield County



(6,101) and Westmoreland County (5,810). Washington County had the largest antlerless deer harvest at 10,883. Bradford County was second with 9,889, followed by Westmoreland County (7,698) and Warren County (7,641). Philadelphia County had the least number of antlered deer (63) and antlerless deer (198) harvested in 2001.

For additional information, please contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710.

Pennsylvania Profile Available on Pennsylvania State Data Center Web Site!

The Summary File 3 profile for Pennsylvania may be viewed by visiting our Web site:

Pasdc.hbg.psu.edu

Click on: [**Census 2000 Summary File 3 Profiles for Pennsylvania**](#)

Other geographic levels may be obtained by contacting the Pennsylvania State Data Center State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or by emailing the PaSDC at:

PaSDC-SCO@psu.edu

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's National State Data Center Program.

Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.

Sources: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, *2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation* (October 2002)
<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/fishing.html>

Pennsylvania Game Commission, *2002-2003 Season and Bag Limits*
http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PGC/hunting/sb_02_03.htm

2002 White-Tailed Deer Forecast

http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PGC/newsroom/2002/nr093-02.htm

Counting Deer

http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PGC/deer/count.htm

Harvest Reports

http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PGC/harvest/index.htm

Table 1. Deer Harvested: Pennsylvania Counties 2001

County	Antlered Deer Harvested	Percent of Total Antlered Deer Harvested in Pennsylvania	Antlerless Deer Harvested	Percent of Total Antlerless Deer Harvested in Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania	203,247	100.0	282,767	100.0
Adams County	2,089	1.0	3,825	1.4
Allegheny County	3,098	1.5	6,720	2.4
Armstrong County	4,521	2.2	4,756	1.7
Beaver County	2,118	1.0	4,204	1.5
Bedford County	4,607	2.3	5,558	2.0
Berks County	4,620	2.3	6,305	2.2
Blair County	2,404	1.2	3,312	1.2
Bradford County	6,631	3.3	9,889	3.5
Bucks County	2,056	1.0	3,579	1.3
Butler County	4,834	2.4	6,223	2.2
Cambria County	3,147	1.5	4,206	1.5
Cameron County	1,048	0.5	1,019	0.4
Carbon County	1,327	0.7	1,387	0.5
Centre County	4,796	2.4	5,791	2.0
Chester County	2,197	1.1	5,083	1.8
Clarion County	3,533	1.7	4,387	1.6
Clearfield County	6,101	3.0	7,579	2.7
Clinton County	2,325	1.1	2,116	0.7
Columbia County	2,445	1.2	4,540	1.6
Crawford County	5,487	2.7	7,070	2.5
Cumberland County	1,891	0.9	2,843	1.0
Dauphin County	1,950	1.0	2,555	0.9
Delaware County	473	0.2	941	0.3
Elk County	2,588	1.3	2,519	0.9
Erie County	3,293	1.6	5,229	1.8
Fayette County	2,934	1.4	3,729	1.3
Forest County	2,503	1.2	4,197	1.5
Franklin County	2,487	1.2	3,070	1.1
Fulton County	2,114	1.0	3,666	1.3
Greene County	4,196	2.1	7,268	2.6
Huntingdon County	4,201	2.1	6,168	2.2
Indiana County	5,446	2.7	6,848	2.4
Jefferson County	3,987	2.0	5,943	2.1
Juniata County	1,467	0.7	1,792	0.6
Lackawanna County	1,594	0.8	2,273	0.8
Lancaster County	1,986	1.0	2,550	0.9
Lawrence County	1,275	0.6	1,709	0.6
Lebanon County	1,039	0.5	1,422	0.5
Lehigh County	1,521	0.7	2,061	0.7
Luzerne County	4,595	2.3	4,961	1.8

Table 1. Deer Harvested: Pennsylvania Counties 2001, Continued

County	Antlered Deer Harvested	Percent of Total Antlered Deer Harvested in Pennsylvania	Antlerless Deer Harvested	Percent of Total Antlerless Deer Harvested in Pennsylvania
Lycoming County	4,495	2.2	5,063	1.8
McKean County	4,088	2.0	6,026	2.1
Mercer County	3,054	1.5	3,861	1.4
Mifflin County	1,341	0.7	1,628	0.6
Monroe County	2,102	1.0	2,167	0.8
Montgomery County	984	0.5	2,086	0.7
Montour County	581	0.3	850	0.3
Northampton County	1,325	0.7	2,406	0.9
Northumberland County	1,513	0.7	2,237	0.8
Perry County	2,823	1.4	3,858	1.4
Philadelphia County	63	0.0	198	0.1
Pike County	2,259	1.1	2,628	0.9
Potter County	4,763	2.3	5,631	2.0
Schuylkill County	4,022	2.0	5,507	1.9
Snyder County	1,150	0.6	1,487	0.5
Somerset County	4,475	2.2	5,322	1.9
Sullivan County	1,789	0.9	1,913	0.7
Susquehanna County	4,149	2.0	6,523	2.3
Tioga County	5,257	2.6	6,259	2.2
Union County	1,123	0.6	1,383	0.5
Venango County	4,332	2.1	5,952	2.1
Warren County	4,939	2.4	7,641	2.7
Washington County	6,225	3.1	10,883	3.8
Wayne County	3,568	1.8	5,065	1.8
Westmoreland County	5,810	2.9	7,698	2.7
Wyoming County	1,784	0.9	2,108	0.7
York County	4,008	2.0	6,751	2.4
County Unknown	301	0.1	343	0.1

Source: Pennsylvania Game Commission
Prepared by: The Pennsylvania State Data Center