

The 2014 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Summary

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2014 Season Highlights

Archery Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	16,641	15,885	352	32,878
Central Forest	1,426	595	28	2,049
Northern Forest	4,520	612	28	5,160
Southern Farmland	7,846	6,597	280	14,723
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	30,433	23,689	688	54,810

Crossbow Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	8,431	7,982	123	16,536
Central Forest	813	408	12	1,233
Northern Forest	3,952	467	27	4,446
Southern Farmland	2,572	2,031	73	4,676
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	15,768	10,888	235	26,891

Gun Totals

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total ^a
Central Farmland	53,316	83,660	703	137,679
Central Forest	4,465	3,387	29	7,881
Northern Forest	19,817	6,691	121	26,629
Southern Farmland	19,598	30,335	427	50,360
Unknown	0	39	0	39
Total	97,196	124,112	1,280	222,588

^a Includes damage deer

Tribal Totals

Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
432	702	0	1,125

Abstract

This report summarizes the results of the 2014 Wisconsin archery, crossbow, youth, 9-day gun, muzzleloader, December antlerless only, and holiday deer seasons. All statistics are from kill registration data. Since 1953, the Department of Natural Resources has required that Wisconsin hunters register all deer harvested. Permit information was provided by the Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing and the Bureau of Information Management of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Dan Storm of the Bureau of Science Services summarized data collected from deer aging stations and Brenda Von Rueden of the Bureau of Law Enforcement provided the hunting accident report. The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) provided all Chippewa deer harvest data. This report is possible due to Pittman-Robertson funds.

Season Structure

Following recommendations from the Deer Trustee Report, major changes were made to the deer management system in Wisconsin in 2014. The state is now divided into 4 deer management zones (DMZ) from north to south, Northern Forest, Central Forest, Central Farmland, and Southern Farmland (Figure 1). Deer management units in these new management zones are based on county boundaries inside the zone. Most counties are now their own management unit with a few exceptions for areas where DMZ's cross county boundaries or tribal reservation boundaries were used to develop their own units. Metro areas within these new unit boundaries are now subunits of the larger county management unit. These subunits were subject to longer seasons and may have been eligible for additional antlerless permits.

A continuous archery and crossbow season ran from September through early January. Gun seasons included a statewide youth gun deer season in October, a traditional 9-day gun deer season in November, a 10-day statewide muzzleloader season, and an antlerless only 4-day hunt in mid-December in the Central Forest and Central Farmland DMZ's. An antlerless only holiday hunt was in place in the Southern Farmland DMZ and ran from 24 December – 1 January. No October antlerless only gun deer season occurred in Wisconsin in 2014.

Permits

All hunters were allowed to harvest one buck statewide per weapon authority purchased. Archers and crossbow hunters that purchased an upgrade authority to use either weapon were only allowed to harvest one buck with either weapon per season.

A free antlerless permit was issued with each license purchased. These permits allowed the harvest of antlerless deer in the farmland DMZ's. Additional antlerless permits could be purchased for both the farmland and forested DMZ's. These permits were sold over the counter on a first come-first served basis at a cost of \$12 each. The purchaser had to designate the unit and landtype (private or public) for which they were purchasing the permit. Permits available were limited in many zone, unit, and landtypes, with many units in the Northern Forest DMZ and some in the Central Forest DMZ having no antlerless permits available (Tables 1&2). Deer hunters who were hunting under a youth license were issued an additional antlerless tag with each license purchased that allow the harvest of an antlerless deer statewide, even if the unit had no antlerless tags available to the general public.

Hunters in the Southern Farmland DMZ who harvested an antlerless deer were eligible for a bonus buck. Upon registering an antlerless deer or bringing in an antlerless deer with a buck to

be registered, were given a bonus buck authority which allowed the taking of additional antlered deer with any weapon during any season in which bucks were legal.

Archery/Crossbow Season

There were several changes to the deer season framework effecting early season hunting. Changes to the season structure for archers allow them to have a continuous season held from 13 September - 4 January, with no season closures as had been done in the past. Also for the first time crossbows were legal for all ages of hunters. Previously only hunters who could document a disability or were 65 years old or older were eligible to use a crossbow. The crossbow season ran concurrent to the archery season with the same season dates and bagging rules as archery. Hunters were allowed to use both vertical bows and crossbows during the season if they purchased an "upgrade" license for \$3. They were still limited to one buck in areas of the state that did not have a bonus buck rule. Archery and crossbow season remained open during all concurrent firearm hunts. All hunters are required to wear blaze orange clothing during any open firearm deer season.

In most management units, archery and crossbow hunters were allowed to harvest one antlered and one antlerless deer during the season. As in recent years, archers and crossbow hunters were restricted to "Bucks Only" in units that want to increase the number of deer in the unit and restricted gun hunters to bucks only as well. Archers and crossbow hunters were allowed to harvest additional antlerless deer using free Farmland Zone antlerless deer permit(s), or purchased additional antlerless deer permits in units that allowed the taking of extra antlerless deer.

Six metropolitan subunits were designated in the state that allowed archery and crossbow hunters additional opportunity to kill deer by keeping the season open until 31 January. Permits were made available for sale over the counter prior to the opening of the season. Some of these metro subunits had antlerless permits available, even though the unit overall may have been a "Buck Only" unit. Archers and crossbow hunters could purchase additional antlerless permits throughout the season or until all were sold.

Wisconsin archers killed 54,810 deer in 2014. Crossbow hunters killed 26,891 deer. The combined harvest was 81,701; this is down from the combined harvest of 87,628 killed in 2013. Hunting conditions for the season were fair with average too slightly above average temperatures during the season in September and October with more normal temperatures during the second half in November and December. Weather events during the rut were fairly limited and short in duration and should not have affected the hunters during most of the rut in Wisconsin, leading to many successful hunts during this period. Above average temperatures and light snowfalls may have been conducive to hunters hunting late in the season. A summary of the archer and crossbow deer harvest by deer management unit is contained in Figures 8-11 and Tables 19-22.

Firearm Season

October

A statewide youth deer hunt was held on the 11-12th of October. All persons from 10-15 years of age were eligible to hunt. Mentored Hunting was introduced to the state in 2009, which allowed anyone age 10 or older to hunt without a Hunter's Ed card as long as they hunted with an 18 year-old or older mentor. All youth who were mentored or possessed a Hunter's Ed card and a Gun Deer License were eligible to hunt. The bag limit was one buck and additional

antlerless deer with the appropriate carcass tag(s). All youth deer license holders were issued a free antlerless tag, which was valid statewide, even in “Buck Only” units. A total of 8,671 deer were killed by youth during these two days (Table 7 and Figure 4). A gun hunt for disabled hunters was held on sponsor landowners’ properties, a deer of either sex was legal from 4-12 October.

November

Wisconsin held the 2014 regular 9-day firearm deer season during 22-30 November. Rifles were no longer prohibited in most of the state, but local governments could still restrict their discharge in their jurisdictions. Firearm license holders were issued one antlered deer tag valid statewide and one antlerless deer tag that was valid on any landownership type in any unit in both the Central and Southern Farmland DMZ’s. Many units in all DMZ’s offered additional antlerless tags that were specific to landownership (private/public) and were sold for \$12 on a first-come-first-served basis.

Most of the state had snow cover for opening morning of the gun hunt. Temperatures were in the high 20’s and low 30’s in the morning. Temperatures rose above freezing during opening morning causing many areas to fog up, and have poor visibility. Much of the snow melted during the day causing dripping and the woods to be very wet. Most snow was lost in the south and greatly decrease in the north as the day wore on. Sunday morning’s weather was much the same, with even warmer temperatures into the 40’s, much of the areas that still had snow saw morning fog. The southern parts of the state had rain to heavy rain by mid-morning that stayed most of the day, the north did not see as much rain, but did have mist and occasional showers. Snow fell again across much of the state on Monday and temperatures fell to below freezing. Temperatures stayed below average during the early part of the week, so the snow stayed, but many areas had greatly reduced visibility due to snow hanging in the trees. Friday saw the temperatures return to normal with a few snow flurries. The second weekend of the season was sunny with more seasonal temperatures in the south and central portions of the state. Generally, temperatures were average to below average with most precipitation occurring during the first Sunday and Monday of the 9-day hunting season. Snow early in the week hung in the trees and reduced hunter visibility in a large portion of the state during most of the week. This hanging snow along with the late season opener and reduced rut activity may have made “finding” deer more difficult. The statewide corn harvest was behind average in most of the state with the east central and northeastern parts of the state having the most standing corn of any region. Most of the ground was frozen for opening day of the gun season, but above freezing temperature and rain may have inhibited hunters from accessing remote hunting areas. Sales of gun deer licenses in 2014 were down from the previous year. Overall hunting conditions ranked a qualitative 5 on a scale of 1 to 10. This is in comparison to a 4 in 2013.

Starting in 2009, deer hunters were asked at the time of registration to rate the weather conditions, deer seen, and hours hunted on the day they killed their deer. Hunters rated the weather on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the worst. Mean weather ranking for the opening day of the 9-day gun season was 6.5, much above last year’s 4.2 and more in line with the 7.1 in 2012, 6.0 in 2011, 6.6 in 2010, and 6.1 in 2009; all years were different at the $p < 0.05$ level. The weather ranking for the rest of the season was 6.2, which was above the 5.4 of 2013 and closer to the 6.9 in 2012, 6.3 in 2011, 6.0 in 2010 and 6.2 in 2009; all years were different at the $p \leq 0.05$ level. Most of the state had normal temperatures and some snow cover for opening day, although much of the state had fog early. The number of deer seen per hour hunted for opening day was 1.10, 1.09 in 2013, 1.02 in 2012, 0.96 in 2011, about the same as the 1.08 in 2010, and higher than the 0.79 in 2009; 2014 was different ($p \leq .05$) from all other years except 2013 were there was no difference in the deer seen per hour. Deer seen per hour for the rest of

the 9-day season was 1.16, 1.08 in 2013, 1.02 in 2012, 0.96 in 2011, 1.03 in 2010 and 0.80 in 2009; all years were different except 2010 and 2012 ($p \leq .05$). Please note that these rankings are for successful hunters only, and are probably biased by that fact.

Metro deer subunits' gun deer season opened on 22 November and was open for 21 days (running through 10 December). The bag limit was one deer of either sex for the length of the season. Additional antlerless deer permits were available for purchase that allowed hunters to bag additional antlerless deer.

December

All DMZ's in the state were open for muzzleloader-only hunting from 1 - 10 December. Muzzleloader hunters in possession of an unused Gun Buck Deer Carcass tag could harvest bucks during this period, while hunters in possession of unused antlerless permits were restricted to antlerless deer only. "Bonus Buck" rules applied in the Southern Farmland DMZ units. Only hunters possessing or accompanying someone with an unused deer permit could take part in the muzzleloader season. Muzzleloaders were allowed to have scopes with a magnification of greater than 1X, which became legal prior to the 2010 muzzleloader season.

Wisconsin held an antlerless only gun season from 11-14 December in units that allowed antlerless harvest in the Central Farmland and Central Forest DMZ's. This season allowed hunters who were unable to fill their antlerless permits during the 9-day and muzzleloader seasons another chance to kill an antlerless deer.

An antlerless only Holiday hunt was held in units in the Southern Farmland DMZ from 24 December through 1 January. Hunters in these units could kill antlerless deer using any unfilled antlerless tag during this time. All deer hunters, regardless of weapon, were restricted to antlerless deer in this zone.

The archery and crossbow seasons remained open during the youth, 9-day, muzzleloader, December antlerless and holiday hunts. Archers and crossbows users were allowed to bag the same types of deer that gun hunters were, (antlerless only during the antlerless season). All deer hunters are required to wear blaze orange during any open gun deer season.

Hunting conditions for the December season(s) were above average. Most of December had average to above temperatures with little snowfall. Large portions of the state were snowless for much of December with only the far north having consistent snow. While this may have made seeing deer more difficult, hunter's ability to access hunting areas was enhanced and should have helped them to find deer. Warmer temperatures may have also increased hunter activity and the length of time in the woods. Hunters killed 14,334 deer in December, up from 2013 when they killed 11,691.

Hunters killed the 27st highest kill total in the last 81 years (304,289; 1st 2000 = 615,293, 2nd 2007 = 518,573) during the archery, crossbow, youth, 9-day, muzzleloader, December antlerless, and holiday seasons combined. Only once in the past 25 years has the total deer harvest for Wisconsin fallen below 300,000 (1993). A summary of youth, 9-day, muzzleloader, December antlerless, and holiday deer harvest by deer management unit is contained in Table 5-7, and Figures 2-4, respectively.

Agricultural Damage Shooting Program

Wisconsin's agricultural damage deer shooting program was in effect for 2014. In 2014, the Department issued 617 agriculture damage deer shooting permits in 67 counties. The number of deer shooting permits issued in 2014 was relatively unchanged from 2013 when 618 permits were issued in 65 counties. There are two types of deer shooting permits agriculture producers can choose from: permits that require the producer to allow public hunting access during the state deer hunting season, under this option producers are eligible for deer damage compensations; and permits that do not require the producer to allow public hunting access but producers are not eligible for deer damage compensation. Of the two permits types, 312 deer shooting permits were issued where public deer hunting access was required on property the producer owns or leases and 305 deer shooting permits were issued where public hunting access was not required on the property the producer owns or leases.

The number of shooting permits issued each year for the last 10 years are as follows

2005 - 759 permits in 63 counties	2010 - 501 permits in 62 counties
2006 - 709 permits in 63 counties	2011 - 484 permits in 64 counties
2007 - 698 permits in 62 counties	2012 - 521 permits in 67 counties
2008 - 713 permits in 66 counties	2013 - 618 permits in 65 counties
2009 - 611 permits in 66 counties	2014 - 617 Permits in 67 counties

Damage permits were primarily valid for harvesting antlerless deer using a gun (occasional exceptions are made to harvest antlered deer or to use archery equipment for harvest). A total of 4,295 deer were harvested under authority of this program; nearly all (4,148) were antlerless. Data from past years has shown that less than 5% of the damage deer are killed with archery tackle. Because of this, all damage deer are assumed to be killed by gun hunters. Tables 9 & 10 summarize deer harvest in the agricultural damage shooting program.

Chippewa Deer Harvest

Deer hunting in the ceded territory by the tribes of the Lake Superior Chippewa took place from 1 September to 31 December. The Tribes harvested 1,125 deer in 2014. Tribal totals are not included in the statewide gun harvest totals in this report, but used in calculating population estimates for each of the units that have tribal harvest. The total Tribal deer harvest by year is in Table 16. A summary of the 2013 Tribal deer harvest by management unit is contained in Table 17. Other off-reservation treaty harvest information can be obtained by contacting the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

CWD Harvest

With the Deer Trustee Report implementation, the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management zone has been eliminated and is now referred to as CWD affected area. These boundaries match the counties that are prohibited from baiting and feeding (35 counties in 2014). A county is included if a wild or captive animal has been tested and confirmed to be positive for CWD in the county or if a portion of the county that is within a 10-mile radius of where the animal that had been tested and confirmed to be positive for CWD.

Special seasons or extensions of seasons no longer exist as had in the past. Season length and bagging rates were similar to the rest of the state with one exception. Archery, crossbow and gun deer seasons allowed hunters to kill an additional "bonus bucks" if an antlerless deer was taken first for the length of the season, an unlimited number of antlerless and "bonus" bucks could be taken in the Southern Farmland Zone, which contain most of the CWD affected counties.

Table 1. Antlerless permit availability and issuance by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2014.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land type	Permits available	10/11 bonus	Free farmer	NR bonus	NR military	Res bonus	Total permits ¹
Central Farmland	Adams	Private	750	2		64	1	683	750
Central Farmland	Adams	Public	50					49	49
Central Farmland	Barron	Private	1,625	20	25	143		1,437	1,625
Central Farmland	Barron	Public	170	1	2	29	1	137	170
Central Farmland	Brown	Private	1,475	1		2		382	385
Central Farmland	Brown	Public	275	3				157	160
Central Farmland	Buffalo	Private	4,500	28	57	204	1	1,444	1,734
Central Farmland	Buffalo	Public	500	2		46		202	250
Central Farmland	Calumet	Private	875	3	1	1		181	186
Central Farmland	Calumet	Public	250	1				78	79
Central Farmland	Chippewa	Private	3,350	19	60	76		1,527	1,682
Central Farmland	Chippewa	Public	375	2		9		364	375
Central Farmland	Clark	Private	2,600	12	88	67		1,429	1,596
Central Farmland	Clark	Public	100	1		1		95	97
Central Farmland	Door	Private	2,575	7		21	1	475	504
Central Farmland	Door	Public	475	1		9	2	141	153
Central Farmland	Dunn	Private	3,425	25	25	193	2	1,572	1,817
Central Farmland	Dunn	Public	275	1		25		249	275
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	Private	1,600	8	10	21		818	857
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	Public	100	1		2		97	100
Central Farmland	Fond du Lac	Private	2,175	9	20	10		704	743
Central Farmland	Fond du Lac	Public	450	1	1	3		445	450
Central Farmland	Green Lake	Private	2,100	2	29	17		656	704
Central Farmland	Green Lake	Public	250			2		145	147
Central Farmland	Jackson	Private	2,925	17	16	59	2	886	980
Central Farmland	Jackson	Public	150		1	7		142	150
Central Farmland	Juneau	Private	2,075	6	11	69		665	751
Central Farmland	Juneau	Public	0						
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	Private	1,750	2	1	14		251	268
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	Public	325		1			62	63
Central Farmland	La Crosse	Private	2,000	6	14	22		659	701
Central Farmland	La Crosse	Public	500		1	3		95	99
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	Private	2,400	4	4	7		529	544
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	Public	425		1			174	175
Central Farmland	Marathon	Private	7,075	27	58	61	1	2,534	2,681
Central Farmland	Marathon	Public	1,250	2	1	16	1	1,096	1,116
Central Farmland	Marinette	Private	2,550	8	3	51	1	1,027	1,090
Central Farmland	Marinette	Public	450	2		6		442	450
Central Farmland	Marquette	Private	3,200	3	4	66	2	940	1,015
Central Farmland	Marquette	Public	225			5		220	225
Central Farmland	Monroe	Private	3,500	6	39	69	2	865	981
Central Farmland	Monroe	Public	500	1		19		228	248
Central Farmland	Oconto	Private	4,050	6	16	17		740	779
Central Farmland	Oconto	Public	675	2	1	6		414	423
Central Farmland	Outagamie	Private	2,300	18	20	12		657	707

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Deer Management Zone	County	Land type	Permits available	10/11 bonus	Free farmer	NR bonus	NR military	Res bonus	Total permits ¹
Central Farmland	Outagamie	Public	425	1		2		157	160
Central Farmland	Pepin	Private	1,175	9	21	106		504	640
Central Farmland	Pepin	Public	100	1		16		83	100
Central Farmland	Pierce	Private	1,975	15	13	178	1	1,279	1,486
Central Farmland	Pierce	Public	150	2		28		120	150
Central Farmland	Polk	Private	2,175	24	18	455	1	1,677	2,175
Central Farmland	Polk	Public	350	1		102	1	246	350
Central Farmland	Portage	Private	2,875	17	25	22		1,331	1,395
Central Farmland	Portage	Public	725	2	1	4		444	451
Central Farmland	Shawano	Private	6,450	9	28	26	1	1,388	1,452
Central Farmland	Shawano	Public	2,150	3	1	2		244	250
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	Private	1,350	3	8	5		688	704
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	Public	350	3		1		346	350
Central Farmland	St Croix	Private	1,875	15	12	121	2	937	1,087
Central Farmland	St Croix	Public	225		2	42		181	225
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	Private	4,500	24	40	101	2	1,300	1,467
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	Public	500		1	8		170	179
Central Farmland	Waupaca	Private	6,775	18	46	36	1	1,510	1,611
Central Farmland	Waupaca	Public	300	2	1	1		211	215
Central Farmland	Waushara	Private	2,925	9	13	53	3	966	1,044
Central Farmland	Waushara	Public	300			6		294	300
Central Farmland	Winnebago	Private	1,175	6		2		283	291
Central Farmland	Winnebago	Public	250	1		1		102	104
Central Farmland	Wood	Private	1,000	11	26	18		945	1,000
Central Farmland	Wood	Public	0						
Central Farmland Total¹			108,720	436	766	2,790	29	41,499	45,520
Central Forest	Adams	Private	2,400	5	2	113		2,279	2,399
Central Forest	Adams	Public	425			13		409	422
Central Forest	Clark	Private	2,400	16	64	102	2	2,216	2,400
Central Forest	Clark	Public	800	2	1	24		772	799
Central Forest	Eau Claire	Private	1,050	10	29	36	1	974	1,050
Central Forest	Eau Claire	Public	575	1		14		560	575
Central Forest	Jackson	Private	0	17	16	59	2	886	980
Central Forest	Jackson	Public	0		1	7		142	150
Central Forest	Juneau	Private	450	4		37		407	448
Central Forest	Juneau	Public	50			2		48	50
Central Forest	Monroe	Private	100	1	3	1		93	98
Central Forest	Monroe	Public	0						
Central Forest	Wood	Private	0						
Central Forest	Wood	Public	0						
Central Forest Total			8,250	56	116	408	5	8,786	9,371
Northern Forest	Ashland	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Ashland	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Bayfield	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Bayfield	Public	0						

Table 1. Antlerless permit availability and issuance by deer management zone, unit and landtype for 2014.

Deer Management Zone	County	Land type	Permits available	10/11 bonus	Free farmer	NR bonus	NR military	Res bonus	Total permits ¹
Northern Forest	Burnett	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Burnett	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Douglas	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Douglas	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Florence	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Florence	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Forest	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Forest	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Iron	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Iron	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Langlade	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Langlade	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Lincoln	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Lincoln	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Marinette	Private	1,050	6	2	33	1	1,006	1,048
Northern Forest	Marinette	Public	700	3		11		686	700
Northern Forest	Menominee	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Menominee	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Oconto	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Oconto	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Oneida	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Oneida	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Price	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Price	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Rusk	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Rusk	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Sawyer	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Sawyer	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Taylor	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Taylor	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Vilas	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Vilas	Public	0						
Northern Forest	Washburn	Private	0						
Northern Forest	Washburn	Public	0						
Northern Forest Total			1,750	9	2	44	1	1,692	1,748
Southern Farmland	Columbia	Private	3,275	10	21	50		1,201	1,282
Southern Farmland	Columbia	Public	600	2	2	3		391	398
Southern Farmland	Crawford	Private	3,200	13	13	68	3	927	1,024
Southern Farmland	Crawford	Public	800		3	6	1	222	232
Southern Farmland	Dane	Private	4,000	7	14	22		946	989
Southern Farmland	Dane	Public	550	1		13		265	279
Southern Farmland	Dodge	Private	2,075	10	26	21		999	1,056
Southern Farmland	Dodge	Public	550	3	1	2		335	341
Southern Farmland	Grant	Private	4,700	15	38	115	2	1,202	1,372
Southern Farmland	Grant	Public	450			6		190	196

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Deer Management Zone	County	Land type	Permits available	10/11 bonus	Free farmer	NR bonus	NR military	Res bonus	Total permits ¹
Southern Farmland	Green	Private	2,000	7	23	30		610	670
Southern Farmland	Green	Public	125			3		115	118
Southern Farmland	Iowa	Private	3,550	11	25	41	2	1,125	1,204
Southern Farmland	Iowa	Public	350		2	4		308	314
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	Private	1,800	4	1	5		668	678
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	Public	300	1				257	258
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	Private	525	1	1	10		210	222
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	Public	100			7		82	89
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	Private	1,475	8	8	55		669	740
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	Public	100		1	1		98	100
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	Private	425					129	129
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	Public	25			1		22	23
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	Private	1,350	7	2	2		390	401
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	Public	175	2		1		123	126
Southern Farmland	Racine	Private	600		2	3	1	234	240
Southern Farmland	Racine	Public	75					75	75
Southern Farmland	Richland	Private	3,225	11	36	84	2	1,376	1,509
Southern Farmland	Richland	Public	225	1		6		210	217
Southern Farmland	Rock	Private	1,550	13	9	15		545	582
Southern Farmland	Rock	Public	225	2		8		165	175
Southern Farmland	Sauk	Private	4,175	16	17	50	1	1,635	1,719
Southern Farmland	Sauk	Public	525	4		14		412	430
Southern Farmland	Vernon	Private	4,400	20	77	91	2	1,736	1,926
Southern Farmland	Vernon	Public	600	6	3	10		346	365
Southern Farmland	Walworth	Private	950	1	2	25		374	402
Southern Farmland	Walworth	Public	225	2		12		197	211
Southern Farmland	Washington	Private	1,700	4	7	7		927	945
Southern Farmland	Washington	Public	300			5		342	347
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	Private	1,875	2	1	1		724	728
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	Public	375	1		2		291	294
Southern Farmland Total¹			53,525	185	335	799	14	21,073	22,406
Superior metro	Douglas	Private	50			4		46	50
Superior metro	Douglas	Public	150	1		10		139	150
Superior metro Total			200	1	0	14	0	185	200
Grand total			172,445	687	1,219	4,055	49	73,235	79,245

¹ All deer harvest license holders were issue one antlerless deer tag valid in both Farmland Deer Management zones, those tags are not account for in these totals.

Table 2. Antlerless deer quota, permits available, permits issued, harvest, and percent of quota killed by Deer Management Zone and Unit for the 2014 season.

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlerless Quota	Permits Available	Permits Issued	Antlerless Harvest	% of Quota
Central Farmland	Adams	1,229	800	799	652	53.05%
Central Farmland	Barron	2,800	1,795	1,795	3,796	135.57%
Central Farmland	Brown	2,675	1,750	545	1,484	55.48%
Central Farmland	Buffalo	7,391	5,000	1,984	4,881	66.04%
Central Farmland	Calumet	1,700	1,125	265	733	43.12%
Central Farmland	Chippewa	5,681	3,725	2,057	3,900	68.65%
Central Farmland	Clark	4,180	2,700	1,693	3,098	74.11%
Central Farmland	Door	4,700	3,050	657	1,966	41.83%
Central Farmland	Dunn	5,757	3,700	2,092	4,649	80.75%
Central Farmland	Eau Claire	2,600	1,700	957	1,824	70.15%
Central Farmland	Fond du Lac	4,050	2,625	1,193	2,551	62.99%
Central Farmland	Green Lake	3,600	2,350	851	2,369	65.81%
Central Farmland	Jackson	4,780	3,075	1,130	2,899	60.65%
Central Farmland	Juneau	3,227	2,075	751	1,359	42.11%
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	3,175	2,075	331	1,377	43.37%
Central Farmland	La Crosse	3,609	2,500	800	2,527	70.02%
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	4,400	2,825	719	2,296	52.18%
Central Farmland	Marathon	13,000	8,325	3,797	7,227	55.59%
Central Farmland	Marinette	4,675	3,000	1,540	2,114	45.22%
Central Farmland	Marquette	5,300	3,425	1,240	3,569	67.34%
Central Farmland	Monroe	6,696	4,000	1,229	3,493	52.17%
Central Farmland	Oconto	7,325	4,725	1,202	3,109	42.44%
Central Farmland	Outagamie	4,200	2,725	867	2,840	67.62%
Central Farmland	Pepin	1,947	1,275	740	1,732	88.96%
Central Farmland	Pierce	3,258	2,125	1,636	2,923	89.72%
Central Farmland	Polk	3,900	2,525	2,525	5,403	138.54%
Central Farmland	Portage	6,400	3,600	1,846	3,941	61.58%
Central Farmland	Shawano	13,400	8,600	1,702	2,527	18.86%
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	2,600	1,700	1,054	6,192	238.15%
Central Farmland	St Croix	3,249	2,100	1,312	1,727	53.15%
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	6,994	5,000	1,646	4,388	62.74%
Central Farmland	Waupaca	11,000	7,075	1,826	6,500	59.09%
Central Farmland	Waushara	5,000	3,225	1,344	3,324	66.48%
Central Farmland	Winnebago	2,200	1,425	395	1,407	63.95%
Central Farmland	Wood	1,500	1,000	1,000	2,322	154.80%
Central Forest	Adams	1,400	2,825	2,821	1,280	91.43%
Central Forest	Clark	1,550	3,200	3,199	1,438	92.77%
Central Forest	Eau Claire	800	1,625	1,625	599	74.88%
Central Forest	Jackson	0	0		230	
Central Forest	Juneau	250	500	498	366	146.40%
Central Forest	Monroe	50	100	98	219	438.00%
Central Forest	Wood	0	0		258	
Northern Forest	Ashland	0	0		133	
Northern Forest	Bayfield	0	0		264	

Table 2. Antlerless deer quota, permits available, permits issued, harvest, and percent of quota killed by Deer Management Zone and Unit for the 2014 season.

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlerless Quota	Permits Available	Permits Issued	Antlerless Harvest	% of Quota
Northern Forest	Burnett	0	0		458	
Northern Forest	Douglas (Superior Subzone)	0	200	200	415	
Northern Forest	Florence	0	0		396	
Northern Forest	Forest	0	0		349	
Northern Forest	Iron	0	0		52	
Northern Forest	Langlade	0	0		454	
Northern Forest	Lincoln	0	0		423	
Northern Forest	Marinette	500	1,750	1,748	1,276	255.20%
Northern Forest	Menominee	0	0		0	
Northern Forest	Oconto	0	0		306	
Northern Forest	Oneida	0	0		468	
Northern Forest	Price	0	0		386	
Northern Forest	Rusk	0	0		477	
Northern Forest	Sawyer	0	0		311	
Northern Forest	Taylor	0	0		826	
Northern Forest	Vilas	0	0		385	
Northern Forest	Washburn	0	0		387	
Southern Farmland	Columbia	4,850	3,875	1,680	3,490	71.96%
Southern Farmland	Crawford	5,421	4,000	1,256	2,733	50.42%
Southern Farmland	Dane	5,750	4,550	1,268	2,093	36.40%
Southern Farmland	Dodge	3,200	2,625	1,397	2,689	84.03%
Southern Farmland	Grant	6,300	5,150	1,568	3,484	55.30%
Southern Farmland	Green	2,700	2,125	788	1,243	46.04%
Southern Farmland	Iowa	4,750	3,900	1,518	2,622	55.20%
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	2,600	2,100	936	1,470	56.54%
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	650	625	311	204	31.38%
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	2,000	1,575	840	1,389	69.45%
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	550	450	152	89	16.18%
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	1,000	1,525	527	766	76.60%
Southern Farmland	Racine	700	675	315	293	41.86%
Southern Farmland	Richland	4,050	3,450	1,726	2,960	73.09%
Southern Farmland	Rock	2,300	1,775	757	976	42.43%
Southern Farmland	Sauk	5,650	4,700	2,149	3,994	70.69%
Southern Farmland	Vernon	6,700	5,000	2,291	4,576	68.30%
Southern Farmland	Walworth	1,250	1,175	613	683	54.64%
Southern Farmland	Washington	2,600	2,000	1,292	2,073	79.73%
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	2,700	2,250	1,022	1,136	42.07%

Table 3. *Nine-day gun season opening day deer hunting pressure expressed as hunters per square mile of deer range, with current deer range densities 2014.*

Deer Management Zone	County	Deer Range	2014^a
Central Farmland	Adams	72.07	31.1
Central Farmland	Barron	530.99	13.9
Central Farmland	Brown	113.47	34.9
Central Farmland	Buffalo	559.95	14.5
Central Farmland	Calumet	68.6	35.2
Central Farmland	Chippewa	665.88	9.8
Central Farmland	Clark	273.17	13.9
Central Farmland	Door	272.16	19
Central Farmland	Dunn	585.77	12.6
Central Farmland	Eau claire	287.72	14.4
Central Farmland	Fond du lac	214.43	34.5
Central Farmland	Green lake	179.13	27.9
Central Farmland	Jackson	374.28	21.2
Central Farmland	Juneau	231.29	21.6
Central Farmland	Kewaunee	97.56	42.4
Central Farmland	La crosse	320.14	19.4
Central Farmland	Manitowoc	174.95	28.6
Central Farmland	Marathon	1000.16	19.6
Central Farmland	Marinette	345.96	12.4
Central Farmland	Marquette	342.73	21.1
Central Farmland	Monroe	539.21	17.2
Central Farmland	Oconto	413.03	23.4
Central Farmland	Outagamie	192.9	29.5
Central Farmland	Pepin	165.04	17.7
Central Farmland	Pierce	266.77	18.7
Central Farmland	Polk	623.37	14.9
Central Farmland	Portage	502.89	24.3
Central Farmland	St. Croix	239.24	22.3
Central Farmland	Shawano	579.7	24.4
Central Farmland	Sheboygan	190.74	30.7
Central Farmland	Trempealeau	541.65	16.9
Central Farmland	Waupaca	480.64	33.7
Central Farmland	Waushara	383.45	29.2
Central Farmland	Winnebago	112.94	29
Central Farmland	Wood	263.13	19.6
Central Forest	Adams	430.39	23.6
Central Forest	Clark	474.71	23.6
Central Forest	Eau claire	173.23	13.9
Central Forest	Jackson	452.88	9.1
Central Forest	Juneau	380.52	15.8
Central Forest	Monroe	108.57	11.1
Central Forest	Wood	294.58	12.9
Northern Forest	Ashland	821.69	5.9
Northern Forest	Bayfield	1409.69	7.7
Northern Forest	Burnett	762.68	12
Northern Forest	Douglas	1238.2	6
Northern Forest	Florence	477.22	18
Northern Forest	Forest	996.54	9.2

Table 3. *Nine-day gun season opening day deer hunting pressure expressed as hunters per square mile of deer range, with current deer range densities 2014.*

Deer Management Zone	County	Deer Range	2014^a
Northern Forest	Iron	711.55	4.6
Northern Forest	Langlade	748.59	12.4
Northern Forest	Lincoln	797.12	14.9
Northern Forest	Marinette	920.62	16.5
Northern Forest	Menominee	.	.
Northern Forest	Oconto	336.93	20.4
Northern Forest	Oneida	1072.2	10.6
Northern Forest	Price	1199.87	10.3
Northern Forest	Rusk	818.11	11.4
Northern Forest	Sawyer	1113.47	9.3
Northern Forest	Taylor	814.2	17.8
Northern Forest	Vilas	769.09	11.9
Northern Forest	Washburn	745.84	12.2
Southern Farmland	Columbia	370.92	35.3
Southern Farmland	Crawford	455.33	11.3
Southern Farmland	Dane	428.74	15.3
Southern Farmland	Dodge	272.75	24
Southern Farmland	Grant	547.09	15.1
Southern Farmland	Green	179.79	13.4
Southern Farmland	Iowa	417.64	22.7
Southern Farmland	Jefferson	196.83	30.6
Southern Farmland	Kenosha	92.74	7.4
Southern Farmland	Lafayette	146.29	29.4
Southern Farmland	Milwaukee	46.42	.
Southern Farmland	Ozaukee	78.21	15.4
Southern Farmland	Racine	100.29	12
Southern Farmland	Richland	415.11	20.7
Southern Farmland	Rock	138.42	14.9
Southern Farmland	Sauk	525.39	16.7
Southern Farmland	Vernon	525.85	14.4
Southern Farmland	Walworth	177.47	9.7
Southern Farmland	Washington	187.83	19.3
Southern Farmland	Waukesha	245.97	10.5

^a Opening day pressure is obtained from a survey sent to 10,000 Gun Deer and Sports license holders every year. The survey asks hunters to list the unit they hunted in each day of the season. Results from this survey are expanded to estimate the total hunters in each unit. Sampling problems can affect the estimates. Quota permit allocation and season structure may also shift hunting pressure. Questions or comments should be directed to Brian Dhuey.

GUN HARVEST

Wisconsin hunters killed 222,588 deer with a firearm during the 2014 Youth, 9-day gun, muzzleloader, December antlerless only, and holiday deer seasons. Summaries of the harvest by deer management zone and unit are found in Tables 4-8 and Figures 1-4, respectively.

Table 4. The total 2014 gun deer harvest by deer management zone.

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total	Damage ^a
Central Farmland Zone	53,316	83,660	703	137,679	2,667
Central Forest Zone	4,465	3,387	29	7,881	192
Northern Forest Zone	19,817	6,691	121	26,629	505
Southern Farmland Zone	19,598	30,335	427	50,360	869
Unknown Zone	0	39	0	39	39
Total	97,196	124,112	1,280	222,588	4,272

^a Included in antlered and antlerless totals

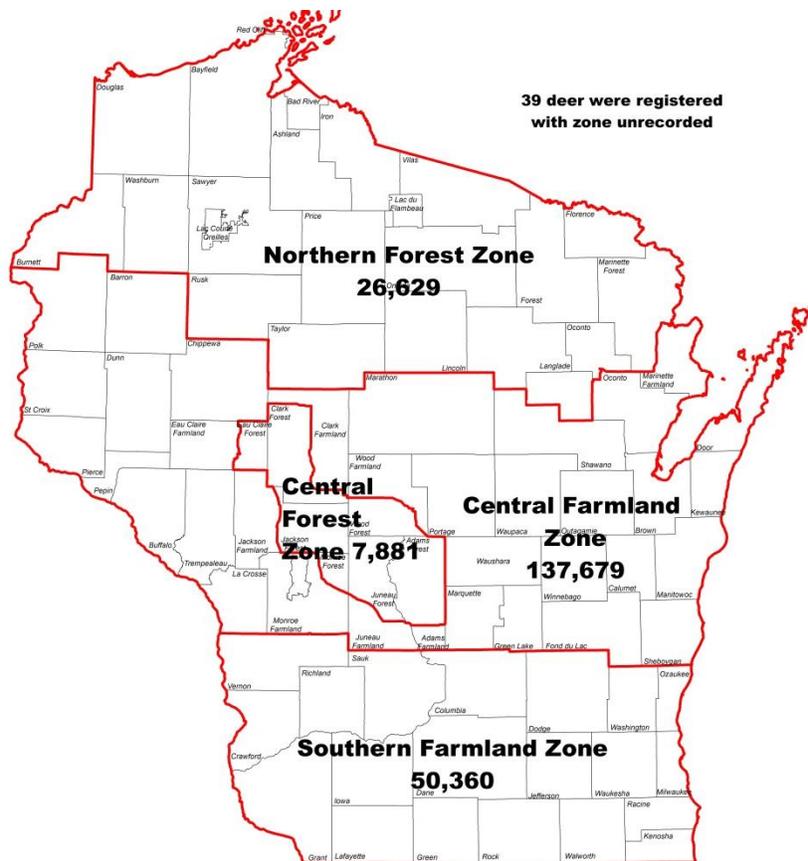
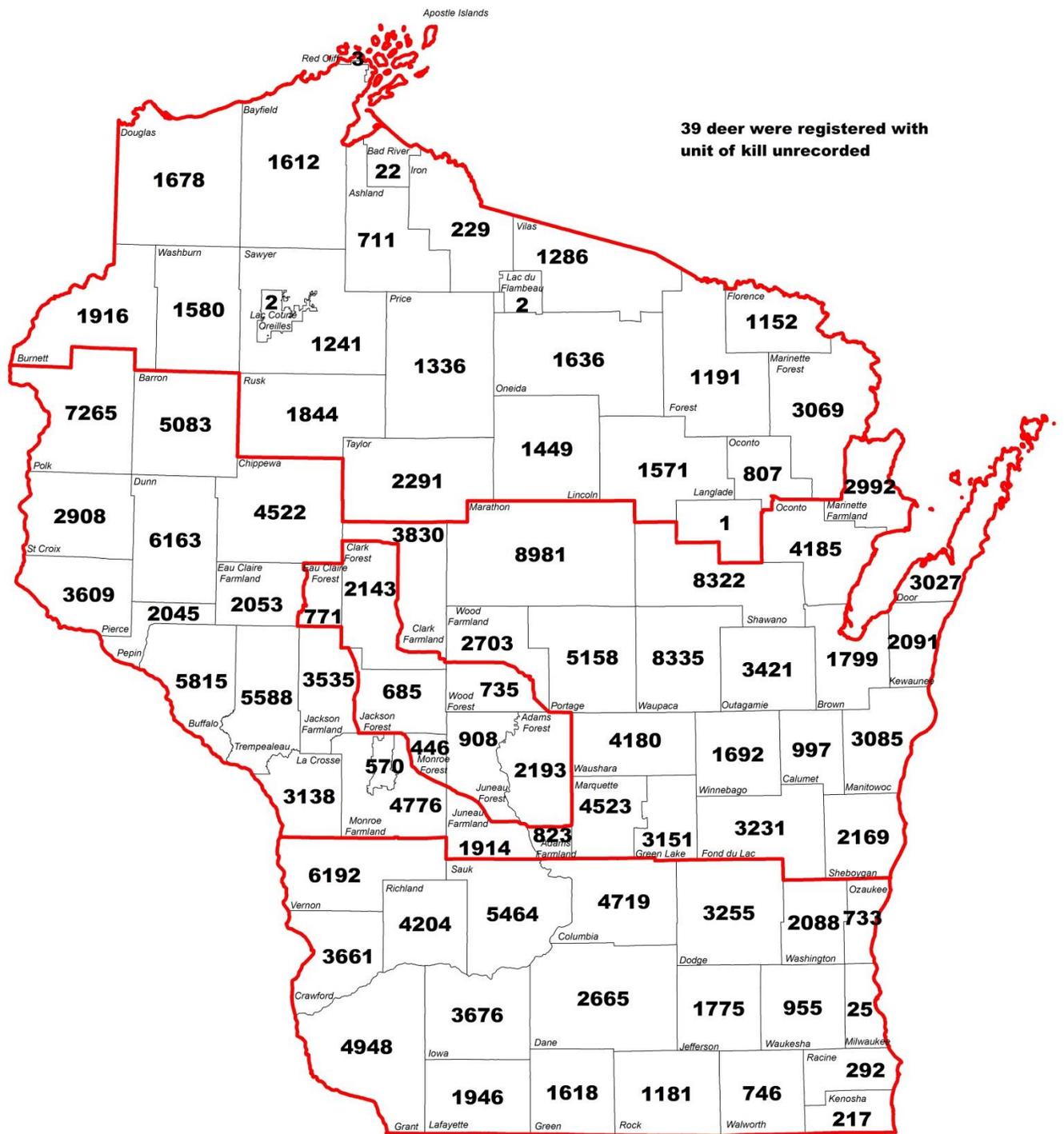
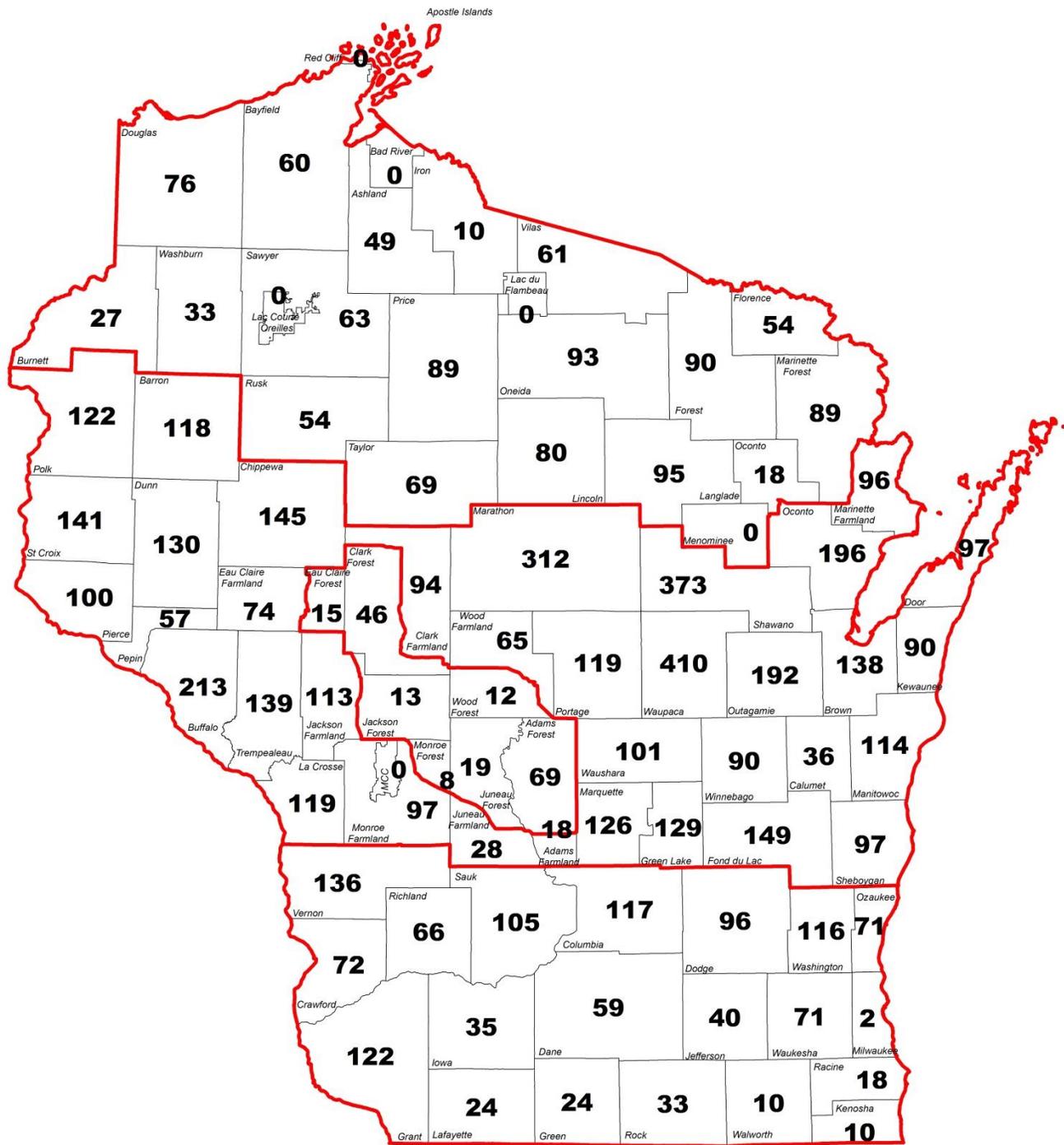


Figure 1. The 2014 gun deer harvest by deer management zone.



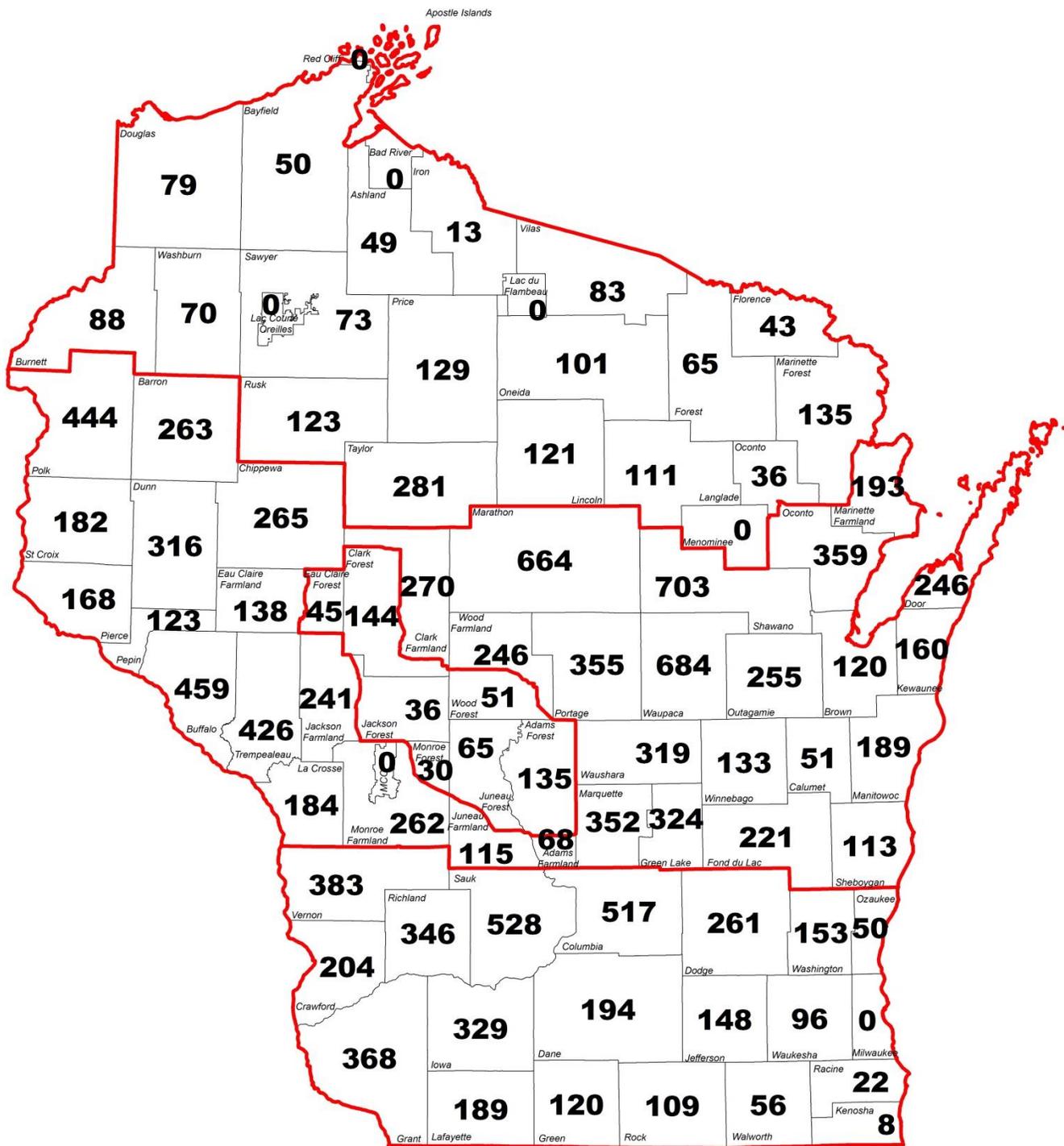
Total Gun Deer Harvest = 222,588

Figure 2. The 2014 gun harvest by deer management unit.



Total Muzzleloader Harvest = 7,157

Figure 3. The 2014 muzzleloader harvest by deer management unit.



Total Youth, December Antlerless, and Holiday Harvest = 15,848

Figure 4. The 2014 youth, December antlerless only, and holiday antlerless season deer harvest by management unit. All deer units were open for the Youth season, Central Farmland and Forest during the December antlerless season and the Southern Farmland during the Holiday antlerless deer season.

Table 5. Summary of the 2014 9-day gun deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer Management Zone					County	Deer Management Zone				
	9-Day Antlered	9-Day Antlerless	9-Day Unks	9-Day Total	9-Day Antlered		9-Day Antlerless	9-Day Unks	9-Day Total		
Adams	Central Farmland	327	407	3	737	Ashland	Northern Forest	519	90	4	613
Barron	Central Farmland	1,824	2,851	27	4,702	Bad River	Northern Forest	19	3	0	22
Brown	Central Farmland	722	815	4	1,541	Bayfield	Northern Forest	1,290	201	11	1,502
Buffalo	Central Farmland	1,807	3,321	15	5,143	Burnett	Northern Forest	1,425	362	14	1,801
Calumet	Central Farmland	374	521	15	910	Douglas	Northern Forest	1,247	259	17	1,523
Chippewa	Central Farmland	1,460	2,620	32	4,112	Florence	Northern Forest	709	338	8	1,055
Clark	Central Farmland	1,279	2,180	7	3,466	Forest	Northern Forest	779	253	4	1,036
Door	Central Farmland	1,369	1,310	5	2,684	Iron	Northern Forest	170	35	1	206
Dunn	Central Farmland	2,200	3,502	15	5,717	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	2	0	0	2
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	705	1,130	6	1,841	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	1	1	0	2
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	1,180	1,651	30	2,861	Langlade	Northern Forest	1,050	311	4	1,365
Green Lake	Central Farmland	1,164	1,528	6	2,698	Lincoln	Northern Forest	955	293	0	1,248
Jackson	Central Farmland	1,208	1,966	7	3,181	Marinette	Northern Forest	1,907	930	8	2,845
Juneau	Central Farmland	790	978	3	1,771	Menominee	Northern Forest	1	0	0	1
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	851	976	14	1,841	Oconto	Northern Forest	537	215	1	753
La Crosse	Central Farmland	1,109	1,715	11	2,835	Oneida	Northern Forest	1,147	290	5	1,442
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	1,184	1,581	17	2,782	Price	Northern Forest	862	254	2	1,118
Marathon	Central Farmland	3,132	4,828	45	8,005	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	3	0	0	3
Marinette	Central Farmland	1,310	1,387	6	2,703	Rusk	Northern Forest	1,321	343	3	1,667
Marquette	Central Farmland	1,628	2,415	2	4,045	Sawyer	Northern Forest	871	231	3	1,105
MCCoy	Central Farmland	216	354	0	570	Taylor	Northern Forest	1,408	522	11	1,941
Monroe	Central Farmland	1,817	2,585	15	4,417	Vilas	Northern Forest	883	250	9	1,142
Oconto	Central Farmland	1,708	1,910	12	3,630	Washburn	Northern Forest	1,156	312	9	1,477
Outagamie	Central Farmland	1,211	1,741	22	2,974	Northern Forest Total	18,262	5,493	114	23,869	
Pepin	Central Farmland	599	1,258	8	1,865	Columbia	Southern Farmland	1,848	2,218	19	4,085
Pierce	Central Farmland	1,226	2,107	8	3,341	Crawford	Southern Farmland	1,238	2,139	8	3,385
Polk	Central Farmland	2,548	4,136	15	6,699	Dane	Southern Farmland	1,007	1,367	38	2,412
Portage	Central Farmland	1,870	2,801	13	4,684	Dodge	Southern Farmland	1,142	1,722	34	2,898
St Croix	Central Farmland	938	1,643	4	2,585	Grant	Southern Farmland	1,865	2,565	28	4,458
Shawano	Central Farmland	3,115	4,053	78	7,246	Green	Southern Farmland	554	907	13	1,474
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	713	1,162	84	1,959	Iowa	Southern Farmland	1,455	1,841	16	3,312
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	1,884	3,122	17	5,023	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	613	960	14	1,587
Waupaca	Central Farmland	3,063	4,158	20	7,241	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	106	85	8	199
Waushara	Central Farmland	1,557	2,193	10	3,760	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	663	1,036	34	1,733
Winnebago	Central Farmland	641	826	2	1,469	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	10	12	1	23
Wood	Central Farmland	910	1,474	8	2,392	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	223	379	10	612
Central Farmland Total		49,639	73,205	586	123,430	Racine	Southern Farmland	108	141	3	252
Adams	Central Forest	1,144	839	6	1,989	Richland	Southern Farmland	1,720	2,066	6	3,792
Clark	Central Forest	1,012	938	3	1,953	Rock	Southern Farmland	418	603	18	1,039
Eau Claire	Central Forest	300	404	7	711	Sauk	Southern Farmland	2,132	2,678	21	4,831
Jackson	Central Forest	462	170	4	636	Vernon	Southern Farmland	2,247	3,416	10	5,673
Juneau	Central Forest	565	258	1	824	Walworth	Southern Farmland	272	401	7	680
Monroe	Central Forest	247	159	2	408	Washington	Southern Farmland	609	1,189	21	1,819
Wood	Central Forest	490	181	1	672	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	350	427	11	788
Central Forest Total		4,220	2,949	24	7,193	Southern Farmland Total	18,580	26,152	320	45,052	
						Unknown	Unknown	0	39	0	39
							Unknown Total	0	39	0	39
						Grand Total	90,701	107,838	1,044	199,583	

Table 6. Summary of the 2014 muzzleloader deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer Management Zone	Muzz Antlered	Muzz Antlerless	Muzz Unks	Muzz Total	County	Deer Management Zone	Muzz Antlered	Muzz Antlerless	Muzz Unks	Muzz Total
Adams	Central Farmland	6	12	0	18	Ashland	Northern Forest	45	4	0	49
Barron	Central Farmland	29	89	0	118	Bad River	Northern Forest				0
Brown	Central Farmland	48	90	0	138	Bayfield	Northern Forest	53	7	0	60
Buffalo	Central Farmland	55	158	0	213	Burnett	Northern Forest	22	5	0	27
Calumet	Central Farmland	13	22	1	36	Douglas	Northern Forest	63	13	0	76
Chippewa	Central Farmland	41	102	2	145	Florence	Northern Forest	43	11	0	54
Clark	Central Farmland	35	59	0	94	Forest	Northern Forest	68	22	0	90
Door	Central Farmland	36	61	0	97	Iron	Northern Forest	9	1	0	10
Dunn	Central Farmland	38	91	1	130	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest				0
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	21	53	0	74	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest				0
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	53	94	2	149	Langlade	Northern Forest	75	20	0	95
Green Lake	Central Farmland	27	101	1	129	Lincoln	Northern Forest	67	13	0	80
Jackson	Central Farmland	32	81	0	113	Marinette	Northern Forest	57	32	0	89
Juneau	Central Farmland	11	17	0	28	Menominee	Northern Forest				0
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	28	61	1	90	Oconto	Northern Forest	14	4	0	18
La Crosse	Central Farmland	34	85	0	119	Oneida	Northern Forest	71	22	0	93
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	41	73	0	114	Price	Northern Forest	80	9	0	89
Marathon	Central Farmland	85	224	3	312	Red Cliff	Northern Forest				0
Marinette	Central Farmland	32	64	0	96	Rusk	Northern Forest	45	9	0	54
Marquette	Central Farmland	38	88	0	126	Sawyer	Northern Forest	53	9	1	63
MCCoy	Central Farmland				0	Taylor	Northern Forest	54	15	0	69
Monroe	Central Farmland	32	65	0	97	Vilas	Northern Forest	46	14	1	61
Oconto	Central Farmland	56	140	0	196	Washburn	Northern Forest	27	5	1	33
Outagamie	Central Farmland	61	131	0	192	Northern Forest Total		892	215	3	1,110
Pepin	Central Farmland	17	40	0	57	Columbia	Southern Farmland	27	88	2	117
Pierce	Central Farmland	39	61	0	100	Crawford	Southern Farmland	22	50	0	72
Polk	Central Farmland	33	88	1	122	Dane	Southern Farmland	25	32	2	59
Portage	Central Farmland	33	86	0	119	Dodge	Southern Farmland	27	65	4	96
St Croix	Central Farmland	43	96	2	141	Grant	Southern Farmland	37	82	3	122
Shawano	Central Farmland	111	256	6	373	Green	Southern Farmland	6	18	0	24
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	26	66	5	97	Iowa	Southern Farmland	11	24	0	35
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	33	106	0	139	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	17	22	1	40
Waupaca	Central Farmland	112	297	1	410	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	4	6	0	10
Waushara	Central Farmland	29	71	1	101	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	7	14	3	24
Winnebago	Central Farmland	32	58	0	90	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	1	0	1	2
Wood	Central Farmland	20	45	0	65	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	20	50	1	71
Central Farmland Total		1,380	3,231	27	4,638	Racine	Southern Farmland	8	10	0	18
Adams	Central Forest	34	35	0	69	Richland	Southern Farmland	19	47	0	66
Clark	Central Forest	18	28	0	46	Rock	Southern Farmland	12	21	0	33
Eau Claire	Central Forest	6	9	0	15	Sauk	Southern Farmland	29	75	1	105
Jackson	Central Forest	12	1	0	13	Vernon	Southern Farmland	47	88	1	136
Juneau	Central Forest	6	12	1	19	Walworth	Southern Farmland	5	5	0	10
Monroe	Central Forest	5	3	0	8	Washington	Southern Farmland	43	73	0	116
Wood	Central Forest	9	2	1	12	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	30	41	0	71
Central Forest Total		90	90	2	182	Southern Farmland Total		397	811	19	1,227
						Unknown	Unknown				0
						Unknown Total		0	0	0	0
Grand Total		2,759	4,347	51	7,157						

Table 7. Summary of the 2014 Youth, December antlerless, and holiday antlerless season deer harvest by unit and deer management zone.

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlerled	Antlerless	Unks	Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	Antlerled	Antlerless	Unks	Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	13	53	2	68	Ashland	Northern Forest	29	20	0	49
Barron	Central Farmland	71	187	5	263	Bad River	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	34	86	0	120	Bayfield	Northern Forest	26	24	0	50
Buffalo	Central Farmland	96	359	4	459	Burnett	Northern Forest	37	51	0	88
Calumet	Central Farmland	10	40	1	51	Douglas	Northern Forest	29	50	0	79
Chippewa	Central Farmland	67	191	7	265	Florence	Northern Forest	8	35	0	43
Clark	Central Farmland	67	199	4	270	Forest	Northern Forest	20	45	0	65
Door	Central Farmland	68	176	2	246	Iron	Northern Forest	4	9	0	13
Dunn	Central Farmland	84	231	1	316	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	35	101	2	138	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	65	150	6	221	Langlade	Northern Forest	40	70	1	111
Green Lake	Central Farmland	64	259	1	324	Lincoln	Northern Forest	55	66	0	121
Jackson	Central Farmland	66	175	0	241	Lincoln	Northern Forest	55	66	0	121
Juneau	Central Farmland	27	88	0	115	Marinette	Northern Forest	63	72	0	135
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	52	107	1	160	Menominee	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
La Crosse	Central Farmland	46	138	0	184	Oconto	Northern Forest	20	16	0	36
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	49	139	1	189	Oneida	Northern Forest	31	70	0	101
Marathon	Central Farmland	172	490	2	664	Price	Northern Forest	49	80	0	129
Marinette	Central Farmland	44	147	2	193	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Marquette	Central Farmland	77	274	1	352	Rusk	Northern Forest	46	76	1	123
MCCoy	Central Farmland	0	0	0	0	Sawyer	Northern Forest	29	44	0	73
Monroe	Central Farmland	61	200	1	262	Sawyer	Northern Forest	29	44	0	73
Oconto	Central Farmland	81	275	3	359	Taylor	Northern Forest	112	167	2	281
Outagamie	Central Farmland	51	204	0	255	Vilas	Northern Forest	30	53	0	83
Pepin	Central Farmland	22	97	4	123	Washburn	Northern Forest	35	35	0	70
Pierce	Central Farmland	49	118	1	168						
Polk	Central Farmland	109	332	3	444	Northern Forest Total	663	983	4	1,650	
Portage	Central Farmland	95	257	3	355	Columbia	Southern Farmland	87	423	7	517
St Croix	Central Farmland	44	137	1	182	Crawford	Southern Farmland	31	170	3	204
Shawano	Central Farmland	162	532	9	703	Dane	Southern Farmland	26	162	6	194
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	31	76	6	113	Dodge	Southern Farmland	50	208	3	261
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	104	322	0	426	Grant	Southern Farmland	50	314	4	368
Waupaca	Central Farmland	146	530	8	684	Green	Southern Farmland	12	100	8	120
Waushara	Central Farmland	63	252	4	319	Iowa	Southern Farmland	69	257	3	329
Winnebago	Central Farmland	21	110	2	133	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	14	132	2	148
Wood	Central Farmland	51	192	3	246	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	1	7	0	8
						Lafayette	Southern Farmland	25	155	9	189
Central Farmland Total		2,297	7,224	90	9,611	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	0	0	0	0
Adams	Central Forest	25	110	0	135	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	9	41	0	50
Clark	Central Forest	49	95	0	144	Racine	Southern Farmland	3	18	1	22
Eau Claire	Central Forest	7	37	1	45	Richland	Southern Farmland	47	284	15	346
Jackson	Central Forest	16	20	0	36	Rock	Southern Farmland	17	91	1	109
Juneau	Central Forest	27	37	1	65	Sauk	Southern Farmland	71	445	12	528
Monroe	Central Forest	11	19	0	30	Vernon	Southern Farmland	59	316	8	383
Wood	Central Forest	20	30	1	51	Walworth	Southern Farmland	7	49	0	56
Central Forest Total		155	348	3	506	Washington	Southern Farmland	29	121	3	153
						Waukesha	Southern Farmland	14	79	3	96
						Southern Farmland Total	621	3,372	88	4,081	
						Unknown	Unknown	0	0	0	0
						Unknown Total	Unknown Total	0	0	0	0
						Grand Total	3,736	11,927	185	15,848	

Table 8. Summary of the 2014 gun deer harvest by unit and deer management zone (includes Youth, 9-day, damage, muzzleloader, December antlerless, and holiday seasons).

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlerled	Antlerless	Unk	Total Kill	County	Deer Management Zone	Antlerled	Antlerless	Unk	Total Kill
Adams	Central Farmland	346	472	5	823	Ashland	Northern Forest	593	114	4	711
Barron	Central Farmland	1,924	3,127	32	5,083	Bad River	Northern Forest	19	3	0	22
Brown	Central Farmland	804	991	4	1,799	Bayfield	Northern Forest	1,369	232	11	1,612
Buffalo	Central Farmland	1,958	3,838	19	5,815	Burnett	Northern Forest	1,484	418	14	1,916
Calumet	Central Farmland	397	583	17	997	Douglas	Northern Forest	1,339	322	17	1,678
Chippewa	Central Farmland	1,568	2,913	41	4,522	Florence	Northern Forest	760	384	8	1,152
Clark	Central Farmland	1,381	2,438	11	3,830	Forest	Northern Forest	867	320	4	1,191
Door	Central Farmland	1,473	1,547	7	3,027	Iron	Northern Forest	183	45	1	229
Dunn	Central Farmland	2,322	3,824	17	6,163	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	2	0	0	2
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	761	1,284	8	2,053	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	1	1	0	2
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	1,298	1,895	38	3,231	Langlade	Northern Forest	1,165	401	5	1,571
Green Lake	Central Farmland	1,255	1,888	8	3,151	Lincoln	Northern Forest	1,077	372	0	1,449
Jackson	Central Farmland	1,306	2,222	7	3,535	Marinette	Northern Forest	2,027	1,034	8	3,069
Juneau	Central Farmland	828	1,083	3	1,914	Menominee	Northern Forest	1	0	0	1
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	931	1,144	16	2,091	Oconto	Northern Forest	571	235	1	807
La Crosse	Central Farmland	1,189	1,938	11	3,138	Oneida	Northern Forest	1,249	382	5	1,636
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	1,274	1,793	18	3,085	Price	Northern Forest	991	343	2	1,336
Marathon	Central Farmland	3,389	5,542	50	8,981	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	3	0	0	3
Marinette	Central Farmland	1,386	1,598	8	2,992	Rusk	Northern Forest	1,412	428	4	1,844
Marquette	Central Farmland	1,743	2,777	3	4,523	Sawyer	Northern Forest	953	284	4	1,241
MCCoy	Central Farmland	216	354	0	570	Taylor	Northern Forest	1,574	704	13	2,291
Monroe	Central Farmland	1,910	2,850	16	4,776	Vilas	Northern Forest	959	317	10	1,286
Oconto	Central Farmland	1,845	2,325	15	4,185	Washburn	Northern Forest	1,218	352	10	1,580
Outagamie	Central Farmland	1,323	2,076	22	3,421		Northern Forest Total	19,817	6,691	121	26,629
Pepin	Central Farmland	638	1,395	12	2,045	Columbia	Southern Farmland	1,962	2,729	28	4,719
Pierce	Central Farmland	1,314	2,286	9	3,609	Crawford	Southern Farmland	1,291	2,359	11	3,661
Polk	Central Farmland	2,690	4,556	19	7,265	Dane	Southern Farmland	1,058	1,561	46	2,665
Portage	Central Farmland	1,998	3,144	16	5,158	Dodge	Southern Farmland	1,219	1,995	41	3,255
St Croix	Central Farmland	1,025	1,876	7	2,908	Grant	Southern Farmland	1,952	2,961	35	4,948
Shawano	Central Farmland	3,388	4,841	93	8,322	Green	Southern Farmland	572	1,025	21	1,618
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	770	1,304	95	2,169	Iowa	Southern Farmland	1,535	2,122	19	3,676
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	2,021	3,550	17	5,588	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	644	1,114	17	1,775
Waupaca	Central Farmland	3,321	4,985	29	8,335	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	111	98	8	217
Waushara	Central Farmland	1,649	2,516	15	4,180	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	695	1,205	46	1,946
Winnebago	Central Farmland	694	994	4	1,692	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	11	12	2	25
Wood	Central Farmland	981	1,711	11	2,703	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	252	470	11	733
	Central Farmland Total	53,316	83,660	703	137,679	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	119	169	4	292
Adams	Central Forest	1,203	984	6	2,193	Racine	Southern Farmland	1,786	2,397	21	4,204
Clark	Central Forest	1,079	1,061	3	2,143	Richland	Southern Farmland	447	715	19	1,181
Eau Claire	Central Forest	313	450	8	771	Rock	Southern Farmland	2,232	3,198	34	5,464
Jackson	Central Forest	490	191	4	685	Sauk	Southern Farmland	2,353	3,820	19	6,192
Juneau	Central Forest	598	307	3	908	Vernon	Southern Farmland	284	455	7	746
Monroe	Central Forest	263	181	2	446	Walworth	Southern Farmland	681	1,383	24	2,088
Wood	Central Forest	519	213	3	735	Washington	Southern Farmland	394	547	14	955
	Central Forest Total	4,465	3,387	29	7,881	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	19,598	30,335	427	50,360
						Unknown	Unknown	0	39	0	39
							Unknown Total	0	39	0	39
						Grand Total	97,196	124,112	1,280	222,588	

Hot-Spot Damage

Summaries of Wisconsin's hot-spot damage deer harvest by deer management zone, and deer management unit in Tables 9 & 10.

Table 9. *The 2014 damage deer harvest summary by deer management zone.*

Deer management zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	39	2614	43	2,696
Central Forest	2	189	3	194
Northern Forest	7	424	7	438
Southern Farmland	41	883	5	929
Unknown	0	38	0	38
Total	89	4,148	58	4,295

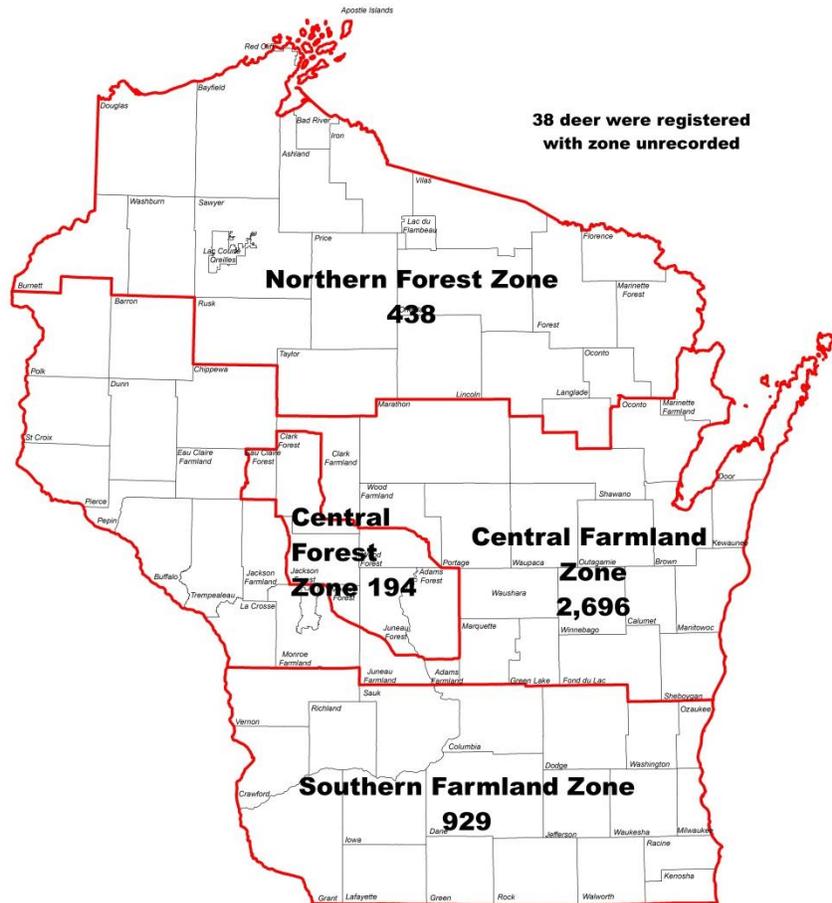


Figure 5. *The 2014 damage deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Table 10. Summary of the 2014 damage deer harvest by unit and deer management zone.

County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unks	Total	County	Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unks	Total
Barron	Central Farmland	1	27	0	28	Bayfield	Northern Forest	1	3	0	4
Brown	Central Farmland	13	102	0	115	Burnett	Northern Forest	0	26	4	30
Buffalo	Central Farmland	0	93	0	93	Florence	Northern Forest	0	55	1	56
Calumet	Central Farmland	0	8	0	8	Forest	Northern Forest	0	7	0	7
Chippewa	Central Farmland	0	14	0	14	Langlade	Northern Forest	0	22	1	23
Clark	Central Farmland	0	7	0	7	Lincoln	Northern Forest	0	38	0	38
Door	Central Farmland	0	34	1	35	Marinette	Northern Forest	0	58	1	59
Dunn	Central Farmland	3	24	0	27	Oneida	Northern Forest	3	7	0	10
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	0	7	0	7	Price	Northern Forest	1	44	0	45
Fond Du Lac	Central Farmland	1	20	1	22	Rusk	Northern Forest	0	6	0	6
Green Lake	Central Farmland	0	147	0	147	Sawyer	Northern Forest	1	23	0	24
Jackson	Central Farmland	0	109	1	110	Taylor	Northern Forest	0	58	0	58
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	0	8	0	8	Vilas	Northern Forest	0	27	0	27
La Crosse	Central Farmland	5	54	3	62	Washburn	Northern Forest	1	50	0	51
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	1	38	0	39		Northern Forest Total	7	424	7	438
Marathon	Central Farmland	0	247	5	252	Columbia	Southern Farmland	0	167	1	168
Marinette	Central Farmland	0	165	1	166	Crawford	Southern Farmland	0	25	0	25
Marquette	Central Farmland	2	151	0	153	Dane	Southern Farmland	14	32	0	46
Monroe	Central Farmland	0	20	0	20	Dodge	Southern Farmland	0	20	0	20
Oconto	Central Farmland	0	47	1	48	Grant	Southern Farmland	1	64	0	65
Outagamie	Central Farmland	3	138	10	151	Green	Southern Farmland	0	1	0	1
Pepin	Central Farmland	0	6	0	6	Iowa	Southern Farmland	0	94	0	94
Pierce	Central Farmland	0	9	0	9	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	5	7	0	12
Polk	Central Farmland	4	142	0	146	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	0	5	0	5
Portage	Central Farmland	1	129	7	137	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	0	4	0	4
St. Croix	Central Farmland	1	51	0	52	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	9	10	1	20
Shawano	Central Farmland	1	299	10	310	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	0	15	0	15
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	1	5	0	6	Racine	Southern Farmland	1	0	0	1
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	1	122	0	123	Richland	Southern Farmland	2	83	0	85
Waupaca	Central Farmland	0	189	0	189	Rock	Southern Farmland	0	4	0	4
Waushara	Central Farmland	0	69	3	72	Sauk	Southern Farmland	0	66	3	69
Winnebago	Central Farmland	1	43	0	44	Vernon	Southern Farmland	2	159	0	161
Wood	Central Farmland	0	90	0	90	Walworth	Southern Farmland	0	21	0	21
	Central Farmland Total	39	2614	43	2696	Washington	Southern Farmland	5	89	0	94
Adams	Central Forest	0	97	2	99	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	2	17	0	19
Clark	Central Forest	1	44	0	45		Southern Farmland Total	41	883	5	929
Eau Claire	Central Forest	1	0	0	1	Adams	Unknown	0	3	0	3
Jackson	Central Forest	0	3	0	3	Wood	Unknown	0	35	0	35
Juneau	Central Forest	0	8	0	8		Unknown Total	0	38	0	38
Monroe	Central Forest	0	20	1	21						
Wood	Central Forest	0	17	0	17						
	Central Forest Total	2	189	3	194						
						Grand Total		85	4,129	58	4,272

Chippewa Deer Harvest Summary

The Lake Superior Chippewa Bands began a negotiated deer season with the State of Wisconsin in 1983. The total harvest for 2014 and past years is given in Table 11. The 2014 Chippewa deer harvest by deer management zone and unit are listed in Table 12.

Table 11. *Chippewa deer harvest summary, 1983-2014.*

Year	Antlered Kill	Antlerless Kill	Unknown Kill	Total Kill
1983	235	403	5	643
1984	213	447	28	688
1985	435	945	0	1,380
1986	615	1,530	0	2,145
1987	730	2,099	0	2,829
1988	902	2,468	0	3,370
1989	1,016	2,727	1	3,744
1990	1,101	2,739	2	3,842
1991	1,095	3,844	0	4,939
1992	690	1,850	0	2,540
1993	677	1,787	0	2,464
1994	1,163	2,469	5	3,637
1995	1,584	3,340	1	4,925
1996	1,100	2,224	23	3,347
1997	1,120	2,227	0	3,347
1998	1,529	2,435	0	3,964
1999	1,349	1,896	18	3,263
2000	1,351	1,630	0	2,981
2001	1,047	1,526	0	2,573
2002	861	1,044	0	1,905
2003	1,162	1,524	0	2,686
2004	954	1,068	0	2,022
2005	852	1,305	6	2,163
2006	956	1,354	2	2,312
2007	828	1,015	0	1,843
2008	695	900	0	1,595
2009	540	842	0	1,382
2010	646	847	0	1,493
2011	508	831	1	1,340
2012	666	943	0	1,609
2013	542	817	0	1,359
2014	423	702	0	1,125

Table 12. Summary of the 2014 Chippewa harvest by deer management zone and unit.

Deer Management Zone	County	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Grand Total
Central Forest	Clark		1	0	1
Northern Forest	Ashland	4	1	0	5
Northern Forest	Barron	4	1	0	5
Northern Forest	Bayfield	67	76	0	143
Northern Forest	Burnett	91	119	0	210
Northern Forest	Chippewa	2	0	0	2
Northern Forest	Douglas	34	55	0	89
Northern Forest	Florence	1	11	0	12
Northern Forest	Forest	31	74	0	105
Northern Forest	Iron	4	13	0	17
Northern Forest	Langlade	12	12	0	24
Northern Forest	Lincoln	0	3	0	3
Northern Forest	Marathon	1	2	0	3
Northern Forest	Marinette	1	5	0	6
Northern Forest	Oneida	20	27	0	47
Northern Forest	Polk	2	3	0	5
Northern Forest	Price	12	20	0	32
Northern Forest	Rusk	3	4	0	7
Northern Forest	Sawyer	40	45	0	85
Northern Forest	St. Croix	1	0	0	1
Northern Forest	Taylor	2	0	0	2
Northern Forest	Vilas	66	204	0	270
Northern Forest	Washburn	25	26	0	51
Grand Total		423	702	0	1,125

2014 Deer Ages and Condition

By: Daniel J. Storm

Abstract

Harvest age-structure provides information on the dynamics of the deer herd. Yearling doe percentages are an indicator of herd recruitment, which generally were similar to 5-year and long-term means in Farmland regions. Due to 0-quota hunting seasons in Forest regions, sample sizes in those regions are too small to provide useful yearling doe percentage data. Yearling buck percentages were below 5-year and long-term means in all county groups except for the Western Farmland. The decrease in yearling buck percentages reflects reduced buck exploitation, likely due to poor hunting conditions across most of the state, and reduced over-winter survival of young-of-the-year. The percentages of yearling bucks with forked antlers were generally lower than 5-year and long-term averages in most county groupings, but samples tended to be small.

Introduction

Sampling age-composition of Wisconsin's deer herd using hunter-killed deer is an essential component of Wisconsin's deer population monitoring program. Age composition data by deer management unit (DMU) supports population modeling used to estimate DMU deer herd sizes and to set annual harvest quotas. Age samples also help when interpreting harvest changes.

Methods

Deer were aged using the molariform tooth wear and replacement method. Yearling antler development was recorded as "sub-legal" or short spikes (< 3" antler), legal spikes (≥ 3 " spikes), and forked bucks (forked antlers and larger). Trends in yearling buck percent, yearling doe percent and antler development were estimated by pooling DMUs (now counties) across groupings of adjacent counties. The 2014 data were compared to 5-year and long-term (1997 -2014) averages. County age samples for 1997-2013 were approximated from groupings of deer management units that included the county.

Results and Discussion

In 2014, field staff aged 16,193 deer (including animals sampled for CWD) during the opening weekend of the 9-day firearm season. The number of deer aged in 2014 was 17% fewer than the number of deer aged in 2013 ($n = 19,596$). The number of bucks aged decreased by 11% (Figure 6), while the number of does aged decreased by 28%, reflecting the limited antlerless harvest in forest zone units (Figure 7).

Buck ages

Yearling bucks comprised between 45-49% of the total buck harvest in the forest zone county groups during 2014, below both 5-year and long-term means (Table 13). The lower-than-average yearling percentages may reflect decreased deer recruitment, following the harshest winter on record. Yearling buck percents in the Northern Forest show significant annual variation, most likely due to the variable recruitment that occurs there. Nevertheless, variation in hunter pressure and weather conditions in this region during the 9-day firearm season could cause similar variation in buck harvest rates.

In farmland zone county groups, yearling buck percentages were generally below average; in 3 of the 5 county groups, yearling buck percentages were as low or lower than in any year since 1997, (Table 13). Only in the Southeastern Farmland county group, was the yearling buck percentage higher than the 5-year mean. In general, there has been a long-term decline in yearling buck percentages. In the Farmlands, reduced yearling buck percents could be due to increased deer populations relative to hunter numbers, which would reduce buck harvest rates. Reduced recruitment could also contribute to lower yearling buck percentages. Year doe percentages have generally declined in the Farmlands as well (discussed below), supporting the notion that recruitment could be declining. However, yearling buck percentages have declined at a faster rate than yearling doe percentages, suggesting that reduced exploitation is at least partially driving this trend.

Table 13. *Regional trends in percent yearling bucks in the buck harvest, 2010-2014.*

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)*	Yearling Buck Percentages					Percent 2014 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Northwest Forest	49	53	40	53	50	55	45	-8
Northcentral Forest	52	52	45	59	56	53	49	-7
Northeast Forest	56	61	52	65	64	51	48	-15
Central Forest	54	55	46	55	60	58	49	-8
Central Farmland	53	59	51	56	56	56	47	-12
Lake Michigan Farmland	56	63	54	58	56	60	54	-5
Western Farmland	52	57	50	52	56	53	48	-8
Southeastern Farmland	50	54	44	47	50	55	56	11
Southwestern Farmland	39	48	35	38	42	42	38	-3

*1997-2014

Doe ages

Yearling doe percentage data was inadequate to make inferences in the forest zone counties, due to antlerless quotas of 0 there.

While yearling doe percentages in farmland zone county groups have declined over time, 2014 values were near the 5-year average (Table 14), suggesting that the harsh 2013-2014 winter had minimal impact on over-winter survival of juvenile deer in the farmland. Long-term decreases in yearling doe percentages across the farmland regions may be attributed to decreased reproduction and survival to 1 year of age resulting from a legacy of past high deer populations and over-browsed woodlands and reduced nutrition. Predator populations may play a role in these changes; however, our research using collared deer shows that predation increases when deer are in poor nutritional condition.

Table 14. *Regional trends in percent yearling does in the doe harvest, 2010-2014.*

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)*	Yearling Doe Percentages					Percent 2014 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Northwest Forest†	30	28	25	33	27	24	40	33
Northcentral Forest†	25	27	30	29	27	25	13	-46
Northeast Forest†	27	27	24	37	32	19	21	-20
Central Forest†	27	28	26	26	29	29	25	-8
Central Farmland	32	35	34	30	33	32	30	-5
Lake Michigan Farmland	36	39	36	36	37	38	35	-3
Western Farmland	33	35	32	38	32	30	33	1
Southeastern Farmland	35	36	30	36	34	39	34	-2
Southwestern Farmland	28	33	28	27	30	27	28	-1

*1997-2014

†Sample size inadequate to interpret

Antler development

Estimates of the percentage of bucks with forked antlers in 2014 were below 5-year means (except in the Northcentral Forest and Southwest Farmland county groups). The largest deviation occurred in the Northwest Forest County Group, which was 21% below the 5-year mean, and lower still than the long-term mean. Interestingly, percentage of fork bucks in other Forest Zone county groups were similar or only slightly below 5-year averages. The 2013-2014 winter, while harsh across the state, was especially so in the northwest part of the state. The resulting poorer antler development occurred because deer were in poorer nutritional condition following the extended winter and needed to allocate more nutritional resources to recovery.

Notable differences in antler development continue to occur between heavily forested and farmland regions, and is likely explained by habitat productivity, winter weather, and deer herd densities relative to biological carrying capacity. Less severe winter conditions and distribution of high quality food resources (e.g., agricultural crops) throughout the farmland regions allow for increased carrying capacity and buffer deer herds against winter impacts on spring/summer body conditions and yearling antler development.

Table 15. *Trends in antler development of yearling bucks, 2010-2014.*

Region	5 Year Mean (%)	Long-term Mean (%)*	% of Yearling Bucks with Forked Antlers					Percent 2014 is off 5-yr. Mean
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Northwest Forest	50	59	51	56	63	41	40	-21
Northcentral Forest	53	57	50	53	61	49	53	0
Northeast Forest	60	62	62	55	61	63	58	-3
Central Forest	66	61	63	68	71	64	63	-4
Central Farmland	85	87	88	83	90	82	80	-5
Lake Michigan Farmland	90	91	91	90	93	88	89	-2
Western Farmland	88	88	91	88	92	84	87	-1
Southeastern Farmland	92	94	94	92	96	89	90	-2
Southwestern Farmland	93	94	94	90	96	90	96	3

*1997-2014

Acknowledgements

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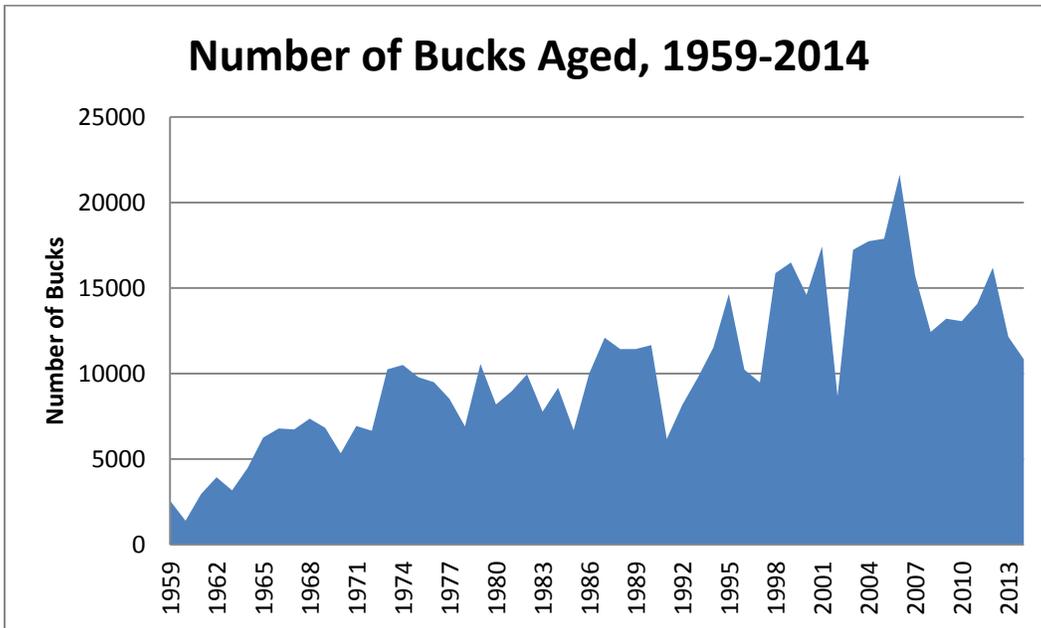


Figure 6. *The number of adult bucks aged, 1959–2014.*

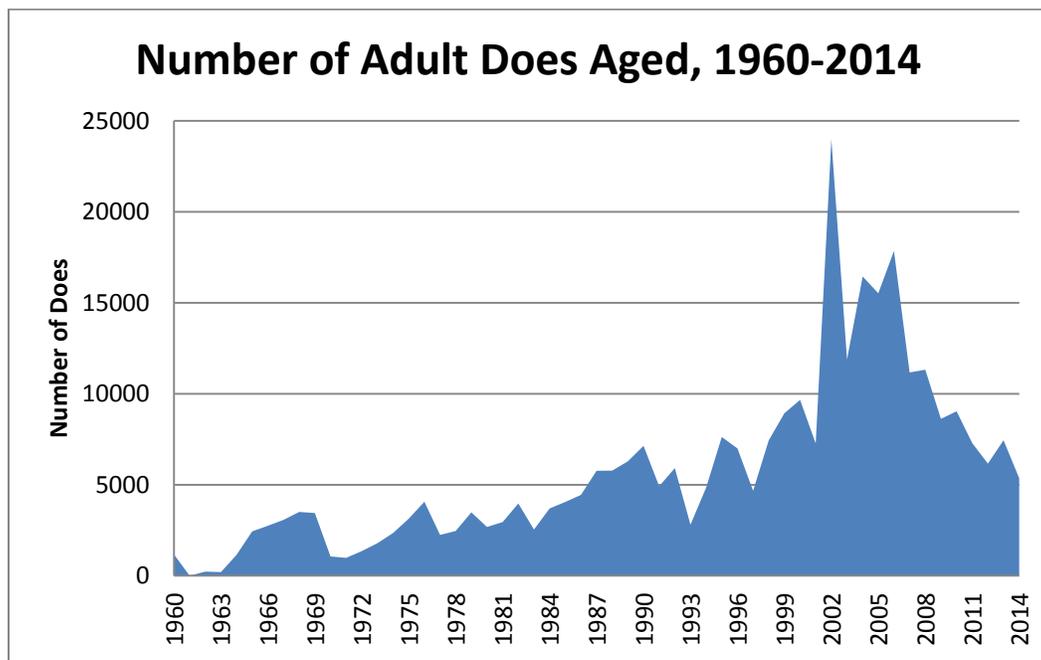


Figure 7. *The number of adult does aged, 1960–2014.*

Hunting Accident Report

By Brenda Von Rueden
Bureau of Law Enforcement

2014 Archery Season, 13 September - 4 January
2014 Crossbow Season, 13 September - 4 January
2014 Youth Deer Season, 11 - 12 October
2014 9-Day Gun Deer Season, 22 - 30 November
2014 Muzzleloader Deer Season, 1 - 10 December
2014 December Antlerless Only Gun Deer Season, 11 - 14 December
2014 Holiday Hunt Deer Season 24 December - 1 January

Table 16. *The 9-day gun deer season accident summary by DNR region.*

DNR Region	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total
Central Farmland	0	5	5
Central Forest	0	0	0
Northern Forest	0	0	0
Southern Farmland	0	1	1
Total	0	6	6

Table 17. *The vertical bow, crossbow, October and December antlerless only, muzzleloader, and holiday hunt deer seasons accident summary by DNR region.*

DNR Region	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total
Central Farmland	0	2	2
Central Forest	0	0	0
Northern Forest	0	0	0
Southern Farmland	0	0	0
Total	0	2	2

- 4 accidents (50%) were a result of hunters shooting themselves.
- 2 accidents (25%) involved victim and shooter being members of the same hunting party.
- 2 accidents occurred outside the 9-day gun deer season.

2014 Hunting Accident Synopsis

Type of Accident

SI = Self Inflicted Injury

SP = Shooter and Victim in Same Party

M = Male

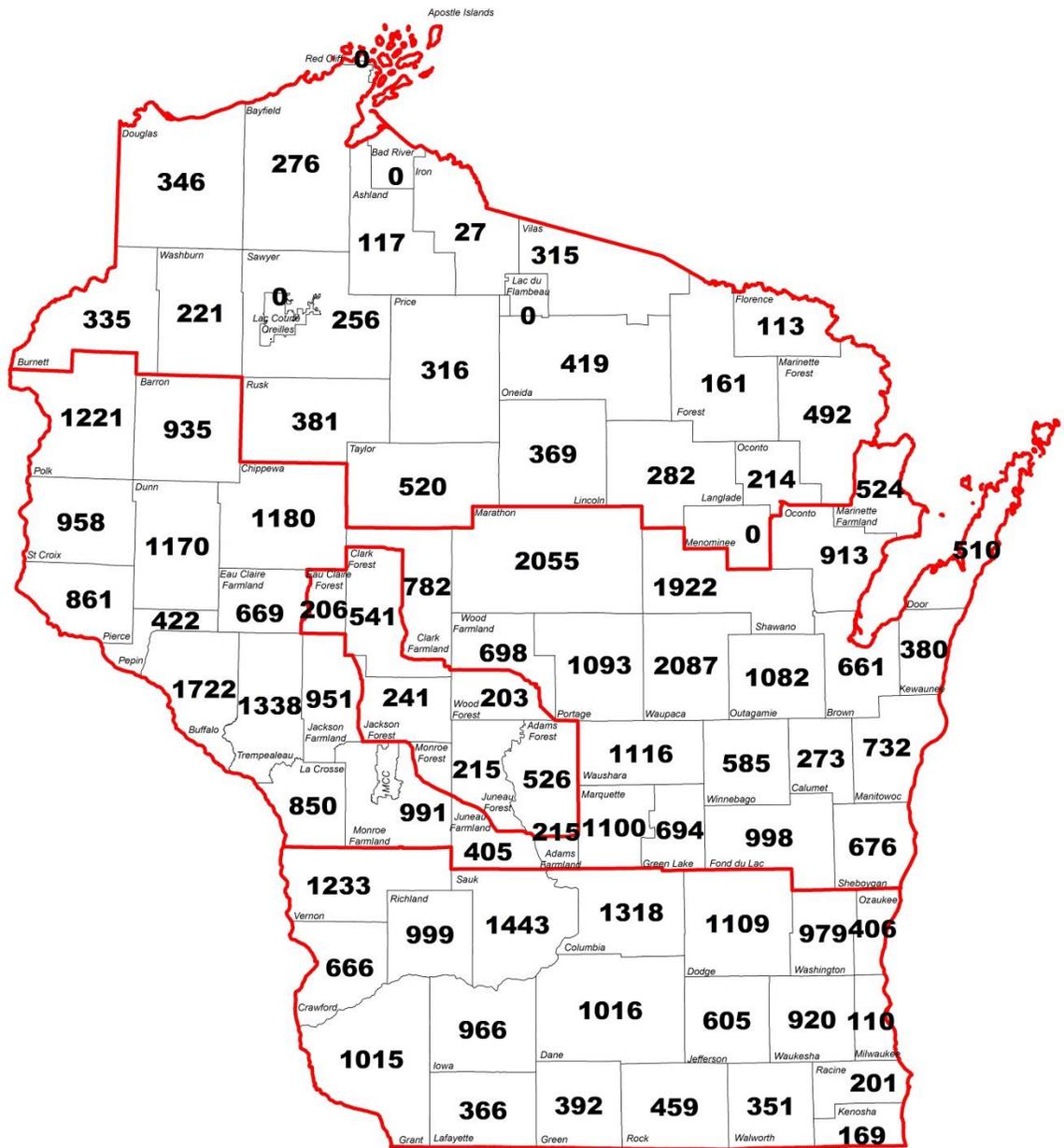
F = Female

Table 18. Summary of the 2014 deer hunter accidents by incident.

#	Date/Time	Location	Injury Description	Fatal	Self Inflicted (SI) or Same Party (SP)	Shooter Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Victim Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Type of Firearm
1	10/11/2014 unknown am/pm	Waupaca Private	Bullet penetrated left foot and traveled into big toe. Lacerated the top of the foot with damage to other toes.	No	SP - Same Party	13yr M Yes	17yr M Unknown	20 Gauge Break/Hinge Shotgun
Synopsis: The shooter was hunting deer. The shooter was standing along a corn field while other hunters were driving deer towards shooter. Victim yelled "deer" and the deer ran between the shooter and the victim, shooter took one shot hitting the victim on the inside of the left foot.								
2	11/01/2014 Unknown am/pm	Trempealeau Private	Single gunshot wound to the head, above the right eye	No	Neither	55yr M Yes	55yr M Yes	.22 Caliber Semi- Automatic Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting squirrels on same private property that victim was crossbow hunting. Neither party knew the other was there. The shooter shot at what he believed was a squirrel climbing up the base of a tree, then saw the victim fall. The shooter and victim were approximately 183 feet apart.								
3	11/26/2014 11:15am	Portage Private	One round striking the victim in right foot	No	Neither	53yr M Yes	41yr M Yes	30.06 Caliber Slide/Pump Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer. Shooter was approximately 467 yards from the victims elevated tower stand. Shooter fired multiple rounds at deer with one round striking the tower stand, passing through the wall, and striking the victim in the right foot.								
4	11/27/2014 09:15am	LaCrosse Private	Bullet wound/graze to upper right thigh	No	SI - Self Inflicted	65yr M No	Same as Shooter	.30-30 Caliber Lever Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer from a treestand. The shooter was lowering his loaded rifle which had a rope tied around the barrel causing the muzzle to be pointed upwards. While lowering the rifle the firearm discharged hitting the shooter/victim in the upper right thigh								
5	11/29/2014 unknown am/pm	Manitowoc Private	Gunshot wound to pelvic area	No	SP - Same Party	16yr M Yes	24yr M Yes	12 Gauge Semi- Automatic Shotgun
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer. Shooter and victim walked out to their hunting area together. Victim then walked to his tree stand located north of an open cornfield in a wooded area. Shooter did a short deer drive and then sat on the southern edge of the cornfield on the ground. Shooter saw doe walk out and shot once. Doe started to run, shooter shot two more times, striking victim who was walking out from his treestand in thick wooded area.								

Table 18. Summary of the 2014 deer hunter accidents by incident.

#	Date/Time	Location	Injury Description	Fatal	Self Inflicted (SI) or Same Party (SP)	Shooter Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Victim Age / Sex / Hunter Safety Certified	Type of Firearm
6	11/29/2014 11:40am	Eau Claire Private	Bullet wound to left foot near little toe	No	SI - Self Inflicted	63yr M No	Same as Shooter	30-06 Caliber Semi-Automatic Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer. Shooter seen deer while in his blind and took the safety off. After deer was gone, shooter decided to exit the blind to stretch. Firearm was pointed towards shooters feet when shooter entered the blind the firearm discharged.								
7	12/08/2014 unknown	Buffalo Private	Damage to left inside wrist area	No	SI - Self Inflicted	48yr M Yes	Same as Shooter	Unknown Caliber Muzzleloader Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting deer. Shooter shot once at deer while standing near the driver's door of his pick-up. The muzzleloader blew apart into multiple pieces. Driver window was shattered. Parts of the muzzleloader were scattered causing damage to left inside wrist area.								
8	12/09/2014 10:00pm	Rock Private	Bullet graze to left shin	No	SI - Self Inflicted	27yr M Yes	Same as Shooter	.22 Caliber Bolt Rifle
Synopsis: Shooter was hunting raccoon. Shooter pulled over vehicle to let his dog out on the raccoon. Shooter said he loaded single shot .22 in his right hand and was about to exit the truck when the firearm discharged.								



Total Archery Harvest = 54,810

Figure 9. The 2014 archery deer harvest by deer management zone and unit.

Table 20. Summary of the 2014 Archery deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer					County	Deer				
	Management Zone	Archery Antlered	Archery Antlerless	Archery Unks	Archery Total		Management Zone	Archery Antlered	Archery Antlerless	Archery Unks	Archery Total
Adams	Central Farmland	101	110	4	215	Ashland	Northern Forest	102	13	2	117
Barron	Central Farmland	474	452	9	935	Bad River	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	363	298	0	661	Bayfield	Northern Forest	253	20	3	276
Buffalo	Central Farmland	923	770	29	1,722	Burnett	Northern Forest	305	28	2	335
Calumet	Central Farmland	167	105	1	273	Douglas	Northern Forest	290	50	6	346
Chippewa	Central Farmland	538	632	10	1,180	Florence	Northern Forest	104	9	0	113
Clark	Central Farmland	347	432	3	782	Forest	Northern Forest	142	16	3	161
Door	Central Farmland	263	240	7	510	Iron	Northern Forest	26	1	0	27
Dunn	Central Farmland	586	570	14	1,170	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	306	359	4	669	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	525	455	18	998	Langlade	Northern Forest	247	34	1	282
Green Lake	Central Farmland	352	336	6	694	Lincoln	Northern Forest	338	31	0	369
Jackson	Central Farmland	466	478	7	951	Marinette	Northern Forest	384	107	1	492
Juneau	Central Farmland	212	190	3	405	Menominee	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	226	151	3	380	Oconto	Northern Forest	169	45	0	214
La Crosse	Central Farmland	415	429	6	850	Oneida	Northern Forest	377	42	0	419
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	430	296	6	732	Price	Northern Forest	293	22	1	316
Marathon	Central Farmland	996	1,040	19	2,055	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Marinette	Central Farmland	228	288	8	524	Rusk	Northern Forest	346	33	2	381
Marquette	Central Farmland	575	517	8	1,100	Sawyer	Northern Forest	238	16	2	256
MCCoy	Central Farmland	50	59	0	109	Taylor	Northern Forest	439	79	2	520
Monroe	Central Farmland	521	468	2	991	Vilas	Northern Forest	269	44	2	315
Oconto	Central Farmland	445	466	2	913	Washburn	Northern Forest	198	22	1	221
Outagamie	Central Farmland	571	504	7	1,082	Northern Forest Total		4,520	612	28	5,160
Pepin	Central Farmland	190	226	6	422	Columbia	Southern Farmland	758	524	36	1,318
Pierce	Central Farmland	415	442	4	861	Crawford	Southern Farmland	364	302	0	666
Polk	Central Farmland	625	589	7	1,221	Dane	Southern Farmland	549	437	30	1,016
Portage	Central Farmland	558	528	7	1,093	Dodge	Southern Farmland	560	523	26	1,109
St Croix	Central Farmland	441	509	8	958	Grant	Southern Farmland	581	418	16	1,015
Shawano	Central Farmland	978	903	41	1,922	Green	Southern Farmland	216	172	4	392
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	328	296	52	676	Iowa	Southern Farmland	536	419	11	966
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	698	632	8	1,338	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	324	265	16	605
Waupaca	Central Farmland	1,107	971	9	2,087	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	84	80	5	169
Waushara	Central Farmland	586	514	16	1,116	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	198	144	24	366
Winnebago	Central Farmland	324	258	3	585	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	56	53	1	110
Wood	Central Farmland	311	372	15	698	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	174	206	26	406
Central Farmland Total		16,641	15,885	352	32,878	Racine	Southern Farmland	115	81	5	201
Adams	Central Forest	359	158	9	526	Richland	Southern Farmland	548	443	8	999
Clark	Central Forest	321	220	0	541	Rock	Southern Farmland	253	201	5	459
Eau Claire	Central Forest	107	93	6	206	Sauk	Southern Farmland	805	629	9	1,443
Jackson	Central Forest	210	29	2	241	Vernon	Southern Farmland	630	593	10	1,233
Juneau	Central Forest	174	40	1	215	Walworth	Southern Farmland	179	168	4	351
Monroe	Central Forest	89	28	0	117	Washington	Southern Farmland	451	506	22	979
Wood	Central Forest	166	27	10	203	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	465	433	22	920
Central Forest Total		1,426	595	28	2,049	Southern Farmland Total		7,846	6,597	280	14,723
						Unknown	Unknown	0	0	0	0
						Unknown Total	Unknown Total	0	0	0	0
Grand Total								30,433	23,689	688	54,810

Crossbow Harvest

Wisconsin crossbow hunters killed 26,891 deer during the crossbow deer seasons (Table 22).

Table 21. *The 2014 crossbow deer harvest by deer management zone.*

Deer Management Zone	Antlered	Antlerless	Unknown	Total
Central Farmland	8,431	7,982	123	16,536
Central Forest	813	408	12	1,233
Northern Forest	3,952	467	27	4,446
Southern Farmland	2,572	2,031	73	4,676
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	15,768	10,888	235	26,891

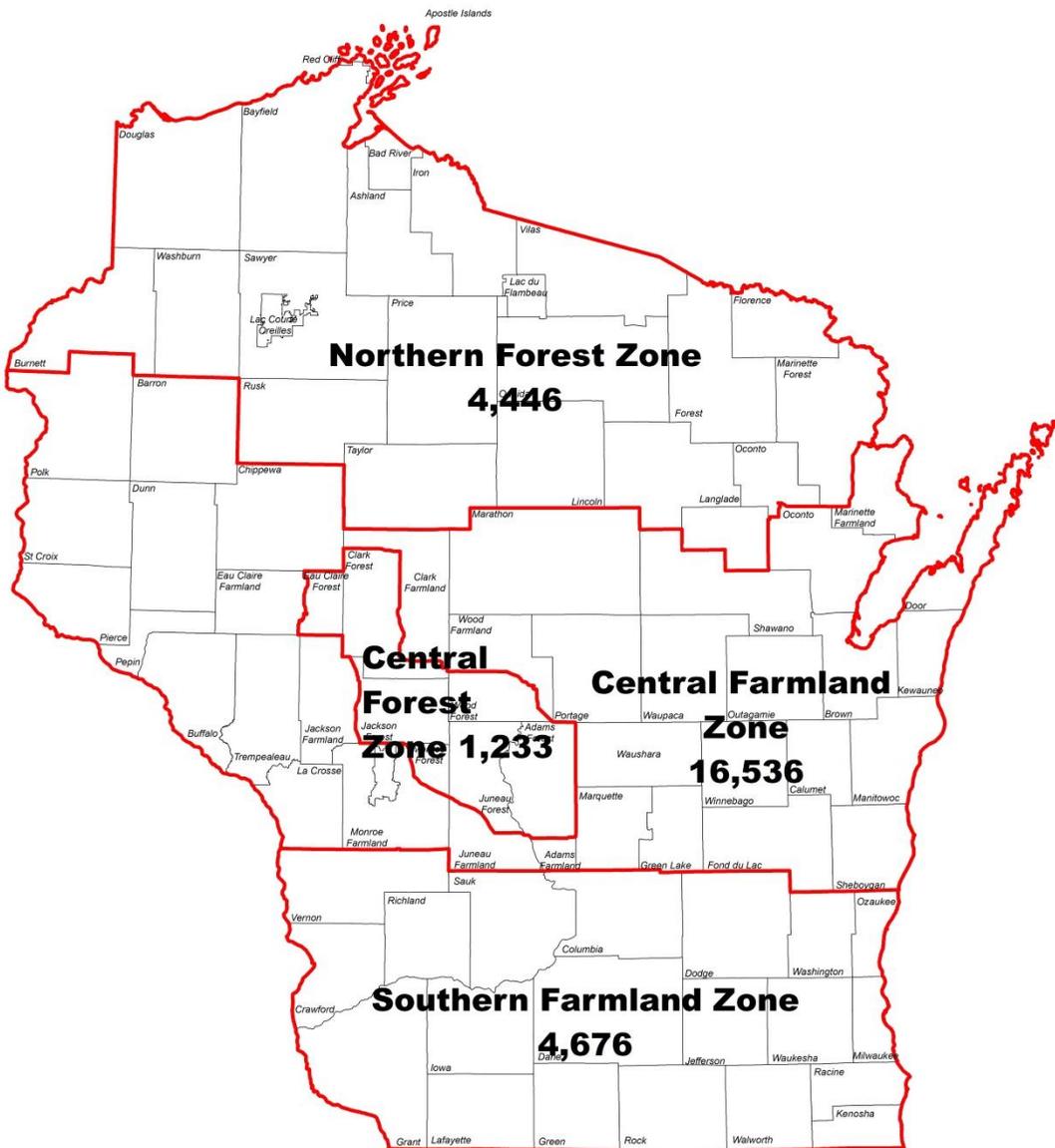
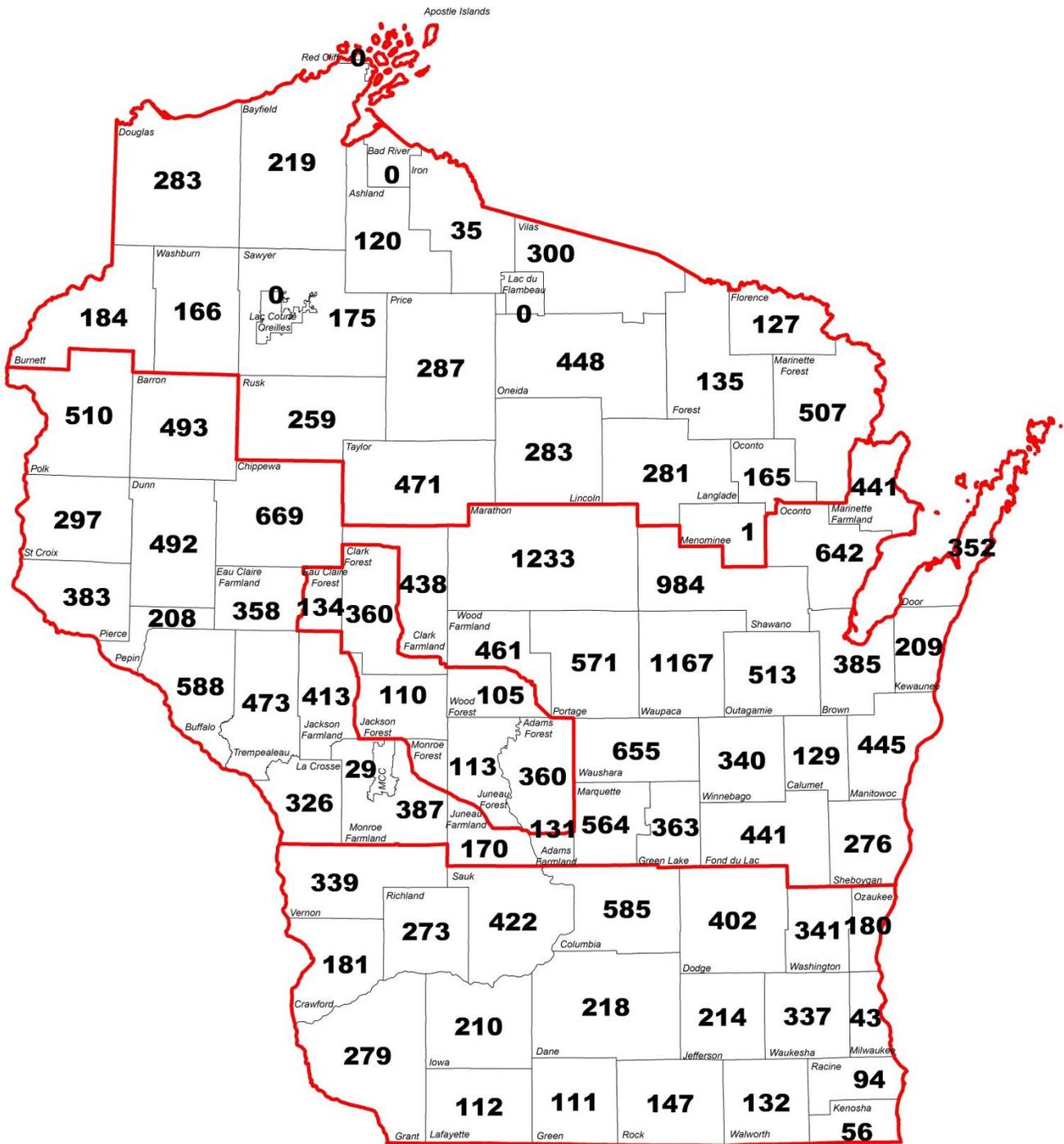


Figure 10. *The 2014 crossbow deer harvest by deer management zone.*



Total Archery Harvest = 26,891

Figure 11. *The 2014 crossbow harvest by deer management zone and unit.*

Table 22. Summary of the 2014 Crossbow deer harvest by zone and unit.

County	Deer					County	Deer				
	Management Zone	Xbow Antlered	Xbow Antlerless	Xbow Unks	Xbow Total		Management Zone	Xbow Antlered	Xbow Antlerless	Xbow Unks	Xbow Total
Adams	Central Farmland	60	70	1	131	Ashland	Northern Forest	113	6	1	120
Barron	Central Farmland	270	217	6	493	Bad River	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Brown	Central Farmland	190	195	0	385	Bayfield	Northern Forest	204	12	3	219
Buffalo	Central Farmland	309	273	6	588	Burnett	Northern Forest	172	12	0	184
Calumet	Central Farmland	80	45	4	129	Douglas	Northern Forest	234	43	6	283
Chippewa	Central Farmland	307	355	7	669	Florence	Northern Forest	124	3	0	127
Clark	Central Farmland	207	228	3	438	Forest	Northern Forest	121	13	1	135
Door	Central Farmland	170	179	3	352	Iron	Northern Forest	28	6	1	35
Dunn	Central Farmland	235	255	2	492	Lac Corte Oreilles	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Eau Claire	Central Farmland	175	181	2	358	Lac du Flambeau	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Fond du Lac	Central Farmland	238	201	2	441	Langlade	Northern Forest	262	19	0	281
Green Lake	Central Farmland	216	145	2	363	Lincoln	Northern Forest	262	20	1	283
Jackson	Central Farmland	211	199	3	413	Marinette	Northern Forest	369	135	3	507
Juneau	Central Farmland	82	86	2	170	Menominee	Northern Forest	1	0	0	1
Kewaunee	Central Farmland	127	82	0	209	Oconto	Northern Forest	139	26	0	165
La Crosse	Central Farmland	166	160	0	326	Oneida	Northern Forest	403	44	1	448
Manitowoc	Central Farmland	237	207	1	445	Price	Northern Forest	265	21	1	287
Marathon	Central Farmland	579	645	9	1,233	Red Cliff	Northern Forest	0	0	0	0
Marinette	Central Farmland	212	228	1	441	Rusk	Northern Forest	241	16	2	259
Marquette	Central Farmland	286	275	3	564	Sawyer	Northern Forest	163	11	1	175
MCCoy	Central Farmland	13	16	0	29	Taylor	Northern Forest	424	43	4	471
Monroe	Central Farmland	211	175	1	387	Vilas	Northern Forest	275	24	1	300
Oconto	Central Farmland	324	317	1	642	Washburn	Northern Forest	152	13	1	166
Outagamie	Central Farmland	251	260	2	513		Northern Forest Total	3,952	467	27	4,446
Pepin	Central Farmland	95	111	2	208	Columbia	Southern Farmland	340	237	8	585
Pierce	Central Farmland	187	195	1	383	Crawford	Southern Farmland	107	72	2	181
Polk	Central Farmland	250	258	2	510	Dane	Southern Farmland	117	95	6	218
Portage	Central Farmland	301	269	1	571	Dodge	Southern Farmland	225	171	6	402
St Croix	Central Farmland	154	142	1	297	Grant	Southern Farmland	174	105	0	279
Shawano	Central Farmland	516	448	20	984	Green	Southern Farmland	61	46	4	111
Sheboygan	Central Farmland	142	127	7	276	Iowa	Southern Farmland	129	81	0	210
Trempealeau	Central Farmland	264	206	3	473	Jefferson	Southern Farmland	118	91	5	214
Waupaca	Central Farmland	616	544	7	1,167	Kenosha	Southern Farmland	30	26	0	56
Waushara	Central Farmland	354	294	7	655	Lafayette	Southern Farmland	63	40	9	112
Winnebago	Central Farmland	184	155	1	340	Milwaukee	Southern Farmland	17	24	2	43
Wood	Central Farmland	212	239	10	461	Ozaukee	Southern Farmland	82	90	8	180
	Central Farmland Total	8,431	7,982	123	16,536	Racine	Southern Farmland	48	43	3	94
Adams	Central Forest	218	138	4	360	Richland	Southern Farmland	150	120	3	273
Clark	Central Forest	202	157	1	360	Rock	Southern Farmland	87	60	0	147
Eau Claire	Central Forest	75	56	3	134	Sauk	Southern Farmland	249	167	6	422
Jackson	Central Forest	100	10	0	110	Vernon	Southern Farmland	175	163	1	339
Juneau	Central Forest	93	19	1	113	Walworth	Southern Farmland	70	60	2	132
Monroe	Central Forest	41	10	0	51	Washington	Southern Farmland	153	184	4	341
Wood	Central Forest	84	18	3	105	Waukesha	Southern Farmland	177	156	4	337
	Central Forest Total	813	408	12	1,233		Southern Farmland Total	2,572	2,031	73	4,676
						Unknown	Unknown	0	0	0	0
							Unknown Total	0	0	0	0
						Grand Total		15,768	10,888	235	26,891

WISCONSIN DEER HARVEST AND HUNTERS 1966-2014

Year	<u>Gun Season</u>				<u>Archery Season</u>				<u>Crossbow Season</u>			
	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters ¹	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	Licensed Hunters ²
1966	67,362	42,700	110,062	432,111	1,357	4,629	5,986	85,114				
1967	71,032	57,295	128,527	470,782	1,714	5,878	7,592	101,573				
1968	62,521	57,465	119,986	503,190	1,924	5,010	6,934	114,975				
1969	52,655	45,353	98,008	506,526	1,576	4,411	5,987	106,669				
1970	50,308	22,536	72,844	501,799	1,775	4,745	6,520	101,573				
1971	48,994	21,841	70,835	509,447	1,696	4,826	6,522	100,206				
1972	49,416	25,411	74,827	517,724	1,956	5,131	7,087	98,720				
1973	57,364	24,741	82,105	514,626	2,594	5,862	8,456	105,875				
1974	67,313	33,092	100,405	556,815	3,390	9,124	12,514	119,960				
1975	73,373	44,005	117,378	582,113	4,439	9,149	13,588	133,775				
1976	69,510	52,999	122,509	589,590	4,775	8,861	13,636	133,318				
1977	82,762	49,148	131,910	617,823	5,993	10,797	16,790	146,760				
1978	87,397	63,448	150,845	644,594	6,472	11,641	18,113	157,838				
1979	76,550	49,020	125,570	617,109	6,203	9,815	16,018	144,511				
1980	81,041	58,583	139,624	618,333	8,950	12,004	20,954	155,386				
1981	99,034	67,639	166,673	629,034	11,867	17,216	29,083	173,874				
1982	97,534	85,181	182,715	637,320	12,854	17,996	30,850	189,524				
1983	96,628	100,672	197,600	649,972	14,208	18,668	32,876	194,367				
1984	117,197	138,726	255,726	657,969	17,049	21,842	38,891	205,132				
1985	112,701	161,601	274,302	670,329	19,396	21,348	40,744	215,900				
1986	117,886	140,882	259,240	662,771	19,126	21,256	40,490	216,472				
1987	116,881	133,393	250,530	660,400	21,278	21,253	42,651	208,675				
1988	121,536	141,888	263,424	653,790	22,213	20,180	42,393	210,518				
1989	139,651	170,282	310,192	661,713	25,249	20,994	46,394	210,912				
1990	140,726	209,005	350,040	699,275	26,263	22,860	49,291	216,981				
1991	120,009	232,330	352,520	674,422	29,739	37,110	67,097	216,559				
1992	111,476	177,245	288,820	666,570	29,992	30,324	60,478	220,872				
1993	116,507	100,977	217,584	652,491	30,661	22,274	53,008	224,008				
1994	135,574	171,945	307,629	670,776	36,772	29,419	66,254	234,077				
1995	171,891	225,846	398,002	684,944	39,379	29,790	69,269	244,262				
1996	138,622	250,011	388,791	677,072	33,625	39,224	72,941	235,780				
1997	121,050	171,296	292,513	671,706	36,812	30,264	67,115	237,991				
1998	151,575	180,601	332,254	668,958	42,010	33,251	75,301	241,391				
1999	159,296	242,908	402,204	690,194	45,562	46,641	92,203	252,322				
2000	171,753	356,741	528,494	694,712	40,579	46,220	86,799	258,002				
2001	141,942	219,322	361,264	688,540	40,867	42,217	83,120	260,239				
2002	126,470	191,418	317,888	618,945	29,322	24,831	54,133	227,124				
2003	147,436	240,908	388,344	644,818	45,498	50,109	95,607	247,211				
2004	133,223	280,571	413,794	649,955	33,635	69,937	103,572	252,602				
2005	147,622	239,688	387,310	641,771	35,935	42,515	78,450	247,309				
2006	137,278	256,028	393,306	644,906	40,081	73,837	113,918	258,394				
2007	133,131	269,432	402,563	641,432	38,011	77,999	116,010	258,854				
2008	103,845	248,756	352,601	643,266	34,662	64,622	99,284	266,435				
2009	92,754	149,108	241,862	638,842	41,402	45,839	87,241	261,964				
2010	106,263	146,775	253,038	622,542	42,115	41,718	83,833	254,014				
2011	106,396	151,115	257,511	622,860	44,443	45,757	90,200	255,426				
2012	119,469	154,578	274,047	634,821	45,988	48,279	94,267	263,860				
2013	102,221	152,782	255,003	634,655	41,517	46,111	87,628	266,380				
2014 ^a	97,196	125,392	222,588	609,779	30,433	24,377	54,810	214,213	15,768	11,123	26,891	108,765

^a Numbers are preliminary

¹ Includes archery, conservation patron, and crossbow authorities that purchased archery upgrade

² Includes crossbow, conservation patron, and archery authorities that purchased crossbow upgrade

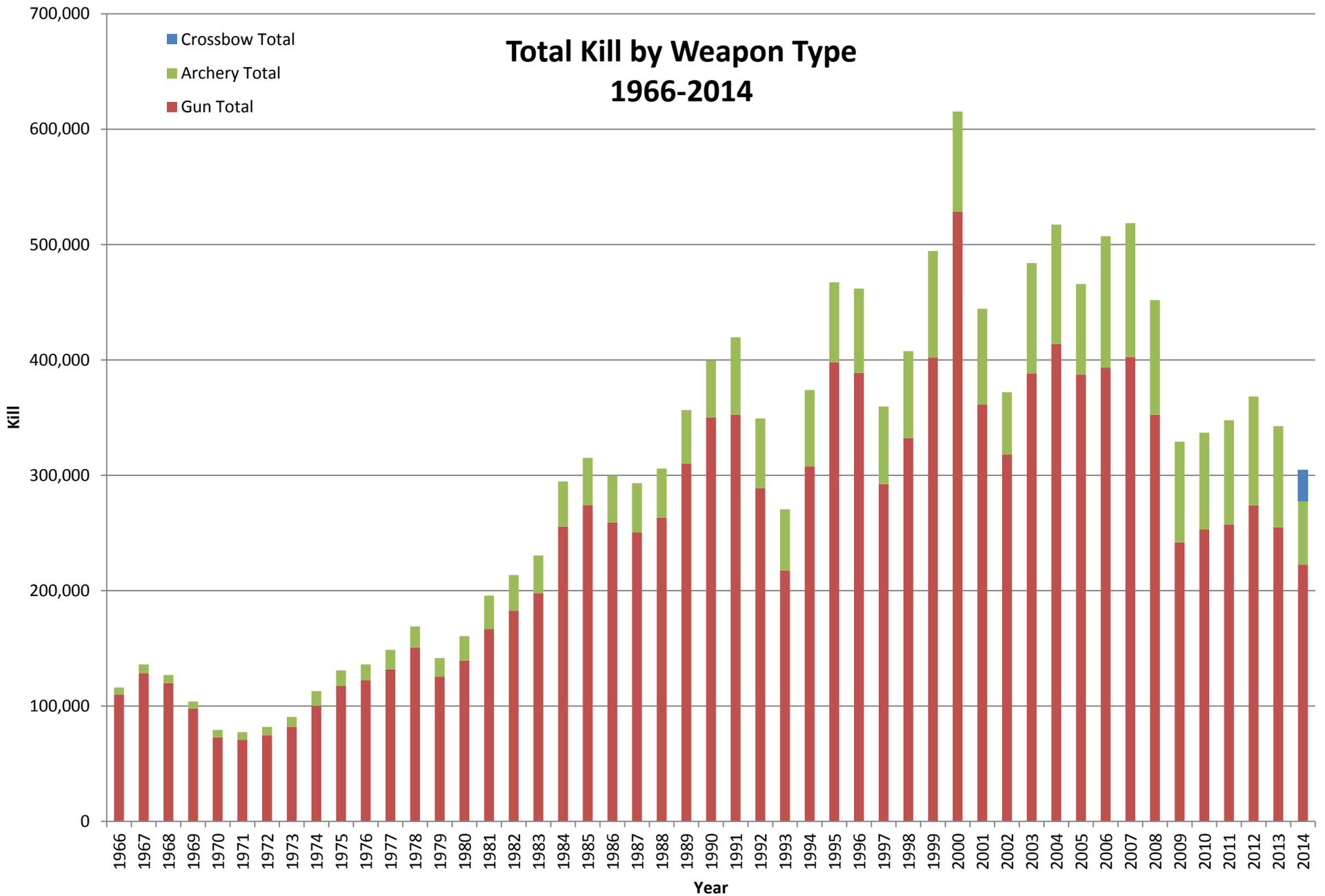


Figure 12. Total deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2014.

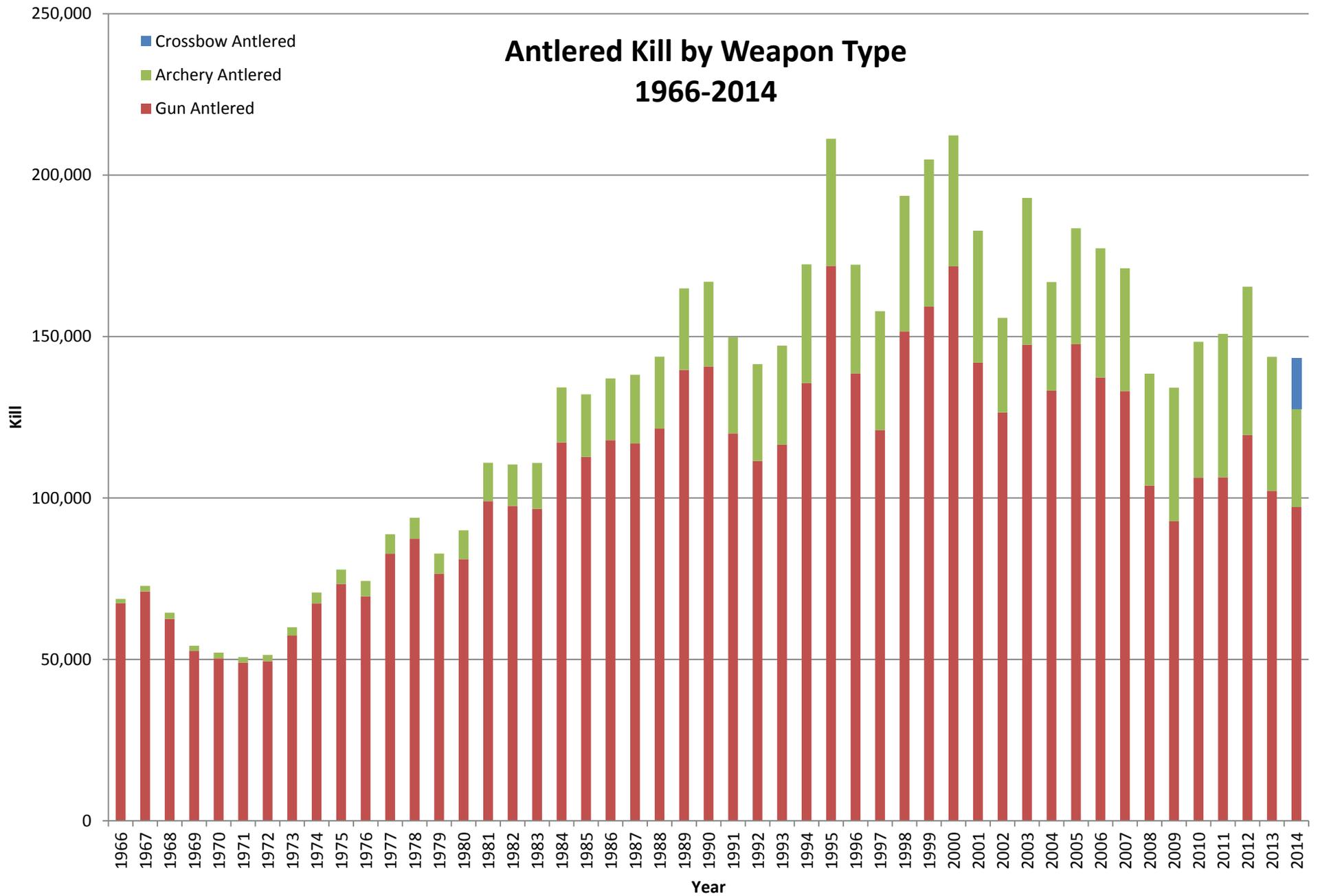


Figure 13. Antlered deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2014.

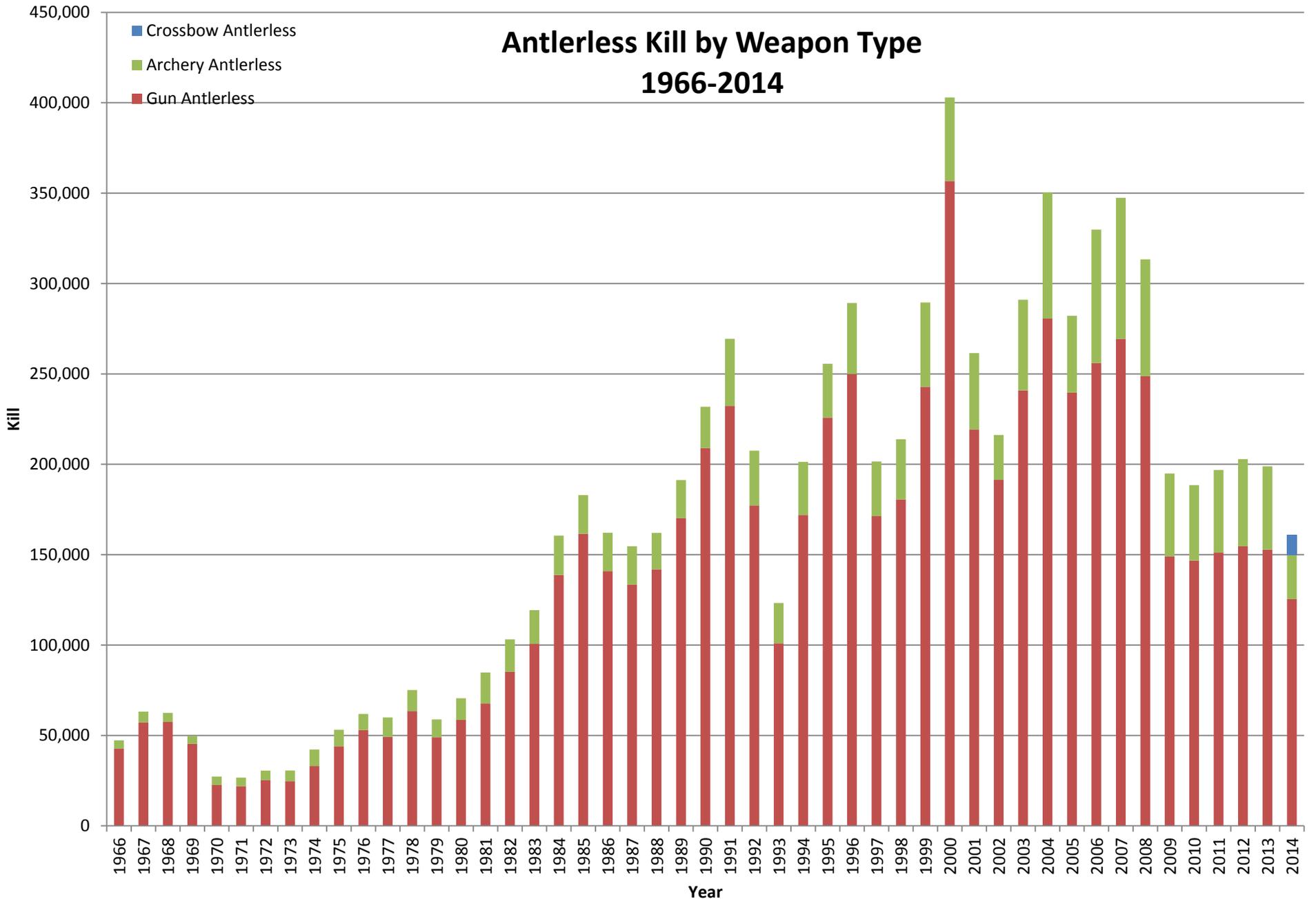


Figure 14. Antlerless deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2014.