



## 2022 Summary of Minnesota Hunting Incidents

Dated: 12/31/2022

**Number of Fatalities** **1**  
**Total Number of Incidents** **13**

	Date	Casualty	Incident Type	Animal Hunted	Shooter Age	Victim Age	Type Firearm	Contributing Factor
1	01/12/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting	Squirrel, Rabbit	16	19	Rimfire Rifle	Failure to identify target
Victim was searching for hunting party when Shooter mistaken victim for game and shot the victim.								
2	02/19/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting	Coyote	20	59	Centerfire Rifle	Victim out of sight of shooter, Ricochet
Victim informed police that as they were part of an 11-12-member hunting party and was hunting coyotes. Shooter shot at coyote, bullet ricochet and hit victim in leg.								
3	02/27/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting	Pheasant	Unk	66	Shotgun	Ricochet, Victim out of sight of shooter
Group of 5 pheasant hunting at a game farm. Victim was behind the group. A pheasant flew up behind the group, one shot was fired. A bb ricochet off a tree and hit victim in face.								
4	06/22/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-Inflicted	Gopher	72	72	Rimfire Rifle	Moved into line of fire, carless/reckless handling of firearm
Shooter/victim was attempting to shoot a gopher. Leaning in an awkward position and held hand too far forward. Pulled the trigger and middle finger of left hand was in front of the muzzle. Minor injury. No witnesses.								
5	06/25/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-Inflicted	Raccoon	52	52	Handgun	Drop Firearm
Victim got out of Polaris Ranger, pistol fell from holster and struck ground where it discharged striking victim behind right upper thigh.								
6	07/12/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-Inflicted	Raccoon	63	63	Handgun	Ricochet
Victim trapping raccoons shot 22 caliber and the projectile ricocheted off raccoon/metal cage and struck victim in Left foot/fourth toe.								
7	09/30/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-Inflicted	Squirrel	33	33	Rimfire Rifle	Run with loaded weapon , fell, careless handling
Running with loaded weapon, stumble left thumb went over the end of barrel to brace themselves and the gun went off shooting through the pad of his left thumb.								

8	10/02/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting	Waterfowl	Unk	69	Shotgun	Victim out of sight of Shooter
Victim was packing up camper did not know hunters were hunting approx. 200 yads away over a dirt pile. Hunters could not see camper and began to shoot at descending birds. 3 hunters shot. Victim yelled to get attention of hunters; Victim was hit with bird shot. Victim walked over to hunters.								
9	10/09/2022	Fatal	Hunting	Squirrel	47	12	Rimfire Rifle	Victim out of sight of shooter and in line of fire
Shooter was in same hunting party as victim. Party of 4 split into 2 groups to look for squirrels. Shooter saw squirrel, shot and missed, the squirrel then went down the tree and stopped, Shooter shot again, hitting 12 yr old on other side of tree not seeing victim.								
10	10/28/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-inflicted	Deer	37	37	Centerfire Rifle	Unloading firearm
Shooter was unloading firearm, took rifle off safety, rifle discharged hitting left big toe through boot.								
11	10/20/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-inflicted	Waterfowl	14	14	Shotgun	Quick Draw, Careless
Subject observed waterfowl approaching and climbed into blind. Firearm discharged striking self in left leg. Safety was off at the time. Subject likely pressed trigger while adjusting self in blind or raising firearm.								
12	10/23/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting, Self-inflicted	Waterfowl	17	1712	Shotgun	Obstruction of Barrell
Shooter/victim duck hunting with friends; shooter shot at a duck and the end of his barrel exploded. Metal fragments appeared to have cut the top area of victim's wrist.								
13	10/26/2022	Non-Fatal	Hunting	Waterfowl	23/26	56	Shotgun	Victim out of sight of shooter
Both parties were opposite side of pond, not knowing the other was there. Shooters shot at waterfowl and struck victim who was out of sight.								

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**Number of Hunting Incidents**

	2 party	Self-inflicted	Total
<b>Fatal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Non-fatal</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>

**Type of Firearm – 2 Party**

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
<b>Rimfire Rifle</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Handgun</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Type of Firearm – Self-inflicted**

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
<b>Rimfire Rifle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Handgun</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Centerfire Rifle	0	1	1
Shotgun	0	2	2
Total	1	5	6

Centerfire Rifle	0	1	1
Shotgun	0	2	2
Total	0	7	7

#### Animal Hunted – 2 Party

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
Squirrel	1	1	2
Pheasant	0	1	1
Coyote	0	1	1
Waterfowl	0	2	2
Total	1	5	6

#### Animal Hunted –Self-inflicted

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
Gopher	0	1	1
Raccoon	0	2	2
Squirrel	0	1	1
Deer	0	1	1
Waterfowl	0	2	2
Total	0	7	7

#### Contributing Factors – 2 Party Incidents

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
Ricochet	0	1	1
Failure to identify target	0	1	1
Victim out of sight of shooter	1	3	4
Careless/Reckless handling	0	0	0
Unloading firearm	0	0	0
Total	1	5	6

#### Contributing Factors – Self-inflicted Incidents

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
Drop firearm	0	1	1
Careless handling of a firearm	0	3	3
Obstruction of Barrel	0	1	1
Unloading Firearm	0	1	1
Ricochet	0	1	1
Total	0	7	7

#### Type of Terrain Where Incident Happened

	Fatal	Non-fatal	Total
Open field	0	5	5
Wooded	1	4	5
Ground Blind	0	2	2
Drainage Ditch	0	1	1
Total	1	12	13

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**Firearms Safety Training**  
**By Age of Shooter – 2 Party**

	Yes	No	UNKWN	Total
10-19	1	0	0	1
20-29	2	0	0	2
40-49	1	0	0	1
60-69	0	0	0	0
70-79	0	0	0	0
Unkwn	0	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>

**Firearms Safety Training**  
**By Age of Shooter – Self-inflicted**

	Yes	No	UNKWN	Total
10-19	2	0	0	2
30-39	2	0	0	2
50-59	0	1	0	1
60-69	0	1	0	1
70-79	0	1	0	1
Unkwn	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>



