

Minnesota's Wild Turkey Harvest Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

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Summary of Season Structure

The fall 2024 turkey season opened on September 28 and closed on October 27. An unlimited number of permits were available, and hunters could harvest a single bird of any sex in any permit area (Figure 1). All hunters, regardless of license type (archery/firearm), could hunt the entire season.

The spring 2025 hunting season was open from April 16 through May 31. Hunters were limited to harvesting one bearded bird. Firearm hunters were restricted to hunting one of five week-long periods (A-E), plus the F season if they did not harvest a bird earlier. Archery and youth hunters could hunt the entire season. An unlimited number of permits were available during all periods, except for two permit areas that held lotteries during the A time-period (502, 511). All hunters declared a permit area when purchasing their license, but could harvest a bird in any permit area (Figure 1).

Fall 2024 Season

Permits Issued

The number of fall turkey hunters in 2024 (9,906) was similar to the number of hunters in fall 2024 (9,713 hunters; Table 1, Figure 2) and was 18.2% higher than the 10-year average (8,378). The proportion of youth hunters in 2024 (2,467; Table 2) increased by 6.6% compared to the fall 2023 season (2,314).

Harvest

The fall 2024 harvest (1,475) was 21% higher than the fall 2023 harvest (1,224 turkeys; Table 1). Hunter success was 14.9%, which was 2.3% above that of fall 2023 (Table 1). Hens made up 43.6% of the total harvest, while jakes and toms accounted for 13.3% and 43.1%, respectively. Two permit areas, 507 and 508, contributed to 40.6% of the total fall harvest (Table 2). These same areas also saw the most hunting, representing 52.4% of all fall declared permit areas (Table 2).

Spring 2025 Season

Permits Issued

The number of permits issued across all license types in 2025 increased by 3.8%, from 59,565 hunters in 2024 to 61,834 hunters in 2025 (Tables 3 and 4, Figure 3). Sales of general and youth permits each increased about 5% from 2024; however, archery permit sales were similar (Table 4). Total permit sales were the second highest ever recorded (2020: 63,196 permits; Table 4; Figure 3). In 2025, all hunters were required to declare a permit area, but were not restricted to harvesting a bird within the declared area. The highest permit sales occurred in permit area 507, and together with permit areas 508 and 501, these permits accounted for approximately 62.5% of total permits across all declared permit areas (Table 5).

Harvest

During the 2025 spring turkey season, 16,903 turkeys were harvested (Table 4). The harvest total increased slightly (1.1%) compared to 2024 and is the highest season harvest total for the modern turkey season (since 1978; Figure 3). Permit areas 507, 508, and 501 experienced the greatest harvests and accounted for roughly 62.1% of the total harvest (Table 5). Permit success in 2025 was the second-highest among all license holders (27.3%) over the last 10 years, with 2024 slightly higher (Tables 3 and 4).

As in 2024, the lack of snowpack across much of the northern portion of the turkey range at the opening of the turkey season led to a modern turkey season harvest record in period B. In 2025, the combined A and B period harvest accounted for 65.4% of the total spring harvest (Table 6). Collectively, A-C periods accounted for approximately 79.8% of all spring turkey harvest (Table 6), which is in line with harvest in most years.

Tables

Table 1. Permits issued, registered harvest, and permit success rates for the ten most recent fall wild turkey seasons in Minnesota, 2015-2024.

Year	Permits issued	Registered harvest	Permit success (%)^a
2015	8,210	1,213	14.8%
2016	8,563	1,175	13.7%
2017	7,747	1,017	13.1%
2018	6,725	835	12.4%
2019	6,481	855	13.2%
2020	8,410	1,136	13.5%
2021	9,026	1,238	13.7%
2022	8,999	1,285	14.3%
2023	9,713	1,224	12.6%
2024	9,906	1,475	14.9%

^a Total permit success (registered harvest divided by all permits issued). Success rates not adjusted for non-participation or unregistered harvest.

Table 2. Permits declared, registered harvest by sex, and total registered harvest during the fall 2024 wild turkey season in Minnesota.

Permit area	General permits declared ^a	Youth permits declared	Toms ^a	Jakes ^a	Hens ^a	Total registered harvest ^a
501	766	256	44	12	90	146
502	91	25	1	1	7	9
503	628	171	36	15	63	114
504	222	76	10	4	8	22
505	372	84	20	11	27	58
506	357	109	22	8	28	58
507	1,769	728	94	57	180	331
508	2,069	623	81	36	151	268
509	339	203	21	13	48	82
510	671	134	46	19	61	126
511	94	30	1	2	5	8
512	61	28	0	0	2	2
Total	7,439	2,467	636	196	643	1,475

^a Total registered harvest for all license types.

Table 3. Total permits issued, harvest, and permit success rates by permit type during the spring 2025 wild turkey season in Minnesota.

	Total permits issued	Harvest	Permit success (%) ^a
General	32,961	11,018	33.4%
Youth	14,404	3,252	22.6%
Archery	14,469	2,633	18.2%
Total	61,834	16,903	27.3%

^a Permit success rates (registered harvest divided by number of permits issued) not adjusted for non-participation or unregistered harvest.

Table 4. Permits issued, registered harvest, and permit success rates for the ten most recent spring wild turkey hunting seasons in Minnesota, 2016-2025.

Year	General permits issued	Youth permits issued	Archery permits issued	Total permits issued	Registered harvest ^a	Total permit success (%) ^b
2016 ^c	28,188	11,448	10,336	49,972	12,323	24.7%
2017 ^c	27,235	11,354	11,237	49,826	11,854	23.8%
2018 ^c	24,737	9,952	11,399	46,088	10,750	23.3%
2019	24,432	10,032	11,794	46,258	10,746	23.2%
2020	34,173	14,292	14,731	63,196	13,996	22.1%
2021	32,522	12,598	12,966	58,086	12,067	20.8%
2022	29,603	12,551	12,337	54,491	12,297	22.6%
2023	29,542	12,343	11,688	53,574	13,669	25.5%
2024	31,299	13,771	14,495	59,565	16,714	28.1%
2025	32,961	14,404	14,469	61,834	16,903	27.3%

^a Includes all license types.

^b Total hunter success (registered harvest divided by number of permits issued). Success rates are not adjusted for non-participation or unregistered harvest.

^c Permits issued, registered harvest, and hunter success (%) were reviewed and adjusted to address inconsistencies in data query and previous reporting.

Table 5. Permits issued by license type and total registered harvest within each permit area during the spring 2025 wild turkey season in Minnesota^a.

Permit area	Archery permits declared	General permits declared	Youth permits declared	Total permits declared	Total registered harvest
501	1,680	5,932	1,820	9,432	2,565
502	175	767	181	1,123	272
503	1,237	3,419	1,427	6,083	1,635
504	531	950	496	1,977	483
505	696	1,835	653	3,184	993
506	730	1,342	661	2,733	684
507	4,069	8,385	4,572	17,026	4,692
508	2,904	6,593	2,671	12,168	3,248
509	564	1,203	778	2,545	726
510	1,618	2,109	939	4,666	1,466
511	175	263	135	573	98
512	90	163	71	324	41
Total	14,469	32,961	14,404	61,834	16,903

^a Beginning in 2020, all hunters declared but were not restricted to harvesting a turkey in their declared permit area.

Table 6. Permits issued and harvest by license type and time period for the spring 2025 wild turkey season in Minnesota.

Time period	Archery permits issued ^a	Youth permits issued ^a	General permits issued	Registered harvest ^b	Percent of total harvest ^b
Any	14,469	14,404			
A			11,339	7,090	41.9%
B			9,426	3,964	23.5%
C			6,483	2,432	14.4%
D			2,613	1,145	6.8%
E			1,972	797	4.7%
F			1,128	1,475	8.7%

^a Archery and youth permits were valid during any time period.

^b Includes harvest from all license types.

Figures

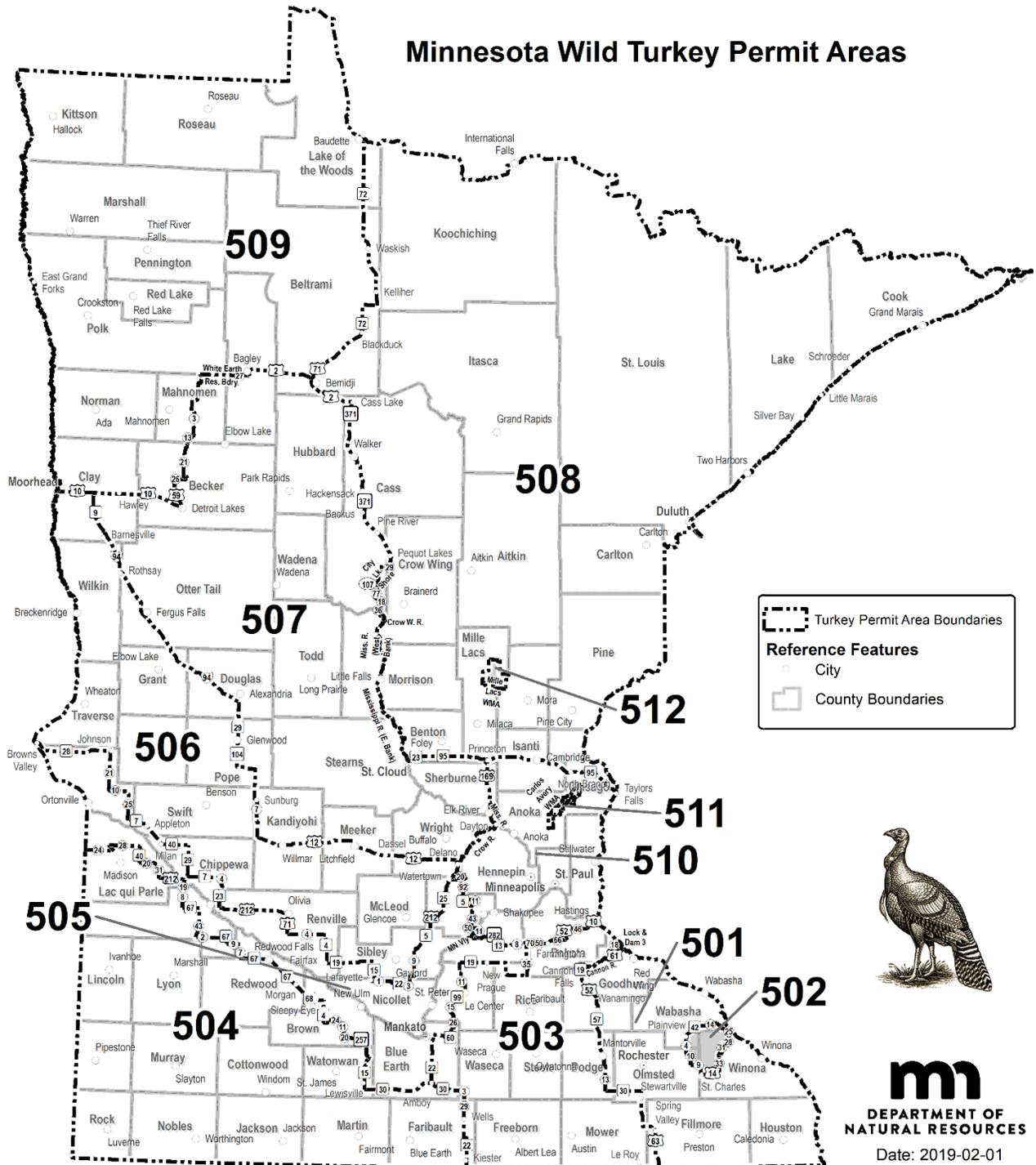


Figure 1. Permit areas open for hunting during the fall 2024 and spring 2025 wild turkey seasons in Minnesota.

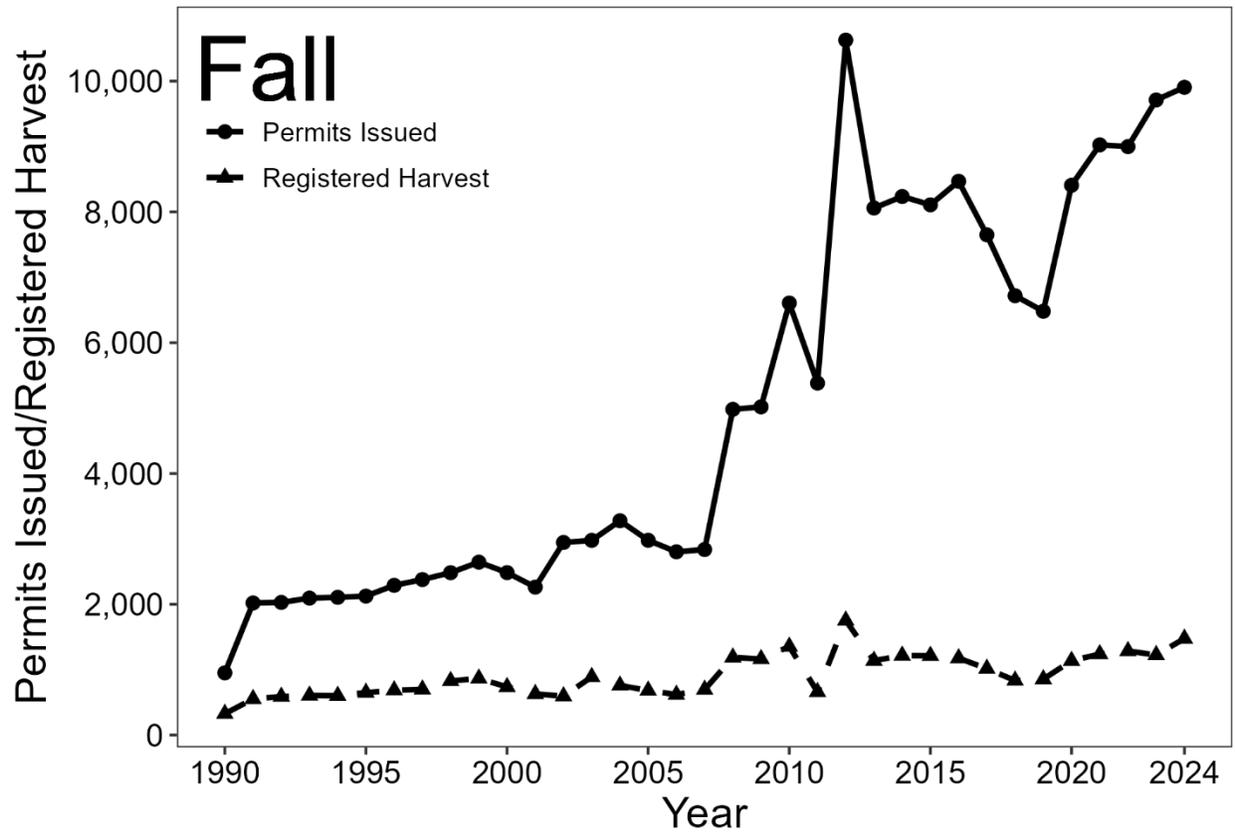


Figure 2. Permits issued and registered harvests for fall wild turkey seasons in Minnesota, 1990-2024.

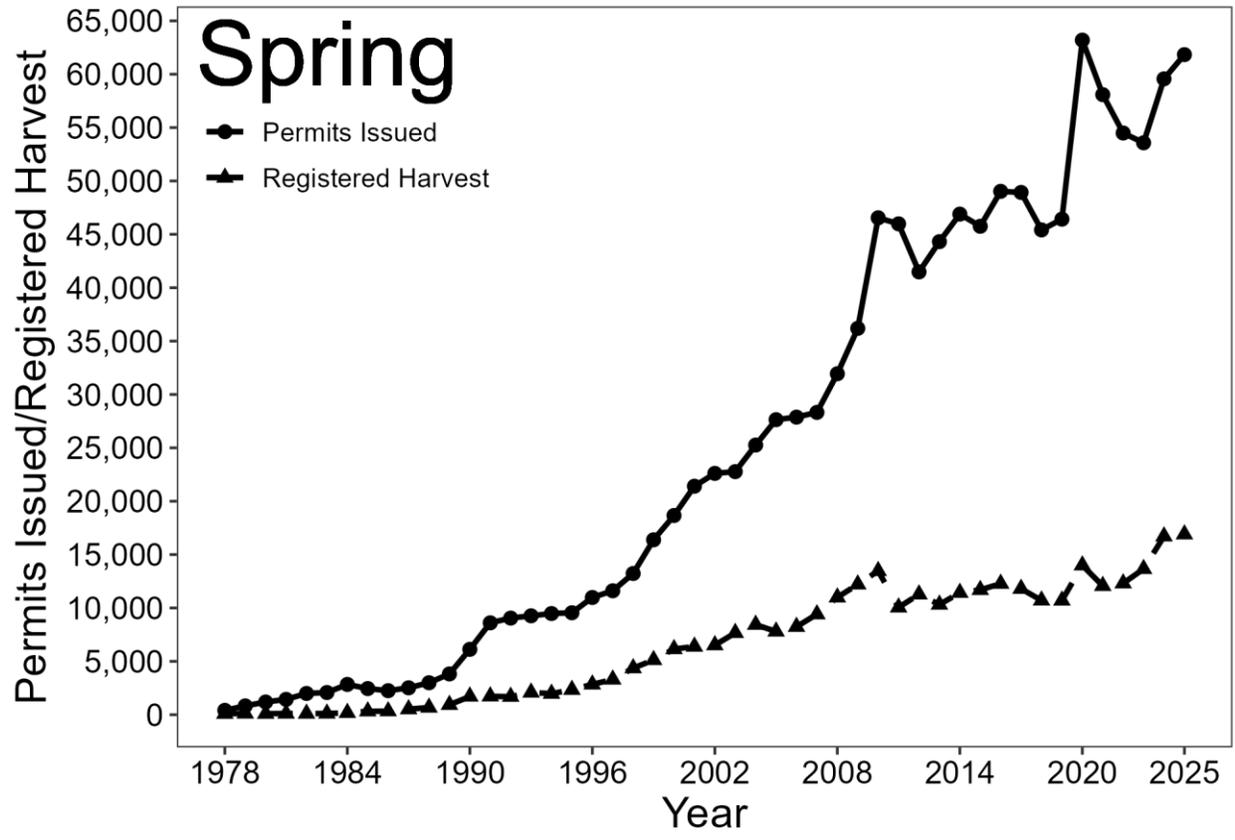


Figure 3. Permits issued and registered harvests for spring wild turkey seasons in Minnesota, 1978-2025.