



## 2024 SMALL GAME HUNTER MAIL SURVEY

Prepared by staff in the Wildlife Research Unit

### INTRODUCTION

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), Division of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Research Unit annually conducts a mail survey of small game hunters. The small game mail survey was initiated in 1976 as a means to gather small game harvest information, which is used to inform our constituency and guide decisions about hunting regulations and season structure.

### METHODS

A postcard survey (Figure 1) was mailed in early March 2025 following the close of the 2024–25 small game hunting season. Hunters who returned it within three weeks were eliminated from a follow-up mailing to non-respondents. The sampling frame consisted of individuals who purchased a small game hunting license (any type) for the 2024–25 small game hunting season ( $N=228,661$ ). A stratified random sample ( $n=7,000$ , ~3%), allocated proportionally by license type, was drawn from the MNDNR electronic licensing system (ELS) database. Small game license types included: Resident Senior Citizen, Resident Youth, Resident Adult, Resident Individual Sport, Resident Combination Sport, Resident Lifetime, Resident Lifetime Sport, Non-resident Youth, and Non-resident Adult. For analysis, license types were pooled into “Resident” ( $N=218,351$ ) and “Non-resident” ( $N=10,310$ ; Figure 2). Beginning in 2017, license holders <18-years old at the time of the survey were excluded from the sampling frame but included in the overall expansion for sampling. This group comprised <3% of license holders and estimates should therefore be comparable among years.

Recipients were asked if they hunted small game in 2024–25 and if not, they were instructed to return the survey. Respondents who hunted were asked: (1) total number of days they hunted small game, (2) number bagged by species, (3) number of days hunted by species, and (4) the county in which they hunted most for each species listed. Returned surveys were checked for completeness, consistency, and biological practicability. Dual key-entry and quality control checks were used to minimize transcription errors. Data was tabulated using Viking Data Entry VDE+ software and analyzed using R programming language (R version 4.5.1; R Core Team 2025).

### RESULTS

#### Survey Response and Overall License Sales Trends

Statewide (resident and non-resident) small game license sales and survey response rate are shown in Figure 2 and Table 1. Of the 7,000 mailed surveys, 107 surveys were returned as undeliverable; 2,936 surveys were completed and returned for an adjusted response rate of 42.6%, which is slightly higher than in recent years, but still part of a slow decline over time (Figure 2). Approximately 65% of respondents reported actively hunting small game in 2024–25, which translates to an estimated 149,767 small game license holders that actively hunted during 2024–25 (Table 1). Overall, statewide license sales (228,661 small game licenses) decreased

only slightly (0.7%) from the previous year and were 5% below the preceding 10-year average (240,812 licenses; Figure 2 and Table 2). Non-resident small game license sales (10,310 licenses) increased by 2% in 2024 and were 36% above the 10-year average (7,617 licenses; Table 2).

### **Estimates by Species**

Harvest trends for the four most sought-after small game taxa or species (ducks – all species, Canada geese, ruffed grouse, and ring-necked pheasants) in Minnesota since 2002 are shown in Figure 3, Tables 3 and 5, and discussed separately below. For most other species, the estimated number of statewide hunters (Table 4) and harvest (Table 5) showed a mix of increases and decreases compared to 2023 and the preceding 10-year average. Non-resident harvest estimates for the top four taxonomic groups are shown in Table 3, estimated mean harvest per active hunter is shown in Table 6, and estimated hunter success rates (%) and mean harvest per successful hunter are shown in Table 7. Tables 4–6 also provide trend information (i.e., the percent change) for annual and 10-year comparisons. Note that sample sizes (i.e., the number of respondents that reported hunting a particular species) are small and sampling errors are relatively large for most species and years (e.g., Tables 4 and 5), especially for species with  $n < 30$  and where reported harvest has a skewed distribution. Caution is therefore advised when comparing point estimates of harvest statistics between individual years because annual sampling uncertainty is high. The value of the small game survey is long-term trends in license/stamp sales, active hunters, and harvest statistics, especially for the top four taxonomic groups (i.e., ducks, Canada geese, ruffed grouse, and ring-necked pheasants).

#### *Ducks – all species*

In 2024, state duck stamp sales (82,003 stamps) were similar to last year's sales (81,976 stamps) but 4.9% below the 10-year average (86,273 stamps; Table 2). An estimated 46,028 hunters harvested an estimated 484,970 ducks in 2024–25 for an average of 10.5 ducks/hunter (Table 4, 5, and 6, respectively). The estimated number of duck hunters was 8.7% lower than last year's estimate (50,434 hunters) and 27.8% below the 10-year average (63,710 hunters; Table 4). This year's estimated duck harvest was 14.3% below last year's estimated harvest (565,716 ducks) and 24.3% below the 10-year average (640,475 ducks). Hunter success (86.3%) and mean harvest per successful hunter (12.2 ducks) were slightly above the 10-year averages (84.3% and 12 ducks, respectively; Table 7).

#### *Canada geese*

An estimated 28,037 hunters harvested approximately 121,028 Canada geese in 2024–25 (Tables 4 and 5) for an average of 4.3 geese/hunter. The estimated number of goose hunters was slightly lower than last year's estimate (29,698 hunters) and 32.4% below the 10-year average (41,454 hunters; Table 4). This year's estimated goose harvest was 17.6% below last year's estimated harvest (146,823 geese) and 44.9% below the 10-year average (219,817 geese; Table 5). Hunter success (72.5%) and mean harvest per successful hunter (6.0 geese) were slightly lower than the 10-year averages (75.0%; 6.9 geese; Table 7).

#### *Ruffed grouse*

In 2024–25, an estimated 75,390 hunters harvested an estimated 334,970 ruffed grouse (Tables 4 and 5). The estimated number of grouse hunters was 12.9% above last year's estimate (66,793 hunters) and 6.7% above the 10-year average (70,655 hunters; Table 4). This year's estimated grouse harvest was similar to last year's estimated harvest (339,592 grouse) and 29.3% above the 10-year average (258,977 grouse). Hunter success (72.4%) was slightly greater than the 10-year average (70.1%), whereas mean harvest per successful hunter (6.1 grouse) was ~1 bird greater than the 10-year average (5.2 grouse; Table 7).

### *Ring-necked pheasants*

Pheasant stamp sales in 2024 (77,135 stamps) were 2.4% below 2023 sales (79,037 stamps) and 1.5% above the preceding 10-year average (75,962 stamps). An estimated 50,935 hunters harvested an estimated 234,892 pheasants in 2024–25 for an average of 4.6 roosters/hunter (Tables 4, 5, and 6, respectively). The estimated number of pheasant hunters was similar to last year's estimate (50,642 hunters) and 5.6% below the preceding 10-year average (53,931 hunters; Table 4). This year's estimated pheasant harvest was 12.5% above last year's estimated harvest (208,821 roosters) and 16.9% above the 10-year average (200,937 roosters). Hunter success (69.0%) was similar to the 10-year average (68.7%), but mean harvest per successful hunter (6.7 roosters) was greater than the 10-year average (5.4 roosters; Table 7).

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## FIGURES AND TABLES

Dear Small Game Hunter:

You have been selected at random from among Minnesota's small game hunting license buyers to assist us in evaluating the 2024-2025 small game hunting season (March 2024 - February 2025). We need information to estimate the season's harvest and to help set future small game seasons. Answer only for your Minnesota 2024 hunting experience.

**YOUR RESPONSE IS NEEDED  
EVEN IF YOU DID NOT HUNT OR HARVEST SMALL GAME**

Please fill out the attached questionnaire and mail as soon as possible. No envelope or stamp is necessary; just tear along the perforation and drop into a mailbox.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**

Wildlife Research Program Manager  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Department of Natural Resources

**2024 Small Game Hunter Report**

1. Did you hunt small game, listed below, in Minnesota this year (March 2024 - Feb 2025)? ☐ No ☐ Yes (Please check box)
2. Indicate the total number of days spent hunting small game of all species listed below, in Minnesota. \_\_\_\_\_
3. For the species you hunted indicate your harvest, number of days hunted, and county in which you hunted most for each species, even if None were bagged. Report only game you personally bagged and retrieved in Minnesota. Do not include birds taken on shooting preserves or game farms.

	Number You bagged	Days Hunted	County
Ducks (all species)	01		
Coots (mud hens)	50		
Canada geese	40		
Other geese	41		
Snipe (jacksnipe)	51		
Rails and gallinules	52		
Crows	53		
Woodcock	60		
Mourning Dove	65		
Pheasant	70		
Ruffed grouse (Forest partridge)	71		
Spruce grouse	72		
Sharp-tailed grouse	73		
Hungarian (Gray) partridge	74		
Fox squirrel	89		
Gray squirrel	90		
Cottontail rabbit	91		
Jackrabbit	92		
Snowshoe hare	93		
Badger	35		
Coyote (brush wolf)	97		
Gray fox	96		
Raccoon	94		
Red fox	95		

Figure 1. Sample of Small Game Hunter survey card.

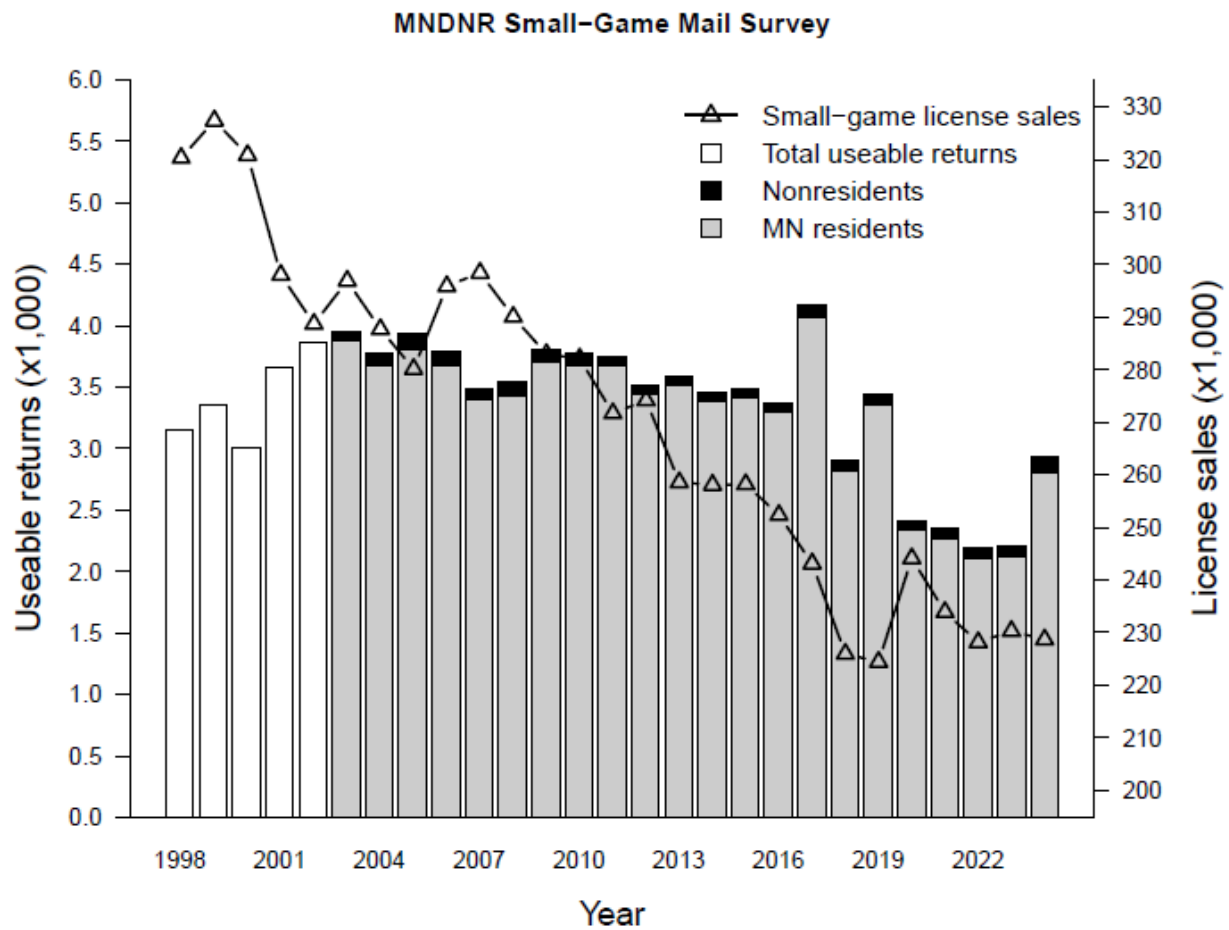


Figure 2. Number of Minnesota small game licenses sold and usable returned surveys, 1998–1999 through 2024–2025 hunting seasons. Includes resident and non-resident licenses and excludes duplicate and free licenses.

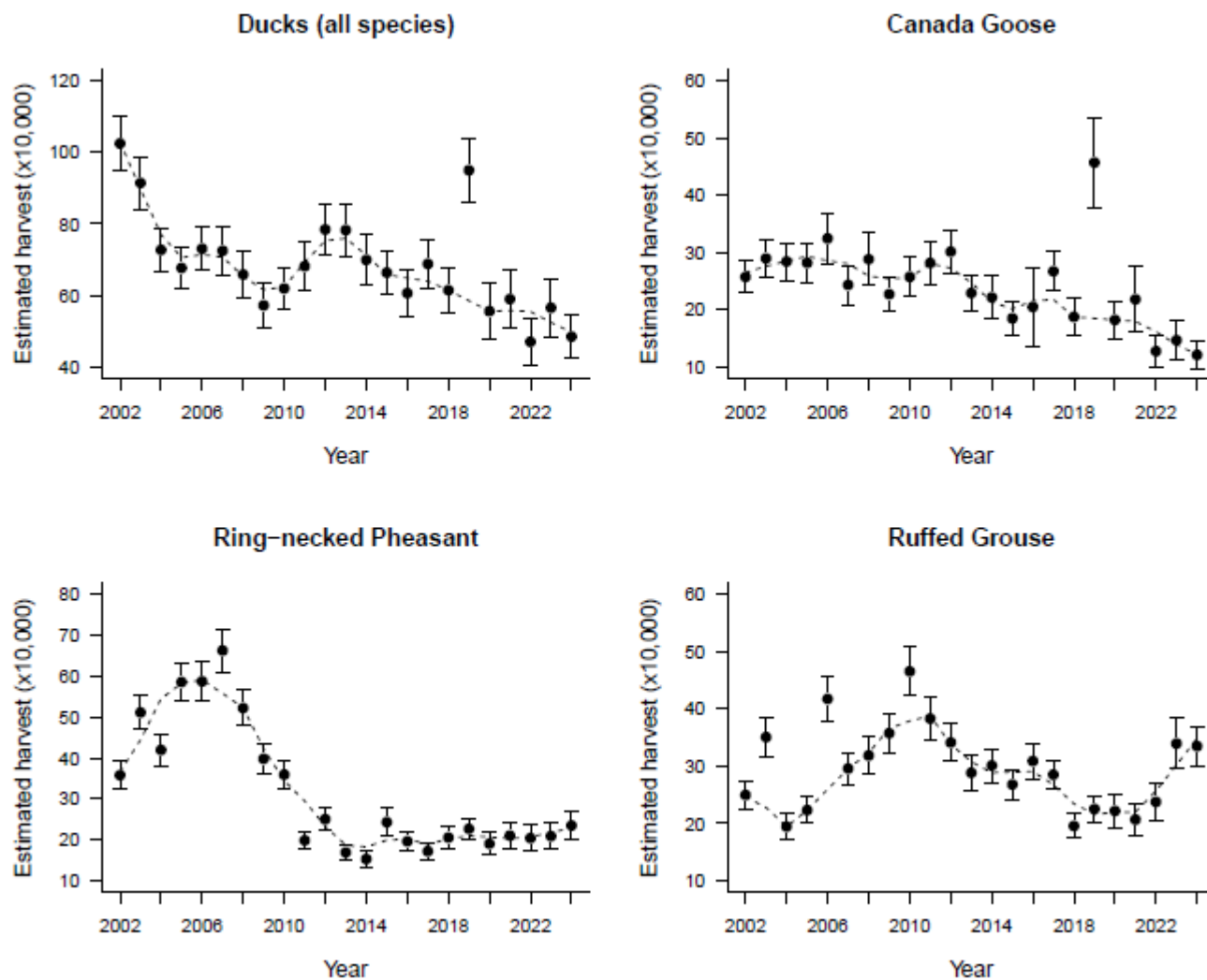


Figure 3. Harvest trends for the four most-harvested small game taxonomic groups harvested in Minnesota, 2002–2003 through 2024–2025 hunting seasons.

Table 1. Percent of respondents who hunted small game, 2014–2015 through 2024–2025 hunting seasons<sup>a</sup>.

		Returns from mail survey	Projections from license sales
2014–2015	Hunted Did not hunt	2,476 (72%) <u>975 (28%)</u> 3,451 (100%)	185,186 <u>72,923</u> 258,109
2015–2016	Hunted Did not hunt	2,505 (72%) <u>980 (28%)</u> 3,485 (100%)	185,604 <u>72,612</u> 258,216
2016–2017	Hunted Did not hunt	2,426 (72%) <u>945 (28%)</u> 3,371 (100%)	181,614 <u>70,744</u> 252,358
2017–2018	Hunted Did not hunt	2,768 (66%) <u>1,395 (34%)</u> 4,163 (100%)	161,658 <u>81,472</u> 243,130
2018–2019	Hunted Did not hunt	2,000 (69%) <u>904 (31%)</u> 2,904 (100%)	155,601 <u>70,331</u> 225,932
2019–2020	Hunted Did not hunt	2,524 (73%) <u>911 (27%)</u> 3,435 (100%)	164,896 <u>59,517</u> 224,413
2020–2021	Hunted Did not hunt	1,487 (62%) <u>926 (38%)</u> 2,413 (100%)	150,425 <u>93,675</u> 244,100
2021–2022	Hunted Did not hunt	1,399 (59%) <u>957 (41%)</u> 2,356 (100%)	138,891 <u>95,010</u> 233,901
2022–2023	Hunted Did not hunt	1,383 (63%) <u>814 (37%)</u> 2,197 (100%)	143,615 <u>84,528</u> 228,143
2023–2024	Hunted Did not hunt	1,360 (62%) <u>850 (38%)</u> 2,210 (100%)	141,713 <u>88,570</u> 230,283
2024–2025	Hunted Did not hunt	1,923 (65%) <u>1,013 (35%)</u> 2,936 (100%)	149,767 <u>78,894</u> 228,661

<sup>a</sup> Includes resident and non-resident information. Excludes duplicates and free licenses (youth under 16, active-duty military and disabled veterans).

Table 2. Statewide (resident and non-resident) small game hunting license sales and stamp sales, 2014–2015 through 2024–2025.

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Total small game license sales <sup>a</sup>	258,109	258,208	252,358	243,130	225,932	224,413	244,100	233,901	228,143	230,283	228,661
Non-resident license sales <sup>b</sup>	6,056	6,755	6,701	6,854	6,718	6,887	8,375	8,730	8,927	10,065	10,310
State duck stamp sales	94,265	92,176	88,905	86,258	82,955	86,568	88,163	84,327	81,864	81,976	82,003
Pheasant stamp sales	74,295	77,750	76,920	71,925	72,192	74,921	81,850	78,538	77,448	79,037	77,135

<sup>a</sup> Includes all types of small game licenses. Duplicate and free licenses not included.

<sup>b</sup> Excludes duplicate licenses and non-resident shooting preserve licenses.

Table 3. Mail survey results of non-resident small game hunters, 2014–2015 through 2024–2025<sup>a</sup>.

	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Estimated non-residents and (percent) of all licensed non-residents hunting:											
Ducks	2,340 (39)	1,850 (27)	2,320 (35)	2,350 (34)	1,680 (25)	3,040 (44)	1,230 (15)	3,740 (43)	1,632 (18)	2,517 (25)	2,518 (24)
Canada goose	1,300 (21)	650 (10)	770 (12)	1,730 (25)	1,260 (19)	3,120 (45)	1,560 (19)	1,770 (20)	1,152 (13)	1,678 (17)	1,495 (14)
Ring-necked pheasant	1,380 (23)	1,480 (22)	1,550 (23)	1,520 (22)	2,350 (35)	1,120 (16)	890 (11)	1,460 (17)	4,032 (45)	1,798 (18)	1,495 (14)
Ruffed grouse	2,600 (43)	2,870 (43)	3,520 (53)	2,280 (33)	2,270 (34)	1,760 (26)	3,800 (45)	2,700 (31)	3,648 (41)	4,674 (46)	5,824 (56)
Estimated non-resident harvest:											
Ducks	13,060	16,863	17,701	15,717	15,792	21,228	5,810	39,395	7,008	13,664	22,430
Canada goose	2,680	1,484	1,462	6,994	2,940	15,060	4,134	30,039	4,224	5,873	5,116
Ring-necked pheasant	3,720	6,581	4,040	7,274	6,048	2,645	5,141	5,924	14,112	7,432	6,532
Ruffed grouse	9,090	13,805	11,772	6,994	2,856	4,325	24,793	11,020	7,104	16,659	21,879

<sup>a</sup> Estimates for non-resident hunters are generally based on small sample sizes; harvest estimates therefore have moderate to high sampling uncertainty.

Table 4. Estimated number of statewide hunters (residents and non-residents) by species for the current year (2024–2025), previous year (2023–2024), and the preceding 10-year (2014–2023) average. Annual and 10-year trends (% change) are also shown.

	2024–25			2023–24			10-yr mean (2014–23)		Change from 2023–24		Change from 10-yr mean	
	n	Hunters	SE	n	Hunters	SE	Hunters	SE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Ducks	591	46,028	1,681	484	50,434	2,017	63,710	612	-8.7	4.9	-27.8	2.7
Canada geese	360	28,037	1,375	285	29,698	1,635	41,454	520	-5.6	7.0	-32.4	3.4
Other geese	14	1,090	289	15	1,564	401	2,164	131	-30.3	25.7	-49.6	13.7
American coot	18	1,402	327	17	1,772	427	3,128	157	-20.9	26.5	-55.2	10.7
Common snipe	12	935	268	9	938	311	966	89	-0.3	43.7	-3.2	29.1
Rails & Gallinules	5	389	173	1	105	104	275	46	+270.5	402.2	+41.5	67.2
American crow	53	4,128	558	36	3,752	618	5,986	212	+10.0	23.4	-31.0	9.6
American woodcock	137	10,670	884	96	10,004	994	11,093	294	+6.7	13.8	-3.8	8.4
Mourning dove	72	5,607	649	46	4,794	697	7,433	238	+17.0	21.7	-24.6	9.1
Ring-necked pheasant	654	50,935	1,745	486	50,642	2,020	53,931	586	+0.6	5.3	-5.6	3.4
Ruffed grouse	968	75,390	1,971	641	66,793	2,213	70,655	637	+12.9	4.8	+6.7	3.0
Spruce grouse	115	8,956	814	78	8,128	900	8,116	254	+10.2	15.8	+10.3	10.6
Sharp-tailed grouse	49	3,816	537	45	4,690	689	4,680	193	-18.6	16.6	-18.5	12.0
Gray partridge	30	2,336	422	15	1,564	401	1,906	123	+49.4	46.8	+22.6	23.5
Gray squirrel	218	16,978	1,099	152	15,839	1,235	18,612	372	+7.2	10.9	-8.8	6.2
Fox squirrel	110	8,567	796	87	9,066	949	10,248	279	-5.5	13.2	-16.4	8.1
Eastern cottontail	123	9,579	840	77	8,024	895	11,446	295	+19.4	16.9	-16.3	7.6
White-tailed jackrabbit	13	1,012	278	9	938	311	953	89	+7.9	46.5	+6.2	30.8
Snowshoe hare	23	1,791	370	33	3,439	592	2,921	151	-47.9	14.0	-38.7	13.1
Raccoon	80	6,231	683	46	4,794	697	5,749	212	+30.0	23.7	+8.4	12.5
Red fox	24	1,869	378	17	1,772	427	3,450	163	+5.5	33.2	-45.8	11.3
Gray fox <sup>a</sup>	4	312	155	0	NA	NA	866	80	NA	NA	-64.0	18.2
Coyote	132	10,280	869	90	9,379	964	14,808	330	+9.6	14.6	-30.6	6.1
Badger	3	234	134	4	417	208	278	47	-43.9	42.6	-15.8	50.3

<sup>a</sup>Gray fox was not reported by any hunter in our 2023–2024 survey.

Table 5. Estimated hunter harvest (residents and non-residents) by species for the current year (2024–2025), previous year (2023–2024), and the preceding 10-year (2014–2023) average. Annual and 10-year trends (% change) are also shown.

	2024–25			2023–24			10-yr mean (2014–23)		Change from 2023–24		Change from 10-yr mean	
	n	Harvest	SE	n	Harvest	SE	Harvest	SE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Ducks	591	484,970	31,019	484	565,716	41,006	640,475	11,698	-14.3	8.3	-24.3	5.0
Canada geese	360	121,028	12,255	285	146,823	17,417	219,817	7,521	-17.6	12.9	-44.9	5.9
Other geese	14	2,336	1,286	15	3,128	2,116	4,834	797	-25.3	65.1	-51.7	27.8
American coot	18	4,283	1,473	17	6,150	2,787	12,817	1,320	-30.4	39.6	-66.6	12.0
Common snipe	12	935	379	9	626	529	1,116	183	+49.4	140.0	-16.2	36.6
Rails & Gallinules	5	1,090	774	1	NA	NA	654	149	NA	NA	+66.7	124.3
American crow	53	34,813	9,637	36	34,602	11,771	47,387	4,065	+0.6	44.1	-26.5	21.3
American woodcock	137	30,140	5,336	96	37,515	8,223	34,703	1,969	-19.7	22.6	-13.1	16.1
Mourning dove	72	59,034	11,635	46	52,422	12,487	68,676	4,023	+12.6	34.8	-14.0	17.7
Ring-necked pheasant	654	234,892	17,637	486	208,821	16,695	200,937	4,553	+12.5	12.3	+16.9	9.2
Ruffed grouse	968	334,970	17,727	641	339,592	22,420	258,977	4,770	-1.4	8.3	+29.3	7.2
Spruce grouse	115	14,798	2,615	78	17,507	3,836	11,936	771	-15.5	23.8	+24.0	23.3
Sharp-tailed grouse	49	7,632	2,247	45	13,445	4,084	8,662	918	-43.2	24.0	-11.9	27.6
Gray partridge	30	7,477	2,334	15	1,252	640	2,761	367	+497.2	357.7	+170.8	91.9
Gray squirrel	218	94,782	9,472	152	68,984	9,426	90,511	3,379	+37.4	23.3	+4.7	11.2
Fox squirrel	110	32,477	4,762	87	25,219	4,696	32,898	1,529	+28.8	30.5	-1.3	15.2
Eastern cottontail	123	36,137	5,403	77	24,594	7,171	34,345	1,582	+46.9	48.1	+5.2	16.5
White-tailed jackrabbit	13	857	337	9	1,664	8	1,195	278	-36.8	39.7	-28.3	32.8
Snowshoe hare	23	2,648	1,105	33	11,151	3,194	5,847	591	-76.3	12.0	-54.7	19.4
Raccoon	80	46,418	10,161	46	21,469	4,789	35,523	2,952	+116.2	67.6	+30.7	30.6
Red fox	24	1,947	687	17	2,085	671	3,948	371	-6.6	44.6	-50.7	18.0
Gray fox <sup>a</sup>	4	312	245	0	NA	NA	885	163	NA	NA	-64.7	28.4
Coyote	132	30,218	6,162	90	19,175	4,341	32,231	2,260	+57.6	48.0	-6.2	20.2
Badger	3	156	110	4	522	275	244	52	-70.1	26.3	-36.1	47.1

<sup>a</sup>Gray fox was not reported by any hunter in our 2023–2024 survey.

Table 6. Mean harvest per active hunter (residents and non-residents) for the current year (2024–2025), previous year (2023–2024), and the preceding 10-year (2014–2023) average. Annual and 10-year trends (% change) are also shown.

	2024–25			2023–24			10-yr mean (2014–23)		Change from 2023–24		Change from 10-yr mean	
	n	Mean	SE	n	Mean	SE	Mean	SE	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
Ducks	591	10.5	0.6	484	11.2	0.7	10.1	0.2	-6.2	7.9	+4.0	6.2
Canada geese	360	4.3	0.4	285	4.9	0.5	5.2	0.2	-12.2	12.1	-17.3	8.2
Other geese	14	2.1	1.1	15	2.0	1.3	2.1	0.3	+5.0	87.7	+0.0	54.6
American coot	18	3.1	0.8	17	3.5	1.4	4.0	0.4	-11.4	42.2	-22.5	21.2
Common snipe	12	1.0	0.3	9	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.2	+42.9	129.7	-9.1	30.0
Rails & Gallinules	5	2.8	1.7	NA	NA	NA	2.1	0.5	NA	NA	+33.3	86.1
American crow	53	8.4	2.1	36	9.2	2.8	7.6	0.7	-8.7	36.0	+10.5	29.3
American woodcock	137	2.8	0.4	96	3.8	0.7	3.1	0.2	-26.3	17.2	-9.7	13.7
Mourning dove	72	10.5	1.7	46	10.9	2.1	9.2	0.5	-3.7	24.2	+14.1	19.5
Ring-necked pheasant	654	4.6	0.3	486	4.1	0.3	3.8	0.1	+12.2	11.0	+21.1	8.2
Ruffed grouse	968	4.4	0.2	641	5.1	0.3	3.7	0.1	-13.7	6.4	+18.9	5.7
Spruce grouse	115	1.7	0.3	78	2.2	0.4	1.5	0.1	-22.7	19.6	+13.3	20.9
Sharp-tailed grouse	49	2.0	0.5	45	2.9	0.8	1.9	0.2	-31.0	25.7	+5.3	28.3
Gray partridge	30	3.2	0.8	15	0.8	0.4	1.4	0.2	+300.0	223.6	+128.6	63.5
Gray squirrel	218	5.6	0.4	152	4.4	0.5	5.0	0.2	+27.3	17.1	+12.0	8.9
Fox squirrel	110	3.8	0.4	87	2.8	0.4	3.2	0.1	+35.7	24.1	+18.7	13.4
Eastern cottontail	123	3.8	0.5	77	3.1	0.8	3.0	0.1	+22.6	35.5	+26.7	17.5
White-tailed jackrabbit	13	0.8	0.2	9	1.4	0.6	1.2	0.2	-42.9	28.4	-33.3	20.0
Snowshoe hare	23	1.5	0.5	33	3.2	0.8	1.9	0.2	-53.1	19.5	-21.1	27.1
Raccoon	80	7.4	1.4	46	4.5	0.8	6.0	0.5	+64.4	42.7	+23.3	25.5
Red fox	24	1.0	0.3	17	1.2	0.3	1.1	0.1	-16.7	32.5	-9.1	28.5
Gray fox <sup>a</sup>	4	1.0	0.7	NA	NA	NA	0.7	0.1	NA	NA	+42.9	103.0
Coyote	132	2.9	0.5	90	2.0	0.4	2.2	0.2	+45.0	38.3	+31.8	24.7
Badger	3	0.7	0.3	4	1.2	0.3	0.8	0.1	-41.7	26.8	-12.5	38.5

<sup>a</sup>Gray fox was not reported by any hunter in our 2023–2024 survey.

Table 7. Hunter success rates and mean harvest per successful hunter (residents and non-residents) for the current year (2024–2025), previous year (2023–2024), and the preceding 10-year (2014–2023) average.

	2024–25				2023–24				10-yr mean (2014–23)		
	n	% Success	Mean	SE	n	% Success	Mean	SE	% Success	Mean	SE
Ducks	510	86.3	12.2	0.6	408	84.3	13.3	0.8	84.3	12.0	0.2
Canada geese	261	72.5	6.0	0.5	217	76.1	6.5	0.7	75.0	6.9	0.2
Other geese	8	57.1	3.8	1.7	8	53.3	3.8	2.3	41.7	4.9	0.7
American coot	14	77.8	3.9	0.9	12	70.6	4.9	1.8	70.4	5.6	0.5
Common snipe	7	58.3	1.7	0.3	2	22.2	3.0	2.0	52.9	2.0	0.3
Rails & Gallinules	2	40.0	7.0	1.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	43.1	4.6	0.2
American crow	46	86.8	9.7	2.3	33	91.7	10.1	3.0	86.5	8.7	0.8
American woodcock	89	65.0	4.3	0.6	73	76.0	4.9	0.9	68.5	4.6	0.2
Mourning dove	57	79.2	13.3	2.0	35	76.1	14.4	2.5	81.8	11.3	0.6
Ring-necked pheasant	451	69.0	6.7	0.4	352	72.4	5.7	0.4	68.7	5.4	0.1
Ruffed grouse	701	72.4	6.1	0.3	469	73.2	6.9	0.4	70.1	5.2	0.1
Spruce grouse	70	60.9	2.7	0.4	43	55.1	3.9	0.6	53.0	2.7	0.1
Sharp-tailed grouse	27	55.1	3.6	0.8	25	55.6	5.2	1.2	47.7	3.8	0.3
Gray partridge	18	60.0	5.3	1.1	5	33.3	2.4	0.7	43.1	3.2	0.3
Gray squirrel	191	87.6	6.4	0.5	117	77.0	5.7	0.6	82.7	6.0	0.2
Fox squirrel	86	78.2	4.8	0.5	60	69.0	4.0	0.6	76.2	4.2	0.2
Eastern cottontail	95	77.2	4.9	0.5	53	68.8	4.5	1.2	75.3	4.0	0.2
White-tailed jackrabbit	7	53.8	1.6	0.2	5	55.6	2.6	0.6	49.5	2.3	0.3
Snowshoe hare	12	52.2	2.8	0.9	26	78.8	4.1	0.9	61.3	3.1	0.2
Raccoon	73	91.2	8.2	1.5	43	93.5	4.8	0.8	90.4	6.6	0.5
Red fox	14	58.3	1.8	0.4	12	70.6	1.7	0.3	58.2	1.9	0.1
Gray fox <sup>a</sup>	2	50.0	2.0	1.0	0	NA	NA	NA	36.5	1.9	0.2
Coyote	81	61.4	4.8	0.8	56	62.2	3.3	0.6	57.2	3.8	0.3
Badger	2	66.7	1.0	0.0	4	100.0	1.2	0.3	76.3	1.1	0.1

<sup>a</sup>Gray fox was not reported by any hunter in our 2023–2024 survey.