

State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish & Wildlife

2023-24 Deer, Deer Harvest & Deer Hunter Summary



Acknowledgements

Prepared by the Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

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Introduction

This summary offers an overview of deer, deer harvest and deer hunters in Rhode Island for the 2023-24 deer season. This information serves as a guide for future management decisions to ensure there are continued opportunities for hunters while maintaining a healthy deer population. In addition, this report aims to provide a summary of pertinent information related to deer and deer hunting for hunters and the public. Since the first regulated hunting season in Rhode Island in 1954, there have been tremendous changes in Rhode Island's deer population, deer harvest, land use, habitat types, hunter effort, and public perception of wildlife and hunters. The statewide harvest in 1976 was 145 deer; since then, harvest increased until 2008, peaking at 2,937 reported deer. Since 2008, this season has been the highest reported harvest at 2,794 deer.

Rhode Island offers ample opportunity for hunters to harvest white-tailed deer across the state with lengthy seasons, liberal bag limits and ample access to public land. Rhode Island's extensive deer season begins with archery (including crossbows), which runs from mid-September through the end of January. A month-long muzzleloader season begins the first Saturday of November typically coinciding with the rut (breeding season), giving hunters a high chance of harvesting a mature buck if they desire. Shotgun season follows the muzzleloader season for 1-2 weeks, depending on the Deer Management Zone (DMZ). A private land, antlerless deer only season is open from the end of December to the beginning of January, which follows the shotgun season and allows for firearms hunters to further reduce deer densities on private properties. Bag limits allow hunters to take two* antlered and multiple antlerless deer across the state. Sunday hunting is permitted in most areas,** further increasing hunting opportunity. There are numerous state and

federally owned properties open to public hunting (Figure 12). There are also a number of privately owned properties open to hunting through cooperative agreements (Figure 12). All of these combined provide great opportunity for Rhode Island hunters.

The complete set of rules and regulations pertaining to hunting can be found on our website at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/documents/regulations/index.php>.

*Only one may be taken in DMZ 3

**Check local ordinances

Regulation Changes

2023-24 Hunting Season

- In addition to private lands, deer decoys could be used on state-owned Wildlife Management Areas during archery only deer seasons.
- There were five new Cooperative properties opened to **archery only deer hunting** located in the town of Bristol.
 - Four are Town of Bristol properties and require an Archery Proficiency Card.
 - Minturn
 - Hopeworth
 - Skaters Pond
 - 100 Acre Woods
 - The fifth property is owned by the Rhode Island Veterans Home
 - Rhode Island Veterans Home
- Deer hunters may use one (1) dog to aid in the recovery of deer. Within seventy-two (72) hours of shooting the deer, a hunter with a valid hunting license and deer permit may use one (1) dog or engage a second party to use one (1) dog to recover a wounded and lost or un-recovered deer provided that they comply with the following restrictions:
 - There shall be no firearms or archery devices carried by the hunter, dog handler, or any individual present at the time of tracking,
 - The dog shall be maintained under physical control of the dog handler at all times by the means of a lead no longer than fifty (50) feet that shall be attached to the collar or harness of the dog,
 - The hunter shall be present at all times,
 - All parties involved in recovering a deer with a dog shall wear 500 square inches of fluorescent orange,
 - If it is determined that the deer is still alive all parties will back away immediately and the dog will be taken out of the area,
 - Written permission required for deer hunting shall be possessed while tracking with a dog on private land.

2024-25 Upcoming Hunting Season

- **Durfee Hill Management Area Deer Check Station will be closed for renovations.**
- George Washington Management Area will be open as a Deer Check Station, 2185 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, (41.919437, -71.759970) in replacement of Durfee Hill Check Station while the renovation is underway.
- New Deer Check Station located at Smithfield Sportsman Club: 14 Walter Carey Rd, Smithfield (41.8786, -71.5346)
- New Check station hours for November only will be 8:00am to **8:00pm.**
 - December will remain 8:00am to 6:00pm

2023-24 Deer Harvest

Highlights

The 2023-24 deer season was held from September 9, 2023 (youth weekend) to February 16, 2024. Deer hunters reported harvesting 2,794 deer statewide (Figure 1), a 3% increase from the previous season's harvest of 2,705 deer. The November check station weekend was busy as expected with perfect conditions for hunters to head afield.

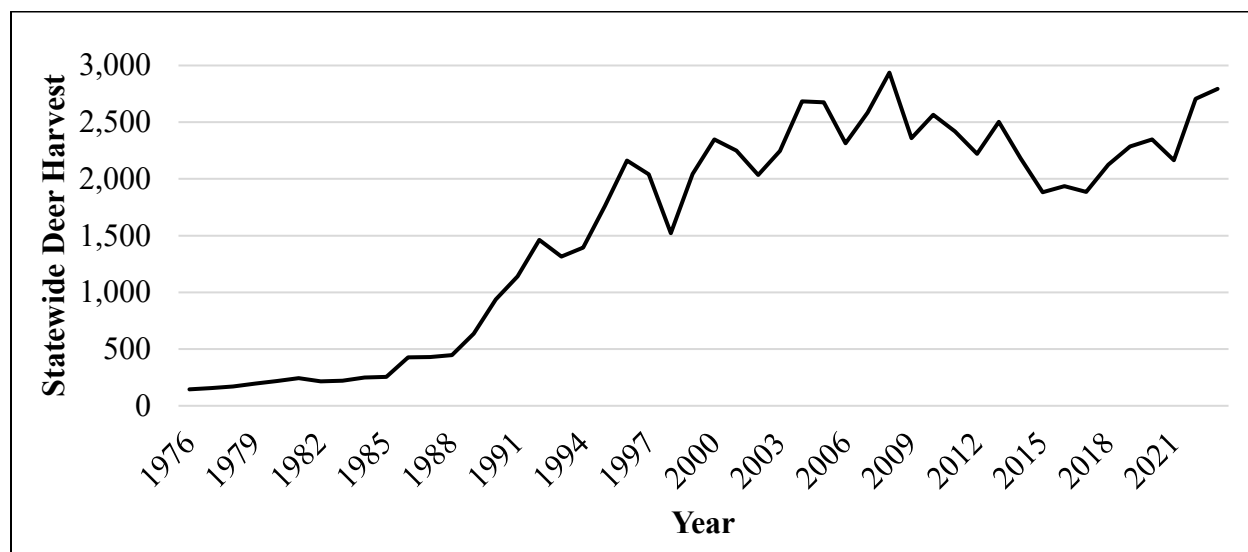


Figure 1. Statewide deer harvest from 1977 to 2023.

There were 1,603 successful deer hunters in Rhode Island, with the majority (86%) of hunters harvesting 2 deer or less. Resident hunters (1,309) still harvest the most deer in the state, accounting for 2,360 deer, while non-resident hunters (294) harvested 434 deer.

For each deer harvested, approximately 30% of its field dressed body weight is available as consumable venison. As a result, the 2023-24 season yielded over 49 tons of consumable venison, equivalent to about 195,000 meals.

In addition to personal benefits to hunting, hunters continually participate in funding wildlife and habitat conservation by purchasing hunting licenses, permits and hunting equipment. The Wildlife Restoration Act, commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, places an excise tax on firearms,

ammunition, and archery equipment that funds wildlife restoration projects across the United States, including Rhode Island. This funding not only supports game species conservation and management, but also assists in the conservation of many non-game species, particularly through habitat management and protection.

Antlered & Antlerless Harvest: A total of 1,420 (51%) deer harvested were antlered and 1,374 (49%) deer harvested were antlerless. (Figure 2).

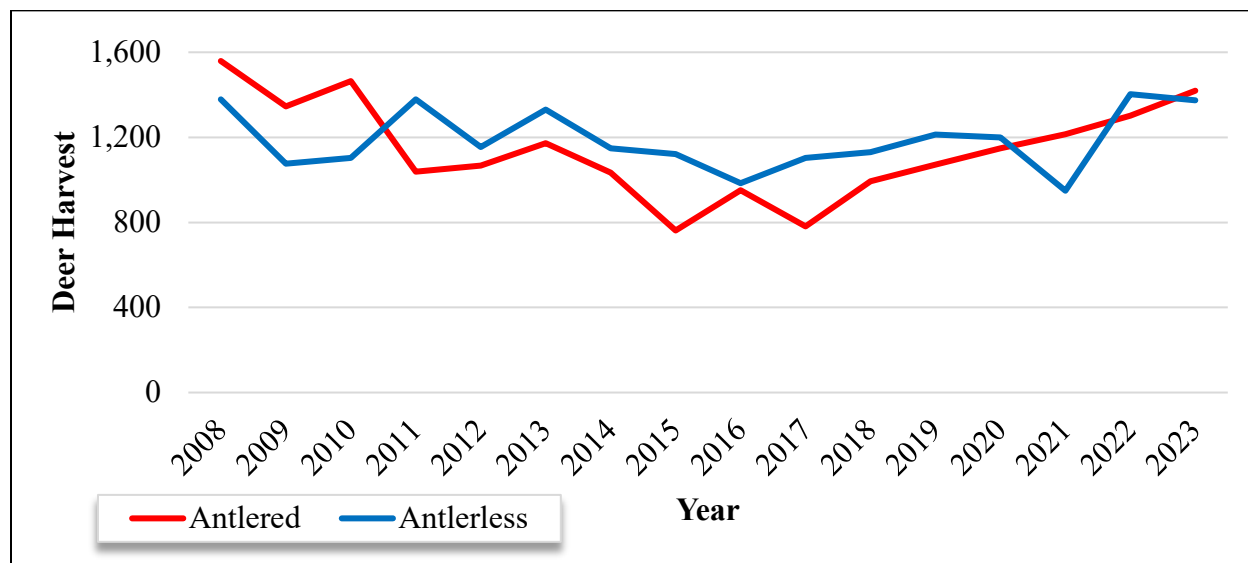


Figure 2. Antlered & Antlerless harvest from 2008 to 2023.

Buck to Doe Ratio: Hunters harvested 1,692 (61=%) males and 1,092 (39%) females. This results in a 1.0:0.6 male to female harvest ratio for the total harvest statewide (for every male harvested, 0.6 females are harvested).

Harvest by Method: Deer were harvested with all four legal method types (archery, crossbow, muzzleloader, and shotgun) throughout the deer season (Figure 3). Muzzleloader comprised 40% of the harvest this year. All archery methods combined accounted for 39% of the overall harvest; shotgun harvest (20%) remains the lowest.

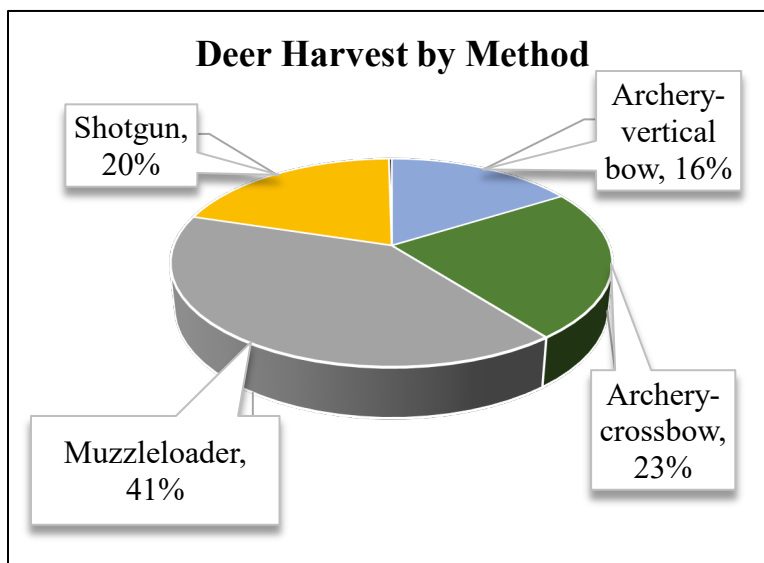


Figure 3. 2023-24 Harvest by method.

Harvest by DMZ: Rhode Island is separated into four DMZs as seen in the Appendix. The total harvest in each DMZ is partly reflective of the amount of land open to hunting in each DMZ, which effectively impacts hunter effort. Most harvest occurred in DMZ 2 (1,443 deer), mainly because most of the state/cooperative properties are located within its boundaries, and most of this area is comprised of forested habitat and devoid of expansive, densely developed areas that reduce the amount of huntable property. As depicted in Figure 4, most deer (1,443) were harvested in DMZ 2, followed by DMZ 1 (892), DMZ 4 (395), and DMZ 3 (55). More adult bucks were taken in DMZ 1, 2, and 3. Adult does accounted for most of the harvest in DMZ 4, where the goal is to reduce deer densities.

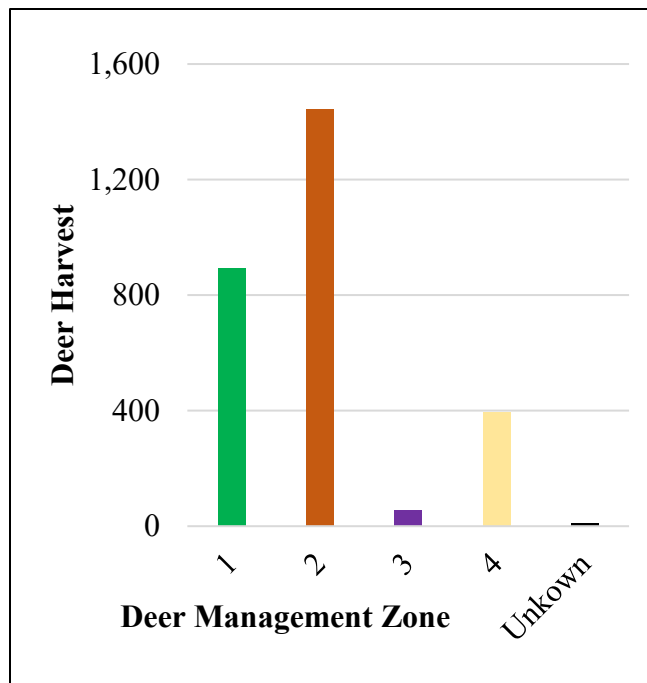


Figure 4. 2023-24 Harvest by Deer Management Zone.

Antler Points: The DFW requires hunters to record the number of antler points for each antlered deer they harvest (Figure 5). Eight-point bucks accounted for the most, totaling 412 (29%). The second-most harvested were six-point bucks at 199 (14%).

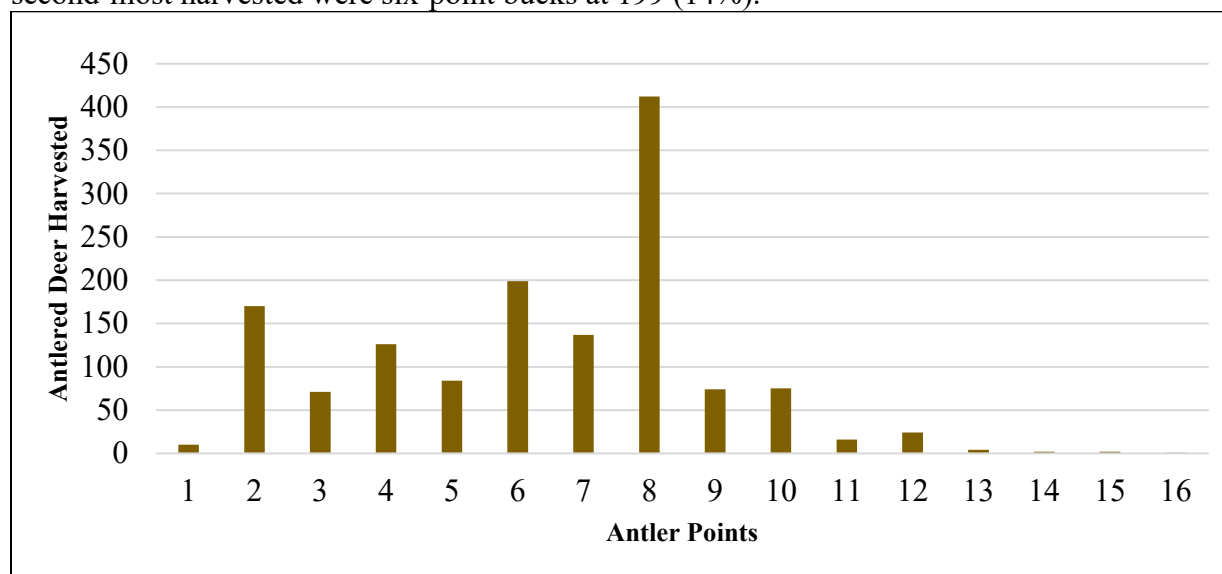


Figure 5. 2023-24 Antler points on antlered deer harvested.

Private and Public Land Harvest: Rhode Island has many Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), Federal properties, Undeveloped State Parks, and Cooperative properties (Co-ops) open to hunting. Arcadia Management Area had the most deer harvested (103) of all properties open to hunting. Hunting Co-ops enable hunters to access various properties that were not traditionally open to hunting. The DFW has worked closely with private property owners such as land trusts, The Nature Conservancy, towns, and others to open their lands to deer hunting. This is typically

allowed to reduce deer densities at the property to mitigate the impacts of high deer densities on habitat.

There were five new cooperative properties open in Bristol during the 2023-24 hunting season and resulted in 44 deer harvested. Not only is this increasing opportunity for hunters, but also reducing the deer density in Bristol, which is experiencing issues with overabundant deer numbers.

However, in 2023-24, the majority (73% or 2,050) of all deer harvested in RI were on private land. The number of deer harvested on each State and Co-op property is listed in the appendix.

Check Stations & Herd Health

The DFW changed the deer check stations in 2021 from the first four days of the muzzleloader season to the first two days of the muzzleloader and shotgun season in hopes to increase female data. All deer harvested (except deer in DMZ 3 and 4) were required to be brought to a state-operated check station. The five checking locations included Arcadia Management Area, Carolina Management Area, Durfee Hill Management Area, Great Swamp Management Area and Tiverton Rod and Gun Club. Biological information was collected at the check stations which included age, weight, sex, and antler beam measurements. This is also when the majority of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) samples were collected.

REMINDER: 2024-25 Check stations will be operated during the first weekend of the muzzleloader season (**November 4th and 5th**) from 8:00am to **8:00pm** and the first weekend of shotgun season (**December 2nd and 3rd**) from 8:00am to 6:00pm.

There will be a new check station this year. Smithfield Sportsman Club Check Station will be located at 14 Walter Carey Rd, Smithfield, RI 02917 (41.8786, -71.5346).

In addition, **Durfee Hill Check Station will be closed for renovations.** **George Washington Management Area will be open as a check station, 2185 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, (41.919437, -71.759970) in replacement of Durfee Hill Check Station while the renovation is underway.**

Age Structure: During the mandatory checking period, 245 deer were checked, representing a significant increase from 111 deer checked during 2022-23. In 2023-24, a total of 55 females and 190 males were checked.

Out of the 166 antlered males (including bucks with antlers less than 3 inches) checked and aged by DFW staff, 25% (42) were yearlings, which is well below the maximum percentage of 30% for this age class. Antlered male deer aged at 2.5 years old accounted for 33% (54), and antlered male deer aged at 3.5 years old or older accounted for 42% (70).

Hog Weight: The DFW also measures the hog weight (completely field dressed with no organs remaining) of all checked deer (Figure 6). On average, an adult male's hog weight was 134 pounds and an adult female's hog weight was 105 pounds. Since 2013, there have been no dramatic changes. The DFW will continue to monitor these metrics for significant changes; however, at this point, there is no cause for concern.

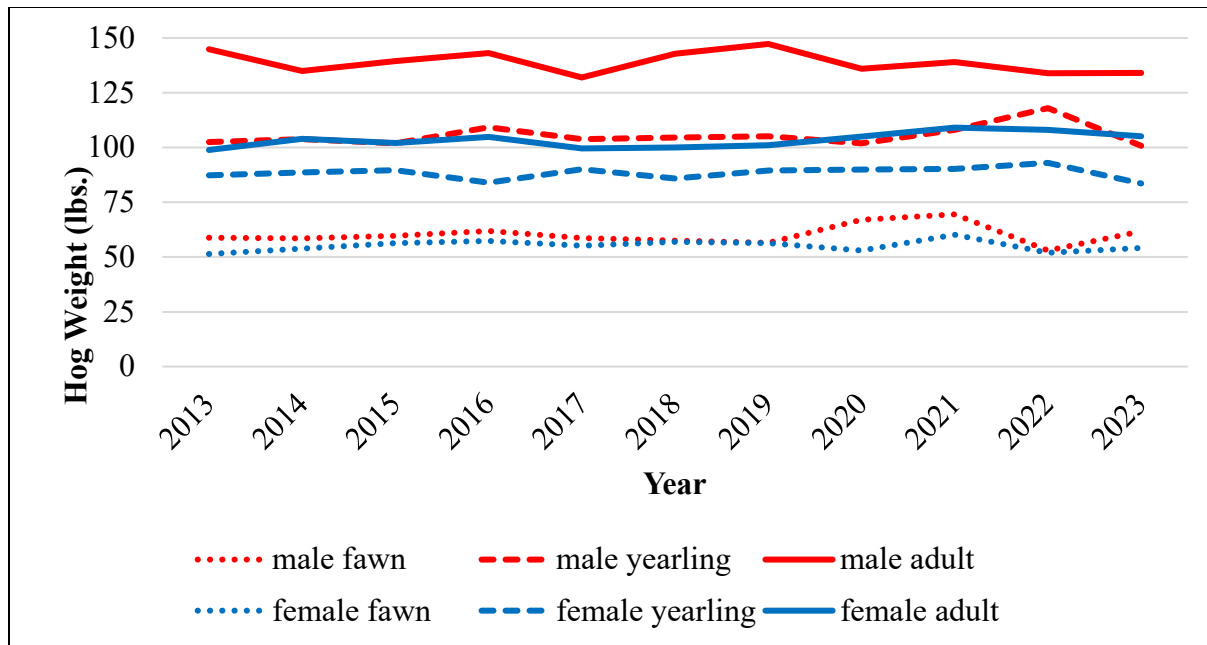


Figure 6. Hog weight of males (red) and females (blue) for adults (solid), yearlings (dashed), and fawns (dotted).

Antler Beam Measurement: In addition to hog weight, the DFW measures antler beam diameter to assess the overall herd health (Figure 7). The antler beam diameter (mm) is measured 25mm (1 inch) above the base of the antlers on yearling males. Large antler beam diameters (>20mm) indicate excellent herd health, while small diameters (<15mm) indicate poor health. Over the past 10 years (2012-2021), yearling male beam measurements have averaged 16.5mm while varying from 15.3mm – 19.4mm before this year. This indicates fair to good health overall. This season produced an average measurement of 17.1mm, which suggests good herd health.

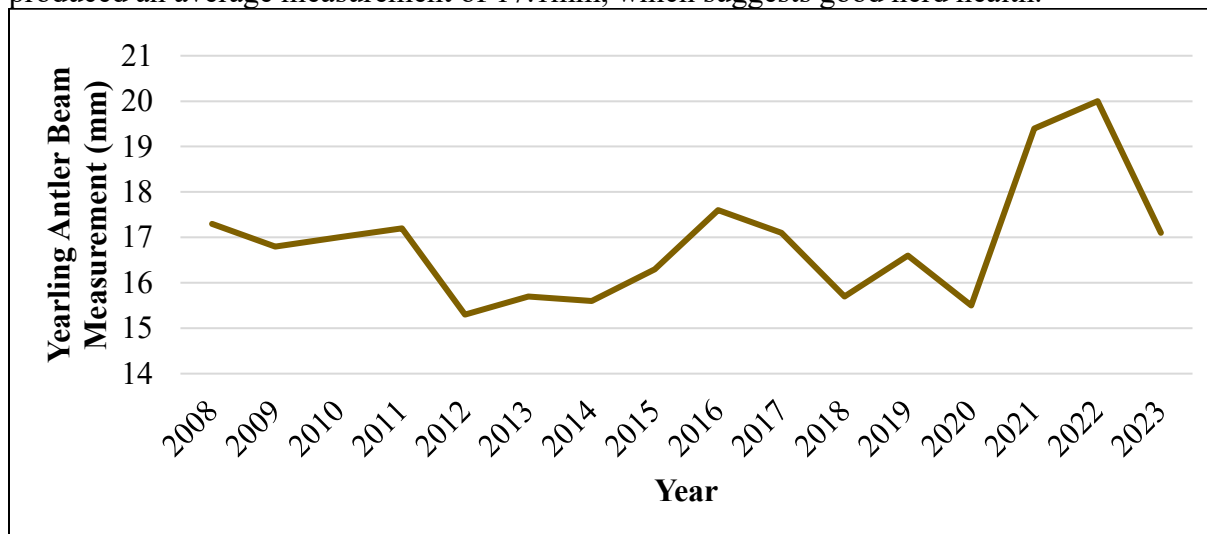


Figure 7. Yearling antler beam measurements (mm) from 2008-2023.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

The DFW continued CWD surveillance for the 22nd year and implemented a variety of collection methods. In 2023-24, the DFW sampled 286 deer throughout the state beginning in summer and continuing through winter. Most of the samples originated from hunter harvested deer at check stations (69%) and taxidermists (17%), while the remainder of samples came from processors, road kills, voluntary hunter harvested submission, and potentially sick deer (Figure 8). The DFW sampled at least 86 bucks that were 3.5 years old or older (Figure 9), a significant increase from the previous year. This is in large part due to excellent hunting conditions during the November check station weekend. **CWD has not been detected in any samples submitted for testing during the 22 years of CWD surveillance.**

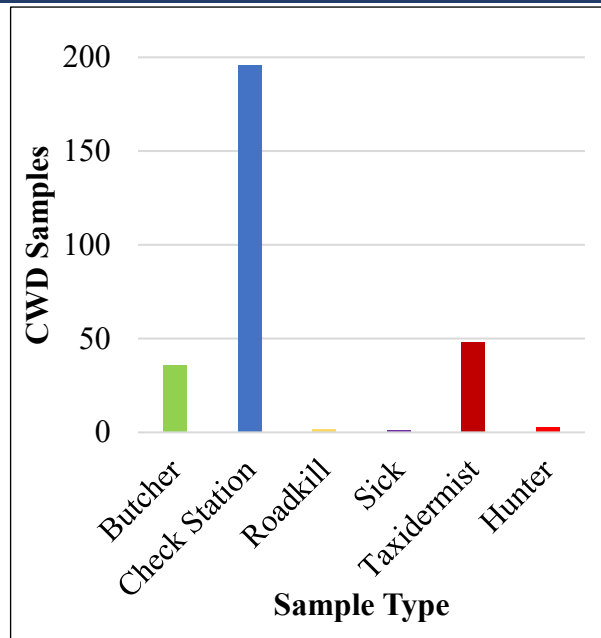


Figure 8. 2023-24 Collection method of CWD samples.

Hunters who successfully harvest a mature buck (3.5 years old or older) often decide not to allow the DFW to take tissue samples at check stations so that it can be taken to a taxidermist. This is acceptable as the deer's neck must be cut to remove tissue from the throat, making the deer unsuitable for taxidermy. However, this does not mean the tissues cannot be removed. If the deer is brought to a taxidermist, the sample can be removed after the deer has been caped (hide removed). The DFW will continue to offer training to taxidermists and processors on how to collect tissue for CWD testing to increase our sample size of mature bucks.

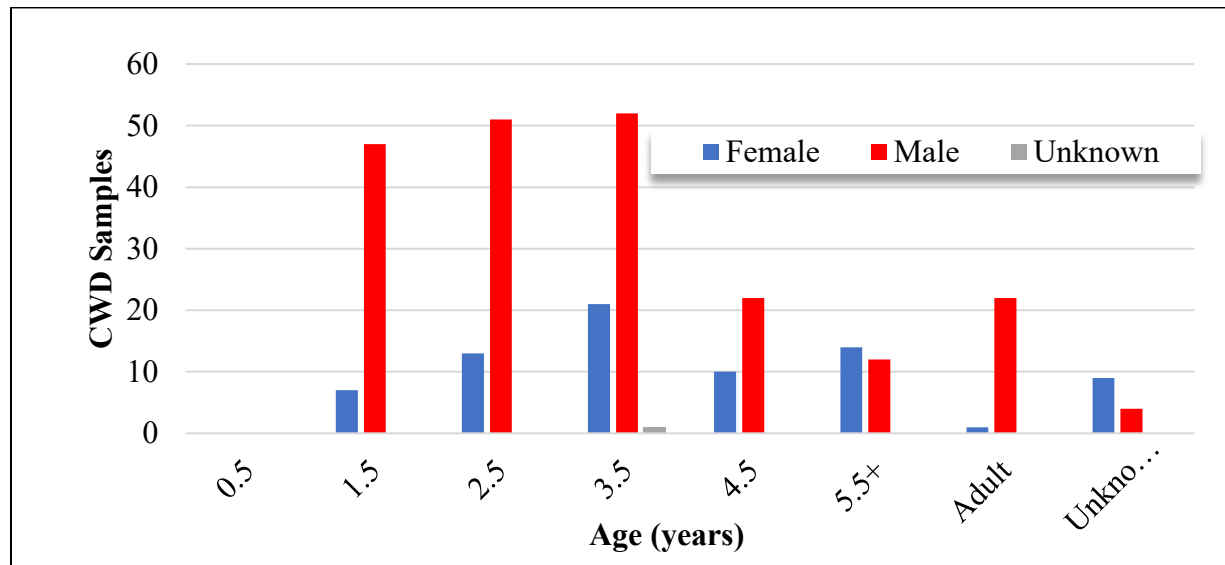


Figure 9. 2023-24 Collection method of CWD samples.

Submit your deer: If you harvest a mature buck (at least 3.5 years old) and would like to have it tested for CWD, even if you plan on bringing it to a taxidermist, please contact the DFW (401-789-0281). We aim to increase mature male samples because they are more likely to contract the disease because of their movement patterns.

License Sales

The DFW offers a variety of resident and non-resident hunting licenses to the public. In total, 8,990 (not including previously sold permanent, over-65 licenses) hunting or hunting and fishing combination licenses were sold in 2023-24. Out of the 8,990 hunters, 5,177 were deer hunters buying at least one deer permit. There was a total of 19,933 deer permits sold, with residents purchasing 17,262 permits, and non-residents purchasing 2,671 permits. Most deer hunters (1,638), both residents and non-residents, purchased two deer permits. However, 987 residents purchased the All Outdoors Deer Package Permit which consists of five antlerless permits and two antlered permits. These seven permits can be used within DMZ 1 and 2, and any method can be used to harvest a deer with them. The All Outdoors Deer Package Permit is useful for hunters who tend to use multiple methods throughout the season.

The average age of all licensed hunters in Rhode Island by the end of the February 2024, was 47 years old (sample size of 8,990). This is slightly younger than last year's average of 49 years old. The average age of successful deer hunters was also 47 years old (Figure 10). Hopefully through hunter education, youth programs and other hunter recruitment, retention, and reactivation activities, we will continue to see the average hunter age and hunter numbers remain stable. In 2000, there were ~11,528 licensed hunters, purchasing almost 19,000 deer permits. Since then, license sales have decreased 22%. However, compared to last year, there was a 2% decrease in this year's total hunters and a 9% decrease in deer permit sales.

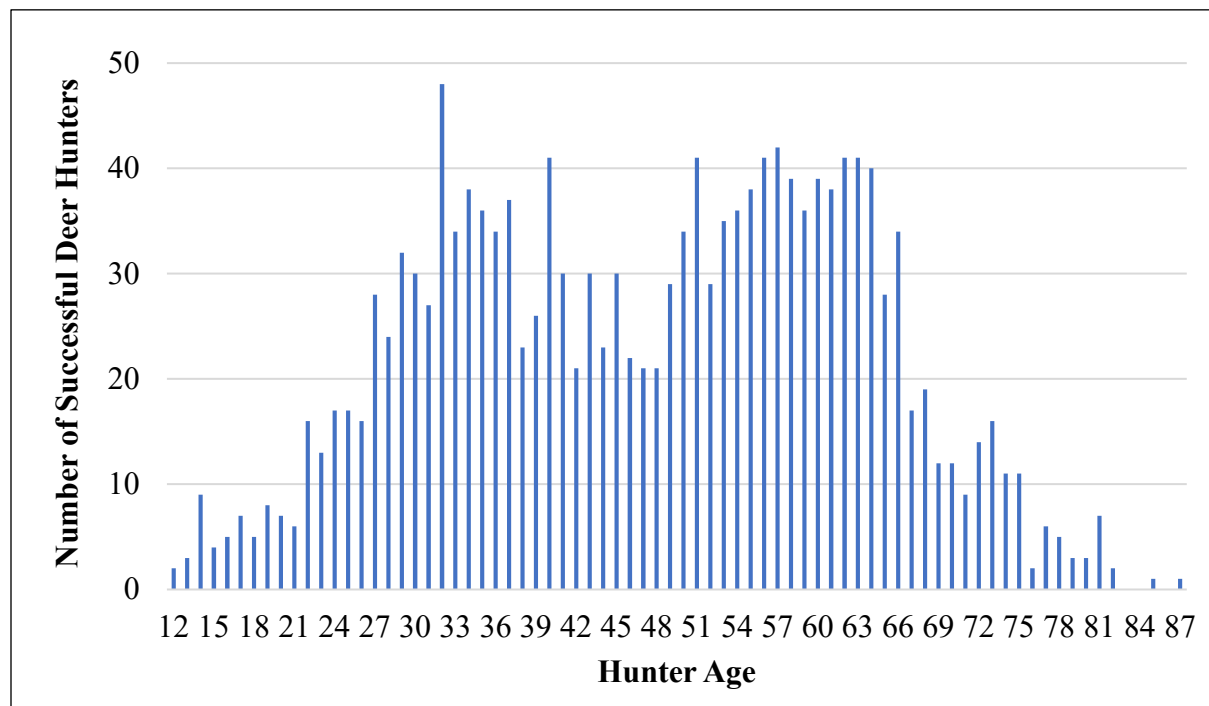


Figure 10. 2023-24 Successful Deer Hunter ages

Special Hunt Opportunities

The DFW offers opportunities for youth hunters as well as disabled hunters. Youth hunters have the first opportunity to harvest a deer during archery and muzzleloader seasons. Disabled hunters also have a great opportunity to harvest deer using firearms in DMZ 3, which is archery-only for all other hunters. A special hunting permit must be obtained through the RI DEM Office of Boat Registration and Licensing, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 (401-222-3576) by each applicant prior to hunting.

The DFW also assisted with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Freedom Hunters with their Veterans Deer Hunt at Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge. The Freedom Hunters is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide high quality outdoor experiences to America's disabled veterans. For more details about this program call the USFWS at 401-364-9124 or visit Freedom Hunters website, <https://freedomhunters.org/>.

Deer Auto Strikes

There were 1,374 reported deer auto strikes in 2023, a decrease of ~11% compared to 2022 when 1,544 deer auto strikes were reported. In 2023, the number of reported deer auto strikes was equivalent to 49% of the total reported hunter harvest. As seen in Table 4, towns in DMZ 1 generally have the most deer auto strikes. This is a reason why our antlerless season bag limit in DMZ 1 is higher than DMZ 2 and 3.

Summer Deer Survey

The DFW created the Summer Deer Survey last year, a community science survey to monitor deer during the summer months. The DFW asked all members of the public to report all live deer sightings to monitor the state's deer herd for the second time last August through September. The information gathered from the public is helpful in determining the number of fawns that survive after common causes of mortality such as predators, weather, and auto strikes. This data will allow the DFW to obtain fawn to doe ratios as an index of reproductive rates through time, assisting in properly managing the state's deer herd.

Last year during the reporting period there were 394 submissions. A total of 898 does, 364 fawns and 221 bucks were observed by the public. This results in a fawn to doe ratio of 0.40.

To participate in this year's survey, the public can submit their reports via Survey123, an online survey platform which also hosts DFW's Herp Observer and Wild Turkey Brood Survey. The Survey123 smartphone app allows users to record observations on the go. Observations can also be submitted on a computer. To report observations via Survey123, please use the following link on your smartphone or computer. You will need to download the Survey123 app prior to opening the link. <https://arcg.is/1SCKWi0>.

Remember

- Report deer sightings in August and September ONLY!
- Record deer observed from dawn to dusk (when headlights are not used for driving).

- Record ALL deer you see but do NOT include multiple observations if you are sure the same deer is being seen repeatedly.
- Do not include trail camera counts in your observations.
- Fawns don't always have spots in September. They have a short snout compared to adults.

Secondary Hunter Education

Have you harvested your first deer and not sure what to do with it? DFW's Hunter Education Program offers some "next step" hunting classes in addition to our typical hunter education courses.

At our Deer Processing Workshop, you can learn how to take your deer from the field to a fork. A live butchering demonstration from one of RI's local processing shops shows participants how to cleanly package the various cuts of meat on a deer, and how to create meals from each cut. This class is welcome to everyone! Who knows, there might be some samples to try at the end! However if you are not inclined to try processing your deer yourself you can view a list of butchers and taxidermists on our website found [here](#).

Our Deer Hunting Seminar is an introductory deer hunting course that focuses on basic deer behavior and biology, along with finding game signs, scent control, tree stand safety and more! Test your knowledge at this class with a walk through the woods pointing out where the deer are!

To learn more about these classes and any other upcoming programs please visit:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/fish-wildlife/>

or email Madison.proulx@dem.ri.gov.



Rhode Island Deer Hunter Survey

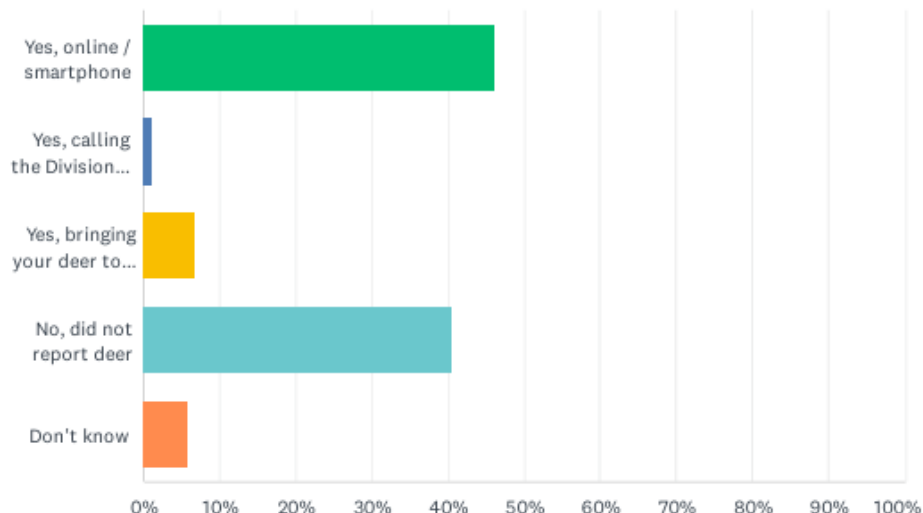
DFW conducted a survey of Rhode Island licensed deer hunters this past winter to better understand hunting participation, experiences, preferences, and opinions about deer hunting specifically. The DFW plans to survey deer hunters specifically annually to track certain metric through time. If you see the survey email, please complete the survey to the best of your ability.

The survey was distributed to all deer hunters, ages 12 and up, who have purchased a Rhode Island hunting license and deer permit within the past three years and had a valid email address in the RI hunting and fishing licensing system. Hunters with no email address or invalid/bounce-back email

addresses were not surveyed. The survey was sent successfully to 6,067 emails. The survey was completed by 1,550 hunters. Here are some interesting results from the survey.

Q6 Did you report the deer you harvested in Rhode Island during this season? If so, how did you report your harvest?

Answered: 1,149 Skipped: 401



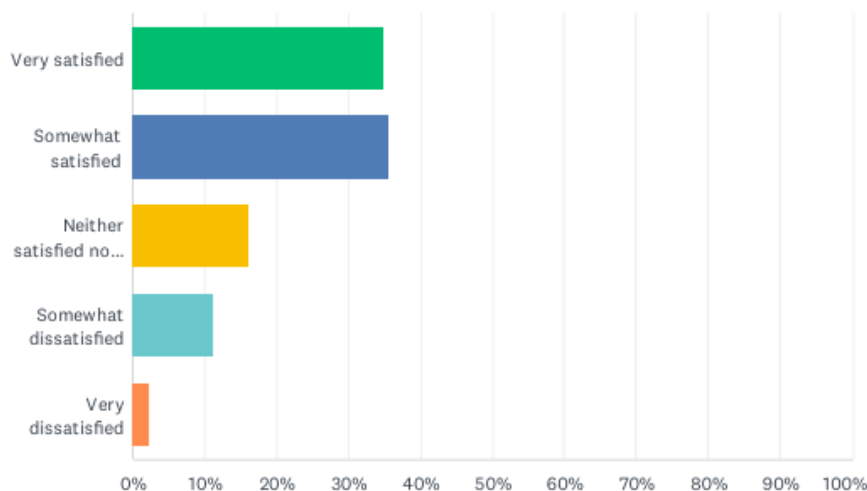
When surveyed, “Did you report the deer you harvested in Rhode Island during this season? If so, how did you report your harvest?” 40% of hunters stated they did not report their harvest. As a reminder, it is required by regulation to report you deer harvest to DFW. You can do so online, calling DFW at 401-789-0281 or checking your deer at a deer check station during the check station weekends. Please report you harvest as DFW uses this information to monitor and manage the deer herd.

The DFW uses reported hunter harvest as one of the main ways to monitor the deer population. Increasing our sample size of reported hunter harvest will give DFW a larger amount of data and better representation of the actual deer population. The more deer that are reported, the more accurate our assumptions about the deer population will be.

When surveyed, “Over the past few years, how satisfied or dissatisfied have you been with your deer hunting experiences in Rhode Island?” 70.42% of hunters were very or somewhat satisfied and only 13.59% of hunters were either somewhat or very dissatisfied. When asked “Why have you been dissatisfied with your deer hunting experiences in Rhode Island over the past few years?”, the biggest reason was “not enough places to hunt” at 9.73%. The DFW is actively working to open more lands to hunting that have traditionally been closed. Last year the DFW collaborated with the Town of Bristol and the RI Veterans Home to open five new properties to archery deer hunting.

Q12 Over the past few years, how satisfied or dissatisfied have you been with your deer hunting experiences in Rhode Island?

Answered: 1,332 Skipped: 218



When surveyed “How many days did you deer hunt in Rhode Island this season?” the average for all hunters was 16.48 days per hunter. This includes hunters who did not hunt any days. This data will be used annually to help determine how much “effort” was used to harvest deer. This in combination with total harvest will give us a better idea of what the deer population is doing through time. The most days someone spent hunting this season was 120 days submitted by three different hunters.

The complete report of all results can be found on the DEM’s <https://dem.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur861/files/2024-08/deerharv23-4.pdf>.

Conclusion

The statewide deer harvest has generally increased through time to 2008 when it peaked with our highest harvest on record. From 2009 to 2015 it generally decreased, and since 2015 has returned to increase almost annually. This year’s harvest is only 143 deer shy of the record harvest in 2008. It’s unclear if the 2008 harvest record will be broken next year or if we may start to see a downward trend in harvest like we did from 2009-2015. However, based on biological data (weight, harvest sex ratios, and antler beam measurements), overall, Rhode Island’s deer herd is healthy. To ensure sustainability of the deer population, the DFW is currently working to assess and estimate the deer population via tools such as Aerial FLIR surveys and population modeling using existing data sources more accurately.

To keep the hunting tradition alive and to continue funding wildlife conservation, we ask all hunters to **continually** mentor a family member, friend, coworker, or anyone who shows an interest in the outdoors, especially hunting. It can be difficult to start hunting, and it is also difficult

to become a successful hunter at an early age especially when an individual is not brought up around hunting.

Please keep in mind when on the way to your hunting destination, actively hunting in the field, heading home from your hunt, or stopping at the local coffee shop wearing camouflage, you represent all hunters. A positive public perception of hunters is a key component in keeping the hunting tradition alive. Be respectful when in a public setting to individuals who may not want to see bloody clothing, or the deer you just harvested even though you couldn't be prouder. Do your best to field dress animals in secluded areas, away from hiking trails and parking lots. Dispose of your carcass properly by double bagging it and bringing it to a nearby landfill. Leaving entrails or carcasses in public locations can lead to conflicts between hunters and others while also giving hunters a negative public image.

Whether you are hunting for sustenance, a mature buck, or enjoying time outdoors, Rhode Island offers great hunting opportunities for all hunters. The RI DEM Division of Fish and Wildlife wishes you a safe and successful upcoming hunting season.

We highly encourage you to provide feedback by emailing it to Dylan.Ferreira@dem.ri.gov.

Appendix

Figure 12. Rhode Island State Map

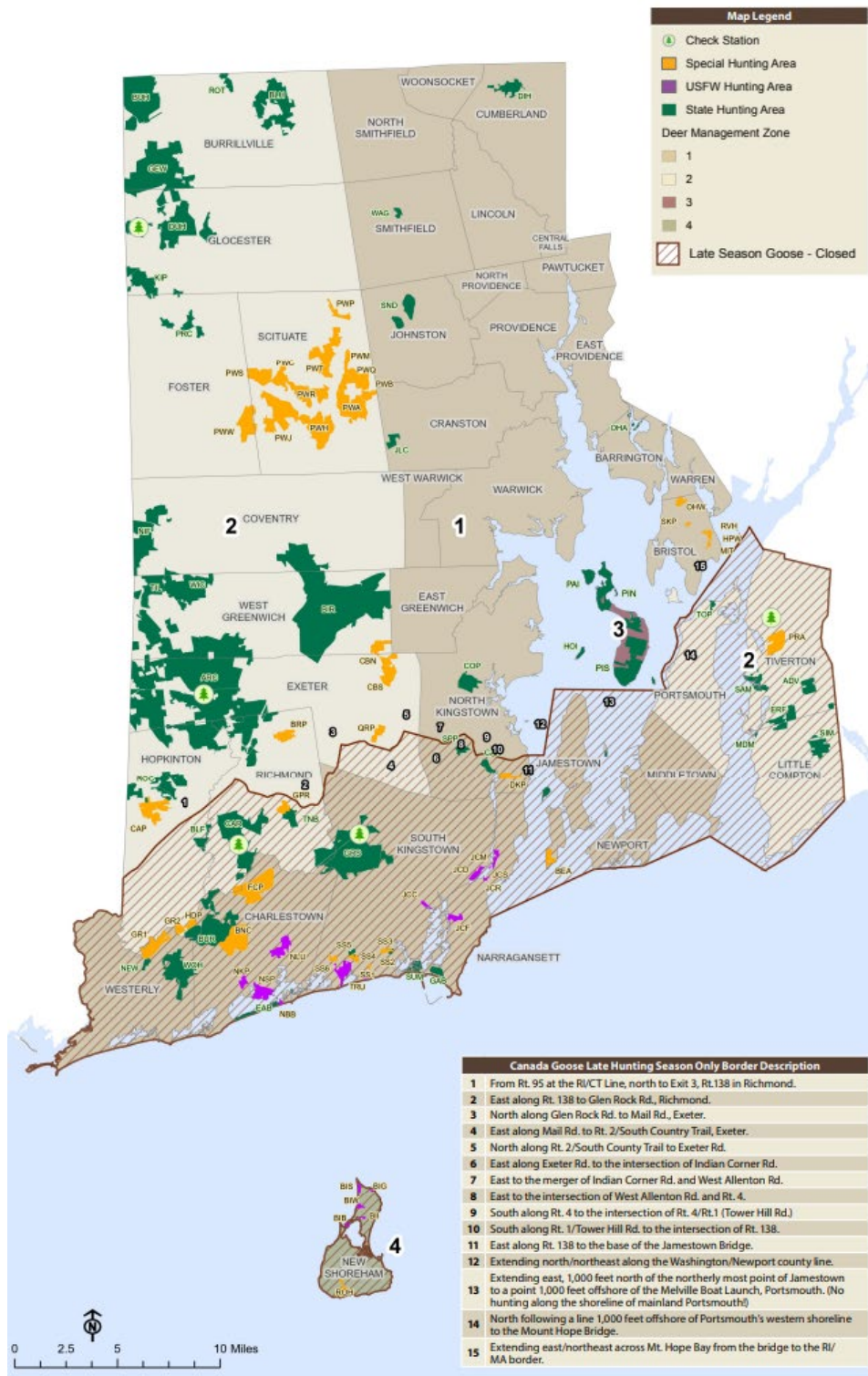


Table 1. Rhode Island Deer Harvest Annual Change

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 | 1 year change |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------|
| Statewide Harvest | 2,794 | 2,705 | 3% |
| Resident Harvest | 2,360 | 2,303 | 2% |
| Non-Resident Harvest | 434 | 402 | 8% |
| DMZ 1 | 892 | 833 | 7% |
| DMZ 2 | 1,443 | 1,543 | -6% |
| DMZ 3 | 55 | 73 | -25% |
| DMZ 4 | 395 | 256 | 54% |
| Shotgun | 558 | 449 | 24% |
| Muzzleloader | 1,127 | 1,133 | -1% |
| Archery (combined) | 1,102 | 1,123 | -2% |
| Archery-Crossbow* | 650 | 576 | 13% |
| Archery-Vertical Bow* | 451 | 284 | 59% |
| Antlerless | 1,374 | 1,403 | -2% |
| Antlered | 1,420 | 1,302 | 9% |
| Female | 1,692 | 1,145 | 48% |
| Male | 1,092 | 1,560 | -30% |
| Private Land | 2,050 | 2,079 | -1% |
| Public Land | 734 | 626 | 17% |
| Buck Kill/Sq. Mile | 1.68 | 1.50 | 12% |
| % Yearling Buck Harvest | 23% | 11% | 109% |
| Yearling Antler Beam (mm) | 17 | 20.0 | -15% |
| Male Fawn Weight (lbs.) | 59 | 53 | 11% |
| Male Yearling Weight (lbs.) | 98 | 118 | -17% |
| Male Adult Weight (lbs.) | 135 | 134 | 1% |
| Female Fawn Weight (lbs.) | 56 | 52 | 8% |
| Female Yearling Weight (lbs.) | 84 | 93 | -10% |
| Female Adult Weight (lbs.) | 104 | 108 | -4% |
| Checked Deer | 245 | 111 | 121% |
| CWD samples | 286 | 146 | 96% |
| Non-Seasonal Take | 54 | 85 | -36% |
| Auto strikes | 1,374 | 1,544 | -11% |
| Hunting Licenses | 8,990 | 9,191 | -2% |
| Deer Hunters | 5,177 | 5,213 | -1% |
| Deer Permits | 19,933 | 21,842 | -9% |
| Average Weight (lbs.) | 117 | 80 | 46% |
| Consumable Venison (lbs.) | 98,069 | 64,944 | 51% |
| Meals | 196,139 | 129,888 | 51% |
| Fawn to Doe Ratio | 0.40 | 0.86 | -53% |

Table 2. Rhode Island Deer Harvest by Town via Method

| Town | Archery | Crossbow | Muzzleloader | Shotgun | Unknown | Total |
|------------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| Barrington | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bristol | 31 | 39 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 71 |
| Burrillville | 16 | 29 | 115 | 13 | 0 | 173 |
| Charlestown | 28 | 22 | 41 | 9 | 0 | 100 |
| Coventry | 17 | 22 | 60 | 11 | 0 | 110 |
| Cranston | 7 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 29 |
| Cumberland | 9 | 12 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 35 |
| East Greenwich | 7 | 6 | 23 | 4 | 0 | 40 |
| East Providence | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Exeter | 31 | 34 | 106 | 18 | 0 | 189 |
| Foster | 4 | 32 | 105 | 19 | 0 | 160 |
| Glocester | 6 | 27 | 95 | 11 | 0 | 139 |
| Hopkinton | 7 | 21 | 76 | 11 | 0 | 115 |
| Jamestown | 31 | 9 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 53 |
| Johnston | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 22 |
| Lincoln | 2 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Little Compton | 23 | 15 | 30 | 7 | 0 | 75 |
| Middletown | 7 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 17 |
| Narragansett | 13 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| New Shoreham | 4 | 40 | 10 | 341 | 0 | 395 |
| North Kingstown | 20 | 32 | 31 | 12 | 0 | 95 |
| North Smithfield | 9 | 6 | 24 | 3 | 0 | 42 |
| Portsmouth | 27 | 47 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 76 |
| Richmond | 18 | 28 | 64 | 24 | 0 | 134 |
| Scituate | 12 | 32 | 98 | 21 | 0 | 163 |
| Smithfield | 1 | 5 | 20 | 2 | 0 | 28 |
| South Kingstown | 47 | 57 | 53 | 18 | 0 | 175 |
| Tiverton | 25 | 30 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 90 |
| Warren | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Warwick | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| West Greenwich | 9 | 18 | 76 | 10 | 0 | 113 |
| West Warwick | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Westerly | 7 | 6 | 26 | 4 | 0 | 43 |
| Woonsocket | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Unknown | 23 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 47 |
| Total | 451 | 651 | 1,127 | 558 | 7 | 2,794 |

Table 3. Rhode Island Deer Harvest by Property

| Property | Archery | Crossbow | Muzzleloader | Shotgun | Unknown | Total |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|--------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Private Land | 293 | 495 | 784 | 479 | 7 | 2,058 |
| Adamsville Management Area | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Arcadia Management Area | 12 | 10 | 67 | 14 | 0 | 103 |
| Beaver River Preserve TNC | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Beavertail Co-op | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Big River Management Area | 8 | 11 | 50 | 6 | 0 | 75 |
| Black Farm Management Area | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Black Hut Management Area | 2 | 4 | 14 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| Block Island NWR - Beane Point | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Block Island NWR - Sandy Point | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 8 |
| Block Island NWR - Wash Pond | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bristol Co-op-100 Acre Woods | 3 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Bristol Co-op-Hopeworth | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Bristol Co-op-Minturn | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Bristol Co-op-Skaters Pond | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Buck Hill Management Area | 1 | 3 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| Burlingame Management Area | 2 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 14 |
| Burlingame North Camp Co-Op | 1 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| Camp Nokewa | 0 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| Canonchet Preserve TNC | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Carolina Management Area | 2 | 4 | 17 | 5 | 0 | 28 |
| Chafee NWR - Congdon Cove | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

| Property | Archery | Crossbow | Muzzleloader | Shotgun | Unknown | Total |
|--|---------|----------|--------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Chafee NWR - Foddering Farm | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Chafee NWR - Middlebridge | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Chafee NWR - Starr Drive | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Chafee NWR - Stedman | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Cocomcussoc | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Cuttyhunk Brook Preserve TNC - North Co-op | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Cuttyhunk Brook Preserve TNC - South Co-op | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Dave King Preserve TNC Co-op | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Diamond Hill | 4 | 11 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 25 |
| Durfee Hill Management Area | 0 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 15 |
| East Beach | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Eight Rod Farm Management Area | 6 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| Francis Carter Preserve TNC Co-op | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Galilee Bird Sanctuary Management Area | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| George Washington Management Area | 5 | 3 | 31 | 3 | 0 | 42 |
| Gould Island Management Area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grass Pond Preserve TNC Co-op | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Great Swamp Management Area | 6 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 23 |
| Grills Preserve 1 Westerly Land Trust Co-Op | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Grills Preserve 2 Hopkinton Land Trust Co-Op | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Hope Island Management Area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| J. L. Curran | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Killingly Pond Management Area | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Mary Donovan Marsh Management Area | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Property | Archery | Crossbow | Muzzleloader | Shotgun | Unknown | Total |
|---|---------|----------|--------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Newton Swamp Management Area | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Nicholas Farm Management Area | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Ninigret NWR - Barrier Beach Unit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ninigret NWR - Kettle Pond Unit | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Ninigret NWR - Lewis Unit | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Ninigret NWR - Salt Pond Unit | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Ninigret Conservation Area | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| One Hundred Acre Cove Management Area | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Patience Island Management Area | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Pocasset Ridge Conservation Area TNC Co-op | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Ponagansett River Corridor Management Area | 0 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| Providence Water Supply - Ashland | 0 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 12 |
| Providence Water Supply - Betty Pond | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Providence Water Supply - Cork Brook | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Providence Water Supply - Joslin Farm | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Providence Water Supply - Peep-toad Farm | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Providence Water Supply - Quonopaug | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Providence Water Supply - Riverview | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Providence Water Supply - Swamp Brook | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Providence Water Supply - Trimtown | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Providence Water Supply - Tunk Hill | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Providence Water Supply - Waterman | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Providence Water Supply - Westconnaug | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Providence Water Supply | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

| Property | Archery | Crossbow | Muzzleloader | Shotgun | Unknown | Total |
|---|------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| Prudence Island - North Management Area | 10 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 |
| Prudence Island - South Management Area | 9 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Queens River Preserve TNC Co-op | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| RI-Veterans Home Co-op | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Rockville Management Area | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Rodman Hollow Co-op | 0 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 0 | 15 |
| Round Top Management Area | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Sapowet Marsh Management Area | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Silver Spring Management Area | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Simmons Mill Management Area | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Snake Den | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| South Shore Management Area | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| South Shore Management Area - Field 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| South Shore Management Area - Field 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| South Shore Management Area - Field 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Succotash Marsh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Taney Brook Management Area | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Tillinghast Management Area | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Trustom Pond NWR | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Washington Grove Management Area | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Wickaboxet Management Area | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Woody Hill Management Area | 5 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 15 |
| Unknown | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 12 |
| Grand Total | 451 | 651 | 1,127 | 558 | 7 | 2,794 |

Table 4. Rhode Island Deer Auto Strikes

| Town | Deer Auto Strikes |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Barrington | 19 |
| Bristol | 43 |
| Burrillville | 46 |
| Charlestown | 35 |
| Coventry | 77 |
| Cranston | 36 |
| Cumberland | 48 |
| East Greenwich | 42 |
| East Providence | 38 |
| Exeter | 46 |
| Foster | 52 |
| Glocester | 47 |
| Hopkinton | 24 |
| Jamestown | 19 |
| Johnston | 40 |
| Lincoln | 60 |
| Little Compton | 21 |
| Middletown | 6 |
| Narragansett | 32 |
| Newport | 7 |
| North Kingstown | 72 |
| North Providence | 7 |
| North Smithfield | 26 |
| Pawtucket | 2 |
| Portsmouth | 37 |
| Providence | 5 |
| Richmond | 51 |
| Scituate | 41 |
| Smithfield | 31 |
| South Kingstown | 88 |
| Tiverton | 72 |
| Warren | 14 |
| Warwick | 68 |
| West Greenwich | 37 |
| West Warwick | 22 |
| Westerly | 24 |
| Woonsocket | 12 |
| Total | 1,347 |

Figure 14. Rhode Island Daily Deer Harvest

