

2020-21 Small Game Harvest Report

The general small game harvest survey was conducted by phone. A sample of 8,500 hunters was drawn from the Harvest Information Program database for this survey. More than 3,600 hunters were surveyed (43% response rate).

The 2020-21 small game survey includes estimates of hunter numbers, hunt days and harvest for cottontail rabbit, coyote, dusky grouse, pheasant, Walk-In Access (WIA) use and pheasant harvest. It is important to note that the WIA pheasant harvest is not independent from the estimate of total pheasant harvest. Instead, WIA harvest is included within the overall estimate of pheasant harvest. For 2020-21, approximately 17,303 or 56.9% of total pheasant harvest (30,401) occurred was estimated to occur on WIA properties.

County harvest estimates have been replaced by Region-based estimates to reduce the frequency of data reporting errors that commonly occur at the county level. County-based estimates were commonly based on a very small number of hunter responses and were generally accompanied by huge confidence intervals. By asking respondents to report harvest at the larger regionally-based scale, errors in data reporting and standard error estimates are reduced.

Those portions of the report that have frequency designations or are pure percentages are based on the actual number of hunters surveyed and their responses to survey questions. ***The harvest figures are estimates of total harvest extrapolated from survey responses.*** The estimates are followed by the standard error (SE) of the estimate which is a measure of the precision of the estimate. The 95% LCL and 95% UCL columns provide the upper and lower values for the 95% confidence limits around the estimate. For example, we estimated statewide harvest of cottontail rabbits in 2020-21 at 24,387 with a SE of 2,054. The 95% confidence interval range estimates that between 20,682 and 28,755 cottontail rabbits were harvested during the 2020-21 small game season. Further, we calculated the coefficient of variation for each statewide harvest estimate, which is a measure of the standard error divided by the harvest estimate.

**Statewide Small Game Species Harvest,
2020-21**

Species	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL	UCL	Days	SE (Days	LCL	UCL	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL	UCL	Harvest
			Hunters	Hunters	Hunted	Hunted)	Days	Days			Harvest	Harvest	CV
Cottontail Rabbit	7469	302	6899	8085	44754	3292	38754	51684	24387	2054	20682	28755	8%
Coyote	7739	307	7161	8364	122746	16779	94013	160261	32354	7592	20552	50933	23%
Dusky Grouse	7297	299	6734	7908	35561	2312	31310	40389	16049	1161	13930	18490	7%
Pheasant	11075	353	10404	11788	52807	2962	47314	58938	30401	3964	23570	39213	13%
WIA	12714	371	12008	13461	84548	4707	75814	94289					

**2020-21 Small Game Harvest by County
Cottontail rabbit (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL	UCL	Days	SE (Days	LCL	UCL	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL	UCL	Harvest
			Hunters	Hunters	Hunted	Hunted)	Days	Days			Harvest	Harvest	CV
SW	2936	199	2572	3352	16590	2193	12818	21472	7084	985	5401	9290	
NW	2409	181	2079	2790	11744	1481	9182	15022	6998	1174	5049	9701	
NE	2280	176	1960	2653	9877	1217	7765	12564	6556	1167	4638	9267	
SE	1468	143	1214	1775	6485	1370	4306	9767	3692	603	2686	5073	
Unknown	29	20	8	99	57	45	15	223	57	45	15	223	
Total	7469	302	6899	8085	44754	3292	38754	51684	24387	2054	20682	28755	8%

**2020-21 Small Game Harvest by County
Coyote (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest	Harvest CV
SE	2266	176	1947	2638	26824	6390	16925	42512	17446	7348	7901	38521	
SW	2879	197	2518	3292	46279	11010	29218	73302	6271	1236	4277	9195	
NE	2266	176	1947	2638	24201	6209	14755	39695	5587	1181	3708	8418	
NW	1938	163	1644	2285	25441	8618	13335	48537	3050	491	2230	4173	
Unknown	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	NA	NA	
Total	7739	307	7161	8364	122746	16779	94013	160261	32354	7592	20552	50933	23%

**2020-21 Small Game Harvest by County
Dusky (Blue) grouse (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest	Harvest CV
NW	4105	232	3674	4586	18401	1827	15154	22342	8252	799	6829	9973	
SW	3734	222	3323	4196	17104	1370	14623	20005	7796	812	6360	9557	
Unknown	43	25	15	122	57	35	19	172	0	0	NA	NA	
Total	7297	299	6734	7908	35561	2312	31310	40389	16049	1161	13930	18490	7%

**2020-21 Small Game Harvest by County
Pheasant (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest	Harvest CV
NE	8694	322	8086	9348	39994	2695	35050	45634	22534	3828	16191	31361	
SE	2979	200	2612	3398	9336	961	7635	11416	5345	774	4031	7088	
SW	613	93	456	824	1725	359	1152	2581	1539	450	878	2698	
NW	884	111	691	1130	1653	308	1151	2376	983	353	497	1944	
Unknown	14	14	3	73	86	86	17	437	0	0	NA	NA	
Total	11075	353	10404	11788	52807	2962	47314	58938	30401	3964	23570	39213	13%

