

Table 9. Estimated deer harvest by weapon type in South Carolina in 2022.

|   | <b>Rifle</b> | <b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b> | <b>Shotgun</b> | <b>Muzzle-loader</b> | <b>Crossbow</b> | <b>Handgun</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---|--------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>           | 149,452      | 9,150                  | 12,918         | 3,409                | 4,306           | 179            | 179,414      |
| <b>Percent Total Deer Harvest</b>         | 83.3         | 5.1                    | 7.2            | 1.9                  | 2.4             | 0.1            | 100.0        |
| <b>Percent Hunter Success With Weapon</b> | 70.0         | 27.4                   | 36.6           | 25.2                 | 23.1            | 22.0           | NA*          |

\* Total is not applicable because individual hunters take deer with multiple weapons.

Table 10. Number of hunters using each type of weapon in South Carolina in 2022.

|                     | <b>Rifle</b> | <b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b> | <b>Shotgun</b> | <b>Muzzle-loader</b> | <b>Crossbow</b> | <b>Handgun</b> |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Residents</b>    | 110,010      | 23,989                 | 20,839         | 11,389               | 14,054          | 2,787          |
| <b>Nonresidents</b> | 14,638       | 1,961                  | 806            | 2,219                | 1,307           | 258            |
| <b>Total</b>        | 124,647      | 25,950                 | 21,644         | 13,608               | 15,361          | 3,045          |

Total across weapons not given because hunters use multiple weapons. Total hunters = 136,356.

Table 11. Weapons utilization (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2022.

|                     | <b>Rifle</b> | <b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b> | <b>Shotgun</b> | <b>Muzzle-loader</b> | <b>Crossbow</b> | <b>Handgun</b> |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Residents</b>    | 90.8*        | 19.8*                  | 17.2*          | 9.4*                 | 11.6*           | 2.3            |
| <b>Nonresidents</b> | 96.3         | 12.9                   | 5.3            | 14.6                 | 8.6             | 1.7            |
| <b>Total</b>        | 91.8         | 18.6                   | 15.1           | 10.3                 | 11.1            | 2.6            |

\* Significant difference in weapons use category based on residency.

Table 12. Weapons preference (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2022.

|                     | <b>Rifle</b> | <b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b> | <b>Shotgun</b> | <b>Muzzle-loader</b> | <b>Crossbow</b> | <b>Handgun</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Residents</b>    | 78.9         | 11.3*                  | 5.9*           | 0.9*                 | 2.5             | 0.5            | 100.0        |
| <b>Nonresidents</b> | 86.2         | 7.3                    | 1.6            | 2.2                  | 2.3             | 0.4            | 100.0        |
| <b>Total</b>        | 80.2         | 10.6                   | 5.1            | 1.1                  | 2.5             | 0.5            | 100.0        |

\* Significant difference in weapons preference category based on residency.