

# 2013 SOUTH CAROLINA DEER HARVEST REPORT



## SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEER RESEARCH & MANAGEMENT PROJECT



**DNR**

Submitted by

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## INTRODUCTION

The white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) is the most popular, sought after, economically important, and controversial game animal in South Carolina. The 2013 Deer Hunter Survey represents the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' (DNR), Wildlife Section' s ongoing commitment to conduct pertinent research related to the state' s white-tailed deer resource. The primary objectives of this survey research were to obtain valid estimates of; (1) the statewide deer harvest in 2013, (2) the harvest of deer in the constituent counties of the state, (3) hunting effort related to deer, (4) resident and non-resident hunter activities, and (5) weapons use, weapons preference, and harvest rates by weapon type. Information on hunter opinion related to certain aspects of the deer resource as well as estimates of the wild hog and coyote harvest in the state is also presented.

Due to the importance of deer as a state resource, DNR believes that accurately assessing the harvest of deer, as well as hunter participation in deer hunting, is key to the management of this species. Proposed changes in deer-related laws and regulations should have foundations in biology, therefore, the population dynamics associated with annual hunting mortality cannot be ignored. Similarly, when issues arise that do not involve biological parameters, it is important to have information related to deer hunter activities afield because they too form an important basis for managing deer.

Since the inception of the Statewide Deer Research and Management Project (Deer Project) the methods used to document the state' s deer harvest have changed. Historically, deer harvest figures were developed using a system of mandatory deer check stations in the 18 county Upstate (Game Zones 1 and 2) in conjunction with reported harvests from properties enrolled in the Antlerless Deer Quota Program (ADQP) in the 28 county Coastal Plain (Game Zones 3-6). This system yielded an actual count of harvested deer and was, therefore, an absolute minimum harvest figure. Shortcomings in this system included deterioration of check station compliance in the Upstate and failure to report by ADQP cooperators in the Coastal Plain. Also, since the acreage enrolled in the ADQP tends to be about one-half of the deer habitat in the Coastal Plain, past harvest figures have not documented deer harvests on non-quota lands (+- 3.4 million acres)

because there was no legal requirement to report harvested deer in the Coastal Plain. Therefore, it is suspected that historic deer harvest figures only accounted for about one-half of the total deer harvest that occurred annually in the state.

### **Survey Methodology**

The 2013 Deer Hunter Survey represents a random mail survey that involved a single mail-out. The questionnaire for the 2013 Deer Hunter Survey was developed by Wildlife Section personnel (Figure 1). The mailing list database was constructed by randomly selecting 25,000 known Big Game Permit holders that included 5 license types, the first 3 of which have a Big Game Permit included. The license types included: (1) Resident Sportsman's, (2) Resident Combination, (3) Resident Junior Sportsman's, (4) Resident Big Game Permit, and (5) Non-resident Big Game Permit. The number of individuals associated with each license type was based on an attempted sampling rate of approximately 15 percent for licenses purchased through December of 2013. Since deer season statewide end on January 1 there was no need to sample individuals that were licensed thereafter.

Data entry was completed by Priority Data, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska. Statistical analysis was conducted using Statistix 7 (Analytical Software, Tallahassee, FL).

### **Acknowledgments**

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## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As with any mail survey, a portion of the attempted sample (25,000) was returned as undeliverable mail (539). Therefore, the actual attempted sample was 24,461 representing 14.8 percent of the entire population (166,278) of license holders. A total of 6,537 completed surveys were returned yielding a 26.7 percent response rate and 3.9 percent sampling rate on the entire licensee population.

### **Deer Harvest**

During the 2013 deer season it is estimated that a total of 124,482 bucks and 101,324 does were harvested for a statewide total of 225,806 deer (Table 1). This figure represents a 3.6 percent increase in harvest from 2012 (217,854) and is 29.5 percent below the record harvest established in 2002 (319,902). After many years of rapidly increasing during the 1970's and 1980's, the deer population in South Carolina exhibited relative stability between 1995 and 2002. Since 2002, however, the population has trended down. The overall reduction in harvest seen since 2002 can likely be attributable to a number of factors, including habitat change. Although timber management activities stimulated significant growth in South Carolina's deer population in the 1970's and 1980's, considerable acreage is currently in even-aged pine stands that are greater than 10 years old, a situation that does not support deer densities at the same level as younger stands in which food and cover is more available.

Also, coyotes are a recent addition to the landscape and are another piece of the puzzle. SCDNR has recently completed a major study with researchers at the Savannah River Site investigating the affects coyotes are having on the survival of deer fawns. Cumulative data through the first 3 years of the study indicated approximately 70 percent total fawn mortality with coyotes being responsible for approximately 80 percent of these mortalities. If these findings even moderately represent a statewide situation, this "new mortality factor" is clearly involved in the reduction in deer numbers. This is especially true when combined with extremely liberal deer harvests that have been the norm in South Carolina.

The last 3 years of the study were for the purpose of determining if reducing coyote density through trapping increases fawn survival. It seems logical that if coyotes are preying on fawns, then significantly reducing coyote densities should increase fawn survival. Over the course of the 3 year coyote “control” phase, 474 coyotes were trapped/killed on the study areas. Overall, results showed only modest increases in fawn survival following these efforts with an overall average of about 39 percent increase in survival. Also, trapping seemed to help in some years but have little effect on predation in others. This “year” effect may have something to do with the availability of coyote food sources that may change in abundance annually. Given these results and the difficulty and high cost of coyote control, it seems apparent that making adjustments to how we manage deer, particularly female deer, is more important now than prior to the colonization of the state by coyotes.

### **Harvest Per Unit Area County Rankings**

Comparisons can be made between deer harvests from the various counties in South Carolina if a harvest per unit area is established. Harvest per unit area standardizes the harvest among counties regardless of the size of individual counties. One measure of harvest rate is the number of deer taken per square mile (640ac. = 1 mile<sup>2</sup>). When considering the estimated deer habitat that is available in South Carolina, the deer harvest rate in 2013 was 10.7 deer per square mile over the entire state (Table 2). Although the deer population in the state has declined in recent years, this harvest rate should be considered good in comparison with most other states. The top 5 counties for harvest per unit area were Bamberg (18.7 deer/mile<sup>2</sup>), Union (17.9 deer/mile<sup>2</sup>), Allendale (16.9 deer/mile<sup>2</sup>), Spartanburg (16.5 deer/mile<sup>2</sup>), and Calhoun (16.4 deer/mile<sup>2</sup>).

### **Deer Harvest Rankings by County**

Total deer harvest by county is not comparable among counties because counties vary in size and are, therefore, not directly comparable. However, it has become customary to rank the counties based on number of deer harvested (Table 3). The top 5 counties during 2013 were Orangeburg, Newberry, Colleton, Fairfield, and Williamsburg.

## **Deer Harvest on Wildlife Management Areas**

Deer hunting on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) remains popular in South Carolina with approximately 53,000 licensees having a WMA Permit. Wildlife Management Areas represent lands owned by DNR, other state owned lands enrolled in the WMA Program, US Forest Service lands enrolled in the WMA Program, and private and/or corporate lands that are leased by DNR as part of the WMA Program. Deer harvest figures for coastal WMAs are from check stations and are presented only for those WMA properties that have a deer check-in requirement. Deer harvest figures for upstate WMAs (Mountain and Central and Western Piedmont Hunt Units) were estimated by extrapolating the county deer harvest rates (deer/mi<sup>2</sup>) to the acreage of WMA land that falls within the respective counties comprising the WMA. This assumes that hunters on WMA lands exhibit effort and deer harvest patterns similar to those of the general licensee database that was surveyed. Finally, the estimated deer harvest on WMA lands is included in, not additive to, the county and statewide estimates found throughout this report.

During the 2013 season it is estimated that 4,669 bucks and 3,862 does were harvested for a total deer harvest on Wildlife Management Areas of 8,603 (Table 4). This figure represents less than a one percent increase from 2012. It is estimated that approximately 18,703 hunters spent 220,703 days hunting deer on WMAs in South Carolina in 2013.

## **Hunter Opinion Regarding Deer Numbers**

The 2013 Deer Hunter Survey asked participants their opinion regarding the following question. Compared to past years, how would you rate the number of deer in the area that you hunt most often? Survey participants were given 3 choices; increasing, about the same, or decreasing. About half (50.1%) of hunters indicated that the number of deer in the area they hunted most often was about the same as in past years (Table 5). More hunters (34.8%) believed that the deer population was decreasing than increasing (14.9%). On a scale of 1 to 3 with 1 being increasing, 2 being neutral, and 3 being decreasing, the overall mean rating of 2.2 suggests that hunters viewed the deer population as slightly decreasing. The opinion among hunters that the deer population is decreasing has been consistent the last few years. Harvest data and

population reconstruction modeling supports this opinion.

### **Number of Deer Hunters**

Even though all individuals receiving a survey were licensed to hunt deer, only 89 percent actually hunted deer. For residents, 87.8 percent of sampled licensees hunted deer and for non-residents 96.3 percent hunted deer. Extrapolating to the respective licensee populations yields 131,963 residents (Table 6) and 15,310 non-residents (Table 7) for a total of 147,273 deer hunters statewide during 2013. This figure represents a 3.6 percent increase from the 142,107 hunters in 2012. Counties with the highest estimates for individual hunters include Orangeburg, Spartanburg, Fairfield, Laurens, and Newberry for resident hunters (Table 6) and Hampton, Allendale, Chester, Jasper, and Union for non-residents (Table 7).

### **Hunting Success**

For determination of hunting success only those individuals that actually hunted deer were included in the analysis and similarly, success was defined as harvesting at least one deer. Overall hunting success in 2013 was 70.5 percent, which should be considered very good. Success rates for residents (70.2%, Table 6) were slightly higher than non-residents (71.9%, Table 7). Estimates for resident and non-resident success rates for all counties are presented in Tables 6 and 7. Success rates for resident hunters were highest in Jasper, Bamberg, Colleton, and Charleston. Non-residents experienced the highest success in Greenville, Saluda, Beaufort, Calhoun, and Berkeley. However, none of these counties had appreciable numbers of non-resident hunters.

### **Hunter Effort**

For the purposes of this survey hunter effort was measured in days with one day being defined as any portion of the day spent afield. Resident hunters averaged 16.0 days afield for a total of 2,118,344 days deer hunting and non-residents averaged 14.4 days for a total of 222,140 days (Table 8). Total effort expended deer hunting in South Carolina during 2013 was estimated at 2,340,484 days (Table 8), up 4.5 percent from 2012. The number of days devoted to deer

hunting in South Carolina is very significant and points not only to the availability and popularity of deer as a game species, but to the obvious economic benefits related to this important natural resource. Previous surveys conducted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service indicate that approximately 200 million dollars in direct retail sales are related to deer hunting in South Carolina annually.

The top 5 South Carolina counties for overall days of deer hunting during 2013 were Orangeburg, Spartanburg, Laurens, and Aiken (Table 8). Resident hunters expended the most hunting effort in Orangeburg, Spartanburg, Berkeley, Laurens, and Fairfield counties. Non-residents hunted the most in Hampton, Chester, Allendale, Jasper, and Fairfield counties and these 5 counties totaled 40 percent of all the non-resident deer hunting effort that took place in South Carolina in 2013.

Resident hunters who were successful at harvesting at least one deer averaged twice as many days (20.9 days) afield as unsuccessful residents (9.8 days) (Table 8). Similarly, successful non-residents (17.4 days) averaged about 2 times the days afield when compared with unsuccessful non-residents (9.0 days).

The amount of effort required to harvest a deer varied between residents and non-residents and by the county hunted. On the average it took less time for non-residents to harvest a deer (8.4 days, Table 7) compared to residents (10.6 days, Table 6). This may be due to the fact that many non-residents hunt commercially where considerable preparation is done prior to the hunter's arrival. Also, there may be less selectivity with respect to deer harvested by non-residents. Counties requiring the least effort to harvest a deer included Beaufort, Allendale, Jasper, Clarendon, and Bamberg/Barnwell (tie) for resident hunters (Table 6). On the other hand, non-residents spent less time to harvest a deer in Greenville, Williamsburg, Clarendon, Marion, and Dorchester counties (Table 7), however, none of these counties exhibited what should be considered a high level of non-resident hunting activity.

### **Deer Harvest by Weapon Type and Weapons Utilization and Preference**

All areas of South Carolina have long and liberal firearms seasons and the majority (79.8%) of deer are harvested with centerfire rifles (Table 9). Shotguns (9.5%) and archery equipment (6.4%) also contribute significantly to the overall deer harvest in the state, whereas,

muzzleloaders, crossbows, and handguns combine to contribute less than 5 percent to the total harvest (Table 9).

Although rifles are used by approximately 90 percent of hunters, nearly 80 percent of hunters use multiple weapons during the course of the deer season (Table 10, Table 11). Resident hunters appear to be more flexible than non-residents in their use of multiple weapons and significantly more residents use archery equipment (24.0%) and shotguns (27.7%) than non-residents (15.4% archery and 8.8% shotguns) (Table 11). This finding has been consistent for many years and two points can likely be made. First, since most aspects of deer hunting (travel, accommodations, etc.) are typically more convenient for residents, they may have more time to devote to becoming comfortable or proficient with additional weapons, in this case archery equipment. Second, shotguns are the customary weapon related to hunting deer with dogs and the argument can be made that dog hunting is being practiced more by residents than non-residents. The weapons utilization data supports this contention.

On the other hand, non-residents (19.8%) used muzzleloaders more frequently than residents (12.7%). Keep in mind that muzzleloader or primitive weapons seasons are only available in Game Zones 1 and 2 (the Upstate). It is suspected that the high utilization of muzzleloaders by non-residents is related to the availability of this special season at an earlier date in South Carolina than in neighboring states. Also, the argument can be made that muzzleloaders require less commitment than archery equipment and would allow non-residents a comparatively easy method of harvesting deer during the special season. This finding has been consistent for many years.

Unlike weapons utilization, weapons preference is the single weapon that a hunter prefers. Obviously, a majority (77.8%) of deer hunters prefer rifles (Table 12). Bows (12.3%) are the second most preferred weapon which is interesting because compared to other states, there are limited exclusive opportunities for bow hunters in South Carolina. Nonetheless, the number of hunters indicating that bows are their preferred weapon has increased over time. Finally, there are several interesting points that can be made about preferences for other weapons based on residency. Shotguns are preferred significantly more by residents (7.9%) than non-residents (2.4%) and muzzleloaders are preferred more by non-residents (3.4%) than by residents (0.9%) (Table 12). The explanation of this situation is likely similar to that for weapons

utilization in that, (1) residents do most of the dog hunting in the state and tend to use shotguns, and (2) non-residents use muzzleloaders to take advantage of a special season that is not available as early in their home state.

### **Deer Harvest by Month of Season**

The 2013 Deer Hunter Survey asked hunters to provide information on the month of kill for deer taken during the 2013 season. Although South Carolina is noted to have the longest firearms deer season in the country, the relationship between season length and deer harvest is often misunderstood. Deer naturally increase their movements during the breeding season or rut making them more susceptible to being seen and harvested by hunters. In contrast, outside of the breeding season deer movements are reduced, therefore the chances of hunters seeing and harvesting deer are reduced.

Deer harvest by month of season demonstrates this phenomenon (Figure 2). Although firearms seasons are not open in all parts of the state in late August and early September, relatively few deer are harvested during that time where the season is open. On the other hand, a disproportionately high number of deer are taken during October and November. October and November encompass the majority of the breeding season in South Carolina with over 80 percent of does conceiving during that period (Figure 3). Ultimately, timing of the season is a more important factor in determining deer harvest and quality hunting than the length of the season. Although South Carolina offers early opening seasons, there may be negative consequences as it relates to deer harvest. Hunters should understand that hunting pressure that builds prior to the breeding season can suppress daytime movements of deer during the breeding season when deer movements and hunter harvests should be greatest.

### **Wild Hog Harvest**

The 2013 Deer Hunter Survey also asked hunters to provide information on their wild hog and coyote harvesting activities. Documenting the hog harvest became customary several years ago because wild hogs commonly taken incidental to deer hunting. Wild or feral hogs are often thought of as “game” and there is a certain amount of sport associated with harvesting hogs. Wild hogs provide quality meat for the hunter and mature hogs can make a highly sought-

after “trophy”. Wild hogs are not native to South Carolina or any part of the North American continent. They are descendants of European domestic hogs that escaped or were released dating back as far as the early Spanish explorers. Also, closed-range or fencing requirements for livestock did not arise until the 1900's and letting hogs “free-range” was common prior to fencing laws. Wild hogs were historically associated with the major river flood plain systems in Coastal South Carolina. Unfortunately, recent relocations of wild hogs by hunters appear to be responsible for the species populating areas where they were not found in the past. Wild hogs directly compete with native species like deer and wild turkey for habitat and food, and hogs can do significant damage to the habitat and agricultural production through their rooting activities. Legislation passed during the 2005 session of the South Carolina General Assembly prohibits the release of hogs in the state and legislation passed in 2010 prohibits the removal of a live hog from the woods without a permit (SC Code Section 50-16-25).

During 2013 an estimated 35,281 wild hogs were harvested by deer hunters in South Carolina (Table 13), a 24 percent increase from 2012 (26,674 hogs). Hog numbers and thus harvest, can vary substantially from year to year due to bottomland flooding during the winter farrowing season. Evidence of the presence of hogs in 46 of 46 counties was made by hunter harvest activities (46 of 46 counties in 2012). Statewide, approximately 1.6 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup> were harvested, however, this figure is deceiving because hogs only inhabit a relatively small portion of the state as a whole. The top 5 counties for wild hog harvest per unit area were Abbeville (6.5 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup>), Allendale (5.1 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup>), Anderson (4.7 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup>), Hampton (4.6 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup>), and Williamsburg (3.0 hogs/mile<sup>2</sup>).

### **Coyote Harvest**

Unlike wild hogs which are treated like game to some degree, coyotes are typically thought of as varmints that pose a threat to native game species. Like wild hogs, coyotes are a non-native species in South Carolina. Although a popular notion among hunters is that DNR released coyotes, the agency has never released coyotes in South Carolina. The occurrence of coyotes in the state is more recent than hogs and they appear to have gotten to the state by two methods, (1) natural movements from western states and (2) illegal importation. Coyotes were first documented in Oconee and Pickens Counties in 1978 and were thought to be linked to

animals that were illegally imported for hunting purposes. Evidence for this includes an illegal importation case that was made and the fact that coyotes had not been documented in adjacent counties in Georgia and North Carolina. Within a few years coyotes began to appear in the western piedmont counties of Anderson, Abbeville, McCormick, etc. indicating a southeastern expansion from the original site. In the early 1980's coyotes were documented in Allendale County and were thought to be natural immigrants from Georgia since they had previously been documented in the adjacent Georgia counties. Coyotes from this source apparently populated to the Northeast until they encountered the Santee Cooper Lakes. In the late 1980's coyotes were documented in the Pee Dee Region, again associated with illegal imports. In any event, by the mid-1990's coyotes had been documented in all South Carolina counties.

Sportsmen often voice concern over the presence of coyotes and the potential impact they have on game species such as deer. Though coyotes are one of the most adaptable animals, they are not designed to prey on big game. The coyote's diet is chiefly composed of small mammals (rats and mice), insects, and a variety of vegetable matter including fruits. On the other hand, coyotes will take deer fawns and deer that are sick or injured. SCDNR has recently completed a major study with researchers at the Savannah River Site investigating the affects coyotes are having on the survival of deer fawns. Cumulative data through the first 3 years of the study indicated approximately 70 percent total fawn mortality with coyotes being responsible for approximately 80 percent of these mortalities. If these findings even moderately represent a statewide situation, this "new mortality factor" is clearly involved in the reduction in deer numbers. This is especially true when combined with extremely liberal deer harvests that have been the norm in South Carolina. The final 3 years of the study is attempting to determine if coyote control (trap/kill) leads to increased fawn survival on the area.

The last 3 years of the study were for the purpose of determining if reducing coyote density through trapping increases fawn survival. It seems logical that if coyotes are preying on fawns, then significantly reducing coyote densities should increase fawn survival. Over the course of the 3 year coyote "control" phase, 474 coyotes were trapped/killed on the study areas. Overall, results showed only modest increases in fawn survival following these efforts with an overall average of about 35 percent increase in survival. Also, trapping seemed to help in some years but have little effect on predation in others. This "year" effect may have something to do

with the availability of coyote food sources that may change in abundance annually. Given these results and the difficulty and high cost of coyote control, it seems apparent that making adjustments to how we manage deer, particularly female deer, is more important now than prior to the colonization of the state by coyotes.

Coyotes are not protected animals in South Carolina and hunters are allowed to harvest them throughout the year during daylight hours. During 2013 it is estimated that approximately 30,076 coyotes were harvested by deer hunters in South Carolina (Table 13), an increase of 6.3 percent from 2012 (28,211 coyotes). As in past years, there was evidence of coyotes being harvested in all counties. The number of coyotes killed by deer hunters has increased exponentially since the late 1990's pointing to the expansion of this species in South Carolina. Statewide approximately 1.4 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup> were harvested and the top 5 counties for coyote harvest per unit area included Abbeville (3.7 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup>), Saluda (3.2 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup>), Cherokee (2.9 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup>), Anderson (2.8 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup>), and York (2.4 coyotes/mile<sup>2</sup>).

### **Supplementary Information**

The following section is not related to the 2013 Big Game Hunter Survey, but is offered as information relevant to the state's deer population.

Data related to deer-vehicle collisions for 2013 was not available from the South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) at the time of this publication, therefore, 2012 is the most current data available (Table 14). Since reporting of deer vehicle collisions is contingent upon notification of some law enforcement agency and then SCDPS, this figure should be considered a minimum. Also, the reader should bear in mind that reporting criteria have changed over time.

Average body weights and antler characteristic of deer vary among the constituent counties in South Carolina and are dependent on deer density and available nutrition (Tables 15 and 16). Statewide averages for male deer indicate that 1.5 year old bucks average about 107 lbs. and 3.6 antler points while bucks 2.5 years old and older average about 138 lbs. and 6.5 antler points. Yearling (1.5 years old) females average approximately 88 lbs. while does 2.5 years old and older average nearly 101 lbs. This information is based on sampling completed between 1987 and 1994.

The history of the deer population and harvest in South Carolina demonstrates a trend

typical of a species that initially expands into available habitat, stabilizes, and begins to decline as habitat changes (Figures 4 and 5). It is important to recognize that habitat is the primary factor controlling deer density in South Carolina, though regulated harvest is important as well. Keep in mind that between 1750 and 1900 the deer population in South Carolina experienced a tremendous decline as it did in most of North America. Although unrestricted subsistence and commercial harvest of deer was important in the decline, major changes in habitat related to clearing of land for agriculture was the controlling factor.

By 1900 deer numbers in the State were very low, perhaps 20,000. However, in the 1920's, significant drought and the cotton boll weevil had devastating consequences for farming. With the decline in farming, reforestation of the state began and was largely complete by the 1970's. Timber harvest activities that followed into and throughout the 1980's created vast areas of early successional habitat that allowed for a dramatic increase in the State's deer population. South Carolina's deer population peaked in the mid to late 1990's at just over 1,000,000 deer.

Over time, deer hunters gained a better understanding of the relationship between deer numbers, habitat, and deer quality leading to more aggressive female harvests in many parts of the state. This increased emphasis on harvesting female deer as a means to control deer densities has played a role in the stabilization and ultimate reduction in the State's deer population. Habitat is also very important. Keep in mind that the same timber management activities that stimulated the growth in South Carolina's deer population in the 1980s have resulted in considerable acreage currently being in even-aged pine stands that are greater than 10 years old. This habitat type simply does not support deer densities at the same level as habitat in early stages of ecological succession. As a result, a combination of habitat change, high deer harvests, and the establishment of coyotes has caused the deer population to trend down since 2000. Currently the statewide population is estimated at about 780,000 deer.

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Table 1. Estimated statewide deer harvest in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2012
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. <sup>2</sup>	
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,928	2,194	5,122	43.6	14.7	-0.8
Aiken	500,546	782	3,124	2,755	5,879	85.1	7.5	12.0
Allendale	216,455	338	2,964	2,743	5,707	37.9	16.9	16.1
Anderson	219,068	342	3,049	2,149	5,198	42.1	15.2	-7.8
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,709	3,030	5,739	34.3	18.7	-2.6
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,588	2,517	5,105	55.2	11.6	19.1
Beaufort	147,441	230	872	682	1,554	94.9	6.7	-33.0
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,455	2,056	5,511	103.0	6.2	0.6
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,603	2,290	4,893	39.0	16.4	23.5
Charleston	288,732	451	2,522	1,812	4,334	66.6	9.6	-15.6
Cherokee	156,664	245	2,192	1,466	3,658	42.8	14.9	8.8
Chester	300,589	470	3,197	2,361	5,558	54.1	11.8	-17.6
Chesterfield	372,478	582	3,214	1,637	4,851	76.8	8.3	32.3
Clarendon	298,087	466	2,924	3,029	5,953	50.1	12.8	17.5
Colleton	502,666	785	4,539	3,482	8,021	62.7	10.2	1.3
Darlington	286,228	447	1,383	777	2,160	132.5	4.8	-6.7
Dillon	214,069	334	955	545	1,500	142.7	4.5	1.2
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,720	2,758	5,478	55.3	11.6	13.8
Edgefield	246,543	385	2,979	2,452	5,431	45.4	14.1	8.5
Fairfield	384,607	601	4,475	3,524	7,999	48.1	13.3	10.1
Florence	397,888	622	3,398	2,141	5,539	71.8	8.9	10.8
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,772	1,614	3,386	118.0	5.4	-9.9
Greenville	294,257	460	1,613	1,403	3,016	97.6	6.6	20.6
Greenwood	204,400	319	2,309	1,816	4,125	49.6	12.9	-16.9
Hampton	324,840	508	3,666	3,753	7,419	43.8	14.6	19.3
Horry	533,336	833	2,651	2,149	4,800	111.1	5.8	18.4
Jasper	309,889	484	2,079	1,727	3,806	81.4	7.9	-8.6
Kershaw	360,485	563	3,337	2,338	5,675	63.5	10.1	12.7
Lancaster	266,382	416	2,864	2,231	5,095	52.3	12.2	-3.3
Laurens	317,916	497	3,451	2,912	6,363	50.0	12.8	5.8
Lee	220,106	344	2,238	1,516	3,754	58.6	10.9	-12.0
Lexington	280,742	439	1,772	1,257	3,029	92.7	6.9	1.0
McCormick	212,021	331	1,811	1,151	2,962	71.6	8.9	-14.4
Marion	216,907	339	1,034	709	1,743	124.4	5.1	-7.9
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,428	1,434	2,862	98.3	6.5	16.0
Newberry	317,761	497	4,363	3,661	8,024	39.6	16.2	10.3
Oconee	284,348	444	919	555	1,474	192.9	3.3	10.9
Orangeburg	504,516	788	6,505	5,248	11,753	42.9	14.9	6.9
Pickens	219,926	344	1,229	951	2,180	100.9	6.3	10.4
Richland	340,121	531	2,012	1,496	3,508	97.0	6.6	0.2
Saluda	192,173	300	2,076	1,943	4,019	47.8	13.4	7.5
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,528	3,338	6,866	38.7	16.5	11.7
Sumter	338,968	530	2,686	1,996	4,682	72.4	8.8	-3.9
Union	258,111	403	3,402	3,825	7,227	35.7	17.9	15.2
Williamsburg	513,851	803	4,283	3,235	7,518	68.3	9.4	-16.1
York	276,650	432	2,664	2,666	5,330	51.9	12.3	5.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>124,482</b>	<b>101,324</b>	<b>225,806</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>
95% Confidence Interval for harvest			<b>(+ -) 4,094</b>	<b>(+ -) 3,976</b>	<b>(+ -) 6,583</b>			

\* Acreage shown represents the acreage of forested land and acreage of row crops considered to be significant deer habitat within each county.

Table 2. County rankings based on deer harvested per unit area in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2012
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. <sup>2</sup>	
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,709	3,030	5,739	34.3	18.7	-2.6
Union	258,111	403	3,402	3,825	7,227	35.7	17.9	15.2
Allendale	216,455	338	2,964	2,743	5,707	37.9	16.9	16.1
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,528	3,338	6,866	38.7	16.5	11.7
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,603	2,290	4,893	39.0	16.4	23.5
Newberry	317,761	497	4,363	3,661	8,024	39.6	16.2	10.3
Anderson	219,068	342	3,049	2,149	5,198	42.1	15.2	-7.8
Cherokee	156,664	245	2,192	1,466	3,658	42.8	14.9	8.8
Orangeburg	504,516	788	6,505	5,248	11,753	42.9	14.9	6.9
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,928	2,194	5,122	43.6	14.7	-0.8
Hampton	324,840	508	3,666	3,753	7,419	43.8	14.6	19.3
Edgefield	246,543	385	2,979	2,452	5,431	45.4	14.1	8.5
Saluda	192,173	300	2,076	1,943	4,019	47.8	13.4	7.5
Fairfield	384,607	601	4,475	3,524	7,999	48.1	13.3	10.1
Greenwood	204,400	319	2,309	1,816	4,125	49.6	12.9	-16.9
Laurens	317,916	497	3,451	2,912	6,363	50.0	12.8	5.8
Clarendon	298,087	466	2,924	3,029	5,953	50.1	12.8	17.5
York	276,650	432	2,664	2,666	5,330	51.9	12.3	5.8
Lancaster	266,382	416	2,864	2,231	5,095	52.3	12.2	-3.3
Chester	300,589	470	3,197	2,361	5,558	54.1	11.8	-17.6
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,588	2,517	5,105	55.2	11.6	19.1
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,720	2,758	5,478	55.3	11.6	13.8
Lee	220,106	344	2,238	1,516	3,754	58.6	10.9	-12.0
Colleton	502,666	785	4,539	3,482	8,021	62.7	10.2	1.3
Kershaw	360,485	563	3,337	2,338	5,675	63.5	10.1	12.7
Charleston	288,732	451	2,522	1,812	4,334	66.6	9.6	-15.6
Williamsburg	513,851	803	4,283	3,235	7,518	68.3	9.4	-16.1
McCormick	212,021	331	1,811	1,151	2,962	71.6	8.9	-14.4
Florence	397,888	622	3,398	2,141	5,539	71.8	8.9	10.8
Sumter	338,968	530	2,686	1,996	4,682	72.4	8.8	-3.9
Chesterfield	372,478	582	3,214	1,637	4,851	76.8	8.3	32.3
Jasper	309,889	484	2,079	1,727	3,806	81.4	7.9	-8.6
Aiken	500,546	782	3,124	2,755	5,879	85.1	7.5	12.0
Lexington	280,742	439	1,772	1,257	3,029	92.7	6.9	1.0
Beaufort	147,441	230	872	682	1,554	94.9	6.7	-33.0
Richland	340,121	531	2,012	1,496	3,508	97.0	6.6	0.2
Greenville	294,257	460	1,613	1,403	3,016	97.6	6.6	20.6
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,428	1,434	2,862	98.3	6.5	16.0
Pickens	219,926	344	1,229	951	2,180	100.9	6.3	10.4
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,455	2,056	5,511	103.0	6.2	0.6
Horry	533,336	833	2,651	2,149	4,800	111.1	5.8	18.4
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,772	1,614	3,386	118.0	5.4	-9.9
Marion	216,907	339	1,034	709	1,743	124.4	5.1	-7.9
Darlington	286,228	447	1,383	777	2,160	132.5	4.8	-6.7
Dillon	214,069	334	955	545	1,500	142.7	4.5	1.2
Oconee	284,348	444	919	555	1,474	192.9	3.3	10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>124,482</b>	<b>101,324</b>	<b>225,806</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>

Table 3. County rankings based on total deer harvested in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2012
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. <sup>2</sup>	
Orangeburg	504,516	788	6,505	5,248	11,753	42.9	14.9	6.9
Newberry	317,761	497	4,363	3,661	8,024	39.6	16.2	10.3
Colleton	502,666	785	4,539	3,482	8,021	62.7	10.2	1.3
Fairfield	384,607	601	4,475	3,524	7,999	48.1	13.3	10.1
Williamsburg	513,851	803	4,283	3,235	7,518	68.3	9.4	-16.1
Hampton	324,840	508	3,666	3,753	7,419	43.8	14.6	19.3
Union	258,111	403	3,402	3,825	7,227	35.7	17.9	15.2
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,528	3,338	6,866	38.7	16.5	11.7
Laurens	317,916	497	3,451	2,912	6,363	50.0	12.8	5.8
Clarendon	298,087	466	2,924	3,029	5,953	50.1	12.8	17.5
Aiken	500,546	782	3,124	2,755	5,879	85.1	7.5	12.0
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,709	3,030	5,739	34.3	18.7	-2.6
Allendale	216,455	338	2,964	2,743	5,707	37.9	16.9	16.1
Kershaw	360,485	563	3,337	2,338	5,675	63.5	10.1	12.7
Chester	300,589	470	3,197	2,361	5,558	54.1	11.8	-17.6
Florence	397,888	622	3,398	2,141	5,539	71.8	8.9	10.8
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,455	2,056	5,511	103.0	6.2	0.6
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,720	2,758	5,478	55.3	11.6	13.8
Edgefield	246,543	385	2,979	2,452	5,431	45.4	14.1	8.5
York	276,650	432	2,664	2,666	5,330	51.9	12.3	5.8
Anderson	219,068	342	3,049	2,149	5,198	42.1	15.2	-7.8
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,928	2,194	5,122	43.6	14.7	-0.8
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,588	2,517	5,105	55.2	11.6	19.1
Lancaster	266,382	416	2,864	2,231	5,095	52.3	12.2	-3.3
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,603	2,290	4,893	39.0	16.4	23.5
Chesterfield	372,478	582	3,214	1,637	4,851	76.8	8.3	32.3
Horry	533,336	833	2,651	2,149	4,800	111.1	5.8	18.4
Sumter	338,968	530	2,686	1,996	4,682	72.4	8.8	-3.9
Charleston	288,732	451	2,522	1,812	4,334	66.6	9.6	-15.6
Greenwood	204,400	319	2,309	1,816	4,125	49.6	12.9	-16.9
Saluda	192,173	300	2,076	1,943	4,019	47.8	13.4	7.5
Jasper	309,889	484	2,079	1,727	3,806	81.4	7.9	-8.6
Lee	220,106	344	2,238	1,516	3,754	58.6	10.9	-12.0
Cherokee	156,664	245	2,192	1,466	3,658	42.8	14.9	8.8
Richland	340,121	531	2,012	1,496	3,508	97.0	6.6	0.2
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,772	1,614	3,386	118.0	5.4	-9.9
Lexington	280,742	439	1,772	1,257	3,029	92.7	6.9	1.0
Greenville	294,257	460	1,613	1,403	3,016	97.6	6.6	20.6
McCormick	212,021	331	1,811	1,151	2,962	71.6	8.9	-14.4
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,428	1,434	2,862	98.3	6.5	16.0
Pickens	219,926	344	1,229	951	2,180	100.9	6.3	10.4
Darlington	286,228	447	1,383	777	2,160	132.5	4.8	-6.7
Marion	216,907	339	1,034	709	1,743	124.4	5.1	-7.9
Beaufort	147,441	230	872	682	1,554	94.9	6.7	-33.0
Dillon	214,069	334	955	545	1,500	142.7	4.5	1.2
Oconee	284,348	444	919	555	1,474	192.9	3.3	10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>124,482</b>	<b>101,324</b>	<b>225,806</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>

Table 4. Estimated deer harvest on Wildlife Management Areas in South Carolina in 2013

<b>Area</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Bucks</b>	<b>Does</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Deer/Mi.<sup>2</sup></b>
Mountain Hunt Unit	193,566	847	613	1,460	4.8
Central Piedmont Hunt Unit	159,793	2,039	1,871	3,910	15.7
Western Piedmont Hunt Unit	119,077	1,237	919	2,156	11.6
<b>Subtotal for Upstate WMA's</b>	<b>472,436</b>	<b>4,123</b>	<b>3,403</b>	<b>7,525</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>Coastal WMA's*</b>					
Bear Island WMA	1,519	6	9	15	6.3
Bonneau Ferry	10,697	43	37	80	4.8
Botany Bay WMA	2,000	28	40	68	21.8
Crackerneck WMA	10,470	71	46	117	7.2
Cross Generating Station WMA	654	6	8	14	13.7
Donnelley WMA	8,048	33	37	70	5.6
Francis Marion WMA	252,578	118	93	211	0.5
Hamilton Ridge	13,281	42	46	88	4.2
Hickory Top WMA <sup>1</sup>	1,836			26	9.1
Manchester State Forest WMA	25,505	98	45	143	3.6
Moultrie WMA	9,480	10	11	21	1.4
Oak Lea WMA	2,024	38	24	62	19.6
Palachucola WMA	5,947	24	23	47	5.1
Santee Coastal Reserve WMA	5,000	3	1	4	0.5
Santee Cooper WMA <sup>1</sup>	2,828			47	10.6
Victoria Bluff WMA	800	1	1	2	1.6
Webb Wildlife Center WMA	5,866	25	38	63	6.9
<b>Subtotal for Coastal WMA's</b>	<b>358,533</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>830,969</b>	<b>4,669</b>	<b>3,862</b>	<b>8,603</b>	<b>6.6</b>

\*Check Station data. <sup>1</sup> No sex data for harvest.

Table 5. Hunter opinion (percent) regarding the number of deer in the area hunted most often in South Carolina in 2013 compared to previous years.

	<b>Increasing</b>	<b>About the Same</b>	<b>Decreasing</b>
<b>Residents</b>	15.1	50.1	34.8
<b>Non-Residents</b>	13.6	53.4	33.0
<b>Overall</b>	14.9	50.1	34.8

Table 6. Resident deer hunter and deer harvest statistics in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Number Hunters	Man/Days Hunted	Percent Success	Deer/Hunter	Days/Deer	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest
Abbeville	3,787	50,645	67	1.27	10.5	2,776	2,043	4,819
Aiken	4,243	69,957	65	1.26	13.1	2,875	2,479	5,354
Allendale	1,408	19,136	78	2.13	6.4	1,428	1,567	2,994
Anderson	4,105	60,519	68	1.25	11.8	2,994	2,122	5,116
Bamberg	2,181	37,200	83	2.14	8.0	2,142	2,518	4,660
Barnwell	1,923	34,581	80	2.24	8.0	2,201	2,102	4,303
Beaufort	773	8,170	74	1.79	5.9	734	654	1,388
Berkeley	3,688	74,734	72	1.46	13.9	3,331	2,043	5,374
Calhoun	2,836	45,965	76	1.69	9.6	2,601	2,179	4,781
Charleston	2,756	37,397	77	1.53	8.9	2,439	1,785	4,224
Cherokee	1,844	33,631	73	1.70	10.7	1,943	1,190	3,133
Chester	3,153	48,702	69	1.25	12.4	2,201	1,725	3,926
Chesterfield	2,320	47,748	76	1.77	11.6	2,717	1,388	4,105
Clarendon	2,518	45,647	79	2.32	7.8	2,856	2,974	5,830
Colleton	3,569	63,989	81	1.97	9.1	3,986	3,054	7,040
Darlington	1,567	25,401	66	1.29	12.6	1,329	694	2,023
Dillon	892	14,515	69	1.51	10.8	873	476	1,348
Dorchester	3,292	52,923	75	1.63	9.9	2,637	2,717	5,354
Edgefield	3,113	48,127	70	1.61	9.6	2,717	2,300	5,017
Fairfield	4,719	71,422	76	1.47	10.3	3,867	3,054	6,920
Florence	3,034	68,787	73	1.82	12.4	3,385	2,142	5,526
Georgetown	2,360	40,452	72	1.41	12.1	1,745	1,586	3,331
Greenville	2,816	35,118	65	1.03	12.1	1,544	1,348	2,893
Greenwood	2,935	43,108	78	1.34	10.9	2,241	1,705	3,946
Hampton	2,181	35,911	76	1.56	10.5	1,646	1,760	3,406
Horry	2,717	53,381	63	1.75	11.2	2,637	2,122	4,759
Jasper	1,170	13,603	84	1.76	6.6	1,110	952	2,062
Kershaw	3,708	61,509	72	1.34	12.4	2,895	2,062	4,957
Lancaster	2,479	44,873	77	1.65	11.0	2,379	1,705	4,085
Laurens	4,700	74,121	68	1.24	12.8	3,133	2,677	5,810
Lee	2,003	35,138	73	1.79	9.8	2,142	1,448	3,589
Lexington	2,697	37,358	67	1.11	12.5	1,745	1,249	2,994
McCormick	2,300	26,770	67	1.02	11.4	1,368	972	2,340
Marion	1,725	22,763	58	0.93	14.2	952	654	1,606
Marlboro	1,110	24,092	73	2.07	10.5	1,166	1,130	2,296
Newberry	4,462	61,132	70	1.66	8.2	4,045	3,371	7,416
Oconee	1,705	24,865	59	0.86	16.9	912	555	1,467
Orangeburg	6,068	120,796	77	1.77	11.2	6,008	4,750	10,758
Pickens	2,320	29,921	67	0.94	13.7	1,229	952	2,181
Richland	3,113	35,456	75	1.08	10.5	1,943	1,428	3,371
Saluda	2,479	34,800	81	1.62	8.7	2,062	1,943	4,005
Spartanburg	4,838	82,745	76	1.40	12.2	3,487	3,269	6,756
Sumter	3,311	48,245	72	1.39	10.5	2,617	1,983	4,600
Union	4,025	58,198	75	1.45	10.0	2,558	3,272	5,830
Williamsburg	3,847	61,511	76	1.74	9.2	3,827	2,875	6,702
York	3,173	53,282	61	1.56	10.7	2,498	2,459	4,957
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,963</b>	<b>2,118,344</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>109,920</b>	<b>89,433</b>	<b>199,353</b>
<b>% Change from 2012</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>

Table 7. Non-resident deer hunter and deer harvest statistics in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Number Hunters	Man/Days Hunted	Percent Success	Deer/Hunter	Days/Deer	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest
Abbeville	166	2,215	67	1.83	7.3	152	152	305
Aiken	318	6,548	65	1.65	12.4	249	277	526
Allendale	1,190	15,476	81	2.28	5.7	1,537	1,177	2,713
Anderson	97	678	57	0.86	8.2	55	28	83
Bamberg	623	8,527	82	1.73	7.9	568	512	1,080
Barnwell	374	4,873	74	2.15	6.1	388	415	803
Beaufort	125	1,190	88	1.33	7.2	138	28	166
Berkeley	83	1,066	83	1.67	7.7	125	14	138
Calhoun	111	1,066	87	2.50	9.5	2	111	112
Charleston	152	1,993	36	0.73	18.0	83	28	111
Cherokee	166	4,443	83	3.17	8.4	249	277	526
Chester	1,149	18,840	66	1.42	11.5	997	637	1,633
Chesterfield	457	8,029	67	1.64	10.7	498	249	748
Clarendon	55	471	50	2.25	3.8	69	55	125
Colleton	471	5,731	82	2.09	5.8	554	429	983
Darlington	152	900	64	0.91	6.5	55	83	138
Dillon	69	1,218	80	2.20	8.0	83	69	152
Dorchester	97	595	71	1.29	4.8	83	42	125
Edgefield	249	4,637	67	1.67	11.2	263	152	415
Fairfield	678	11,974	79	1.59	11.1	609	471	1,080
Florence	83	429	33	0.17	31.0	14	0	14
Georgetown	55	291	50	1.00	5.3	28	28	55
Greenville	97	332	100	1.29	2.7	69	55	125
Greenwood	138	2,685	80	1.30	14.9	69	111	180
Hampton	1,813	28,668	79	2.21	7.1	2,021	1,993	4,014
Horry	42	346	67	1.00	8.3	14	28	42
Jasper	886	14,507	75	1.97	8.3	969	775	1,744
Kershaw	540	6,049	69	1.33	8.4	443	277	720
Lancaster	664	10,520	81	1.52	10.4	485	526	1,011
Laurens	305	4,969	72	1.82	9.0	318	235	554
Lee	152	872	54	1.09	5.3	97	69	166
Lexington	83	637	33	0.43	0.0	28	8	36
McCormick	415	7,696	76	1.50	12.4	443	180	623
Marion	83	595	67	1.67	4.3	83	55	138
Marlboro	291	8,153	67	1.95	14.4	263	305	568
Newberry	388	4,499	78	1.57	7.4	318	291	609
Oconee	69	981	67	0.10	141.7	7	0	7
Orangeburg	360	5,122	69	2.77	5.1	498	498	997
Pickens	55	286	50	0.00	0.0	0	0	0
Richland	138	1,011	60	1.00	7.3	69	69	138
Saluda	42	305	100	0.33	22.0	14	0	14
Spartanburg	138	1,523	40	0.80	13.8	42	69	111
Sumter	152	1,661	54	0.55	20.0	69	14	83
Union	831	10,811	71	1.68	7.7	844	554	1,398
Williamsburg	277	2,326	80	2.95	2.8	457	360	817
York	429	6,395	52	0.87	17.1	166	208	374
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,310</b>	<b>222,140</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>14,585</b>	<b>11,913</b>	<b>26,498</b>
<b>% Change from 2012</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>-14.7</b>	<b>-11.9</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>9.8</b>

Table 8. Hunting effort (man/days) by county for successful and unsuccessful resident and nonresident deer hunters in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Residents (man/days)			Total Effort Residents	Non-Residents (man/days)			Total Effort Non-residents	Total Days
	Successful	Unsuccessful	Average		Successful	Unsuccessful	Average		
Abbeville	17.4	8.0	13.4	50,645	15.3	9.5	13.3	2,215	52,859
Aiken	23.1	11.5	16.5	69,957	26.1	12.4	20.6	6,548	76,505
Allendale	18.4	5.8	13.6	19,136	15.1	4.1	13.0	15,476	34,612
Anderson	20.9	7.1	14.7	60,519	11.3	5.0	7.0	678	61,197
Bamberg	21.5	12.1	17.1	37,200	16.0	5.3	13.7	8,527	45,728
Barnwell	20.3	16.1	18.0	34,581	16.3	3.7	13.0	4,873	39,454
Beaufort	10.5	13.1	10.6	8,170	11.9	1.0	9.6	1,190	9,360
Berkeley	25.2	12.2	20.3	74,734	15.0	2.0	12.8	1,066	75,800
Calhoun	20.6	7.9	16.2	45,965	10.7	2.0	9.6	1,066	47,030
Charleston	18.2	5.9	13.6	37,397	24.3	6.7	13.1	1,993	39,390
Cherokee	23.3	9.4	18.2	33,631	31.5	3.0	26.8	4,443	38,075
Chester	20.5	11.0	15.4	48,702	19.7	14.6	16.4	18,840	67,542
Chesterfield	25.3	13.6	20.6	47,748	20.3	12.1	17.6	8,029	55,777
Clarendon	22.4	11.7	18.1	45,647	10.5	6.5	8.5	471	46,117
Colleton	23.0	9.6	17.9	63,989	14.1	7.3	12.2	5,731	69,720
Darlington	24.4	6.9	16.2	25,401	8.8	2.5	5.9	900	26,301
Dillon	20.9	6.1	16.3	14,515	19.8	9.0	17.6	1,218	15,733
Dorchester	18.6	14.7	16.1	52,923	6.0	6.5	6.1	595	53,518
Edgefield	20.3	8.6	15.5	48,127	17.8	22.2	18.6	4,637	52,764
Fairfield	19.1	8.1	15.1	71,422	20.4	10.4	17.7	11,974	83,396
Florence	28.0	13.2	22.7	68,787	2.0	6.0	5.2	429	69,216
Georgetown	22.3	11.6	17.1	40,452	7.0	3.5	5.3	291	40,743
Greenville	18.1	8.8	12.5	35,118	3.4	0.0	3.4	332	35,450
Greenwood	17.8	11.3	14.7	43,108	22.9	16.0	19.4	2,685	45,793
Hampton	22.9	6.3	16.5	35,911	18.3	7.9	15.8	28,668	64,579
Horry	27.1	10.2	19.7	53,381	10.0	5.0	8.3	346	53,727
Jasper	13.8	11.3	11.6	13,603	17.6	15.0	16.4	14,507	28,110
Kershaw	23.8	8.7	16.6	61,509	14.2	8.8	11.2	6,049	67,558
Lancaster	22.8	8.5	18.1	44,873	18.3	9.4	15.8	10,520	55,394
Laurens	20.3	11.4	15.8	74,121	22.5	6.8	16.3	4,969	79,090
Lee	22.4	9.5	17.5	35,138	7.0	4.8	5.7	872	36,010
Lexington	18.2	8.2	13.9	37,358	11.0	6.0	7.7	637	37,995
McCormick	16.6	6.9	11.6	26,770	22.1	6.9	18.5	7,696	34,466
Marion	20.8	8.3	13.2	22,763	8.3	5.0	7.2	595	23,358
Marlboro	30.0	9.5	21.7	24,092	40.7	8.6	28.0	8,153	32,245
Newberry	19.4	6.8	13.7	61,132	15.2	3.8	11.6	4,499	65,631
Oconee	23.9	8.5	14.6	24,865	25.5	6.0	14.2	981	25,846
Orangeburg	24.1	13.2	19.9	120,796	19.2	4.3	14.2	5,122	125,918
Pickens	17.8	11.3	12.9	29,921	0.0	5.3	5.2	286	30,207
Richland	13.2	10.8	11.4	35,456	8.7	5.3	7.3	1,011	36,466
Saluda	16.2	11.3	14.0	34,800	16.0	0.0	7.3	305	35,105
Spartanburg	21.1	11.9	17.1	82,745	23.0	6.2	11.0	1,523	84,268
Sumter	20.1	7.5	14.6	48,245	12.7	8.8	10.9	1,661	49,906
Union	18.5	9.6	14.5	58,198	14.1	12.6	13.0	10,811	69,009
Williamsburg	19.9	10.8	16.0	61,511	10.3	3.0	8.4	2,326	63,837
York	23.5	9.7	16.8	53,282	17.9	12.0	14.9	6,395	59,677
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>2,118,344</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>222,140</b>	<b>2,340,484</b>
<b>% Change from 2012</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>

Table 9. Estimated deer harvest by weapon type in South Carolina in 2013.

	<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>	180,193	14,452	21,452	5,419	2,484	1,806	225,806
<b>Percent Total Deer Harvest</b>	79.8	6.4	9.5	2.4	1.1	0.8	100.0
<b>Percent Hunter Success With Weapon</b>	65.5	29.3	33.4	28.9	21.9	9.1	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 2013.

	<b>Rifle</b>	<b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b>	<b>Shotgun</b>	<b>Muzzle-loader</b>	<b>Crossbow</b>	<b>Handgun</b>
<b>Residents</b>	121,142	31,671	36,554	16,759	9,765	4,619
<b>Non-Residents</b>	14,545	2,358	1,347	3,031	1,056	429
<b>Total</b>	135,687	34,029	37,901	19,791	10,822	5,047

Total across weapons not given because hunters use multiple weapons. Total hunters = 147,273.

Table 11. Weapons utilization (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2013.

	<b>Rifle</b>	<b>Bow &amp; Arrow</b>	<b>Shotgun</b>	<b>Muzzle-loader</b>	<b>Crossbow</b>	<b>Handgun</b>
<b>Residents</b>	91.8*	24.0*	27.7*	12.7*	7.4	3.5
<b>Non-Residents</b>	95	15.4	8.8	19.8	6.9	2.8
<b>Total</b>	92.4	22.5	24.4	14.0	7.3	3.4

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

Table 12. Weapons preference (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2013.

	<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>	77.8	12.3*	7.9*	0.9*	0.9	0.3	100.0
<b>Non-Residents</b>	83.7	9.1	2.4	3.4	0.7	0.7	100.0
<b>Total</b>	78.8	11.8	6.9	1.4	0.8	0.3	100.0

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

Table 13. Estimated wild hog and coyote harvest by deer hunters in South Carolina in 2013.  
Rank is by per unit area harvested.

County	Hog Harv.	Harv./ Mile <sup>2</sup>	% Change from 2012	2013 Rank	2012 Rank	Coyote Harv.	Harv./ Mile <sup>2</sup>	% Change from 2012	2013 Rank	2012 Rank
Abbeville	2,275	6.53	56.6	1	1	1,307	3.75	79.7	1	9
Aiken	924	1.18	5.9	27	18	1,284	1.64	1.4	18	18
Allendale	1,735	5.13	-21.2	2	2	653	1.93	31.2	10	13
Anderson	1,622	4.74	62.7	3	13	969	2.83	-4.7	4	1
Bamberg	406	1.32	-21.9	22	30	383	1.25	23.1	28	32
Barnwell	360	0.82	-42.1	32	26	631	1.43	78.7	22	41
Beaufort	113	0.49	-39.8	42	37	23	0.10	-72.9	46	45
Berkeley	1,352	1.52	41.5	17	14	428	0.48	-14.0	41	38
Calhoun	856	2.87	32.9	6	7	270	0.91	-49.9	34	26
Charleston	1,217	2.70	36.2	8	3	428	0.95	-10.4	33	32
Cherokee	293	1.20	40.8	24	28	721	2.95	57.8	3	24
Chester	383	0.82	-12.2	32	35	1,104	2.35	-8.3	7	8
Chesterfield	698	1.20	60.2	24	29	1,014	1.74	74.5	15	20
Clarendon	698	1.50	16.0	18	9	743	1.60	-5.8	20	16
Colleton	1,487	1.89	-12.7	12	6	563	0.72	-28.6	38	37
Darlington	721	1.61	-11.0	16	22	293	0.65	-49.6	40	22
Dillon	203	0.61	-69.5	39	43	135	0.40	-35.0	42	28
Dorchester	1,329	2.81	-5.9	7	23	766	1.62	104.8	19	43
Edgefield	270	0.70	543.7	37	44	541	1.40	-33.2	23	15
Fairfield	676	1.12	-20.6	28	19	1,172	1.95	17.5	9	21
Florence	743	1.20	23.5	26	31	631	1.01	-10.6	31	34
Georgetown	901	1.44	-42.9	19	20	473	0.76	-18.6	36	44
Greenville	90	0.20	-71.0	46	34	811	1.76	-23.4	14	40
Greenwood	541	1.69	8.6	13	8	698	2.19	-1.1	8	6
Hampton	2,366	4.66	46.0	4	10	766	1.51	47.6	21	38
Horry	1,397	1.68	-9.1	14	16	135	0.16	-35.0	45	42
Jasper	698	1.44	-6.5	19	12	338	0.70	25.2	39	36
Kershaw	924	1.64	53.4	15	14	969	1.72	11.1	17	19
Lancaster	180	0.43	8.6	43	31	991	2.38	40.4	6	5
Laurens	248	0.50	-14.8	40	40	946	1.90	-40.8	11	4
Lee	270	0.79	543.7	34	37	473	1.38	-8.8	24	31
Lexington	113	0.26	81.7	45	46	315	0.72	-41.6	37	11
McCormick	473	1.43	42.5	21	24	315	0.95	-15.7	32	10
Marion	653	1.93	-55.0	11	4	90	0.27	-83.3	44	14
Marlboro	406	0.92	-58.5	30	17	586	1.33	65.9	25	46
Newberry	248	0.50	49.3	40	36	901	1.82	-26.4	12	3
Oconee	383	0.86	-3.0	31	26	338	0.76	-57.2	35	30
Orangeburg	315	0.40	-47.6	44	39	1,036	1.31	-27.7	26	17
Pickens	360	1.05	188.4	29	42	113	0.33	-63.8	43	29
Richland	1,329	2.50	60.0	9	31	676	1.27	-30.8	27	25
Saluda	225	0.75	80.2	35	21	969	3.23	1.4	2	2
Spartanburg	270	0.65	44.6	38	25	721	1.73	-42.1	16	22
Sumter	1,284	2.42	-7.7	10	5	608	1.15	12.6	30	27
Union	496	1.23	165.1	23	45	721	1.79	-0.8	13	12
Williamsburg	2,433	3.03	166.2	5	10	969	1.21	45.9	29	34
York	315	0.73	26.7	36	40	1,059	2.45	-13.6	5	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,281</b>	<b>1.61</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>30,076</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>
	<b>(+ -) 2,337</b>					<b>(+ -) 1,539</b>				

95% Confidence Interval for harvest  
Ranking is based on harvest per square mile

Table 14. Number of deer-vehicle collisions reported by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety 2006-2012. Data for 2013 was not available at printing.

County	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Abbeville	11	22	10	8	12	10	11
Aiken	47	57	54	59	62	59	66
Allendale	10	13	5	8	12	8	8
Anderson	47	67	75	87	116	89	103
Bamberg	20	14	14	21	14	15	17
Barnwell	29	13	11	16	20	15	14
Beaufort	110	128	157	155	163	123	143
Berkeley	40	62	66	84	87	88	98
Calhoun	10	16	27	14	15	24	40
Charleston	175	194	200	182	219	131	203
Cherokee	10	7	13	17	15	19	23
Chester	7	22	17	20	19	18	23
Chesterfield	7	18	20	25	15	14	13
Clarendon	16	34	35	47	50	49	34
Colleton	45	59	64	60	55	66	69
Darlington	13	24	38	29	35	37	44
Dillon	8	5	8	17	27	15	25
Dorchester	48	82	63	67	63	82	73
Edgefield	17	24	15	12	12	4	7
Fairfield	9	26	16	15	22	25	35
Florence	24	40	39	56	66	69	84
Georgetown	8	15	16	20	24	31	46
Greenville	56	87	63	96	133	113	122
Greenwood	33	63	21	27	29	10	14
Hampton	25	14	16	13	29	20	11
Horry	45	67	70	95	85	98	94
Jasper	50	61	75	63	76	59	53
Kershaw	18	30	24	29	71	54	43
Lancaster	11	13	29	20	14	22	20
Laurens	48	51	45	27	28	22	16
Lee	8	15	18	27	35	33	32
Lexington	34	50	37	36	46	42	60
McCormick	11	12	11	4	4	3	6
Marion	4	10	15	13	19	33	35
Marlboro	7	9	14	10	19	21	18
Newberry	31	31	21	14	22	14	7
Oconee	13	15	17	18	12	15	17
Orangeburg	64	88	86	55	62	82	114
Pickens	18	13	21	22	23	17	22
Richland	64	94	96	100	101	91	92
Saluda	10	27	25	11	8	8	9
Spartanburg	94	91	106	113	117	133	139
Sumter	30	48	58	51	73	75	60
Union	9	10	12	17	8	6	19
Williamsburg	19	30	42	42	39	55	68
York	53	43	36	31	38	27	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>1,914</b>	<b>1,921</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>2,214</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>2,281</b>

Table 15. Average live body weights of deer from South Carolina counties, based on historic data.

COUNTY	Males				Females			
	1.5 Years Old		2.5+ Years Old		1.5 Years Old		2.5+ Years Old	
	N	Avg. Wt.	N	Avg. Wt.	N	Avg. Wt.	N	Avg. Wt.
Abbeville	1,390	111.7	484	145.9	466	90.4	747	102.7
Aiken	2,667	121.6	1,485	162.6	808	94.9	1,522	109.6
Allendale	6,175	108.9	3,333	146.0	2,503	87.7	5,606	100.8
Anderson	30	121.9	17	148.1	4	92.5	8	113.0
Bamberg	2,414	111.9	1,113	142.4	884	91.4	1,721	103.9
Barnwell	1,478	119.1	695	156.6	601	94.3	1,071	106.9
Beaufort	952	101.6	1,236	135.2	690	86.7	1,818	99.8
Berkeley	3,162	100.6	4,198	127.3	1,086	83.4	3,991	97.2
Calhoun	1,588	110.2	633	144.1	312	91.4	943	104.6
Charleston	1,256	97.9	2,088	123.3	422	83.3	1,581	95.8
Cherokee	1	80.0	1	139.0	9	77.8	26	89.6
Chester	1,445	105.9	963	140.1	470	87.4	1,091	99.4
Chesterfield	79	119.4	140	152.5	27	93.5	1,128	99.8
Clarendon	13	101.3	29	152.5	42	89.6	87	103.0
Colleton	5,822	105.6	6,908	135.5	3,279	87.9	8,920	100.4
Darlington	334	113.6	273	153.3	216	92.8	573	105.2
Dillon	74	112.8	46	138.5	13	92.8	50	103.9
Dorchester	1,868	107.2	2,205	137.0	653	88.0	2,055	103.0
Edgefield	556	100.9	334	133.4	159	84.6	306	96.9
Fairfield	2,048	102.1	1,444	136.5	761	86.3	2,021	99.2
Florence	696	110.8	459	139.2	198	89.6	621	102.8
Georgetown	1,881	98.7	2,281	126.1	668	85.6	1,961	97.6
Greenville	7	122.1	9	149.9	7	79.3	16	98.4
Greenwood	1,158	111.4	537	145.1	313	90.2	629	103.0
Hampton	6,103	106.7	4,710	140.0	3,034	87.2	7,236	100.5
Horry	302	96.1	311	126.1	129	79.2	301	91.3
Jasper	3,385	101.8	4,691	135.4	2,142	84.6	5,948	96.9
Kershaw	603	108.9	588	144.6	251	89.6	758	102.9
Lancaster	472	113.1	246	153.3	213	91.4	441	105.2
Laurens	240	104.7	181	132.9	107	87.3	238	96.9
Lee	472	119.6	187	151.3	162	96.6	330	108.5
Lexington	20	120.8	9	164.8	6	101.3	15	115.8
McCormick	2,354	101.5	1,056	134.5	877	85.3	1,745	97.3
Marion	690	108.5	501	138.7	256	88.6	630	98.7
Marlboro	106	115.0	62	149.8	30	95.0	70	107.8
Newberry	143	97.1	100	135.6	85	86.0	171	92.7
Oconee	74	113.1	58	152.6	33	85.3	39	99.6
Orangeburg	2,293	112.5	1,375	145.0	686	90.8	1,684	103.4
Pickens	47	109.1	41	145.4	18	79.9	48	100.5
Richland	1,320	106.1	1,274	145.2	651	92.7	1,879	106.3
Saluda	100	115.8	40	148.0	25	93.6	34	105.2
Spartanburg	34	109.3	22	142.2	13	95.0	31	98.8
Sumter	666	111.3	353	142.1	188	94.4	509	105.3
Union	958	101.7	608	135.8	439	87.9	761	97.8
Williamsburg	469	112.5	559	143.3	150	91.4	478	106.0
York	13	96.9	30	143.9	20	78.7	41	93.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,958</b>	<b>107.3</b>	<b>47,913</b>	<b>137.9</b>	<b>24,106</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>61,879</b>	<b>100.6</b>

Table 16. Antler characteristics of male deer from South Carolina counties, based on historic data

COUNTY	1.5 Years Old Males			2.5+ Years Old Males			% 1.5 Bucks in Antlered Harvest
	Number Points	Percent Spikes	Outside Spread	Number Points	Percent Spikes	Outside Spread	
Abbeville	4.2	32		7.2	2		74
Aiken	4.4	28	8.7	7.4	1	14.7	64
Allendale	4.0	36	7.7	7.2	3	13.7	65
Anderson	4.7	28		6.8	0		63
Bamberg	4.0	34	7.6	6.7	4	12.5	68
Barnwell	4.6	21	8.7	7.1	2	13.9	68
Beaufort	3.1	58	7.4	6.4	9	13.0	44
Berkeley	3.0	62	6.6	5.8	12	11.5	43
Calhoun	4.0	33	7.4	7.0	3	13.2	72
Charleston	2.8	69	6.2	5.4	15	10.6	38
Cherokee				7.0	0		50
Chester	3.4	47	8.7	6.7	4	13.9	61
Chesterfield	4.5	21	8.6	7.2			61
Clarendon	2.8	58	6.2	7.7	3	12.9	31
Colleton	3.3	50	6.9	6.4	7	11.7	46
Darlington	3.1	57	7.4	6.7	5	13.7	55
Dillon	3.2	54	8.1	5.7	9	11.6	62
Dorchester	3.3	53	6.6	6.0	9	11.1	46
Edgefield	3.3	50		6.6	5		63
Fairfield	3.1	55	7.5	6.4	6	13.8	59
Florence	3.4	47	7.4	6.1	9	12.1	60
Georgetown	2.8	65	6.6	5.6	13	11.0	45
Greenville	4.7	14		7.6	0		44
Greenwood	3.9	34		6.7	3		68
Hampton	3.9	39	7.7	6.9	4	13.0	56
Horry	3.0	58	6.8	6.2	8	12.1	49
Jasper	3.3	52	7.0	6.6	6	12.8	42
Kershaw	3.6	47	7.7	6.9	7	12.3	51
Lancaster	4.3	27	6.7	7.4	0	15.0	66
Laurens	3.2	53	6.7	6.0	10	13.7	57
Lee	4.3	25	8.4	6.7	2	12.9	72
Lexington	4.1	30	9.1	7.3	0	15.7	69
McCormick	3.5	47		6.8	4		69
Marion	3.3	52	7.3	6.2	10	12.4	58
Marlboro	3.1	53	7.0	6.4	10	12.6	63
Newberry	2.8	54		6.3	8	13.3	59
Oconee	3.4	52		7.3	3		56
Orangeburg	3.8	38	7.6	6.8	5	12.6	63
Pickens	4.0	43		7.2	2		53
Richland	3.3	52	7.3	6.8	5	13.5	51
Saluda	4.0	32	9.0	6.9	0	10.8	71
Spartanburg	4.0	33	6.1	7.1	0		61
Sumter	3.7	41	7.7	6.6	5	12.5	65
Union	3.3	51	7.2	6.6	5	13.6	61
Williamsburg	3.6	43	7.6	6.8	5	12.6	46
York	3.1	60	5.3	7.4	0	13.3	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>55</b>

# Figure 1. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources 2013 Deer Hunter Survey

January, 2014

Dear Sportsman:

White-tailed deer are one of the most important game species in South Carolina. Therefore, it is important that this species be monitored for population status and harvesting activities. Wildlife resource managers require current and accurate information about deer harvests to aid in successfully managing this important natural resource and to optimize future hunting potential. To obtain this needed data, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is conducting a survey of licensed Big Game Permit holders.

You are one of a group of randomly selected hunters asked to participate in this survey. To draw accurate conclusions it is very important that you complete the survey and return it. Please take time to read each question. Even if you did not hunt deer last season please indicate this by answering the appropriate questions and moving on to the next set of questions.

In addition to the questions concerning your deer hunting activities, there are questions concerning the weapons that you used to harvest deer and questions concerning the number of wild hogs and coyotes that you may have harvested. Not only is this data important to DNR game biologists, many hunters are interested in this type of information so it is important that you answer these questions too.

Please note that complete confidentiality will be given to you. There is no number on your survey form, therefore, there is no way to link your responses to you. Keep in mind that the primary purpose of the survey is to determine the deer harvest in South Carolina and not to determine whether game laws are observed. By accurately answering the survey questions you will enable DNR biologists to better manage the white-tailed deer resource for you and other citizens of the state.

Please keep in mind that in order to reduce costs, this is the only 2013 Deer Hunter Survey form you will receive. There will be no reminders or second surveys sent to individuals that do not respond to this initial survey. Therefore, it is very important that you take a few minutes to complete this survey and mail it. Return postage is prepaid.

Results of this survey will be posted on the DNR web site once completed (hopefully by June). The results from the 2012 survey can be found at [www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/deer/2012/DeerHarvestReport.html](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/deer/2012/DeerHarvestReport.html)

Thank you for your assistance.



Charles Ruth  
Wildlife Biologist  
Deer/Turkey Project Supervisor

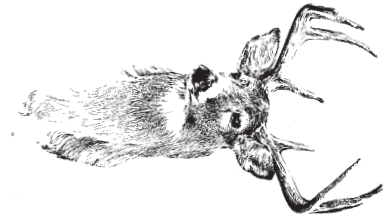
**PLEASE MAIL YOUR SURVEY AFTER SEPARATING THIS HALF FROM THE SIDE ON WHICH YOUR ANSWERS HAVE BEEN ENTERED. NO POSTAGE IS NECESSARY.**

If you have questions regarding this survey, please call 803-734-3886 or write 2013 Deer Hunter Survey, SCDNR, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202.

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, disability, religion or age. Direct all inquiries to the Office of Human Resources, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202

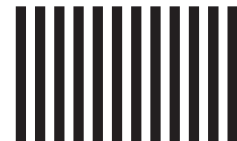
13-8829

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SC DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 167  
COLUMBIA SC 29202-9976**

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UNITED STATES

Figure 1 Cont.

2013 South Carolina Deer Hunter Survey

1. Did you hunt deer in SC this past season (2013)? 1. Yes      2. No  
If you answered **No** to this question please **go to question # 9.**
2. Did you harvest any deer in SC this past season? 1. Yes      2. No
3. Even if you did not harvest any deer, please record the SC counties you deer hunted and the number of days hunted in each county this past season (2013). Please begin with the county you hunted the most. If you harvested deer please record the number of bucks and does taken in each county. A day of hunting is defined as any portion of the day spent afield. Please do not give ranges (i.e. 5-10), rather provide absolute numbers (i.e. 5). Provide information only for yourself - not friends, relatives, or other hunt club members.

Counties You Deer Hunted	# Days Hunted	Number Deer Harvested	
		# Bucks	#Does
1		# Bucks	#Does
2		# Bucks	#Does
3		# Bucks	#Does
4		# Bucks	#Does

If you did not harvest any deer in SC in 2013 please go to question # 6.

4. Please record the number of deer taken by month of season in SC last season (2013).

August	September	October	November	December	January

5. Please record the number of deer taken with each weapon in SC last season (2013).

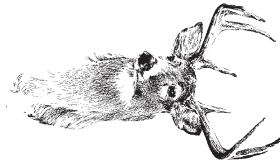
Rifle	Bow	Shotgun	Muzzleloader	Crossbow	Handgun

6. Please circle **all** the weapons that you hunted deer with in 2013.  
1. Rifle    2. Bow    3. Shotgun    4. Muzzleloader    5. Crossbow    6. Handgun
7. Please circle the **one** weapon that you **prefer to hunt deer with.**  
1. Rifle    2. Bow    3. Shotgun    4. Muzzleloader    5. Crossbow    6. Handgun
8. Compared to past years, how would you describe the number of deer in the area that you hunt most often? **Circle one**  
1. Increasing    2. About the same    3. Decreasing
9. If you **harvested** any wild hogs or coyotes while hunting in SC in 2013, please complete the box below.  
If you did not harvest any hogs or coyotes please **go to question # 10.**

County	# Hogs	County	# Coyotes
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	

10. Are you a resident of SC? 1. Yes      2. No
11. If yes, which county \_\_\_\_\_

Separate and return this portion of the survey. Postage is prepaid. Please do not staple this form.



**Help Manage  
SC's Deer Herd**  
**COMPLETE YOUR  
HUNTER  
SURVEY**



DNR

DEER HUNTER SURVEY  
 SCDNR  
 PO BOX 167  
 COLUMBIA SC 29202-0167  
 www.dnr.sc.gov

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Figure 2. Percent of deer harvested by month of season in South Carolina in 2013. Note that December includes January 1 which is the last day of deer season.

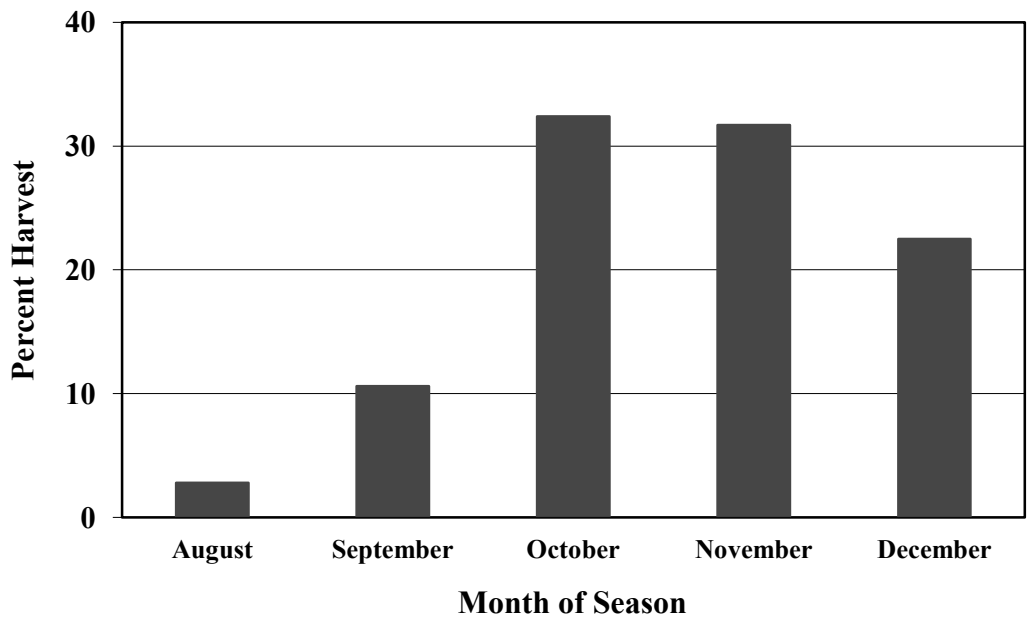


Figure 3. Percent of female deer conceiving by week in South Carolina, based on historic data.

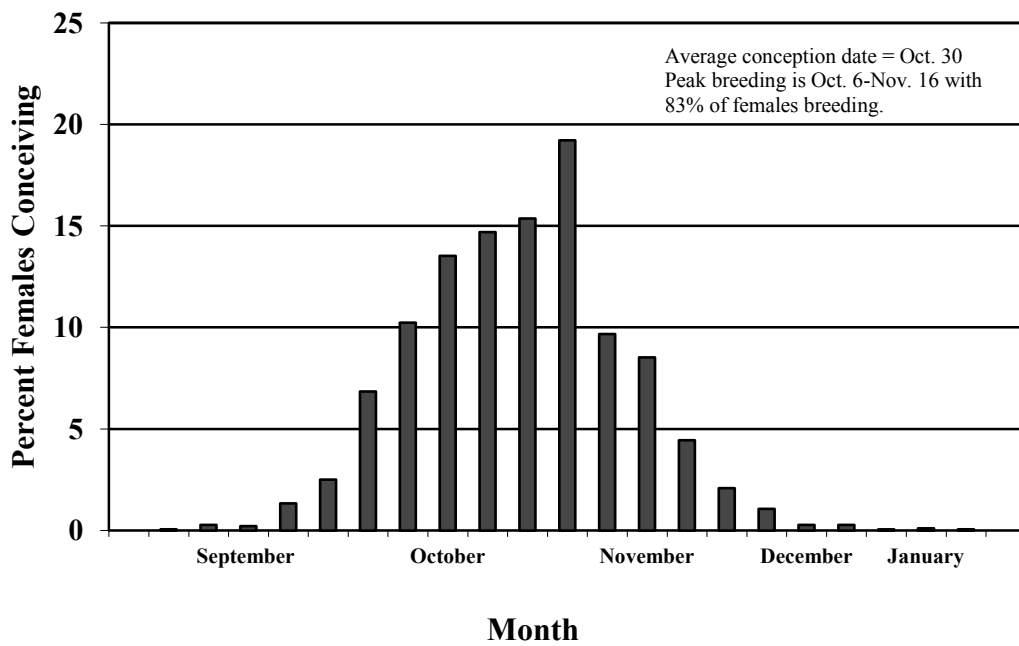


Figure 4. Estimated deer harvest in South Carolina 1972-2013.

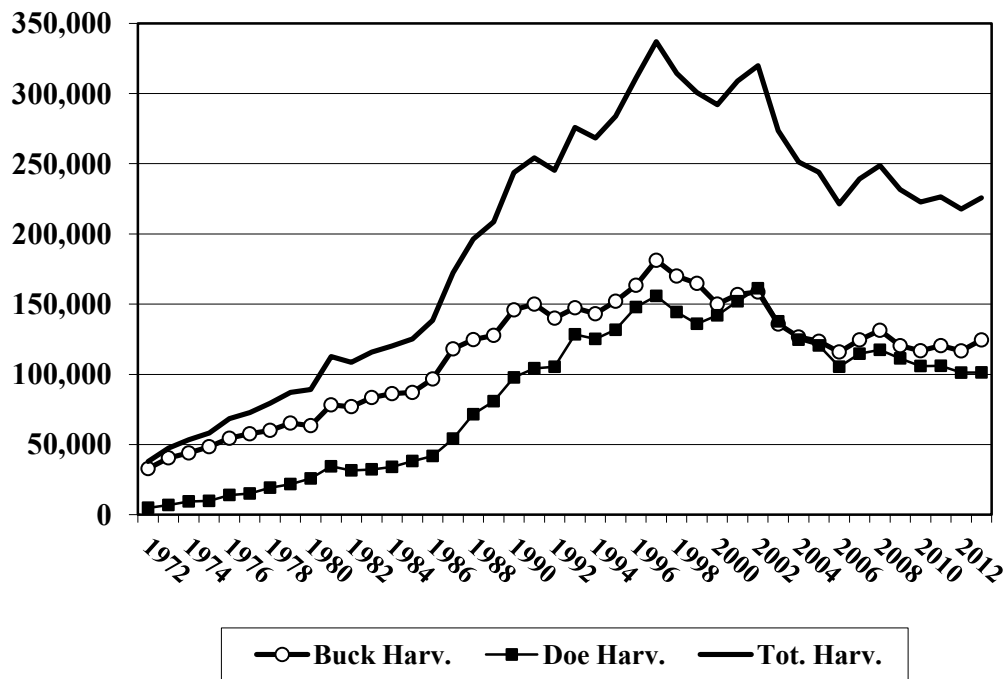


Figure 5. Estimated South Carolina deer population 1972-2013 based on population reconstruction modeling. Note that antlerless deer includes male fawns (button bucks).

