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Table 1. Estimated statewide deer harvest in South Carolina in 2017.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2016
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. ²	
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,244	1,975	4,219	52.9	12.1	35.6
Aiken	500,546	782	2,919	1,976	4,895	102.3	6.3	16.5
Allendale	216,455	338	1,960	1,721	3,681	58.8	10.9	31.9
Anderson	219,068	342	3,969	2,633	6,602	33.2	19.3	0.8
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,152	3,060	5,212	37.7	17.0	56.0
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,440	2,452	4,892	57.6	11.1	52.9
Beaufort	147,441	230	998	850	1,848	79.8	8.0	4.5
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,269	2,580	5,849	97.0	6.6	52.3
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,004	2,118	4,122	46.2	13.8	-0.8
Charleston	288,732	451	2,251	2,150	4,401	65.6	9.8	43.6
Cherokee	156,664	245	1,288	983	2,271	69.0	9.3	-0.5
Chester	300,589	470	3,010	1,710	4,720	63.7	10.0	6.6
Chesterfield	372,478	582	2,089	1,498	3,587	103.9	6.2	-11.6
Clarendon	298,087	466	1,820	1,429	3,249	91.8	7.0	-29.2
Colleton	502,666	785	3,899	3,563	7,462	67.4	9.5	9.0
Darlington	286,228	447	1,138	1,257	2,395	119.5	5.4	51.2
Dillon	214,069	334	518	640	1,158	184.8	3.5	3.6
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,438	2,020	4,458	67.9	9.4	17.6
Edgefield	246,543	385	1,625	1,131	2,756	89.4	7.2	-4.9
Fairfield	384,607	601	3,318	2,647	5,965	64.5	9.9	39.5
Florence	397,888	622	2,142	1,903	4,045	98.4	6.5	-4.3
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,326	1,498	2,824	141.5	4.5	5.4
Greenville	294,257	460	1,917	1,307	3,224	91.3	7.0	-5.1
Greenwood	204,400	319	1,795	1,142	2,937	69.6	9.2	2.9
Hampton	324,840	508	3,744	3,785	7,529	43.1	14.8	18.0
Horry	533,336	833	2,580	1,352	3,932	135.6	4.7	31.5
Jasper	309,889	484	1,335	1,422	2,757	112.4	5.7	-25.3
Kershaw	360,485	563	1,810	1,543	3,353	107.5	6.0	-22.1
Lancaster	266,382	416	1,763	1,289	3,052	87.3	7.3	-2.2
Laurens	317,916	497	3,030	1,890	4,920	64.6	9.9	-17.7
Lee	220,106	344	1,636	1,420	3,056	72.0	8.9	10.0
Lexington	280,742	439	1,832	1,099	2,931	95.8	6.7	-16.7
McCormick	212,021	331	1,701	1,094	2,795	75.9	8.4	-3.2
Marion	216,907	339	1,306	637	1,943	111.6	5.7	71.0
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,251	1,063	2,314	121.6	5.3	60.8
Newberry	317,761	497	3,085	2,101	5,186	61.3	10.4	9.7
Oconee	284,348	444	1,477	840	2,317	122.7	5.2	11.7
Orangeburg	504,516	788	4,703	4,616	9,319	54.1	11.8	-4.5
Pickens	219,926	344	1,290	652	1,942	113.2	5.7	-16.3
Richland	340,121	531	1,787	1,409	3,196	106.4	6.0	36.3
Saluda	192,173	300	1,938	1,617	3,555	54.1	11.8	12.3
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,134	2,124	5,258	50.6	12.7	-19.6
Sumter	338,968	530	2,284	1,583	3,867	87.7	7.3	36.1
Union	258,111	403	1,964	1,727	3,691	69.9	9.2	-19.0
Williamsburg	513,851	803	3,692	3,404	7,096	72.4	8.8	32.3
York	276,650	432	2,390	2,115	4,505	61.4	10.4	-16.2
Total	14,028,896	21,920	102,261	83,025	185,286	83.4	8.7	6.9
95% Confidence Interval for harvest			(+ -) 3,402	(+ -) 3,592	(+ -) 8,251			

* 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 2017.

County	Acres	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2016
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. ²	
Anderson	219,068	342	3,969	2,633	6,602	33.2	19.3	0.8
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,152	3,060	5,212	37.7	17.0	56.0
Hampton	324,840	508	3,744	3,785	7,529	43.1	14.8	18.0
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,004	2,118	4,122	46.2	13.8	-0.8
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,134	2,124	5,258	50.6	12.7	-19.6
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,244	1,975	4,219	52.9	12.1	35.6
Saluda	192,173	300	1,938	1,617	3,555	54.1	11.8	12.3
Orangeburg	504,516	788	4,703	4,616	9,319	54.1	11.8	-4.5
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,440	2,452	4,892	57.6	11.1	52.9
Allendale	216,455	338	1,960	1,721	3,681	58.8	10.9	31.9
Newberry	317,761	497	3,085	2,101	5,186	61.3	10.4	9.7
York	276,650	432	2,390	2,115	4,505	61.4	10.4	-16.2
Chester	300,589	470	3,010	1,710	4,720	63.7	10.0	6.6
Fairfield	384,607	601	3,318	2,647	5,965	64.5	9.9	39.5
Laurens	317,916	497	3,030	1,890	4,920	64.6	9.9	-17.7
Charleston	288,732	451	2,251	2,150	4,401	65.6	9.8	43.6
Colleton	502,666	785	3,899	3,563	7,462	67.4	9.5	9.0
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,438	2,020	4,458	67.9	9.4	17.6
Cherokee	156,664	245	1,288	983	2,271	69.0	9.3	-0.5
Greenwood	204,400	319	1,795	1,142	2,937	69.6	9.2	2.9
Union	258,111	403	1,964	1,727	3,691	69.9	9.2	-19.0
Lee	220,106	344	1,636	1,420	3,056	72.0	8.9	10.0
Williamsburg	513,851	803	3,692	3,404	7,096	72.4	8.8	32.3
McCormick	212,021	331	1,701	1,094	2,795	75.9	8.4	-3.2
Beaufort	147,441	230	998	850	1,848	79.8	8.0	4.5
Lancaster	266,382	416	1,763	1,289	3,052	87.3	7.3	-2.2
Sumter	338,968	530	2,284	1,583	3,867	87.7	7.3	36.1
Edgefield	246,543	385	1,625	1,131	2,756	89.4	7.2	-4.9
Greenville	294,257	460	1,917	1,307	3,224	91.3	7.0	-5.1
Clarendon	298,087	466	1,820	1,429	3,249	91.8	7.0	-29.2
Lexington	280,742	439	1,832	1,099	2,931	95.8	6.7	-16.7
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,269	2,580	5,849	97.0	6.6	52.3
Florence	397,888	622	2,142	1,903	4,045	98.4	6.5	-4.3
Aiken	500,546	782	2,919	1,976	4,895	102.3	6.3	16.5
Chesterfield	372,478	582	2,089	1,498	3,587	103.9	6.2	-11.6
Richland	340,121	531	1,787	1,409	3,196	106.4	6.0	36.3
Kershaw	360,485	563	1,810	1,543	3,353	107.5	6.0	-22.1
Marion	216,907	339	1,306	637	1,943	111.6	5.7	71.0
Jasper	309,889	484	1,335	1,422	2,757	112.4	5.7	-25.3
Pickens	219,926	344	1,290	652	1,942	113.2	5.7	-16.3
Darlington	286,228	447	1,138	1,257	2,395	119.5	5.4	51.2
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,251	1,063	2,314	121.6	5.3	60.8
Oconee	284,348	444	1,477	840	2,317	122.7	5.2	11.7
Horry	533,336	833	2,580	1,352	3,932	135.6	4.7	31.5
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,326	1,498	2,824	141.5	4.5	5.4
Dillon	214,069	334	518	640	1,158	184.8	3.5	3.6
Total	14,028,896	21,920	102,261	83,025	185,286	83.4	8.7	6.9

Table 3. County rankings based on total deer harvested in South Carolina in 2017.

County	Acres	Square Miles	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest	Harvest Rates		% Change from 2016
						Ac/Deer	Deer/Mi. ²	
Orangeburg	504,516	788	4,703	4,616	9,319	54.1	11.8	-4.5
Hampton	324,840	508	3,744	3,785	7,529	43.1	14.8	18.0
Colleton	502,666	785	3,899	3,563	7,462	67.4	9.5	9.0
Williamsburg	513,851	803	3,692	3,404	7,096	72.4	8.8	32.3
Anderson	219,068	342	3,969	2,633	6,602	33.2	19.3	0.8
Fairfield	384,607	601	3,318	2,647	5,965	64.5	9.9	39.5
Berkeley	567,530	887	3,269	2,580	5,849	97.0	6.6	52.3
Spartanburg	265,939	416	3,134	2,124	5,258	50.6	12.7	-19.6
Bamberg	196,573	307	2,152	3,060	5,212	37.7	17.0	56.0
Newberry	317,761	497	3,085	2,101	5,186	61.3	10.4	9.7
Laurens	317,916	497	3,030	1,890	4,920	64.6	9.9	-17.7
Aiken	500,546	782	2,919	1,976	4,895	102.3	6.3	16.5
Barnwell	281,764	440	2,440	2,452	4,892	57.6	11.1	52.9
Chester	300,589	470	3,010	1,710	4,720	63.7	10.0	6.6
York	276,650	432	2,390	2,115	4,505	61.4	10.4	-16.2
Dorchester	302,717	473	2,438	2,020	4,458	67.9	9.4	17.6
Charleston	288,732	451	2,251	2,150	4,401	65.6	9.8	43.6
Abbeville	223,113	349	2,244	1,975	4,219	52.9	12.1	35.6
Calhoun	190,584	298	2,004	2,118	4,122	46.2	13.8	-0.8
Florence	397,888	622	2,142	1,903	4,045	98.4	6.5	-4.3
Horry	533,336	833	2,580	1,352	3,932	135.6	4.7	31.5
Sumter	338,968	530	2,284	1,583	3,867	87.7	7.3	36.1
Union	258,111	403	1,964	1,727	3,691	69.9	9.2	-19.0
Allendale	216,455	338	1,960	1,721	3,681	58.8	10.9	31.9
Chesterfield	372,478	582	2,089	1,498	3,587	103.9	6.2	-11.6
Saluda	192,173	300	1,938	1,617	3,555	54.1	11.8	12.3
Kershaw	360,485	563	1,810	1,543	3,353	107.5	6.0	-22.1
Clarendon	298,087	466	1,820	1,429	3,249	91.8	7.0	-29.2
Greenville	294,257	460	1,917	1,307	3,224	91.3	7.0	-5.1
Richland	340,121	531	1,787	1,409	3,196	106.4	6.0	36.3
Lee	220,106	344	1,636	1,420	3,056	72.0	8.9	10.0
Lancaster	266,382	416	1,763	1,289	3,052	87.3	7.3	-2.2
Greenwood	204,400	319	1,795	1,142	2,937	69.6	9.2	2.9
Lexington	280,742	439	1,832	1,099	2,931	95.8	6.7	-16.7
Georgetown	399,638	624	1,326	1,498	2,824	141.5	4.5	5.4
McCormick	212,021	331	1,701	1,094	2,795	75.9	8.4	-3.2
Jasper	309,889	484	1,335	1,422	2,757	112.4	5.7	-25.3
Edgefield	246,543	385	1,625	1,131	2,756	89.4	7.2	-4.9
Darlington	286,228	447	1,138	1,257	2,395	119.5	5.4	51.2
Oconee	284,348	444	1,477	840	2,317	122.7	5.2	11.7
Marlboro	281,271	439	1,251	1,063	2,314	121.6	5.3	60.8
Cherokee	156,664	245	1,288	983	2,271	69.0	9.3	-0.5
Marion	216,907	339	1,306	637	1,943	111.6	5.7	71.0
Pickens	219,926	344	1,290	652	1,942	113.2	5.7	-16.3
Beaufort	147,441	230	998	850	1,848	79.8	8.0	4.5
Dillon	214,069	334	518	640	1,158	184.8	3.5	3.6
Total	14,028,896	21,920	102,261	83,025	185,286	83.4	8.7	6.9

Table 4. Estimated deer harvest on Wildlife Management Areas in South Carolina in 2017.

Area	Acreage	Bucks	Does	Total	Deer/Mi. ²
Mountain Hunt Unit	193,566	1,083	605	1,688	5.6
Central Piedmont Hunt Unit	159,793	1,414	1,039	2,453	9.8
Western Piedmont Hunt Unit	119,077	946	683	1,629	8.8
Subtotal for Upstate WMA's	472,436	3,443	2,327	5,770	7.8
Coastal WMA's*					
Bear Island WMA	1,519	2	9	11	4.6
Bonneau Ferry ¹	10,697	33	26	64	3.8
Botany Bay WMA	2,000	23	40	63	20.2
Crackerneck WMA	10,470	51	29	80	4.9
Cross Generating Station WMA	654	2	5	7	6.9
Donnelley WMA	8,048	11	14	25	2.0
Francis Marion WMA	252,578	130	87	217	0.5
Hamilton Ridge	13,281	30	38	68	3.3
Liberty Hill	7,876	20	22	42	3.4
Hickory Top WMA	1,836	4	4	8	2.8
Manchester State Forest WMA	25,505	90	57	147	3.7
Moultrie WMA	9,480	8	13	21	1.4
Oak Lea WMA	2,024	22	12	34	10.8
Palachucola WMA	5,947	10	28	38	4.1
Santee Cooper WMA	2,828	15	18	33	7.5
Victoria Bluff WMA ¹	800	2	2	11	8.8
Wateree River WMA	3,674	10	9	19	3.3
Webb Wildlife Center WMA	5,866	34	61	95	10.4
Subtotal for Coastal WMA's	365,083	497	474	983	1.7
Total	837,519	3,940	2,801	6,753	5.2

*Check Station data. ¹ Total includes deer of unknown sex

Table 5. Hunter opinion (percent) regarding the number of deer in the area hunted most often in South Carolina in 2017 compared to previous years.

	Increasing	About the Same	Decreasing
Residents	18.6	54.8	26.6
Non-Residents	18.3	58.3	23.4
Overall	18.6	55.2	26.2

Table 6. Resident deer hunter and deer harvest statistics in South Carolina in 2017.

County	Number Hunters	Man/Days Hunted	Percent Success	Deer/Hunter	Days/Deer	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest
Abbeville	3,588	51,884	71	1.2	12.6	2,191	1,940	4,131
Aiken	4,152	59,165	68	1.1	12.8	2,796	1,836	4,632
Allendale	1,273	16,919	77	1.1	12.5	709	647	1,356
Anderson	4,882	76,440	72	1.3	11.9	3,881	2,545	6,426
Bamberg	2,357	33,504	71	1.7	8.2	1,606	2,462	4,068
Barnwell	1,961	29,542	82	1.9	7.7	1,982	1,836	3,818
Beaufort	1,064	10,473	90	1.6	6.2	981	709	1,690
Berkeley	4,506	68,158	61	1.3	11.8	3,234	2,545	5,779
Calhoun	2,483	31,587	75	1.6	7.8	2,003	2,065	4,068
Charleston	3,192	39,679	72	1.3	9.5	2,128	2,044	4,173
Cherokee	1,356	23,909	58	1.4	12.5	1,147	772	1,919
Chester	3,234	50,717	64	1.0	16.0	2,024	1,147	3,171
Chesterfield	2,065	40,203	70	1.4	13.9	1,648	1,252	2,900
Clarendon	2,191	35,424	71	1.4	11.4	1,732	1,377	3,109
Colleton	4,047	65,214	78	1.7	9.5	3,547	3,317	6,864
Darlington	1,857	33,359	74	1.2	14.5	1,085	1,210	2,295
Dillon	876	14,896	74	1.3	13.5	501	605	1,106
Dorchester	3,046	48,339	68	1.5	10.9	2,420	2,003	4,423
Edgefield	2,462	32,461	63	1.0	12.8	1,502	1,043	2,545
Fairfield	4,214	53,137	72	1.2	10.5	2,754	2,295	5,049
Florence	2,670	49,485	75	1.5	12.6	2,107	1,815	3,922
Georgetown	2,420	37,593	66	1.1	13.7	1,273	1,481	2,754
Greenville	3,380	40,972	62	0.9	13.0	1,878	1,272	3,150
Greenwood	2,337	31,065	71	1.2	11.5	1,690	1,001	2,691
Hampton	2,670	34,758	78	1.5	8.9	1,878	2,024	3,901
Horry	3,025	53,910	67	1.3	13.9	2,545	1,335	3,881
Jasper	1,210	18,213	87	1.4	11.1	772	876	1,648
Kershaw	2,462	33,650	78	1.2	11.3	1,669	1,314	2,983
Lancaster	2,003	33,130	74	1.3	13.1	1,481	1,043	2,524
Laurens	4,819	65,802	64	0.9	14.4	2,837	1,732	4,569
Lee	1,606	24,409	74	1.7	8.8	1,460	1,314	2,775
Lexington	3,213	46,689	64	0.9	16.2	1,815	1,064	2,879
McCormick	1,982	27,664	67	1.1	12.4	1,314	918	2,232
Marion	1,523	28,143	71	1.3	14.7	1,293	626	1,919
Marlboro	1,168	25,786	82	1.6	13.9	1,022	835	1,857
Newberry	4,715	63,609	70	1.0	12.9	2,962	1,961	4,923
Oconee	2,316	32,608	66	1.0	14.5	1,460	793	2,253
Orangeburg	6,342	94,150	70	1.4	10.5	4,527	4,423	8,950
Pickens	2,712	31,420	56	0.7	16.7	1,273	605	1,878
Richland	3,150	40,890	74	1.0	13.2	1,752	1,356	3,109
Saluda	2,295	37,324	74	1.5	11.0	1,815	1,565	3,380
Spartanburg	4,798	62,964	65	1.1	12.2	3,046	2,107	5,153
Sumter	2,670	41,140	71	1.4	11.3	2,191	1,460	3,651
Union	3,401	40,453	54	0.8	15.1	1,419	1,252	2,670
Williamsburg	3,943	71,747	73	1.7	11.0	3,463	3,088	6,551
York	3,734	49,634	61	1.1	11.6	2,232	2,045	4,277
Total	131,371	1,932,215	69	1.3	11.8	91,045	72,956	164,001
% Change from 2016	5.2	3.7	5.8	7.6	-3.4	3.5	12.0	7.3

Table 7. Nonresident deer hunter and deer harvest statistics in South Carolina in 2017.

County	Number Hunters	Man/Days Hunted	Percent Success	Deer/Hunter	Days/Deer	Buck Harvest	Doe Harvest	Total Harvest
Abbeville	88	775	60	1.0	8.8	53	35	88
Aiken	211	3,629	75	1.3	13.7	123	141	264
Allendale	1,268	18,671	75	1.8	8.0	1,251	1,074	2,325
Anderson	106	1,339	83	1.7	7.6	88	88	176
Bamberg	687	8,437	82	1.7	7.4	546	599	1,145
Barnwell	476	6,200	85	2.3	5.8	458	617	1,075
Beaufort	123	1,286	71	1.3	8.1	18	141	159
Berkeley	53	194	70	1.3	2.7	35	35	70
Calhoun	159	1,638	55	1.0	30.0	2	53	55
Charleston	141	1,392	70	1.6	6.1	123	106	229
Cherokee	264	4,404	67	1.3	12.5	141	211	352
Chester	1,004	14,691	68	1.5	9.5	986	564	1,550
Chesterfield	423	5,584	67	1.6	8.1	440	247	687
Clarendon	88	916	70	1.6	6.5	88	53	141
Colleton	617	8,543	63	1.0	14.3	352	247	599
Darlington	70	617	50	1.4	6.2	53	47	100
Dillon	53	581	33	1.0	10.9	18	36	53
Dorchester	70	211	50	0.5	6.0	18	18	35
Edgefield	282	2,043	69	0.8	9.7	123	88	211
Fairfield	757	10,640	67	1.2	11.6	564	352	916
Florence	123	1,409	86	1.0	11.4	35	88	123
Georgetown	70	458	25	1.0	6.4	53	18	71
Greenville	53	370	33	1.4	4.9	40	36	76
Greenwood	194	2,431	64	1.3	9.9	106	141	247
Hampton	1,744	23,833	84	2.1	6.6	1,867	1,761	3,629
Horry	88	1,850	20	0.6	35.0	35	18	53
Jasper	546	6,958	71	2.0	6.3	564	546	1,110
Kershaw	335	3,629	79	1.1	9.8	141	229	370
Lancaster	476	7,046	70	1.1	13.3	282	247	528
Laurens	299	3,294	65	1.2	9.3	194	159	352
Lee	88	1,321	60	3.2	4.7	176	106	282
Lexington	18	176	70	3.0	3.3	18	35	53
McCormick	370	5,108	71	1.5	9.1	388	176	564
Marion	18	18	70	1.4	0.0	13	12	25
Marlboro	405	8,948	35	1.1	19.5	229	229	458
Newberry	229	2,642	62	1.2	10.0	123	141	264
Oconee	70	810	25	0.9	12.5	18	47	65
Orangeburg	247	2,237	64	1.5	6.0	176	194	370
Pickens	70	687	50	0.9	10.6	18	47	65
Richland	141	740	63	0.6	8.4	35	53	88
Saluda	159	1,515	67	1.1	8.6	123	53	176
Spartanburg	176	2,308	50	0.6	21.8	88	18	106
Sumter	123	1,233	43	1.8	5.7	94	123	217
Union	846	10,551	71	1.2	10.3	546	476	1,022
Williamsburg	352	4,192	70	1.6	7.7	229	317	546
York	493	6,500	46	0.5	28.4	159	70	229
Total	14,673	192,054	70	1.5	9.0	11,229	10,089	21,318
% Change from 2016	1.8	-2.6	8.5	6.6	-7.8	-5.6	16.7	4.9

Table 8. Hunting effort (man/days) by county for successful and unsuccessful resident and nonresident deer hunters in South Carolina in 2017.

County	Residents (man/days)			Total Effort Residents	Nonresidents (man/days)			Total Effort Nonresidents	Total Days
	Successful	Unsuccessful	Average		Successful	Unsuccessful	Average		
Abbeville	16.0	10.6	14.5	51,884	6.3	12.5	8.8	775	52,659
Aiken	16.4	9.7	14.3	59,165	20.1	8.3	17.2	3,629	62,794
Allendale	13.8	11.7	13.3	16,919	16.2	10.3	14.7	18,671	35,591
Anderson	18.6	8.1	15.7	76,440	14.6	3.0	12.7	1,339	77,778
Bamberg	17.0	7.2	14.2	33,504	13.7	5.9	12.3	8,437	41,942
Barnwell	15.7	12.0	15.1	29,542	14.3	5.8	13.0	6,200	35,742
Beaufort	10.5	3.6	9.8	10,473	12.8	4.5	10.4	1,286	11,759
Berkeley	19.4	8.4	15.1	68,158	3.7	6.5	3.7	194	68,351
Calhoun	15.1	5.6	12.7	31,587	13.4	16.6	10.3	1,638	33,225
Charleston	14.0	8.5	12.4	39,679	9.9	11.7	9.9	1,392	41,071
Cherokee	20.2	14.0	17.6	23,909	16.7	12.0	16.7	4,404	28,312
Chester	17.4	12.6	15.7	50,717	16.0	9.5	14.6	14,691	65,408
Chesterfield	22.4	12.4	19.5	40,203	13.8	8.0	13.2	5,584	45,786
Clarendon	18.5	10.3	16.2	35,424	10.4	15.0	10.4	916	36,340
Colleton	18.3	8.4	16.1	65,214	16.5	3.0	13.9	8,543	73,757
Darlington	19.0	15.0	18.0	33,359	9.5	3.6	8.8	617	33,975
Dillon	20.8	6.2	17.0	14,896	3.0	6.1	11.0	581	15,477
Dorchester	17.0	13.5	15.9	48,339	3.0	5.0	3.0	211	48,550
Edgefield	16.4	7.7	13.2	32,461	8.9	3.3	7.3	2,043	34,504
Fairfield	14.4	8.0	12.6	53,137	17.9	10.0	14.0	10,640	63,777
Florence	21.8	8.9	18.5	49,485	12.5	6.3	11.4	1,409	50,894
Georgetown	19.8	7.2	15.5	37,593	16.0	5.9	6.5	458	38,051
Greenville	13.5	9.9	12.1	40,972	1.0	20.0	7.0	370	41,342
Greenwood	15.9	6.9	13.3	31,065	16.1	12.8	12.5	2,431	33,496
Hampton	14.7	6.9	13.0	34,758	15.2	17.5	13.7	23,833	58,591
Horry	21.7	10.0	17.8	53,910	25.0	9.3	21.0	1,850	55,759
Jasper	15.0	15.1	15.1	18,213	12.7	6.5	12.7	6,958	25,171
Kershaw	14.9	9.3	13.7	33,650	9.1	6.5	10.8	3,629	37,279
Lancaster	19.4	8.4	16.5	33,130	17.2	12.0	14.8	7,046	40,176
Laurens	16.6	8.3	13.7	65,802	13.5	16.5	11.0	3,294	69,096
Lee	17.0	10.2	15.2	24,409	20.7	11.4	15.0	1,321	25,731
Lexington	16.6	11.0	14.5	46,689	10.0	8.7	10.0	176	46,865
McCormick	15.8	10.3	14.0	27,664	14.5	3.8	13.8	5,108	32,772
Marion	22.4	8.7	18.5	28,143	1.0	10.5	1.0	18	28,160
Marlboro	22.9	18.3	22.1	25,786	25.1	2.7	22.1	8,948	34,734
Newberry	15.8	8.3	13.5	63,609	11.6	3.3	11.5	2,642	66,251
Oconee	15.8	10.7	14.1	32,608	20.0	6.8	11.5	810	33,418
Orangeburg	16.7	10.4	14.8	94,150	12.0	13.3	9.1	2,237	96,387
Pickens	13.3	9.3	11.6	31,420	9.0	7.9	9.8	687	32,107
Richland	14.8	7.6	13.0	40,890	6.8	9.3	5.3	740	41,630
Saluda	18.9	8.7	16.3	37,324	12.7	5.1	9.6	1,515	38,839
Spartanburg	16.0	7.8	13.1	62,964	19.4	16.8	13.1	2,308	65,272
Sumter	17.2	11.0	15.4	41,140	5.7	4.4	10.0	1,233	42,373
Union	15.5	7.7	11.9	40,453	14.4	9.8	12.5	10,551	51,004
Williamsburg	21.1	10.3	18.2	71,747	13.0	3.1	11.9	4,192	75,939
York	16.7	8.0	13.3	49,634	22.5	13.8	13.2	6,500	56,134
Total	17.0	9.3	14.7	1,932,215	14.8	8.9	13.1	192,054	2,124,269
% Change from 2016	-18.2	9.4	-1.3	3.7	-15.5	8.9	-3.8	-2.6	3.1

Table 9. Estimated deer harvest by weapon type in South Carolina in 2017.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun	Total
Number of Deer Harvested	148,229	13,155	15,749	4,632	3,150	371	185,286
Percent Total Deer Harvest	80.0	7.1	8.5	2.5	1.7	0.2	100.0
Percent Hunter Success With Weapon	61.6	27.6	32.1	24.7	17.5	10.6	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 2017.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun
Residents	120,599	30,215	28,113	15,370	13,794	4,073
Nonresidents	13,895	1,702	836	2,406	1,233	205
Total	134,494	31,917	28,950	17,777	15,026	4,278

Total across weapons not given because hunters use multiple weapons. Total hunters = 146,044.

Table 11. Weapons utilization (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2017.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun
Residents	91.8*	23.0*	21.4*	11.7*	10.5	3.1
Nonresidents	94.7	11.6	5.7	16.4	8.4	1.4
Total	92.2	21.4	19.2	12.3	10.2	2.8

* Significant difference in weapons use category based on residency.

Table 12. Weapons preference (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2017.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun	Total
Residents	77.9	12.6*	6.4*	0.9*	1.7	0.6	100.0
Nonresidents	83.7	9.1	2.1	3.3	1.5	0.3	100.0
Total	78.7	12.1	5.8	1.2	1.7	0.5	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 2017.

Rank is by per unit area harvested.

County	Hog Harv.	Harv./ Mile ²	% Change from 2016	2017 Rank	2016 Rank	Coyote Harv.	Harv./ Mile ²	% Change from 2016	2017 Rank	2016 Rank
Abbeville	2,165	6.21	31.3	1	1	577	1.66	-18.7	7	11
Aiken	746	0.95	41.5	32	31	601	0.77	-55.5	29	16
Allendale	1,636	4.84	83.1	2	4	409	1.21	-15.0	16	19
Anderson	818	2.39	-20.7	13	3	1,034	3.02	18.8	1	1
Bamberg	649	2.11	66.8	17	17	216	0.70	-27.3	36	32
Barnwell	265	0.60	-11.2	38	30	481	1.09	31.3	19	35
Beaufort	168	0.73	207.6	37	46	96	0.42	138.9	42	46
Berkeley	1,347	1.52	96.0	23	27	313	0.35	-43.1	45	39
Calhoun	986	3.31	59.4	6	8	457	1.53	-33.5	10	4
Charleston	1,660	3.68	119.5	4	12	168	0.37	-38.7	44	41
Cherokee	96	0.39	-53.3	40	25	337	1.38	13.1	12	25
Chester	409	0.87	62.3	34	35	866	1.84	-16.0	5	7
Chesterfield	577	0.99	110.0	31	38	481	0.83	-36.4	26	23
Clarendon	842	1.81	162.5	19	28	337	0.72	-30.0	34	29
Colleton	1,924	2.45	110.0	11	18	385	0.49	-47.5	40	34
Darlington	842	1.88	129.7	18	26	168	0.38	-65.0	43	28
Dillon	168	0.50	-56.8	39	19	144	0.43	26.0	41	44
Dorchester	409	0.86	-18.9	35	21	409	0.86	5.0	25	36
Edgefield	96	0.25	40.0	42	43	722	1.87	-7.4	4	12
Fairfield	1,082	1.80	237.5	20	36	1,130	1.88	33.4	3	20
Florence	553	0.89	-19.5	33	20	433	0.70	-30.0	36	30
Georgetown	1,852	2.97	72.0	8	10	505	0.81	83.8	28	42
Greenville	505	1.10	69.6	29	32	457	0.99	-26.1	22	22
Greenwood	722	2.26	31.3	15	10	529	1.66	-30.0	7	3
Hampton	1,587	3.13	-5.1	7	2	770	1.52	110.0	11	38
Horry	2,020	2.42	126.2	12	21	601	0.72	101.9	34	43
Jasper	1,251	2.58	160.0	10	24	313	0.65	5.0	38	39
Kershaw	649	1.15	13.4	27	23	120	0.21	-91.5	46	2
Lancaster	529	1.27	285.0	25	39	529	1.27	-40.8	15	8
Laurens	746	1.50	117.0	24	28	1,058	2.13	15.5	2	14
Lee	529	1.54	362.0	21	39	409	1.19	-42.4	17	10
Lexington	24	0.05	240.0	46	46	361	0.82	-41.7	27	20
McCormick	890	2.69	17.7	9	7	337	1.02	-45.6	21	13
Marion	1,203	3.55	54.4	5	6	192	0.57	-30.0	39	37
Marlboro	986	2.24	59.4	16	15	409	0.93	197.5	24	45
Newberry	553	1.11	72.5	28	32	649	1.31	-25.4	14	15
Oconee	553	1.25	-38.1	26	9	337	0.76	-47.5	32	18
Orangeburg	265	0.34	-32.1	41	37	1,082	1.37	-14.1	13	17
Pickens	361	1.05	-25.0	30	16	265	0.77	-32.1	29	27
Richland	2,020	3.80	57.5	3	5	409	0.77	-36.2	29	26
Saluda	72	0.24	5.0	43	41	289	0.96	-58.0	23	5
Spartanburg	337	0.81	267.5	36	42	673	1.62	-24.6	9	8
Sumter	818	1.54	-0.8	21	13	625	1.18	18.7	18	30
Union	72	0.18	-68.5	44	34	433	1.07	-14.1	20	24
Williamsburg	1,828	2.28	59.6	14	14	601	0.75	-22.8	33	32
York	48	0.11	110.0	45	46	722	1.67	-25.0	6	6
Total	37,858	1.73	33.3	NA	NA	22,441	1.02	-27.1	NA	NA
	(+ -) 2,652					(+ -) 1,358				

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 Transportation 2012-2016.

County	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Abbeville	9	1	10	3	9
Aiken	74	67	77	62	84
Allendale	8	9	13	9	10
Anderson	105	91	87	86	88
Bamberg	18	13	21	11	12
Barnwell	15	15	17	15	14
Beaufort	179	166	138	112	108
Berkeley	102	88	74	79	57
Calhoun	41	29	28	34	47
Charleston	244	185	185	147	199
Cherokee	26	25	22	25	15
Chester	22	18	16	16	33
Chesterfield	14	21	11	14	33
Clarendon	34	24	26	23	21
Colleton	70	82	85	66	56
Darlington	44	48	49	59	87
Dillon	28	41	25	64	54
Dorchester	81	73	71	77	67
Edgefield	7	7	5	3	8
Fairfield	35	16	15	26	28
Florence	99	91	74	118	113
Georgetown	47	47	28	34	29
Greenville	129	115	139	121	111
Greenwood	15	10	25	17	18
Hampton	12	11	20	15	10
Horry	103	135	131	184	189
Jasper	58	74	55	56	54
Kershaw	49	51	46	37	33
Lancaster	23	15	23	30	31
Laurens	15	15	20	16	16
Lee	35	23	19	21	19
Lexington	68	35	57	34	38
McCormick	7	4	7	3	1
Marion	35	43	31	39	45
Marlboro	19	22	21	21	51
Newberry	8	11	10	7	8
Oconee	18	8	14	15	7
Orangeburg	115	142	152	143	144
Pickens	25	29	23	32	23
Richland	99	71	85	54	77
Saluda	9	8	7	7	6
Spartanburg	146	160	158	136	165
Sumter	69	62	39	43	24
Union	19	15	15	10	18
Williamsburg	71	64	43	58	85
York	35	77	98	96	115
Total	2,484	2,357	2,315	2,278	2,460

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
Total	57,958	107.3	47,913	137.9	24,106	88.0	61,879	100.6

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
Total	3.6	44	7.4	6.5	7	12.4	55

Figure 1. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources 2017 Deer Hunter Survey

January, 2018

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 2017 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 2016 survey can be found at www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/deer/2016/DeerHarvestReport.html

Thank you for your assistance.



Charles Ruth
Wildlife Biologist
Big Game Program Coordinator

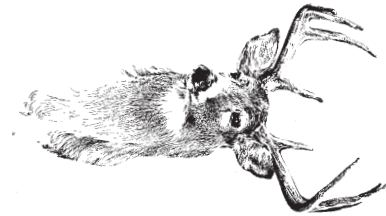
PLEASE MAIL YOUR SURVEY AFTER SEPARATING THIS HALF FROM THE SIDE ON WHICH YOUR ANSWERS HAVE BEEN ENTERED. NO POSTAGE IS NECESSARY.

If you have questions regarding this survey, please call 803-734-3886 or write 2017 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

17-11588

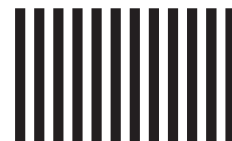
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**DEER HUNTER SURVEY
SC DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 167
COLUMBIA SC 29202-9976**

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Figure 1 Cont.

2017 South Carolina Deer Hunter Survey

1. Did you hunt deer in SC this past season (2017)? **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 (2017). 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 2017 please go to question # 6.

4. Please record the number of deer taken by month of season in SC last season (2017).

August	September	October	November	December	January

5. Please record the number of deer taken with each weapon in SC last season (2017).

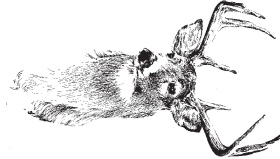
Rifle	Bow	Shotgun	Muzzleloader	Crossbow	Handgun

6. Please circle **all** the weapons that you hunted deer with in 2017.
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 2017, 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**



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 www.dnr.sc.gov

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Figure 2. Percent of deer harvested by month of season in South Carolina in 2017. Note that December includes January 1 which is the last day of deer season.

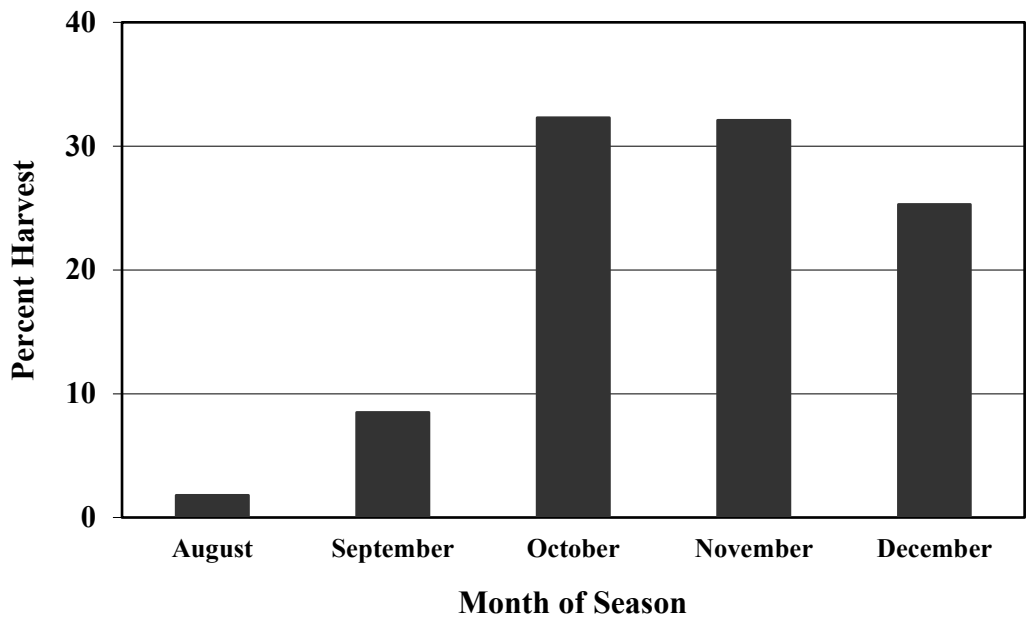


Figure 3. Percent of female deer conceiving by week in South Carolina, based on historic data.

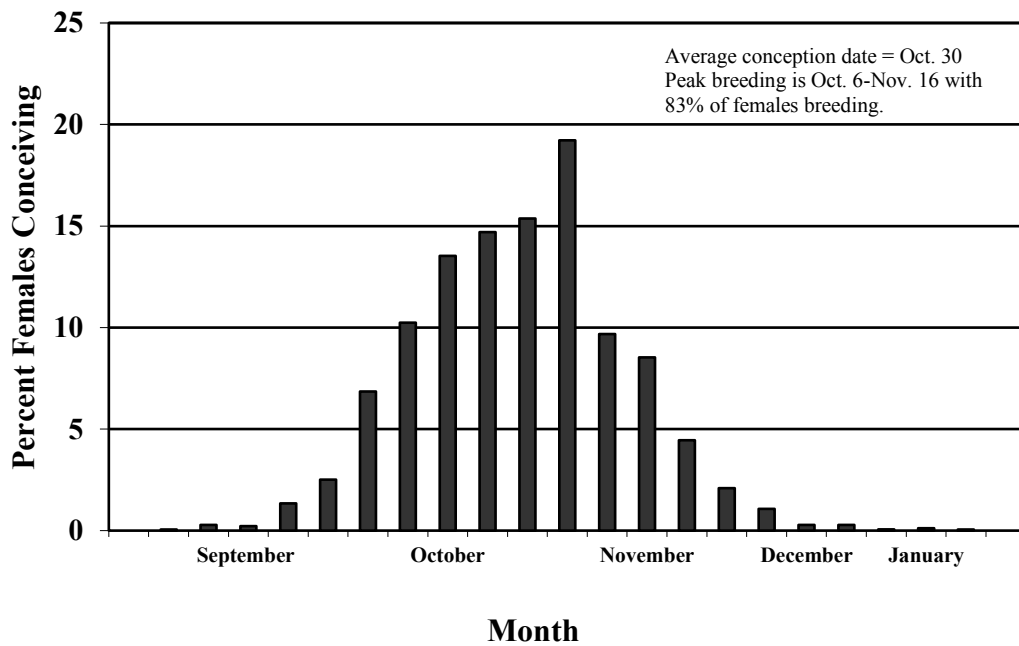


Figure 4. Estimated deer harvest in South Carolina 1972-2017.

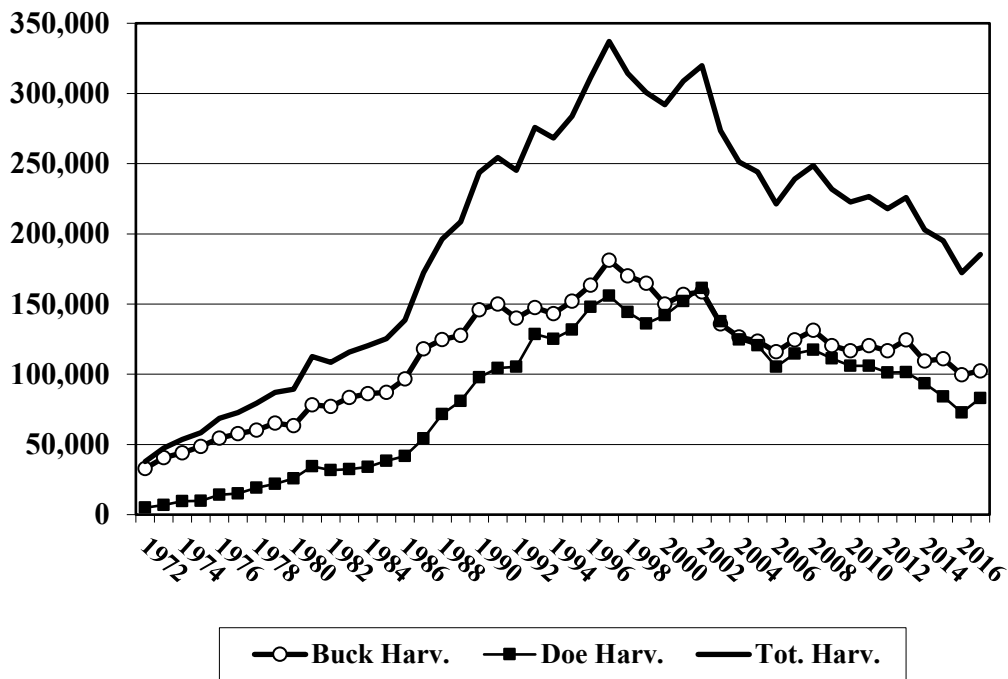


Figure 5. Estimated South Carolina deer population 1972-2017 based on population reconstruction modeling. Note that antlerless deer includes male fawns (button bucks).

