

2019-20 Small Game Harvest Report

The general small game harvest survey was conducted by phone. A sample of 4,000 hunters was drawn from the Harvest Information Program database for this survey. More than 2,000 hunters were surveyed (50% response rate).

The 2019-20 small game survey includes estimates of hunter numbers, hunt days and harvest for cottontail rabbit, coyote, dusky grouse, pheasant, Walk-In Access (WIA) use and pheasant harvest. It is important to note that the WIA pheasant harvest is not independent from the estimate of total pheasant harvest. Instead, WIA harvest is included within the overall estimate of pheasant harvest. For 2019-20, approximately 18,324 or 41.7% of total pheasant harvest (43,869) occurred was estimated to occur on WIA properties.

County harvest estimates have been replaced by Region-based estimates to reduce the frequency of data reporting errors that commonly occur at the county level.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

Those portions of the report that have frequency designations or are pure percentages are based on the actual number of hunters surveyed and their responses to survey questions. ***The harvest figures are estimates of total harvest extrapolated from survey responses.*** The estimates are followed by the standard error (SE) of the estimate which is a measure of the precision of the estimate. The 95% LCL and 95% UCL columns provide the upper and lower values for the 95% confidence limits around the estimate. For example, we estimated statewide harvest of cottontail rabbits in 2019-20 at 23,825 with a SE of 3,861. The 95% confidence interval range estimates that between 20,267 and 28,008 cottontail rabbits were harvested during the 2019-20 small game season. Further, we calculated the coefficient of variation for each statewide harvest estimate, which is a measure of the standard error divided by the harvest estimate.

**Statewide Small Game Species Harvest,
2019-20**

Species	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL	UCL	Days	SE (Days	LCL	UCL	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL	UCL	Harvest
			Hunters	Hunters	Hunted	Hunted)	Days	Days			Harvest	Harvest	CV
Cottontail Rabbit	7,131	302	6,562	7,749	40,474	3,164	34,733	47,164	23,825	1,970	20,267	28,008	8%
Coyote	8,925	332	8,298	9,599	108,138	12,049	86,981	134,441	30,452	5,742	21,111	43,926	19%
Dusky Grouse	6,983	300	6,420	7,596	33,565	2,334	29,294	38,459	12,379	1,067	10,459	14,652	9%
Pheasant	12,839	380	12,116	13,605	66,374	3,608	59,671	73,830	43,869	2,850	38,629	49,820	6%
WIA	14,944	399	14,183	15,746	112,319	6,390	100,476	125,557	na	Na	Na	Na	na

**2019-20 Small Game Harvest by County
Cottontail rabbit (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL	UCL	Days	SE (Days	LCL	UCL	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL	UCL
			Hunters	Hunters	Hunted	Hunted)	Days	Days			Harvest	Harvest
SW	2817	199	2453	3234	14796	1840	11607	18862	7798	1105	5916	10280
NW	2209	177	1888	2584	9103	1101	7188	11528	5752	806	4377	7561
NE	2061	171	1751	2425	9889	1635	7168	13643	5693	783	4353	7445
SE	1201	132	969	1488	6686	1582	4232	10563	4581	1067	2920	7188
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7,131	302	6,562	7,749	40,474	3,164	34,733	47,164	23,825	1,970	20,267	28,008

**2019-20 Small Game Harvest by County
Coyote (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest
SE	2357	183	2025	2743	30896	7822	18956	50358	14529	5321	7249	29122
NE	2372	183	2039	2759	19422	3501	13679	27575	7368	1591	4849	11198
SW	3440	218	3037	3895	41912	7993	28937	60705	5441	1072	3712	7975
NW	2283	180	1957	2664	15908	2466	11761	21517	3113	667	2055	4716
Unknown	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	NA	NA
Total	8,925	332	8,298	9,599	108,138	12,049	86,981	134,441	30,452	5,742	21,111	43,926

**2019-20 Small Game Harvest by County
Dusky (Blue) grouse (↓)**

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest
NW	3589	208	3204	4021	15251	1409	12729	18272	6530	811	5124	8322
SW	3213	198	2849	3625	16119	1800	12959	20050	5792	713	4554	7366
Unknown	78	32	36	168	311	151	126	766	39	29	11	143
Total	6,983	300	6,420	7,596	33,565	2,334	29,294	38,459	12,379	1,067	10,459	14,652

2019-20 Small Game Harvest by County
Pheasant (↓)

Region	Hunters	SE(hunters)	LCL Hunters	UCL Hunters	Days Hunted	SE (Days Hunted)	LCL Days	UCL Days	Harvest	SE(harvest)	LCL Harvest	UCL Harvest
NE	9844	345	9191	10543	48717	2884	43383	54706	32142	2389	27790	37176
SE	3187	211	2800	3628	13699	2005	10298	18222	8895	1169	6883	11496
SW	667	99	500	891	2387	496	1596	3571	2061	782	1004	4230
NW	637	97	474	857	1572	337	1037	2382	771	248	417	1425
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12,839	380	12,116	13,605	66,374	3,608	59,671	73,830	43,869	2,850	38,629	49,820