

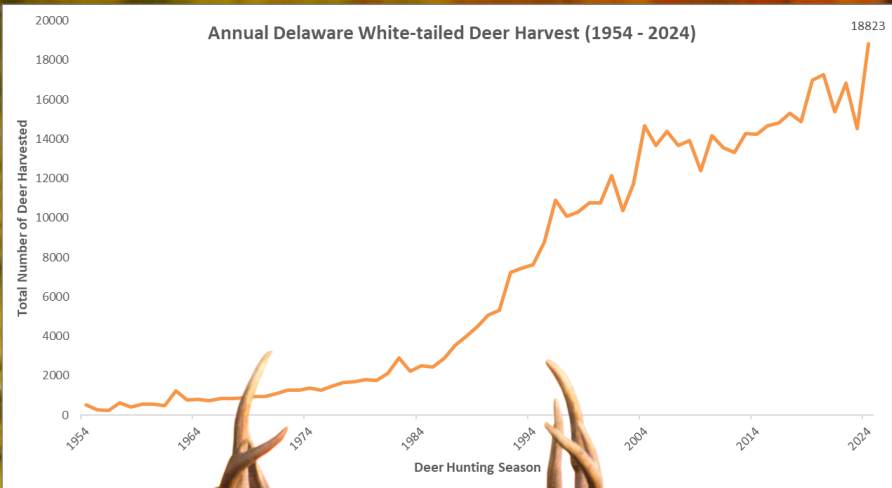
Delaware Deer Harvest at a Glance



Deer hunting in the First State has come a long way since 1954, when hunters harvested just 505 deer in the state's first recorded season. At the time, some worried that such numbers might be unsustainable—but history has shown otherwise. Today, Delaware's deer population remains strong, with annual harvests exceeding 16,000 in three of the last four seasons. In fact, this year's harvest of 18,823 deer marks the highest ever recorded in the state.

Delaware hunters are vital in maintaining a healthy and balanced deer population. Responsible hunting helps prevent overpopulation, which can lead to habitat destruction, increased vehicle collisions, and disease among deer herds. By participating in regulated hunting seasons, hunters contribute to conservation efforts that benefit both wildlife and the environment.

For more details on recent harvest numbers, visit de.gov/deer.



2024–25 DELAWARE DEER HARVEST BY COUNTY AND MANAGEMENT ZONE

COUNTY	DEER HARVEST
New Castle	3,055
Kent	6,140
Sussex	9,628

ZONE	HARVEST
1A	1,056
1B	422
2	1,146
3	743
4	995
5	718
6	1,365
7	1,609
8	1,438
9	848
10	876
11	1,567
12	1,149
13	976
14	843
15	971
16	1,237
17	864

2024 TOP PUBLIC LAND HARVEST

PUBLIC AREA TYPE	NAME	HARVEST
Federal	Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge	62
DE Fish & Wildlife WA	Norman G. Wilder Wildlife Area	196
DE State Park	White Clay Creek State Park	193
DE State Forest	Redden State Forest	249

2024–25 Deer Season Highlights

- 18,823 deer harvested: All-time highest harvest record
- Preferred method of take: Straight-walled Pistol Caliber and Crossbow