



MASSWILDLIFE

## DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

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[MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE](https://www.mass.gov/masswildlife)

### 2025-2026 Deer Harvest Summary

This summary includes deer harvested during the fall 2025 and winter 2026 hunting seasons along with deer removed with Deer Damage Permits from May 2025 through April 2026.

The 2025-2026 deer season was a year of many new harvest records resulting from a combination of rising deer densities, new hunting seasons, increased antlerless permit allocations, expansion of the Hunters Share the Harvest program, reduced regulatory barriers, and prime hunting weather throughout most of the seasons with extended snow cover.

There was a new statewide harvest record of 16,681 deer exceeding the previous record set in 2022 of 15,853 deer. This was an 11% increase from the 2024-2025 season. A new archery season harvest record was set at 7,283 deer exceeding the record set just a year prior at 6,991 deer. The shotgun season harvest of 6,353 deer was the highest since 2018. The primitive season harvest increased 10% to 2,560 deer but was still lower than the 5-year average of 2,697 deer. The rise in harvest was consistent across the state, with 14 out of 15 wildlife management zones having increases over the 2024 season, including new harvest records in zones 4N, 9, and 14.

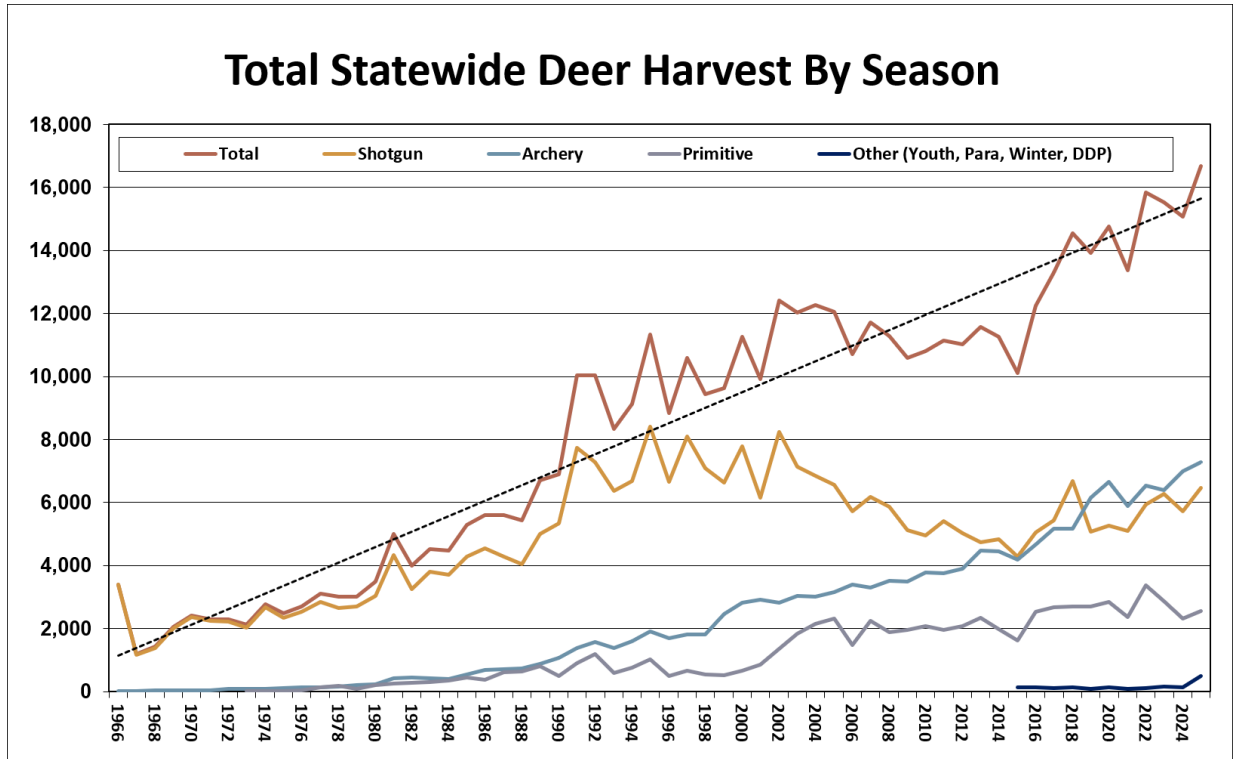
The new winter primitive firearms and archery season that ran from January 1 through February 14 in zones 13 (Martha's Vineyard) and 14 (Nantucket) exceeded expectations with a total of 330 deer harvested. This new season was a draw for many non-resident hunters including many that had not previously hunted in Massachusetts, particularly from New Hampshire and Maine.

Overall, due to the generosity of participating hunters, over 55,000 meals of venison were distributed during the 2025-2026 seasons through MassWildlife's Hunters Share the Harvest program. This was an increase of an astounding 84% over the 2024 season. The new winter season also helped the Hunters Share the Harvest program reach new heights including passing 100,000 meals distributed since inception during the first week of the season. Nearly 13% of all deer harvested during the winter season were donated to the program providing over 3,000 meals at a time that previously had no donation options available.

#### Deer Harvest By Hunting Season

- Youth Deer Hunt Day: 97
- Paraplegic Hunt: 6
- Archery Season: 7,283
- Shotgun Season: 6,353
- Primitive Season: 2,560
- Winter Season: 330

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#### 2025 Deer Harvest by Sex & Season

Season	Adult Male	Female	Male Fawn	Total	% Harvest
Para/Youth	44	56	3	103	0.6%
Archery	4,511	2,367	405	7,283	43.7%
Shotgun	3,218	2,622	513	6,353	38.1%
Primitive	1,057	1,319	184	2,560	15.3%
Winter	96	182	52	330	2.0%
Damage	24	24	4	52	0.3%
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>8,950</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>16,681</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**2025 Deer Harvest by Season & Wildlife Management Zone**

Zone	Para/Youth	Archery	Shotgun	Primitive	Winter	Damage	Total	% Harvest
1	8	147	196	63	0	0	414	2%
2	10	244	281	82	0	0	617	4%
3	10	259	311	126	0	0	706	4%
4N	12	263	343	109	0	0	727	4%
4S	8	202	199	70	0	0	479	3%
5	7	337	411	162	0	0	917	5%
6	1	62	249	39	0	0	351	2%
7	5	407	385	145	0	3	945	6%
8	3	429	410	162	0	0	1,004	6%
9	7	660	557	301	0	9	1,534	9%
10	9	1,435	645	424	0	2	2,515	15%
11	10	2,139	1,358	615	0	31	4,153	25%
12	10	128	191	51	0	1	381	2%
13	0	273	391	98	172	1	935	6%
14	3	298	426	113	158	5	1,003	6%
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>7,283</b>	<b>6,353</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>16,681</b>	<b>100%</b>

**2025 Deer Harvest by Sex & Wildlife Management Zone**

Zone	Adult Male	Female	Male Fawn	Total
1	269	126	19	414
2	492	116	9	617
3	419	254	33	706
4N	472	234	21	727
4S	361	105	13	479
5	541	331	45	917
6	194	146	11	351
7	497	389	59	945
8	625	324	55	1,004
9	742	694	98	1,534
10	1,320	1,010	185	2,515
11	2,120	1,709	324	4,153
12	193	157	31	381
13	346	464	125	935
14	359	511	133	1,003
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>8,950</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>16,681</b>

**2025 Para/Youth Season Harvest by Wildlife Management Zone**

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Adult Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male Fawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	6	2	0	8
2	3	7	0	10
3	6	4	0	10
4N	5	7	0	12
4S	1	7	0	8
5	5	2	0	7
6	0	1	0	1
7	1	4	0	5
8	1	2	0	3
9	3	4	0	7
10	5	4	0	9
11	5	4	1	10
12	3	6	1	10
13	0	0	0	0
14	0	2	1	3
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>103</b>

**2025 Archery Season Harvest by Wildlife Management Zone**

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Adult Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male Fawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	112	32	3	147
2	210	31	3	244
3	175	77	7	259
4N	186	74	3	263
4S	166	29	7	202
5	236	91	10	337
6	50	12	0	62
7	251	133	23	407
8	320	96	13	429
9	392	231	37	660
10	826	517	92	1,435
11	1,245	757	137	2,139
12	87	36	5	128
13	126	114	33	273
14	129	137	32	298
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>4,511</b>	<b>2,367</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>7,283</b>

**2025 Shotgun Season Harvest by Wildlife Management Zone**

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Adult Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male Fawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	116	68	12	196
2	229	49	3	281
3	182	110	19	311
4N	231	99	13	343
4S	153	42	4	199
5	233	152	26	411
6	122	117	10	249
7	192	169	24	385
8	234	145	31	410
9	240	277	40	557
10	316	274	55	645
11	609	602	147	1,358
12	75	94	22	191
13	136	203	52	391
14	150	221	55	426
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>3,218</b>	<b>2,622</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>6,353</b>

**2025 Primitive Season Harvest by Wildlife Management Zone**

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Adult Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male Fawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	35	24	4	63
2	50	29	3	82
3	56	63	7	126
4N	50	54	5	109
4S	41	27	2	70
5	67	86	9	162
6	22	16	1	39
7	52	81	12	145
8	70	81	11	162
9	105	177	19	301
10	171	215	38	424
11	243	333	39	615
12	28	20	3	51
13	26	57	15	98
14	41	56	16	113
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>2,560</b>

**2025 Winter Season Harvest by Wildlife Management Zone**

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Adult Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male Fawn</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0
4N	0	0	0	0
4S	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
13	58	90	24	172
14	38	92	28	158
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>330</b>