

# White-tailed Deer Program Report

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## 2023-2024 HUNTING SEASON RESULTS

In the 2023-2024 season, Iowa deer hunters reported 104,274 deer harvest (Table 1.1), marking a 4% decrease from the previous season (Table 1.2). Accounting for reporting noncompliance and wounding loss estimates a total hunting mortality of 157,767 deer (Figure 1.1). Deer license sales reflected a 0% change from the prior season.

During the 2023-2024 season, antlerless deer (adult does and fawns) constituted 56% of the total harvest, a 1% decrease from the previous season (Table 1.1). Antlered deer, which includes shed-antlered bucks, made up 44% of the total harvest, with 1,010 shed-antlered bucks reported.

Figure 1.2 illustrates the long term trends of deer hunters, license sales, and reported harvest. Iowa continues to maintain stable deer hunter numbers despite severe declines experienced throughout many Midwestern states. Figure 1.3 presents a historical breakdown of reported harvest by the sex-age category of deer.

In the 2023-2024 hunting season, 72 counties offered additional antlerless licenses, totaling 78,575 available antlerless licenses statewide (Figure 1.4). Resident hunters had the opportunity to purchase an unlimited number of antlerless licenses before reaching the county quota, but were limited to one antlerless license before September 15th. These licenses were specific to a county and season.

Total harvest for the first and second **shotgun seasons** was 9% and 2% lower, respectively, in 2023-2024 compared to 2022-2023. Overall, the total reported harvest for the entire shotgun season was approximately 5% lower than the previous season, with license sales down by about 1% (Table 1.2). Antlered bucks represented 41% of the total harvest during the shotgun seasons, while does made up 48% of the reported harvest. Button bucks accounted for 10%, and shed-antlered bucks were less than 1% (Table 1.1). The distribution of reported antlered deer kill per square mile (Table 1.4) was highest in northeastern and southern Iowa due to greater deer densities and hunting opportunities.

**Archery season** hunters harvested 22,448 deer, including those killed on senior crossbow licenses, reflecting a 4% increase from 2022-2023. Antlered deer constituted 59% of the total reported archery harvest (Table 1.1).

During the **early muzzleloader** season, there was a 3% decrease in the reported harvest compared to 2022-2023, with license sales increasing by 6% (Table 1.1 and Table 1.2). This season saw a harvest of 48% antlered bucks, 45% does, and 7% button bucks. In the **late muzzleloader** season of 2023-2024, hunters reported harvesting 7,919 deer, marking a 16% decrease compared to the previous season. Of these, 36% were antlered bucks.

**Nonresident** hunters were issued 6,053 any-deer licenses for the 2023-2024 deer hunting seasons (Table 1.1). All nonresident hunters also received antlerless-only licenses, with additional optional antlerless-only licenses available to them. The reported success rate for the nonresident any-deer and antlerless-only licenses was 44% and 24%, respectively (Table 1.1). In total, nonresidents reported harvesting 2,688 antlered bucks and 1,900 does in 2023-2024.

**Youth season** witnessed a 3% increase in the total number of licenses issued (13,736) compared to 2022-2023 (Table 1.1 and Table 1.2). Youth season hunters who did not harvest a deer during the youth deer hunting season could use the unfilled tag during subsequent deer hunting seasons. The success rate for youth licenses was 33% with 4,758 deer reported. Fifty-nine percent of the deer reported were antlered bucks. Reported harvest by youth hunters decreased 10% compared to 2022-2023.

**Disabled season** hunters were issued 487 licenses, a 3% increase from the previous season. An either-sex deer license purchased by either a youth or disabled season hunter did not count towards the maximum number of any-deer licenses allowed. Reported harvest by hunters using a disabled license decreased 22% compared to 2022-2023. The success rate for disabled licenses was 26% with 125 deer reported. Forty-eight percent of the deer reported were antlered bucks (Table 1.1).

**Special management hunts** were conducted at 73 locations in 2023-2024 during which the total reported harvest was 2,451 deer (Table 1.5). These hunts aim to address the specific management needs of areas such as state and county parks and urban areas that cannot be opened to general regulations. The majority of deer taken in these hunts were antlerless, and the deer tagged did not count against a hunter's regular licenses. These hunts achieved their population goals in localized areas.

An additional 7,214 licenses and permits were issued to hunters/landowners in **depredation** situations which resulted in a reported harvest of 3,689 deer. This marked a 25% increase in the depredation harvest from 2022-2023 (Table 1.1 and Table 1.2).

### **POPULATION TREND SURVEYS**

Three techniques are currently used to monitor trends in Iowa deer populations: (1) spotlight surveys conducted by Iowa DNR staff in March and April, (2) the number of animal-related accidents reported to the Department of Transportation, and (3) the annual Bow Hunter Observation Survey coordinated by the Iowa DNR and conducted by volunteers during October-November (Table 1.6). These surveys correlate well with the reported antlered harvest but are subject to variability due to survey conditions, deer behavior, habitat conditions, and weather.

New spotlight routes were introduced in 2006 and replaced the old ones in 2012, consisting of 199 transects distributed across all counties for a total survey mileage of about 4,750 miles. These routes aim to be more representative of available rural habitats within counties. In 2024, the average number of deer observed per 25 miles increased by 8% compared to 2023 (Table 1.6).

The Bow Hunter Observation Survey, representing about 80,000 hours of observation throughout the state, replaced the aerial deer survey as a trend index. This survey is conducted voluntarily by a randomly selected group of Iowa bow hunters. In 2023, total deer observations per 1,000 hours hunted decreased by 6%.

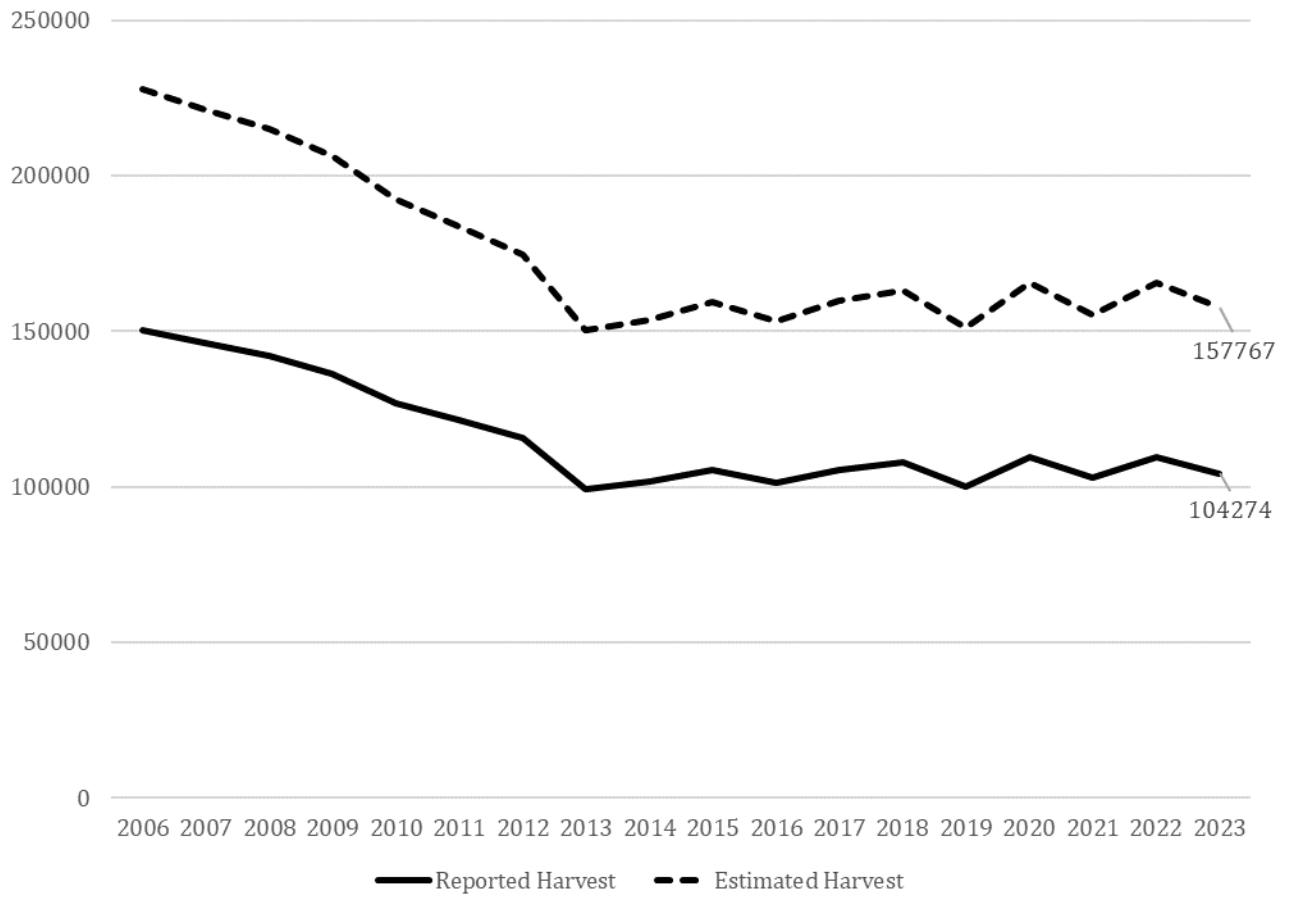
The estimated harvest from 2006-2023 informed the statewide deer population model, which suggests a stable to slightly increasing deer population statewide (Figure 1.5). The model aligns well with the harvest and bowhunter observation data. The data indicate that the statewide deer herd declined from 2006-2013, stabilized from 2013-2017, and has slightly increased since 2017. Most counties have achieved or are close to the population goal set in the 2009 Review of Iowa's Deer Management Program, aiming for *"a stable deer population at the approximate level that occurred in the mid to late 1990s... capable of sustaining a harvest of between 110,00 - 130,000 deer annually"*.

### **DISEASE REPORT**

The Iowa DNR actively monitors **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)**, a neurological disease primarily affecting deer and elk. CWD is characterized by abnormal protein (prion) buildup in the brain, leading to weight loss, abnormal behavior. CWD is always fatal to the infected animal. Iowa has tested over 100,000 wild deer and 5,000 captive deer and elk since 2002 as part of CWD surveillance. Samples are collected from all 99 counties, primarily in areas near detected cases. In 2023-2024, 128 new CWD-positive cases were detected, adding Des Moines, Guthrie, Howard, Jones, Monroe, Muscatine, and Tama counties to the list of affected areas, bringing the total to 23 (Figure 1.6).

**Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD)** is another disease affecting deer, spread by biting midges. EHD causes high fever, weakens the heart and lungs. Unlike CWD which is 100% fatal, deer can survive EHD, though survival in Iowa is typically low. Dry, drought years can worsen EHD outbreaks as deer concentrate around water sources. In 2023, 1,936 suspected cases of EHD were reported, mainly in southern Iowa. Overall, 2023 was considered a severe year for EHD in Iowa, with the second highest number of reported EHD-related mortalities in state history.

**FIGURES**



**Figure 1.1 Number of reported and estimated deer harvest from 2006-2007 to 2023-2024.**

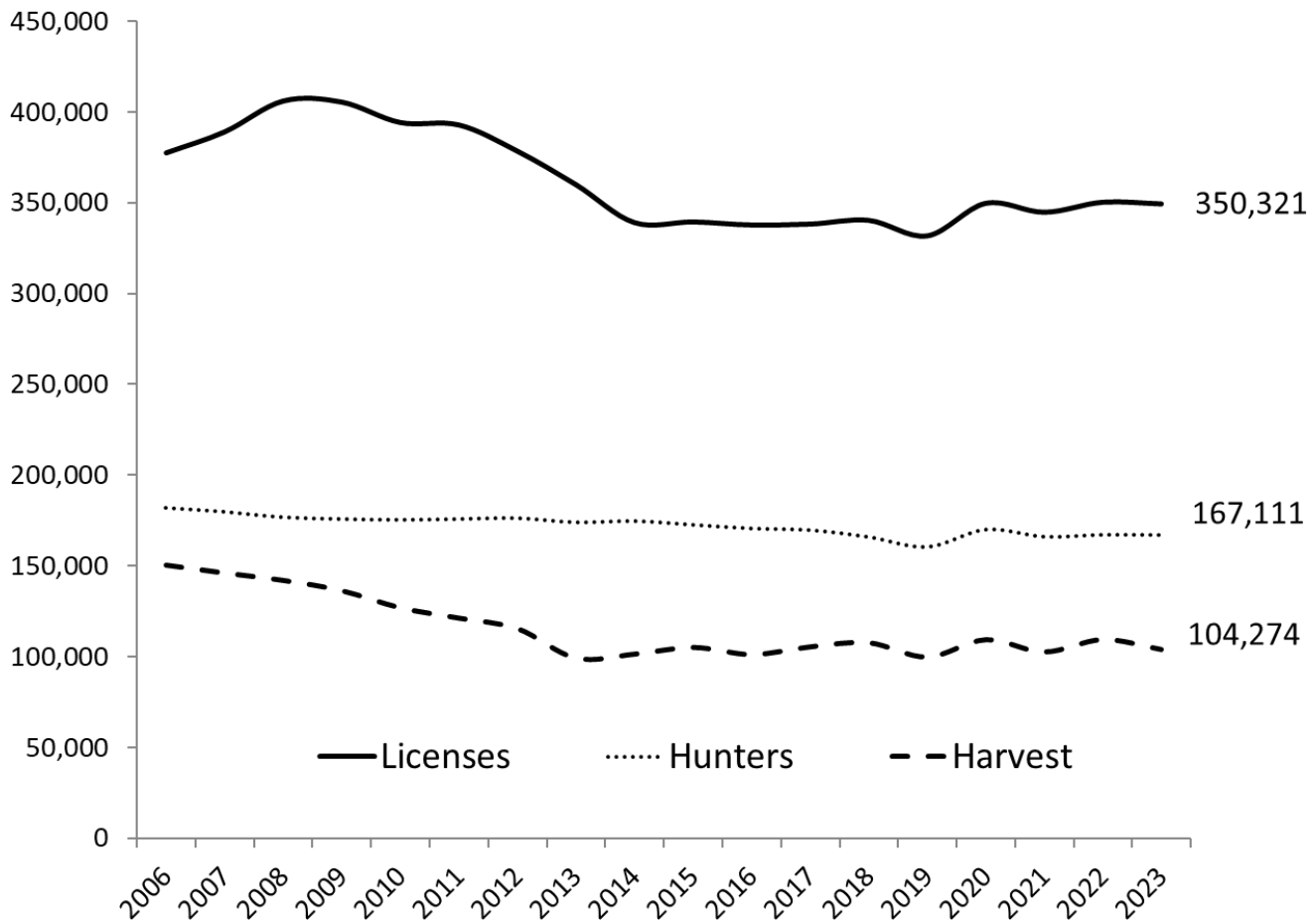


Figure 1.2 Post-season reported harvest, hunters, and license sales from 2006-2007 to 2023-2024 seasons.

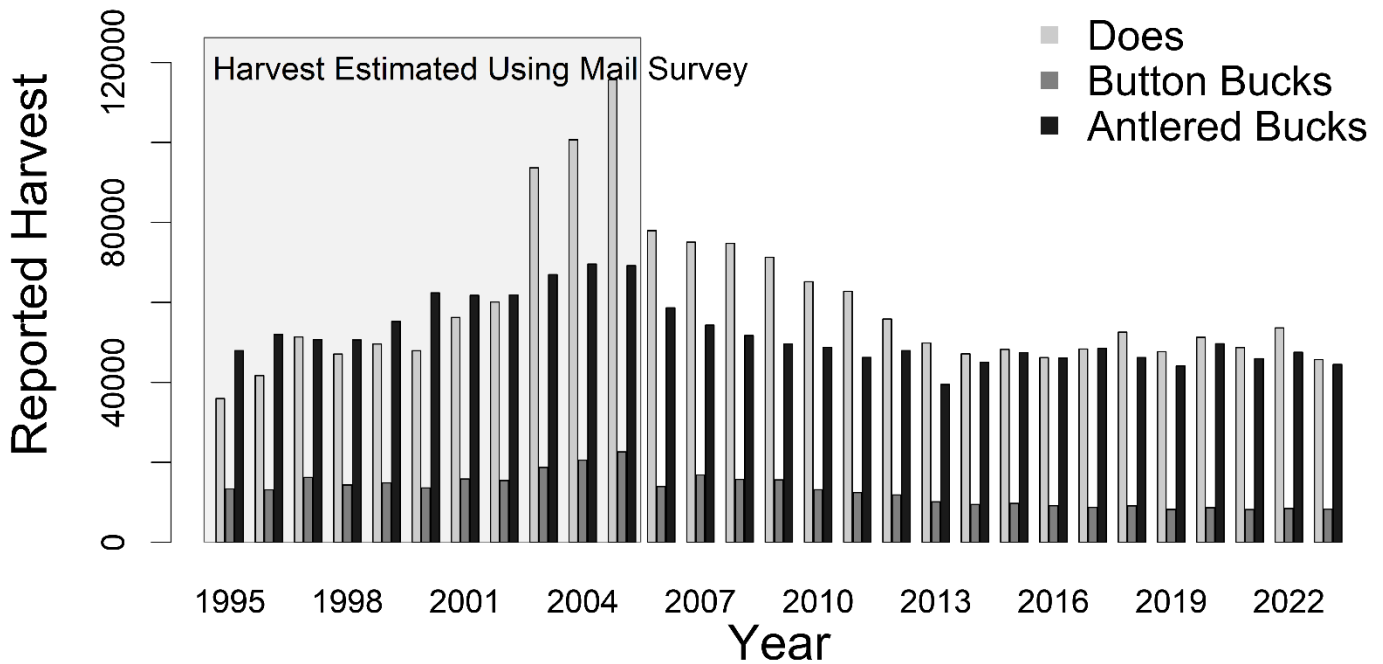
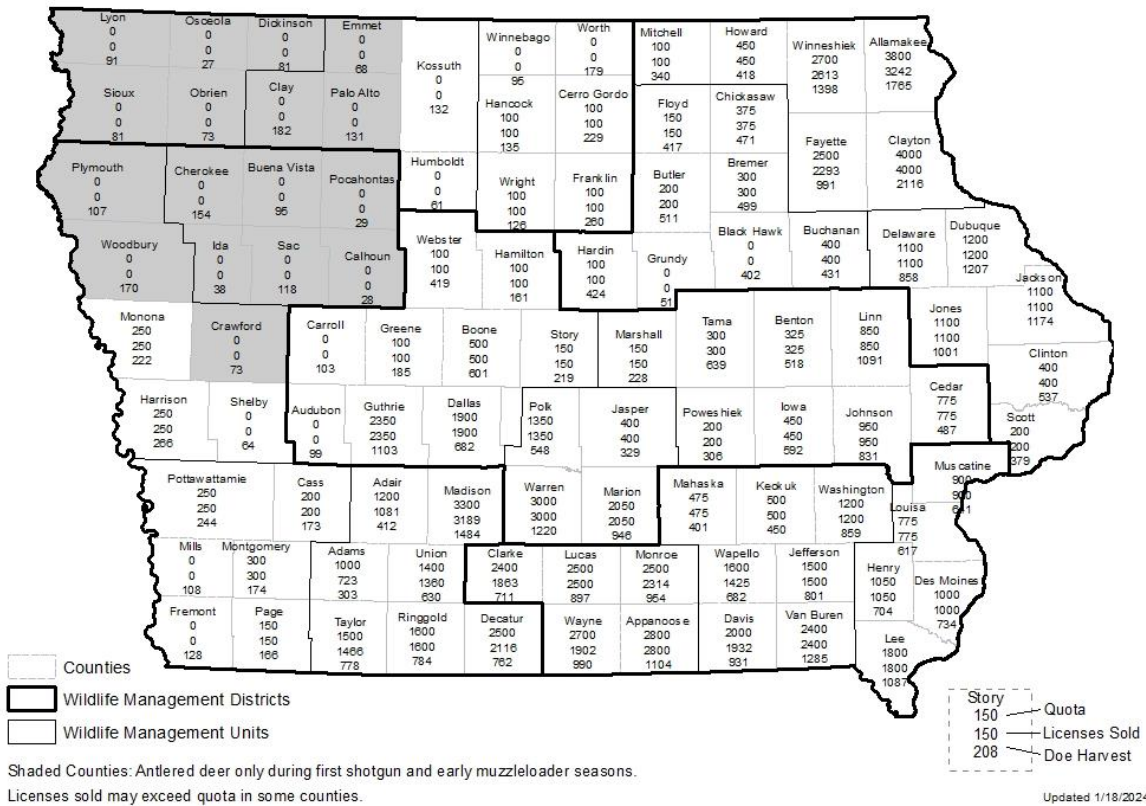
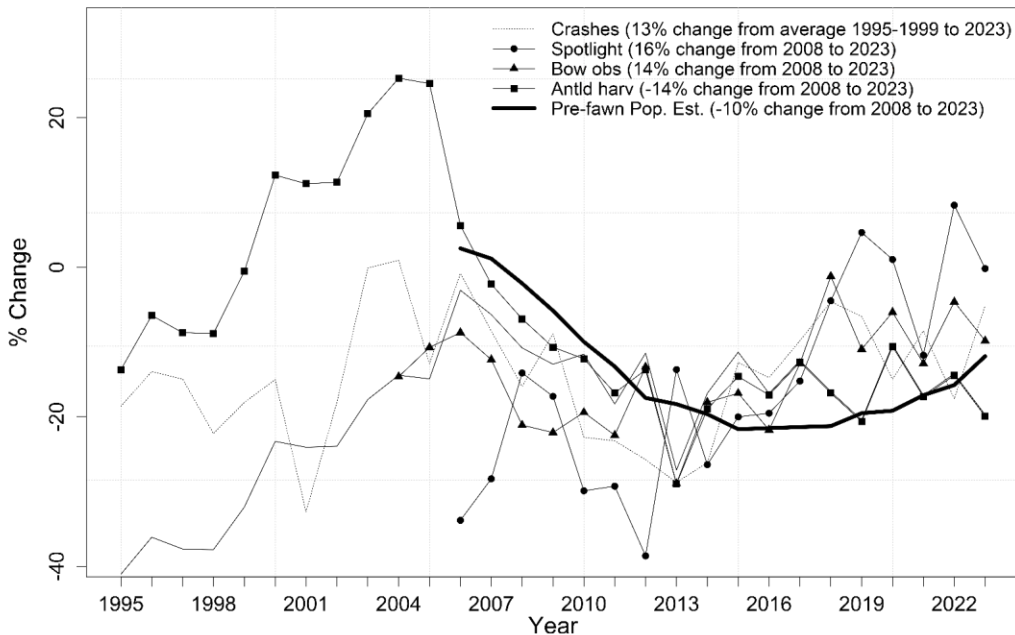


Figure 1.3 Number of does, button bucks, and antlered bucks harvested from 1995-1996 to 2023-2024. Since 2006, harvest was reported and is not directly comparable to previous estimates from mail card surveys.

## Antlerless Deer Quota, Antlerless-only Deer Licenses Sold, and Total Doe Deer Harvest by Iowa County, 2023

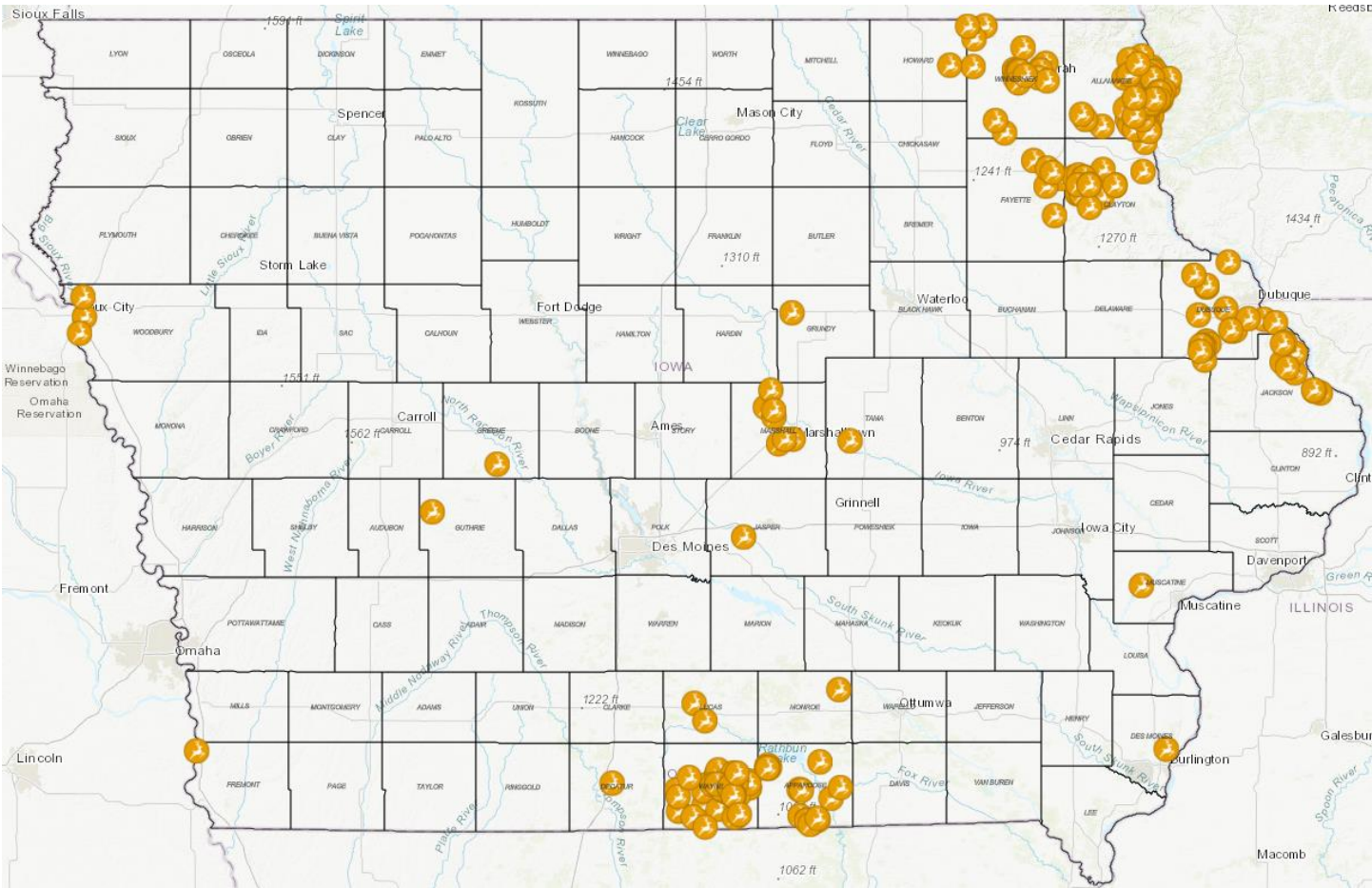


**Figure 1.4 Resident antlerless-only deer quota, resident antlerless-only deer licenses sold, and total doe harvest in each county 2023-2024. Doe harvest may exceed licenses sold because antlerless deer could be harvested using either-sex, depredation, or special deer management unit tags.**



- \* KPBM = recovered deer-vehicle collisions (IADOT and Salvage Tags) divided by billion miles driven on secondary highways (IADOT estimate).
- \* Crashes = animal-related crashes reported to IADOT.
- \* Bow obs = bow hunter observation survey from start of archery season through Friday before 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in December.
- \* Antld harv = reported antlerless deer harvest.
- \* Pre-fawn Pop. Est. = pre-fawning (~end-May) population index from deterministic 2-sex, 10-age class accounting model.

**Figure 1.5 Deer population indices with simulation, 1995-2023.**



**Figure 1.6 Locations of deer that tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Iowa, 2013-2024.**

TABLES

Table 1.1 A summary of the number of licenses issued, hunters, reported harvest and success rates from the 2023-2024 season.

Season	Group <sup>1</sup>	Type	Licenses	Hunters	Reported Harvest					Success Rate <sup>2</sup>	Percent Does
					Does	Antlered	Buttons	Sheds	Total		
Youth	Paid	Either-sex	12,848	12,848	1,279	2,755	250	29	4,313	34%	30%
		Antlerless	1,253	1,142	349	8	57	1	415	33%	84%
	LOT	Either-Sex	66	66	5	10	NA	0	15	23%	33%
		Antlerless	42	42	13	NA	2	NA	15	36%	87%
	Total	14,210	13,989	1,646	2,773	309	30	4,758	33%	35%	
Disabled	Paid	Either-sex	406	383	39	57	1	NA	97	24%	40%
		Antlerless	55	48	21	NA	2	NA	23	42%	91%
	LOT	Either-Sex	13	13	NA	3	NA	NA	3	23%	0%
		Antlerless	13	13	2	NA	NA	NA	2	15%	100%
	Total	487	366	62	60	3	0	125	26%	50%	
Early Muzzleloader	Paid	Either-sex	6,463	6,463	662	1,390	92	23	2,167	34%	31%
		Antlerless	1,490	1,149	523	10	67	NA	600	40%	87%
	LOT	Either-Sex	982	981	84	169	14	7	274	28%	31%
		Antlerless	870	819	195	3	25	NA	223	26%	87%
	Total	9,806	8,427	1,464	1,572	198	30	3,264	33%	45%	
Shotgun 1	Paid	Either-sex	43,785	43,785	4,019	10,376	1,179	164	15,738	36%	26%
		Antlerless	17,566	11,434	6,482	88	1,167	16	7,753	44%	84%
Shotgun 2	Paid	Either-sex	47,528	47,528	4,353	7,301	1,084	191	12,929	27%	34%
		Antlerless	19,046	11,728	5,925	46	918	34	6,923	36%	86%
Shotgun 1 & 2	LOT	Either-Sex	22,665	22,665	1,280	3,210	247	77	4,814	21%	27%
		Antlerless	19,030	15,375	4,567	87	695	24	5,373	28%	85%
	Total	169,636	48,213	26,626	21,108	5,290	506	53,530	32%	50%	
Late Muzzleloader	Paid	Either-sex	20,028	20,028	1,392	2,592	259	77	4,320	22%	32%
		Antlerless	9,944	6,872	2,149	18	307	55	2,529	25%	85%
	LOT	Either-Sex	2,260	2,260	116	195	23	3	337	15%	34%
		Antlerless	3,540	3,168	632	13	78	10	733	21%	86%
	Total	35,778	16,538	4,289	2,818	667	145	7,919	22%	54%	
Archery	Paid	Either-sex	54,936	54,936	1,181	12,043	245	142	13,611	25%	9%
		Antlerless	22,504	15,914	5,387	70	665	8	6,130	27%	88%

Season	Group <sup>1</sup>	Type	Licenses	Hunters	Reported Harvest					Success Rate <sup>2</sup>	Percent Does
					Does	Antlered	Buttons	Sheds	Total		
	LOT	Either-Sex	5,221	5,221	139	1,180	25	19	1,363	26%	10%
		Antlerless	5,566	4,863	1,212	11	121	NA	1,344	24%	90%
		Total		88,256	57,504	7,919	13,304	1,056	169	22,448	25%
Senior Crossbow	Paid	Antlerless	984	984	168	7	40	1	216	22%	78%
Special Hunts		Antlerless	2,928	1,140	1,292	4	140	3	1,439	49%	90%
Depredation		Antlerless	7,214	2,627	3,296	15	355	23	3,689	51%	89%
January Antlerless	Paid	Antlerless	5,826	3,122	1,296	2	152	59	1,509	26%	86%
Nonresidents <sup>3</sup>	Paid	Either-sex	6,051	6,051	59	2,564	14	23	2,660	44%	2%
		Antlerless	9,142	9,115	1,841	124	198	5	2,168	24%	85%
<b>Total</b>			<b>350,239</b>	<b>167,111</b>	<b>50,232</b>	<b>44,571</b>	<b>8,461</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>104,274</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>48%</b>

<sup>1</sup>LOT = landowner/tenant licenses; Paid = non-landowner/tenant licenses.

<sup>2</sup>Percent of licenses that reported harvested deer.

<sup>3</sup>Nonresident licenses for either shotgun 1, shotgun 2, archery, late muzzleloader, disabled hunter, or holiday antlerless-only season.

Quota of 6,000 nonresident general deer/antlerless-only licenses, 35% of which can be archery licenses. An additional 4,500 antlerless-only licenses are available for either one of the shotgun seasons or the disabled hunter season.

**Table 1.2 A comparison of the number of deer licenses issued and the reported harvest in 2023-24 with 2022-23 by season.**

Season	2022 - 2023		2023 - 2024		% Change	
	Licenses	Harvest	Licenses	Harvest	Licenses	Harvest
Youth	13,736	5,283	14,210	4,758	3%	-10%
Disabled	471	160	487	125	3%	-22%
Archery	87,539	21,646	88,256	22,448	1%	4%
Early Muzzleloader	10,401	3,367	9,806	3,264	-6%	-3%
Shotgun 1 (Paid) <sup>1</sup>	62,313	25,703	61,358	23,491	-2%	-9%
Shotgun 2 (Paid) <sup>2</sup>	66,568	20,229	66,577	19,852	0%	-2%
Shotgun LOT <sup>3</sup>	42,257	10,863	41,701	10,187	-1%	-6%
Late Muzzleloader	35,822	9,423	35,778	7,919	0%	-16%
Special Hunts	2,963	1,453	2,928	1,439	-1%	-1%
Depredation	5,763	3,182	7,214	3,689	25%	16%
January Antlerless	7,251	2,532	5,826	1,509	-20%	-40%
Nonresidents <sup>4</sup>	15,155	5,124	15,195	4,828	0%	-6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,239</b>	<b>109,600</b>	<b>349,336</b>	<b>104,271</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-4%</b>



**Table 1.3 Historical data on reported deer harvest by license type (1953 to present).**

Year	Regular Gun			Muzzleloader			Archery	Grand Total*
	Paid	Landowner	Total	Early	Late	Total		
1953	2,401	1,606	4,007				1	4,008
1954	1,827	586	2,413				10	2,423
1955	2,438	568	3,006				58	3,064
1956	2,000	561	2,561				117	2,678
1957	2,187	480	2,667				138	2,805
1958	2,141	588	2,729				162	2,891
1959	1,935	541	2,476				255	2,731
1960	3,188	804	3,992				277	4,269
1961	4,033	964	4,997				367	5,364
1962	4,281	1,018	5,299				404	5,703
1963	5,595	1,017	6,612				538	7,151
1964	7,274	1,750	9,024				670	9,694
1965	6,588	1,322	7,910				710	8,620
1966	9,070	1,672	10,742				579	11,321
1967	7,628	2,764	10,392				791	11,183
1968	9,051	3,890	12,941				830	13,771
1969	6,952	3,779	10,731				851	11,582
1970	8,398	4,345	12,743				1,037	13,780
1971	7,779	2,680	10,459				1,232	11,691
1972	7,747	2,738	10,485				1,328	11,813
1973	10,017	2,191	12,208				1,822	14,030
1974	11,720	4,097	15,817				2,173	17,990
1975	15,293	3,655	18,948				2,219	21,167
1976	11,728	2,529	14,257				2,350	16,607
1977	10,737	2,051	12,788				2,400	15,188
1978	12,815	2,353	15,168				2,957	18,125
1979	14,178	1,971	16,149				3,305	19,454
1980	16,511	2,346	18,857				3,803	22,660
1981	19,224	2,354	21,578				4,368	25,946
1982	19,269	2,472	21,741				4,720	26,461
1983	27,078	3,297	30,375				5,244	35,619
1984	29,912	3,537	33,449		307	307	5,599	39,355
1985	32,613	5,344	37,957		457	457	5,805	44,219
1986	41,352	10,378	51,730	349	728	1,077	9,895	62,702
1987	53,230	10,270	63,500	1,509	1,027	2,536	9,722	75,758
1988	66,757	13,298	80,055	1,835	1,294	3,129	9,897	93,756
1989	67,606	12,963	80,569	2,619	3,715	6,334	11,857	99,712
1990	69,101	9,095	78,196	2,819	5,884	8,703	10,146	98,002
1991	56,811	11,575	68,386	3,120	2,766	5,886	8,807	83,635
1992	50,822	10,453	61,275	3,316	3,231	6,564	8,814	77,684
1993	52,624	8,354	60,978	2,219	2,883	5,102	9,291	76,430
1994	59,054	8,735	67,789	2,610	3,196	5,806	12,040	87,231

Year	Regular Gun			Muzzleloader			Archery	Grand Total*
	Paid	Landowner	Total	Early	Late	Total		
1995	65,206	7,917	73,123	2,831	3,408	6,363	13,372	97,256
1996	71,577	10,896	82,473	2,895	4,558	7,453	12,314	107,632
1997	77,169	10,588	87,757	4,062	5,508	9,570	14,313	118,404
1998	73,165	9,989	83,154	4,448	5,343	9,791	12,302	112,608
1999	74,362	12,966	87,328	5,277	5,329	10,606	15,266	121,635
2000	77,743	13,189	90,932	4,585	5,936	10,521	17,727	126,535
2001	82,721	14,801	97,522	4,593	7,320	11,913	18,798	136,655
2002	77,940	18,932	96,872	5,091	7,772	12,863	20,703	140,490
2003	96,757	25,353	122,110	6,155	12,049	18,204	26,486	182,856
2004	97,830	26,333	124,163	6,818	13,550	20,368	30,025	194,512
2005	96,110	27,988	124,098	7,209	13,930	21,139	32,986	211,451
2006	76,218	14,956	91,174	5,431	8,698	14,129	22,008	150,552
2007	67,175	13,862	81,037	4,462	10,530	14,992	22,240	146,214
2008	63,330	12,762	76,092	4,342	10,254	14,596	21,793	142,194
2009	58,801	12,630	71,431	4,495	9,482	13,977	23,172	136,504
2010	56,511	11,455	67,966	4,026	8,838	12,864	21,154	127,094
2011	52,130	11,009	63,139	4,427	8,165	12,592	21,983	121,407
2012	49,110	10,931	60,041	3,896	10,823	14,719	21,981	115,608
2013	42,442	9,271	51,713	4,027	6,828	10,855	20,319	99,414
2014	44,910	10,701	55,611	3,700	8,793	12,493	21,128	101,595
2015	45,214	11,041	56,255	4,042	9,604	13,646	22,489	105,401
2016	43,205	10,358	53,563	3,450	9,560	13,010	22,389	101,397
2017	46,559	11,161	57,720	3,423	9,629	13,052	22,665	105,578
2018	47,401	11,837	59,238	3,594	9,885	13,479	21,271	107,857
2019	43,154	9,967	53,121	3,347	7,564	10,911	22,142	99,999
2020	46,167	11,091	57,258	4,074	9,505	13,579	23,746	109,544
2021	44,100	10,203	54,303	3,473	8,407	11,880	21,257	102,800
2022	45,923	10,863	56,795	3,367	9,423	12,790	21,646	109,600
2023	43,343	10,187	53,530	3,264	7,919	11,183	22,448	104,274

<sup>1</sup>Grand Total includes special management unit hunts, nonresidents and youth. Harvest estimates from 2005 and prior are not comparable to subsequent years.

**Table 1.4 Total reported deer kill by county during the 2023-2024 deer season.**

County	Antlered Bucks	Does	Button Bucks	Shed-antlered Bucks	Total	Percent of kill		Antld. Kill /Sq. Mile
						Does	Antlered Bucks	
Adair	360	412	73	6	851	48	42	0.63
Adams	326	303	52	7	688	44	47	0.77
Allamakee	1275	1765	233	34	3307	53	39	2
Appanoose	851	1104	140	21	2116	52	40	1.63
Audubon	137	99	15	2	253	39	54	0.31
Benton	467	518	81	12	1078	48	43	0.65
Black Hawk	388	402	86	7	883	46	44	0.68
Boone	568	601	107	12	1288	47	44	0.99
Bremer	475	499	100	18	1092	46	43	1.08
Buchanan	394	431	88	2	915	47	43	0.69
Buena Vista	148	95	10	4	257	37	58	0.26
Butler	544	511	96	11	1162	44	47	0.93
Calhoun	113	28	4	1	146	19	77	0.2
Carroll	147	103	20	3	273	38	54	0.26
Cass	255	173	40	2	470	37	54	0.46
Cedar	501	487	88	15	1091	45	46	0.86
Cerro Gordo	310	229	36	10	585	39	53	0.54
Cherokee	224	154	17	5	400	38	56	0.39
Chickasaw	431	471	85	12	999	47	43	0.85
Clarke	610	711	122	19	1462	49	42	1.42
Clay	240	182	35	5	462	39	52	0.42
Clayton	1533	2116	323	43	4015	53	38	1.97
Clinton	589	537	126	17	1269	42	46	0.85
Crawford	154	73	18	4	249	29	62	0.22
Dallas	506	682	129	6	1323	52	38	0.85
Davis	580	931	188	17	1716	54	34	1.14
Decatur	699	762	97	17	1575	48	44	1.32
Delaware	559	858	154	20	1591	54	35	0.98
Des Moines	577	734	130	12	1453	51	40	1.41
Dickinson	148	81	13	4	246	33	60	0.39
Dubuque	774	1207	195	19	2195	55	35	1.26
Emmet	130	68	12	1	211	32	62	0.33
Fayette	731	991	165	24	1911	52	38	1
Floyd	405	417	76	11	909	46	45	0.81
Franklin	304	260	49	5	618	42	49	0.52
Fremont	262	128	21	3	414	31	63	0.5
Greene	232	185	39	10	466	40	50	0.41
Grundy	92	51	13	1	157	32	59	0.18
Guthrie	777	1103	218	12	2110	52	37	1.3
Hamilton	230	161	17	6	414	39	56	0.4
Hancock	142	135	21	1	299	45	47	0.25

County	Antlered Bucks	Does	Button Bucks	Shed-antlered Bucks	Total	Percent of kill		Antld. Kill /Sq. Mile
						Does	Antlered Bucks	
Hardin	426	424	61	14	925	46	46	0.74
Harrison	390	266	73	7	736	36	53	0.56
Henry	498	704	135	12	1349	52	37	1.13
Howard	314	418	43	6	781	54	40	0.67
Humboldt	142	61	12	2	217	28	65	0.33
Ida	76	38	11	1	126	30	60	0.18
Iowa	653	592	130	14	1389	43	47	1.12
Jackson	1007	1174	212	24	2417	49	42	1.56
Jasper	439	329	65	10	843	39	52	0.6
Jefferson	560	801	136	8	1505	53	37	1.28
Johnson	751	831	151	13	1746	48	43	1.21
Jones	723	1001	178	15	1917	52	38	1.24
Keokuk	500	450	89	12	1051	43	48	0.86
Kossuth	242	132	11	5	390	34	62	0.25
Lee	764	1087	180	13	2044	53	37	1.45
Linn	824	1091	172	18	2105	52	39	1.15
Louisa	555	617	127	9	1308	47	42	1.38
Lucas	792	897	133	14	1836	49	43	1.82
Lyon	152	91	21	2	266	34	57	0.26
Madison	1009	1484	236	19	2748	54	37	1.79
Mahaska	444	401	80	9	934	43	48	0.78
Marion	700	946	163	17	1826	52	38	1.23
Marshall	293	228	38	6	565	40	52	0.51
Mills	221	108	19	4	352	31	63	0.49
Mitchell	398	340	40	7	785	43	51	0.85
Monona	296	222	38	4	560	40	53	0.42
Monroe	690	954	141	21	1806	53	38	1.59
Montgomery	230	174	33	4	441	39	52	0.55
Muscatine	528	641	132	10	1311	49	40	1.19
Obrien	134	73	12	0	219	33	61	0.23
Osceola	78	27	8	0	113	24	69	0.2
Page	236	166	19	5	426	39	55	0.44
Palo Alto	208	131	30	1	370	35	56	0.37
Plymouth	195	107	20	5	327	33	60	0.23
Pocahontas	131	29	7	2	169	17	78	0.23
Polk	345	548	93	10	996	55	35	0.58
Pottawattamie	323	244	36	2	605	40	53	0.34
Poweshiek	390	306	47	8	751	41	52	0.66
Ringgold	600	784	120	14	1518	52	40	1.12
Sac	185	118	16	3	322	37	57	0.32
Scott	350	379	48	9	786	48	45	0.77
Shelby	157	64	21	4	246	26	64	0.27

County	Antlered Bucks	Does	Button Bucks	Shed-antlered Bucks	Total	Percent of kill		Antld. Kill /Sq. Mile
						Does	Antlered Bucks	
Sioux	133	81	18	0	232	35	57	0.17
Story	300	219	28	5	552	40	54	0.53
Tama	718	639	114	13	1484	43	48	1
Taylor	667	778	123	7	1575	49	42	1.26
Union	505	630	93	8	1236	51	41	1.19
Van Buren	874	1285	232	30	2421	53	36	1.79
Wapello	462	682	96	11	1251	55	37	1.06
Warren	1038	1220	215	20	2493	49	42	1.81
Washington	647	859	160	16	1682	51	38	1.14
Wayne	733	990	126	15	1864	53	39	1.38
Webster	479	419	55	12	965	43	50	0.67
Winnebago	179	95	17	4	295	32	61	0.45
Winneshiek	811	1398	197	33	2439	57	33	1.18
Woodbury	303	170	38	7	518	33	58	0.35
Worth	243	179	22	3	447	40	54	0.61
Wright	235	126	32	9	402	31	58	0.41
<b>Total Reported</b>	<b>44,571</b>	<b>50,232</b>	<b>8,461</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>104,274</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>0.81</b>

**Table 1.5 Results from controlled hunts in special management deer zone 2023-2024.**

Deer Management Zone	Tags Available	Tags Sold	Harvest
AMANA COLONIES ZONE	100	100	36
AMES (CITY)	75	51	15
AMES (PERIMETER)	50	29	9
BELLEVUE STATE PARK	50	9	2
OSKALOOSA (CITY)	100	30	16
BETTENDORF & RIVERDALE	125	72	36
CEDAR RAPIDS (CITY)	400	196	107
CLINTON (CITY)	75	33	12
CORALVILLE (CITY)	200	98	38
DAVENPORT (CITY)	250	131	70
DENISON (CITY)	50	29	5
DE SOTO NWR	50	36	4
DUBUQUE (CITY)	225	190	127
DUBUQUE (CWD PERIMETER)	350	315	91
ELK ROCK STATE PARK	25	23	13
LAKE AHQUABI STATE PARK	30	11	1
GREEN VALLEY STATE PARK	35	18	12
IAAP	1200	388	180
IOWA FALLS (PERIMETER)	30	11	3
IOWA FALLS (CITY)	80	25	14
CORALVILLE (PERIMETER)	600	409	129
LACEY-KEOSAUQUA STATE PAR	75	33	22
LAKE DARLING STATE PARK	100	63	27
LAKE WAPELLO STATE PARK	50	26	12
LEDGES STATE PARK	40	34	15
CEDAR RAPIDS (PERIMETER)	500	244	87
MOUNT PLEASANT (CITY)	50	12	3
ELDORA (CITY)	50	21	6
MUSCATINE (CITY)	150	99	35
OTTUMWA (CITY)	175	134	88
PIKES PEAK S.P. /MCGREGOR	100	42	29
PINE LAKE STATE PARK	30	23	12
POLK-DALLAS ARCHERY ONLY	1000	510	266
SCOTT COUNTY PARK	50	34	21
SPRINGBROOK STATE PARK	20	2	0
SQUAW CREEK PARK	100	69	37
WATERLOO & CEDAR FALLS	290	253	151
POLK-DALLAS RURAL ZONE	75	13	2
WILDCAT DEN STATE PARK	50	17	10
JEFFERSON COUNTY PARK	25	16	8
JONES COUNTY CENTRAL PARK	50	7	1
COUNCIL BLUFFS (CITY)	300	95	30
KNOXVILLE (CITY)	25	5	0
MARSHALLTOWN (CITY)	60	21	9
MARSHALLTOWN (PERIMETER)	40	16	3

Deer Management Zone	Tags Available	Tags Sold	Harvest
STONE STATE PARK	75	59	26
KEOKUK (CITY)	100	91	54
HONEY CREEK STATE PARK	75	24	0
ELKADER (CWD PERIMETER)	450	74	51
HARPERS FERRY (CWD PERIM)	300	103	94
CORYDON (CWD PERIMETER)	350	124	93
BOBWHITE STATE PARK	100	13	5
MASON CITY (CITY)	125	68	34
BURLINGTON (CITY)	200	70	37
IOWA CITY (CITY)	200	45	28
ALLAMAKEE COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	900	15	2
CLAYTON COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	750	13	2
DECATUR COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	500	11	0
DUBUQUE/JACKSON/JONES (CWD PERIMETER)	300	163	47
WAYNE COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	250	19	6
WINNESHIEK COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	400	40	15
WOODBURY COUNTY CWD (PERIMETER)	200	200	32
SMITH WILDLIFE AREA	10	10	4
FREMONT/MILLS (CWD PERIMETER)	100	100	34
PANORAMA (PERIMETER)	200	104	46
FORT DODGE	100	65	44
IAAP (BOW)	125	5	0
DECATUR EAST COUNTY (CWD PERIMETER)	200	0	0
LUCAS COUNTY (CWD PERIMETER)	200	0	0
MONROE COUNTY (CWD PERIMETER)	200	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,924</b>	<b>5,421</b>	<b>2,451</b>

**Table 1.6 Results of deer population surveys (1976-present)**

Year	Spotlight Survey		Aerial Survey		Traffic Kill	Traffic Kill Per Billion Vehicle Mi.		Bowhunter Obs (Deer per 1000 hrs)	
	Mean Count <sup>a</sup>	Percent Change	Weighted Count <sup>b</sup>	Percent Change		Number	Percent Change	Number	Percent Change
1976			-	-	2,537	225	-1%		
1977			-	-	2,929	252	12%		
1978			-	-	2,872	241	-4%		
1979			-	-	3,005	259	7%		
1980			-	-	3,743	335	29%		
1981			-	-	4,164	365	9%		
1982			-	-	4,805	412	13%		
1983			5,903	-	5,335	448	9%		
1984			6,387	8%	6,177	500	12%		
1985			7,607	19%	5,925	495	-1%		
1986			9,790	29%	7,225	593	20%		
1987			-	-	8,440	678	14%		
1988			10,289	<sup>c</sup>	9,248	707	4%		
1989			9,672	-6%	8,914	655	-7%		
1990			7,070	-27%	8,799	607	-7%		
1991			9,191	30%	8,428	590	-3%		
1992			8,235	-10%	9,135	616	4%		
1993			8,680	5%	9,576	624	1%		
1994			10,483	21%	10,438	663	6%		
1995			10,877	4%	11,167	699	5%		
1996			12,051	11%	12,276	748	7%		
1997			13,902	15%	13,148	778	4%		
1998			12,651	-9%	12,427	714	-8%		
1999			14,928	18%	11,366	637	-11%		
2000			15,375	3%	11,114	642	1%		
2001			15,793	3%	14,243	799	24%		
2002			13,107	-17%	12,377	662	-17%		
2003			15,676	20%	13,720	726	10%		
2004			18,028	15%	15,361	803	11%	1,455	
2005			15,324	-15%	14,364	760	-5%	1,533	5%
2006	55		12,565	-18%	14,940	783	3%	1,564	2%
2007	59	8%	13,445	7%	13,730	720	-8%	1,528	-2%
2008	71	20%	13,427	0%	10,961	602	-16%	1,392	-9%
2009	68	-4%	13,528	1%	13,518	726	21%	1,359	-2%
2010	58	-15%	13,591	0%	10,153	547	-25%	1,418	4%
2011	58	1%	13,707	1%	10,626	570	4%	1,368	-4%
2012	51	-13%	discontinued		10,358	554	-3%	1,524	11%
2013	71	40%			9,174	481	-13%	1,241	-18%
2014	61	-14%			9,085	471	-2%	1,417	14%
2015	66	8%			9,418	478	1%	1,447	2%
2016	66	0%			9,041	459	-4%	1,336	-7%



Year	Spotlight Survey		Aerial Survey		Traffic Kill	Traffic Kill Per Billion Vehicle Mi.		Bowhunter Obs (Deer per 1000 hrs)	
	Mean Count <sup>a</sup>	Percent Change	Weighted Count <sup>b</sup>	Percent Change		Number	Percent Change	Number	Percent Change
2017	70	4%			8,609	430	-5%	1,493	12%
2018	79	13%			8,017	312	-28%	1,673	12%
2019	86	9%			7,851	248	-21%	1,543	-8%
2020	83	-3%			7,145	229	-8%	1,627	5%
2021	73	-12%			7,690	discontinued		1,502	-8%
2022	89	24%			6,924			1,827	9%
2023	79	-11%			7,972			1,715	-6%
2024	85	8%							

<sup>a</sup> Mean count represents average number counted per 25 miles of transect

<sup>b</sup> adjusted for missing counts

<sup>c</sup> change from 1986 to 1988

<sup>d</sup> Total number observed per 1,000 hours hunted

\*\*Data missing at time of report