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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**INFORMATION SERVICE**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**

For Release OCTOBER 23, 1953

**DUCK STAMP SALES REACH NEW HIGH IN FISCAL YEAR 1953**

More Federal "duck stamps" were sold during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1953, than in any previous year since the first issue in the series went on sale in 1934, according to an announcement made today by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay.

A total of 2,296,628 stamps of the 1952-53 issue was sold to hunters of migratory waterfowl, conservationists, and philatelists, according to the final figures recently supplied to the Fish and Wildlife Service by the Post Office Department, the agency responsible for distributing and selling the stamps.

This total represents an increase of 128,861 over the 1951-52 figure of 2,167,767 the previous high record.

For the fifth straight year, California headed the list, with a sale of 214,456 stamps, an increase of 41,320 over the previous year.

Other high-ranking States in which more than 100,000 stamps were sold included: Minnesota, 163,109; Texas, 151,120; Michigan, 136,306; Wisconsin, 134,351; and Illinois, 119,873.

Many stamps are also purchased annually by stamp collectors. The Post Office Department's Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C., alone reported sales of 12,987 stamps during fiscal year 1953 of that year's issue. In 1951-52, Philatelic Agency sales totalled 5,907.

Sold for \$2 at post offices, the proceeds from duck stamp sales help finance the Federal Government's waterfowl refuge and law enforcement programs. Every individual over 16 years of age who hunts migratory waterfowl is required to have on his person a stamp of current issue with his signature written across the face.

The sales of duck stamps for the 1952-53 season at post offices in the 48 States, Alaska, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C., are listed below in the first column. For comparative purposes, the figures for the 1951-52 season appear in the second column.

	<u>1952-53</u>	<u>1951-52</u>
Alabama	17,962	12,836
Arizona	11,982	8,645
Arkansas	61,091	64,892
California	214,456	173,136
Colorado	40,192	33,495

	<u>1952-53</u>	<u>1951-52</u>
Connecticut	7,327	5,972
Delaware	6,351	5,122
Florida	26,517	20,007
Georgia	8,320	5,126
Idaho	38,927	40,124
Illinois	119,873	114,836
Indiana	43,137	36,983
Iowa	54,396	62,169
Kansas	50,789	77,171
Kentucky	17,366	13,328
Louisiana	83,072	74,339
Maine	12,703	10,606
Maryland	23,082	19,986
Massachusetts	16,645	18,803
Michigan	136,306	111,651
Minnesota	163,109	162,486
Mississippi	19,043	19,250
Missouri	61,668	69,342
Montana	34,676	34,686
Nebraska	60,194	75,562
Nevada	11,867	10,532
New Hampshire	4,445	3,349
New Jersey	28,364	20,499
New Mexico	11,405	8,577
New York	59,455	55,627
North Carolina	28,063	18,041
North Dakota	45,925	47,957
Ohio	42,625	37,561
Oklahoma	42,706	50,843
Oregon	73,327	68,524
Pennsylvania	43,931	40,636
Rhode Island	2,927	2,338
South Carolina	14,295	8,943
South Dakota	55,270	59,125
Tennessee	35,060	31,137
Texas	151,120	157,510
Utah	34,972	33,177
Vermont	4,017	3,453
Virginia	20,549	15,370
Washington	83,913	84,000
West Virginia	2,612	3,788
Wisconsin	134,351	108,429
Wyoming	12,897	12,125
Alaska	8,302	7,909
District of Columbia	1,923	1,650
Hawaii	16	15
Puerto Rico	220	192
Philatelic Agency (D.C.)	<u>12,987</u>	<u>5,907</u>
Total	2,296,628	2,167,767

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