

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

★ news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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INTERIOR DEPARTMENT SAYS LICENSED HUNTERS IN 46 STATES  
TOTAL ALMOST TWELVE MILLION

A total of 11,798,890 hunters in 46 States purchased one or more licenses to hunt during 1961, the Department of the Interior reported today following receipt of information from State fish and game departments. The 1960 total was 11,785,753.

Figures on the number of license holders are used to determine apportionment of Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration funds to the States.

Although information on the number of hunters from four States, where hunting is a major sport, was not available, the Department was given a complete count on the total number of licenses issued in all 50 States -- 18,201,531 -- and the amount paid, over \$64 million.

While the number of licensed hunters is large it cannot accurately reflect the total number of persons who hunt because many are not required to purchase a license. Previous National Surveys on Fishing and Hunting by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife indicate that there are approximately 15,000,000 hunters in the United States.

The \$64,062,782 outlay for hunting licenses, stamps, tags and permits required by State fish and game departments was \$3,081,579 more than the \$60,981,203 spent in 1960.

Figures supplied by State fish and game departments for 1961 indicate that the number of persons buying one or more licenses to hunt varies from year to year. The number of licenses sold is influenced by weather conditions, the relative abundance of game, and other factors. Many States permit landowners to hunt on their own lands without purchasing licenses.

Some States require sportsmen to purchase separate licenses, stamps, permits, or tags for hunting different kinds of game, as well as for hunting in different areas. Other States issue only one license for all game hunting. In 33 States minors are not required to purchase hunting licenses.

The attached table gives further details regarding 1961 hunting licenses.

SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS,  
LICENSE SALES AND THE COST TO HUNTERS  
FISCAL YEAR 1961

State	Paid Hunting License Holders <sup>1/</sup>	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps Issued	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps Issued <sup>2/</sup>	Gross Cost to Hunters
Alabama	321,009	314,744	6,265	321,009	\$ 733,993
Alaska	41,454	43,782	4,044	47,826	426,378
Arizona	117,641	241,130	6,362	247,492	816,548
Arkansas	234,381	221,699	12,682	234,381	739,321
California	631,734	1,306,791	1,608	1,308,399	3,759,747
Colorado	3/	312,225	62,734	374,959	3,307,058
Connecticut	54,974	54,700	274	54,974	193,642
Delaware	26,083	25,697	386	26,083	62,895
Florida	163,567	196,123	1,866	197,989	1,047,477
Georgia	238,426	235,422	3,865	239,287	538,309
Hawaii	6,214	6,138	120	6,258	31,714
Idaho	172,151	357,317	12,866	370,183	966,519
Illinois	476,613	514,652	6,407	521,059	1,827,462
Indiana	573,696	586,544	2,992	589,536	791,887
Iowa	319,668	322,953	5,352	328,305	762,227
Kansas	223,521	215,123	8,398	223,521	571,960
Kentucky	254,561	258,813	7,260	266,073	980,729
Louisiana	260,598	313,900	3,187	317,087	654,295
Maine	184,806	156,482	29,029	185,511	1,071,907
Maryland	157,750	216,335	5,713	222,048	718,821
Massachusetts	116,809	127,286	1,527	128,813	489,689
Michigan	3/	1,131,664	17,812	1,149,476	4,834,419
Minnesota	3/	609,811	2,054	611,865	1,491,518
Mississippi	207,904	212,215	5,522	217,737	498,133
Missouri	311,233	305,662	5,571	311,233	1,114,787
Montana	201,769	310,620	17,639	328,259	1,363,280
Nebraska	195,630	334,903	29,434	364,337	948,478
Nevada	42,337	42,508	8,009	50,517	367,115
New Hampshire	83,193	66,907	20,044	86,951	176,051
New Jersey	174,090	191,772	2,434	194,206	821,430
New Mexico	114,214	121,429	4,076	125,505	795,840
New York	691,403	934,021	38,614	972,635	5,783,999
North Carolina	394,328	440,292	6,888	447,180	1,154,501
North Dakota	83,032	113,245	2,042	115,287	484,310
Ohio	682,749	706,477	3,198	709,675	1,542,320
Oklahoma	194,144	221,888	2,637	224,525	540,594
Oregon	306,858	622,212	3,359	625,571	1,834,129
Pennsylvania	996,867	1,248,930	46,486	1,295,416	4,331,575
Rhode Island	12,945	13,791	248	14,039	44,204
South Carolina	171,949	166,263	5,686	171,949	516,537
South Dakota	172,444	170,138	28,923	199,061	1,231,589
Tennessee	432,553	500,832	3,214	504,046	895,163
Texas	494,205	498,834	3,971	502,805	1,652,631
Utah	186,923	192,873	43,192	236,065	1,635,273
Vermont	110,687	89,386	29,334	118,720	540,605
Virginia	349,897	642,023	24,339	666,362	1,363,812
Washington	288,305	559,612	751	560,363	2,077,869
West Virginia	210,860	328,558	15,049	343,607	897,145
Wisconsin	3/	661,676	9,641	671,317	2,721,720
Wyoming	112,715	113,602	58,427	172,029	1,911,177
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,798,890</b>	<b>17,580,000</b>	<b>621,531</b>	<b>18,201,531</b>	<b>\$64,062,782</b>

<sup>1/</sup> A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase.

Data certified by State fish and game departments.

<sup>2/</sup> Period covered not identical to period covered by certification for all States.

<sup>3/</sup> Data not available.

Compiled by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife from information furnished by the State fish and game departments.