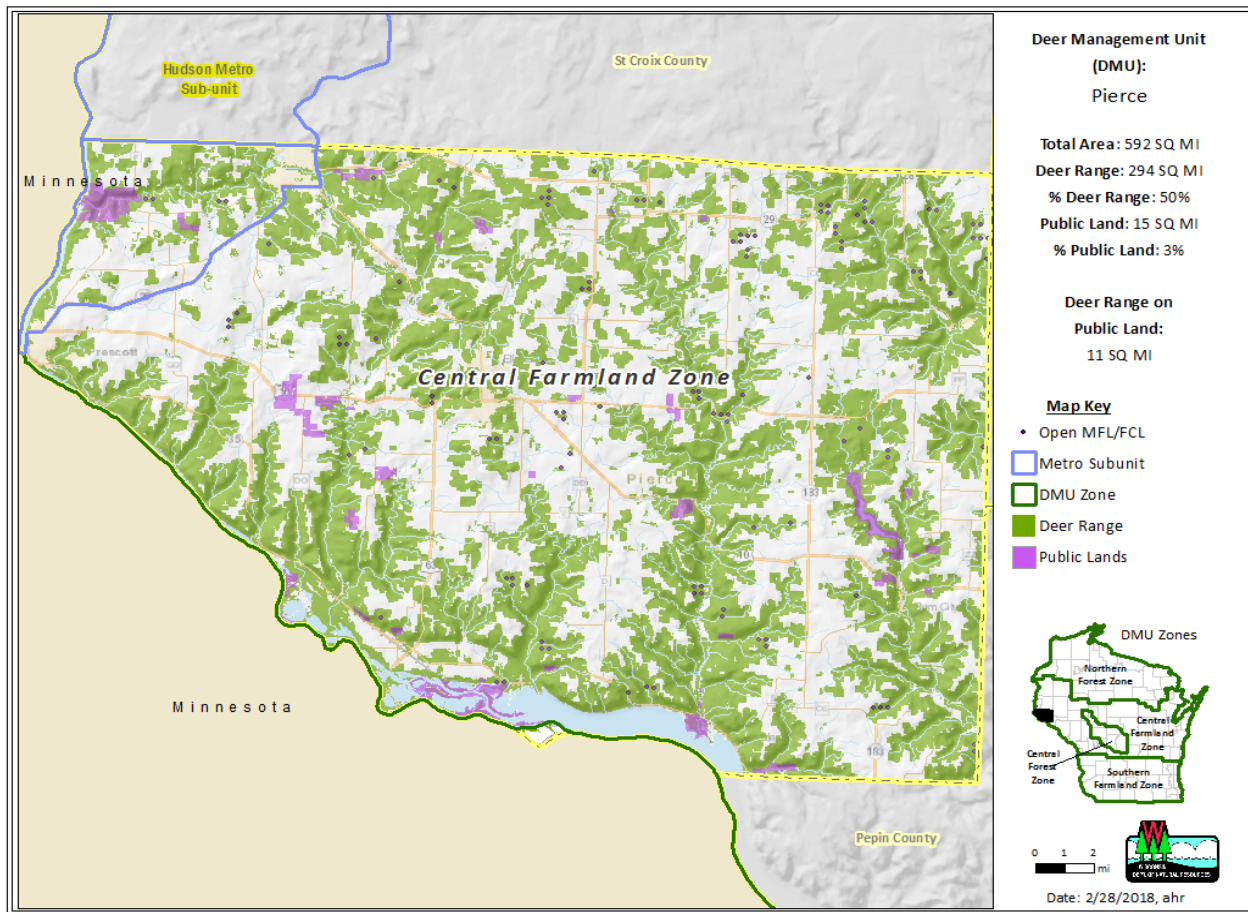


# Pierce County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

The Pierce County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 50 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range (294 square miles). The unit has a physically diverse landscape consisting of mixed hardwood coulees, river bottoms and agriculture. Suitable habitat is dispersed throughout the unit including vast wooded river floodplain and river bluffs associated with the Mississippi River, coulees and ridges in the eastern portion of the unit and scattered woodlots interspersed with agriculture throughout the central portion of the unit. The Hudson Metro subunit is a large urban interface with increasing rural development around the town of River Falls towards Hudson, and is located in the far northwestern portion of the county. This area provides additional hunting opportunities unique to Metro subunits. The vast majority (~98%) of land in the unit is private landownership. However, public hunting opportunities do exist on approximately 1,500 acres of public land including the Pierce County Islands Wildlife Area, Manion Wildlife Area and Rush River Delta State Natural Area. Additionally, there is approximately 3,000 acres of private land enrolled in the Voluntary Public Access program providing public hunting opportunities on private land. Also, located within the Hudson Metro subunit, the Kinnickinnic River State Park provides public hunting access during extended hunting opportunities for the Metro subunit. Hunter densities on opening day of the 9-day gun deer season average about 22 hunters per square mile of deer range and more than 6 bucks per square mile of deer range are harvested in the unit. Harvest averages 15 deer per square mile of deer range. The current deer herd management objective is to stabilize the population.

*Deer Management Unit Harvest History*

Fawn to doe ratios collected in late summer give information on fawn recruitment and survival and are used as an input into the formula for annual deer herd abundance estimation. Fawn to doe ratios were summarized using groups of county deer management units. County deer management units were grouped based on location, habitat characteristics, and deer demography.

**Central Farmland Management Zone**

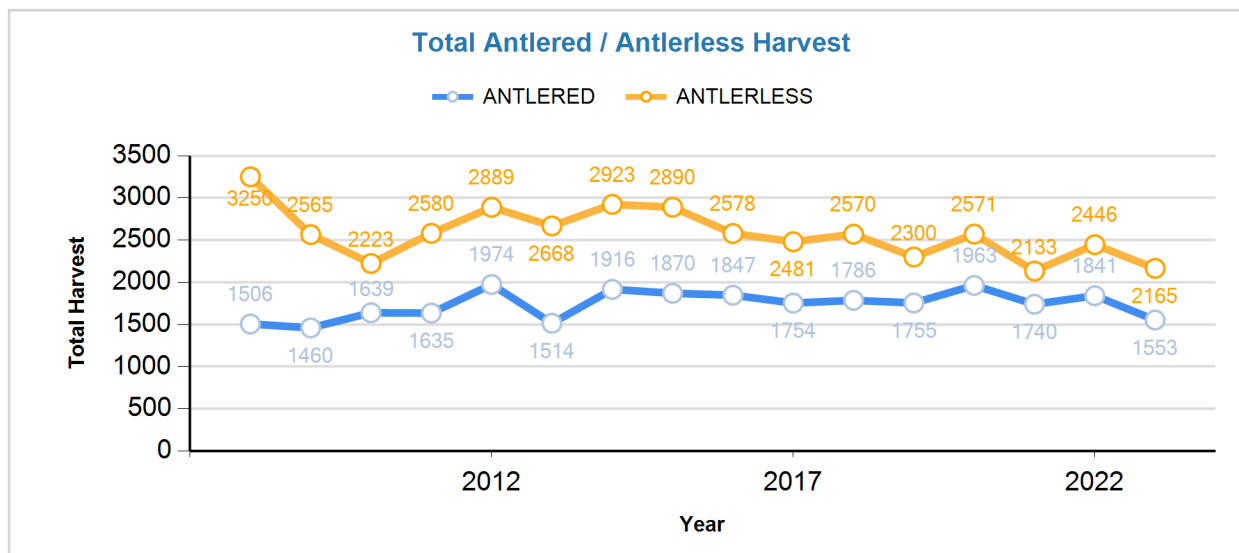
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 591.70

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 293.90

## Total Harvest for Pierce County - Central Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	1916	1870	1847	1754	1786	1755	1963	1740	1841	1553
Antlerless	2937	2890	2578	2481	2570	2300	2571	2133	2446	2165
Total	4853	4760	4425	4235	4356	4055	4534	3873	4287	3718
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	1314	1264	1235	1155	1201	1035	1106	993	1161	920
Antlerless	2295	2329	2034	1902	1981	1695	1936	1630	1902	1702
Total	3609	3593	3269	3057	3182	2730	3042	2623	3063	2622
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	415	395	368	329	301	382	413	356	305	297
Antlerless	446	361	324	302	285	309	275	229	240	205
Total	861	756	692	631	586	691	688	585	545	502
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	187	211	244	270	284	338	444	391	375	336
Antlerless	196	200	220	277	304	296	360	274	304	258
Total	383	411	464	547	588	634	804	665	679	594
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	181	140	130	117	125	96	124	94

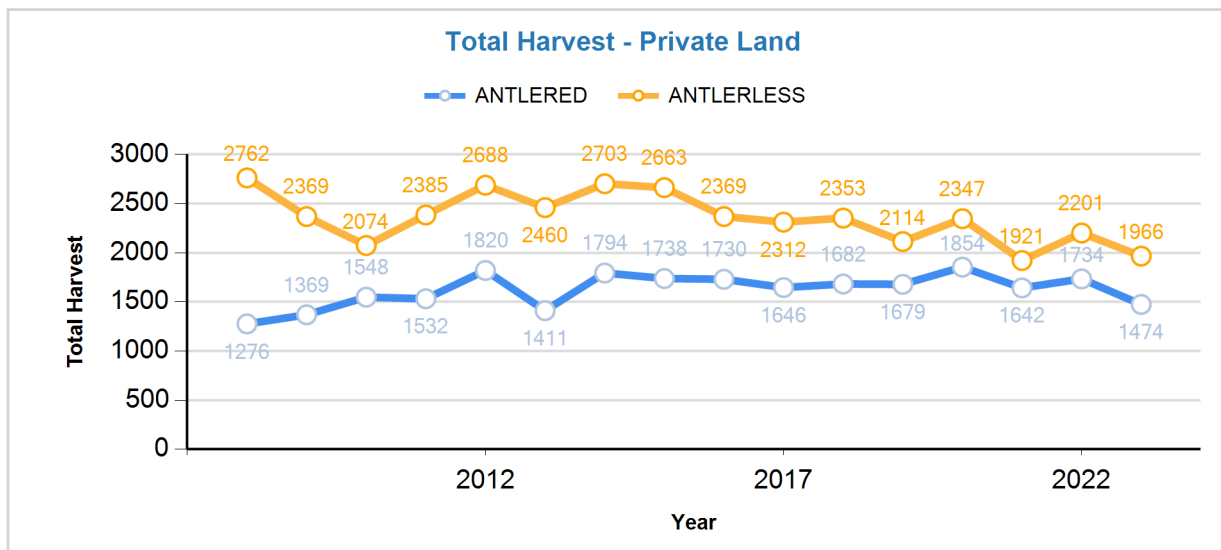
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



## Total Harvest for Pierce County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	1794	1738	1730	1646	1682	1679	1854	1642	1734	1474
Antlerless	2716	2663	2369	2312	2353	2114	2347	1921	2201	1966
Total	4510	4401	4099	3958	4035	3793	4201	3563	3935	3440
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	1224	1178	1156	1088	1133	1000	1040	939	1102	879
Antlerless	2123	2139	1866	1779	1820	1563	1772	1481	1720	1539
Total	3347	3317	3022	2867	2953	2563	2812	2420	2822	2418
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	385	361	344	303	280	356	390	332	279	273
Antlerless	408	342	298	278	256	274	242	192	203	187
Total	793	703	642	581	536	630	632	524	482	460
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	185	199	230	255	269	323	424	371	353	322
Antlerless	185	182	205	255	277	277	333	248	278	240
Total	370	381	435	510	546	600	757	619	631	562
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	169	134	126	114	116	92	117	89

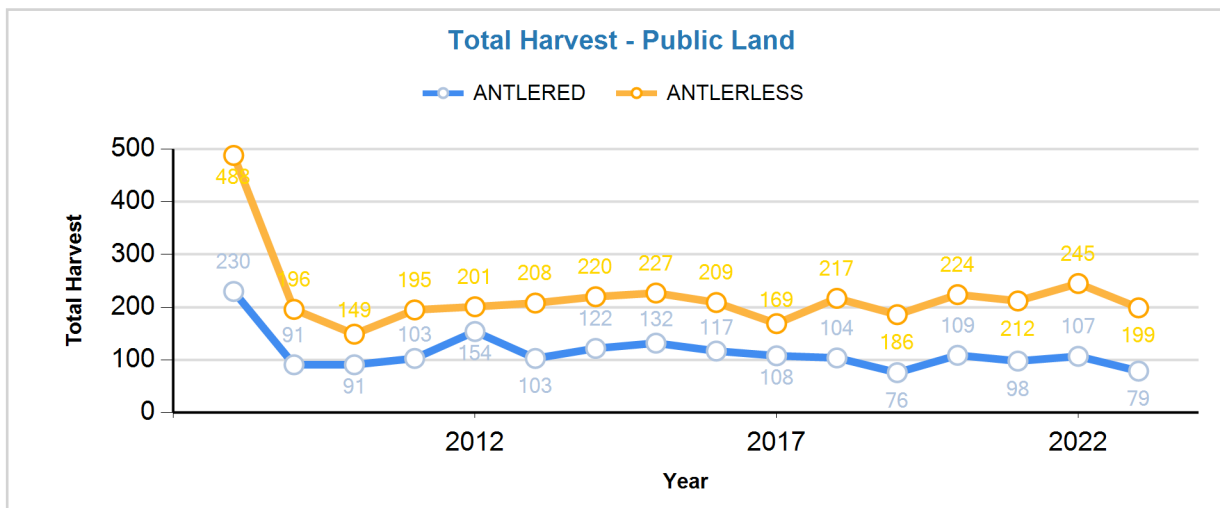
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



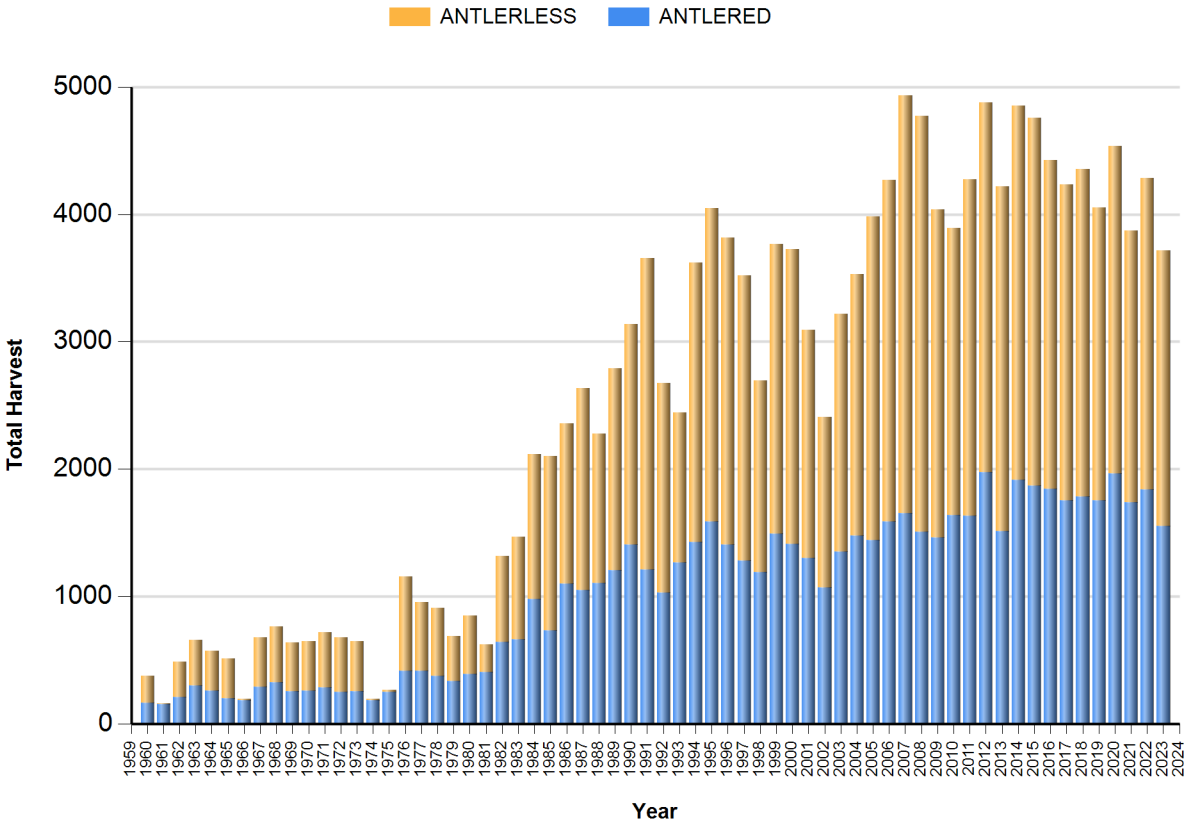
## Total Harvest for Pierce County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	122	132	117	108	104	76	109	98	107	79
Antlerless	221	227	209	169	217	186	224	212	245	199
Total	343	359	326	277	321	262	333	310	352	278
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	90	86	79	67	68	35	66	54	59	41
Antlerless	172	190	168	123	161	132	164	149	182	163
Total	262	276	247	190	229	167	230	203	241	204
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	30	34	24	26	21	26	23	24	26	24
Antlerless	38	19	26	24	29	35	33	37	37	18
Total	68	53	50	50	50	61	56	61	63	42
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	2	12	14	15	15	15	20	20	22	14
Antlerless	11	18	15	22	27	19	27	26	26	18
Total	13	30	29	37	42	34	47	46	48	32
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	12	6	4	3	9	4	7	5

\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



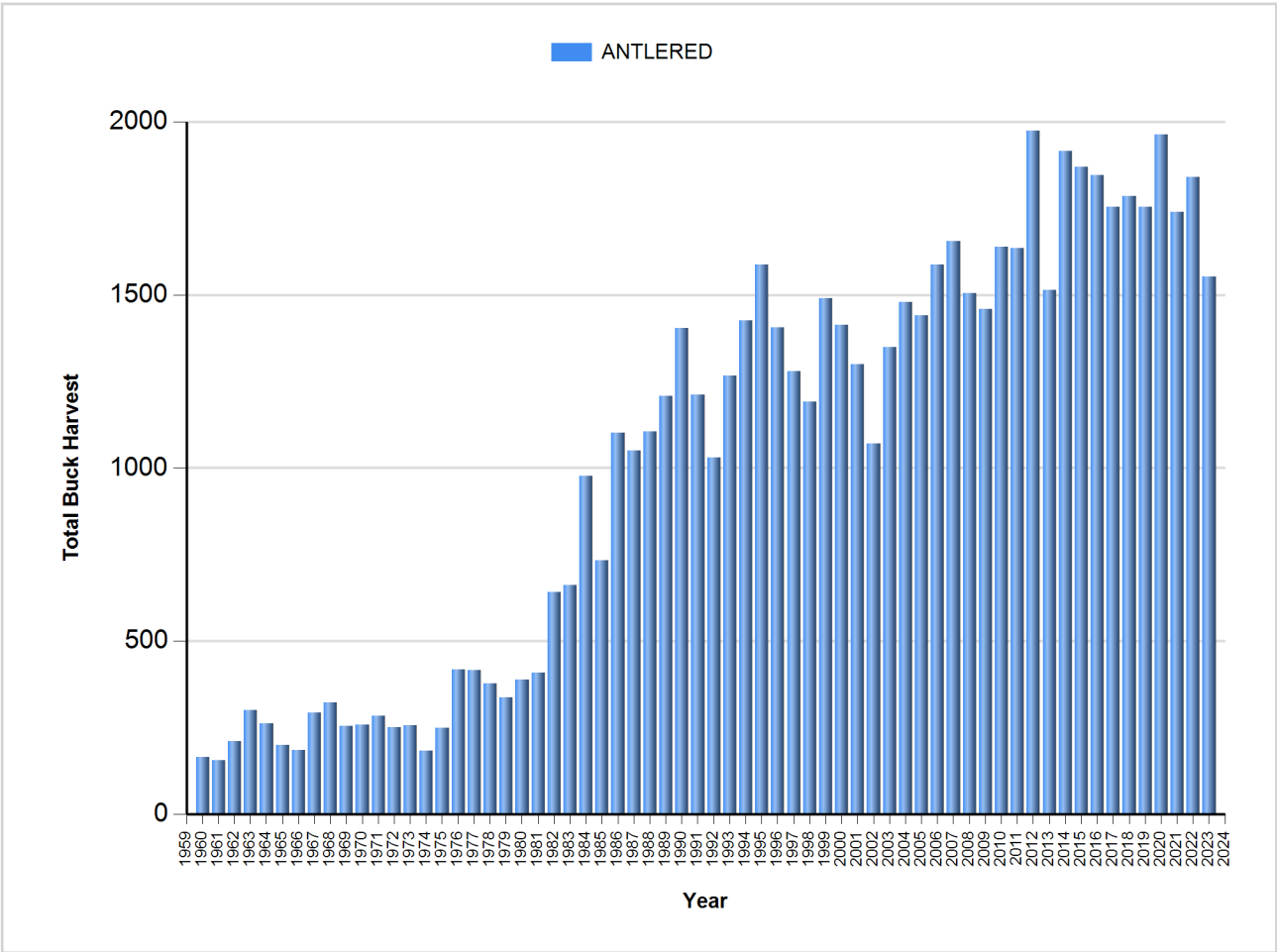
Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 2012 - 1,974

Historic Low: 1961 - 156



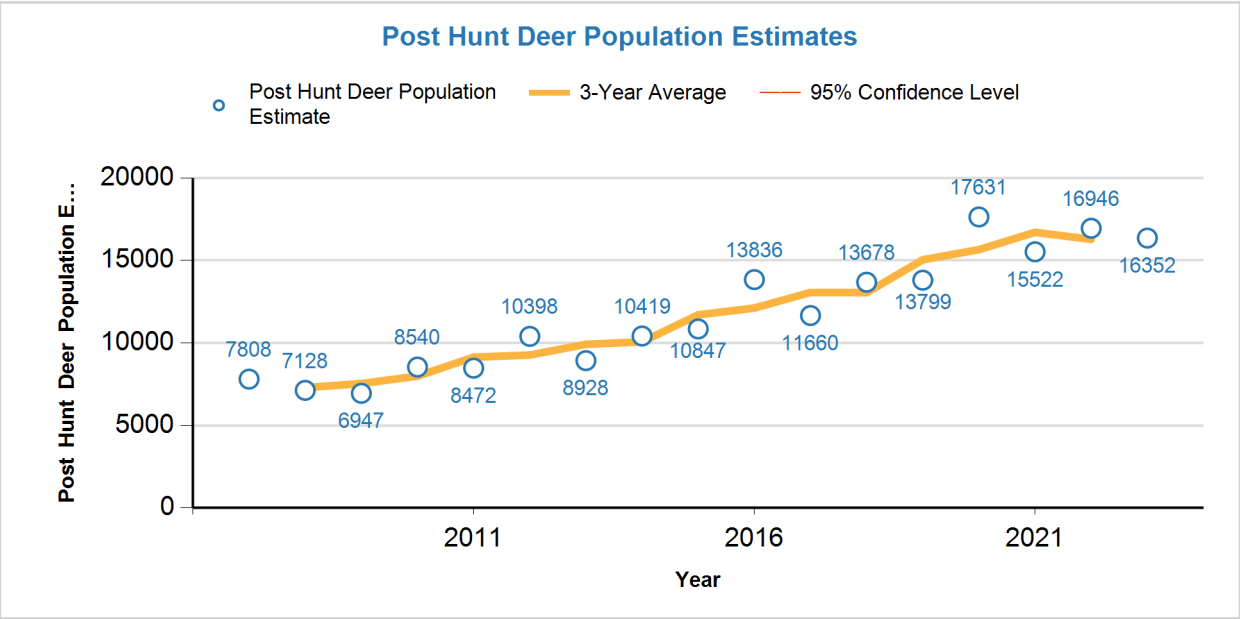
**Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Pierce County - Central Farmland**

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Farmland - Public</b>				
Issued	2,803	2,803	2,733	2,588
Killed	151	154	174	110
Success Rate (%)	5.4	5.5	6.4	4.3
<b>Farmland - Private</b>				
Issued	16,869	16,367	16,071	15,938
Killed	1,963	1,606	1,818	1,665
Success Rate (%)	11.6	9.8	11.3	10.4
<b>Farmland - Total</b>				
Issued	19,672	19,170	18,804	18,526
Killed	2,114	1,760	1,992	1,775
Success Rate (%)	10.7	9.2	10.6	9.6
<b>Bonus- Public</b>				
Available	300	300	300	300
Issued	199	172	157	167
Killed	22	22	12	15
Success Rate (%)	11.1	12.8	7.6	9.0
<b>Bonus- Private</b>				
Available	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Issued	727	621	614	672
Killed	127	86	99	126
Success Rate (%)	17.5	13.8	16.1	18.8
<b>Bonus- Total</b>				
Available	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Issued	926	793	771	839
Killed	149	108	111	141
Success Rate (%)	16.1	13.6	14.4	16.8



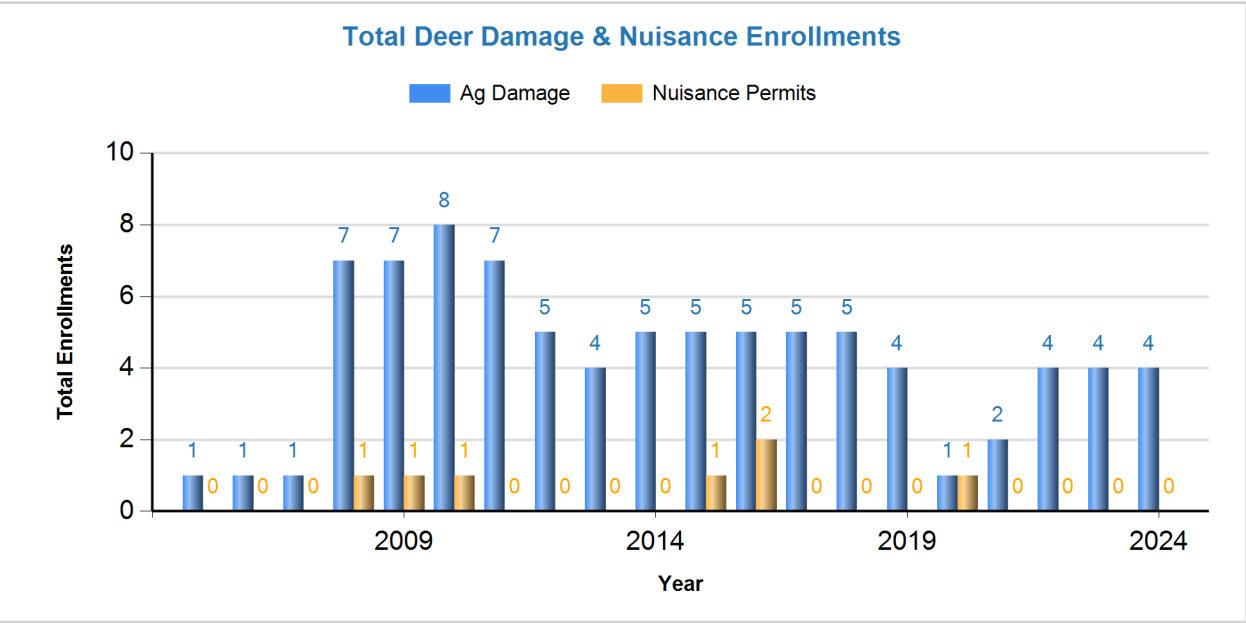
*Herd Abundance*

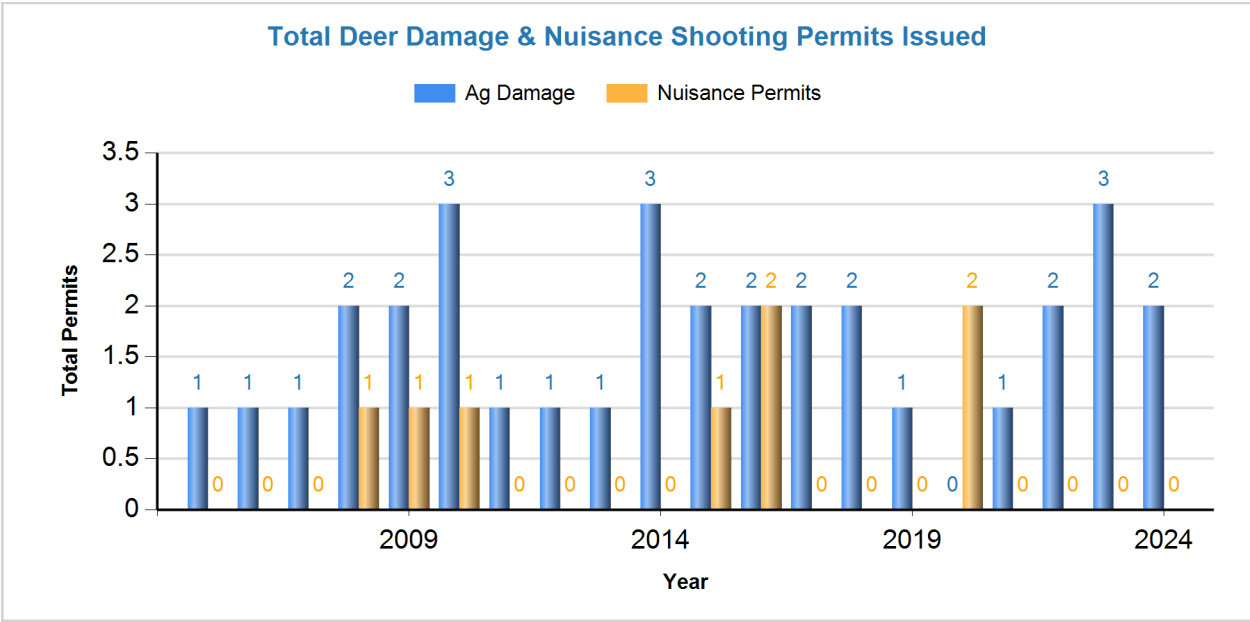
Deer herd abundance is estimated annually with hunter-collected data and a mathematical model to get post hunt deer population estimates.



*Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts*

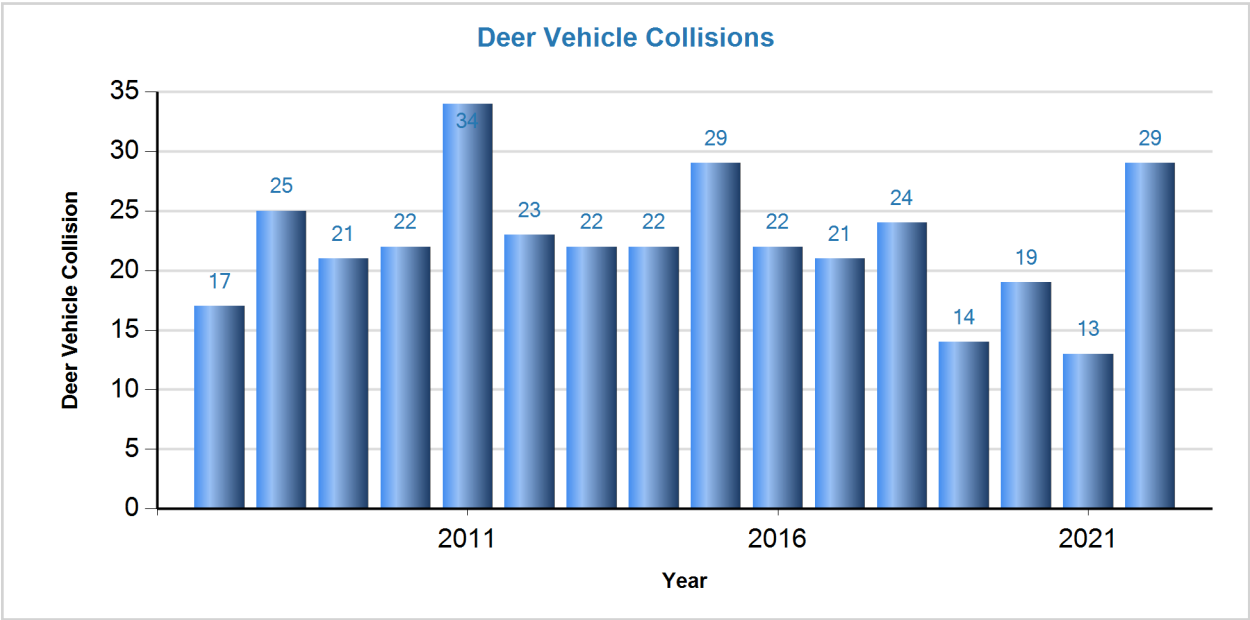
View trends in county and statewide enrollment, shooting permit, Ag Damage, and Nuisance harvest numbers over the years.





**Deer Impacts – Deer Vehicle Collision**

Deer-vehicle collisions (DVCs) are one of the most visible negative impacts that deer populations have on society. As managing deer involves balancing the positive benefits of deer with their negative impacts, it makes sense to consider DVCs when making deer management decisions.



**Hunter Dynamics - Hunter Field Observations**

This metric provides voluntary hunter observation data that is collected either during the process of registering a deer, or from submitted field observations through an on-line reporting form.

