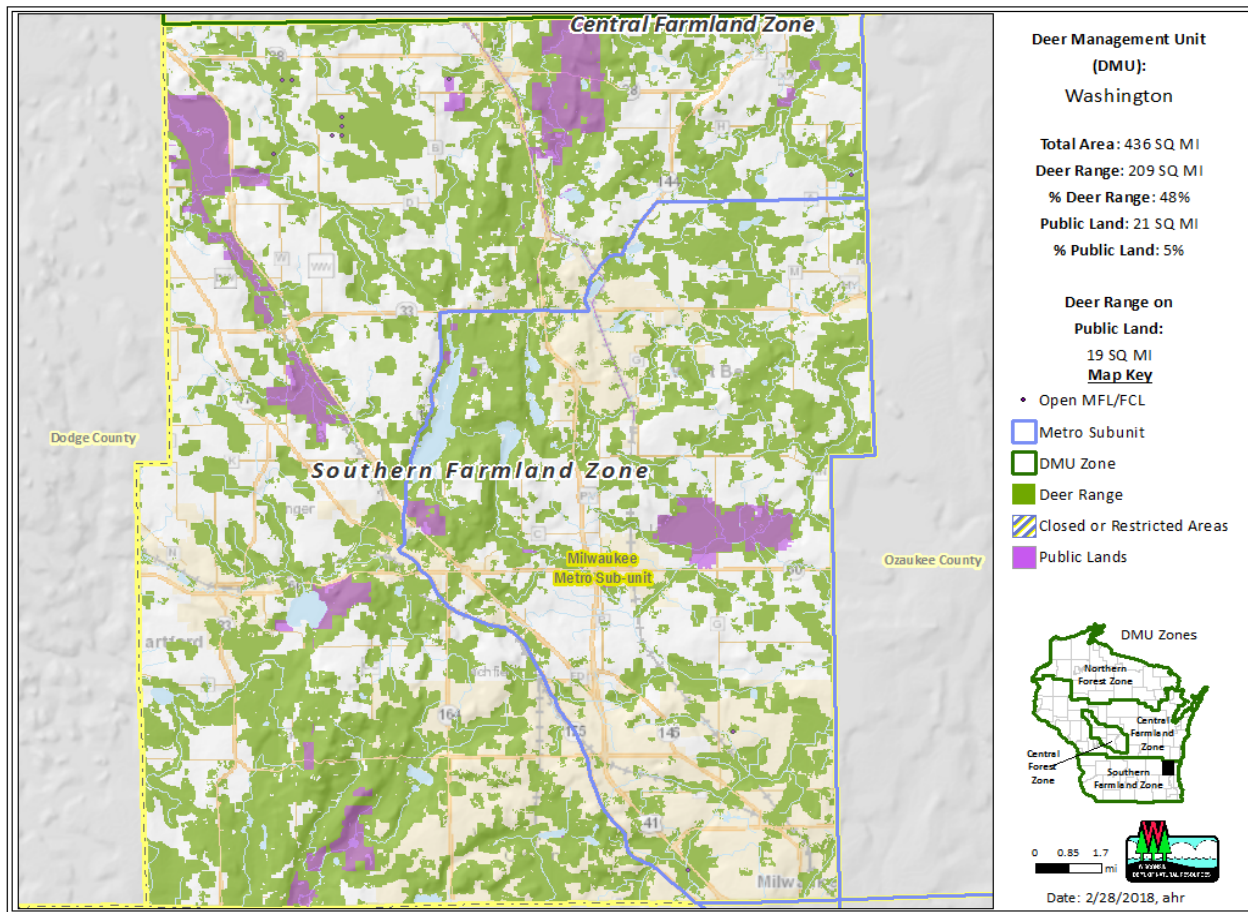


# Washington County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

The Washington County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 51% of the unit (139 square miles) is considered suitable deer range. Non-deer range includes lands within cities (West Bend and Hartford), villages (Kewaskum, Newburg, Richfield and Slinger) smaller communities, residential and commercial developments, farmland, parks and small areas with fragmented or no deer habitat. The southeastern half of the unit contains a portion of the Milwaukee Metro subunit; the Washington CDAC opted to decrease the boundaries of the Milwaukee Metro subunit with Washington County in 2017. The historic deer management objective for the Milwaukee Metro subunit has been to manage deer numbers at a relatively low level to help reduce deer-vehicle collisions and deer damage to crops, nurseries, landscape vegetation and native ecosystems. Most deer hunting occurs on private land. About 14,000 acres is open to public deer hunting of some form. Public lands include a 3,000-acre section of the Kettle Moraine State Forest-Northern Unit, Jackson Marsh, Allenton Marsh, the eastern half of Theresa Marsh Wildlife Area (the western half is in the Dodge County Deer Management Unit) and the Loew Lake Unit-KMSF. Other public deer hunting opportunities are available on parcels of the North Branch Milwaukee River Farming Heritage Area, other scattered state-owned or eased parcels, Voluntary Public Access leased parcels, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District parcels, certain Ozaukee/Washington Land Trust parcels, and miscellaneous parcels. Deer hunting pressure varies widely depending on landownership. Agricultural and nursery deer damage situations are common, as many areas of deer habitat are surrounded by cities, homes or other deer "refuges". Typically, about 10-15 deer shooting permits per year are issued in the unit for nursery/crop damage abatement. The current deer herd management objective is to maintain 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.

### **Southern Farmland Management Zone**

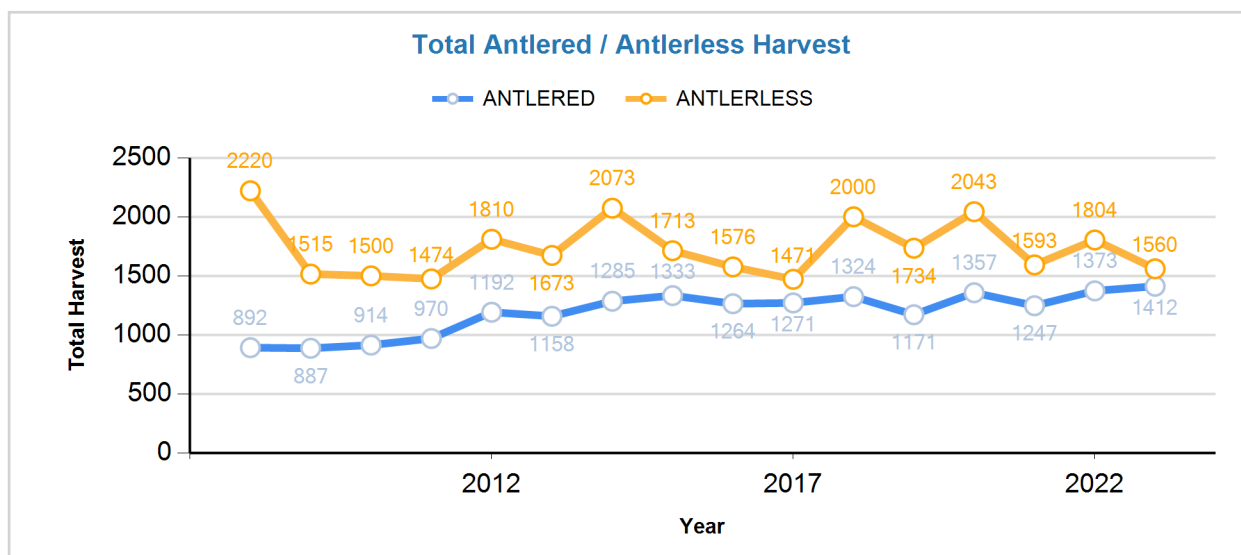
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 435.70

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 209.10

## Total Harvest for Washington County - Southern Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	1285	1333	1264	1271	1324	1171	1357	1247	1373	1412
Antlerless	2123	1713	1576	1471	2000	1734	2043	1593	1804	1560
Total	3408	3046	2840	2742	3324	2905	3400	2840	3177	2972
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	681	669	675	671	717	505	643	589	721	704
Antlerless	1407	1102	1018	900	1334	1086	1246	1029	1205	1024
Total	2088	1771	1693	1571	2051	1591	1889	1618	1926	1728
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	451	450	380	347	339	348	352	301	296	317
Antlerless	528	399	344	315	363	324	367	277	261	226
Total	979	849	724	662	702	672	719	578	557	543
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	153	214	209	253	268	318	362	357	356	391
Antlerless	188	212	214	256	303	324	430	287	338	310
Total	341	426	423	509	571	642	792	644	694	701
<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	80	69	57	41	52	36	34	37

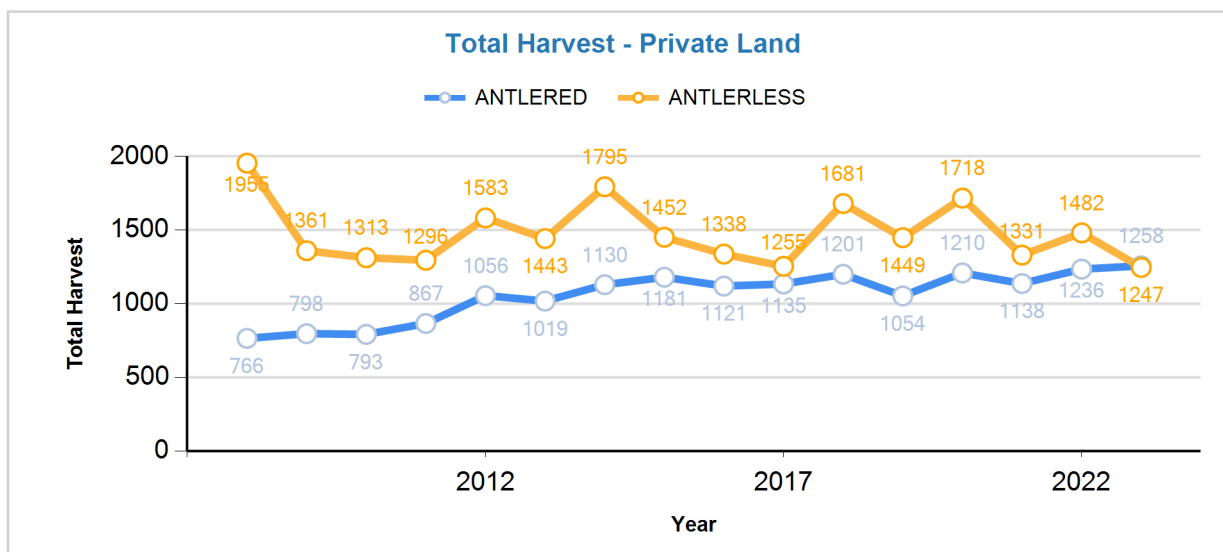
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



**Total Harvest for Washington County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Private Land**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	1130	1181	1121	1135	1201	1054	1210	1138	1236	1258
Antlerless	1842	1452	1338	1255	1681	1449	1718	1331	1482	1247
Total	2972	2633	2459	2390	2882	2503	2928	2469	2718	2505
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	599	590	599	592	654	453	580	546	665	623
Antlerless	1234	940	872	782	1127	929	1059	870	1021	830
Total	1833	1530	1471	1374	1781	1382	1639	1416	1686	1453
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	391	397	339	313	304	305	307	262	247	278
Antlerless	436	325	281	250	293	251	288	212	178	162
Total	827	722	620	563	597	556	595	474	425	440
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	140	194	183	230	243	296	323	330	324	357
Antlerless	172	187	185	223	261	269	371	249	283	255
Total	312	381	368	453	504	565	694	579	607	612
<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	73	64	53	35	48	34	32	34

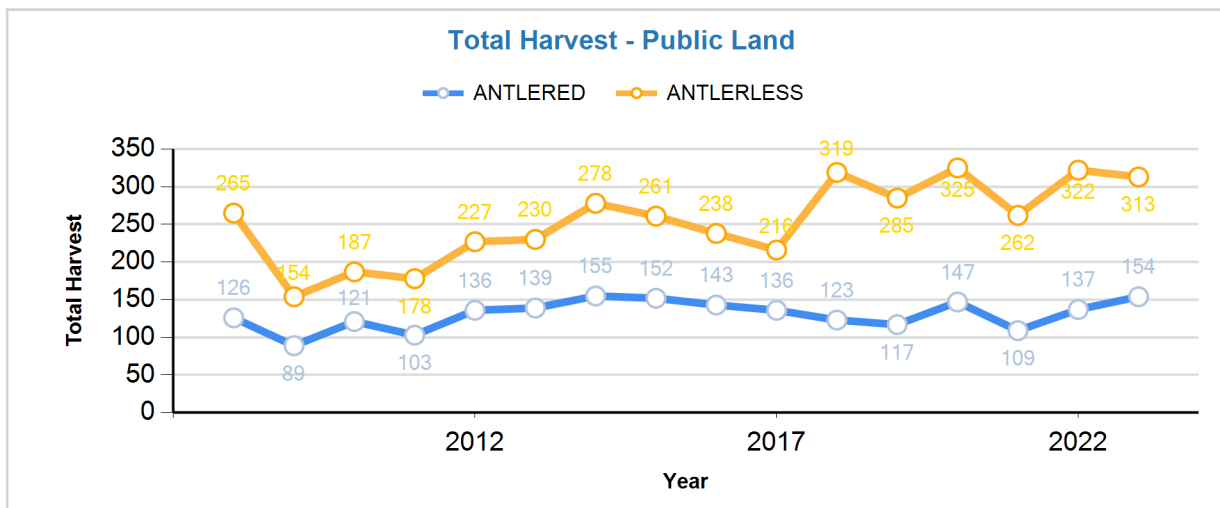
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

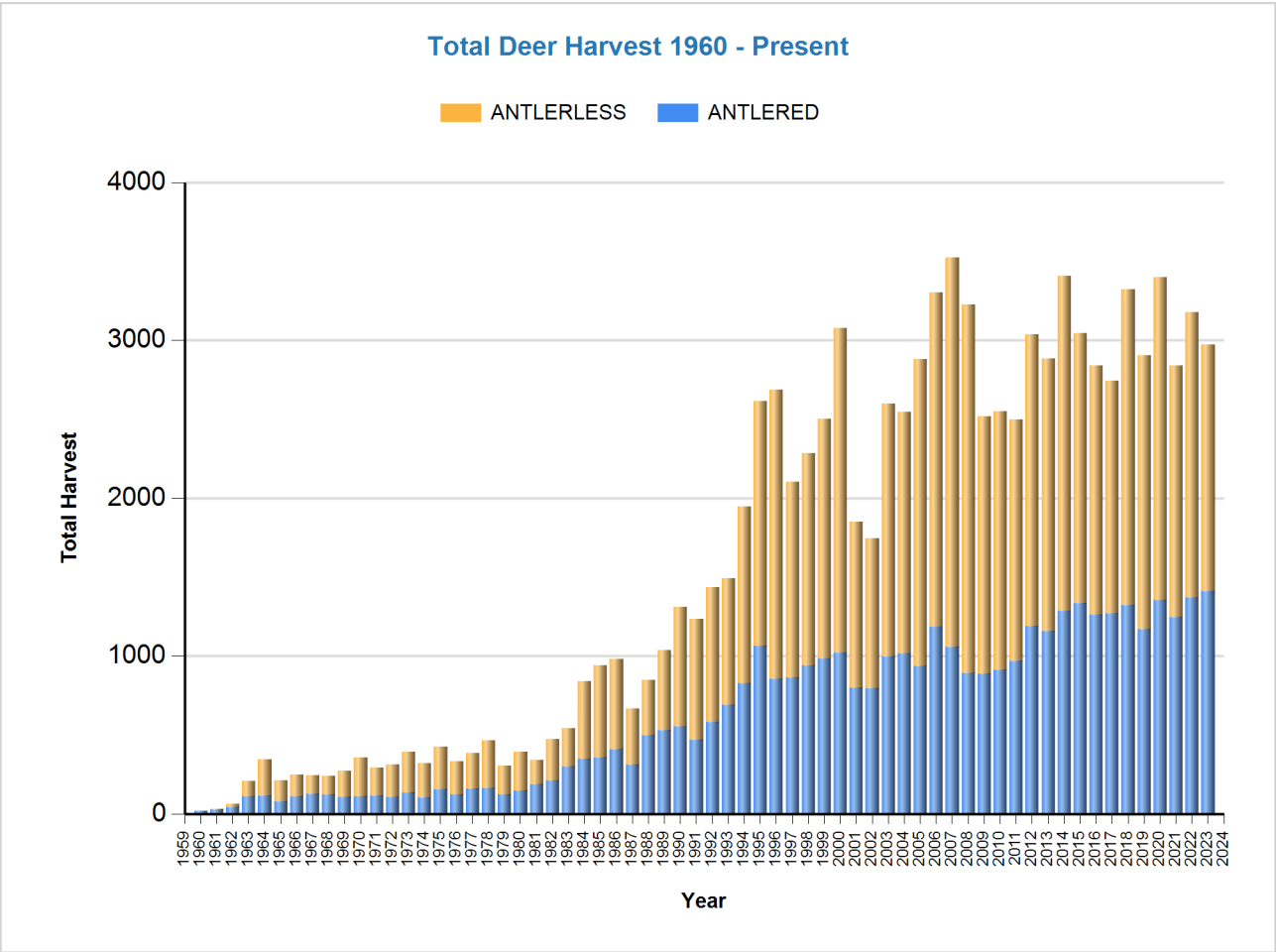


**Total Harvest for Washington County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Public Land**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	155	152	143	136	123	117	147	109	137	154
Antlerless	281	261	238	216	319	285	325	262	322	313
Total	436	413	381	352	442	402	472	371	459	467
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	82	79	76	79	63	52	63	43	56	81
Antlerless	173	162	146	118	207	157	187	159	184	194
Total	255	241	222	197	270	209	250	202	240	275
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	60	53	41	34	35	43	45	39	49	39
Antlerless	92	74	63	65	70	73	79	65	83	64
Total	152	127	104	99	105	116	124	104	132	103
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	13	20	26	23	25	22	39	27	32	34
Antlerless	16	25	29	33	42	55	59	38	55	55
Total	29	45	55	56	67	77	98	65	87	89
<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	7	5	4	6	4	2	2	3

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

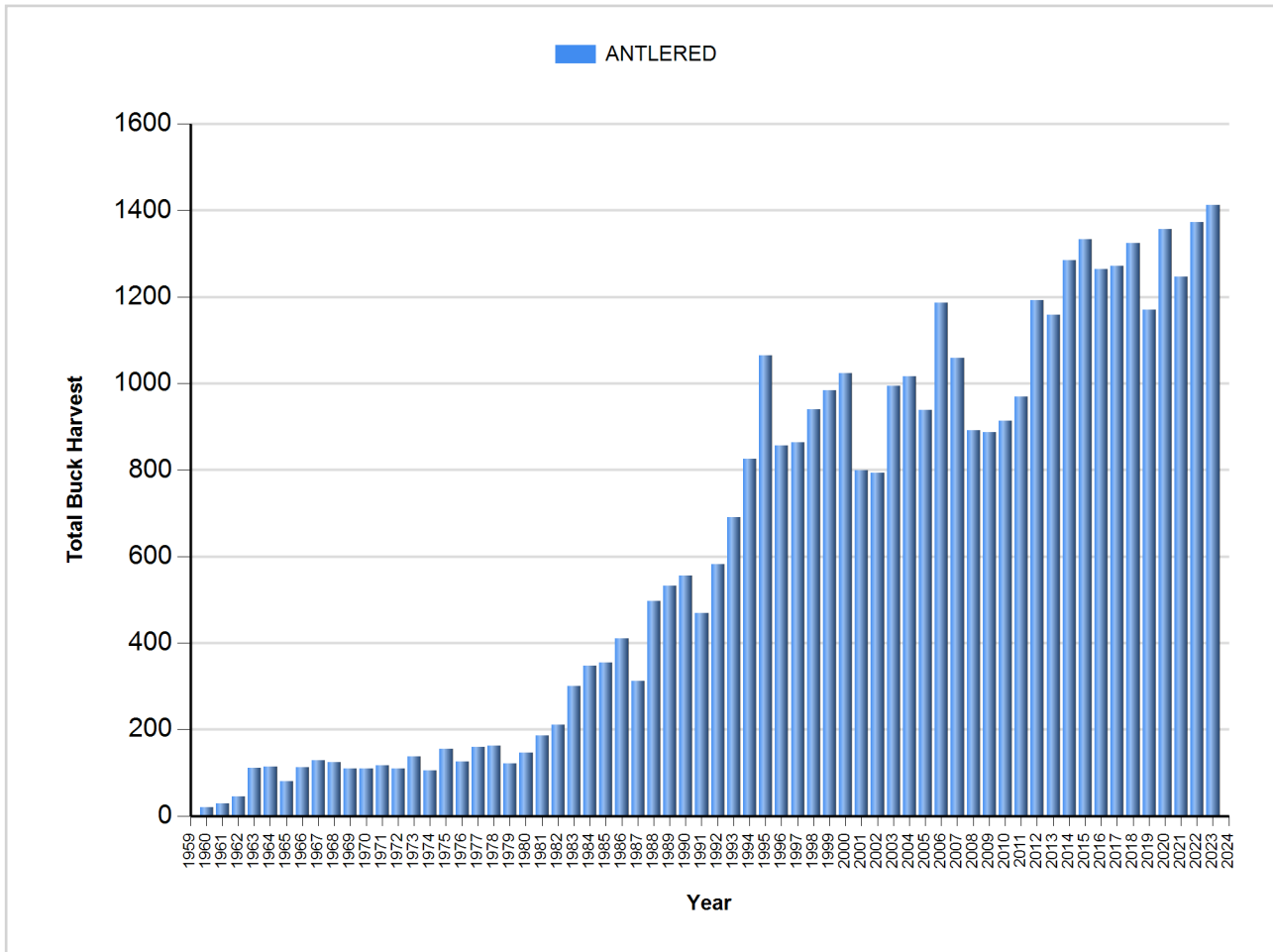




**Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present**

Historic High: 2023 - 1,412

Historic Low: 1960 - 20



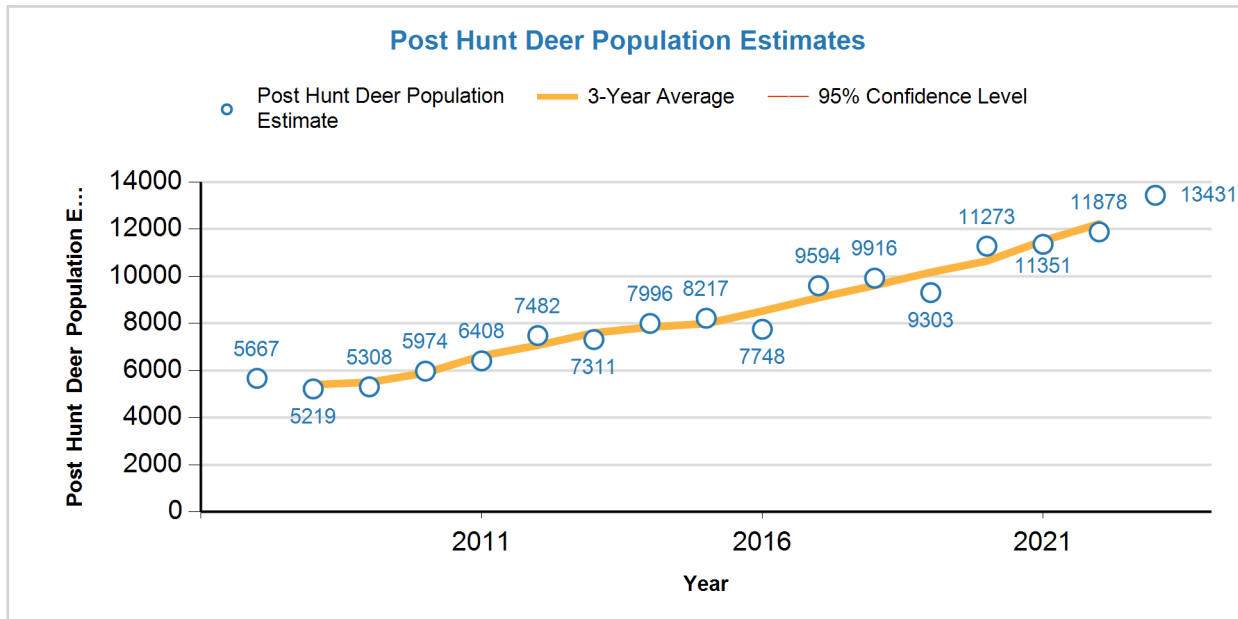
**Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Washington County - Southern Farmland**

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Farmland - Public</b>				
Issued	10,560	10,034	9,956	9,946
Killed	301	237	290	218
Success Rate (%)	2.9	2.4	2.9	2.2
<b>Farmland - Private</b>				
Issued	23,607	22,135	21,649	21,296
Killed	1,500	1,173	1,328	1,180
Success Rate (%)	6.4	5.3	6.1	5.5
<b>Farmland - Total</b>				
Issued	34,167	32,169	31,605	31,242
Killed	1,801	1,410	1,618	1,398
Success Rate (%)	5.3	4.4	5.1	4.5
<b>Bonus- Public</b>				
Available	400	400	400	500
Issued	400	400	401	501
Killed	18	21	27	28
Success Rate (%)	4.5	5.3	6.7	5.6
<b>Bonus- Private</b>				
Available	1,550	1,550	1,550	1,550
Issued	677	632	535	457
Killed	97	58	67	44
Success Rate (%)	14.3	9.2	12.5	9.6
<b>Bonus- Total</b>				
Available	1,950	1,950	1,950	2,050
Issued	1,077	1,032	936	958
Killed	115	79	94	72
Success Rate (%)	10.7	7.7	10.0	7.5



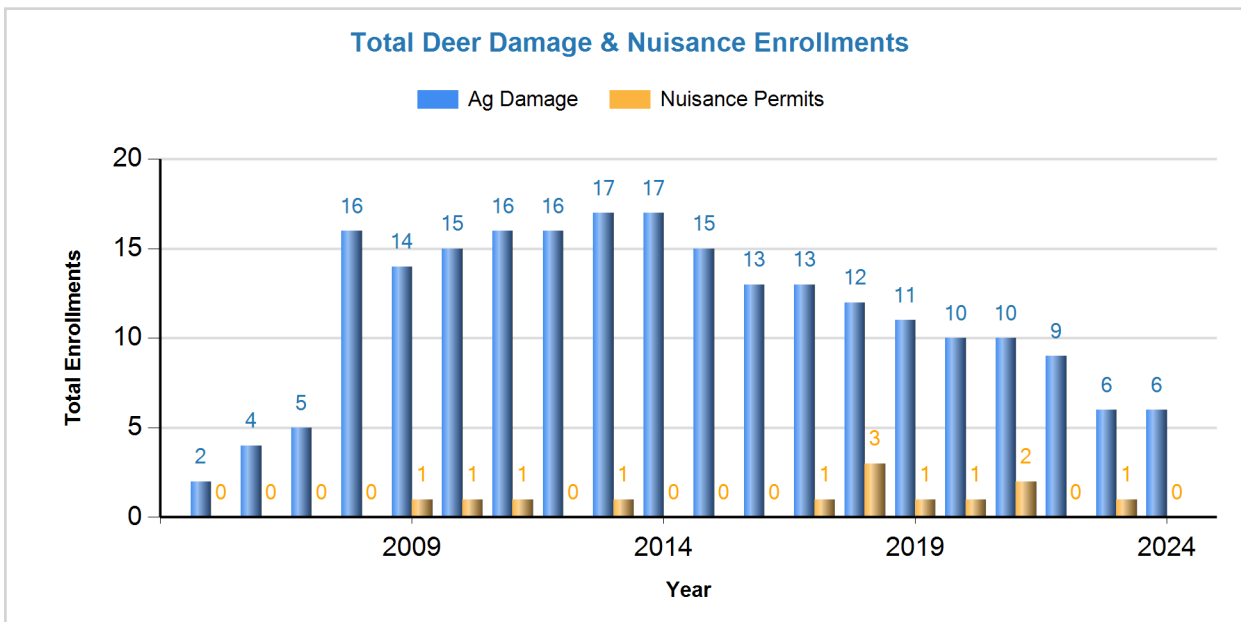
## Herd Abundance

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

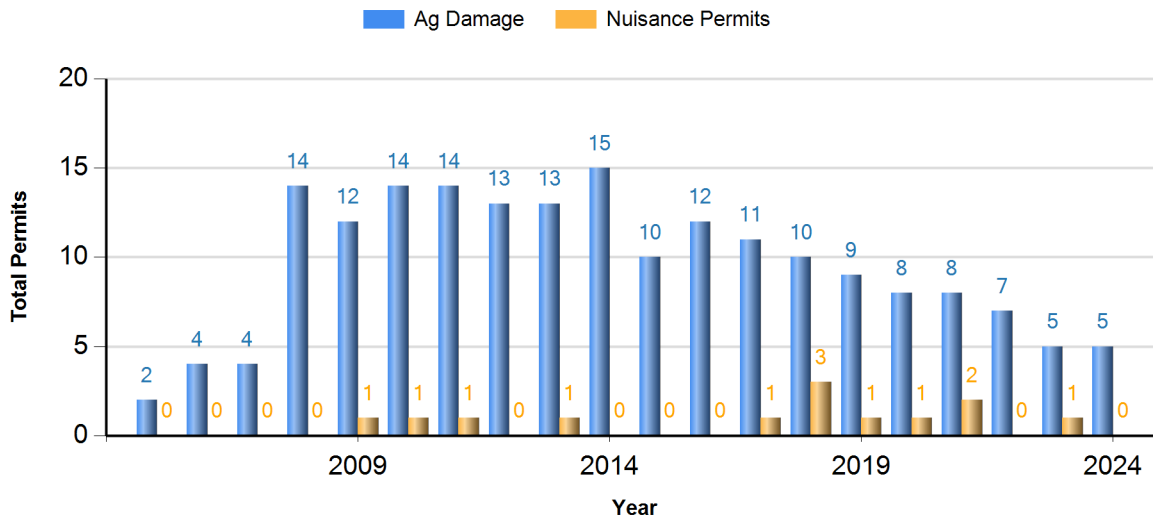


## Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



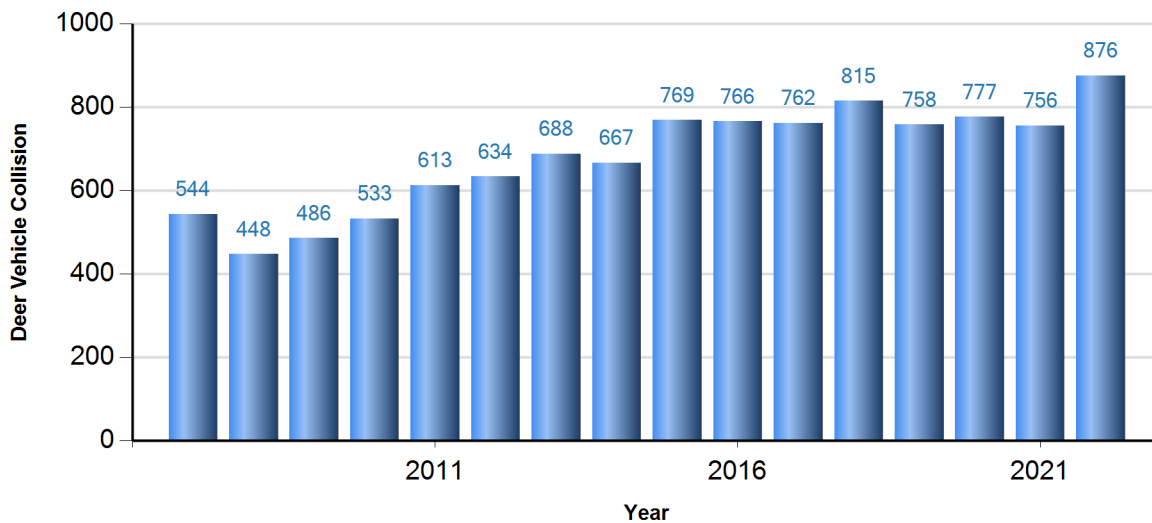
### Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



### 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.

#### Deer Vehicle Collisions



### 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.

Deer Seen Per Hunted Hour

