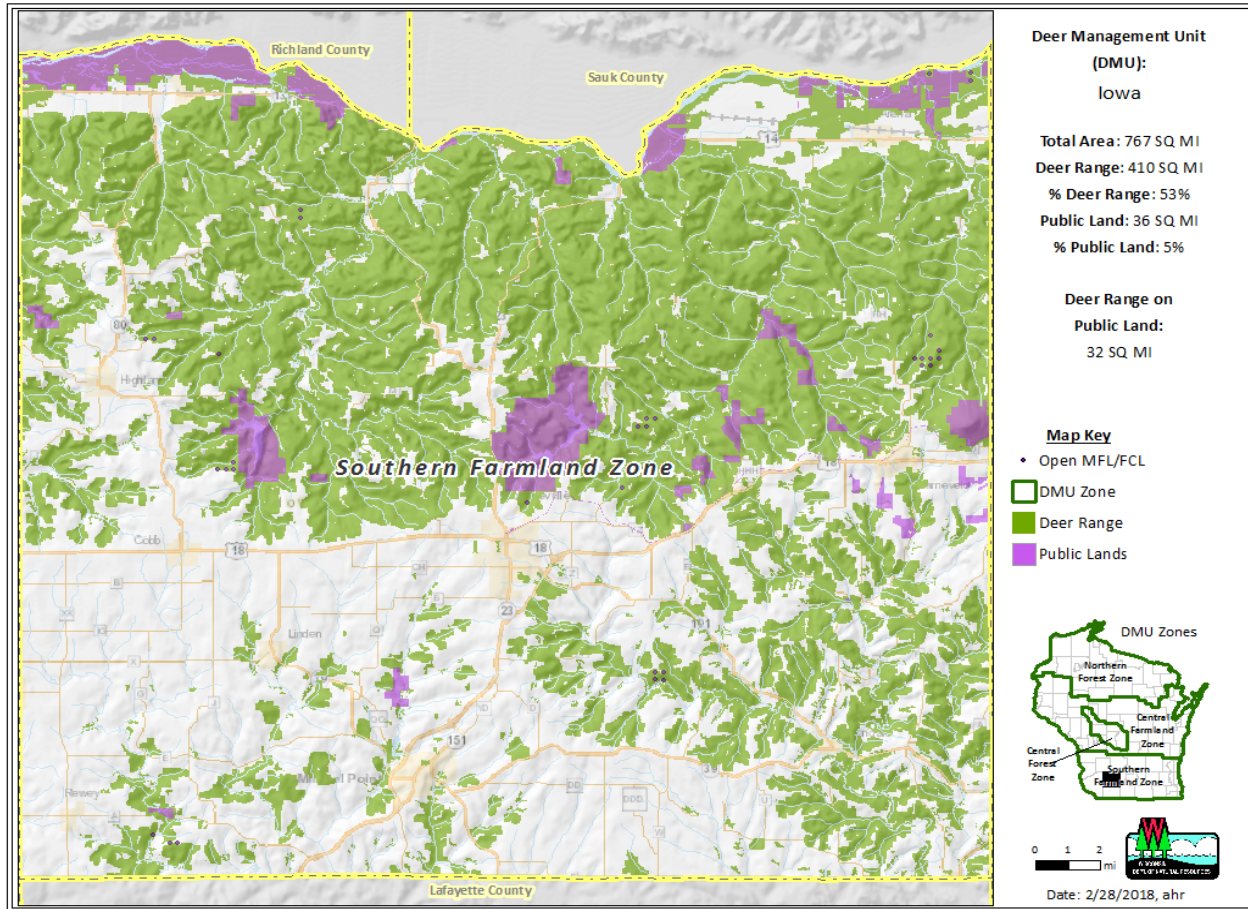


Iowa County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Iowa County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 54 percent of the unit is comprised of suitable deer range (417 square miles), the majority of which is located in the northern half (north of Highway 18/151). The unit totals 768 square miles in area and is located in the Driftless Area of southwest Wisconsin. Topography varies from gently rolling in the southern half to very steep ridges and bluffs in the northern half. Deer habitat and range differs starkly from north to south as well. Large agricultural fields are common in the southern half of the unit. Deer are unevenly distributed throughout the unit with pockets of extremely high deer densities in the northern half, as well as the south-eastern 1/4. Winters tend to be mild and play a small role in affecting deer numbers. Public lands with public hunting opportunities are primarily found in the northern half of the county and include Blackhawk Lake Wildlife Area, Love Creek Fisheries Area, Trout Creek Fisheries Area and portions of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. Governor Dodge and Tower Hill State Parks are also located in the unit. Chronic Wasting Disease occurs in Iowa County. Prevalence rates vary throughout but are highest in areas with the highest deer numbers (northern parts of the unit) with 20-55 percent of adult bucks having the disease and 15-30 percent of adult does. For the latest information on CWD in this unit, please visit the following DNR webpage: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/prevalence.html>.

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

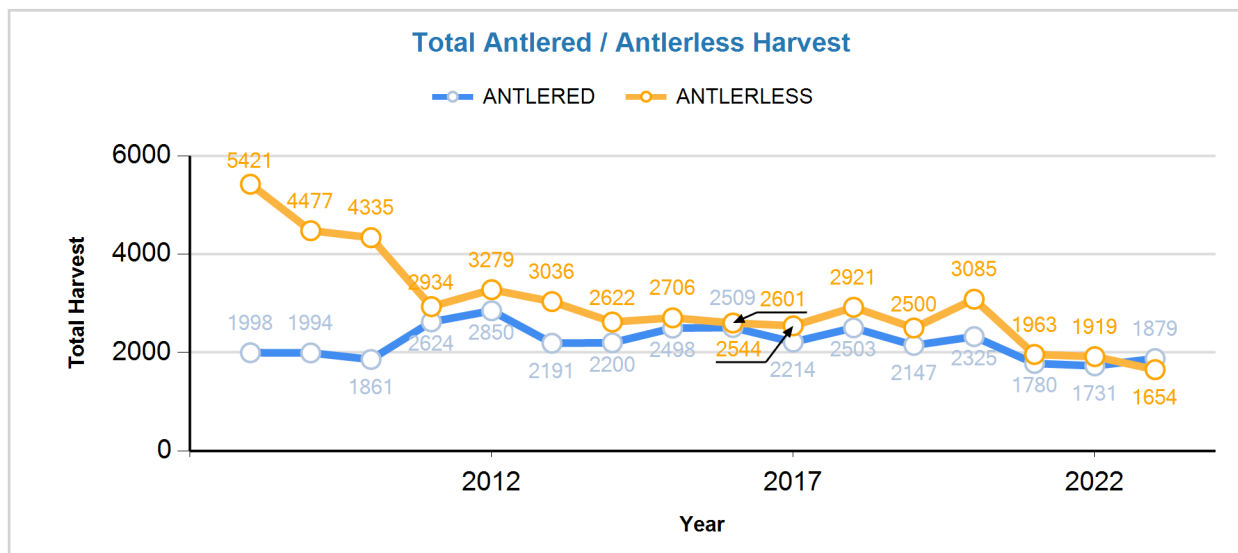
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 767.40

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 409.70

Total Harvest for Iowa County - Southern Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	2200	2498	2509	2214	2503	2147	2325	1780	1731	1879
Antlerless	2652	2706	2601	2546	2921	2500	3085	1963	1919	1654
Total	4852	5204	5110	4760	5424	4647	5410	3743	3650	3533
Gun										
Antlered	1535	1785	1778	1543	1833	1380	1488	1114	1150	1256
Antlerless	2141	2166	2089	2063	2372	1967	2421	1616	1567	1325
Total	3676	3951	3867	3606	4205	3347	3909	2730	2717	2581
Bow										
Antlered	536	498	486	416	386	467	472	362	319	350
Antlerless	430	404	355	334	338	349	411	201	193	184
Total	966	902	841	750	724	816	883	563	512	534
Crossbow										
Antlered	129	215	245	255	284	300	365	304	262	273
Antlerless	81	136	157	149	211	184	253	146	159	145
Total	210	351	402	404	495	484	618	450	421	418
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	181	138	129	84	117	89	78	79

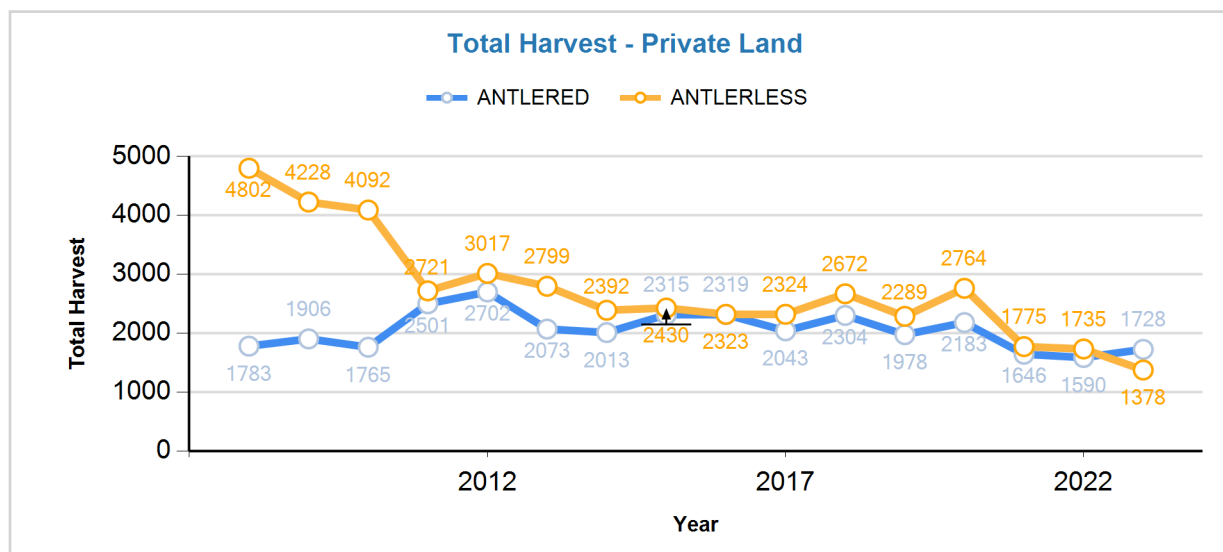
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Iowa County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	2013	2315	2319	2043	2304	1978	2183	1646	1590	1728
Antlerless	2419	2430	2323	2326	2672	2289	2764	1775	1735	1378
Total	4432	4745	4642	4369	4976	4267	4947	3421	3325	3106
Gun										
Antlered	1425	1668	1645	1443	1698	1288	1403	1033	1066	1168
Antlerless	1965	1953	1896	1894	2176	1820	2197	1464	1447	1106
Total	3390	3621	3541	3337	3874	3108	3600	2497	2513	2274
Bow										
Antlered	471	451	451	369	351	416	436	330	278	308
Antlerless	388	368	310	301	304	315	361	181	155	156
Total	859	819	761	670	655	731	797	511	433	464
Crossbow										
Antlered	117	196	223	231	255	274	344	283	246	252
Antlerless	66	109	117	131	192	154	206	130	133	116
Total	183	305	340	362	447	428	550	413	379	368
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	175	131	123	81	114	83	75	73

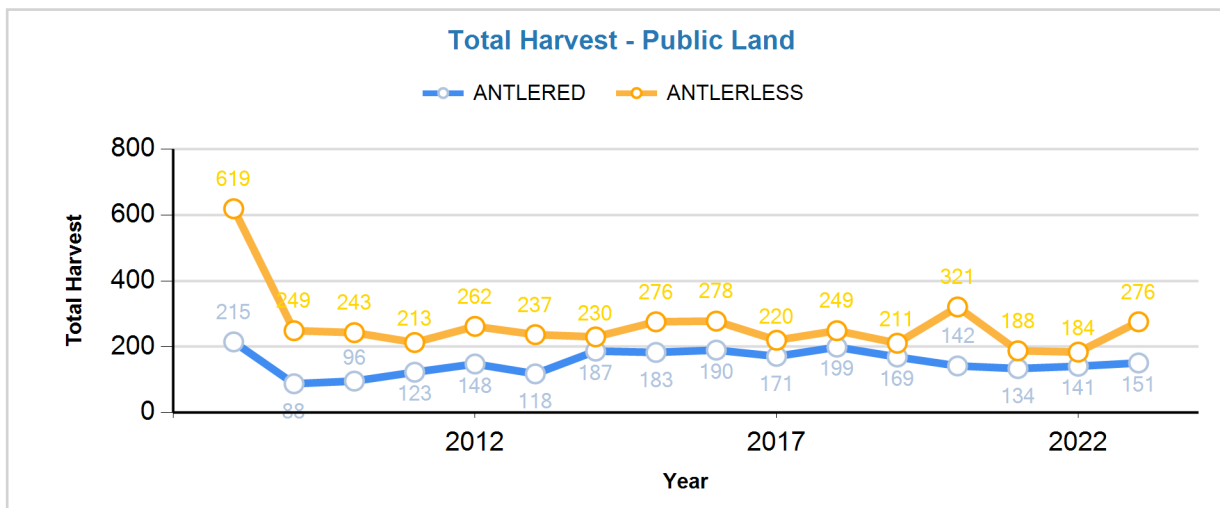
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



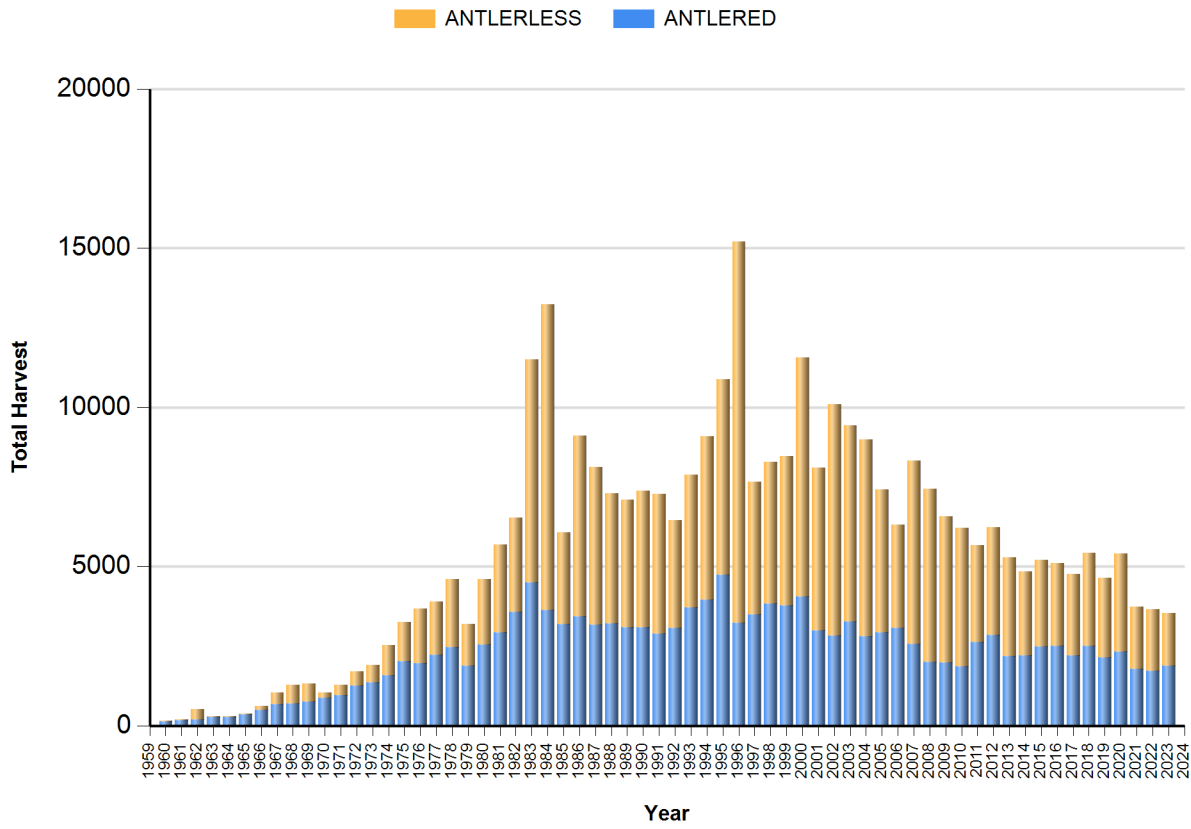
Total Harvest for Iowa County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	187	183	190	171	199	169	142	134	141	151
Antlerless	233	276	278	220	249	211	321	188	184	276
Total	420	459	468	391	448	380	463	322	325	427
Gun										
Antlered	110	117	133	100	135	92	85	81	84	88
Antlerless	176	213	193	169	196	147	224	152	120	219
Total	286	330	326	269	331	239	309	233	204	307
Bow										
Antlered	65	47	35	47	35	51	36	32	41	42
Antlerless	42	36	45	33	34	34	50	20	38	28
Total	107	83	80	80	69	85	86	52	79	70
Crossbow										
Antlered	12	19	22	24	29	26	21	21	16	21
Antlerless	15	27	40	18	19	30	47	16	26	29
Total	27	46	62	42	48	56	68	37	42	50
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	6	7	6	3	3	6	3	6

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



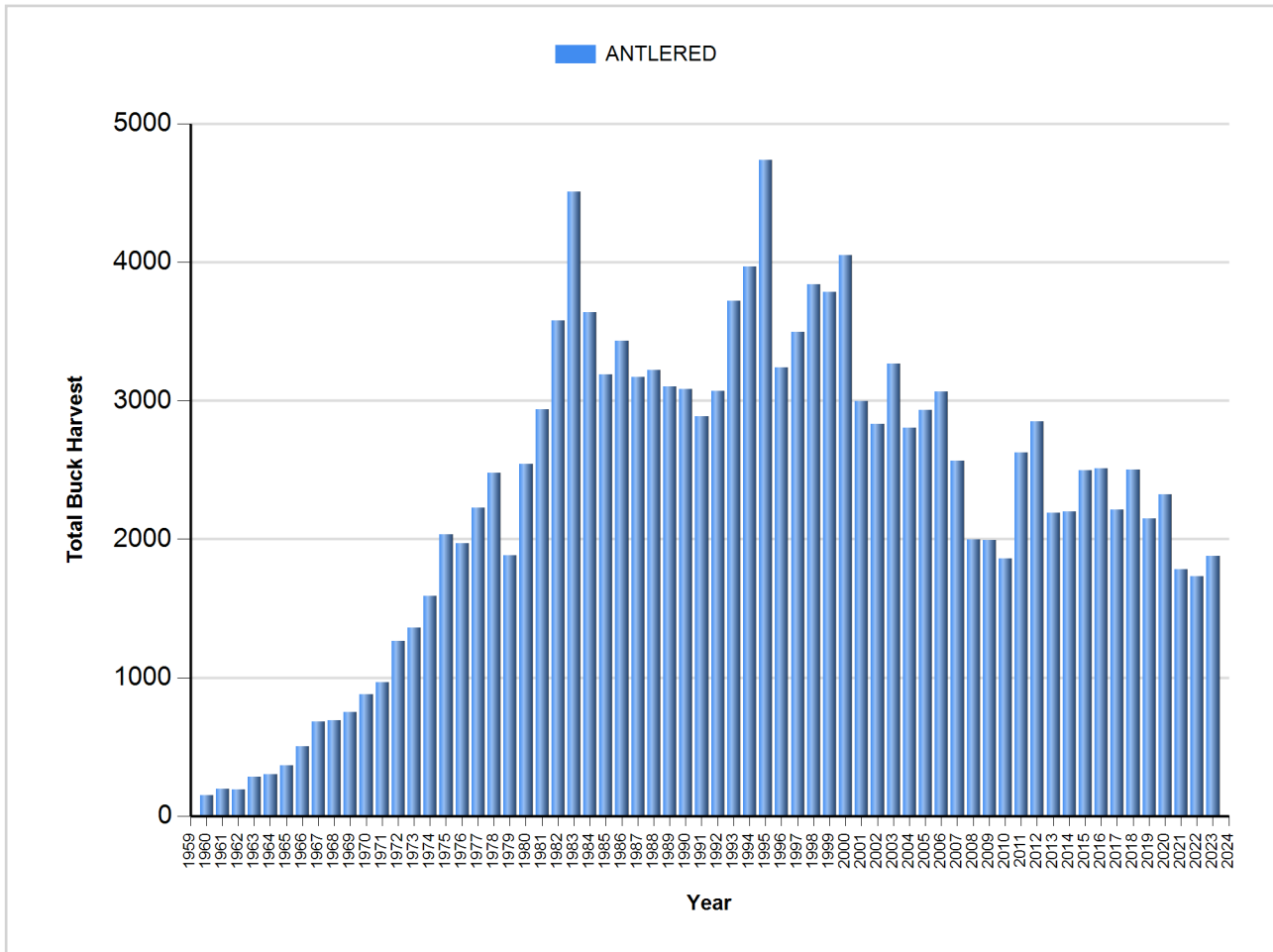
Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 1995 - 4,738

Historic Low: 1960 - 151

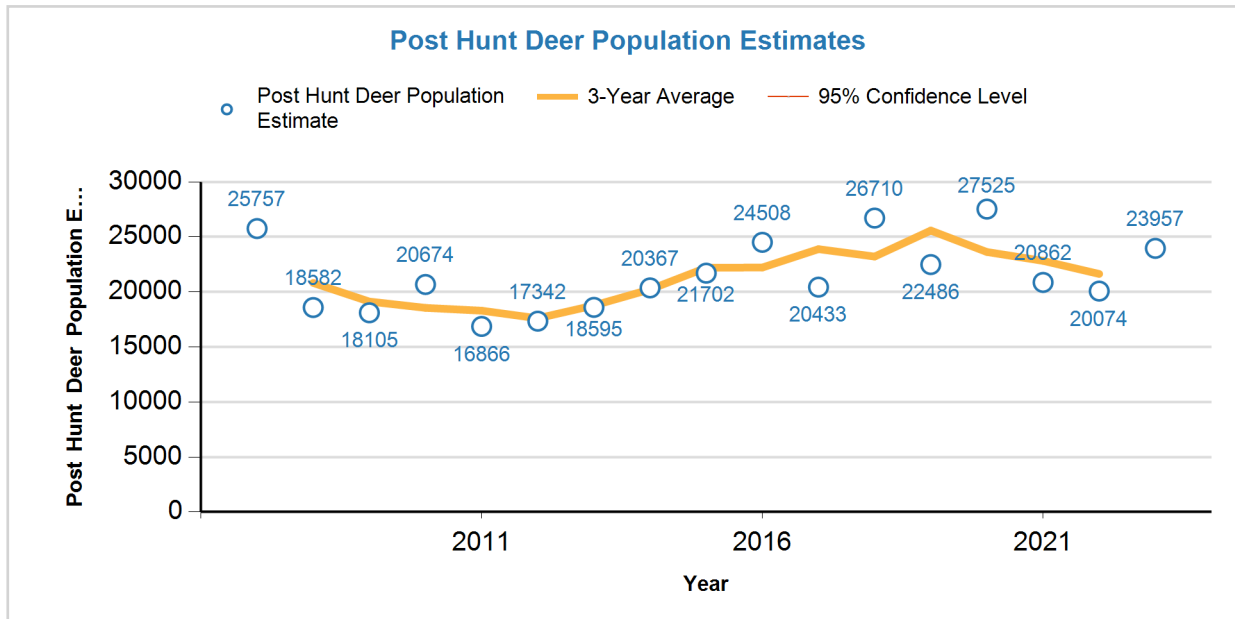


Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Iowa County - Southern Farmland

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued	5,245	3,224	3,117	2,926
Killed	282	150	143	182
Success Rate (%)	5.4	4.7	4.6	6.2
Farmland - Private				
Issued	27,440	17,444	16,561	16,044
Killed	2,394	1,471	1,470	1,179
Success Rate (%)	8.7	8.4	8.9	7.3
Farmland - Total				
Issued	32,685	20,668	19,678	18,970
Killed	2,676	1,621	1,613	1,361
Success Rate (%)	8.2	7.8	8.2	7.2
Bonus- Public				
Available	650	650	650	650
Issued	383	344	379	313
Killed	33	29	34	17
Success Rate (%)	8.6	8.4	9.0	5.4
Bonus- Private				
Available	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000
Issued	615	657	593	624
Killed	81	82	83	103
Success Rate (%)	13.2	12.5	14.0	16.5
Bonus- Total				
Available	3,650	3,650	2,650	2,650
Issued	998	1,001	972	937
Killed	114	111	117	120
Success Rate (%)	11.4	11.1	12.0	12.8

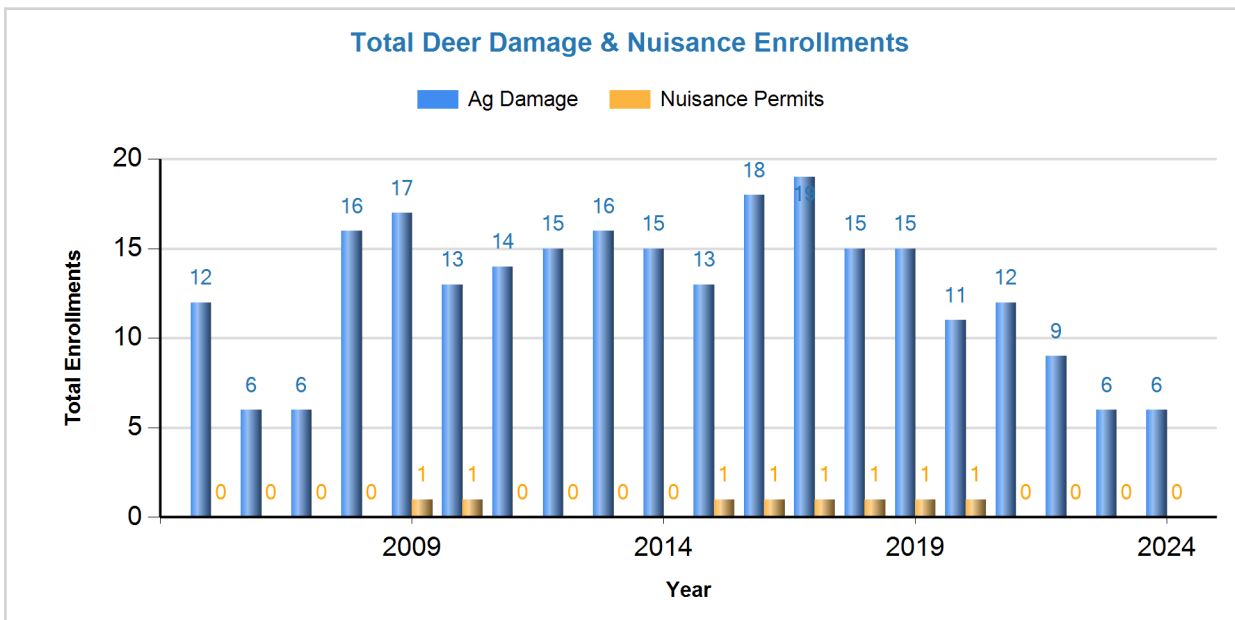
Herd Abundance

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

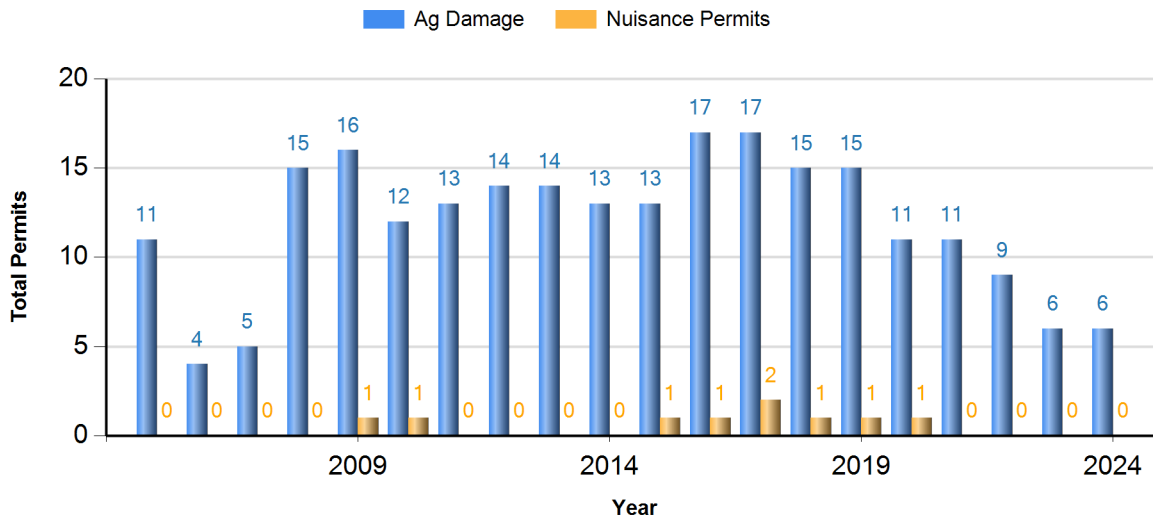


Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



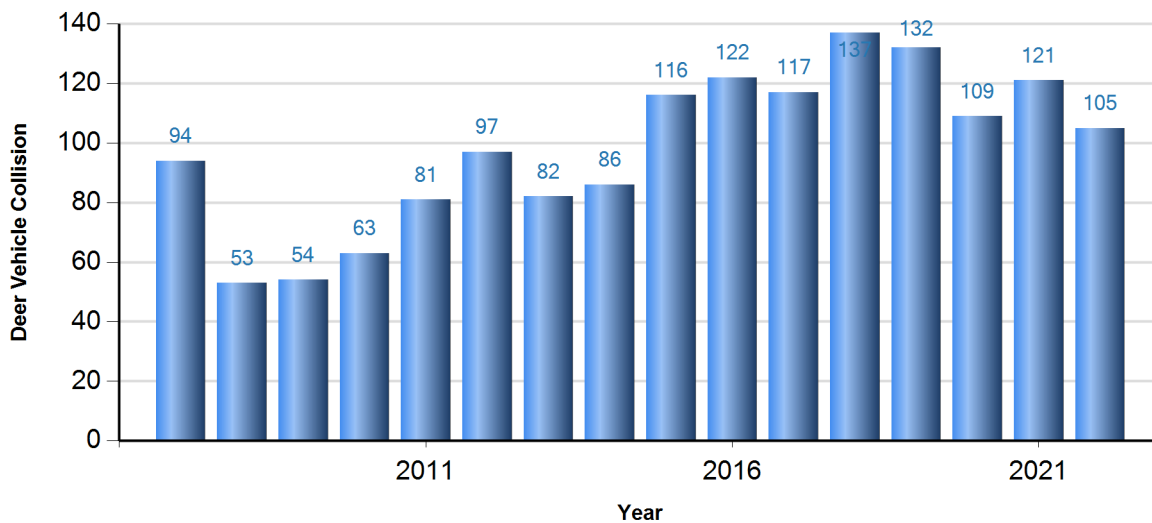
Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



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

