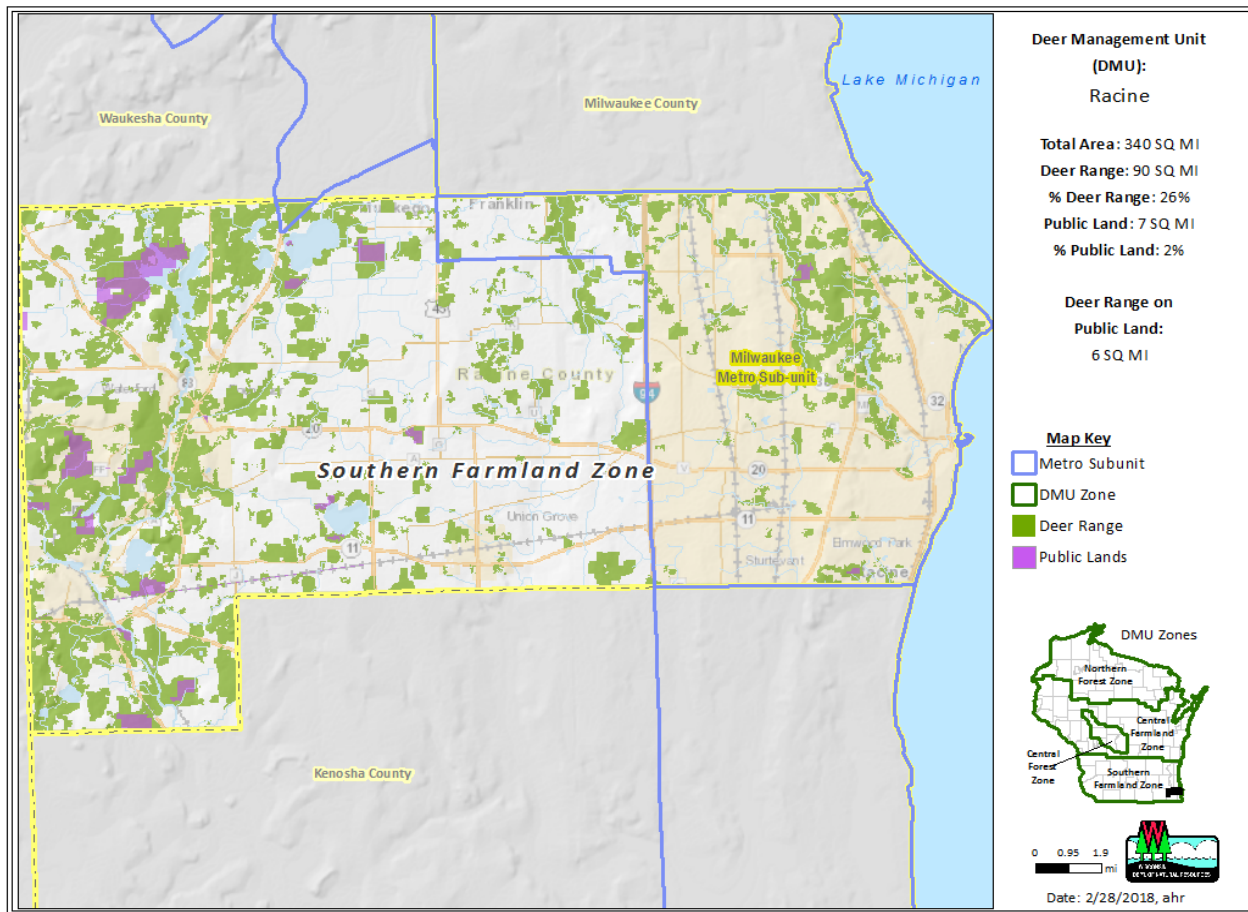


# Racine County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

The Racine County Deer Management Unit is in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 26 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range (84.3 square miles on private lands and 5.6 square miles on public lands). The unit is a mixture of agricultural lands, isolated woodlands of varying size, wetlands, lakes, urban centers and dense urban development. The eastern one-third of the unit is bisected by Interstate I-94 and the Milwaukee Metro subunit is located east of the interstate. Public hunting opportunities are limited with public lands making up approximately 2 percent of the unit. Access to private lands is tightly controlled by landowners throughout the unit and heavy urban development on the east side of the unit limits hunting opportunities (Metro subunit portion). Public lands with hunting opportunities include Honey Creek Wildlife Area, Tichigan Wildlife Area, Karcher Wildlife Area, Burlington Wetland Area, Hoosier Creek Wetland Area, Wind Lake Habitat Area and the Dover Wildlife Area- only during the 9-day gun season. Hunting opportunities in the Metro subunit are limited to private lands as there are no public lands open to hunting in the subunit. The 2013 legislative action (ACT 71) will increase archery and crossbow hunting opportunities on private lands only in the Metro subunit and other urban areas, but it should not result in a significant increase in the harvest. Management objectives for the unit, including areas west of the interstate and the Metro subunit, have been to lower herd levels to minimize deer-vehicle collisions, prevent agricultural and/or urban damage and to help with Chronic Wasting Disease management. As season frameworks have become less aggressive in recent years, occurrences such as bonus season frameworks; a couple consecutive years of poor opening gun deer weekend weather; no bonus antlerless permits available for 2 years; and an increasing trend in the buck harvest over the last 11 years suggests a slight increase in the population trend. (The 2015 season saw the highest buck harvest in the last 11 years- 338.) This portion of the unit has been involved with CWD management since 2003. One CWD positive deer was detected in 2012 and was an adult doe that came from the southwest part of the unit. For the latest information on CWD in this unit, please visit the following DNR webpage:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/prevalence.html>. The current deer herd management objective is to increase 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**

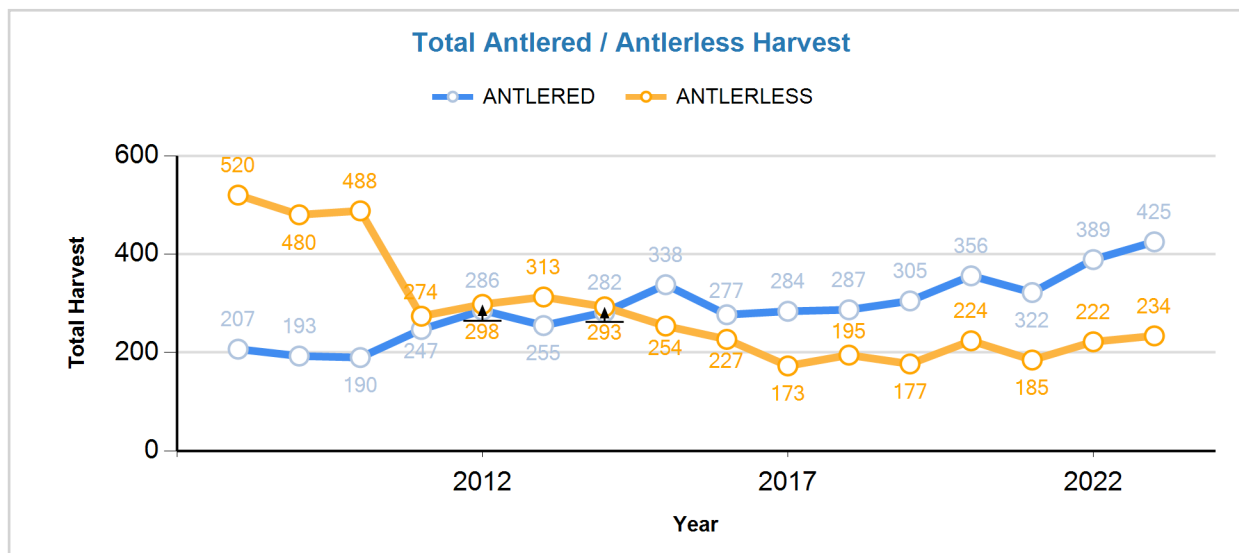
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 340.20

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 89.90

**Total Harvest for Racine County - Southern Farmland Management Zone**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	282	338	277	284	287	305	356	322	389	425
Antlerless	305	254	227	173	195	177	224	185	222	234
Total	587	592	504	457	482	482	580	507	611	659
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	119	178	137	143	149	135	141	134	196	209
Antlerless	173	174	150	93	125	106	127	107	138	139
Total	292	352	287	236	274	241	268	241	334	348
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	115	103	81	66	67	80	106	83	90	95
Antlerless	86	45	45	35	35	27	32	31	31	43
Total	201	148	126	101	102	107	138	114	121	138
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	48	57	59	75	71	90	109	105	103	121
Antlerless	46	35	32	45	35	44	65	47	53	52
Total	94	92	91	120	106	134	174	152	156	173
<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	9	9	7	5	14	11	6	8

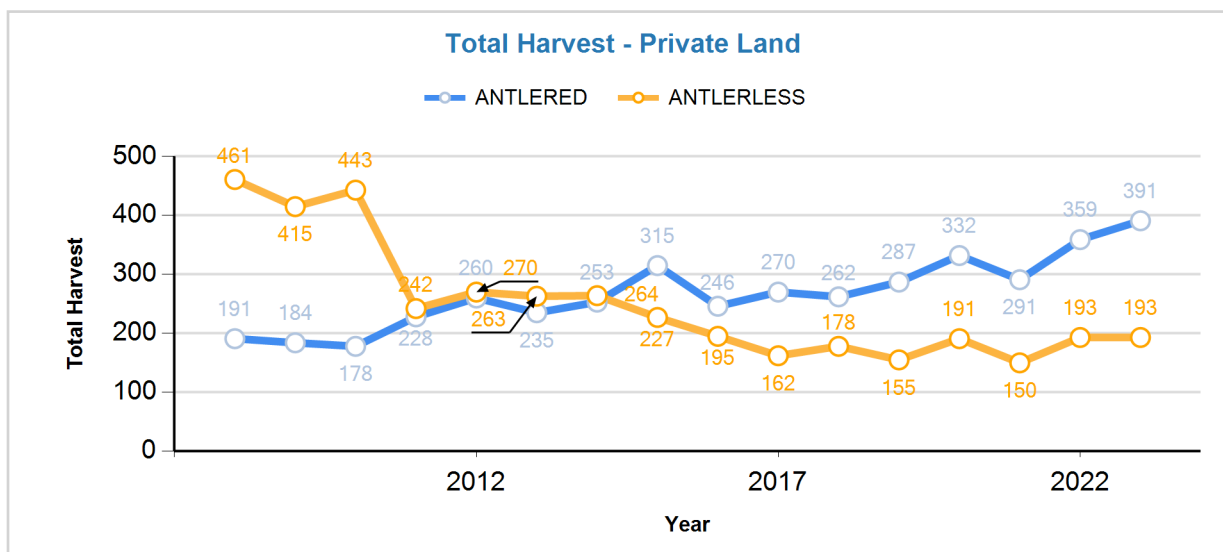
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



## Total Harvest for Racine County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	253	315	246	270	262	287	332	291	359	391
Antlerless	274	227	195	162	178	155	191	150	193	193
Total	527	542	441	432	440	442	523	441	552	584
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	108	165	123	135	137	131	134	126	185	198
Antlerless	151	152	134	88	117	93	106	88	119	111
Total	259	317	257	223	254	224	240	214	304	309
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	101	96	68	63	60	72	94	69	77	82
Antlerless	78	45	33	31	31	22	25	23	26	35
Total	179	141	101	94	91	94	119	92	103	117
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	44	54	55	72	65	84	104	96	97	111
Antlerless	45	30	28	43	30	40	60	39	48	47
Total	89	84	83	115	95	124	164	135	145	158
<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	6	9	7	4	13	9	5	7

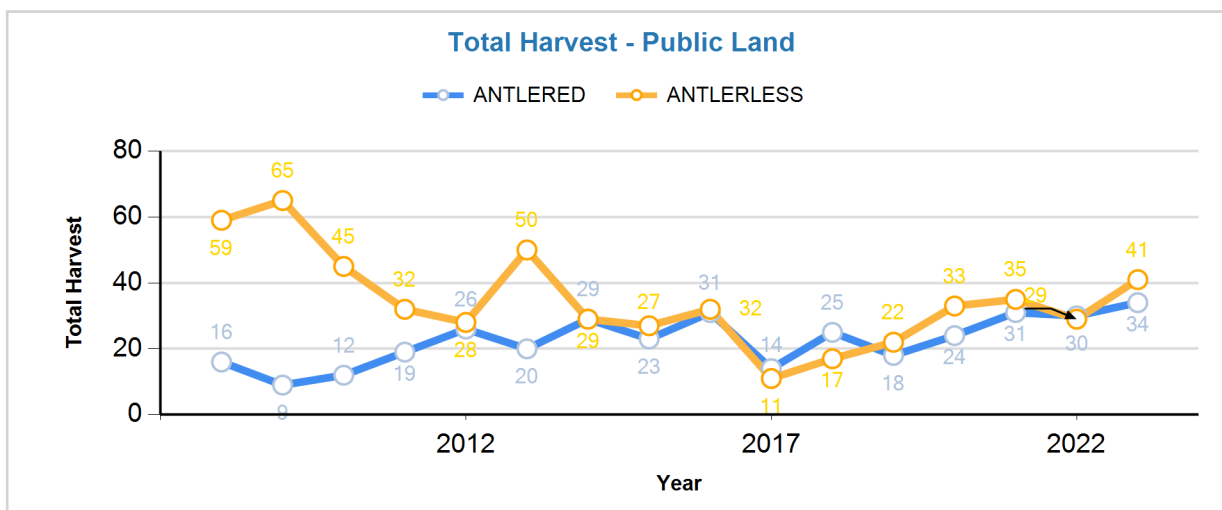
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



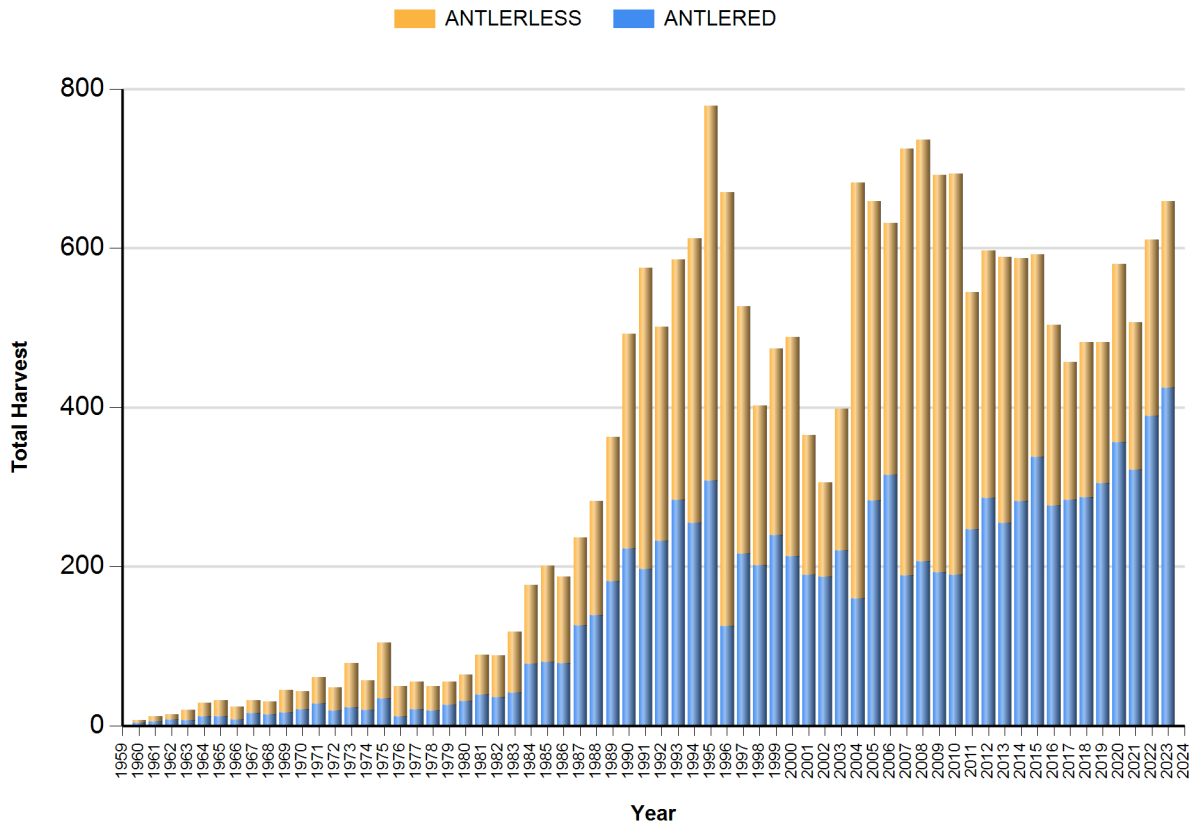
## Total Harvest for Racine County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	29	23	31	14	25	18	24	31	30	34
Antlerless	31	27	32	11	17	22	33	35	29	41
Total	60	50	63	25	42	40	57	66	59	75
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	11	13	14	8	12	4	7	8	11	11
Antlerless	22	22	16	5	8	13	21	19	19	28
Total	33	35	30	13	20	17	28	27	30	39
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	14	7	13	3	7	8	12	14	13	13
Antlerless	8	0	12	4	4	5	7	8	5	8
Total	22	7	25	7	11	13	19	22	18	21
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	4	3	4	3	6	6	5	9	6	10
Antlerless	1	5	4	2	5	4	5	8	5	5
Total	5	8	8	5	11	10	10	17	11	15
<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	3	0	0	1	1	2	1	1

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



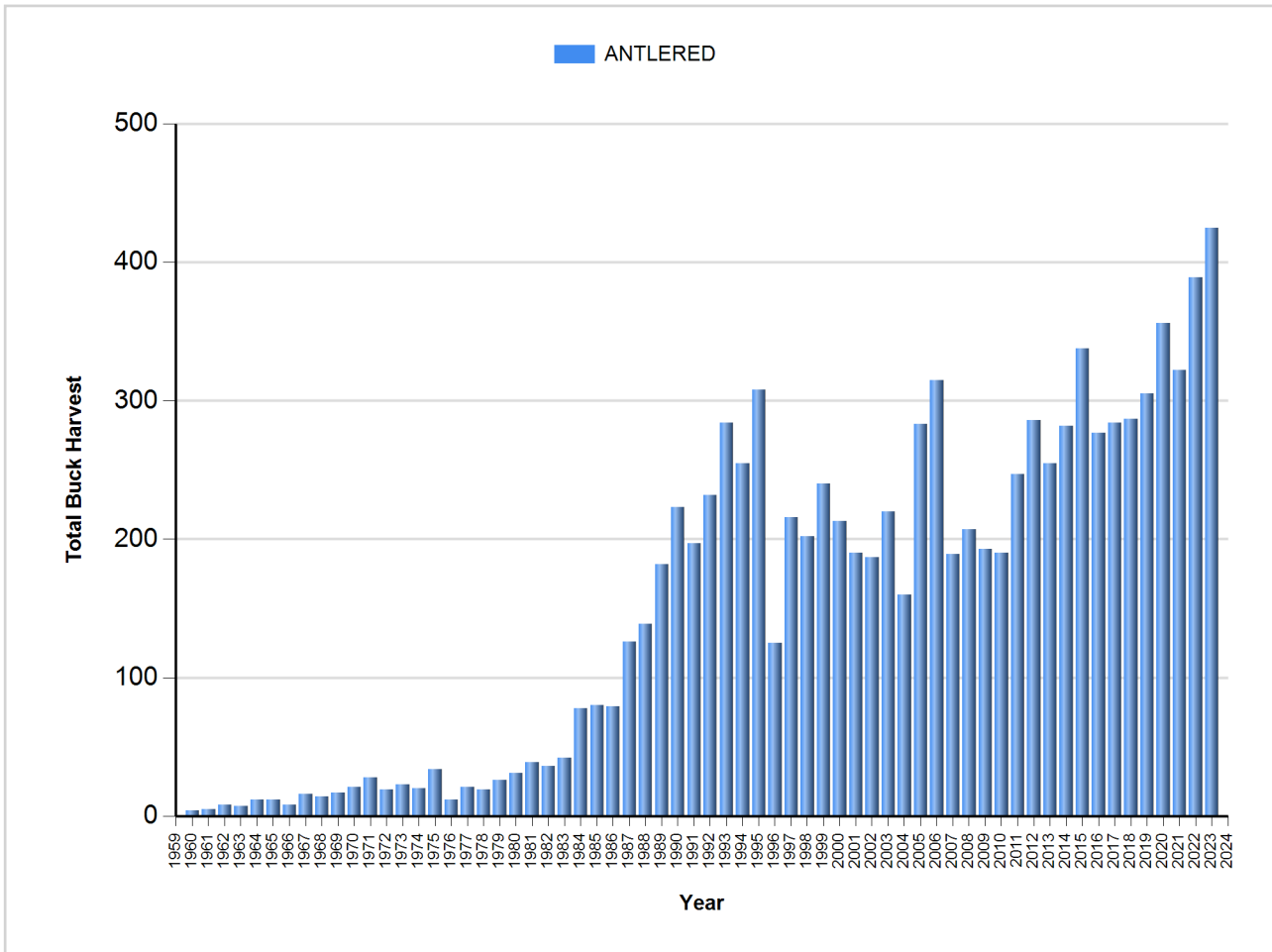
### Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



### Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 2023 - 425

Historic Low: 1960 - 4



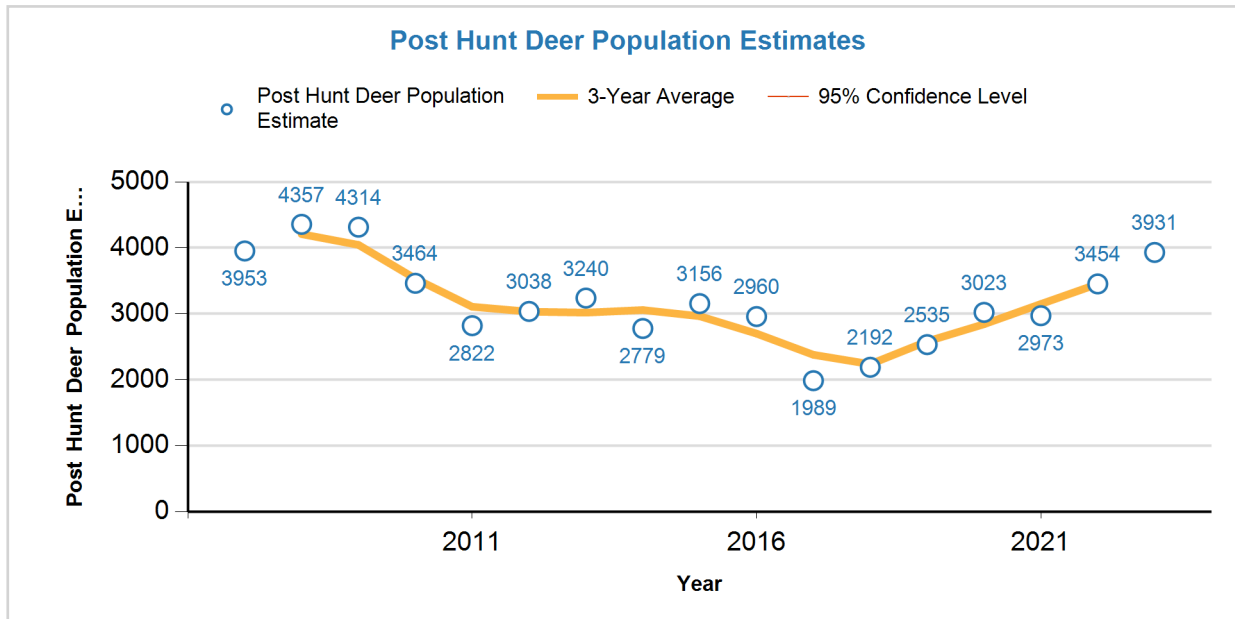
**Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Racine County - Southern Farmland**

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Farmland - Public</b>				
Issued	1,153	1,145	1,165	1,163
Killed	31	32	25	35
Success Rate (%)	2.7	2.8	2.1	3.0
<b>Farmland - Private</b>				
Issued	2,723	2,583	2,478	2,502
Killed	157	122	166	159
Success Rate (%)	5.8	4.7	6.7	6.4
<b>Farmland - Total</b>				
Issued	3,876	3,728	3,643	3,665
Killed	188	154	191	194
Success Rate (%)	4.9	4.1	5.2	5.3
<b>Bonus- Public</b>				
Available	50	50	100	150
Issued	50	50	100	150
Killed	0	1	2	3
Success Rate (%)	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
<b>Bonus- Private</b>				
Available	100	125	125	200
Issued	100	125	125	202
Killed	12	12	11	24
Success Rate (%)	12.0	9.6	8.8	11.9
<b>Bonus- Total</b>				
Available	150	175	225	350
Issued	150	175	225	352
Killed	12	13	13	27
Success Rate (%)	8.0	7.4	5.8	7.7



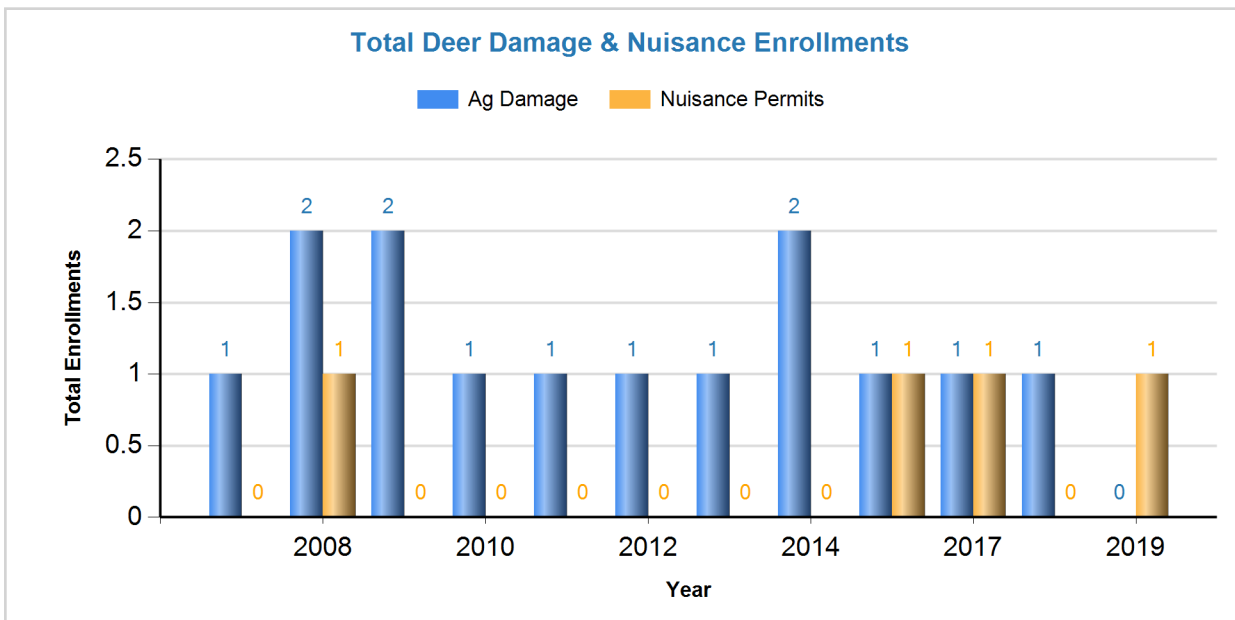
## Herd Abundance

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

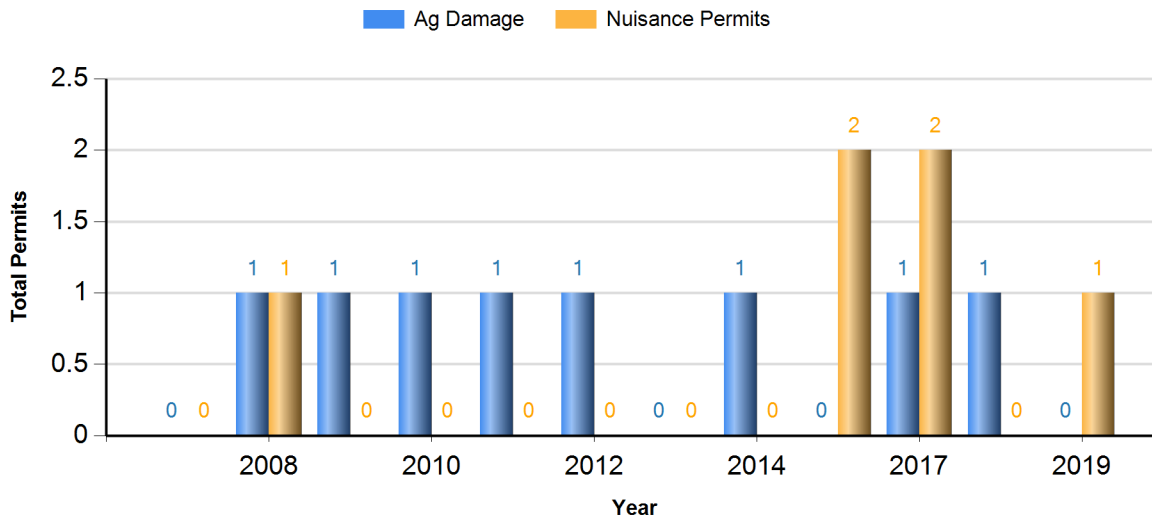


## Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



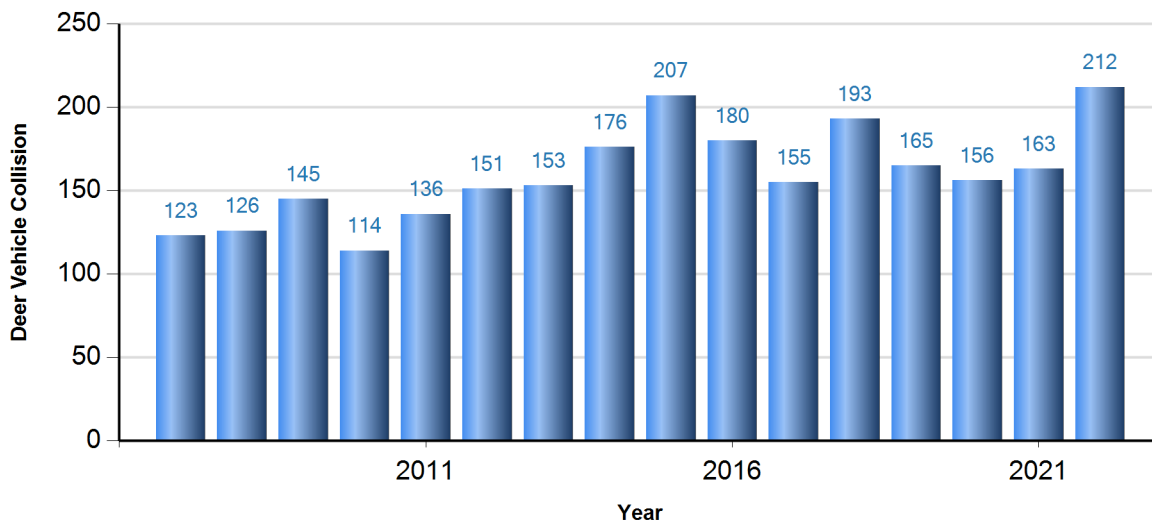
### Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



### 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

