2007 Vermont White-tailed Deer Harvest Report

VERMONT

FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
(802) 241-3700 / www.vtfishandwildlife.com

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The MISSION of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont.

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Most of the programs described in this report are funded through the ***Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program***. This program was initiated in 1937 as the Federal Aid In Wildlife Act and created a system where by taxes are paid on firearms, ammunition and archery equipement by the public who hunts. Today this excise tax generates over a hundred million dollars each year that are dedicated to state wildlife restoration and management projects across the United States. The State of Vermont use these monies for acquiring land, and for restoring and managing wildlife. These excise tax dollars, coupled with state hunting license fees have been the predominate source of money funding the successful restoration and management of Vermont's wildlife resources.

2007 White-tailed Deer Report

Overview

Vermont's deer hunters enjoyed increased success again in 2007. Hunters have also been reporting more sightings of antlered bucks as well as rut sign. The total deer harvest increased 14%, from 12,682 in 2006 to 14,516 in 2007. The antlered buck harvest increased 15%, from 7,805 in 2006 to 8,955 in 2007. With 4,484 adult does taken in 2007 (3,919 in 2006), the buck:doe harvest ratio remained constant at almost exactly 2:1. The antlerless-buck:fawn-doe ratio remained near 1:1 with 488 antlerless bucks (same as in 2006) and 544 fawn does (470 in 2006) harvested in 2007.

The adult doe harvest is designed to keep the deer herd from growing beyond its biological carrying capacity and to keep the buck:doe ratio at an acceptable level for reproductive success. Independent population models, based on age and road-kill data, predicted that Vermont had a state-wide, pre-hunt adult buck:doe ratio of at least 1 buck per 3 does. Obviously, local variation would have likely existed. Given the polygamous rutting behavior of whitetails, this ratio is expected to result in breeding of nearly all does.

Vermont's deer herd has been rebounding from a decline that followed the severe winter of 2001 (Figure 1). The winter of 2007 was mild at the start, but significant snows beginning in mid-February resulted in a near average winter severity index (WSI) value, which is the index used to estimate winter impacts on deer (Figure 2). Long-term antlered buck harvest and WSI data track inversely. Thus, with increased WSI, decreased harvest can be expected from one year to the next (Figure 3). Average winters typically result in little change in harvest from the previous year.

So why did buck harvest increase 15% from 2006 to 2007 despite the average WSI? It may, in part, be due to the mild winter of 2006 and the antler restriction helping recruit fawns into the 2-year-old age class this year. Also, heavier deer survive winter better, and energetically, fawns are at a distinct disadvantage in deep snow and cold temperatures. Compared to the mid–late 1990s (Figure 4), harvested fawns in more recent years weighed about 5 pounds heavier on average, indicating a healthier deer herd more capable of surviving winter than in past years (Figure 5).

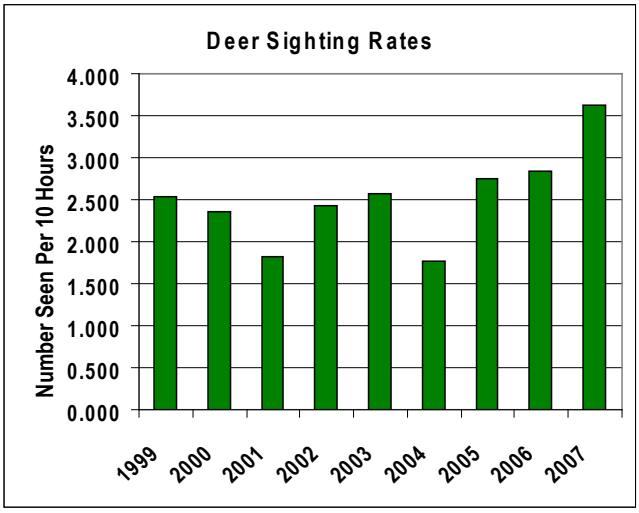


Figure 1. Number of white-tailed deer seen per 10 hours of hunting time as reported by Vermont hunters from 1999–2007.

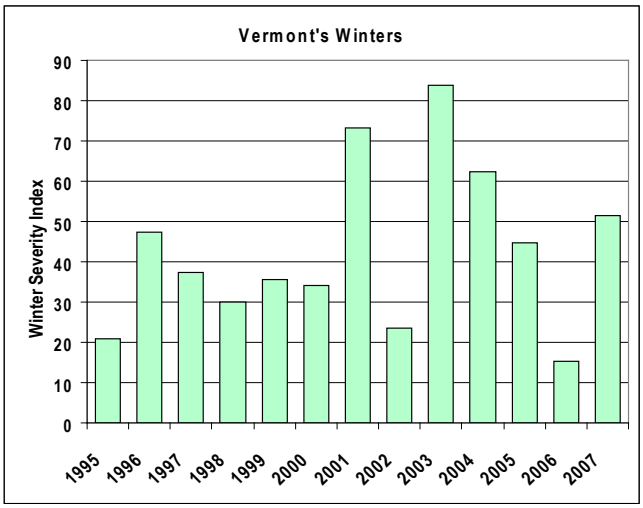


Figure 2. Statewide winter severity indices in Vermont from 1995–2007. Long-term winter severity average is equal to about 47.

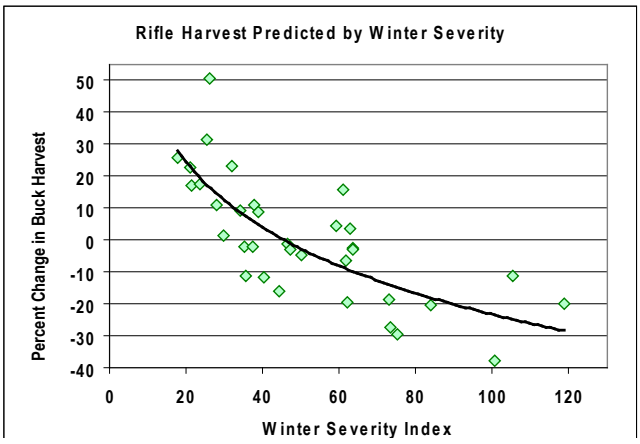


Figure 3. Percent change in rifle season harvest from one year to the next predicted by winter severity in Vermont from 1970–2004. The line is a mathematical best fit model to the data. For instance, if 10,000 bucks are harvested in a year with a subsequent WSI = 90, we would predict a 20% reduction in rifle season harvest for the following year to about 8,000 bucks. It is interesting to note that for an average WSI = 47, buck harvest is not expected to change.

Winter severity can regulate deer numbers and is an important predictor of harvest. Thus, deer management recommendations are based on winter severity. Maintaining healthy deer and winter habitats can reduce the affect of winter weather on deer population dynamics. It is for these reasons that we need to monitor characteristics of the deer themselves (such as weights, antler beam diameters, and reproductive rates) to help guide management actions. Along with WSI and deer measurement data, historical harvest numbers and public comment are also used in the harvest recommendation process.

Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) D1, H2, and M1 were added to the list of WMUs open to taking antlerless deer during the 2007 archery season. No antlerless deer permits were issued in WMUs H1, H2, and J1 in 2006, but these WMUs were allotted a relatively small number of permits for the 2007 muzzleloader season. Total antlerless harvest in these WMUs increased from 685 in 2006 to 1,046 in 2007. Most of these deer were adult does (Tables 1 & 2). In 2007, 5 of 24 WMUs remained closed to taking of antlerless deer during the archery season while 11 WMUs had no antlerless permits issued for the muzzleloader season.

The antler restriction, new in 2005, seems to be having the desired and predicted result. It was known that about 50% of yearlings have 2-point spike antlers. By removing half of the yearling bucks from potential harvest, larger numbers were allowed to survive and pass into the 2 year age-class during 2006. The age structure of the buck harvest increased again in 2007 with fewer yearlings and more 2-year-olds and 3-year-olds harvested compared to 2006 (Figure 6). Along with increased average age has come increased average weight (Figure 7). Based on data from biological check stations, average harvested buck weight increased 13 pounds, from 125 pounds during the decade prior to the antler regulation to 138 pounds in 2007.

Increased buck weight has resulted in an increase in yield of useable meat. With a buck harvest of about 9,000 (as in 2003 and 2007), about 115,000 pounds more deer (field-dressed weight) and 50,000 pounds more meat resulted from the heavier bucks taken in 2007. Vermonters and visitors harvested about 505 tons of local and healthy venison in 2007.

Hunting conditions in 2007 were generally good except for unseasonably warm temperatures during the latter part of the first archery season. Opening weekend

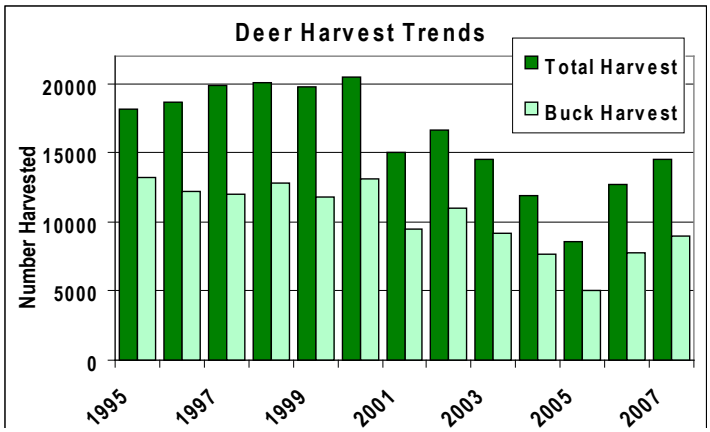


Figure 4. Annual total and buck harvests in Vermont from 1995–2007.

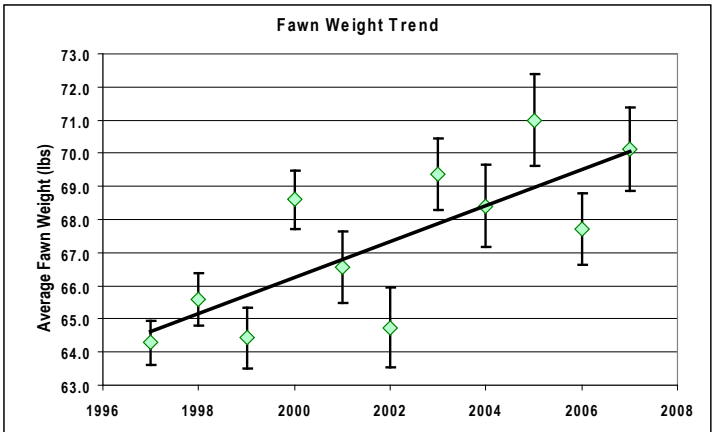


Figure 5. Mean averages of fawn weights reported in the annual Vermont deer harvests from 1997–2007. The vertical bars around the means are 95% confidence intervals. The decadal trend was fit to the data by minimizing differences between the annual means and the line itself (similar to Figure 3).

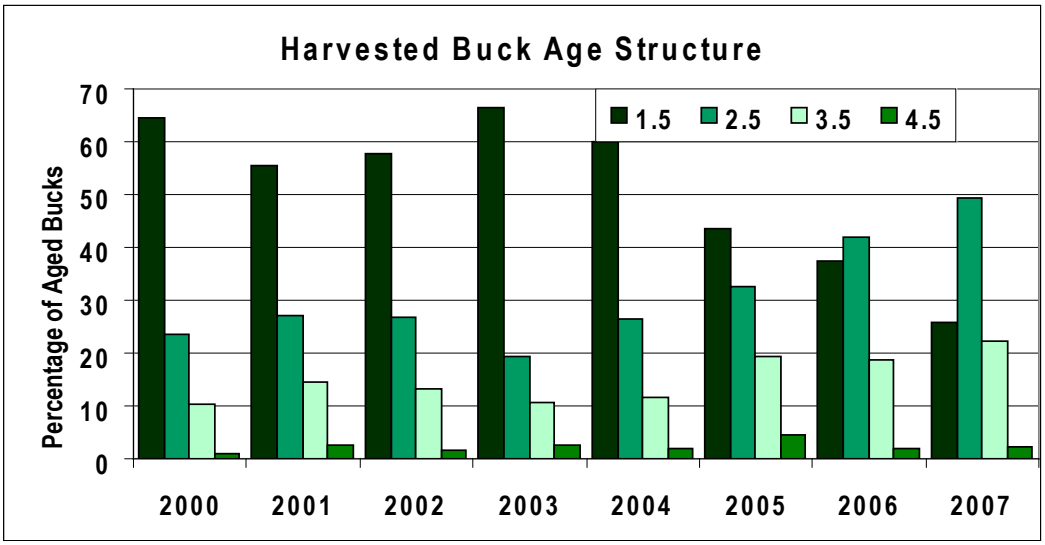


Figure 6. Age structure of Vermont bucks sampled by state wildlife biologists during opening weekend of rifle seasons 2000–2007 as determined by tooth wear and replacement. Sample sizes ranged from 447 to 1,034 with a mean average of 672 deer.

of the 16-day rifle season was near freezing in the mornings. Much of the state had tracking snow from the second weekend through closure of the rifle season. A snowstorm during the first week of December covered the entire state for the remainder of the muzzleloader and late archery seasons. Hard masts, such as acorns and beech nuts, did not appear abundant in 2007, but apples were plentiful and widespread. Hunter satisfaction was up in 2006 and 2007, based on input we received from hunters. We expect this will be true again in 2008.

Season Results and Comparisons

Hunters harvested 14,516 deer in the four Vermont deer seasons. Harvest totals increased in all WMUs except for WMUs A and M2 (Table 1). Harvest results by town are listed in Table 10. The heaviest buck reported in 2007 was 250 pounds from Vershire (Table 8), and the heaviest doe was 175 pounds from Halifax (Table 9).

Archery hunters reported a total of 2,832 deer during the 32-day split season (October 6–28 and December 1–9). This was an 11% increase, up 279 deer, over the 2006 season. The archery harvest was comprised of 28% antlered bucks, 60% adult does, and 11% fawns (Table 3). The prevalence of does in the archery harvest demonstrates that bow hunting is an effective and important mechanism for deer population management. Harvesting does is the only way that reproduction of the deer population can be controlled. One hundred thirty-eight deer (5% of total archery harvest) were harvested during the December portion of the split season.

Youth hunters maintained a strong presence in 2007. The 2007 youth season harvest of 1,834 deer was similar to that in 2006 (1,861). Licensed hunters less than 16 years-old and accompanied by an adult mentor could harvest any one deer during the weekend prior to opening of rifle season (November 3rd and 4th). The youth harvest was comprised of 29% antlered bucks, 49% adult does, and 22% fawns (Table 3). Youths harvested at least 195 spike-antlered bucks, which was 37% of all antlered bucks taken during youth season.

The youth season has become more important for deer management in Vermont since implementation of the antler restriction. Not only does recruitment of youth hunters help to ensure Vermont's hunting heritage and our ability to manage the deer herd, but the data they provide are particularly valuable because the youth harvest provides a cross-section of the deer population for measurement. One of the measurements biologists use to monitor the health of a deer population is yearling antler beam diameter (YABD). While biologists still collect useful data at 17 check stations on opening weekend of rifle season, the YABD data collected since 2005 are not comparable to the data collected prior to the antler regulation. Only youth hunters can take any buck, so only youth hunters can provide data that are comparable to those collected before 2005. These data can be important for management decisions. Youth hunters and their mentors should be aware that we will be making efforts to gather biological data from

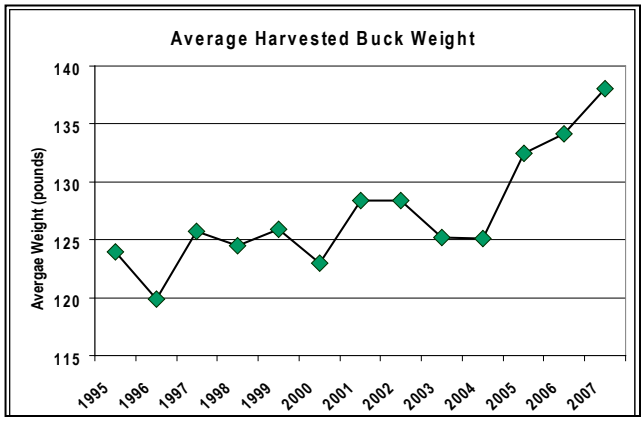
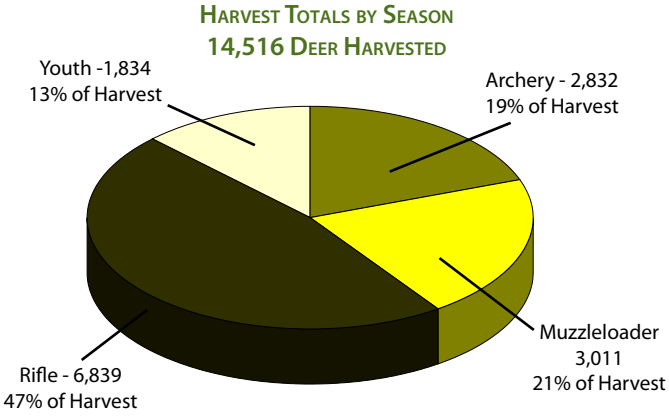
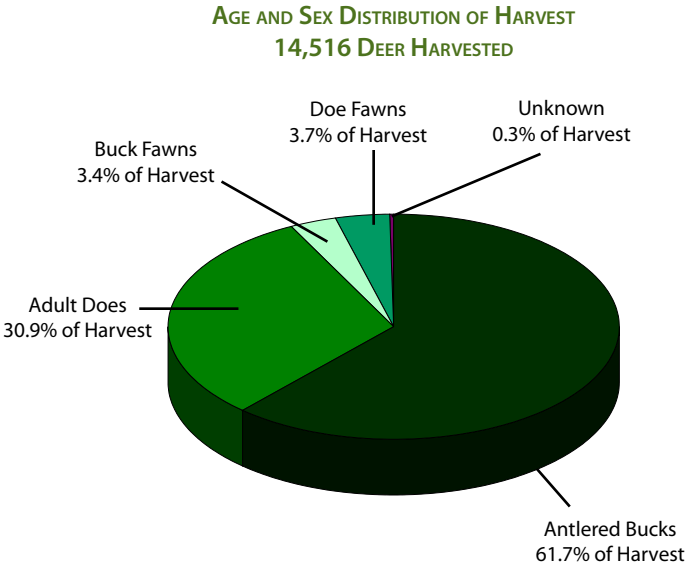


Figure 7. Statewide mean averages of Vermont bucks weighed by state wildlife biologists during opening weekend of rifle seasons from 1995–2007.





the youth harvest in 2008. The details of how this will happen have not all yet been worked out.

Rifle hunters reported a total of 6,838 antlered bucks during the traditional 16-day season (November 10–25). This total harvest was a 15% increase (879 bucks) over the 2006 rifle season harvest total (Figure 4).

Rifle hunters presented 589 bucks to department biologists at 17 reporting stations during opening weekend. Based on tooth wear and replacement, the occurrence of 2 year-olds in this sample of the harvest increased to nearly 50% (Figure 6). Teeth were collected for laboratory aging from all bucks brought to biological check stations. These data have not returned yet and are expected to provide more detailed insight. However, the statewide antler regulation enacted in 2005 does appear to be having the predicted and desired result of increasing the age structure of the buck population. Some of the yearlings first protected in 2005 likely did show up in the harvest as 3-year-olds in 2007, but this should become clearer with analysis of tooth age data and additional years of data. The surge of 2 year-olds in 2007 may have been the result of good fawn survival during the very mild winter of 2006 (Figure 2).

Because the average age of harvested bucks continues to increase, so does the average weight (Figure 7). Based on consistently measured weights from opening-weekend bio-check stations (Table 4), average bucks weights in 2007 (138 pounds) were 13 pounds heavier than the 10-year average prior to the antler regulation (125 pounds). Weights and antler beam measurements of 2-year-old bucks indicated healthy deer (Table 5). Regional trends in deer weights seemed comparable between the bio-check sample and total recorded harvest (Tables 4 & 6).

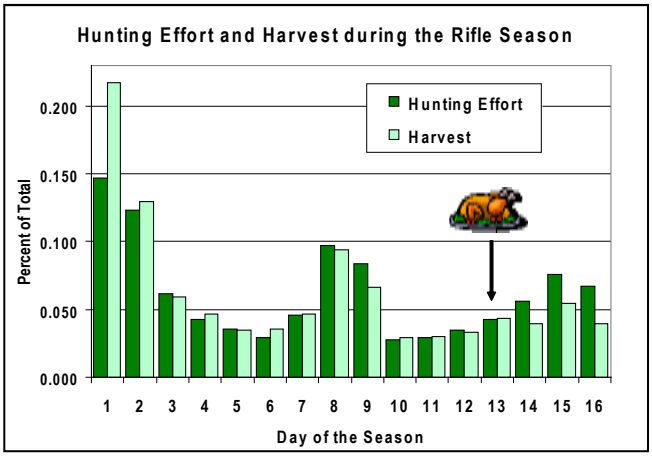


Figure 8. Hunting effort and harvest during Vermont's historic 16-day hunting season with day #13 on Thanksgiving.

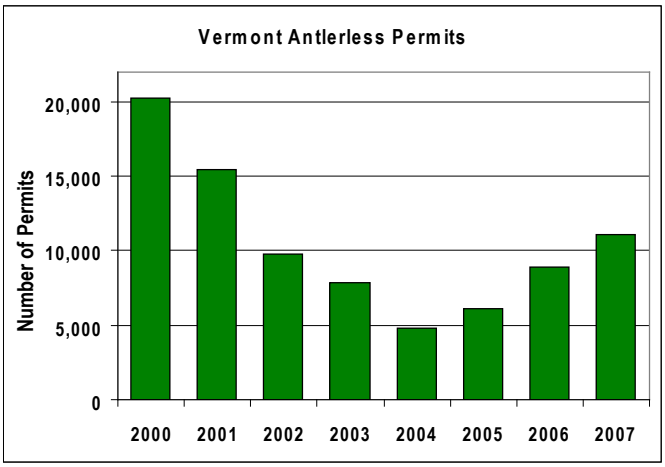


Figure 9. Antlerless permits issued during the Vermont muzzleloader season.

Hunter-effort surveys were randomly mailed to 5,000 licensed Vermont hunters in 2007. There were 826 respondents (16.5% return rate). Sighting data from these surveys are used to monitor deer and moose population trends. Timing of hunter effort within the deer rifle season is also useful for modeling population size and harvest rates. Hunters reported an average of 44 hours afield during the 2007 rifle season. As usual, Saturday and Sunday of opening weekend saw the greatest hunting effort and yielded the greatest harvests among all 16 days of the season (Figure 8). Hunters reported seeing an average of 3.62 deer per 10 hours of hunting including a sighting rate of 0.32 antlered bucks per 10 hours (Figure 1).

Muzzleloader hunters reported a total of 3,011 deer from the December 1–9 muzzleloader season. This was a 30% increase in harvest over the 2006 muzzleloader season total. The muzzleloader harvest was comprised of 26% antlered bucks, 62% adult does, and 10% fawns (Table 3). By lottery system, 11,050 antlerless permits issued for the muzzleloader season (Figure 9), which resulted in the taking of 2,192 antlerless deer for a success rate of 20%. Many landowners with at least 25 acres of non-posted land used their advantage in the antlerless lottery to secure a permit (Table 7). Similar to bowhunters, muzzleloading hunters continue to provide the basic tool necessary for the regulation of the deer herd with the ability to predominantly take antlerless deer.

Looking to the Future

This winter began with heavy snow in December that thawed in many areas in January. February again saw considerable snow deposited on Vermont's landscapes with 50-inch snow depth accumulated in the northeast and much of the Green Mountain areas. Warm temperatures and rain on February 18th melted most of the snow west of the Green Mountains, but snow depths >18 inches that induce yarding behavior still existed elsewhere. March is an important month for determining overall winter severity for deer that have been engaged in an endurance race for spring.

We are renewing efforts to map and survey deer wintering habitats. The Agency of Natural Resources actively manages timber harvests in deer yards on state lands, and is able to protect 1,000–3,000 acres of winter habitat annually through the Act 250 review

process. However, much winter habitat is on private, undeveloped lands which are exempt from Act 250 review, so we encourage private land managers to seek our guidelines for timber management in deer yards.

Hunting is important to many Vermont families for cultural and economic reasons. Hunting is a heritage that strengthens bonds between family, friends, and nature. Also, hunting contributes about $190 million to Vermont's economy every year. Hunters provide the mechanism for preventing deer overabundance that would lead to unhealthy forests, unhealthy deer, and increased deer-human conflicts.

All groups of Vermont hunters play a part in deer management decisions. Rifle hunters provide useful harvest registration and biological data, as well as survey data for moose and deer sighting rates and hunting effort. Bowhunters and muzzleloading hunters are responsible for most of the critical antlerless harvest. We plan to survey bow hunters to gather new data on deer and other mammalian species to help improve management. Youth hunters are the future of deer management in Vermont. Providing good examples and mentoring young hunters is the best way for us to ensure that deer management will remain sound in the future.

Access to fertile hunting, fishing and trapping grounds was a catalyst for European settlement of North America. The United States and Vermont were founded under the doctrine that wildlife would be held as a public trust resource. This means that no individual should own and control allocation of wildlife. The Fish & Wildlife Department was formed to ensure that resources were restored and conserved so that fish and wildlife populations would be sustainable for future generations to enjoy and access. Privatization of wildlife, such as captive hunting, threatens our founding doctrine. Reduced hunting access reduces the ability to manage deer, which results in deer overabundance.

It is the Fish & Wildlife Department's duty to see that wildlife is not treated as, or converted to, private property. It is our aim to promote policies that foster responsible stewardship of wildlife resources. We encourage hunters to respect the rights of landowners. We encourage landowners to be gracious in granting privilege to hunters to pursue on their private lands the wildlife that belongs to the public. The values arising out of this respectful and gracious relationship will surely enhance the quality of rural Vermont life.

Table 1. 2007 Age and Sex of Legal Deer Harvest by WMU

WMU	Antlered Buck	Adult Doe	Antlerless Buck	Fawn Doe	Unknown	Total	2006 Total
A	168	166	19	19	0	372	399
B	1,047	907	107	122	13	2,196	2,179
C	418	135	17	14	3	587	486
D1	538	161	24	30	2	755	579
D2	581	82	20	15	0	698	487
E	214	5	3	3	0	225	166
F1	240	252	8	38	4	542	515
F2	276	247	24	37	7	591	545
G	322	78	9	7	3	419	351
H1	518	244	21	16	2	801	646
H2	334	168	28	38	1	569	299
I	185	16	2	2	0	205	170
J1	591	222	24	28	2	867	704
J2	688	473	42	41	1	1,245	1,143
K1	208	107	7	14	1	337	300
K2	560	209	26	26	0	821	719
L	231	28	3	5	1	268	216
M1	177	31	7	4	0	219	156
M2	275	213	14	21	3	526	549
N	534	242	34	27	2	839	714
O1	94	17	1	0	0	112	98
O2	299	225	20	22	0	566	548
P	220	36	9	5	0	270	268
Q	237	220	19	10	0	486	445
Total	**8,955**	**4,484**	**488**	**544**	**45**	**14,516**	**12,682**

Table 2. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by Season and Area within Each WMU

WMU	Bow	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total	Sq. Miles*	Deer/Mi²
A	58	147	122	45	372	36	10.3
B	393	760	763	280	2,196	453	4.8
C	141	56	317	73	587	361	1.6
D1	147	48	396	164	755	371	2.0
D2	35	38	479	146	698	581	1.2
E	8	37	163	17	225	589	0.4
F1	85	233	163	61	542	126	4.3
F2	94	222	207	68	591	173	3.4
G	90	38	256	35	419	372	1.1
H1	221	103	378	99	801	408	2.0
H2	176	45	242	106	569	194	2.9
I	17	21	144	23	205	417	0.5
J1	231	57	480	99	867	483	1.8
J2	253	300	546	146	1,245	485	2.6
K1	51	80	164	42	337	87	3.9
K2	220	52	421	128	821	278	3.0
L	18	34	172	44	268	360	0.7
M1	38	21	141	19	219	251	0.9
M2	113	158	213	42	526	206	2.6
N	158	182	421	78	839	287	2.9
O1	18	12	70	12	112	194	0.6
O2	110	172	233	51	566	263	2.2
P	49	18	176	27	270	459	0.6
Q	108	177	172	29	486	276	1.8
Total	**2,832**	**3,011**	**6,839**	**1,834**	**14,516**	**7,710**	**1.9**

*Square miles of “potential deer range” excludes developed area and open water

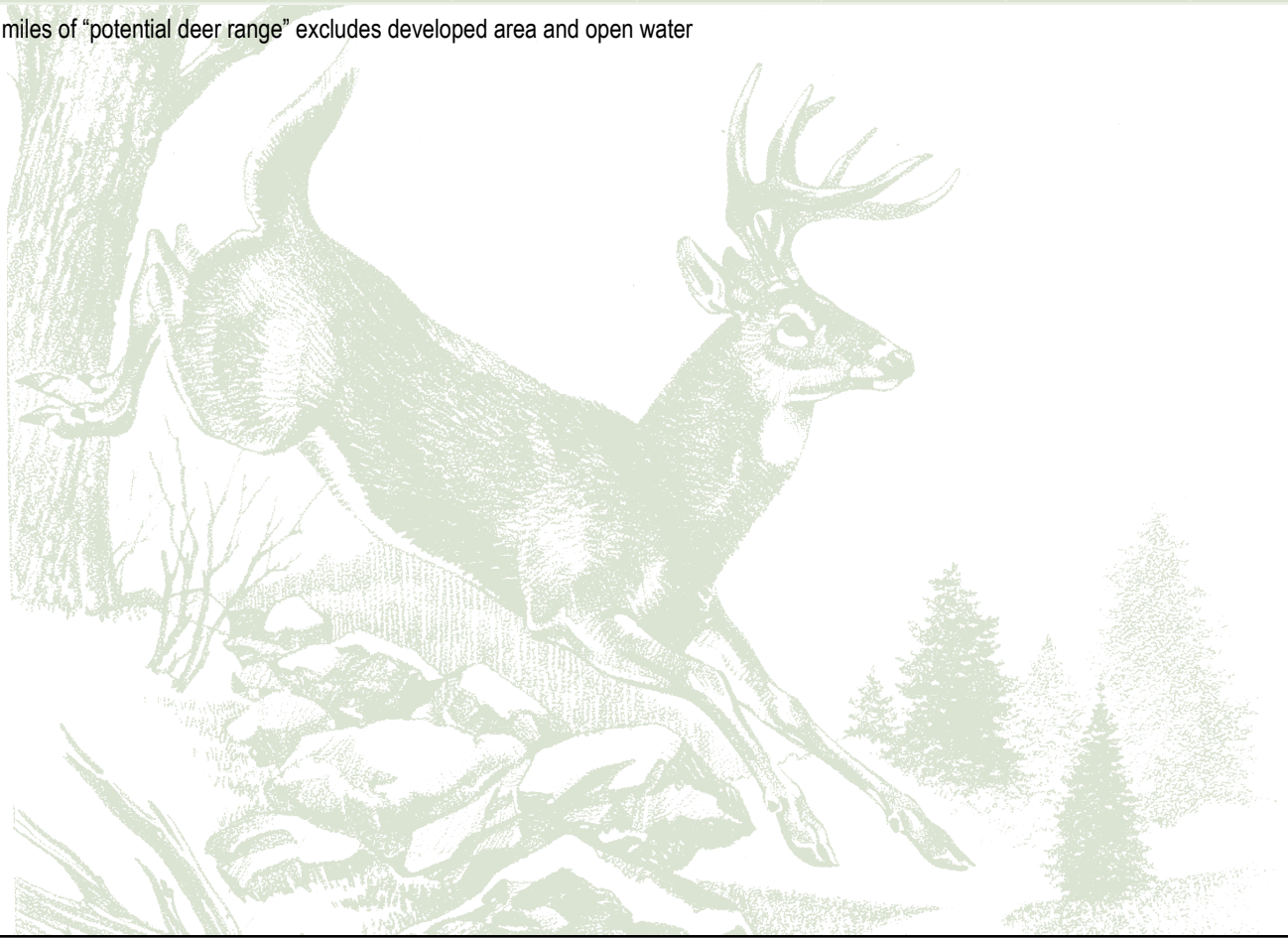
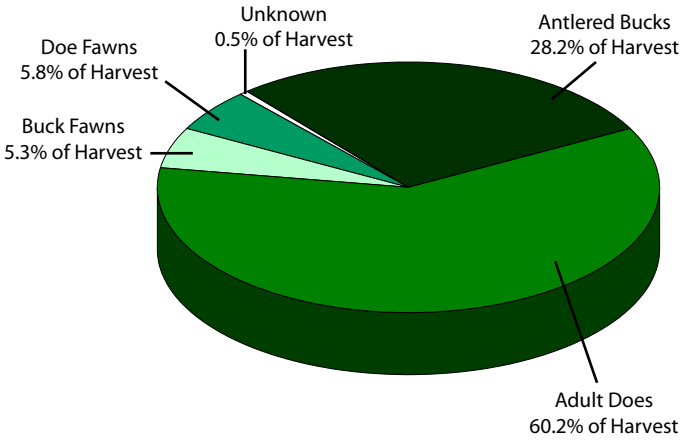


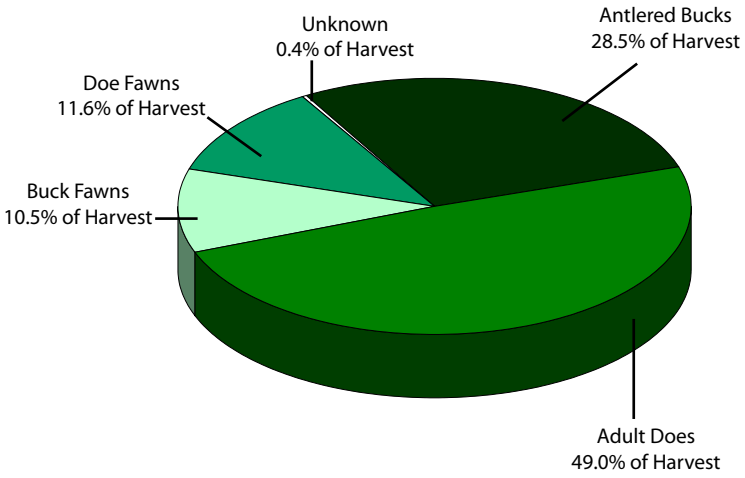
Table 3. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest Counts and Percentages by Season and Age-Sex

Season		Adult Doe	Antlered Buck	Antlerless Buck	Fawn Doe	Unknown	Total
Archery	Count	**1,706**	**800**	**149**	**164**	**13**	**2,832**
	% within Season	60.2%	28.2%	5.3%	5.8%	0.5%	
	% within Deer Type	38.0%	8.9%	30.5%	30.1%	28.9%	
	% of Total	11.8%	5.5%	1.0%	1.1%	0.1%	19.5%
Muzzleloader	Count	**1,878**	**795**	**147**	**167**	**24**	**3,011**
	% within Season	62.4%	26.4%	4.9%	5.5%	0.8%	
	% within Deer Type	41.9%	8.9%	30.1%	30.7%	53.3%	
	% of Total	12.9%	5.5%	1.0%	1.2%	0.2%	20.7%
Rifle	Count	**0**	**6,838**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**6,839**
	% within Season	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
	% within Deer Type	0.0%	76.4%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	
	% of Total	0.0%	47.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	47.1%
Youth	Count	**900**	**522**	**192**	**213**	**7**	**1,834**
	% within Season	49.1%	28.5%	10.5%	11.6%	0.4%	
	% within Deer Type	20.1%	5.8%	39.3%	39.2%	15.6%	
	% of Total	6.2%	3.6%	1.3%	1.5%	0.0%	12.6%
Total	Count	**4,484**	**8,955**	**488**	**544**	**45**	**14,516**
	% of Total	30.9%	61.7%	3.4%	3.7%	0.3%	100.0%

Archery Season
2,832 Deer Harvested



Youth Season
1,834 Deer Harvested



Muzzleloader Season
3,011 Deer Harvested

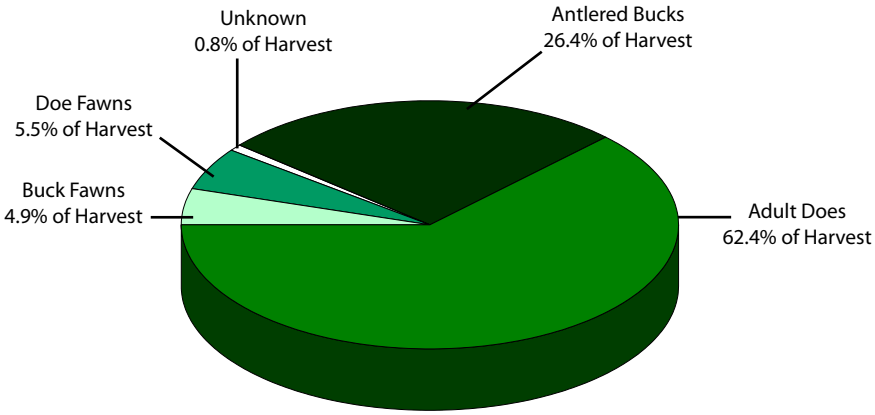


Table 4. Weights of Vermont Bucks Checked by State Wildlife Biologists During Opening Weekend of Rifle Season.

WMU	Mean	N	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
A	141.6	27	21.8	106	176
B	142.4	83	19.7	99	193
C	144.2	33	22.8	103	186
D1	143.4	24	21.3	111	178
D2	144.5	28	25.5	107	200
E	135.3	7	20.5	118	165
F1	139.4	8	20.2	114	173
F2	138.9	27	17.5	103	164
G	144.8	24	24.0	104	193
H1	141.1	42	20.3	98	194
H2	134.8	14	21.3	108	179
I	143.7	15	16.8	117	175
J1	138.0	34	16.3	105	182
J2	135.2	45	18.6	102	185
K1	136.0	8	24.9	104	179
K2	137.0	27	19.3	98	206
L	167.0	1	.	167	167
M1	120.0	1	.	120	120
M2	127.7	16	21.0	95	163
N	128.7	31	21.1	91	197
O1	138.0	3	8.7	128	144
O2	130.8	36	16.7	95	171
P	125.7	6	15.3	105	152
Q	125.8	39	21.9	94	186
Unknown	150.3	8	25.5	121	184
Total	**138.0**	**587**	**21.0**	**91**	**206**

"N" equals number of deer, and 2 standard deviations from the mean include 95% of observations.

Table 5. Age-specific Weights of Vermont Bucks Aged and Weighed by State Wildlife Biologists During Opening Weekend of Rifle Season.

Age*	Mean	N	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
1.5	119.6	150	13.1	91	168
2.5	140.3	287	17.9	95	200
3.5	150.8	130	18.5	108	193
4.5	167.8	14	19.4	139	206
5.5	186.0	1	.	186	186
Total	**138.1**	**582**	**21.0**	**91**	**206**

* Aged by tooth wear and replacement - laboratory age data pending.

Table 6. 2007 Legally Harvested Deer Weights by WMU and Age-Sex.

WMU	AgeSexDeer	Mean	N	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
A	Adult Doe	111.1	164	18.0	60	166
	Antlered Buck	137.4	168	24.8	64	214
	Antlerless Buck	77.9	18	17.0	60	120
	Fawn Doe	68.3	19	12.7	49	90
	Total	119.3	369	29.0	49	214
B	Adult Doe	109.5	899	20.0	42	165
	Antlered Buck	139.1	1,045	23.1	60	216
	Antlerless Buck	74.6	105	17.6	45	120
	Fawn Doe	63.9	120	10.3	42	102
	Unknown	96.0	11	19.9	68	126
	Total	119.4	2,180	30.6	42	216
C	Adult Doe	112.4	132	18.5	46	153
	Antlered Buck	142.5	415	24.4	65	236
	Antlerless Buck	74.4	16	13.9	57	104
	Fawn Doe	60.1	14	10.1	40	75
	Unknown	73.0	2	17.0	61	85
	Total	131.5	579	30.1	40	236
D1	Adult Doe	112.9	160	20.0	50	157
	Antlered Buck	141.1	538	23.1	60	225
	Antlerless Buck	70.6	24	15.3	48	122
	Fawn Doe	65.4	30	15.1	47	110
	Unknown	127.0	1	.	127	127
	Total	129.8	753	30.2	47	225
D2	Adult Doe	116.0	81	16.4	55	149
	Antlered Buck	145.2	579	25.6	65	241
	Antlerless Buck	70.6	20	10.8	50	91
	Fawn Doe	61.3	15	11.1	38	76
	Total	137.9	695	30.7	38	241
E	Adult Doe	104.2	5	15.5	90	122
	Antlered Buck	146.5	213	24.8	101	224
	Antlerless Buck	64.3	3	6.7	60	72
	Fawn Doe	58.0	3	8.9	51	68
	Total	143.3	224	28.6	51	224
F1	Adult Doe	115.6	251	17.9	60	164
	Antlered Buck	138.8	239	23.5	59	214
	Antlerless Buck	78.8	8	18.7	60	112
	Fawn Doe	70.2	38	11.6	50	100
	Unknown	95.0	4	24.6	67	123
	Total	122.0	540	27.9	50	214
F2	Adult Doe	110.2	244	18.5	47	158
	Antlered Buck	139.2	276	21.1	92	200
	Antlerless Buck	82.0	24	23.0	54	128
	Fawn Doe	64.4	36	10.9	46	90
	Unknown	110.0	7	21.2	69	137
	Total	119.9	587	29.1	46	200
G	Adult Doe	104.6	77	19.8	49	136
	Antlered Buck	142.7	321	24.2	70	206
	Antlerless Buck	66.0	9	14.4	50	94
	Fawn Doe	60.9	7	3.8	55	66
	Unknown	126.0	2	8.5	120	132
	Total	132.5	416	30.6	49	206
H1	Adult Doe	107.4	243	15.5	55	158
	Antlered Buck	137.5	514	21.9	71	200
	Antlerless Buck	68.0	21	16.5	50	122
	Fawn Doe	63.1	16	12.4	50	90
	Unknown	108.5	2	9.2	102	115
	Total	124.9	796	27.4	50	200
H2	Adult Doe	109.3	168	16.9	42	150
	Antlered Buck	138.4	333	23.1	72	210
	Antlerless Buck	72.8	28	20.3	47	121
	Fawn Doe	58.7	38	11.6	41	100
	Unknown	68.0	1	.	68	68
	Total	121.1	568	32.0	41	210
I	Adult Doe	111.9	16	20.7	66	149
	Antlered Buck	140.0	185	24.0	95	212
	Antlerless Buck	60.5	2	9.2	54	67
	Fawn Doe	54.5	2	4.9	51	58
	Total	136.2	205	27.0	51	212
J1	Adult Doe	107.2	222	16.4	60	167
	Antlered Buck	136.4	588	21.6	85	207
	Antlerless Buck	72.3	24	15.3	48	112
	Fawn Doe	66.6	27	17.1	40	110
	Total	124.9	861	27.6	40	207
J2	Adult Doe	106.9	471	16.1	45	153
	Antlered Buck	134.0	685	21.9	59	250
	Antlerless Buck	76.1	41	17.6	47	115
	Fawn Doe	62.3	41	13.4	36	100
	Total	119.4	1,238	27.0	36	250
K1	Adult Doe	111.7	104	18.1	65	163
	Antlered Buck	136.3	203	19.0	92	190
	Antlerless Buck	79.2	6	22.0	55	120
	Fawn Doe	65.0	13	16.7	43	100
	Unknown	115.0	1	.	115	115
	Total	124.6	327	25.7	43	190
K2	Adult Doe	103.0	209	15.8	50	170
	Antlered Buck	132.7	559	20.6	67	225
	Antlerless Buck	75.1	25	21.6	45	125
	Fawn Doe	60.7	26	15.9	42	108
	Total	121.0	819	27.0	42	225

Table 6. 2007 Legally Harvested Deer Weights by WMU and Age-Sex.

WMU	AgeSexDeer	Mean	N	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
L	Adult Doe	110.5	28	15.6	60	147
	Antlered Buck	133.2	231	20.7	72	228
	Antlerless Buck	75.0	3	17.3	65	95
	Fawn Doe	75.0	5	24.2	45	110
	Unknown	135.0	1	.	135	135
	Total	129.1	268	23.3	45	228
M1	Adult Doe	104.5	31	16.2	60	136
	Antlered Buck	139.3	177	20.4	95	214
	Antlerless Buck	76.9	7	17.2	53	100
	Fawn Doe	71.3	4	12.7	55	85
	Total	131.1	219	26.4	53	214
M2	Adult Doe	106.6	208	14.2	50	140
	Antlered Buck	132.1	274	20.0	83	196
	Antlerless Buck	86.6	14	13.5	69	118
	Fawn Doe	66.1	21	11.6	46	90
	Unknown	109.0	3	14.9	92	120
	Total	117.9	520	24.4	46	196
N	Adult Doe	105.2	238	14.3	60	136
	Antlered Buck	129.6	533	19.9	78	206
	Antlerless Buck	74.3	34	19.9	41	116
	Fawn Doe	58.0	27	13.5	39	95
	Unknown	109.0	2	22.6	93	125
	Total	118.0	834	25.7	39	206
O1	Adult Doe	98.5	17	19.6	57	135
	Antlered Buck	137.1	94	23.1	90	196
	Antlerless Buck	115.0	1	.	115	115
	Total	131.1	112	26.4	57	196
O2	Adult Doe	101.9	221	15.7	50	160
	Antlered Buck	128.6	298	19.7	85	191
	Antlerless Buck	74.9	20	15.7	50	104
	Fawn Doe	61.9	21	9.5	44	85
	Total	113.6	560	25.4	44	191
P	Adult Doe	107.5	36	15.2	72	135
	Antlered Buck	132.4	220	23.9	87	215
	Antlerless Buck	75.4	9	12.3	57	95
	Fawn Doe	64.2	5	12.9	49	80
	Total	125.9	270	27.2	49	215
Q	Adult Doe	102.9	219	18.8	53	175
	Antlered Buck	126.6	236	20.9	60	186
	Antlerless Buck	67.7	19	19.6	50	120
	Fawn Doe	59.0	10	13.7	44	80
	Total	112.2	484	25.9	44	186
Total	Adult Doe	108.3	4,444	17.9	42	175
	Antlered Buck	137.1	8,924	22.9	59	250
	Antlerless Buck	74.4	481	17.8	41	128
	Fawn Doe	63.6	538	12.7	36	110
	Unknown	103.0	37	21.8	61	137
	Total	**123.3**	**14,424**	**29.0**	**36**	**250**

Table 7. 2007 Muzzleloader Antlerless Permit Allotments and Harvest by WMU.

WMU	Resident Status		Landowner Status		Total Permits	Muzzleloader Antlerless Harvest	% Success
	NonResident	Resident	No	Yes			
A	10	891	875	26	901	136	15.1
B	53	3,438	3,098	393	3,491	679	19.5
F1	17	1,235	1,201	51	1,252	201	16.1
F2	12	989	913	88	1,001	189	18.9
H1	12	190	100	102	202	51	25.2
H2	12	87	31	68	99	24	24.2
J1	8	93	0	101	101	22	21.8
J2	109	893	801	201	1,002	240	24.0
K1	16	234	233	17	250	65	26.0
M2	60	543	572	31	603	132	21.9
N	50	450	470	30	500	147	29.4
O2	75	675	681	69	750	143	19.1
Q	90	810	864	36	900	154	17.1
Total	**524**	**10,528**	**9,839**	**1,213**	**11,052**	**2,183**	**19.8**

Table 8. Bucks Weighing at Least 200 Pounds in the 2007 Vermont Legal Deer Harvest.

Weight	Season	Town of Kill	WMU
250	Rifle	Vershire	J2
241	Rifle	Holland	D2
236	Rifle	Eden	C
228	Rifle	Weston	L
227	Rifle	Holland	D2
225	Youth	Coventry	D1
225	Rifle	Pawlet	K2
224	Rifle	Lunenburg	E
222	Rifle	Kirby	D2
221	Rifle	Montgomery	C
221	Rifle	Fairlee	J2
220	Rifle	Barton	D1
220	Rifle	Newport Ctr	D1
220	Rifle	Wheelock	D2
216	Rifle	Georgia	B
216	Rifle	Lewis	E
215	Rifle	North Troy	D1
215	Rifle	Hyde Park	D1
215	Rifle	Danville	D2
215	Youth	Whitingham	P
214	Rifle	So Hero	A
214	Rifle	Norton	E
214	Rifle	Bridport	F1
214	Rifle	S Woodstock	M1
213	Rifle	N Danville	D2
213	Rifle	Lunenburg	E

Weight	Season	Town of Kill	WMU
212	Rifle	Grand Isle	A
212	Rifle	Franklin	B
212	Rifle	Ferdinand	E
212	Rifle	Pittsford	I
211	Rifle	Sheldon	B
211	Rifle	Georgia	B
210	Rifle	E Burke	D2
210	Bow	Peacham	H2
210	Rifle	Woodford	P
208	Rifle	Troy	D1
208	Rifle	Westmore	D2
208	Rifle	Charleston	D2
208	Rifle	Marshfield	H2
208	Rifle	Ripton	I
207	Rifle	Roxbury	J1
206	Bow	Berkshire	C
206	Rifle	Guildhall	E
206	Rifle	Starksboro	G
206	Rifle	E Thetford	J2
206	Rifle	Pittsford	K2
206	Rifle	Bennington	N
205	Rifle	Berkshire	B
205	Rifle	Lowell	C
205	Rifle	Richford	C
205	Rifle	Albany	D1
205	Rifle	Wolcott	D1
205	Rifle	Orwell	F1

Table 8. Bucks Weighing at Least 200 Pounds in the 2007 Vermont Legal Deer Harvest.

Weight	Season	Town of Kill	WMU
204	Rifle	Sutton	D2
204	Youth	Charleston	D2
204	Rifle	Bloomfield	E
204	Rifle	Peacham	H2
204	Rifle	Peacham	H2
204	Rifle	Strafford	J2
203	Rifle	Eden	C
203	Rifle	Sheffield	D2
202	Youth	Colchester	B
202	Rifle	Bridgewater	M1
201	Rifle	No Troy	D1
201	Rifle	Wolcott	D1
201	Rifle	Barton	D2
201	Rifle	Hyde Park	G
200	Rifle	Alburg	A
200	Rifle	Alburg	A
200	Rifle	Enosburg	C
200	Rifle	Montgomery	C
200	Rifle	Westmore	D2
200	Rifle	Kirby	D2
200	Rifle	Brandon	F2
200	Rifle	Hinesburg	F2
200	Rifle	Hardwick	H1
200	Rifle	E Montpelier	H1
200	Bow	Warren	I

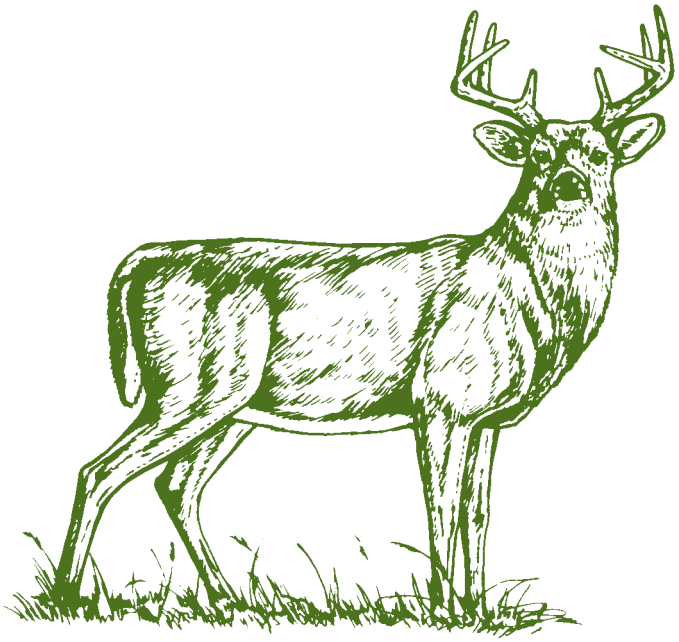


Table 9. Does Weighing at Least 150 Pounds in the 2007 Vermont Legal Deer Harvest.

Weight	Season	Town Of Kill	WMU
175	Muzzleloader	Halifax	Q
174	Muzzleloader	Gilford	Q
173	Muzzleloader	Wilmington	Q
170	Youth	Florence	K2
167	Bow	Northfield	J1
166	Youth	So Hero	A
165	Muzzleloader	Swanton	B
164	Youth	Ferrisburg	F1
163	Muzzleloader	Orwell	K1
160	Muzzleloader	Rockingham	O2
158	Muzzleloader	Starksboro	F2
158	Muzzleloader	Plainfield	H1
157	Muzzleloader	Fairfield	B
157	Muzzleloader	Swanton	B
157	Youth	Glover	D1
156	Muzzleloader	Franklin	B
156	Youth	Ferrisburg	F1
155	Youth	North Hero	A
155	Muzzleloader	Brandon	F2
155	Youth	Orwell	K1
154	Bow	St Albans	B
154	Youth	Panton	F1
154	Youth	Bridport	F1
154	Bow	Brattleboro	Q
153	Muzzleloader	Westford	B
153	Bow	Montgomery	C
153	Youth	Albany	D1
153	Youth	Newbury	J2
152	Bow	Fairfield	B
152	Muzzleloader	Westford	B
152	Youth	Enosburg	B
152	Muzzleloader	Panton	F1
151	Youth	Waterville	C
150	Muzzleloader	Alburg	A
150	Bow	Sheldon	B
150	Bow	Fairfield	B
150	Muzzleloader	Fairfax	B
150	Muzzleloader	Franklin	B
150	Muzzleloader	Highgate	B
150	Muzzleloader	Monkton	F1
150	Youth	St Johnsbury	H2
150	Muzzleloader	West Fairlee	J2
150	Youth	Sharon	J2
150	Muzzleloader	Orwell	K1

Table 10. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by County, Town and Season

County	Town of Kill	Archery	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total Deer Harvest
Addison	ADDISON	5	28	17	4	54
	BRIDPORT	5	11	11	6	33
	BRISTOL	10	8	17	4	39
	CORNWALL	4	23	15	7	49
	FERRISBURG	12	48	28	14	102
	GOSHEN	0	1	6	0	7
	GRANVILLE	2	1	11	0	14
	HANCOCK	0	0	3	1	4
	LEICESTER	8	3	21	5	37
	LINCOLN	3	0	19	1	23
	MIDDLEBURY	9	28	14	10	61
	MONKTON	15	30	23	3	71
	NEW HAVEN	18	51	43	22	134
	ORWELL	7	35	40	13	95
	PANTON	2	11	6	3	22
	RIPTON	1	1	11	1	14
	SALISBURY	4	8	12	5	29
	SHOREHAM	6	14	28	8	56
	STARKSBORO	11	10	30	3	54
	WALTHAM	2	6	2	0	10
	WEYBRIDGE	6	21	10	1	38
	WHITING	3	3	5	3	14
Bennington	ARLINGTON	9	12	48	5	74
	BENNINGTON	37	13	40	11	101
	DORSET	8	19	46	0	73
	GLASTENBURY	1	1	2	0	4
	LANDGROVE	0	1	4	0	5
	MANCHESTER	4	6	25	2	37
	PERU	0	0	12	0	12
	POWNAL	21	28	71	12	132
	READSBORO	7	0	8	2	17
	RUPERT	22	24	67	12	125
	SANDGATE	10	11	36	5	62
	SEARSBURG	0	1	1	0	2
	SHAFTSBURY	53	29	58	17	157
	STAMFORD	2	2	20	1	25
	SUNDERLAND	2	9	12	2	25
	WINHALL	0	0	17	2	19
	WOODFORD	2	0	18	0	20
Caledonia	BARNET	31	5	50	25	111
	BURKE	1	5	27	2	35
	DANVILLE	13	2	63	14	92
	GROTON	16	19	40	7	82
	HARDWICK	30	4	40	25	99
	KIRBY	1	4	15	2	22
	LYNDON	1	0	29	12	42
	NEWARK	0	0	13	2	15
	PEACHAM	24	1	34	7	66
	RYEGATE	37	18	50	30	135
	SHEFFIELD	2	1	24	1	28

Table 10. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by County, Town and Season

County	Town of Kill	Archery	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total Deer Harvest
Caledonia	ST JOHNSBURY	6	5	31	17	59
	STANNARD	0	1	6	0	7
	SUTTON	1	2	20	4	27
	WALDEN	0	1	18	10	29
	WATERFORD	53	12	43	27	135
	WHEELOCK	1	3	26	1	31
Chittenden	BOLTON	9	1	28	1	39
	CHARLOTTE	8	28	20	9	65
	COLCHESTER	25	26	29	5	85
	ESSEX	23	20	29	5	77
	HINESBURG	9	34	18	9	70
	HUNTINGTON	6	12	38	4	60
	JERICHO	19	33	33	4	89
	MILTON	23	61	43	13	140
	RICHMOND	17	27	25	9	78
	SHELBURNE	17	6	8	1	32
	ST GEORGE	1	3	4	1	9
	UNDERHILL	16	31	41	8	96
	WESTFORD	22	35	32	10	99
	WILLISTON	11	22	18	2	53
Essex	AVERILL	0	0	6	0	6
	BLOOMFIELD	0	6	14	0	20
	BRIGHTON	1	4	16	7	28
	BRUNSWICK	0	1	4	0	5
	CANAAN	2	4	14	2	22
	CONCORD	2	7	30	6	45
	EAST HAVEN	0	0	7	0	7
	FERDINAND	0	2	13	0	15
	GRANBY	0	0	7	1	8
	GUILDHALL	0	0	8	2	10
	LEMINGTON	0	1	4	0	5
	LEWIS	0	0	2	0	2
	LUNENBURG	1	5	20	3	29
	MAIDSTONE	1	2	1	0	4
	NORTON	1	4	12	1	18
	VICTORY	0	2	13	0	15
Franklin	BAKERSFIELD	29	20	48	17	114
	BERKSHIRE	19	61	40	21	141
	ENOSBURG	34	22	54	27	137
	FAIRFAX	24	39	58	23	144
	FAIRFIELD	37	76	91	42	246
	FLETCHER	18	55	45	7	125
	FRANKLIN	32	71	65	35	203
	GEORGIA	17	31	44	13	105
	HIGHGATE	60	72	88	37	257
	MONTGOMERY	23	11	57	4	95
	RICHFORD	16	9	18	5	48
	SHELDON	9	33	41	17	100
	ST ALBANS	12	16	21	11	60
	SWANTON	21	39	34	15	109

Table 10. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by County, Town and Season

County	Town of Kill	Archery	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total Deer Harvest
Grand Isle	ALBURG	22	68	56	22	168
	GRAND ISLE	9	25	12	10	56
	ISLE LA MOTTE	4	13	9	4	30
	NORTH HERO	7	23	123	4	157
	SOUTH HERO	15	18	25	7	65
Lamoille	BELVIDERE	3	3	18	0	24
	CAMBRIDGE	22	36	47	10	115
	EDEN	15	0	50	5	70
	ELMORE	6	6	21	2	35
	HYDE PARK	13	4	27	10	54
	JOHNSON	14	13	43	6	76
	MORRISTOWN	19	5	28	11	63
	STOWE	25	9	57	11	102
	WATERVILLE	9	5	29	14	57
	WOLCOTT	15	8	32	10	65
Orange	BRADFORD	24	14	30	11	79
	BRAINTREE	9	5	35	5	54
	BROOKFIELD	11	5	42	4	62
	CHELSEA	20	26	51	22	119
	CORINTH	19	20	51	19	109
	FAIRLEE	11	7	19	7	44
	NEWBURY	51	41	72	26	190
	ORANGE	16	10	25	4	55
	RANDOLPH	28	5	66	22	121
	STRAFFORD	13	25	45	4	87
	THETFORD	15	28	62	7	112
	TOPSHAM	19	30	39	14	102
	TUNBRIDGE	25	17	54	13	109
	VERSHIRE	12	20	28	7	67
	WASHINGTON	7	3	16	6	32
	WEST FAIRLEE	5	9	21	4	39
	WILLIAMSTOWN	44	7	40	15	106
Orleans	ALBANY	7	7	37	11	62
	BARTON	8	2	40	16	66
	BROWNINGTON	3	2	30	7	42
	CHARLESTON	3	2	37	18	60
	COVENTRY	7	1	22	6	36
	CRAFTSBURY	14	7	40	20	81
	DERBY	14	3	55	28	100
	GLOVER	8	3	31	13	55
	GREENSBORO	15	3	22	10	50
	HOLLAND	1	2	41	13	57
	IRASBURG	17	3	41	8	69
	JAY	5	2	13	2	22
	LOWELL	6	3	27	3	39
	MORGAN	1	3	32	19	55
	NEWPORT	13	12	41	19	85
	TROY	7	2	29	16	54
	WESTFIELD	2	0	14	1	17
	WESTMORE	1	2	26	3	32

Table 10. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by County, Town and Season

County	Town of Kill	Archery	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total Deer Harvest
Rutland	BENSON	19	22	67	15	123
	BRANDON	10	13	28	5	56
	CASTLETON	19	10	43	6	78
	CHITTENDEN	5	4	36	9	54
	CLARENDON	19	6	42	9	76
	DANBY	12	10	45	14	81
	FAIR HAVEN	9	9	16	6	40
	HUBBARDTON	12	14	35	8	69
	IRA	11	4	16	5	36
	KILLINGTON	1	2	7	0	10
	MENDON	0	3	8	2	13
	MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	9	1	21	4	35
	MOUNT HOLLY	6	1	36	9	52
	MOUNT TABOR	1	3	13	1	18
	PAWLET	28	35	87	29	179
	PITTSFIELD	3	2	10	1	16
	PITTSFORD	13	4	39	15	71
	POULTNEY	31	4	41	20	96
	PROCTOR	6	2	10	0	18
	RUTLAND	12	3	16	6	37
	SHREWSBURY	4	8	31	13	56
	SUDBURY	9	8	19	4	40
	TINMOUTH	18	5	25	5	53
	WALLINGFORD	8	5	30	11	54
	WELLS	16	4	34	10	64
	WEST HAVEN	12	23	54	15	104
	WEST RUTLAND	14	2	21	10	47
Washington	BARRE	31	11	35	15	92
	BERLIN	21	6	33	8	68
	CABOT	19	6	29	6	60
	CALAIS	24	12	45	9	90
	DUXBURY	10	5	17	1	33
	EAST MONTPELIER	30	10	50	14	104
	FAYSTON	5	2	12	1	20
	MARSHFIELD	20	7	40	13	80
	MIDDLESEX	9	10	27	4	50
	MONTPELIER	10	1	5	0	16
	MORETOWN	17	1	38	5	61
	NORTHFIELD	18	10	29	4	61
	PLAINFIELD	13	7	30	11	61
	ROXBURY	5	1	13	1	20
	WAITSFIELD	12	1	18	3	34
	WARREN	7	2	6	0	15
	WATERBURY	20	8	43	8	79
	WOODBURY	17	10	17	9	53
	WORCESTER	4	6	23	3	36
Windham	ATHENS	1	1	6	2	10
	BRATTLEBORO	23	29	19	2	73
	BROOKLINE	6	10	9	2	27
	DOVER	8	14	12	0	34
	DUMMERSTON	15	27	31	10	83
	GRAFTON	1	3	6	2	12
	GUILFORD	24	30	36	6	96
	HALIFAX	7	16	23	4	50

Table 10. 2007 Legal Deer Harvest by County, Town and Season

County	Town of Kill	Archery	Muzzleloader	Rifle	Youth	Total Deer Harvest
Windham	JAMAICA	2	5	19	3	29
	LONDONDERRY	1	3	9	4	17
	MARLBORO	5	15	14	2	36
	NEWFANE	16	25	17	6	64
	PUTNEY	13	23	27	5	68
	ROCKINGHAM	13	20	40	8	81
	SOMERSET	0	0	5	1	6
	STRATTON	0	1	5	0	6
	TOWNSHEND	2	12	18	1	33
	VERNON	7	9	21	1	38
	WARDSBORO	7	10	10	0	27
	WESTMINSTER	6	8	16	1	31
	WHITINGHAM	13	5	25	10	53
	WILMINGTON	7	9	25	5	46
	WINDHAM	1	2	10	0	13
Windsor	ANDOVER	1	3	11	1	16
	BALTIMORE	3	4	4	5	16
	BARNARD	5	14	20	1	40
	BETHEL	18	5	43	3	69
	BRIDGEWATER	1	2	26	1	30
	CAVENDISH	16	1	23	7	47
	CHESTER	12	13	32	3	60
	HARTFORD	29	56	56	12	153
	HARTLAND	33	35	51	14	133
	LUDLOW	4	1	29	12	46
	NORWICH	36	21	52	7	116
	PLYMOUTH	4	5	19	1	29
	POMFRET	12	23	21	3	59
	READING	2	5	24	0	31
	ROCHESTER	2	2	25	4	33
	ROYALTON	11	15	33	6	65
	SHARON	8	9	44	7	68
	SPRINGFIELD	33	50	53	17	153
	STOCKBRIDGE	2	0	18	1	21
	WEATHERSFIELD	20	37	47	6	110
	WEST WINDSOR	12	20	22	6	60
	WESTON	1	3	14	4	22
	WINDSOR	16	14	20	1	51
	WOODSTOCK	22	11	35	12	80