

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES TOP ALL RECORDS

A record 60 million Americans spent close to \$318 million on State hunting and fishing licenses in 1976, according to State license sales figures released today by Director Lynn A. Greenwalt of the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"Both figures are record highs," said Greenwalt, "and they show that Americans continue to find hunting and fishing major pastimes." One of every five Americans enjoys the outdoors this way. The figures represent an increase of \$23 million in State sales and 500,000 in license holders over 1975. Since some States do not require licenses for ocean fishing, children under 16, or senior citizens, these figures are considered conservative estimates.

"The revenues derived from these license sales enable States to conduct their fish and wildlife conservation and management programs," Greenwalt said. "Additional funds come from Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs under which States are reimbursed up to 75 percent of the cost of approved projects."

California led the Nation in sales of fishing licenses with 5.8 million licenses, tags, permits, and stamps sold. Closest runner-up was Michigan with 1.6 million sold. Other very heavily fished States were Wisconsin, Missouri, Oregon, Tennessee, and Texas. Minnesota also attracted the most out-of-State fishermen in the country with 415,000 visitors buying licenses last year. Montana, Tennessee, Minnesota, and Michigan also ranked high with tourist fishermen.

Pennsylvania led all States in the Nation last year in sales of hunting licenses with 1.9 million licenses, tags, permits, and stamps sold. Michigan, New York, Texas, and Wisconsin ranked just below. Montana had the distinction of being the most frequently visited State by out-of-State hunters. Last year over 127,000 non-resident permits were sold there.

Hawaii had the fewest licensed hunters and fishermen.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO HUNTERS
FISCAL YEAR 1976

State	Paid Hunting License Holders 1/	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Hunters
Alabama	332,112	393,115	19,239	412,354	\$ 1,990,383.85
Alaska	71,047	70,598	7,138	77,736	1,298,635.00
Arizona	182,070	310,240	12,525	322,765	2,704,764.00
Arkansas	355,381	481,223	44,399	525,622	2,562,351.50
California	611,564	992,035	2,765	994,800	6,731,539.00
Colorado	317,471	397,698	85,862	483,560	8,355,021.77
Connecticut	86,721	103,427	902	104,329	382,702.00
Delaware	29,129	26,519	2,610	29,129	196,752.80
Florida	262,617	259,524	3,093	262,617	1,600,214.25
Georgia	364,455	820,512	21,166	841,678	2,580,926.85
Hawaii	12,233	12,232	327	12,559	94,363.00
Idaho	218,462	418,577	33,452	452,029	3,588,312.50
Illinois	516,723	503,155	13,568	516,723	1,830,082.75
Indiana	452,880	535,266	9,342	544,608	1,914,794.00
Iowa	354,964	476,710	37,664	514,374	3,101,249.25
Kansas	222,052	200,496	21,556	222,052	1,533,988.00
Kentucky	317,941	308,593	9,348	317,941	1,695,058.00
Louisiana	337,139	479,468	11,718	491,186	2,571,765.00
Maine	226,559	189,859	37,606	227,465	2,707,603.00
Maryland	183,726	353,069	13,877	366,946	2,135,282.05
Massachusetts	115,913	201,833	1,704	203,537	1,007,227.00
Michigan	945,735	1,199,199	26,724	1,225,923	8,814,499.00
Minnesota	449,337	682,747	5,404	688,151	4,697,975.15
Mississippi	330,778	481,824	40,953	522,777	2,087,677.50
Missouri	474,802	728,613	26,867	755,480	5,257,444.00
Montana	222,878	616,859	127,822	744,681	3,423,412.00
Nebraska	182,212	329,568	29,055	358,623	1,813,419.50
Nevada	59,953	95,763	7,842	103,605	1,161,064.00
New Hampshire	73,062	73,364	13,400	86,764	958,509.50
New Jersey	186,551	286,250	2,587	288,837	2,064,434.00
New Mexico	134,967	131,044	16,768	147,812	1,729,317.15
New York	768,686	1,392,135	34,497	1,426,632	8,224,480.25
North Carolina	383,755	583,119	13,454	596,573	3,504,421.50
North Dakota	98,174	264,450	20,674	285,124	966,189.00
Ohio	584,349	707,250	2,838	605,147	3,668,576.00
Oklahoma	251,194	351,316	7,965	359,281	1,832,242.00
Oregon	326,469	772,867	10,940	783,807	3,893,555.00
Pennsylvania	1,281,323	1,837,286	101,619	1,938,905	14,795,677.90
Rhode Island	16,235	18,814	764	19,578	66,627.00
South Carolina	211,855	248,869	20,603	269,472	1,686,650.00
South Dakota	148,176	298,450	36,888	335,338	1,810,599.00
Tennessee	483,867	726,693	24,037	750,730	5,127,710.74
Texas	855,729	1,103,358	23,151	1,126,509	4,952,686.80
Utah	216,810	255,479	15,297	270,776	2,594,957.25
Vermont	131,512	114,057	42,711	156,768	1,732,931.50
Virginia	416,332	840,177	66,794	906,971	4,235,418.00
Washington	322,649	797,897	4,280	802,177	5,264,792.00
West Virginia	301,319	399,139	49,189	448,328	2,348,801.00
Wisconsin	707,287	991,748	19,349	1,011,097	7,594,693.25
Wyoming	163,090	161,082	98,237	259,319	6,707,099.00
TOTALS 3/	16,300,245	24,023,566	1,280,570	25,199,195	\$163,598,874.56

1/ A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase. Data certified by State fish and game departments.

2/ Period covered not identical to period covered by certification for all States.

3/ Persons who hunted in more than one State are counted in each State where they hunted. Therefore, this figure exceeds the total number of license holders in the United States.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO FISHERMEN
FISCAL YEAR 1976

State	Paid Fishing License Holders 1/	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Fishermen
Alabama	593,449	536,221	95,127	631,348	\$ 1,985,087.25
Alaska	159,409	118,679	49,194	167,873	1,284,217.00
Arizona	420,975	381,604	170,895	552,499	2,829,058.00
Arkansas	760,828	622,401	243,275	865,676	3,866,425.00
California	2,347,276	5,788,919	53,632	5,842,551	18,201,942.00
Colorado	678,829	473,006	215,145	688,151	4,887,345.87
Connecticut	200,003	205,381	4,628	210,009	742,326.00
Delaware	12,537	13,920	2,185	16,105	63,723.00
Florida	869,793	698,221	195,046	893,267	2,587,847.75
Georgia	654,650	727,767	30,237	758,004	2,212,234.00
Hawaii	8,312	8,321	117	8,438	27,392.25
Idaho	392,287	272,140	150,282	422,422	2,343,149.50
Illinois	1,034,725	988,883	45,842	1,034,725	2,426,241.25
Indiana	711,987	682,850	67,270	750,120	2,498,808.00
Iowa	541,103	522,390	64,469	586,859	2,236,566.25
Kansas	335,845	311,477	27,388	338,865	1,766,465.00
Kentucky	599,299	471,082	128,217	599,299	2,969,068.00
Louisiana	473,143	437,612	40,398	478,010	1,041,160.00
Maine	259,478	169,903	90,623	260,526	1,867,395.50
Maryland	121,996	141,500	8,685	150,185	588,786.95
Massachusetts	217,573	215,233	4,893	220,126	1,694,699.00
Michigan	1,254,682	1,355,191	287,050	1,642,241	8,608,011.00
Minnesota	1,490,567	1,074,857	415,710	1,490,567	5,888,311.00
Mississippi	435,391	365,724	97,149	462,873	1,550,340.50
Missouri	887,057	1,258,360	196,264	1,454,624	6,065,808.00
Montana	294,228	422,725	284,831	707,556	3,550,142.00
Nebraska	259,798	276,662	35,404	312,066	1,241,998.00
Nevada	159,292	89,191	72,417	161,608	1,261,262.50
New Hampshire	117,375	104,382	47,732	152,114	963,390.00
New Jersey	190,374	300,212	7,754	307,966	1,709,026.00
New Mexico	229,053	286,826	148,118	434,944	1,601,369.85
New York	876,323	819,703	56,620	876,323	5,567,842.00
North Carolina	486,504	544,200	59,204	603,404	2,883,477.75
North Dakota	142,057	130,815	12,924	143,739	395,437.00
Ohio	947,559	920,271	27,288	947,559	3,864,416.00
Oklahoma	590,565	494,951	108,135	603,086	3,109,993.00
Oregon	704,161	916,519	161,528	1,078,047	5,069,297.00
Pennsylvania	966,030	912,347	54,483	966,830	7,023,298.50
Rhode Island	30,277	29,468	1,610	31,078	92,828.00
South Carolina	415,133	366,862	62,999	429,861	1,997,425.15
South Dakota	165,055	177,443	49,078	166,521	570,051.00
Tennessee	729,090	725,157	245,812	970,969	4,865,719.85
Texas	1,563,598	1,533,117	31,288	1,564,405	6,270,872.25
Utah	472,148	334,693	140,582	475,275	2,517,615.00
Vermont	140,808	91,325	50,905	142,230	748,909.00
Virginia	420,155	658,965	69,889	728,854	2,466,025.00
Washington	520,613	575,491	35,425	610,916	4,472,597.00
West Virginia	259,064	443,438	43,821	487,259	1,640,103.00
Wisconsin	1,416,456	818,998	404,393	1,223,391	8,942,380.75
Wyoming	261,574	100,423	184,696	285,119	1,522,961.00
TOTALS 3/	27,818,484	29,855,826	5,080,657	34,936,483	\$154,580,844.67

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- 2/ Period covered not identical to period covered by certification for all States.
- 3/ Persons who fished in more than one State are counted in each State where they fished.
Therefore, this figure exceeds the total number of license holders in the United States.