



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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HUNTING, FISHING REVENUE SETS RECORD

Hunters and anglers spent a record \$624 million on state licenses and permits in 1986. Participation in fishing increased and hunting dipped slightly from the previous year, according to statistics released today by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Frank Dunkle.

"Once again, hunters and anglers have made a major contribution to fish and wildlife conservation," Dunkle said. "When state license payments are added to the record \$248 million these sportsmen paid in Federal excise taxes for their equipment last year, the total is an impressive \$872 million, all earmarked for state fish and wildlife programs."

Hunters spent \$322.6 million and anglers spent \$301.8 million in 1986 for licenses, tags, permits, and stamps. In 1985, they spent \$300.7 million and \$282.3 million respectively.

The number of paid fishing license holders totaled 30,359,462 in 1986, which is about a 2 percent increase from the 1985 total of 29,673,190. Paid hunting license holders in 1986 numbered 15,773,190, which is less than 1 percent lower than the 1985 total of 15,879,572.

These statistics are compiled annually for the Service by state fish and wildlife agencies and provide a general indication of participation levels in the two outdoor sports. The figures do not, however, correspond directly to the actual number of hunters and anglers in the United States because some states offer license exemptions to certain individuals who hunt or fish, such as those who are over or under a certain age, serving in the military, or handicapped. Additionally, hunters and anglers who buy licenses from more than one State are counted more than once.

The record \$624 million collected this year will help fund many of the states' fish and wildlife management programs. These state wildlife restoration projects also are funded through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration and Sport Fish Restoration programs administered by the Service. Money distributed to the states through these programs is based, in part, on the number of fishing and hunting license holders in each state.

(over)

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program, also known as the Pittman-Robertson Program, distributed \$108 million in Federal excise tax receipts from hunting equipment to the states, commonwealths, and territories in 1987. The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration, or Dingell-Johnson Program, distributed \$140 million in Federal excise tax receipts from fishing equipment in 1987.

A State-by-State breakdown of 1986 license sales figures is attached.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO FISHERMEN
FISCAL YEAR 1986

State	Paid Fishing License Holders*	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Nonresident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps+	Gross Cost To Fishermen
ALABAMA	612,143	529,844	113,547	643,391	\$ 4,540,857
ALASKA	304,487	180,936	133,051	313,987	3,926,512
ARIZONA	507,864	486,140	155,137	641,277	4,524,424
ARKANSAS	654,371	574,986	205,013	779,999	7,010,781
CALIFORNIA	2,347,323	3,352,285	73,432	3,425,717	36,768,863
COLORADO	747,166	528,632	313,735	842,367	8,112,431
CONNECTICUT	203,477	197,020	6,457	203,477	1,489,188
DELAWARE	20,227	21,463	4,016	25,479	117,278
FLORIDA	844,185	629,951	223,692	853,643	5,774,978
GEORGIA	748,933	874,879	54,555	929,434	4,744,966
HAWAII	7,946	7,943	257	8,200	25,513
IDAHO	424,117	305,588	164,079	469,667	4,259,384
ILLINOIS	815,563	903,387	40,415	943,802	5,984,816
INDIANA	650,096	609,339	116,421	725,760	4,340,154
IOWA	465,225	457,482	39,195	496,677	3,962,379
KANSAS	315,286	269,793	47,027	316,820	3,685,356
KENTUCKY	668,636	579,707	141,192	720,899	4,785,845
LOUISIANA	578,236	723,914	47,070	770,984	2,212,894
MAINE	243,566	176,709	84,202	260,911	4,208,411
MARYLAND	386,294	406,432	40,392	446,824	3,082,077
MASSACHUSETTS	234,089	248,555	9,309	257,864	2,693,705
MICHIGAN	1,483,910	1,133,949	373,492	1,507,441	13,307,678
MINNESOTA	1,474,882	979,788	254,013	1,233,801	14,621,027
MISSISSIPPI	473,879	391,935	81,944	473,879	3,109,580
MISSOURI	1,007,223	1,575,144	122,003	1,697,147	7,612,134
MONTANA	349,595	303,891	270,464	574,356	5,653,450
NEBRASKA	257,665	269,443	41,078	310,521	2,698,237
NEVADA	173,230	197,958	60,949	258,907	2,359,840
NEW HAMPSHIRE	175,117	117,090	58,713	175,803	2,136,475
NEW JERSEY	223,052	348,130	9,527	357,657	3,245,903
NEW MEXICO	252,250	181,469	81,279	262,748	3,153,737
NEW YORK	1,072,768	939,278	201,648	1,140,926	9,446,449
NORTH CAROLINA	463,618	503,600	56,738	560,338	5,668,323
NORTH DAKOTA	167,222	176,799	17,427	194,226	1,038,312
OHIO	1,196,243	1,105,442	90,801	1,196,243	8,623,078
OKLAHOMA	607,634	489,183	108,650	597,833	7,156,915
OREGON	725,591	922,584	193,360	1,115,944	10,471,777
PENNSYLVANIA	1,110,054	1,043,626	66,428	1,110,054	12,687,629
RHODE ISLAND	39,123	36,972	2,800	39,772	239,582
SOUTH CAROLINA	422,881	404,711	83,166	487,877	3,472,585
SOUTH DAKOTA	199,931	252,630	53,925	306,555	1,740,854
TENNESSEE	728,327	721,025	190,715	911,740	7,438,598
TEXAS	1,934,808	2,140,838	91,344	2,232,182	15,511,367
UTAH	406,662	267,010	154,736	421,746	5,715,367
VERMONT	163,131	104,667	58,464	163,131	1,474,369
VIRGINIA	609,173	733,309	84,079	817,388	4,543,718
WASHINGTON	821,612	1,046,889	109,888	1,156,777	11,337,798
WEST VIRGINIA	289,691	523,452	57,425	480,877	3,056,354
WISCONSIN	1,505,201	1,336,353	392,706	1,729,059	14,666,300
WYOMING	245,759	125,287	159,713	285,000	3,351,403
TOTALS**	30,359,462	30,443,437	5,433,670	35,877,107	\$301,789,651

* A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase.

+ Data certified by State Fish and Game Departments.

** Persons who fished in more than one State are counted in each State where they fished.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO HUNTERS
FISCAL YEAR 1986

State	Paid Hunting License Holders*	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Nonresident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps+	Gross Cost To Hunters
ALABAMA	280,362	302,646	30,291	332,937	\$ 4,449,581
ALASKA	103,322	185,202	26,471	211,673	4,279,637
ARIZONA	197,630	380,436	19,794	400,230	5,949,945
ARKANSAS	300,257	465,793	24,406	490,199	5,951,523
CALIFORNIA	488,316	703,990	4,436	708,426	9,696,518
COLORADO	304,498	359,180	101,467	460,647	21,238,336
CONNECTICUT	86,819	135,468	3,683	139,151	960,885
DELAWARE	25,666	34,576	6,721	41,297	461,698
FLORIDA	248,542	448,097	4,142	542,239	4,021,176
GEORGIA	397,145	903,357	32,458	935,815	5,432,283
HAWAII	12,331	12,354	422	12,776	89,918
IDAHO	238,288	512,167	51,834	564,001	7,687,378
ILLINOIS	314,891	545,929	8,525	554,454	4,900,895
INDIANA	282,571	450,948	9,319	490,267	3,754,759
IOWA	235,522	594,743	46,683	641,426	5,879,685
KANSAS	202,714	236,676	30,794	267,470	4,761,905
KENTUCKY	308,069	482,132	14,962	497,094	4,094,753
LOUISIANA	369,216	518,627	8,535	527,162	3,237,720
MAINE	206,464	216,704	35,479	252,183	4,860,361
MARYLAND	175,488	353,094	63,087	415,181	3,272,178
MASSACHUSETTS	110,457	189,478	3,242	192,720	1,485,642
MICHIGAN	925,332	1,310,027	24,674	1,334,701	12,864,318
MINNESOTA	499,200	952,539	9,242	961,781	12,057,749
MISSISSIPPI	291,920	260,869	31,051	291,920	3,520,346
MISSOURI	507,557	899,406	28,377	927,783	7,177,861
MONTANA	250,376	802,712	194,616	997,328	8,842,575
NEBRASKA	153,116	306,204	33,214	339,418	4,139,789
NEVADA	59,055	106,561	11,778	118,339	2,558,646
NEW HAMPSHIRE	95,669	113,955	18,369	132,324	1,742,192
NEW JERSEY	131,905	290,616	6,330	296,946	4,194,484
NEW MEXICO	151,907	149,099	16,654	165,753	4,982,975
NEW YORK	789,203	1,218,694	53,775	1,272,469	12,627,843
NORTH CAROLINA	329,633	422,079	12,939	435,018	4,874,362
NORTH DAKOTA	97,585	368,216	30,487	398,703	2,751,800
OHIO	466,390	794,509	9,598	804,107	6,614,173
OKLAHOMA	232,630	351,681	6,707	358,388	4,954,678
OREGON	355,729	980,370	21,171	1,001,541	10,750,709
PENNSYLVANIA	1,167,837	2,067,213	85,276	2,152,489	23,611,218
RHODE ISLAND	13,956	18,028	1,020	19,048	119,523
SOUTH CAROLINA	201,899	228,097	46,408	274,505	3,473,863
SOUTH DAKOTA	167,819	370,916	128,560	499,476	5,383,143
TENNESSE	584,273	960,764	16,743	977,507	8,648,909
TEXAS	1,130,630	1,336,583	19,376	1,355,959	11,978,466
UTAH	217,881	293,880	24,049	317,929	7,176,347
VERMONT	117,705	96,592	21,113	117,705	1,791,726
VIRGINIA	459,582	825,265	73,620	898,885	6,618,379
WASHINGTON	271,016	628,113	4,336	632,449	9,867,412
WEST VIRGINIA	311,696	468,200	79,540	547,740	5,162,347
WISCONSIN	734,984	1,395,780	31,662	1,427,442	16,647,900
WYOMING	168,137	207,529	87,028	294,557	10,994,588
TOTALS**	15,773,190	26,256,094	1,654,464	27,910,558	\$322,595,097

* A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase.
Data certified by State Fish and Game Departments.

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

** Persons who hunted in more than one State are counted in each State where they hunted.