



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

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Patricia Fisher 202-343-5634

LATEST SALES FIGURES SHOW HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES UP, REVENUES INCREASING

For the second consecutive year, revenue from hunting and fishing license sales climbed about 7 percent in 1988, and the number of people buying fishing and hunting licenses increased slightly from the previous year, according to the latest license sales figures released today by Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan.

A total of 15,918,522 people bought hunting licenses in fiscal year 1988, compared with 15,812,528 during fiscal year 1987. Fishing license purchasers numbered 31,478,490 in fiscal year 1988, compared with 30,345,714 in 1987. Money spent on licenses and associated permits, tags, and stamps in 1988 reached an overall total of \$710 million, compared with the previous total of \$661 million.

Money from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses, permits, tags, and stamps is used to fund state fish and wildlife programs. These license sales figures are compiled annually by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from information submitted by state fish and wildlife agencies. State funding through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration programs, both administered by the Service, is determined in part by the number of paid fishing and hunting license holders in each state.

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License sales figures tend to fluctuate from year to year for a number of reasons, such as the initiation of a special permit, stamp, or tag; price increase; or new regulations governing resident and nonresident licenses or seasonal licenses. For this reason, the total number of hunting and fishing licenses, permits, tags, and stamps sold does not always reflect an actual trend in hunting or fishing activity, but may be attributed to changing state license requirements.

An indication of trends in participation is best measured through a comparison of the numbers of paid license holders (first column in the tables attached) from year to year. These figures provide a general approximation of fishing and hunting activity in each state. However, the figures do not necessarily reflect the actual number of hunters and anglers in the country because some states offer license exemptions to people in special circumstances, such as those who are over or under a certain age, handicapped, or who hunt or fish on their own land. Also, some states sponsor special "free" hunting and fishing days, and persons who hunt or fish in more than one state are counted more than once.

A state-by-state breakdown of 1988 hunting and fishing license sales figures is attached.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO HUNTERS
FISCAL YEAR 1988

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	282,805	300,719	31,248	331,967	\$4,937,987
ALASKA	85,232	167,798	54,338	222,136	5,325,640
ARIZONA	183,595	360,904	21,299	382,203	6,227,113
ARKANSAS	294,765	317,329	28,299	345,628	7,753,868
CALIFORNIA	463,543	1,053,071	4,788	1,057,859	13,688,968
COLORADO	325,761	380,974	137,921	518,895	27,936,637
CONNECTICUT	87,433	144,372	5,007	149,379	1,088,809
DELAWARE	25,767	40,720	7,993	48,713	576,602
FLORIDA	238,581	468,758	3,179	471,937	4,531,020
GEORGIA	411,791	932,976	36,422	969,398	8,046,155
HAWAII	13,001	13,033	436	13,469	90,966
IDAHO	227,689	504,741	60,605	565,346	10,054,777
ILLINOIS	328,369	604,937	11,973	616,910	5,547,227
INDIANA	298,165	528,237	12,205	540,442	5,290,806
IOWA	260,998	667,354	70,190	737,544	7,332,252
KANSAS	208,947	257,753	34,813	292,566	5,569,788
KENTUCKY	322,064	537,212	13,207	550,419	4,995,204
LOUISIANA	311,959	505,069	9,284	514,353	5,815,505
MAINE	205,467	207,901	39,160	247,061	5,412,741
MARYLAND	177,213	371,038	62,042	433,080	3,334,526
MASSACHUSETTS	125,703	212,816	3,674	216,490	1,695,441
MICHIGAN	913,194	1,904,907	26,694	1,931,601	21,885,370
MINNESOTA	517,442	999,752	10,049	1,009,801	13,171,257
MISSISSIPPI	299,109	266,234	32,875	299,109	3,620,685
MISSOURI	541,105	1,020,155	34,217	1,054,372	8,431,641
MONTANA	261,780	470,972	351,276	822,248	10,540,475
NEBRASKA	165,963	329,653	40,034	369,687	4,525,209
NEVADA	60,971	131,366	14,346	145,712	2,932,891
NEW HAMPSHIRE	97,005	124,650	20,229	144,879	2,397,752
NEW JERSEY	130,114	291,143	8,716	299,859	5,043,283
NEW MEXICO	145,024	142,631	17,270	159,901	5,063,739
NEW YORK	763,272	1,428,534	64,143	1,492,677	14,567,439
NORTH CAROLINA	338,238	401,949	9,529	411,478	6,461,747
NORTH DAKOTA	101,379	396,602	37,617	434,219	3,124,956
OHIO	462,316	822,547	6,994	829,541	7,020,849
OKLAHOMA	253,319	356,551	9,336	365,887	5,807,121
OREGON	346,914	910,555	25,889	936,444	11,373,445
PENNSYLVANIA	1,180,175	2,102,108	120,009	2,222,117	25,168,088
RHODE ISLAND	13,318	20,082	1,340	21,422	182,192
SOUTH CAROLINA	185,807	220,859	32,746	253,605	5,050,237
SOUTH DAKOTA	161,727	344,250	116,644	460,894	4,775,982
TENNESSEE	582,038	905,568	16,331	921,899	7,242,841
TEXAS	1,202,781	1,438,116	26,934	1,465,050	13,797,239
UTAH	236,710	308,909	23,989	332,898	7,297,355
VERMONT	113,320	92,167	21,153	113,320	2,125,011
VIRGINIA	517,008	926,144	81,767	1,007,911	7,523,351
WASHINGTON	264,535	647,305	4,692	651,997	10,316,681
WEST VIRGINIA	306,486	494,197	80,995	575,192	6,472,797
WISCONSIN	737,306	1,392,250	36,056	1,428,306	19,975,261
WYOMING	141,318	202,735	74,748	277,483	9,600,801
TOTALS**	15,918,522	27,670,603	1,994,701	29,665,304	\$380,747,727

- * 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.