



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSE SALES STABLE,  
REVENUE INCREASES ACCORDING TO LATEST SALES FIGURES

Revenue from hunting and fishing license sales increased about 5 percent in 1987, while fishing and hunting activity in the United States remained about the same as the previous year, according to the latest license sales figures released today by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Frank Dunkle.

A total of 15,819,366 people bought hunting licenses in fiscal year 1987, compared with 15,773,190 during fiscal year 1986. Fishing license purchasers numbered 30,350,321 in fiscal year 1987 compared with 30,359,462 in 1986. Money spent on licenses and associated permits, tags, and stamps in 1987 reached an overall total of \$661 million compared with the previous total of \$624 million in 1986.

Money from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses, permits, tags, and stamps is used to fund state fish and wildlife programs. License sales figures are compiled annually by the Service's Federal Aid Division from figures submitted by state fish and wildlife agencies. State funding through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish

(over)

Restoration programs, both administered by the Service, is determined in part by the number of paid fishing and hunting license holders in each state.

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

Trends in participation are best measured by comparison of the numbers of paid license holders (first column on table attached) from year to year. These figures provide a general estimate 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 those who hunt or fish in more than one state are counted more than once.

A state-by-state breakdown of 1987 hunting and fishing license sales figures is attached.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO FISHERMEN  
FISCAL YEAR 1987

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	616,313	531,517	113,041	644,558	\$5,049,783
ALASKA	297,711	181,721	140,773	322,494	4,028,812
ARIZONA	497,237	460,365	157,976	618,341	5,751,617
ARKANSAS	641,564	626,464	141,068	767,532	6,900,160
CALIFORNIA	2,341,565	3,355,307	69,350	3,424,657	39,230,069
COLORADO	747,235	605,266	325,248	930,514	8,273,884
CONNECTICUT	205,954	198,934	7,020	205,954	1,538,396
DELAWARE	19,762	20,668	4,066	24,734	199,285
FLORIDA	809,491	629,225	189,491	818,716	7,058,305
GEORGIA	739,275	873,224	57,901	931,125	4,735,117
HAWAII	8,377	8,377	265	8,642	27,045
IDAHO	430,479	322,663	158,063	480,726	4,718,749
ILLINOIS	816,076	912,043	39,459	951,502	5,488,416
INDIANA	660,001	624,566	111,870	736,436	4,562,192
IOWA	423,668	417,966	38,705	456,671	3,649,082
KANSAS	305,352	261,793	52,367	314,160	3,844,692
KENTUCKY	641,217	5,596,244	140,287	5,736,531	5,370,072
LOUISIANA	570,844	748,917	42,580	791,497	2,982,308
MAINE	251,299	181,207	86,824	268,031	4,557,348
MARYLAND	385,749	406,079	40,581	446,660	3,169,551
MASSACHUSETTS	204,923	214,680	8,149	222,829	2,357,851
MICHIGAN	1,566,589	1,230,418	355,056	1,585,474	12,976,305
MINNESOTA	1,467,430	1,017,133	258,506	1,275,639	15,880,348
MISSISSIPPI	480,412	394,001	86,411	480,412	3,170,428
MISSOURI	1,039,988	1,586,522	133,516	1,720,038	7,837,387
MONTANA	379,382	317,321	279,662	596,983	6,219,097
NEBRASKA	260,378	264,955	45,803	310,758	2,716,172
NEVADA	170,402	202,803	58,258	261,061	2,434,839
NEW HAMPSHIRE	167,633	112,183	56,114	168,297	2,819,670
NEW JERSEY	237,851	365,942	11,178	377,120	3,692,565
NEW MEXICO	264,456	194,052	80,406	274,458	3,302,769
NEW YORK	1,122,431	956,856	234,360	1,191,216	9,942,707
NORTH CAROLINA	456,179	429,462	54,595	484,057	5,635,000
NORTH DAKOTA	161,610	169,662	18,196	187,858	1,009,138
OHIO	1,194,405	1,084,930	112,745	1,197,675	8,716,201
OKLAHOMA	587,900	488,072	89,065	577,137	7,241,146
OREGON	762,138	980,829	224,807	1,205,636	10,974,145
PENNSYLVANIA	1,127,284	1,056,898	70,386	1,127,284	12,934,672
RHODE ISLAND	41,336	36,894	6,195	43,089	350,935
SOUTH CAROLINA	372,604	368,096	50,209	418,305	4,400,673
SOUTH DAKOTA	193,283	248,183	53,582	301,765	1,711,899
TENNESSEE	768,426	772,627	185,212	957,839	5,649,815
TEXAS	1,878,278	2,373,007	94,411	2,467,418	16,564,432
UTAH	394,423	276,765	163,240	440,005	5,925,745
VERMONT	105,230	102,353	58,698	161,051	1,476,236
VIRGINIA	622,641	746,458	85,156	831,614	4,629,157
WASHINGTON	846,944	1,070,209	134,463	1,204,672	12,108,199
WEST VIRGINIA	283,436	509,766	53,632	563,398	2,966,941
WISCONSIN	1,535,247	1,344,590	404,492	1,749,082	14,950,915
WYOMING	247,913	120,838	167,184	288,022	3,542,291
TOTALS**	30,350,321	35,999,051	5,550,622	41,549,673	\$315,272,561

\* 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 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 1987

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	293,436	312,369	33,098	345,467	\$4,739,128
ALASKA	84,717	170,637	30,004	200,641	4,856,795
ARIZONA	188,211	375,127	20,760	395,887	6,311,052
ARKANSAS	320,410	486,106	25,855	511,961	5,795,950
CALIFORNIA	463,074	970,606	3,601	974,207	12,858,220
COLORADO	315,434	438,793	121,363	560,156	24,851,216
CONNECTICUT	85,663	83,595	2,068	85,663	557,137
DELAWARE	27,698	36,559	7,918	44,477	606,907
FLORIDA	234,954	458,990	3,109	462,099	4,369,377
GEORGIA	414,456	947,648	38,187	985,835	5,885,671
HAWAII	12,061	12,117	407	12,524	89,481
IDAHO	247,635	515,657	60,547	576,204	10,316,917
ILLINOIS	320,682	559,074	10,325	569,399	4,984,339
INDIANA	291,876	492,847	9,572	502,419	3,686,758
IOWA	243,279	618,817	55,436	674,253	6,411,927
KANSAS	210,068	260,247	31,414	291,661	5,339,481
KENTUCKY	323,418	502,610	14,673	517,283	5,077,279
LOUISIANA	326,377	530,692	8,373	539,065	5,780,459
MAINE	203,376	202,680	36,682	239,362	5,068,401
MARYLAND	176,125	361,315	60,631	421,946	3,240,211
MASSACHUSETTS	96,695	179,948	2,859	182,807	1,344,351
MICHIGAN	926,328	1,445,837	21,777	1,467,614	14,235,557
MINNESOTA	509,238	978,544	8,726	987,270	12,598,395
MISSISSIPPI	294,808	263,045	31,763	294,808	3,588,315
MISSOURI	496,718	957,680	30,398	988,078	7,684,487
MONTANA	262,802	801,172	192,612	993,784	9,895,034
NEBRASKA	157,071	312,364	35,992	348,356	4,282,349
NEVADA	59,737	112,927	8,584	121,511	2,228,385
NEW HAMPSHIRE	94,957	108,842	17,823	126,665	2,288,228
NEW JERSEY	131,937	285,762	7,791	293,553	4,788,855
NEW MEXICO	148,686	145,947	17,056	163,003	5,081,438
NEW YORK	773,283	1,288,293	60,689	1,348,982	13,094,134
NORTH CAROLINA	327,542	416,039	13,711	429,750	4,883,228
NORTH DAKOTA	101,591	399,418	36,277	435,695	3,160,546
OHIO	461,820	805,508	11,459	816,967	6,788,392
OKLAHOMA	254,920	359,350	8,729	368,079	6,010,952
OREGON	350,402	937,375	26,443	963,818	11,204,683
PENNSYLVANIA	1,173,841	2,078,771	90,783	2,169,554	24,157,023
RHODE ISLAND	18,092	18,759	2,951	21,710	193,470
SOUTH CAROLINA	177,268	229,943	29,719	259,662	4,878,253
SOUTH DAKOTA	145,541	376,582	95,082	471,664	4,645,383
TENNESSEE	603,846	916,767	15,957	932,724	7,109,952
TEXAS	1,190,075	1,416,303	20,278	1,436,581	12,710,666
UTAH	224,096	285,379	20,624	306,003	6,553,296
VERMONT	109,877	90,496	19,381	109,877	1,687,997
VIRGINIA	477,188	852,190	77,896	930,086	6,869,977
WASHINGTON	267,713	657,792	4,662	662,454	10,179,114
WEST VIRGINIA	317,404	482,280	88,178	570,458	5,601,194
WISCONSIN	737,019	1,359,807	35,233	1,395,040	16,927,650
WYOMING	145,921	197,916	75,970	273,886	9,784,510
TOTALS**	15,819,366	27,097,522	1,683,426	28,780,948	\$345,282,520

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