



WHITE-TAILED DEER SUMMARY 2022-2023: MERCER COUNTY

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



County Size: 568 square miles

Year Opened to Deer Hunting: 1957

Record Harvest: 1,623 (2006)

Average Harvest (previous 10 years): 1,478

Total 2022-2023 Harvest (all seasons): 1,469

Permits issued/quota 2022-2023 (excludes landowner; archery and youth are statewide):

Firearm: 2425/2900 **Muzzle:** 393/500

Late Winter: 20

Chronic Wasting Disease Detected: No

Check Station Location: N/A

Late Winter Season in 2023-2024: Yes. Deer Vehicle Accident (DVA) rates (accidents per billion miles driven) are used as an index of deer population size. Counties remain or are added to Late Winter season if DVA rates are above goal, or other factors (excessive crop damage and/or disease issues) are present.

Last year in Late Winter: 2007 - Present

Recent Archery Harvest by Bow Type

Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Compound	294	256	277	234	228
Crossbow	226	279	344	261	301
Traditional	1	3	3	3	3
Total	521	538	624	498	532

Age/Sex Composition of Recent Harvest (%)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
M - Adult	25.5	24.4	29.2	28.9	31.7
M - Yearling	15.2	16.5	16.4	15.5	14.7
M - Fawn	11.6	11.3	10.0	11.0	8.4
F - Adult	37.5	38.4	38.6	38.2	37.2
F - Fawn	9.2	9.4	5.8	6.4	8.1

M - Adult = 2.5 and older; F - Adult = 1.5 and older

