



# SUMMARY OF 2021 ILLINOIS SPRING TURKEY SEASON

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



## Regular Shotgun/Archery Spring Turkey Season

### General Information

**Season Dates:** Apr. 5 - May 6, 2021 (South); Apr. 12 - May 13, 2021 (North)

**Season Structure:** 5 consecutive individual season segments comprising a total of 32 days per zone; the lengths of individual segments were 5, 6, 6, 7, and 8 days, respectively. Regular paid permits were valid for the appropriate season segment only, while landowner permits were valid throughout the entire 32 days.

**Number of Counties Open:** 100 (closed in Cook and DuPage)

**Bag Limit:** One gobbler (male) or bearded hen per permit

**Number of Permits Allowed:** 3 (subject to availability)

**Permit Availability:** County-specific (or special hunt area-specific) permits issued via a series of 3 lotteries, with specific permit quotas set for each county/special hunt area. Resident hunters could apply for their first permit in the first lottery; resident hunters without a permit and nonresident hunters could apply for their first permit in the second lottery; anyone who does not have a permit or has one permit can apply in the third lottery. The remainder of permits were available over-the-counter (OTC) and anyone could purchase their first, second, or third permit during that time.

**Harvest Reporting:** Mandatory harvest reporting via telephone or internet by 10:00 p.m. on the day of harvest.

**Significant Changes:** none

### Regular Season Results (Excludes Youth Season)

**Harvest Total:** 12,309 (13,613 including Youth Season)

**Record Harvest:** 16,057 (2006; 16,569 including Youth Season)

**Permit Success Rate:** 19% (Excludes Landowner Permits)

**Harvest Age Structure:** 78.3% adult; 21.7% juvenile

**Harvest Sex Ratio:** 98.4% male; 1.6% female

**Average # Days Hunted per Successful Permit (Excludes Landowner Permits):** 2.1

**Public Land Harvest:** 1,156 (9.5%)

**Top 5 Counties:** Jefferson (428), Pike (356), Jo Daviess (354), Marion (338), Wayne (302)

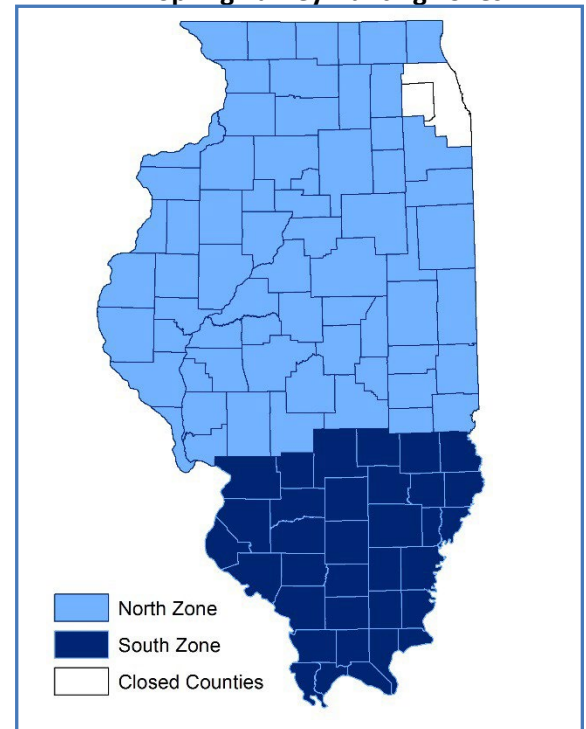
### **Statewide General Weather Conditions:**

**March:** Temperature above average; precipitation above average.

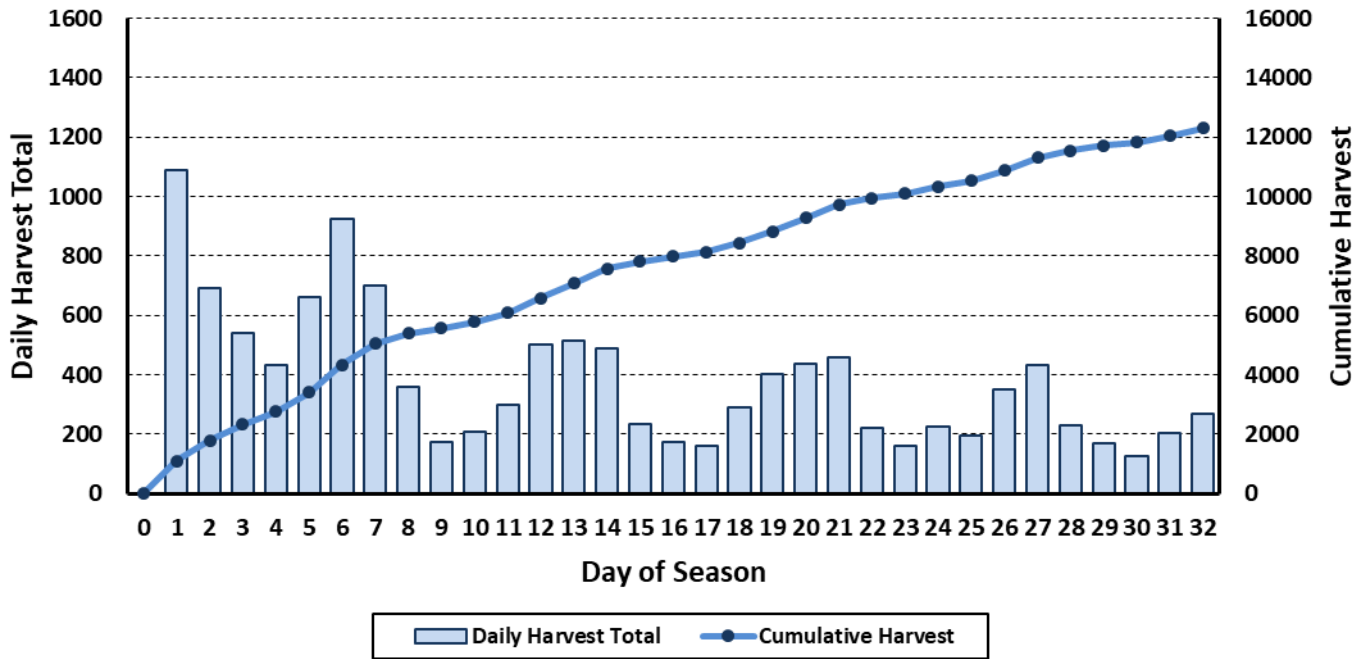
**April:** Temperature slightly below average; precipitation below average.

**May:** Temperature slightly below average; precipitation above average

Spring Turkey Hunting Zones

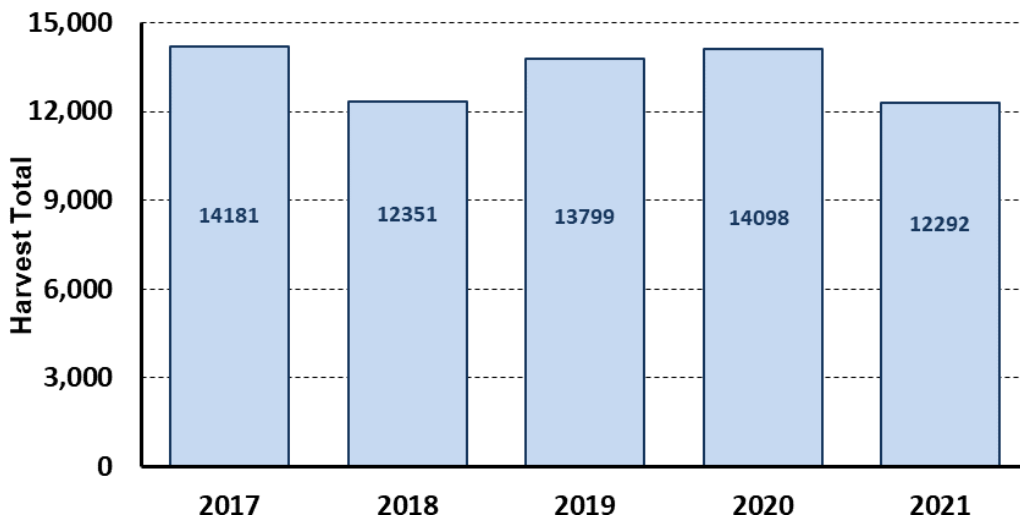


Daily harvest total and cumulative harvest during the 2021 regular spring turkey season



Permit Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Landowner Permits (free for residents)	17,395	14,563	21,889	23,829	24,772
Special Hunt Area-specific Permits	2,466	2,381	2,374	230	2,429
County-specific Permits	43,977	48,568	49,047	49,788	51,160
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,838</b>	<b>65,512</b>	<b>73,310</b>	<b>73,847</b>	<b>78,361</b>

Recent trend in regular spring turkey harvest



# 2021 Youth Turkey Season

## General Information

**Season Dates:** March 27 – 28 & Apr. 3 - 4, 2021 (Statewide)

**Season Length:** 4 days total

**Number of Counties Open:** 100 (closed in Cook and DuPage)

**Bag Limit:** One gobbler (male) or bearded hen per permit

**Number of Permits Allowed:** 1 (counts towards maximum of 3 allowed in Regular Spring Season)

**Special Regulations:** Limited to youth hunters under the age of 18, accompanied by a responsible non-hunting supervising adult. One county-specific permit (available over-the-counter) or one special hunt area permit (issued via lottery) allowed per hunter. Mandatory harvest reporting by 10:00 p.m. on day of harvest.

## Season Results

**Harvest Total:** 1,304

**Record Harvest:** 1,733 (2020)

**Permit Success Rate:** 23.3%

**Harvest Age Structure:** 70.2% adult: 29.8% juvenile

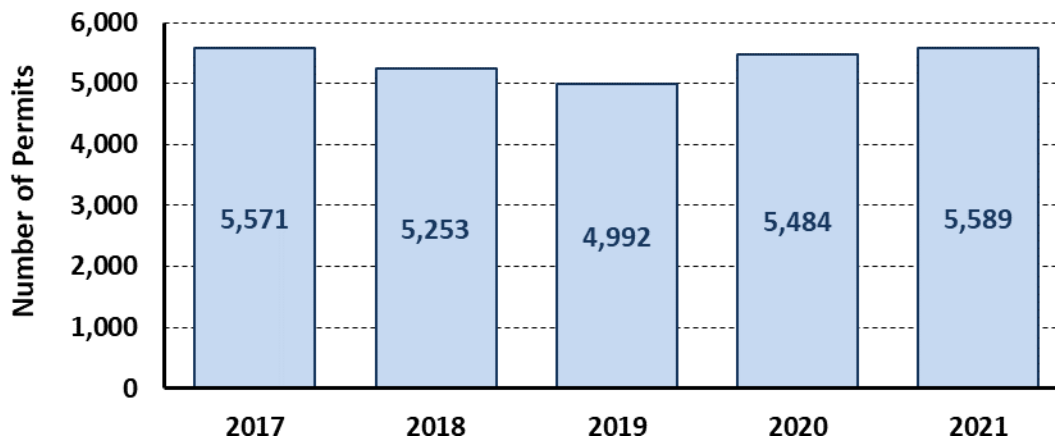
**Harvest Sex Ratio:** 97.9% male: 2.1% female

**Average # Days Hunted per Successful Hunter:** 1.8

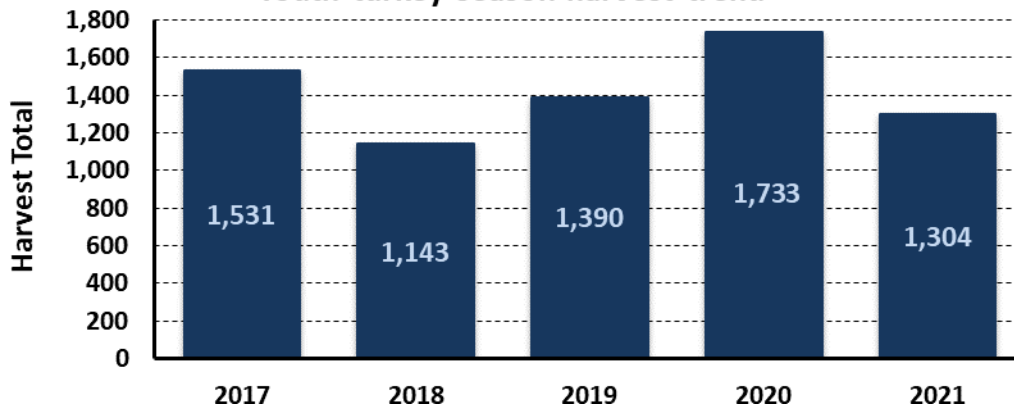
**Public Land Harvest:** 59 (4.5%)

**Top 5 Counties:** Jefferson (53), Fayette (44), Hamilton (41), Marion (41), Pike(38)

**Youth turkey season trend in permits issued**



**Youth turkey season harvest trend**



## 2021 County Harvest Totals by Season Segment

County	Youth	POH	Regular Season Results*						Total**	Regular Season Success
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th			
ADAMS	27	49	79	43	32	37	9	200	14.2%	
ALEXANDER	15	20	33	20	24	29	16	122	24.0%	
BOND	15	16	27	17	15	20	20	99	22.0%	
BOONE	7	2	12	15	12	14	10	63	31.5%	
BROWN	11	50	62	30	26	27	14	159	19.0%	
BUREAU	14	27	35	28	13	14	19	109	16.3%	
CALHOUN	17	33	49	37	16	20	13	135	14.8%	
CARROLL	4	16	38	26	21	15	9	109	12.0%	
CASS	17	23	55	31	28	29	27	170	19.1%	
CHAMPAIGN	2	3	3	3	3	2	5	16	13.9%	
CHRISTIAN	5	9	5	4	6	7	4	26	10.7%	
CLARK	19	44	34	39	19	29	29	150	30.0%	
CLAY	22	46	40	36	24	21	39	160	25.6%	
CLINTON	8	20	16	9	14	15	4	58	16.4%	
COLES	2	8	9	5	8	7	6	35	16.3%	
CRAWFORD	13	40	30	26	20	30	18	124	25.6%	
CUMBERLAND	8	20	7	15	3	3	9	37	16.4%	
DEKALB	1	0	2	3	1	1	2	9	7.2%	
DEWITT	2	3	10	9	11	7	8	45	18.6%	
DOUGLAS	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	5	7.8%	
EDGAR	6	12	17	17	10	7	11	62	22.5%	
EDWARDS	9	11	13	16	10	8	11	58	25.8%	
EFFINGHAM	25	30	19	14	13	7	20	73	18.3%	
FAYETTE	44	74	43	36	22	29	21	151	24.0%	
FORD	0	4	3	2	2	2	2	11	22.0%	
FRANKLIN	21	32	26	37	31	16	21	131	29.0%	
FULTON	18	52	50	36	35	31	24	176	13.3%	
GALLATIN/HARDIN	23	30	57	21	24	28	19	149	20.4%	
GREENE	12	32	34	17	19	19	7	96	15.9%	
GRUNDY	3	5	11	7	10	12	5	45	20.0%	
HAMILTON	41	48	37	28	30	29	29	153	28.8%	
HANCOCK	30	38	60	43	26	37	21	187	19.5%	
HENDERSON	12	7	36	21	20	26	12	115	19.4%	
HENRY	11	12	19	19	16	15	14	83	30.7%	
IROQUOIS	6	10	11	19	10	10	13	63	25.2%	

## 2021 County Harvest Totals by Season Segment

County	Youth	POH	Regular Season Results*						Total**	Regular Season Success
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th			
JACKSON	24	57	55	45	28	44	28	200	19.3%	
JASPER	14	21	27	19	16	18	21	101	20.0%	
JEFFERSON	53	61	86	61	54	46	65	312	30.1%	
JERSEY	11	20	43	24	18	19	10	114	12.7%	
JO DAVIESS	18	34	99	80	60	40	22	301	12.7%	
JOHNSON	17	37	43	36	29	34	26	168	19.5%	
KANE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
KANKAKEE	3	4	11	5	6	9	7	38	18.4%	
KENDALL	0	0	1	0	3	4	1	9	8.8%	
KNOX	17	46	42	33	29	32	27	163	18.6%	
LAKE	0	0	1	3	1	1	0	6	8.7%	
LASALLE	3	3	28	22	20	23	13	106	17.8%	
LAWRENCE	10	20	24	24	27	19	21	115	25.2%	
LEE	15	5	17	16	10	13	8	64	16.9%	
LIVINGSTON	1	2	10	3	7	6	3	29	24.6%	
LOGAN	1	7	7	4	4	3	2	20	11.4%	
MACON	7	2	2	3	3	8	1	17	13.6%	
MACOUPIN	32	27	56	29	36	26	21	168	13.1%	
MADISON	30	18	40	34	30	25	15	144	14.8%	
MARION	41	71	70	57	29	37	33	226	25.2%	
MARSHALL/PUTNAM	10	17	21	20	12	13	11	77	18.3%	
MASON	12	15	30	27	18	17	15	107	16.4%	
MASSAC	4	13	20	16	14	15	15	80	26.2%	
MCDONOUGH	9	23	33	24	14	13	7	91	21.2%	
MCHENRY	11	3	17	22	17	14	14	84	25.8%	
MCLEAN	8	3	10	15	10	9	9	53	21.6%	
MENARD	9	13	15	11	11	13	4	54	17.5%	
MERCER	20	14	41	34	27	26	26	154	28.0%	
MONROE	16	25	22	26	12	15	27	102	18.0%	
MONTGOMERY	14	25	32	21	16	21	23	113	21.5%	
MORGAN	9	8	32	28	17	15	17	109	16.3%	
MOULTRIE	1	1	7	4	1	3	4	19	12.7%	
OGLE	6	8	28	30	32	27	24	141	21.5%	
PEORIA	10	8	34	24	16	12	9	95	15.0%	
PERRY	21	47	47	32	26	29	31	165	25.0%	

## 2021 County Harvest Totals by Season Segment

County	Youth	POH	Regular Season Results*					Total**	Regular Season Success
			1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th		
PIATT	0	0	1	2	2	1	3	9	6.7%
PIKE	38	46	93	54	43	56	29	275	20.8%
POPE	20	17	92	42	35	41	33	243	12.8%
PULASKI	8	20	24	17	19	12	12	84	29.0%
RANDOLPH	31	64	53	42	27	29	46	197	23.9%
RICHLAND	12	19	14	11	14	19	22	80	30.2%
ROCK ISLAND	7	14	37	24	25	29	21	136	28.8%
SALINE	15	19	26	13	15	12	13	79	16.6%
SANGAMON	11	11	18	20	14	15	14	81	22.4%
SCHUYLER	15	38	46	32	20	22	12	132	16.9%
SCOTT	10	10	14	17	12	8	0	51	20.3%
SHELBY	16	29	16	21	15	12	23	87	32.8%
ST CLAIR	16	16	19	23	12	23	18	95	23.0%
STARK	1	2	3	5	2	1	2	13	18.7%
STEPHENSON	11	15	26	30	17	31	24	128	28.7%
TAZEWELL	7	12	15	12	7	10	7	51	22.7%
UNION	23	32	71	48	40	30	18	207	24.4%
VERMILION	6	12	31	20	21	19	22	113	19.7%
WABASH	2	8	6	11	3	3	8	31	24.6%
WARREN	3	7	11	7	6	9	6	39	25.1%
WASHINGTON	19	34	23	17	14	17	10	81	24.2%
WAYNE	34	39	47	49	39	46	45	226	37.2%
WHITE	24	22	33	30	25	29	19	136	38.6%
WHITESIDE	14	13	17	19	12	16	17	81	19.4%
WILL	4	1	14	15	23	9	8	69	14.8%
WILLIAMSON	31	36	58	43	35	47	39	222	31.1%
WINNEBAGO	9	11	29	24	25	24	22	124	29.2%
WOODFORD	5	12	12	12	7	8	9	48	17.8%
<b>TOTAL**</b>	<b>1319</b>	<b>2044</b>	<b>2884</b>	<b>2224</b>	<b>1756</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>10247</b>	<b>19.2%</b>

\*Property Only Hunting Permits (POH; Landowner Tags), SHA-specific Permits, and Youth Permits not included

\*\*Does not include harvest records for which information is unknown due to reporting error

## 2021 Spring Turkey Harvest on Illinois Public Land

Site Name*	Location County/Counties	Harvest Total**	Success Rate***
Apple River Canyon SP	JO DAVIESS	4	10.0%
Argyle Lake SP	MCDONOUGH	6	
Beaver Dam SP	MACOUPIN	3	30.0%
Big Bend SFWA	WHITESIDE	2	5.7%
Big River SF	HENDERSON	12	40.0%
Burning Star SFWA	JACKSON	8	40.0%
Butterfield Trail SRA	IROQUOIS	2	40.0%
Cache River SNA	JOHNSON/PULASKI/MASSAC	30	
Carlyle Lake SFWA	FAYETTE	2	
Carlyle Lake UACOE Lands	FAYETTE	5	
Castle Rock SP	OGLE	2	8.0%
Clinton Lake SRA	DEWITT	10	15.4%
Coffeen Lake SFWA	MONTGOMERY	5	20.0%
Crab Orchard NWR	WILLIAMSON	33	41.3%
Crab Orchard NWR Open Hunting Area	JACKSON/UNION/WILLIAMSON	24	
Crawford County CA	CRAWFORD	3	30.0%
Cypress Creek NWR	ALEXANDER/JOHNSON/PULASKI/UNION	9	
Deer Pond SNA	JOHNSON	2	
Devil's Island	ALEXANDER/UNION	2	
Dixon Springs SP (Formerly Youth)	POPE	2	20.0%
Eldon Hazlet SP	CLINTON	4	26.7%
Eldon Hazlet SP Disabled	CLINTON	1	50.0%
Embarras River Bottoms SHA	LAWRENCE	1	33.3%
Ferne Clyffe SP	JOHNSON	4	40.0%
Ferne Clyffe SP including Cedar/Draper Bluff	JOHNSON	7	
Fort Massac SP	MASSAC	4	44.4%
Fox Ridge SP/Hurricane Creek SHA	COLES	3	20.0%
French Bluff SNA	CARROLL	2	5.0%
Giant City SP	JACKSON/UNION	5	
Green River SWA	LEE	8	16.0%
Hamilton County CA	HAMILTON/WHITE	11	36.7%
Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA	VERMILION	6	30.0%
Hidden Springs SF	SHELBY	5	20.0%
Horseshoe Lake CA	ALEXANDER	1	
Horseshoe Lake SP	MADISON	9	60.0%
Horseshoe Lake SP - Chouteau, Gabaret, or Mosenthein Islands	MADISON	6	
Iroquois County SWA	IROQUOIS	4	20.0%

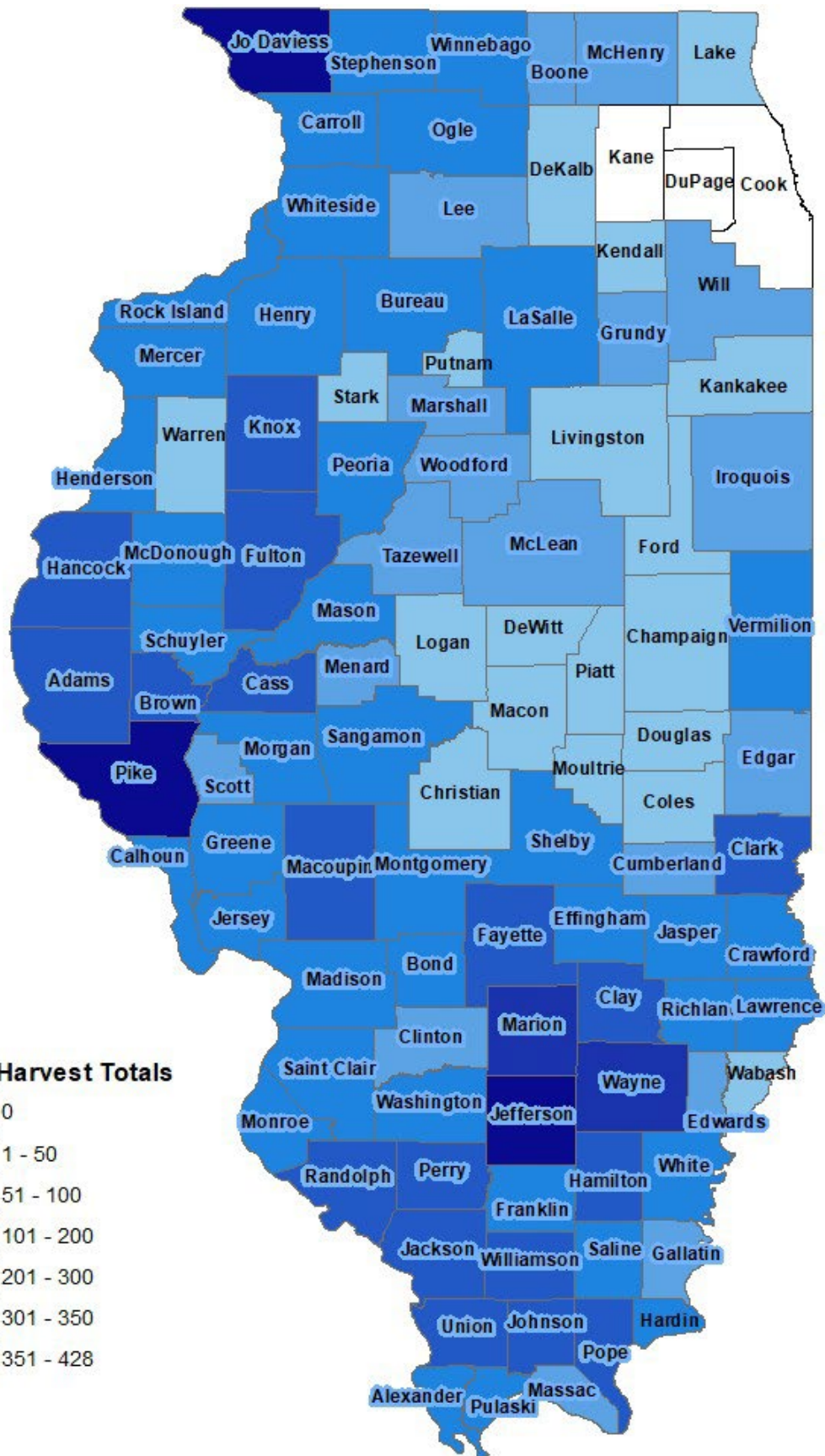
<b>Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA</b>		50	23.8%
<b>JohnsonSauk Trail SP</b>	HENRY	5	25.0%
<b>Joliet Army Training Area</b>	WILL	18	34.6%
<b>Jubilee College SP</b>	PEORIA	4	13.3%
<b>Kankakee River SP</b>	KANKAKEE/WILL	6	30.0%
<b>Kaskaskia River SFWA</b>	MONROE/RANDOLPH/ST CLAIR	27	
<b>Kickapoo SP</b>	VERMILION	14	35.0%
<b>Kinkaid Lake SFWA</b>	JACKSON	12	
<b>Kishwaukee River SFWA</b>	DEKALB	5	20.0%
<b>Lake Shelbyville Project-Moultrie</b>	MOULTRIE	11	22.0%
<b>Lake Shelbyville Project-Shelby</b>	SHELBY	10	16.7%
<b>Lowden Miller SF</b>	OGLE	9	9.0%
<b>Mackinaw River FWA</b>	TAZEWELL	2	8.0%
<b>Mark Twain NWR Wilkerson Island</b>	JACKSON	1	
<b>Marseilles FWA</b>	LASALLE	8	16.0%
<b>Matthiessen SP</b>	LASALLE	1	10.0%
<b>Mautino SFWA</b>	BUREAU	2	20.0%
<b>Meeker SHA</b>	JASPER	2	40.0%
<b>Mermet Lake SFWA</b>	MASSAC	4	26.7%
<b>Mermet Lake SFWA Disabled</b>	MASSAC	2	66.7%
<b>Middlefork FWMA</b>	VERMILION	8	26.7%
<b>Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie</b>	WILL	3	7.5%
<b>Mississippi Palisades SP</b>	CARROLL	5	11.1%
<b>Mississippi River Pool 21</b>	ADAMS	5	
<b>Mississippi River Pool 24</b>	PIKE	1	
<b>Mississippi River SFWA</b>	CALHOUN/JERSEY	9	
<b>Momence Wetlands</b>	KANKAKEE	3	30.0%
<b>Moraine View SP</b>	MCLEAN	6	30.0%
<b>Morrison Rockwood SP</b>	WHITESIDE	5	10.4%
<b>Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center</b>	JEFFERSON	5	50.0%
<b>Newton Lake FWA</b>	JASPER	15	37.5%
<b>Oakwood Bottoms</b>	JACKSON	1	
<b>Peabody River King SFWA</b>	ST CLAIR	1	
<b>Pere Marquette SP</b>	JERSEY	26	
<b>Pyramid SP</b>	PERRY	6	24.0%
<b>Pyramid SP East-Conant Unit</b>	PERRY	7	35.0%
<b>Pyramid SP-Captain Unit</b>	PERRY	5	100.0%
<b>Pyramid SP-Denmark Unit</b>	PERRY	2	40.0%
<b>Pyramid SP-Galum Unit</b>	PERRY	3	60.0%
<b>Ramsey Lake SP</b>	FAYETTE	10	33.3%
<b>Randolph County CA</b>	RANDOLPH	6	24.0%
<b>Ray Norbut SFWA</b>	PIKE	2	
<b>Ray Norbut SFWA-Dutch Creek Unit</b>	PIKE	2	20.0%

Red Hills SP	LAWRENCE	6	60.0%
Rend Lake Corps of Engineers lands	FRANKLIN/JEFFERSON	40	
Sahara Woods SFWA	SALINE	9	31.0%
Saline County CA	SALINE/GALLATIN	4	
Sam Dale Lake SFWA	WAYNE	8	26.7%
Sam Parr SFWA	JASPER	1	10.0%
Sand Ridge SF	MASON	21	17.5%
Sandy Ford SNA	LASALLE	1	10.0%
Sangamon County CA	SANGAMON	1	20.0%
Sanganois CA-Squirrel Timber Unit	MASON	1	20.0%
Sanganois SFWA	CASS/MASON	2	
Sangchris Lake SP	CHRISTIAN/SANGAMON	3	30.0%
Shawnee National Forest	ALEXANDER/GALLATIN/HARDIN/JACKSON/JOHNSON/MASSAC/POPE/SALINE/UNION/WILLIAMSON	360	
Sielbeck Forest SNA	MASSAC	1	
Siloam Springs SP	ADAMS/BROWN	5	10.0%
Siloam Springs SP-Buckhorn Unit	BROWN	14	28.0%
Skinner Farm SHA	JOHNSON	1	
Spoon River SF	KNOX	15	30.0%
Starved Rock SP	LASALLE	2	20.0%
Stephen A. Forbes SP	MARION	14	20.0%
Tapley Woods SNA	JO DAVIESS	1	6.7%
Ten Mile Creek FWA	HAMILTON/JEFFERSON	14	28.0%
Trail of Tears SF	UNION	7	
Turkey Bluffs SFWA	RANDOLPH	5	
Unidentified Public Land	Multiple	7	
Union County CA	UNION	3	
Vesely Land and Water Reserve	WILL	5	50.0%
Washington County CA	WASHINGTON	4	18.2%
Wayne Fitzgerald SRA	FRANKLIN	6	24.0%
Weinberg King SP-Scripps Unit	SCHUYLER	3	12.0%
Weinberg-King SP	SCHUYLER	1	
Winston Tunnel SNA	JO DAVIESS	1	10.0%
Witkowsky SFWA	JO DAVIESS	3	6.0%

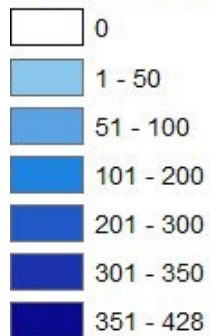
\*Sites with no harvest reported not included

\*\*Includes Youth Harvest

\*\*\*Only listed for SHAs; success rate cannot be calculated on sites open to county tags



**2021 Harvest Totals**



Harvest Totals across all season segments and permit types