



WHITE-TAILED DEER SUMMARY 2023-2024: LEE COUNTY

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



County Size: 729 square miles

Year Opened to Deer Hunting: 1957

Record Harvest: 1,542 (2005)

Average Harvest (previous 10 years): 1,088

Total 2023-2024 Harvest (all seasons): 1,213

Permits issued/quota 2023-2024 (excludes landowner; archery and youth are statewide):

Firearm: 1889/2400 **Muzzle:** 237/435

CWD: 95

Chronic Wasting Disease Detected: Yes

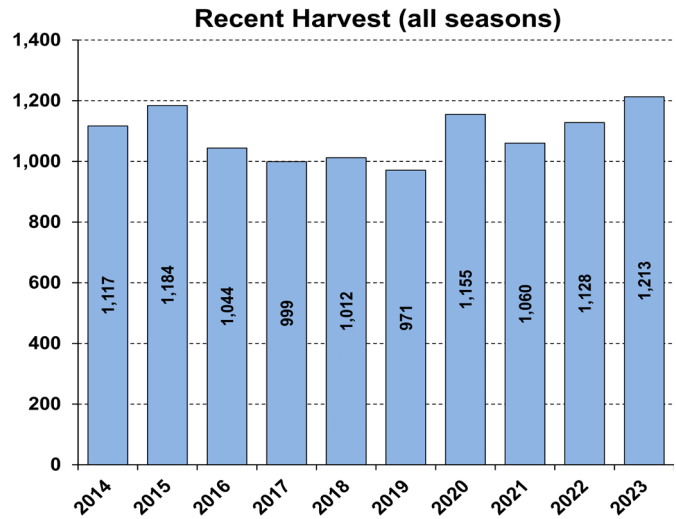
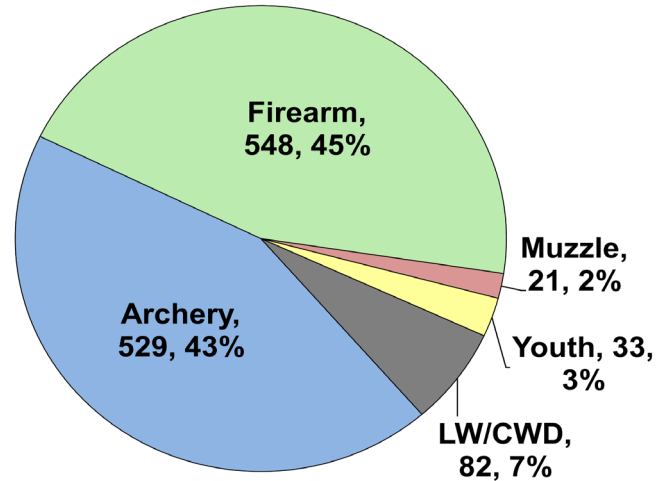
Check Station Location: N/A. Hunters are encouraged to use neighboring check stations.

CWD Season in 2024-2025: Yes. CWD has and continues to be detected in this county. CWD season allows for extra hunter harvest to reduce deer density and disease transmission.

Number tested for CWD in 2023-24: 121

CWD positive deer in 2023-24: 8

IDNR sharpshooting: 51 deer were removed via sharpshooting which is used to supplement hunter harvest, allows localized deer reductions in known CWD positive areas to reduce transmission rates and environmental contamination.



Recent Archery Harvest by Bow Type

Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Compound	217	229	198	205	223
Crossbow	218	269	264	256	301
Traditional	2	6	5	5	5
Total	437	504	467	466	529

Age/Sex Composition of Recent Harvest (%)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
M - Adult	23.2	24.8	23.5	23.1	29.4
M - Yearling	22.2	19.4	22.2	21.5	22.8
M - Fawn	10.6	11.9	11.4	12.1	9.3
F - Adult	37.9	38.0	37.3	36.5	33.5
F - Fawn	6.1	5.8	5.7	6.6	4.9

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

